

Favorite Son series is far too believable



Entertainment
Bob Spence
Thomson News Service

A chilling mini-series on political skulduggery hits the airwaves just before North Americans go to the polls to pick their new leaders.

Favorite Son, based on Steve Sohmer's critically acclaimed 1987 novel of the same name, leads you through a tangled political web in Washington. Power is the goal; anything goes - unless you can't cover it up. A political assassination leads to a multi-faceted cover-up and doublecross. The it's-your-turn-to-scratch-my-back relationship between politicians and the media is a key factor in the political maneuvering.

It's a powerful story - much of it far too believable.

The three-part mini-series is being aired in Canada by CBC-TV this week.

An award-winning Canadian playwright says the free-trade pact with the US may leave Canadians with the same identity problem that many Newfoundlanders faced in 1949, when the land of Joey Smallwood became part of Canada.

In his new play - 1949 - David French explores the identity crisis faced by Newfoundlanders living in the Toronto area when Newfoundland gave up its independence.

"With this free-trade deal, there is a parallel situation," said the playwright, who was born in Coley's Point, Nfld., but now lives in Toronto.

This is the fourth play French has

written about the fictitious Mercer family. His previous Mercer play, Salt-Water Moon, received a Dora Mavor Moore award as the outstanding new play of 1984.

A co-production of The Canadian Stage Company and the Manitoba Theatre Centre, 1949 continues at Toronto's St. Lawrence Centre until Nov. 12 before heading to Winnipeg, where it opens Nov. 16.

Chieftain Products Inc. wants you to pick up its new game, play it, then throw it away.

Scratch is a combination game/lottery, which Chieftain hopes will change the entertainment habits of Canadians.

Players take turns scratching a playing card until enough letters are exposed for someone to guess the hidden answer. Each game includes 11 playing cards and (the lottery aspect) a prize card, which also gets scratched. Prizes range from chocolate bars to cars.

Peter Vernon, who was involved in the marketing of Trivial Pursuit, is the project director.

"This is very much a game rather than a lottery," he said in a telephone interview. "We are not trying to supply... a retirement fund. The long-term success will depend on people having fun with it."

Will Canadians buy a game they play once, then throw away after the cards have been scratched?

"People tend to compare it (spending \$5.95 on a one-shot game) to going to a movie or whatever," said Vernon. "It's an evening's entertainment."

It could lead to a great line. The bashful young man calls the girl of his dreams and finally gets enough nerve to pop the question:

"Would... ah, would you like to come over and Scratch with me tonight?"

Herald Picture Parade



Kindergarten students at Glen Williams School got into the Halloween spirit Friday in a big way. Among the many costumes were animals that ranged from a dinosaur to the Pink Panther.

Seen here, from left are Kimberly LaFlamme, Ronja Schmidt, Lynette Wilson, Erin Halnes, and Addie Ruhl. (Herald photo)



Youngsters were decked out in their Halloween finery Saturday as the Georgetown Library hosted a Halloween Party. The children played games and made Halloween art, and there was a wide variety in the types of costumes they wore, as this photo indicates. (Herald photo)



Smith and Stone employees gathered together last week to say farewell to retiree Gord James. Mr. James was presented with gifts from his fellow employees and drawings of how the factory might have looked 48 years ago when Mr. James was first a shipper. Left to right are Gary Robertson, Smith and Stone president George McPhee and Gord James. (Herald photo)

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Recipe Run-over

Cakes

- "PHILLY" CAKE (Chrissips Cake)
 - 1 lb oz. pkg. cream cheese
 - 1/2 bl. (1 cup) margarine
 - 1 1/2 cup sugar
 - 1 1/2 tsp vanilla
 - 4 med. eggs
 - 2 cups sifted flour
 - 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
 - 1/4 cup sifted cake flour
 - 1 cup candied fruit
 - 1/2 cup chopped pecans
 - 1 cup sifted icing sugar
 - 2 tsp. light cream

Blend cream cheese, margarine sugar and vanilla. Add eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Gradually add two cups of flour sifted with baking powder. Combine remaining flour with fruit and pecans, fold into batter.

Sprinkle greased 10" Bundt or tube pan with an additional 1/2 cup finely chopped pecans, fill with batter. Bake in moderate oven, 325 F, for one hour and 20 minutes. Cool 5 minutes before removing from pan. Combine icing sugar and light cream. Glaze cake and garnish with citron and cherries.

Sandra King, Deerpark Cr., Brampton
- SEED CAKE
 - 1/2 cup butter or margarine
 - 1 cup white sugar
 - 2 eggs
 - 1 tsp. vanilla
 - 2 cups flour
 - 2 tsp. baking powder
 - 1/2 cup milk
 - 1 tsp. caraway seeds

Cream together butter or margarine and sugar. Then add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each. Beat in vanilla. Combine flour and baking powder. Blend into creamed mixture, alternately with milk. Stir in caraway seeds. Put into greased 9x5 loaf pan. Bake at 350 F for about 1 hour, or until tested with toothpick and comes out clean.

Barbara Gagnon, RR4, Acton
- BEEF AND CARROT CAKE
 - 2 cups all purpose flour
 - 2 cups brown sugar
 - 1 cup wheat germ
 - 1 cup salt bran
 - 1/2 tsp. salt
 - 1 cup grated fresh beets
 - 2 cups grated carrots
 - 1 cup coconut
 - 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
 - 1 cup raisins or chopped dates
 - 2 tsp. cinnamon
 - 5 eggs, slightly beaten
 - 1 1/2 cup oil
 - 2 tsp. baking soda (add at very end)

Mix all ingredients well, except baking soda. Add just before turning into pan, 13x9 buttered and floured pan. Bake in 350 F oven for 1 hour. Test and lower oven to 325 F for up to 1/2 hour.

Beverley Pechaluk, Daniela Court, Georgetown
- PARSNIP CAKE
 - 4 cups coarsely grated parsnip
 - 2 cups flour
 - 1 1/2 cups sugar
 - 2 tsp. baking soda
 - 1 cup fresh lemon juice
 - 1 tsp. grated lemon rind
 - 1 cup vegetable oil
 - 1/2 tsp. salt
 - 4 large eggs
 - 1/2 tsp. vanilla

Grate parsnips, preferably in food processor. Prepare pan (1 1/2 qt. size). Grease with butter, then flour. Preheat oven to 350 F. Sift together flour, sugar, soda and salt. In a large bowl beat eggs for 1 minute. Then add lemon rind, lemon juice and vanilla. Gradually beat in flour mixture until batter is just smooth.

Stir in parsnips and pour into pan. Bake approximately 1 hour or until tester comes out clean. Run knife around edge of pan and invert on rack and cool completely. Cream cheese icing is good or quite good plain.

Barbara Gagnon, RR4, Acton
- EVERYDAY LOAF CAKE
 - 1 1/2 cup sifted all purpose flour
 - 2 tsp. baking powder
 - 1/4 tsp. salt
 - 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
 - 1 1/3 cup brown sugar
 - 2 eggs
 - 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
 - 1 cup chopped dates
 - 1 cup raisins
 - 1/3 cup soft butter or margarine
 - 1/2 cup milk

Heat oven to 325 F. Line bottom of loafpan with waxed paper. Grease paper and pan well. It is important that all ingredients be beaten together AT ONE TIME and not as they are added. Sift flour, baking powder, salt, cinnamon and brown sugar into a mixing bowl. Then add but do not mix, all remaining ingredients. Beat for 3 minutes. Transfer to prepared pan. Bake in slow oven (300-325) for about 1 1/2 hours.

Louise Frankow, Princess Anne Drive, Georgetown

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