Canadian drama hits' primetime lineup

The June 27 show spotlights

are fiddlin' around in

Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas

Llosa and Canadian ballerina

Atlantic Canada, getting ready for

The 40th-annual Maritime Old-

Time Fiddling Contest will be held

July 7 and 8 in Dartmouth, N.S.

The 12th Maritime Old-Time Jam-

A young Canadian lawyer has

decided the best way to get a

message across to street kids

around the world is through a car-

Peter Dalglish, who is based in

Toronto, has helped put together a

special project aimed at educating

children in the Third World about

Dalglish, who left the legal field

in order to work with street kids,

will be profiled in a July 2 segment

of W5, CTV's current affairs pro-

His latest venture is a cartoon,

produced by the National Film

Board; that warns children about

AIDS. Dalglish and Derek Lamb of

the NFB wrote the script and Kai

Pendle did the artwork. The car-

toon will be distributed worldwide

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boree follows on July 9.

Veronica Tennant.

the jamboree.

AIDS.

gram.

next year.

Entertainment

Bob Spence Thomson News Service

CTV is adding two new Canadian drama series to its 1989-1990 primetime lineup.

Bordertown, a weekly western series, is set in the 1880s. U.S. Marshal Jack Craddock (Richard Comar), an ex-gunslinger, patrols the American side of the main street in a frontier town that spans the Canadian-U.S. border. Play-itby-the-book Mountie Clive Bennett (John Brennan) watches over the Canadian side. Both vie for the affections of Dr. Marie Dumont (Sophie Barjac).

The action/adventure series is produced by Canada's Alliance Entertainment and France's Teleimages.

The second new primetime series is E.N.G., a contemporary drama that follows the exploits of an aggressive TV news team. Sarah Botsford, Mark Humphrey and Art Hindle portray the key decision-makers and news-gathers at the station.

E.N.G. is produced by Alliance in association with CTV.

Among CTV's new daytime shows will be Shirley - an hour-long afternoon talk show, with Shirley" Solomon as host.

She is not the only host who will be doing a lot of talking.

Adrienne Clarkson's Summer Festival returns to CBC-TV June 27 for a second season. The 12 new two-hour programs, offer profiles of top Canadian and international artists.





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Dead Poet Society comes alive

By DIAHANN NADEAU Herald Special

Dead Poets Society takes us down that oft-trod path of the good teacher inspiring students to finer things. I say oft-trod and I mean it. Although there are many good things about this movie, there are major flaws in that it is terribly unoriginal and sinks into un' necessary melodrama. Yet it is often humorous and always wellacted. Given the movies we've seen here lately, Dead Poets is a pleasure to watch. But don't expect anything exceptional.

It is Vermont, 1959. Robin Williams plays the inventive English teacher, John Keating. Keating is an alumnus of Welton, the restrictive prep school where he is now teaching. He takes a class of down-to-earth, disciplined, serious seniors and takes them into a new world, a world of - are you ready? - poetry. Do you have any idea how subversive poems can be? That Shakespeare can destroy your relationship with your father? That a latin phrase can be a call to revolution? Well, in 1969 Vermont

mantle of the Dead Poets Society (Keating's old underground club) got started, right? Well, maybe

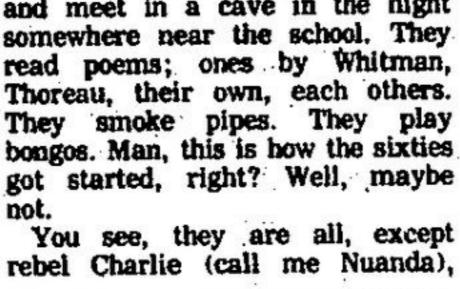
DELICIOUS

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this stuff was hot!

A group of seven boys take on the and meet in a cave in the night somewhere near the school. They read poems; ones by Whitman, Thoreau, their own, each others. They smoke pipes. They play bongos. Man, this is how the sixties



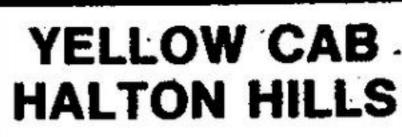
cowed by parents and school alike. Keating leads them to a path of self-discovery but they can't follow it. They're too damn scared and obedient. (I had a lot of trouble with this obedience thing; I grew up in the sixties and never believed what anyone over 30 years old told me. Now the teenagers ignore Me.)

And now comes our melodrama. Headmaster Norman Lloyd (St. Elsewhere) is really mean. He doesn't like Keating's methods. It all comes to a disastrous end when student Perry (Robert Sean Leonard), encouraged by Keating's ideas, wins the role of Puck, in that underground revolutionary classic, "A Midsummer Night's Dream." His father forbids him to participate but Perry goes ahead. It is not a happy move and tragedy strikes in the form of teen suicide. This ends Keating's career at the school.

I do not take teenage suicide lightly, but I'm afraid Tom Schulman, who, wrote the screenplay, uses

manipulative and unnecessary fashion. I found this profoundly disturbing.

Dead Poets Society is often funny and sometimes moving. As I said, there is nothing new, nothing that hasn't been done before and better. But for the less cynical among us this is certainly a worthwhile movie.



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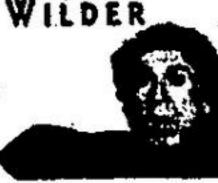


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