



Landry by Landry

# This forger has gone straight... almost

"I was a class A forger," says Greg Landry, putting the final touches to a piece of work with the sling out for someone today in Halton Hills. "I trained myself to be one." He bends his blonde head over the piece of paper on his well-lit workbench, blows away an imagined speck of dust, then draws his sharp-pointed pencil across the sheet of white paper.

In the dim corner behind him are knee-high stacks of comic books; the walls are covered with garish movie posters. Slowly at first, then faster, his pen scratches across the sheet, etching jet black lines onto the clean smooth surface.

Then Landry, who is the Herald's cartoonist and whose work appears each week on the editorial page, looks up and laughs about the days he had,

used his drawing talent to help his Georgetown classmates play hooky by signing their parent's names to notes to the teachers.

His concentration returns to the work at hand as he inks in shoes three sizes too big for the caricature of the man standing in them. As the pen is moved with swift care over the paper there is no room for error. As carefully as he drew those forged names, Landry works to make the cartoon itself as personal as his own signature, an honest reflection of himself but containing a sting or a jab at some pompous politician, some unfeeling bureaucracy, or some folio of the ordinary man and woman on the street.

But above all, Landry wants to make you laugh, too.

About cartoons, "the big thing is to make it visually

funny, a visual joke," he says as he draws a hat on a head, but at a ridiculous angle.

With dead seriousness he adds, "To be funny, one has to exaggerate." The smile reappears as he admits that "exaggeration generally makes people mad."

He mentions that some of his work has caused "quite a stir up" but it was, he believes, because those at whom it was aimed took it at face value.

"First you've got to laugh at yourself," Landry says, "but these people didn't."

Landry, who came to Georgetown with his parents 21 years ago when he was two years old, and now lives in Acton with his wife Margaret (nee Van Sickle), never thought of doing editorial cartoons when he was a boy. He started drawing pictures

in grade one and by the time he was nine, he and his brother were making their own comic books. In fact, he says, "I learned to read in comic books."

But in high school he stayed out of art classes until grade 11 where he met some friends who were interested not only in reading comic books but in making them too.

"I was more into expressing myself," he says and after high school, "I began looking for a future and I wanted to get more training."

At Sheridan College he was going to take a course in animation to learn how to put together movies by drawing hundreds or thousands of "cells" to make the screen characters come to "life" but when he saw a cartooning course there, it was, he says, "an answer to a prayer."

At college Landry studied cartooning, graphic story art, writing, as well as analyzing comic books and the comic book market. One of the many teachers there Landry paid credit to was Toronto Star cartoonist Graham Pillsworth.

Another cartoonist Landry admires is the Montreal Gazette's Terry Mosher, "a fantastic artist," Landry says.

"He's so simple, it's astounding what he can do with so little detail."

So, with rising prices for comics and shrinking markets for comic artists, "Editorial cartoons started to grow on me," Landry says, "and comic strips just kind of died."

"Art is a hobby that pays and it's hard for a person in an art field to be a salesman or work in a factory."

"As Georgetown gets bigger, there's going to be a need for some design shop for letter heads and logos..."

"What I'd like to do is get my own business as an illustrator, graphic designer and a cartoonist," he says.

But in cartooning, "You've got to make your own opportunities," he says.

"It's a hard thing when you don't have any ideas and there's been no news and you're trying to piece together some absurdity."

"First of all it has got to satisfy me. If it looks good to people on the street, that's good to me, too. But I'm my own worst critic."



CARTOONIST GREG LANDRY prepares an editorial cartoon in his Acton studio.

## Day Care Centre opens

Halton region's newest Day Care Centre located in a converted house at 65 Maple Avenue in Georgetown opened its door to youngsters late last week.

The Day Care Centre is capable of accommodating up to 34 children but at present only

a handful of children have been enrolled.

Pat Wood, supervisor of the Day Care Centre, explained that the centre is based on a type of nursery school program in which children, from two to five years old, participate in creative arts,

play and a story and music time. The centre is open from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Any parents who are interested in enrolling their child or children in the centre are asked to contact Pat Wood at 877-5231.



**TV IN THE CLASSROOM**—Students at Howard Wrigglesworth Public School received an opportunity recently to go beyond merely watching television shows to actually produce and star in their own shows, thanks to a programme organized by the Halton Board of Education.

The idea of the programme, according to Joan Cooper who was in charge of instructing the television course at Wrigglesworth, is to aid students in visualizing ideas and teaching them to place thoughts in sequence.

Handling the videotape machine (at left) is Shawn Zuber of Howard Wrigglesworth while Ken Harley of Milton, Dave Forbes and Mike Campbell of Wrigglesworth, operate the cameras.



## H-P Pork Producers

At the annual meeting of the Halton-Peel Hog Producers Association held last Friday at the Christian Reform Church, the following from Halton region were elected directors: Bill Alliston, Don Lindsay, Bob Merry, Vance Pocock, Bob Thompson, Bill Robertson, Casey Boss and Harry Brander.

Eric Alderson discussed of pork and on the need of exporting hogs to Japan and different price structures facing hog producers. Tom Smith spoke on the promoting of pork and on the need of hiring an officer to that effect. Gerry Bloom discussed systems analysis and its effect on pricing policies.

Wright, Charles Fines, Ken Coffey, Clare Carberry, Ed Glassford, Jim Johnston, George Ezard and Brian Speers.

At another meeting to be held in March, various posts within the association will be filled from the state of directors.

During the meeting, attended by about 40, three speakers from the Ontario Pork Marketing Board spoke.

Elected directors from the region of Peel were: Roy

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