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received," Goulet said the bullfight promoters haven't met their obligations."

they entered the country. They also have to be killed within 72 hours after they arrive to prevent the spread of disease. But the bullfights' promoters did not

"bloodless sport" earlier this week. Nadeau had claimed the bulls were treated better than humans, noting that a veterinarian would have been on hand in case something were to hap-

pened. But while she basked in this victory, White expressed concern over whether the Portuguese-style bullfight will move to another location.

The Moisson Centre had sold 500 tickets for the Sept. 5 and 6 bullfights. The price of the \$32 and \$55 tickets will be refunded.

# Priceless mosaics seized

## Artifacts from Syria languish in a warehouse for years

**BOSHRA**  
*Gazette*

that lined the floors of a warehouse more than 1,500 years ago languish in a St. Lawrence warehouse for eight years. They were brought here as part of a seizure to sell the artifacts to

more than 39 terra-cotta mosaic art company's warehouse in Montreal on

Revenue Canada investigators said he wouldn't be involved in the seizure. "Nobody took off the roof of the warehouse and tried to sell it," Goulet said. "I couldn't put a price tag on such historical and cul-

ture artifacts. I don't say when the mosaic was made, but confirmed they were from Aleppo, in northern Syria. Customs officials determined they date from the Roman AD.

They could not confirm whether the mosaics had been stolen, or who the potential buyers were. Revenue Canada showed

reporters. Names Numismatiques et Antiquaires said they shipped the mosaics to Montreal in 1990, it told customs they were worth a value of \$200,000. Goulet was not a member of the International Convention on the Trade in Cultural Property, which was subject to far less scrutiny. Syria is a UNESCO

have continued to sit in the warehouse if not for two Montreal customs agents in the past 32 more mosaics. They came from the same shipper as the earlier shipment. The seizure was brought by a Montreal importer, who contracted Goulet wouldn't reveal. The mosaics were seized by Montreal customs agents in Champlain, Quebec, Goulet said. "I was trying to buy them from a big buyer in the U.S.," Goulet said. "Our experts compared the photos of the mosaics and they told us they were from the same place. The truth may have led to



Syria has asked Canada to return the 1,500-year-old terra-cotta church mosaics.

MARCOS TOWNSEND, GAZETTE

the U.S. seizure. This time, the shipping information said the artifacts were from Syria, so customs officials did a more thorough inspection, and discovered they were illegally imported.

"That gave us the proof that they had made a false declaration the first time, which gave us the evidence we needed to obtain a warrant to make the seizure."

André Goulet, another investigator, said importer Hermes contravened one of Canada's customs laws by falsely declaring the origins of the artifacts.

Fifty-four mosaics were imported in 1990,

but only 39 were on display yesterday. With five pieces detained in the U.S., Goulet said investigators could not account for 10 pieces missing from the original shipment.

"They might have already been sold, or they could be in another location that we're not aware of. But we're still searching for them," Goulet said.

He said the Syrian government, which technically owns the artifacts, has asked for their return, and is completing paperwork to retrieve the seized items. No one at the Syrian consulate in Montreal or embassy in Ottawa was available for comment yesterday.

## DEATH-ROW FUGITIVE

# U.S. killer ordered deported

## Could be sent back today

**MICHAEL MAINVILLE and LISA FITTERMAN**  
*The Gazette*

In a decision that went down to the wire, a Quebec judge ruled last night that a convicted killer facing the death penalty in the United States be sent back immediately.

Roger Judge, a former gang member who escaped from death row in Philadelphia in 1987 and was arrested a year later in Vancouver for a pair of armed robberies there, was waiting for the decision in a cell in the super-maximum security prison at Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines. His 10-year sentence ended yesterday.

In 1993, Immigration officials decided Judge, 36, should be deported once his prison term in Canada is over.

But as that day approached, Judge's lawyer had been arguing that the deportation order violates the American's rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which declares that "everyone has the right not to be subjected to any cruel and unusual treatment or punishment."

Eric Sutton argued that Judge's prison time in Canada could effectively be considered an anguishing death watch, since a death sentence hangs over his head upon deportation to the U.S.

Sutton also argued that Canadian authorities should not have prosecuted Judge for his crimes here, because they knew full well that a long imprisonment would cause this anguish.

Sutton asked the court that instead of being deported, Judge be placed in the custody of immigration authorities until the U.S. filed a request for extradition, which could save his life. The extradition treaty between the two countries, he said, allows for

Canada, which abolished the death penalty in 1972, to request that the U.S. not execute extradited criminals.

But last night Superior Court Justice G.B. Maughan dismissed these arguments.

Maughan said Judge's punishment was not cruel because he brought it upon himself.

"It is a fact that Mr. Judge escaped from custody and, to this extent, he is the author of his present misfortune," Maughan said. "It is his status as a fugitive that prevents him from appealing his murder conviction and the death sentence, and this was brought on by his own act. Nor can (the federal government) be blamed for his arrest and convictions of robbery in Canada. His own criminal acts put him in jail and obliged him to serve his 10-year sentence."

Maughan also ruled that if he accepted the argument that Judge should not have been prosecuted, it would create a double-standard for foreigners who commit crimes in Canada.

"If this were the state of the prosecution of criminals in Canada it would lead to all sorts of abuses.... It would encourage lawlessness among those fugitives facing the death penalty in their own country since they would know that in Canada they would be immune from prosecution and imprisonment," he said.

As Sutton left the courtroom to inform his client of the decision last night, he called the ruling agonizing and said it was too early to say if his client will consider an appeal.

A lawyer representing the federal government in the case said he expected Judge will be deported as soon as possible. "He will probably be out of the country tomorrow," David Lucas said last night.

Maughan, who throughout the hearings had clearly been disturbed about the issues he was being asked to rule on, said before the ruling that he had to weigh the rights and expectations of Canadians against Judge's, who has been languishing in Canadian prisons without any recourse to the appeal options available to others in his situation.

"It is a heavy burden on my shoulders," he noted. "I'm grappling with it."

Judge has been sentenced to die in the electric chair for the drive-by retaliatory shootings of two Philadelphia teenagers in 1984. One of the victims had allegedly beaten Judge the night before. The other was an innocent bystander.

As a fugitive, Judge does not have the right to appeal the decision to execute him. Sutton said there are some options available to him, such as asking the governor for a reprieve, but otherwise he will probably be executed soon.

**"It would encourage lawlessness among those fugitives facing the death penalty."**

# The nuns' woods a park: MCM

**R SOKOLOFF**  
*Gazette*

Movement leader Michel turned the woods outside a monastery into a public park for this fall.

Behind Villa Maria metro the Soeurs du Precieux were trying to sell it since

to improve the quality of eastern N.D.G., which Prescott said at a press con-

report commissioned by the city for developing the Precieux here is only a third of an

acre of green space for every 1,000 residents in eastern N.D.G. - well below the Montreal average of 2.65 acres, and the North American average of 4.65 acres.

"I think it's a wonderful move," said Avrum Dunsky, a resident whose back yard is adjacent to the woods.

In 1995, a consortium of developers offered to buy the property from the nuns. The offer was contingent on a zoning change by the city that would clear the way for construction of a 172-unit apartment complex. The city approved the zoning change.

A committee, made up of community leaders, residents and city officials, was formed to ensure the development was carried out prudently. It ordered the developers to change their original plans. The project was canceled

by the nuns when developers failed to do that.

A new proposal, which is supported by the sisters, was suggested at a July meeting. It does not satisfy all of the consultative committee's recommendations, said André Biron, a resident present at the meeting.

The round table will meet again in September for further discussion, he added.

Madeline Champagne, a spokesman for Mayor Pierre Bourque, noted a plan has been submitted for approval, but said she did not know the status of the project.

But so long as a private developer owns the woods, there is no guarantee the area will always be open to the public, Prescott said.

His plan suggests the city buy the woods while letting developers purchase the monastery.