Entertainment Outlook

'The Canadians' comes to the small screen An "almost-Canadian" wrote a

book a few years ago about the people who live in the land north of the United States.

The Canadians, by Andrew Malcolm of The New York Times, was a best-seller on both sides of the border.

Now, we get the TV version. Cineworld Inc., in association with CTV, has produced a four-hour documentary, which will be shown

on CTV as a two-part mini-series. Malcoim, whose parents are Canadian, was born in the United States. He spent some summers with relatives in Canada and also worked here for four years as the Toronto bureau chief of the Times.

In his 1985 book, Malcolm captured the spirit of some of the diverse individuals who make up this nation.

Malcolm's observations, though, were only the starting point for the Canadian-produced film, said a CTV official. The Canadians will be telecast

March 27 and 28. Tenspeed has shifted gears. Where's Brown Shoe?

Ben Vereen, who played Tenspeed Turner in a short-lived 1980 detective series, Tenspeed and Brown Shoe, has joined the cast of NBC's J.J. Starbuck.

Vereen will be reprising his Tenspeed Turner character for at least four episodes of Starbuck, which stars Dale Robertson. The series is filmed in Vancouver.

Otto Jelinek, Canada's sports minister, issued a verbal blast at complacent Canadians the other day. Jelinek, who stressed he was speaking as a former Olympian and

Entertainment

By BOB SPENCE Thomson News Service

not as a cabinet minister, seemed particularly perturbed that physical education classes are not mandatory at many Canadian high schools.

The good old CBC, along with Fitness Canada and Playing With Time Inc., are trying to do something about those flabby bodies in Canadian secondary schools. The three organizations are jointly

sponsoring Star Track, a competition in which high school students are being asked to create an original physical game (or a variation of an existing one).

The contest winner will receive several prizes, including the opportunity to make a guest appearance on the CBC's Degrassi Jr. High series.

The 300 best ideas will be packaged and sent to high schools across

the country.

Advice columnists cheat, says an American author who is a columnist himself.

Langdon Hill, dubbed Mr. Romance by People Magazine, says advice columnists pick letters from seriously confused people to print in their columns.

When was the last time, he asks, that you read an advice column in which a columnist used an introduction like this: "Friends, here's a letter from a happy and well-balanced human being?"

Hill, who writes a column about romance (and is the author of Mr. Romance's Book of Love), received a number of positive letters from 'happy' people. He wondered why other columnists did not receive such letters.

"That's when it dawned on me," says Hill. Other columnists did receive such letters - but ignored most of them. Why?

"If every advice columnist ran his or her 'happy' mail," says Hill, "readers would soon realize that there just weren't a lot of people out there who really needed advice from columnists.



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ASK DICK KLEINER

Who's on 'Goonies' ship?

Dear Dick: My name is Christian. I am six years old. I want to know if someone is driving the pirate ship at the end of "Goonles" with Ke Huy Quan. I thought everybody was dead. Thank you. - C.C., Webster, Texas.

Dear C.C.: You are right - they are all dead. Only thing left are a bunch of skeletons, so they must be driving the ship. It's what can be called a skeleton crew. You're welcome.

• Dear Dick: I saw a reference to "the late" Bill Cullen. I had never seen a newspaper account of his death. If he is deceased, when did he die and from what cause? - N.K., Santa Maria, Calif.

Dear N.K.: That reference to the late Bill Cullen was early. The former TV quiz-show personality is still living.

• Dear Dick: Could you tell me if Burt Reynolds used to be on "Guns-

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moke," and, if so, what part dld. he play? - J.S., Houston. Dear J.S.: Burt was Quint Asper,

the blacksmith, on that show from 1962 to 1965.

 Dear Dick: My daughter collects Betty Boop articles and a few of her college friends inquired how long Betty Boop has been around. I'd appreciate any information about the origin and development of Betty Boop. -C.H., St. Clair Shores, Mich.

Dear C.H.: Max Fleischer, the animated-cartoon artist, created Ms. Boop in 1915. By now, she's probably Betty Pooped,

· Dear Dick: Can you tell me if Nancy Carroll, the actress from the '30s, is still alive? - M.C., Davie, Fla. Dear M.C.: No, she died in 1965.

· Dear Dick: Can you settle an argument between my brother and me. He says that Mike Nesmith of the original Monkees is dead. I say he dropped from the group and formed his own business. Who's right? - T.F., Houston

Dear Dick: I am in love with The Monkees. But I just heard that Mickey dled. Is it true? - V.D. Kalamazoo,

Dear T.F. and V.D.: None of that group has died. Nesmith formed a company called Pacific Arts, one of the pioneering producers of videos. He still makes both vidoes and feature films.

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