

# Alouettes are in good hands with Mark Weightman



Mike Cohen



Mark Weightman at last week's home opener.

Mark Weightman has certainly come a long way since he began his Canadian Football League front office career with the former Baltimore Stallions 18 years ago. But how did this all come about for the present-day chief operating officer and de facto president of the Montreal Alouettes?

The charismatic 40-year-old Beaconsfield resident truthfully owes it all to his wife **Lotta Braam** and the opportunity of an internship. Prior to last Thursday's 2013 home opener at the fabulously revamped Percival Molson Stadium - the first live Als game I have seen in more than a decade - Weightman provided me with a neat history of how he ended up in Baltimore.

"Nineteen years ago I was sitting at a computer lab at the Loyola campus of Concordia University waiting for my girlfriend, now my wife," Weightman recalled. "I had contacted **Larry Smith**, who at the time was the commissioner of the CFL, and asked him how I could get in touch with the various teams for jobs. There were no websites to look for back then. He sent me a list of contacts so there I was at the lab, typing letters to every CFL team in Canada. When Lotta said she needed another 10 minutes, I figured I'd kill the time and write a letter to Baltimore. Lo and behold, a few weeks later I was offered an internship."

It turned out that Weightman had an aunt and uncle residing in the Baltimore area, so he went down there, bunked with them and enjoyed a memorable season with the Stallions. The team averaged 36,000 fans a game, won the Grey Cup and would have stuck around as the CFL's marquee American team until the National Football League returned to that city - the Cleveland Browns becoming the Baltimore Ravens. Weightman had no sooner moved back to Montreal and by chance the Stallions relocated to our fair city and became a new version of the Alouettes.

"I had just accepted a job with the Impact soccer team," Weightman says. "The new

Alouettes owner, **Jim Speros**, though wanted to meet with me. I was among his first hires as marketing coordinator and I never left the team. I guess this shows you the value of the internship. You do a lot of grunt work, but you learn a lot."

While Weightman does not have the title of president, as COO he runs the business side of the Alouettes operation. The difference is that **Jim Popp**, the general manager, does not report to him, instead doing so directly to owner **Bob Wettenhall**. "I have known Jim since Baltimore," he says. "We are good friends."

**WHITE HOUSE DOWN:** I finally saw the Montreal made motion picture *White House Down*, starring **Channing Tatum** and **Jamie Fox**. Look and listen closely and you will notice CTV's **Todd van der Hayden** as a helicopter reporter, **Lori Graham** as a newscaster and **Tara Schwartz**, Global's **Tim Sargeant**, CBC's **Frank Cavallaro** as TV reporters. **Barry Morgan** and **Andrew Peplowski** of CJAD pipe in doing radio alerts.

**COHEN CHATTER:** Weightman's brother Brian is the head of ticket sales for the Impact. **Michelle Aikman Carter** is a chip off the old block. The Pointe Claire native, daughter of CJAD's **Andrew Carter** and noted media personality/publicist **Cindy Aikman**, is working on the communications team for Just For Laughs... How much will Astral chief **Ian Greenberg** earn from the sale of his enterprise to Bell Media? Reports peg his gains at \$152 million.

*Have you got something to share? E-mail [mcohen@thesuburban.com](mailto:mcohen@thesuburban.com) or call 514-484-9203, ext. 307. Follow me on Twitter @mike-cohen and at <http://blog.thesuburban.com/>*

## JGH Cons Family Geriatric Unit extends compassionate care to the elderly

As the size of Quebec's elderly population continues to rise, and as their multiple illnesses assume great complexity, the extensively renovated Cons Family Geriatric Unit at the Jewish General Hospital (JGH) is playing a leading role in the use of progressive design to enhance the hospital's compassionate care.

Notable among them is the cozy lounge which doubles as a common dining area. This light, airy space features a large window and wood-paneled walls that bear framed photographs of brightly coloured flowers, along with a flat-screen TV. Easily visible to nurses at the main desk, the lounge is ideal for reading, card games, conversation, simple relaxation or, at mealtimes, for dining in cheerier surroundings than a hospital room.

Along with its rehabilitation room, private washing machine and dryer, special lighting, and many other amenities, the Cons Family Geriatric Unit enables elderly patients to receive care with comfort, safety and dignity. This Unit is also in line with the renewed emphasis that the Government of Quebec has asked all hospitals to place on ensuring that the full range of healthcare services meet the needs of seniors.

"This area and the unit as a whole are clear evidence that proper care for seniors entails much more than delivering top-quality medical treatment," explains Dr. Ruby Friedman, JGH Site Director for Geriatrics. "That's why

**Lavoir Patricia**  
5320 Patricia Ave., N.D.G. (corner Chester)

**Lavoir Victoria**  
5950 Victoria Ave.

**CAMP LAUNDRY MADE EASY!**

Look no further than Lavoir Patricia

*We have heavy-duty large 65 lb. capacity washing machines to accommodate*

• Sleeping Bags • Duffle Bags • Pillows

**DROP OFF SERVICE**

You can even leave your laundry to be washed, dried, & folded by our staff

**Montreal's Largest Laundromat**

[www.MONTREALLAUNDROMAT.com](http://www.MONTREALLAUNDROMAT.com)

**SEARS DECARIE LIQUIDATION**  
Décarie Square, (on the first floor) Côte Saint-Luc

**OFFERS IN EFFECT**  
**JULY 15 - AUGUST 11, 2013**

UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, WHILE QUANTITIES LAST.  
SALE PRICED MERCHANDISE MAY NOT BE EXACTLY AS ILLUSTRATED.

**WAREHOUSE SALE**

**FASHION**

**\$2.99**

**THOUSANDS OF ITEMS**

**WOMEN'S, MEN'S & CHILDREN'S**

**\$4.99**

**\$8.99** **UP TO 90% OFF** **\$6.99**

**SHORTS, SKIRTS, JEANS, DRESSES, ETC...**

**BUY 3 & GET THE 4<sup>TH</sup> FREE!!!**

**FURNITURE**

OVER 300 PIECES UP TO 90% OFF

DINING ROOM TABLE \$50 • CHAIRS \$10 EA.

**AREA RUGS**

BUY 1 & GET ONE FREE

**APPLIANCES**

BUY 1 & GET THE 2<sup>ND</sup> AT 50% OFF

NAME BRANDS LIKE GE, LG, KENMORE

\* IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A SEARS CARD AND/OR SEARS MASTERCARD, WE CAN OPEN AN ACCOUNT IN-STORE WITHIN 2 MINUTES.

|                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Décarie Boulevard</p> <p style="text-align: center;">■</p> <p>Coolbrook Avenue</p> <p>Clanranald Avenue</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>DÉCARIE SQUARE</b></p> <p>6900 Décarie Blvd,<br/>Côte Saint-Luc, QC<br/><b>(514) 731-6118</b></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">USE YOUR SEARS FINANCIAL™ CREDIT CARD</p> <p>MON-TUES-WED: 9:30am-6:00pm<br/>THURS-FRI: 9:30am-9:00pm<br/>SATURDAY: 9:00am-5:00pm<br/>SUNDAY: 10:00am-5:00pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sears</b></p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

# Alouettes are in good hands with Beaconsfield's Weightman

Mark Weightman has certainly come a long way since he began his Canadian Football

League front office career with the former Baltimore Stallions 18 years ago. But how did this all

come about for the present-day chief operating officer and de facto president of the Montreal Alouettes?

The charismatic 40-year-old Beaconsfield resident truthfully owes it all to his wife **Lotta Braam** and the opportunity of an internship. Prior to last Thursday's 2013 home opener the fabulously revamped Percival Molson Stadium -the first live Als game I have seen in more than a decade - Weightman provided me with a neat history of how he ended up in Baltimore.

"Nineteen years ago I was sitting at



Mike Cohen

a computer lab at the Loyola campus of Concordia University waiting for my girlfriend, now my wife," Weightman recalled. "I had contacted **Larry Smith**, who at the time was the commissioner of the CFL, and asked him how I could get in touch with the various teams for jobs. There were no websites to look for back then. He sent me a list of contacts so there I was at the lab, typing letters to every CFL team in Canada. When Lotta said she needed another 10 minutes, I figured I'd kill the time and write a letter to Baltimore. Lo and behold, a few weeks later I was offered an internship."

It turned out that Weightman had an aunt and uncle residing in the Baltimore area, so he went down there, bunked with them and enjoyed a memorable season with the Stallions. The team averaged 36,000 fans a game, won the Grey Cup and would have stuck around as the CFL's marquee American team until the National Football League returned to that city - the Cleveland Browns becoming the Baltimore Ravens. Weightman had no sooner moved back to Montreal and by chance the Stallions relocated to our fair city and became a new version of the Alouettes.

"I had just accepted a job with the Impact soccer team," Weightman says. "The new Alouettes owner, **Jim Speros**,



Beaconsfield's Weightman at last week's home opener. (PHOTO BY MIKE COHEN)

wanted to meet with me. I was among his first hires as marketing coordinator and I never left the team. I guess this shows you the value of the internship. You do a lot of grunt work, but you learn a lot."

While Weightman does not have the title of president, as COO he runs the business side of the Alouettes operation. The difference is that **Jim Popp**, the general manager, does not report to him, instead doing so directly to owner **Bob Wettenhall**. "I have known Jim since Baltimore," he says. "We are good friends."

Born in St. André d'Argenteuil, Weightman holds an MBA from l'Université du Québec à Montréal and a Bachelor of Commerce degree with a major in Marketing from Concordia. He, his wife and their two children adore Beaconsfield. "Having grown up in the Laurentians, I needed to be in a place with a lot of greenspace," he explains

Weightman's brother Brian is the head of ticket sales for the Impact.

**COHEN CHATTER: Michelle Aikman Carter** is a chip off the old block. The Pointe Claire native, daughter of CJAD's **Andrew Carter** and noted media personality/publicist **Cindy Aikman**, is working on the communications team for Just For Laughs... The Montreal shot movie *White House Down* features Dollard's **Lori Graham** as a newscaster and **Barry Morgan's** golden voice doing radio alerts.

**Dignité**  
— SINCE 1840 —  
FUNERAL HOMES  
**COLLINS CLARKE  
MACGILLIVRAY WHITE**  
200 SEAT CHAPEL • RECEPTION HALLS  
FUNERAL PREARRANGMENTS  
CREMATION AND COLUMBARIUM  
Martin Allaire, Director - West Island/Montréal/South Shore  
WWW.DIGNITEQUEBEC.COM - 514 483-1870 - 1 888 342-6565

**New In Pointe-Claire**  
**new balance**  
Now open  
**NEW BALANCE CONCEPT/CHAUSSURES LE DEPOT**  
Mega Centre Des Sources  
48E Brunswick Pointe-Claire  
514-426-2774  
**NEW BALANCE STORE**  
Complexe les Ailes  
677 Ste-Catherine  
514-844-2777  
www.newbalancemontreal.com



GET THE BIG APPLE TREATMENT  
**2\* FOR 22\$**  
\*Select from our Special menu  
Valid for a limited time, details at participating restaurants.  
**MADISONS**  
NEW YORK GRILL & BAR  
www.madisonsNYC.com  
NOW IN RESTAURANTS  
NON-PARTICIPATING - MADISONS DDO  
11590, de Salaberry Ouest

SERVED WITH A CHOICE OF SOUP OF THE DAY, A CLAM CHOWDER, A CAESAR SALAD OR HOUSE SALAD.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHOMEDY ROYALS

The Chomedey Royal U12M are:

Bottom from left to right: George Georgakopoulos, Jonathan Dedes, Spencer Steben, Dimitri Charalampopoulos, Alexander Galanopoulos, Mehdi Boualam,

Middle: Shant Bardakjian, assistant Coach John Galanopoulos, Emanuel Oliviera, Nikolas Gikas, Andrew Alayass, Said Abi Faycal, Adam Fiore, Peter Cote, Dimitri Dimakis, Joseph Hassrouni, Aram Sekeryan.

Top: assistant coach Emilio Abi Faycal, head coach Wassim Abou-Rjaili, team manager Marco Steben.

## Lac St. Louis tourney gets Royal treatment

At the 25 annual Lac St. Louis National tournament the A U12M Chomedey Royal took the Gold in a tight match against the Braves de Ahuntsic.

Chomedey Royal secured a 3-2 win in the final 2 minutes of the game to claim the medal and championship trophy.

## Dattilio was Laval's most celebrated Montreal Alouette



Mike Cohen

When I attended last Thursday evening's Montreal Alouettes home opener at Percival Molson Stadium against the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, I immediately asked the team's public relations chief Charles Rooke which players reside in Laval. Fullback Martin Bedard and kicker Sean Whyte turn out to be the only two Als living in Quebec's second largest city.

But who is Laval's most successful and famous member of the Als ever? My vote goes to quarterback Gerry Dattilio, a gentleman I had the pleasure of covering for the old *Sunday Express*. "Growing up in Ste Dorothee and Chomedey was probably one of the best times of my life," he shared when I reached him last week in Calgary, where he is an injury reduction trainer at the Alberta Motor Transport Association.

Dattilio played at Chomedey Polyvalent High School for two years and guided his club to a city championship in 1970 by beating St Thomas High School 41-1. He subsequently earned a scholarship to the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley where he was the starting pivot for three years and an all-American for two of those years, winning team MVP honours during his Junior and Senior years ultimately gaining entrance to the school's Hall of Fame.

In 1975 Dattilio was the protected choice of the Alouettes. "Back then each team was allowed to protect two players who were from your hometown, so I never made it to the draft like they have today," Dattilio explained.

Dattilio played 11 seasons in the CFL, nine with the Als and two with the Calgary Stampeders. "I was fortunate enough to have played in three Grey Cup games and won one in 1977 over the Eskimos by the score of 41 to 6," he said. "That was the infamous Staples Game. In 1980 I was selected to the All-



Gerry Dattilio

Star team; I won the Most Outstanding Canadian Award and I was runner-up for the Most Outstanding Player in the league. It was a pretty good year."

Looking back, Dattilio says, "I was fortunate to have very good people coach me at different levels in my career. I must mention also that being in the right place at the right time is another reason things worked out for me. I was truly humbled a few years ago when they named my old high school field after me. It's now called Gerry Dattilio Park and that's something I will cherish for the rest of my life."

Dattilio has called Calgary home for the past 17 years. "I love being here," he says. "I'll be going to Montreal in early August to visit some of my family and playing a little golf with my buddies. I do miss some of the food in Montreal and especially my friends and family; that's my only regret about leaving the big city."

**COHEN CHATTER:** Laval resident François Ferland, a former sports reporter for *Le Journal de Montréal*, is enjoying retirement and working at Alouettes home games as the pressbox information announcer...I finally saw the Montreal made motion picture *White House Down*, starring Channing Tatum and Jamie Fox. Look and listen closely and you will notice Laval's Frank Cavallaro of CBC as a TV reporter.

*Have you got something to share? Email [mcohen@thesuburban.com](mailto:mcohen@thesuburban.com) or call 514-484-9203, ext. 307. Follow me on Twitter @mikecohencsl and at <http://blog.thesuburban.com/>*

## PUBLIC NOTICE



Commission scolaire English-Montréal  
English Montreal School Board

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The English Montreal School Board, at a meeting held on June 19, 2013, gave final approval to By-Laws No. 1 (2013) and No. 4 (2013) setting the day, time and place of the regular monthly meetings of the Board and its Executive Committee, respectively, for school session 2013-14 as follows –

July 2013 (at the call of the Chair)  
August 28, 2013  
September 25, 2013  
October 23, 2013  
November 27, 2013  
December 18, 2013

January 29, 2014  
February 26, 2014  
March 26, 2014  
April 23, 2014  
May 28, 2014  
June 18, 2014

Board meetings are held at 4:30 p.m. in the Laurence Patterson Conference Room of the Administration Building, 6000 Fielding Avenue, Montreal and are public. Executive Committee meetings are held at 3:00 p.m. and are not open to the public.

Joanne Bisbikos  
Secretary General