ENTERTAINMENT

Hockey Song singer silenced

By The Canadian Press

Canadian country folk legend Stompin’ Tom Connors, whose toe-tapping musical spirit and fierce patriotism established him as one of Canada’s proudest cultural icons, has died. He was 77.

Connors passed away Wednesday at his Ontario home from what a spokesman described as “natural causes.”

Brian Edwards said the musician, rarely seen without his signature black cowboy hat and stonking cowboy boots, knew his health was declining and passed a message for his fans a few days before his death.

“I knew Tom loved the fans more than anything. He’s probably one of the few artists that built his whole life around fans and nothing else,” Edwards said.

“The man stood for everything that Canada stood for, and he was very adamant that he stood a Canadian and made it very apparent that he never left the country to advance his career and stayed very, very true to who he was.”

In the letter posted on his official website, Connors issued a final thank-you to his fans, to whom he credited his entire career.

“I sent all my fans, past, present or future, to know that without you, there would have not been any Stompin’ Tom,” Connors wrote.

“It was a long, hard, bumpy road. But this great country kept me inspired with its beauty, character and spirit, driving me to keep marching on and devoted to sing about its people and places that make Canada the greatest country in the world.”

The musician said he hoped his work would continue to “bring a little bit of cheer” to Black’s life even after his death and called on his fans to continue to bring Canadians to the world.

“I must now pass the torch, to all of you, to help keep the Maple Leaf flying high, and to the patriots of Canada needs now and in the future.”

Connors is survived by his wife and two sons, two daughters and several grandchildren.

ROCKETS TAKE ON ROYALS

By Daily Courier Staff

Brandon Sorenson-Pick was drunk and high on mushrooms when he touched a house-occupied by a young family, a Kelowna court heard Wednesday.

BCMP say the teen went on a brief crime spree in Black Mountain last winter, breaking into one house, setting fire to another and entering the parents and two children inside.

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ENVIRONMENT

Mollusk a monster

By J.P. SQUIRE

The Daily Courier

Experts say zebra and quagga mussels could end up coating millions of dollars in the Okanagan.

An infestation of zebra mussels could cost up creating millions of dollars in the Okanagan.

If they were to get into Okanagan Lake, ecologists say, they could cause many millions of dollars in damage to water systems, boats and land owners. They could also affect fish populations, the environment and the economy.

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E-GA

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GSHO

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LONGSHOTS LOUNGE

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MOLLYS MAFIA

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BATER, Jane (Shinduke)

JANE leaves behind "big brother" Steve, daughters, Jill and

Elections BC is conducting an enumeration and updating the voters list for the May 2013 Provincial Election. Are you registered to vote? It’s easy. It’s convenient. You have choices. Be ready.

Register or update your information on Elections BC’s Online Voter Registration System (OVRS) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at elections.bc.ca/ovr. You need a B.C. Driver’s Licence or a BC Services Card number to use the system.

By Phone Call Elections BC tellies at 1-800-661-8683, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday. In Vancouver, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Monday to Friday.

By Mail From March 6 to 23, temporary voter registration opportunities are at hundreds of locations throughout the province. Check www.elections.bc.ca for electoral opportunities at elections.bc.ca/registration-opportunities.

B.C. voters can also register or update their information when they go to vote in the May 2013 Provincial General Election.