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Friday, October 23, 1982

Local actor turns 'Gorg' for TV show

By ANI PEDIERIAN
Herald Staff Writer
What's big, fat, hairy
and seven feet tall?

Starting in January,
every child who watches
TV will know the answer.
It's a Gorg.

Gorgs are big, stupid
monsters who live in
Fraggle Rock, a world of
small and tall creatures
created for CBC Tele-
vision and the U.S. Home
Box Office pay TV
system.

The new series of
children's programs, call-
ed Fraggle Rock, will be
aired starting this Janu-
ary with 12 half-hour epis-
odes and followed up by 24
more next fall.

It stars a young local
man in the fantasy world
for children. Twenty-five-
year old Robert Mills of
Georgetown is a mime
artist hired as a Gorg
along with his two part-
ners Trish Leeper and
Gord Robertson of the
Toronto based company
The Mime Associates.

Pudgy and brown, with
round faces, the Gorgs
differ from the two-foot
tall Fraggles with whom
they're neighbors. Run-
ning what's left of their
kingdom behind Fraggle
Rock, Mother, Father and
Junior Gorg are all that
remain of the once power-
ful Gorg royal family.

"We're not cruel, just
stupid, and the Fraggles
tend to run circles around
us," admitted Junior
Gorg, Mr. Mills.

Coming across as the
big bad meanies in the
series, the Gorgs con-
trast with the five happy-
go-lucky Fraggles who
like to sing and dance,
wear funny hats and
always have lots of fun.

GOOD TIME
Even the clothes Fragg-
les wear express their
"good time" attitude.
They're bright, matching
their colored frizzy hair.
Fraggle Pa wears purple
and Fraggie Ma wears
pink.

Slim and tall in real life,
Mr. Mills appears very
large on film, thanks to a
huge body suit that trans-
forms him into a Gorg.

"My suit weighs 50
pounds. It gets really hot
inside and it takes a lot of
energy to jump around in
it," he said.

The other two Gorgs
and Mr. Mills aren't new
to wearing strange out-
fits or performing,
they've done mime, mask
and commedia dell'arte

work before for their
two-year old Toronto
mime company.

NEW SHOW
Shooting for the new
show ended in early
August and begins again
in January.

"I can't see it falling,"
Mr. Mills said. "It's a
good show, just as good as
the old Muppet Show."

Although there are a lot
of slapstick comedy rou-
tines involving chasing of
the Fraggles and a lot of
Junior Gorg falling flat on
his face, Mr. Mills' face
looked none the worse for
all those meetings with
the studio floor.

"At first, we were walk-
ing into walls and tripp-
ing over our own feet," he
laughed, remembering.
It's difficult to see and
hear while inside the
hulking seven foot cos-
tume.

"It's hard work, but
fun. You learn a lot.
We're a very tight work-
ing group and we felt free
to offer our ideas and
contribute—we weren't
just told what to do."

ONE WEEK
Despite the bulky Gorg
costume, Mr. Mills said
he was still able to do
acrobatics wearing it, but
that he had to compen-
sate for the outfit by
making his movements
larger.

Each of the 12 shots
took one week to do and
Mr. Mills attributed that
Continue on page 4

Police commissions as political as they'll get, he says

McMurtry pays a visit



THEY'RE OLD FRIENDS

It was 12 years ago that artist Leonard Oesterle (left) made the sculpture that's been standing outside Georgetown's House of Sol gallery on Charles Street. Only lately has he picked up the same theme of flat shapes again in his work. Together with Shirayo Takashima (centre) and Lisl Levinsohn, Mr. Oesterle were on hand at the gallery opening day Saturday of their exhibition. The three artists are immigrants turned Canadian citizens with backgrounds that have strongly influenced their work.

(Herald photo)

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

It's unlikely that the
future will see more mun-
icipal councillors serving
on the province's police
commissions, Ontario
attorney-general Roy
McMurtry told reporters
in Georgetown Wednes-
day.

"This does not indicate a
lack of confidence in the
local people," he said at
the North Halton Golf and
Country Club before
speaking at a fund-raising
dinner for the Halton-Bur-
lington Progressive Con-
servative Association.

"It's absolutely essen-
tial to maintain the per-

ception, as well as the
reality, that the police
operate with some degree
of independence from po-
litical influence," he said.
"Police are still account-
able, but on a day-to-day
basis they must carry out
their responsibilities free
from political influence."

(Halton has a five-
member police commis-
sion. Its two regional coun-
cil appointees are Oakville
Mayor Harry Barrett and
Burlington Coun. Jim
Grieve).

NO PROBLEM

While he understands
councillors' feelings about
their participation in the
Continued on page 7

Last chance for tickets

Herald Special

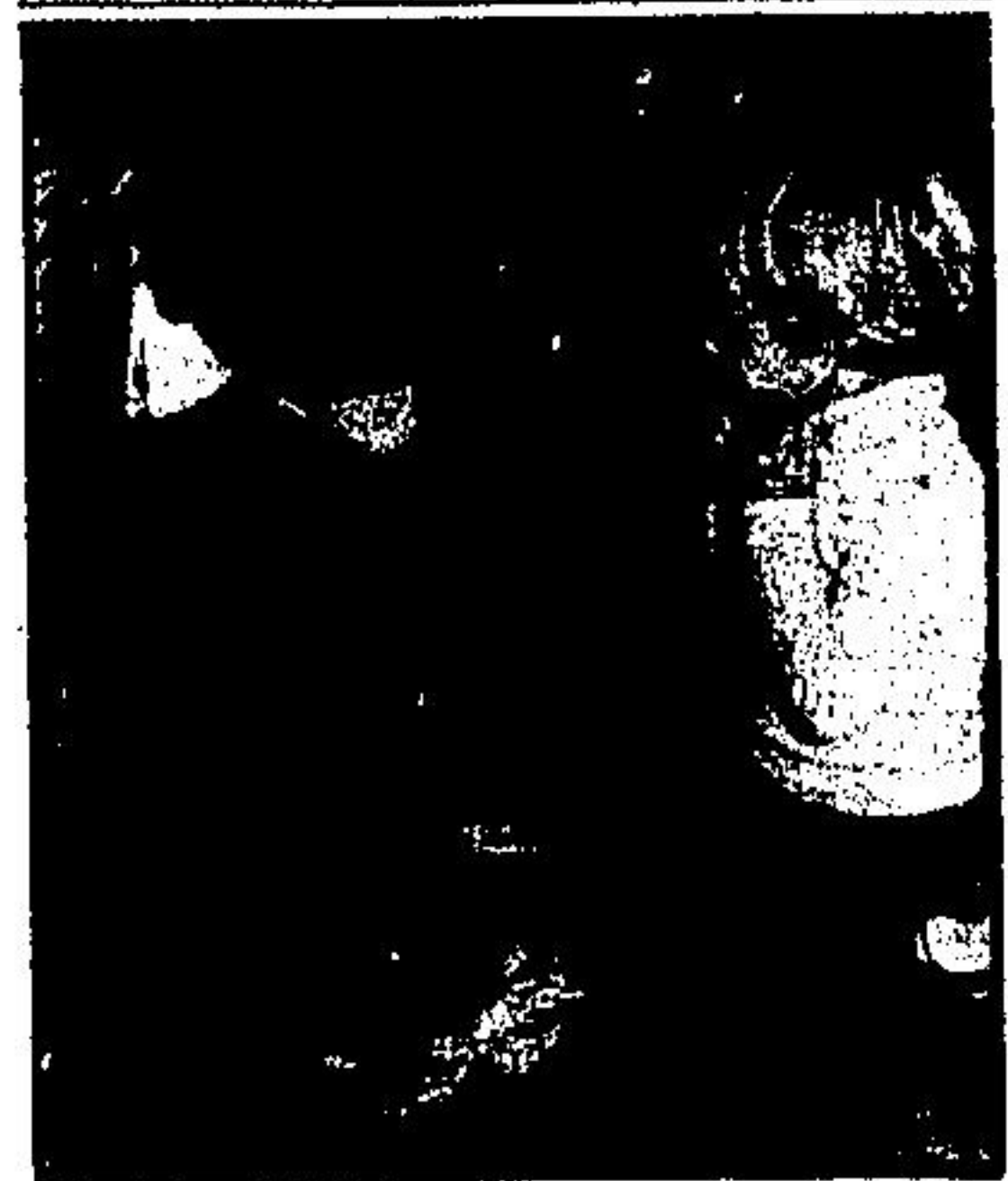
The Cultural Centre's
week-long anniversary
celebration (Nov. 1 to 6)
is almost here and tickets
for the special events are
going fast!

If you act now, you can
still get seats for the folk
band Brigand, Amateur
Night, An Evening of
Song and Music and Long
John Baldry.

Don't forget about
"Dick Whittington and
His Cat", a special per-
formance for children
next Saturday (Nov. 6).
All in all, it's going to be a
great week!

Come out and support
your Cultural Centre! For
tickets and information,
call the recreation de-
partment at 877-5185, ext.
60 and 62 (Georgetown) or
19 (Acton).

Amateur Night roster, p. 4



SOFTLY, SADIE

Veterinarian Bob Desmond and his dog, Sadie,
were special guests at Judy Bailey's Kinderfun class at
the Georgetown YMCA Friday morning. Dr. Desmond,
from the Georgetown Animal Clinic, talked to youngsters
about pet care and invited them to listen to Sadie's
heartbeat through a stethoscope. Among the children
who momentarily dabbled in veterinary science was
Peter Mashinter.

(Herald photo)

ELECTION CENTRAL

What do councillors do? Answers to your questions

Here are some items which may be of interest to
voters heading to the polls.

— In Halton Hills there are 21,958 residents
voting affiliated with the public school system and
2,608 with the Catholic or separate school system for
a total of 24,566 voters.

— there are 4,974 voters in Acton (Ward 1), 7,172
in Ward 2 (Esqueping), 6,735 voters in George-
town's Ward 3 and 5,685 in the community's Ward 4.

— town councillors (having rejected a ten per
cent raise this year in favor of six per cent) earn
\$6,900 per year. The mayor's salary is \$17,500.

— regional councillors, including mayors,
receive \$12,966 for their duties. The regional
chairman is paid \$36,155. Travelling to and from
regional headquarters, councillors are paid 37 cents
per mile.

— Halton Hills Hydro commissioners receive an
honorarium of \$2,250. The Commission's chairman
receives \$2,600 and if commissioners attend
meetings outside of the town, they are paid an
additional \$50.

— school board trustees are paid \$7,200 (on the
public board). The chairman gets about \$10,800.

— separate school trustees earn \$2,400. Their
chairman is paid \$3,600. (These figures were subject
to change as The Herald went to press Tuesday
evening).

— Advance polls will be held from 9 a.m. to 8
p.m. this Saturday. If you can't vote on election day
(Nov. 8), advance polling stations will be at the
town's Trafalgar Road offices, the Main Street,
Georgetown office and at Acton's Trinity Church.

— Nov. 8 the polls open at 11 a.m. and close at 8
p.m. Residents have been informed by mail where
their polling stations are located.

— Thirty-eight candidates are vying for 17 seats
on local and regional councils, the Hydro Commis-
sion and the public and separate school boards.

— Hydro commissioners Murt Allison (Ward 2)
and Bill Smith (Ward 4) have been acclaimed, as
have regional councillors Russ Miller (Ward 2),
John McDonald (Ward 3) and Mike Armstrong
(Ward 4).