

AUTO RACING

FERRARI SAYS IT REMAINS COMMITTED TO FORMULA ONE

Ferrari says it remains committed to Formula One in the wake of reports on Thursday that the sport's oldest and most successful team could walk away if a proposed budget cap for 2021 was set too low. Britain's Guardian newspaper suggested Ferrari was prepared to quit in a headline, later replaced, over an interview with team boss Mattia Binotto. A Ferrari spokeswoman said Binotto had not mentioned the team leaving Formula One. "On the contrary, he said that we would not want to be put in a position of having to look at further options, besides continuing racing in F1, for deploying our racing DNA," she added. Binotto had told the Guardian that a drastic budget cut, called for by some teams as they face the fallout of the COVID-19 crisis, put at risk hundreds of jobs at their Maranello factory. Reuters



Colombian soccer experiment comes with risks

Pros could be playing as early as next month

SCOTT STINSON in Toronto

A Canadian doctor is at the centre of efforts to bring back professional soccer in Colombia as soon as early next month. To be clear, not British Columbia. Colombia, the country in South America, best known for coffee and ... other substances. The story of how Glenn Copeland, the director of medical services for the Ottawa Redblacks and one of the team doctors for the Toronto Blue Jays, has come to be involved in the plan to restart Colombia's top-flight soccer league is one of those

that makes the world feel strangely small. He had a contact at QuestCap, a small investment firm based in Toronto that was looking to get involved in the efforts to fight the coronavirus pandemic. Someone else had connections in South America, and through them learned that Colombia's governing soccer body, the Division Mayor del Futbol Colombiano (DIMAYOR), was seeking assistance on a return-to-play strategy. Calls were made, various experts were assembled and a plan began to take shape. Essentially, a guy knew a guy who knew another guy, and that was enough to get things started. Copeland acknowledges that infectious disease is not his normal specialty. He's a podiatrist by training, and says the last few weeks of immersion in the world of COVID-19 have been like learning a new language. "I'm good with sore feet," he

says in an interview. Discussions that began with a simple question — "How do we get guys on the field safely, and without (causing) spread?" — soon involved more medical professionals, including a leading immunologist based at California's Stanford University. That work led to the development of a plan that Copeland and his partners believe will allow the safe resumption of play in Colombia. If it works, it could be a road map for leagues around the world to follow. And if it doesn't, "We'll have a lot of people telling us, 'I told you so,'" Copeland says. There is no lack of skeptics, including myself, who have written about the challenges of trying to restart a sports league, even in isolation, while dealing with a disease that is known to be transmissible among people who do not realize they are sick. With sports mostly shuttered

around the world, leagues and organizations are deciding whether to close shop and wait the pandemic out, or try to resume operations while "doing what we can to mitigate the risk as much as possible," as Copeland says. With baseball resuming its pre-season in Korea, soccer leagues in Europe looking at summer play and the NHL talking openly about playing at selected quarantine sites, it's evident that some are moving toward that latter option. Colombia is among that group, although it could reverse course as the logistics of what resumed play would require are hashed out. The country of almost 50 million has a confirmed COVID-19 case count of around 4,500, compared to more than 40,000 in Canada, although its testing rates are extremely low. The proposed strategy would see everyone involved in staging games without fans in Liga BetPlay Dimay-

or, the Colombian top flight, be tested at the outset for the coronavirus. With 20 teams in the division, and allowing for players, coaches, trainers, and game-operations staff, it's estimated that would include about 1,300 people. They would all have a PCR test — the nasal swab test — and after a negative result would begin a program of constant medical evaluation and re-evaluation while theoretically sealed off from the outside world. Blood tests that check for the antibodies that fight COVID-19 would be administered daily as a monitoring tool, and if an active case were discovered, that person would be whisked out of the league bubble and sent for treatment or into isolation. Once recovered, they would return. The risks of such a plan are evident even to a non-doctor. Antibodies develop as the person is fighting the virus, so that person

could spread the illness for days before it is spotted in their blood. But the hope is that aggressive monitoring would catch such cases before it gets to that point (Spain's top soccer league is also reportedly planning daily serology tests if it resumes training late next month). Copeland says they cannot expect to have no active cases at all, since so many people are involved. There will be players and coaches and hotel staff and chefs and ball boys and timekeepers and broadcasters. "They key is to pick up the infected person early," he says. "The biggest fear is that we pick up a case, and three days later we have five cases on the same team." That will be the problem for any league, whether in South America or Europe or here at home. It is quite an experiment that they are planning in Colombia. Other leagues will be watching with great interest. Postmedia News stinson@postmedia.com

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THE NATIONAL POST NOTES THE FOLLOWING OBITUARIES IN TODAY'S PAPER.

To view a notice online, share your memories or express condolences, go to: [nationalpost.com/remembling](http://nationalpost.com/remembling)

ROPER, Iris

Notices may not appear alphabetically due to space requirements.

Obituaries



ROPER, Iris Margaret August 13, 1926 - April 20, 2020

Peacefully, as she slept away to her Big Band Music, Iris Roper left this world in her 94th year on April 20th, 2020 at Chartwell Ballycliffe Long Term Care, Ajax.

Born in the Winchester Hotel, Toronto on Friday the 13th day of August, 1926. Predeceased by her parents, Margaret & Ken Gardiner and her special relatives, Auntie Pearl and Cousin Florence. Also predeceased by all her siblings; Jimmy, Kenny, June & Dorothy. Married over 43 years to the love of her life, Clifford Roper until his passing in 1988.

In later years, Iris had a very good friend & travelling companion in Charlie Taylor, who also left this world. Iris was partly responsible for the creation of Margaret, Bruce, Gary & June; who produced Iris' 9 Grandchildren (Joanne, Jennifer, Lisa, Kevin, Desiree, Taylor, Amy, Aaron & Brett) and 4 Great-Grandchildren (Sierra, Jordan, Hunter & Madison). She is survived by her Sister-In-Laws Violet, Ellen (Fred) & Brother-In-Law Charlie (Alice) plus so many nieces & nephews, we couldn't possibly name them all.

She loved her family & friends! Iris' career was raising 4 good kids and when she did take a job outside the home, it was to work in the Cold Cafeteria at Markham High for 15 years. She later drove a small school bus. Iris was very social and was a member in many clubs — the National Campers & Hikers Association, a few bowling leagues, the I.O.D.E., both Church & Senior's Choirs, & the Senior's Centre — making many lasting friendships along the way. Iris trailed her way all around North America, cruised to Alaska, visited her Mother's native land of Scotland & journeyed to see family in South Africa. She lived independently until she was 91 and it took two hip fractures to slow her down from her favorite pastimes of walking & dancing.

He's just the Maintenance Guy...

My mother passed away on Monday, April 20, 2020 from contracting the Covid-19 virus at Ballycliffe Lodge Long Term Care Home. On her last day a man attended to my mother for my family because we could not go into the nursing home, held her hand while having his phone near her ear so that my family and I could say our goodbyes to her. I was able to speak to him and ask his name, and asked if he is a nurse or PSW he told me, "No, I'm just the maintenance guy". I told him that he wasn't just the maintenance guy but a Saint for his care and kindness.

All long term care homes are short staffed during this horrible covid-19 virus with many of the staff testing positive therefore, Paul was helping out the nurses and PSWs. Paul said that the home is so full of love for all the residents, everyone wants to do their part to help. Through the deep sadness of losing my mother, a bright star was visible in Paul.

If you'd like to honor Iris' memory, a donation to all the wonderful Staff at Chartwell Ballycliffe in Ajax would be greatly appreciated. They were angels at a very difficult time. Iris lived at Ballycliffe for the last 2 1/2 years of her life, averaging 60 activities per month! They will miss her. We all will. A celebration of Iris' life will be scheduled at a later date.

STEELES MEMORIAL CHAPEL

THURSDAY

ELFASSY, Susa M. Private Family Service

FRIDAY

GOLTS, Fania Private Family Service

SHIVA OBSERVANCES

WEISER, Irwin Private Shiva  
 MARKUS, Emily Private Shiva  
 MANN, Helena Private Shiva  
 SZPIGIEL, Harvey Private Shiva  
 SHVARTS, Ida Private Shiva  
 MELIKHOV, Vladimir Private Shiva  
 LEVIN, Fanya Private Shiva  
 STEIMAN, Frank (Israel) Private Shiva  
 FRISCH, Rose Private Shiva  
 ROTMAN, Edward Private Shiva  
 FAERCHTEIN, Ikhil Private Shiva  
 REICHMAN, Piroshka (Dolly) Private Shiva  
 ELFASSY, Susa M. Private Shiva

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Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel

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THURSDAY

WEIZMAN, Rabbi Peretz Family Service.  
 REIBER, Florence Family Service.

FRIDAY

SCHLOSS, Jacob (Jake) Family Service.  
 PASOFF, Sidney Family Service.  
 MAYER, Ruth Family Service.  
 ROSS, Stanley Family Service.

SHIVA

KURTA, Willie Family Shiva  
 HERSHENHORN, Zelda Private Family Shiva  
 RUBINSTEIN, David Family Shiva  
 GRAMMER, Lillian Family Shiva  
 RICHLER, Mitchell Family Shiva  
 REIBER, Florence Family Shiva

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"Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage."

- Lao Tzu



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