

First breath of new life for Gino

Montreal Daily News

George R. MacLaren
Vice-President, English Dailies
Quebecor Group Inc.

James C. Duff
Editor and Publisher

Timothy Belford
Managing Editor

Duncan Weir
Director of Marketing
and Sales

Terry England
News Editor

Glenn Cole
Sports Editor

Danielle Fortin
Circulation Manager

EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING
980 St-Antoine Street West, Montreal H3C 1A8
(514) 877-6397

CIRCULATION
BY MESSAGERIES DYNAMIQUES
775, boul. Lebeau, St-Laurent
H4N 1S5 Tel.: (514) 332-0680

HOME DELIVERY
(514) 332-0803

MONTREAL DAILY NEWS is owned and published by
LES PUBLICATIONS MDN INC./MDN PUBLICATIONS INC.
a subsidiary of Quebecor Group Inc.
612 St-Jacques Street West
Montreal, Quebec H3C 4M8

MONTREAL DAILY NEWS is printed by
IMPRIMERIE DUMONT at its printing plant
located at 7743 Bourdeau Street,
Ville LaSalle H8N 2G8

IMPRIMERIE DUMONT is a division of
Quebecor Printing Group Inc.
612 St-Jacques Street West,
Montreal, H3C 4M8

SECOND CLASS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 7811

The **Montreal Daily News**
is available on microfiche

Write to:

- **Microédition** •
(Montreal Daily News)
2768 ch. du Lac
Longueuil, Quebec
J4N 1B8

by **Robert Quintal**
Montreal Daily News

GINO GASSE has been given a new lease on life.

The 27-year-old Val d'Or accountant was listed in fair condition at Montreal General Hospital late yesterday, following double-lung transplant surgery over the weekend.

The operation lasted more than 10 hours.

The intricate procedure, performed by Montreal General's cardio-thoracic surgeon Dr. Hani Shennib and a team of 13 specialists, marked the first time in Quebec that doctors transplanted two lungs without also transplanting a new heart.

Until recently, the only available operation for patients such as Gasse was a heart-lung transplant. The innovative technique used by Montreal General surgeons avoids the unnecessary removal of a healthy heart.

The operation came in the nick of time for Gasse.

The father of three, who has suffered from chronic emphysema all his life, had waited in Montreal General's intensive care unit for the last month while doctors searched for a donor.

'The wait is over'

Authorities at the hospital said the new lungs came from a 33-year-old Quebec woman who died suddenly Friday.

"The wait is at least over," said Martine Laplante, Gasse's wife and mother of the couple's three tots.

Gasse's mother, Huguette Vallée, also expressed her relief yesterday.

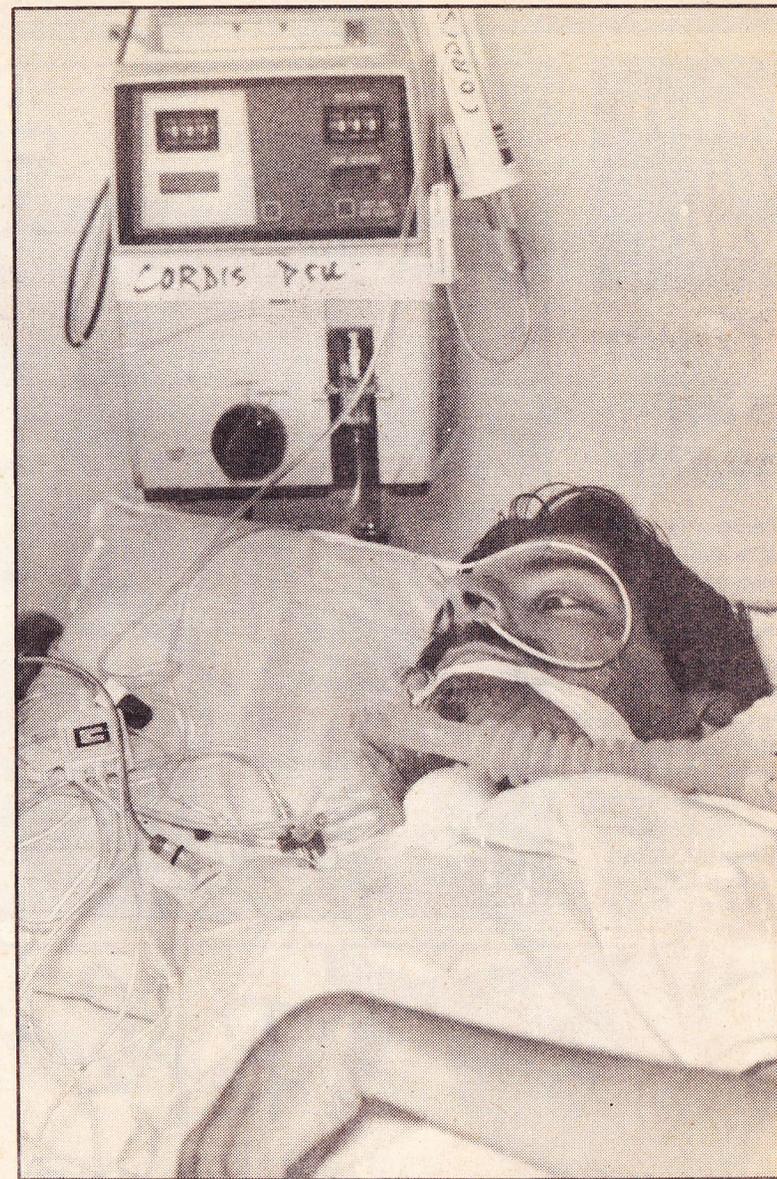
"I can hardly wait to hold him in my arms," she said.

The next four weeks will be critical for Gasse, who must recover from the taxing operation and get used to his new lungs.

Dr. Shennib noted his patient has a 65 per cent chance of making it through the next two years.

The 37-year-old surgeon, who trained at Toronto General Hospital, stressed those were much better odds than if he did not have the transplant.

He said Gasse would have undoubtedly died had he been forced to wait much longer.



A month ago, Gasse was near death, and praying for new lungs