

Choking prompts renewed interest in death

The Canadian Press

CALGARY — A Calgary mother has been charged with murdering her infant son, nearly six years after the youngster's death was ruled natural by authorities. Police say 10-and-a-half-month-old Sean Ronald Fewer was found not breathing in his crib in Decem-

ber 2004. At the time his death did not raise any suspicion with the medical examiner. But last May, police were called to a Calgary hospital where a five-year-old boy was brought in having trouble breathing. Police ended up charging the boy's mother, Stacey Joy Bourdeaux, with attempted murder

and choking with intent. They began looking into her background and that's when they discovered the death of baby Sean. They now believe that his death was not natural, and that he was smothered. On Friday, they charged Bourdeaux with second-degree murder. "Everything back in 2004 was

consistent with the findings at the time. It was all consistent. It didn't raise any flags at the time," said acting Staff Sgt. Rick Tuza. "Of course six years later with the five year old having to go to the hospital in the condition that he was in - the flags started to go up and we had to take a second look at that 2004 case."

Alta. premier upset over fuel boycott

The Canadian Press

EDMONTON — Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach is miffed at some U.S. retailers for saying they will boycott or avoid buying fuel from the oilsands. The retailers include Walgreens drug store chain, The Gap, Timberland, Levi Strauss and Whole Foods. Stelmach says the retailers aren't aware of efforts by the Alberta government and the energy industry to reduce the environmental impact of oilsands development. The premier says he intends to send a letter to the CEO of each of the corporations. Stelmach says Alberta is the only jurisdiction in North America with mandatory greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for large emitters. The environmental group Forest Ethics says it will continue lobbying other Fortune 500 corporations in the U.S. to turn their backs on oilsands oil.

Bomb search fruitless

The Canadian Press

TORONTO — Police have found no evidence of a bomb on a Porter Airlines plane in Toronto after a passenger was overheard speaking about a pipe bomb. Const. Isabelle Cotton says one person is in custody but no charges have been laid. Police descended on the Toronto City Centre Airport after receiving a call around 12:17 p.m. A flight attendant overheard a passenger on the aircraft talking about a possible pipe bomb. The Chicago-bound plane, which had not left the tarmac at the island airport, was evacuated and the Emergency Task Force swept the aircraft twice. No bomb was found.

EI processors about to join the EI line

The Canadian Press




























OTTAWA — Hundreds of government workers who handle Employment Insurance claims are about to join the ranks of the unemployed, The Canadian Press has learned. In a bid to balance its budget, Service Canada has decided to cut 600 employees across the country on top of another 600 who were let go in May. The union representing the employees was formally notified this afternoon and was warned more cuts may come in January. Many of those who will lose their jobs provide Canadians with help on everything from passport applications and pension problems to processing their EI claims. Steve McCuaig of the Canada Employment and Immigration Union says Canadians who receive these services will be the ones hurt by the job cuts. McCuaig says the move could have a big impact on the elderly and those with disabilities who rely on Service Canada staff to help them with their pensions.

Play nice

The Canadian Press

TORONTO — Politicians need to stop hurling insults at each other and instead invest in infrastructure and cities to make apathetic Canadians want to vote again, NDP Leader Jack Layton said Friday. Voters are not interested in politicians taking shots at each other in Parliament, and instead want to know how they will tackle issues like health care and affordable housing. "Political parties have to start talking with a more positive message," Layton said after a speech to the Rotary Club of Toronto that carried that same message.

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