

Lost Pilot Lands In P'ville Corn

PARISHVILLE — A Trinidad native who was taking flying lessons from an Ottawa airport lost his direction Saturday afternoon and ended his journey in a cornfield here.

Nigel Ramsahai, 21, was on a training flight Saturday when he became disoriented and could not find his way back to the Canadian capital.

He ran out of gas and was forced to land in a cornfield owned by Dean Wilson in the town of Parishville, according to Canton-based state police.

Police reported there were no injuries involved in the landing and the pilot was returned to the air that afternoon.

Officers Find Car Off Road; Driver Charged

Eric Hammond, 20, of Rt. 4 Potsdam, was in satisfactory condition at the Canton-Potsdam Hospital with a possible concussion and bruises to the head Saturday after he was involved in a one-car accident early that morning.

According to St. Lawrence County Sheriff's deputies, two Norwood policemen discovered the Hammond vehicle at about 12:30 a.m. Saturday in the town of Potsdam off Rt. 56 where it had come to rest after striking a tree head-on. The driver of the car was unconscious and there was smoke coming from within.

The police officers called the Potsdam Rescue Squad and fire department. The sheriff's department also responded to the call since the accident occurred outside the Norwood jurisdiction.

Hammond was transported to the Potsdam hospital and admitted. He has been charged with driving while intoxicated and is to appear in Potsdam town court at a later date.

Trooper Scuffles With Defendant

A Canton-based state trooper and the man he was attempting to arrest were injured Sunday night in a scuffle that occurred on the Baghdad Road here.

Troopers were called to the Marshall Chase residence at approximately 11:25 p.m. Sunday by Barbara Chase, to investigate a family dispute. When they arrived, they found Marshall Chase, 40, in his car in the driveway preparing to leave the residence.

When police attempted to place Chase under arrest he resisted and received several contusions and a lacerated right eye. Trooper Bruce Greenwood sustained a sprained right hand in the struggle.

Chase was charged with driving while intoxicated, forceful resisting arrest, and assault, second degree, police said.

Chase was treated and released at the Canton-Potsdam Hospital and then was arraigned before Potsdam Justice Shirley Harris. He was later returned to the hospital and admitted, according to police.

Chase was in satisfactory condition Monday morning and is to reappear in town court at a later date.

DWI Charge Lodged

Massena-based State Police arrested Neal R. Garvin, 24, Old Lyme, Conn., at 2:30 a.m. Friday in Potsdam, charging him with driving while intoxicated.

He was released for a later court appearance.



STAYING FIT — With a little help from her new friend, this participant of Senior Citizens' Activity and Fitness Day at Potsdam College challenges her opponents in a game of badminton. Some 180 senior citizens and 25 students teamed to make the event held on Oct. 23 the most successful yet.

College Hosted Fitness Day For 180 Senior Citizens

With a little help from new friends and a lot of fun together, some 180 senior citizens and approximately 25 Potsdam College students teamed up to make Senior Citizens' Activity and Fitness Day, Oct. 23, the most successful yet.

"The tension that often exists between young people and the elderly simply disappeared as they participated in physical education and coordinator of the day's activities, Students from Johnson's "Health: A Lifestyle Approach" class served as group leaders and hosts.

"The last unit of our course is the biology of aging or fitness after age 50," said Johnson. "We discuss activities that will help people remain flexible and vigorous."

Such activities include new recreational games, fitness through yoga, dance and movement exercises.

"Students are involved in planning these activities and are asked to devote one hour participating in the day," Johnson said. He noted that many of his students enjoyed themselves so much that they stayed all day.

Other students from Potsdam College and from State University Agricultural and Technical College at Canton offered their services in different ways.

"Nursing students, under the supervision of Rosalie Hunter, R.N., from Canton ATC organized a blood pressure clinic while Richard Merchant, director of Potsdam College's Center for Audiology and Hearing Services, and his students managed a hearing clinic," said Bobby Williams, coordinator of inservice-non-traditional programs and also a co-ordinator of the events.

Senior Citizens' Activities and Fitness Day was co-sponsored by Potsdam College's Office of Graduate and Lifelong Learning and the St. Lawrence County Office of the Aging. James Forrest, director of that office, served as co-ordinator with Williams and Johnson. Similar programs for senior citizens in the North Country are planned for throughout the year.

NEWSBRIEF

The Elks Lodge in Potsdam is joining others in the North Central District on a visit to the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Syracuse Nov. 8. They will meet at 11:30 a.m. at the Gouverneur Elks Lodge and travel to the VA hospital by 2 p.m. It is part of the organization's commitment to disabled American veterans highlighted in November during "Elks National Veterans Remembrance Month."

Mohawk Ray Cooke Carries On Tradition Of The 'High Steel' As An Engineer

Raymond P. Cooke knows about "the high steel." A Native American from the Onondaga Reservation, he has followed in the ironworking traditions of his father.

But as a 1980 Clark College graduate and one of about 60 American Indians who are civil engineers, he works with his mind as well as his hands.

Along with Ray's father, Raymond O. Cooke, relatives and friends have followed the tradition of steel working since 1886.

The Dominion company and the Mohawks went to work on the Soo Bridge, between Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario and Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. While working here they took in apprentices to learn the trade; after two years there were 70 Mohawk ironworkers.

With their knowledge and skill, they passed it on to the Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, Senecas, and Tuscaroras of upstate New York and southern Canada.

In the mid-20's, the Mohawks took their skills to New York and worked on the George Washington Bridge and Rockefeller Center, and resided in the Brooklyn community.

Ray, who is Mohawk through

matrilineal descent, has had construction workers around him all his life, as he grew up on the Onondaga reservation, about nine miles from Syracuse. Ray's father insisted Ray continue his education, while Ray wanted only to be like his father, an ironworker.

With a New York scholarship, Ray went to St. Lawrence University, majoring in sociology. He began counseling in 1975, after he graduated.

Ray worked in the educational opportunity program at Oswego College when he heard Arnold T. Anderson an Iroquois, speak. It was after Anderson's lecture, encouraging American Indians to seek a career in engineering, that Ray knew this was what he really wanted.

In 1980, Ray graduated from Clark College with a degree in civil engineering and can see construction from another angle. Ray now checks the quality in the structures that the men put up.

Ray makes sure that job specifications are met for concrete, soils, bituminous and steel at the Atlantic Testing Laboratories in Cicero, N.Y. and Materials Investigation, Inc. that he heads himself and with partner Spencer Thew. Ray hopes that Materials Investigation, Inc. will

become large enough to hire men to test the materials. With the expansion Ray will be able to get contracts from construction companies and make the business bigger.

Ray has had some experience in this field, as a student intern at Alcoa in Massena, while attending Clarkson. He inspected steel and concrete for correct size and elevation, checked paint for thickness and steel bolts for alignment.

One day Ray had to inspect bolts on a steel frame about 30 feet off the ground without a safety line, because he had to move around so much. "Although it was only 30 or 35 feet up, I was a little shaky," he says. "It doesn't look that high from the ground, but it feels high up there."

With Ray's current job there are times when he must climb up on the beam, but unlike the steelworkers who must do it everyday to earn a living, Ray can choose what he wants to do.

Ray has remained on the Onondaga reservation with his wife Mary and their children Jennifer and Crystal.

While Ray's father is retired from walking on high beams, he still works construction in Syracuse.

Lunch Prices Rise 5¢ At P-H School

PARISHVILLE — The cost of a school lunch will go up here. The Parishville-Hopkinton Central School Board of Education acted on a recommendation at the Oct. 19 meeting made by Superintendent Gary Buchler, District Treasurer Audrey Grobler, and Cafeteria Manager Kathleen Snell. The recommendation made was to raise school lunch prices 5 cents effective Nov. 15.

This increase is the first in over three years and was deemed necessary following a cutback in federal reimbursement rates and inflationary rates causing the rise in food costs.

Beginning Nov. 15, full lunch prices for students in grades K-6 will increase to 45 cents up from 40 cents. Full price lunches for all students in grades K-12 will increase to 55 cents up from 50 cents. Reduced price lunches for all students in grades K-12 will increase to 15 cents up from the old price of 10 cents. Milk will increase to 15 cents which reflects an increase of 5 cents over the previous price per half pint.

Several factors have influenced the decision to request board approval for the increase in prices. One is that the government's reimbursement to schools has been reduced or eliminated. The government, in the past, has reimbursed the school district 5 cents for each individual serving of milk sold by the cafeteria but that ended as of Oct. 1.

Other changes in government reimbursements to the lunch program for grades K-12 has seen the school refunded prices of 64.3 cents for each reduced price lunch sold cut back to

senior high school. The hot lunches have also added variety with choices being offered in the vegetables and desserts taken by the students.

The changes and options have been a challenge to the students, involving them in the decision making process where previously little choice was offered.

Student participation in the lunch program is rising and the reactions to the changes have been very positive.

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