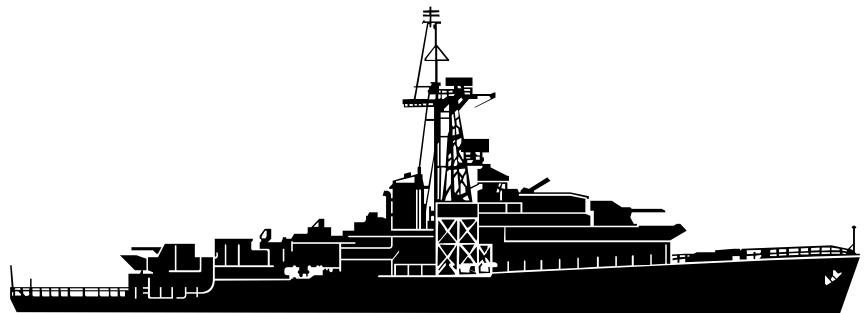


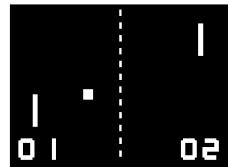
X-RAY

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Canadian TV is boring compared to American TV. Most dramas, except for *Da Vinci's Inquest*, seem to be centred on a city in eastern Canada, which shall remain nameless (*Toronto!*), while other shows, like *Canadian Idol*, are just watered-down versions of their American counterparts. News shows tend to be always depressing. The Canadian news media tend to go a little bit too far explaining things that have little or nothing to do with Canada, covering them only because of ratings, like a two-hour documentary on Al Qaeda's war on the United States. That's not of interest to 70% of Canada. (When Al Qaeda gets a nuke or anthrax or targets Seattle, *then* I'll worry.) Why is it the Canadian media's job to cover foreign terrorism in-depth—are the Americans are

afraid to do it themselves?



About the only Canadian series I *do* like is *Corner Gas*, having grown up in a small Canadian town and my dad happening to own a gas station. I identify a lot with the show because the characters are like people in the community I grew up in—the two police officers on the show are like the two RCMP officers assigned to Texada; the main

character's parents are like the owners of the taxi company that was right next to my dad's gas station; the diner owner reminds me of quite a few of the employees of Mary's Cafe. And, of course, if the Lions were in the Grey Cup, the whole town would quickly make a bee-line for Vancouver (or wherever the Grey Cup was).

Although some people don't like the new *Doctor Who*, I happen to like it. Some BCSFA members feel that the show shouldn't have changed, but if it stayed the same, it would've been quickly run over by everything else, both British and American. I'm looking forward to the last two episodes and the next two seasons of the show.

Hopefully, David Tennant will stay on for more than one season, and fellow time-traveller Captain Jack will join in on a few more adventures next season. Another thing I'd like to see (note: I haven't seen the last two episodes yet) is Billy Piper (Rose) singing. She's got an excellent singing voice. She might as well use it on the show. Also, there's a rumour that the Daleks may not be back next season. However, there are other rumours say that the Cybermen, Sarah Jane, and K-9, and maybe even the Rani, may be part of season two.

I just remembered a funny sketch from the radio version of *Royal Canadian Air Farce*. It was during the Canadian armed forces'

Somalia scandal. In the sketch, an investigator takes part in the hazing ritual, and is told to eat two items. The first is an Air Canada in-flight meal, and the second is human feces. After the airline food, the feces taste good to the investigator. As he's eating the feces, he says, "Hey, this is pretty good." Then they tell him that the first item "came from an Air Canada flight to Moncton" and the second item "came from Sgt. Kowalski," and the audience laughed for three minutes. I don't know if it's a coincidence or not, but the next day Air Canada announced it would be improving its food on all domestic flights. I like to think that it was because an Air Canada executive was listening to the radio and heard that sketch.



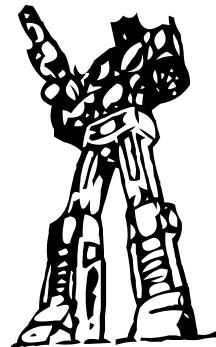
On the radio they could talk about a lot more funny stuff than on television. With the radio you can let your imagination go a little bit wild. In my mind I could see Sgt. Renfrew trying to race a coffin/bathtub and hopefully win the Nanaimo to Vancouver bathtub race, while bringing down the funeral home scandal of the mid-1980s, in the one where the late John Morgan's character, Hector Bagley, got a monopoly on Canada's funeral homes and converted them into pool halls and pizzerias. This was based on a real scandal

involving the deregulation of the funeral home industry in Canada and the blind eye of the then-conservative government in Canada that was allowing a few big American and Canadian chains to take over all the funeral homes, thus creating a near-monopoly. In the sketch, it was a real monopoly, with one person, Hector Bagley, owning all the funeral homes. Brian Mulroney reacts to the crisis, saying, “We need someone who can walk right into the situation without even knowing what’s happening,” and the next thing you hear is “This is Sgt. Renfrew of the RCMP!” The dumb-as-a-rake Sgt. Renfrew thinks he’s hiding in a coffin, but the coffin turns out to be a bathtub entered in the race. The episode was even taped live in Nanaimo during the

Bathtub Festival! They had a lot of fun with the old radio show.



You know who else was good in the Nanaimo Bathtub Festival? Ringo Starr! For a few months in 1983 the Beach Boys were playing at the Bathtub Festival, and Ringo Starr was the guest drummer. They went on a local radio station, and the host of the show said, “Nobody expected twenty years ago that we would have one of the Beatles performing at the Nanaimo Bathtub Festival!” (Definitely not, considering that the Nanaimo Bathtub Festival didn’t start ‘til 1967...) Ringo quipped, “Who knows? Maybe in another twenty years you’ll get Michael Jackson!”



Supplement: Christian TV Listings

Here's what KVOS-TV's schedule may look like if it becomes a CTN (Christian Television Network) affiliate. It's based on a CTN station in Idaho. Please pass this on the Joe and the guys.



Mondays-Fridays

5:00-6:00 AM: *Shepherd's Chapel*
6:00-6:30 AM: *CTN News*
6:30-7:00 AM:
Enjoying Everyday Life with Joyce Meyer
7:00-8:00 AM:
Today in the Words of the Lord
8:00-8:30 AM: *Adventures in Odyssey*
8:30-9:00 AM: *The Treehouse Club*
9:00-10:00 AM: *It's a New Day*
10:00-11:00 AM: *The 700 Club*
11:00-12:00 PM: *Montel Williams*
12:00-3:00 PM: Infomercials
3:00-3:30 PM: *Ozzie and Harriet*
3:30-4:00 PM: *Leave It to Beaver*

4:00-4:30 PM: *Father Knows Best*
4:30-5:00 PM: *My Three Sons*
5:00-6:00 PM: *Little House on the Prairie*
6:00-7:00 PM: *The Waltons*



Mondays-Thursdays

7:00-9:00 PM: *CTN Family Theater*
9:00-10:00 PM: *Online*

Mondays-Fridays

10:00-11:00 PM: *It's a New Day**
11:00 PM-12:00 AM: *The 700 Club**
12:00-1:00 AM: *Montel Williams**
1:00-5:00 AM: Infomercials

*A repeat of that morning's broadcast.



Fridays

7:00-10:00 PM: Bellingham High School Football (September-November)
7:00-10:00 PM: Bellingham High School Basketball (January-March)
7:00-10:00 PM: Bellingham High School Baseball (April-June)
7:00-10:00 PM: *The CTN Family Movie**
9:00-10:00 PM: *Online**

*Both these programs air only on Fridays when Bellingham high school sports are inactive.

Saturdays

5:00-6:00 AM: *With This Ring*
6:00-6:30 AM: *I'm Going Fishing*
6:30-7:00 AM: Infomercial
7:00-8:00 AM:
Today in the Words of the Lord
8:00-8:30 AM: *Adventures in Odyssey*
8:30-9:00 AM: *The Treehouse Club*
9:00-10:00 AM: *Little House on the Prairie*
10:00-11:00 AM: *The Waltons*
11:00 AM-4:00 PM: Infomercials
4:00-6:00 PM: *CTN Kids' Theater*
6:00-8:00 PM: *CTN Family Theater*

8:00-10:30 PM:

CTN Weekend Classic Theater

10:30-11:00 PM: *The Best of*

*Enjoying Everyday Life with Joyce Meyer**

11:00 PM-5:00 AM: Infomercials

*This program will not be seen if *CTN Weekend Classic Theater* is three hours in length.



Sundays

5:00-7:00 AM: Infomercials

7:00-8:00 AM:

Today in the Words of the Lord

8:00-8:30 AM: *Believer's Voice of Victory*

8:30-9:00 AM: *Day of Discovery*

9:00-10:00 AM: *Benny Hinn Ministries*

10:00-11:00 AM: *The Hour of Power*

11:00 AM-12:00 PM: *In Touch*

12:00-1:00 PM: *Give Us This Day*

1:00-2:00 PM: *The Ernest Angley Hour*

2:00-3:00 PM: *New Day Ministries*

3:00-4:00 PM: *Living the Truth*

4:00-5:00 PM: *World Vision*

5:00-5:30 PM: *Adventures in Odyssey*

5:30-6:00 PM: *Children's Letters to God*

6:00-7:00 PM: *Little House on the Prairie*

7:00-8:00 PM: *The Waltons*
8:00-10:00 PM:
CTN Weekend Classic Theater
10:00-11:00 PM: *Washington High School and College Sports Week*
10:00-11:00 PM: Infomercials*
11:00 PM-5:00 AM: Infomercials

*An infomercial airs when Washington high school and college sports are inactive.)

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Death

THE LAST STAND

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