



◀ **BLACK STAR** One of the largest black sapphires in the world is on display for the first time in almost 40 years. The black star sapphire of Queensland is at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) as part of the opening of new gallery wings. Discovered by a young boy in the '30s, the original gem crystal weighed 1156 karats and was used by the boy's family as a doorstep. Its true value wasn't realized until it was sold uncut to a jeweler. It was then cut and polished to reveal a 733-karat six-point black star sapphire. "This visual 'star effect' in the sapphire is captivating; it follows you as you move around the stone," says Kimberly Tait, the ROM's associate curator of mineralogy. The gemstone will be on display until December 2. Visitors will also learn about the chemistry and structure of sapphires, how they are formed and their significance in various cultures.

*The ROM is located at 100 Queen's Park. For more info, visit [www.rom.on.ca](http://www.rom.on.ca)*

► **FLIRTY GIRLS** Who ever said that working out couldn't be fun. Certainly not "flirty girl" sisters Krista and Kerry Knee. While many gyms have begun adding a bit of fun and sexiness to their roster of classes, the Knees have taken it one sultry step further. Two years ago, the sisters opened a fitness center dedicated to erotic exercise that would do away with the dull workout for good. And they called it Flirty Girl Fitness. Forget boring aerobics or step class. Here you can choose classes like pole dancing, the art of striptease, coyote ugly, MTV choreography and chair striptease. The sisters have an extensive background in business, and when they stumbled upon pole dancing fitness, and loved it, they decided to go into business together. The original studio in Toronto has been so successful that they recently opened a new one in Chicago. Plans are also afoot to open franchise and corporate studios across Canada and the United States. For those of you living in a city sans Flirty Girl, watch for the sisters' instructional video releases. They have also designed their own removable fitness pole. See how much fun it is for yourself at [www.flirtygirlfitness.com](http://www.flirtygirlfitness.com)



◀ **SMASHING STYLE** One thing Andrew Majtenyi can't be accused of is being unoriginal. The Toronto-based fashion designer continuously bumps it up a notch every season. His clothes are edgy and there always seems to be a buzz about him with each new line. Shape and volume are the focus in Majtenyi's current fall/winter collection with black swirl mini coats, structured jackets, panel dresses, swing skirts and placketed pants. Finding inspiration in America's fascination with car chases, Majtenyi released a film short called "Smash" in conjunction with his current fall line, while models strutted down the catwalks in London and Toronto made up to resemble crash test dummies. But Majtenyi's success is no accident. He studied fashion design at Sheridan and George Brown colleges in Canada as well as at London Central School of Fashion. Majtenyi also designs for the television and film industries and is now working on his spring/summer 2008 collection, which will be shown at London Fashion Week. For more info, tel. 1.416.5044445 or visit [www.andrewmajtenyi.com](http://www.andrewmajtenyi.com)