



IAN HITCHEN/BRANDON SUN

Virden resident, Rob Gardiner, weaves ribbon into the mane of Roscoe, a Clydesdale. Gardiner was preparing the horse for competition at the Virden Indoor Rodeo and Wild West Daze yesterday.

# Rodeo fun moves indoors

BY IAN HITCHEN

**V**IRDEN — Folks here donned their cowboy hats, pulled on their boots and had a great time this week at the town's annual rodeo.

Virden Indoor Rodeo and Wild West Daze began with a bang as hundreds turned out at the Virden Community Recreation Centre for the first night of rodeo competition Friday evening.

"We had a full house," rodeo committee member, Kelly Lyng,

said yesterday. "I expect we'll see the same kind of numbers for tonight."

Events kicked off Thursday and continued into the weekend as residents enjoyed a parade, dance and traditional rodeo events such as roping, bare back riding, saddle bronc riding and bull riding.

It was a lineup of events worthy of a town with strong ties to the rodeo scene.

Virden, after all, is the home town for Miss Rodeo Canada 2006, Aleaha More, and proclaims itself

the 'Human Chuckwagon Race Capital.'

Locals young and old lived up to that unofficial title as teams of four dragged a wagon loaded with a barrel and driver through a course for the quickest time and a chance to win prizes up to \$500.

"It's pretty funny, you get a good laugh out of it," Lyng said.

The rodeo and Wild West Daze ends today with the crowning of the rodeo queen and a demolition derby.

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## Police seek help in stolen debit, credit card case

The Brandon Police Service is seeking the public's assistance in solving a recent case of theft and fraud.

Shortly after 3 p.m. on Aug. 9, 2006, a lady used her debit card to make a purchase at Wal-Mart in the Corral Centre. She later found that her debit card and credit cards had been stolen.

Less than half an hour after her purchase at Wal-Mart, the victim's debit card was used by the thieves to buy a large sum of American currency at the Money Mart at 8th Street and Victoria Avenue.

Withdrawals were also made at four ATM machines, which maxed out the victim's debit limit.

Before leaving Wal-Mart, the victim had been "bumped into" hard by a male suspect, who is described as dark skinned, 5'9" tall, clean shaven, with very short hair.

He was wearing white pants and white runners, and spoke with a Mexican or Spanish accent. A second suspect is a Hispanic female, who is



Police are seeking the public's help in identifying these three 'persons of interest' captured on video surveillance.



about 35 years old, 5 feet tall and slender, with no noticeable accent.

Police are seeking the public's assistance in determining the identity of these three persons of interest" from video surveillance.

If you have any information about this or any other crime you are asked to call Brandon Crime Stoppers at 727-TIPS (727-8477). Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to call display. Your call is not recorded and your identity will remain anonymous.

Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$2000 cash for information that leads to the solution of a crime.

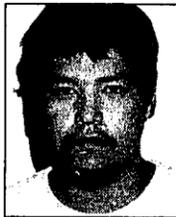
### Wanted by police

The Brandon Police Service is seeking the public's assistance in locating this person who is wanted by police.

## BRANDON CRIME STOPPERS

A COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Alphonse Damon Antoine, 26, is charged with assault, theft and failing to attend court.



Alphonse Antoine

Police report that on Nov. 26, 2005 a woman reported that a male suspect had stolen money from her wallet after she fell asleep at a party on 42nd Street.

Arrested, and later released, the man failed to attend

court on July 17, 2006.

On June 29, 2006, another woman reported being assaulted by a man at a residence in the 100 block of 16th Street.

The victim was struck in the face with a pillow, and then thrown to the ground so hard that her collar bone was fractured. Two warrants of arrest have been issued for Alphonse Damon Antoine.

If you have any information as to the whereabouts of this person or anyone else wanted by police you are asked to call Brandon Crime Stoppers at 727-TIPS (727-8477). Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to call display. Your call is not recorded and your identity will remain anonymous.

### Crime prevention tip

When reporting a crime or emergency, stay calm and state the problem.

For example: "I want to report..."

- a break and enter in progress."
- that thieves are breaking into a car."
- that a robbery is taking place."
- an accident has taken place and someone is hurt."

Give the full address where the emergency is occurring and also give the place, address, and telephone number from which you are calling.

Let the police dispatcher or 911 operator control the conversation. Do not hang up. Stay on the telephone until the dispatcher/operator tells you to hang up.

If you wish to remain anonymous, give your name to the dispatcher or operator, and then make your request to be anonymous. If police need more information, they are then able to call you later but you will still be treated with anonymity.

For reporting crimes in progress or emergencies call:

- Emergency Calls Only: 911
- Non-Emergency Calls: 729-2345

## Washing up



CHRISTOPHER PIKE/BRANDON SUN

Manitoba Emergency Services College students Jeff Burtnack, left, and Kari Ciglar wash the front of a vehicle during their last car wash fundraiser of the year at the Home Depot parking lot on Saturday. The funds raised go to the college and Muscular Dystrophy.

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