

Trivia lurk in his past

Mayor Hazel McCallion's newly appointed executive assistant, Brian Johnston, admits he never thought during his college days he would be involved with the most intimate parts of running one of Canada's largest cities.

Johnston, the subject of this week's trivia quiz (in which he got eight for 10), is actually an ethologist and entomologist studying the habits of animals and insects. In fact, he was heavily involved at one point during his university training with the subject of how ants make slaves of other ants.

How Brian got to big-city government came about because of his desire to work in the community. During his college days, he was involved with Distress Line, a crisis intervention centre.

Because of his work there, it was suggested by a professor he seriously consider getting involved with social services and that led to his getting a position with the Region of Peel in the Social Services Department.

His ability led to his current job of making sure Mayor McCallion is briefed, makes appointments, and is assisted in any way possible in making her job easier. In his three short weeks, Johnston says that despite the fact he is only 29, he has to move fast to keep up with the mayor whom he describes as a "very energetic person... with an even more remarkable memory."

Brian also has to be sharp and have a good memory and this was shown this week when he garnered eight of the 10 questions in the trivia quiz. Perhaps you won't have to have as good a memory for

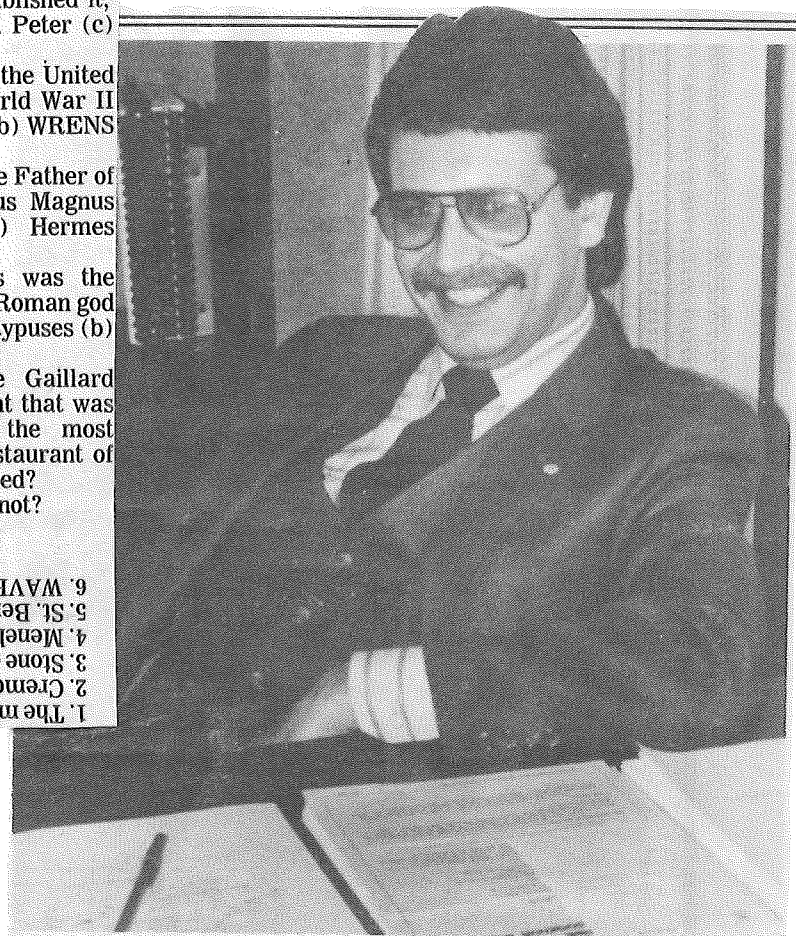
details as Hazel and Brian, but let's see how well you do on this week's test.

QUESTIONS

1. Does the expression "hoi polloi" refer to the masses or to the aristocracy?
2. What town in Lombardy, Italy, is famous for its violin makers, the most famous of whom were Nicolo Amati (1596-1684), Andreas Guarneri (1629-1698) and Antonio Stradivari (1644-1737), (a) Cremona (b) Naples (c) Rome?
3. What is another name for the Stone of Destiny, on which the Scottish Kings were formerly crowned, (a) Stone of Scone (b) Stone of Blood (c) Stone of Galway?
4. Who was the husband of Helen of Troy, (a) Agamemnon (b) Menelaus (c) Hector?
5. The monastery at Monte Cassino has been sacked by the Lombards, destroyed by the Saracens and demolished during World War II. Who established it, (a) St. Benedict (b) St. Peter (c) St. Paul?
6. Women serving in the United States Navy during World War II were called (a) WACS (b) WRENS (c) WAVES?
7. Who is known as the Father of Chemistry, (a) Albertus Magnus (b) Robert Boyle (c) Hermes Trismegistus?
8. By what animals was the chariot of Bacchus, the Roman god of wine, drawn, (a) Platypuses (b) wombats (c) panthers?
9. In 1893, Maxime Gaillard opened an establishment that was to become arguably the most famous and elegant restaurant of its kind. What was it called?
10. Who cut Gordius' knot?

ANSWERS

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|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. The masses | 6. WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) |
| 2. Cremona | 7. Robert Boyle |
| 3. Stone of Scone | 8. Panthers |
| 4. Menelaus | 9. Maxim's |
| 5. St. Benedict in 529 A.D. | 10. Alexander the Great |



Brian Johnston, newly appointed executive assistant to Mayor Hazel McCallion, scored eight out of 10 questions correctly on his trivia quiz.