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Vol.17 No. 17

—The—

Tribune

Serving Redwater, Gibbons & Bon Accord

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Redwater, Alberta .50 + GST

JUNE SPECIALS

BREAKFAST SPECIAL

2 eggs with
bacon,
sausage
or ham,
hashbrowns

\$2⁹⁹

SUNDAY BRUNCH

\$6⁹⁵

Every Sunday
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

BONUS: On meal orders over \$15⁰⁰ we'll buy you a 6/49 ticket. **Good Luck!!**

RESTAURANT

942-2212

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Redwater and Bon Accord minor soccer players go head-to-head in pursuit of the ball during action Tuesday night.

Bon Accord woman fighting welfare decision

Theresa McBryan didn't choose to live in her friends' garage.

The Bon Accord woman said she was forced into the decision when the province cut off her welfare benefits.

Her benefits were taken away in February after a three-member citizen's appeal panel cited poor attendance at her job-training program at Goodwill Industries.

Since then, McBryan, a single mother of three grown children, has made a friend's garage her home.

McBryan graduated from a two-year design program at Grant MacEwan College, but couldn't find a job. Her social worker said she couldn't be independent as an artist so McBryan agreed to take a job-training program called Power

of Work.

McBryan started the program in December, driving from Bon Accord to downtown Edmonton every day.

After a month she started feeling pain in her back and not long after that she developed a virus that forced her to miss some days of the program.

A doctor's note excused her for 10 days, but the appeal panel ruled that didn't cover all her absences.

"I want to be treated as well as the common criminal."

McBryan said the panel probably counted the time off she was given for Christmas as unexcused absences.

She also missed an appointment with her social worker and had her file closed after that.

McBryan's lawyer, Shirish Chotalia, plans to file documents in Court of Queen's Bench this week to launch a review of the decision. It will be one of the first of its kinds in Alberta.

Chotalia is performing most of the duties of the case for free, but McBryan is trying to sell some of her art to pay part of the \$20,000 legal tab.

It will be the first case in Alberta where the social services department will go on trial.

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