



Winners of Photoart '87 were announced March 4 at the Halton Hills Library-Cultural Centre on Church Street in Georgetown. Seen here are winners of the competition (from left) David Bianchi, award of merit for "Bob Seger"; Daniel Carmy, award of merit for "The Blues We Paeced..."; Diane Munro, award of

YOU BE THE JUDGE

By SANDY CAMPBELL
Herald Staff

Take the Photoart '87 challenge. Now and until March 29 a display of over 80 photographs is at the Halton Hills Library-Cultural Centre.

The best of those photographs, the choices of three experienced photographers, have been marked. But as with most art, only the individual knows what he or she likes, so you be the judge.

Judging photography does not entail the intimidating educated selection process of picking between a modern or traditional painting style or broad or thin brush stroke. Nor do you have to walk around, look under or crawl through a photo to gain an appreciation of it the way you might

gain an appreciation of a sculpture. Not to say the task of choosing photographs is going to be an easy one. Each of the 80 photographs in the display has earned its way into the cultural centre. Over 120 did not.

The variety of pictures is as plentiful and colorful as the assortment of penny candy in a well-stocked corner store. Choosing is no easy task.

You will really be picking between apples and oranges or more accurately between "Bruce Springsteen" and "An Old Man From Tibet". There are many portraits and people photographs. There is the playful side, children's legs hanging out of "Leafy Tree", and the somber side, an old beggar woman crouched beside a mammoth door.

... of photoart entries

Photoart '87 is a cross-Canada tour and a trip around the world. Many photographers have chosen landscapes as their subject. Then there are the naturalists who prefer to zoom in on those landscapes for close-ups of flowers, rocks and water.

Animals, domestic and wild, are also prominent in the exhibition. They are within cages, lying on living room floors and clutching onto trees.

Studio photography and still lifes should not be overlooked in your judging. You will also have to decide

whether color or black and white film has been used effectively.

If after all your tallying you discover you disagree with the judges, don't despair. There is still one way to cast your vote and perhaps make the photographer happier than if he won an award. All photographs are available to take home; all are for sale.

The photographers are local and have met the challenge of Photoart '87. It has been called the best Photoart exhibit in the history of the exhibition. Accept their challenge and find out for yourself.

Fighting budget cuts

Library collection falls behind

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff

It wasn't without a fight that the town's chief librarian won \$37,000 in the town's 1987 budget for new books and materials.

The request was granted Friday by the town's budget committee. In her original request, Chief Librarian Betsy Cornwell had asked for \$92,400 over each of the next three years to bring the town's collection up.

According to the provincial statistics, the Halton Hills Libraries collection is the second smallest among similarly sized municipalities. It has the lowest

ratio of volumes held per capita, at 1.59 items per person. Mrs. Cornwell wants to bring that ratio up to 1.92 items per person.

"We've been in a deficit position in terms of normal standards for many years, even before I came to this community," the chief librarian said. "Our normal budget increases have never been able to do more than keep us on an even keel."

Last year, the increase in cost of books outstripped the cost of living increase and put the town libraries even further behind.

Library Board Chairman Roger Haggitt said Halton Hills belongs to

a network of libraries which share their materials.

"With the present sub-standard collection, we've become parasitical," Mr. Haggitt said. "Presently, we borrow two to three times what we distribute. It's going to get worse, and at some point in time, we're going to have to explain to the other libraries why we're not pulling our own weight, and why we should be in the inter-library loan service because we don't have anything to contribute."

"With the \$37,000, the libraries will be able to buy 2,308 books. Mrs. Cornwell said it would be barely enough to cover the books the library has to discard annually because they're too worn out, out-of-date or have been vandalized, and the stolen books. It wouldn't allow the libraries to make any headway in increasing their collection, she said.

Just to keep up with the reference books the library must buy each year takes \$8,000 out of that pie, she said.

"The books in the children's department are so heavily used, they're dead in a year," Mrs. Cornwell commented. "We're very stingy about what we throw away, so our losses are in the neighborhood of 20 to 25 per cent."

With losses of 25 per cent, the libraries won't be much ahead with \$37,000, Coun. Pam Sheldon said.

Coun. Lillian Bowman congratulated the Library Board on being extremely responsible with their 1987 budget.

"You spend it now or you spend it later," she said. "With the library, we have a lovely building, excellent staff. Let's try to at least keep up with the collection."

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson said it's unrealistic to give the Library Board \$37,000 and suggested \$20,000 as a compromise.

"It's better than nothing," she said.

Coun. Joe Hewitt wanted a user-pay system implemented at the town libraries.

"It isn't fair to expect non-users to put up those dollars to fund the

libraries," he said. "I'm wondering if there's a Friends of the Library group - a public body which can help the libraries."

Coun. Sheldon objected. When the town provides a service, it provides it for everyone equally, not just for the users, she said.

"When we build an arena, it isn't just for those who play hockey or figure skate. If you don't use that service, that's your choice," the councillor said.

Coun. Gerald Henne said it's important for the town libraries to keep up-to-date with their resources. If they fall too far behind, nobody will use them, he said.

"The library contributes to the quality of life in Halton Hills and the education of young and old, and it adds to the arts and humanities of people," Coun. Henne said.

Library Board member for 11 years, Coun. Norman Elliott said with 16 mm films selling at \$1,000 or more apiece, it's hard for the library to keep up its collection. Mrs. Cornwell's request isn't frivolous, he said.

Coun. Betty Fisher's motion to cut the capital request by \$25,000 was turned down, as was Coun. Serjeantson's motion to cut \$37,000.

Glen parade

Glen Williams' Town Hall is planning a street festival for July 1, 1987 to celebrate Canada Day.

The celebration will begin with a parade along Main Street. Other activities include a beer garden and senior citizen events.

The festival should begin at 11:30 a.m. and end at midnight on July 1.

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AT THE MOVIES

Lethal Weapon

By DIAHANN NADEAU
Herald Special

I should begin by saying that if Lethal Weapon had been made with a different cast I would not have bothered to see it. As it was, I could not resist the temptation of watching Mel Gibson, even in a Clint Eastwood-style movie.

Lethal Weapon features Gibson as Martin Riggs, a suicidal cop, a policeman "on the edge" as we are told repeatedly, who is teamed up with Roger Murtaugh, a quiet family man who has just turned 50. The two are assigned to investigate the death of a young woman that begins as an apparent suicide and unfolds into a major drug-running operation.

Like most of the cop movies and Vietnam shows of late, there are Vietnam connections and memories for most of the characters. I suppose these references are meant to impart social significance to even the most shallow and violent of this crop of films and tv shows.

The movie opens with a pretty, semi-naked blonde snorting cocaine and jumping off a high-story balcony to the tune of Jingle Bell Rock. Welcome to the holiday season in L.A. This scene pretty well sets the tone for the film. There is a lot of death in the movie, although it is the sort of silly cops and robbers stuff that becomes meaningless after a short time.

Martin Riggs trained as an assassin in Vietnam and consequently shoots to kill. Murtaugh tries to shoot to injure rather than kill, a philosophy that is discredited several times through the movie. (What a nice message!) Murtaugh is understandably upset to have Riggs assigned as his partner; he won't let Riggs drive the car for fear that he will kill them both.

Although it is hard to imagine any humor in this plot, there are some funny scenes. Most of it is black comedy, but amusing nonetheless. I particularly liked Riggs' attempt to talk down a suicide. No subtle psychology for

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