

Love Boat sails again next Valentine's Day

Entertainment

Bob Spence
Thomson News Service

Gordon Lightfoot, Canada's famed balladeer, makes a rare live radio appearance at the third National Radio Awards, June 13.

Lightfoot headlines the entertainment for the 1989 award show.

The live CBC Radio broadcast (8:05 ET) will include short clips from the entries, plus various entertainers. Humorist Arthur Black is the host.

Statuettes, known as Nellies, will be handed to the winners of the 15 categories. The National Radio Awards are presented by the Alliance of Canadian Cinema Television and Radio Artists.

The Love Boat is sailing again.

Shooting has just started on Valentine's Day Love Boat, a two-hour movie featuring most of the crew from the old situation comedy.

Naturally, CBS will air the movie on Feb. 14.

Canadian author Dennis Jones is building up an international following.

Following the success last year of Winter Palace - a political thriller - a number of American publishers decided to try to keep up with the Jones'.

After a heated auction, Martin Press won U.S. rights to his new novel by bidding \$160,000.

That novel, Warsaw Concerto - which revolves around the kidnapping of the Soviet premier - will be released in Canada in September by Stoddart Publishing.

The Boyd gang is coming back.

CTV is rebroadcasting a movie based on the exploits of one of Canada's most infamous gangsters, Edwin Alonzo Boyd.

The Life and Times of Edwin

Alonzo Boyd airs June 23.

Singing Canada's national anthem at a Toronto Argonaut football game next month will be easy for actor Michael Burgess.

Burgess, currently playing Eponine in Les Miserables at Toronto's Royal Alexandra Theatre, sang all six national anthems at the 1987 Canada Cup hockey series - in their native languages.

Leonard Nimoy has played a non-Earthling for so long, he is beginning to sound like one even when off-camera.

Nimoy, once again, portrays Starship Enterprise's Vulcan science officer, Mr. Spock, in the latest Star Trek movie. The new installment in this phenomenally popular science-fiction adventure series, Star Trek V: The Final Frontier, opened June 9 at many Canadian theatres.

Here's Nimoy, out of costume, off camera:

"I've always enjoyed the opportunities that the role has given

me to study mankind in an interesting way - from the outside."

Speaking of Star Trek V, Canadian William Shatner, back at the

controls as starship Capt. James Kirk, had more than one job to worry about. With this film, Shatner makes his motion picture debut as a director.

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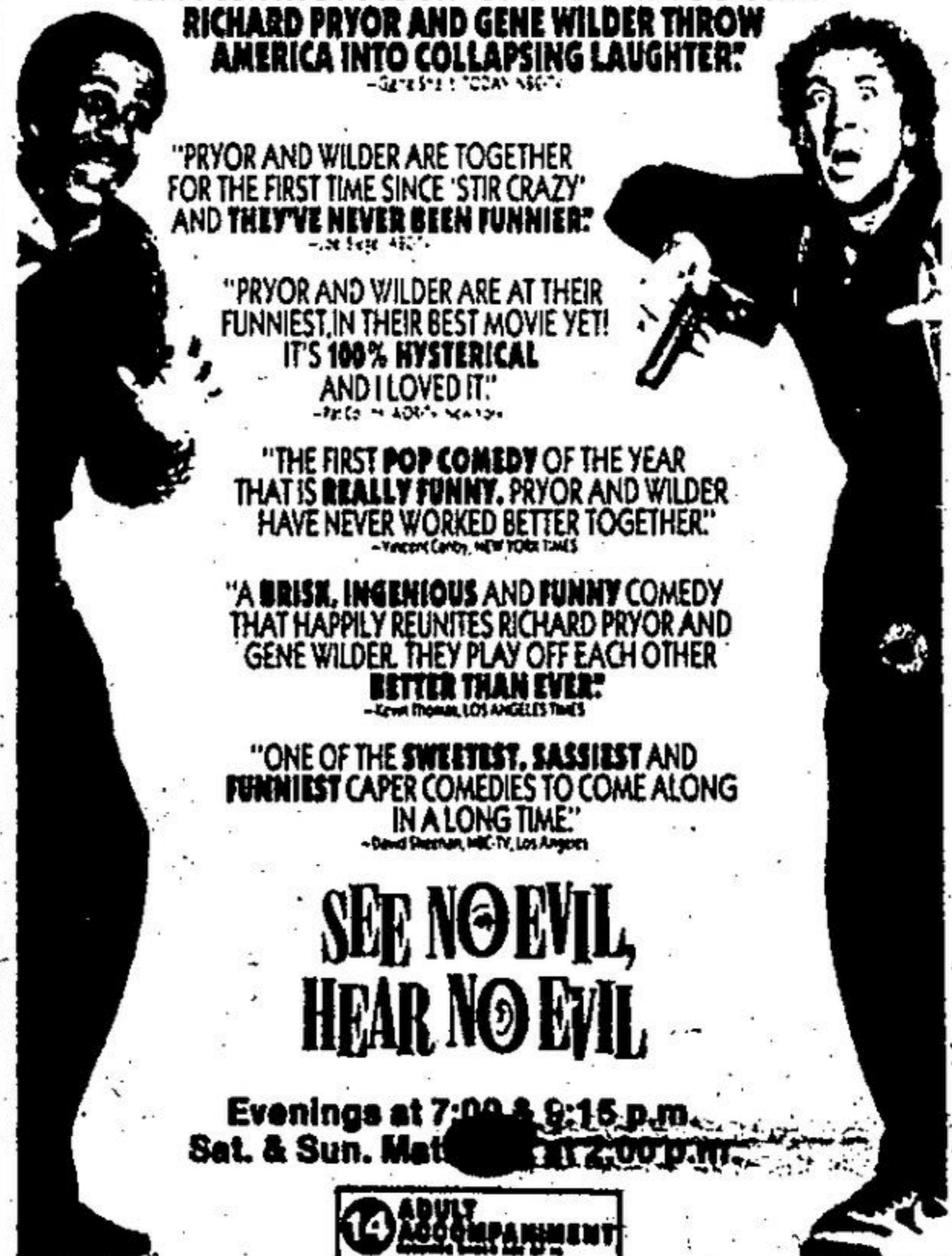
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14 ADULT ACCOMPANIMENT

Kramer finds joy in video paint box

VIDEO BEAT



ETHLIE ANN VARE

Michael Jackson's "Leave Me Alone," with its exotic collage imagery, was one of the more exciting feats of video technology we've seen around lately - sort of. Fact is, the video wasn't really a video at all.

"We had to do it on film - it had to be projectable," says producer Jerry Kramer. That's because the video, part of the "Moonwalker" project, was shown as a movie in theaters, instead of as a videocassette, outside of the United States. It was very well received.

"I could have done it in a third the time and money if they had let me use videotape," sighs Kramer. As it was, the collages were created by making a still photograph of every frame of film, literally cutting it out with an Exacto blade, and refilming the pieced-together images. There are seven frames in every second of running time; it was extremely tedious.

It was particularly frustrating for a man whose greatest joy is video toys and the tricks they do. His personal video toy store is worth more than \$4 million. Kramer is a partner in Visualize, a state-of-the-art production facility in Santa Monica, Calif., where even the shadows on the wall can be digitized and preserved on disk.

There's an AVA-3 paint box, which allows you to draw directly onto your video: splashes of color, haloes, sparks, whatever you want on screen. There are machines to rotate objects and turn them inside out and explode them into pieces. There are chyron machines to make letters, and random-access switchers that let you go back and fix an editing mistake you made three minutes ago.

There are digital D2s to preserve all the signals, with perfect clarity, for 1,000 generations (of tape, not of people.) And there are computers that mix it all in with the audio track and auto-assemble it onto the final master.

The Visualize staffer in charge of

knowing what all these babies do is fondly known as the chief science officer.



David Lee Roth

"To me," says Kramer, "the right video is the video that has the right attitude for the artist. All these tools are nice, but what really makes a project work or not is the idea. You can execute to death, but without a concept, it will be beautiful and boring."

Some musicians find making videos pretty boring altogether. Especially when they're still on the set at 3 and 4 a.m. Guess what? That isn't always unintentional.

"They give their best performances late at night, when they're tired," confides Kramer. "That's when they let loose - when they're not 'making video' any more."

Sneaky, ain't he?

TV for Learning

The Country Girls

(TC)—Based on Edna O'Brien's poignant autobiographical novel, *The Country Girls* encores on TV Ontario Friday, June 23 at 9:00 p.m. The drama follows two young Irish girls, Kate and Baba, through a series of mishaps, and later through Kate's romance with the mysterious Mr. Gentleman, played by Sam Neill.

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