Entertainment

Specials galore on radio and t.v.

By BOB SPENCE **Thomson News Service**

Youngsters with a vivid imagination and a flair for writing have a chance to earn a guest sppearance on a TV show.

Just write a one-page story based on an original idea that could be used for an episode of My Secret Identity, CTV's International Emmy Award-winning situation comedy.

The grand prize winner will receive a three-day trip to Toronto, where he or she will visit the set of the TV series and appear in an episode.

The contest, co-sponsored by CTV, MCA TV and Scholastic's Voice magazine, is open to fulltime students in Grades 6 through 12. Details about the contest are listed in the Nov. 2 issue of Voice (available at many schools). The judges include a number of TV writers, various journalists and Craig T. Nelson, star of Coach.

My Secret Identity follows the misadventures of a 16-year-old (played by Jerry O'Connell), who accidently acquired superpowers via an experiment by an eccentic scientist (Derek McGrath).

There will soon be a few new turns on CBC-TV's awardwinning Road To Avonlea series.

CBC has been airing repeats from the first season but new episodes start Dec. 2.

With an average weekly audience of two million, Road To Avonlea quickly became the network's most popular series in history after its debut in January.

Sarah Polley returns as Sara Stanley. Last season, little Sara, daughter of a wealthy Montreal widower, was sent to live with two aunts in Price Edward Island. In the series' second season, Sara and her cousins romp through more adventures in Avonlea, a community filled with intriguing and engaging characters.

Among those making guest appearances this season are Michael York, as a reclusive sea captain who lives in the local lighthouse, and Marilyn Lightstone as Miss Stacey, the beloved teacher from Anne of Green Gables.

Careful, Clarence is back on Earth.

Nearly a half-century ago, Clarence the angel saved James Stewart in It's A Wonderful Life, a poignant 1946 movie that still attracts fans every Christmas when it shows up on TV screens.

Now there's a new movie, Clarence, about this far-fromperfect angel.

He is now retired up there in Heaven - but he's not older, as angels get younger for every good deed they do, Clarence, though, has not done many good deeds. As he had too many problems on Earthly visits, he withdrew from the ranks of guardian angels.

VISA



Bob Spence Entertainment Themson Hows Service

there are no other angels available, Clarence gets talked into going down to help a widow and her two children.

· Clarence is a charming family film, though it doesn't have the emotional impact of It's A Wonderful Life, which director Frank Capra listed as his own favorite among his many highly acclaimed movies.

Robert Carradine plays Clarence - a guardian angel who, most of the time, really needs a guardian of his own. His efforts to solve problems only create new

Clarence makes its Canadian debut Dec. 2 on Family Channel.

You never know who you will bump into when you start swinging from star to star with Murray McLauchlan.

McLauchlan has been chatting with, and listening to the music of, an interesting array of Canadian singers and songwriters.

Swinging On A Star, the CBC Radio and CBC Stereo program he hosts, offers the comments and music of some Canadian music stars and of performers still seeking that elusive label.

The weekly program airs Saturdaysd at 11:05 a.m. on CBC Stereo and Sundays at 4:08 p.m. on CBC Radio.

Among the upcoming guests are Christopher Ward and Don Freed (Dec. 1, 2) and Tommy Makem and Evans and Doherty (Dec. 8, 9). Rita MacNeil is McLauchlan's guest for the Christmas show (Dec. 22, 23).

Swinging On A Star runs through to late March, with Bruce Cockburn (March 16, 17) and The Cowboy Junkies and John Bottomley (March 23, 24) helping McLauchlan close out the season.

Expatriate Canadian Gino Vanelli, who has been living in Los Angeles, is heading north again - but not as far as the Canadian border.

"I hve a child who's four years old and I'd sort of like to get him out of the - I wouldn't like to call it madness - but at least the congestion of L.A., " he said.

Sunset On L.A., one of the introspective songs on his new album, Inconsolable man, sums up his feelings for the big city.

He's moving to the northwest U.S., where his wife was raised.

A crisis develops and, since

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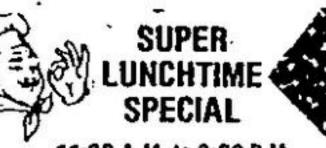


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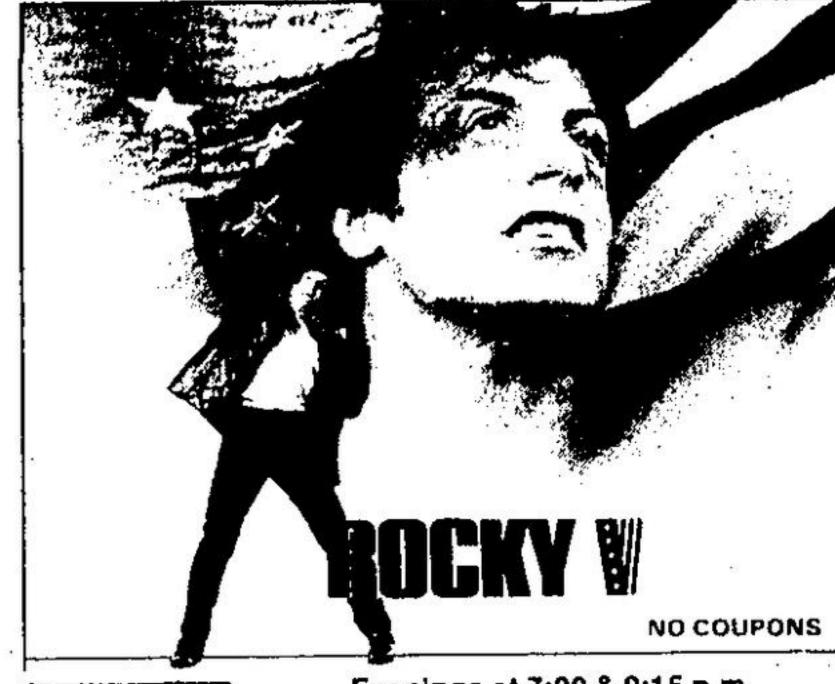
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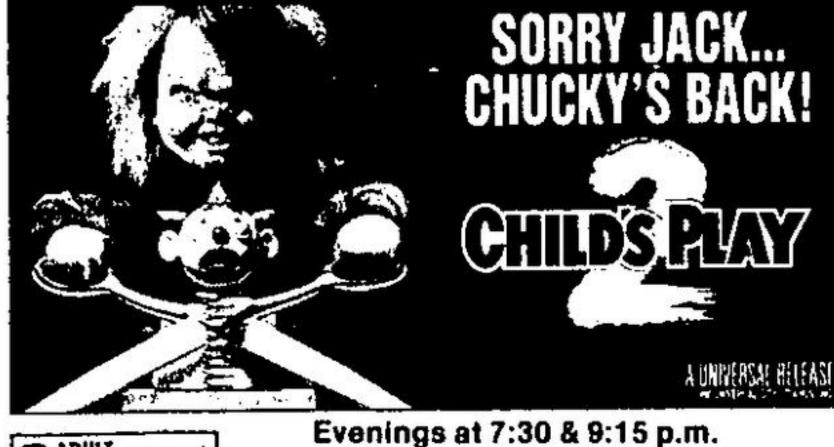


Nutcracker Prince

THE FAMILY

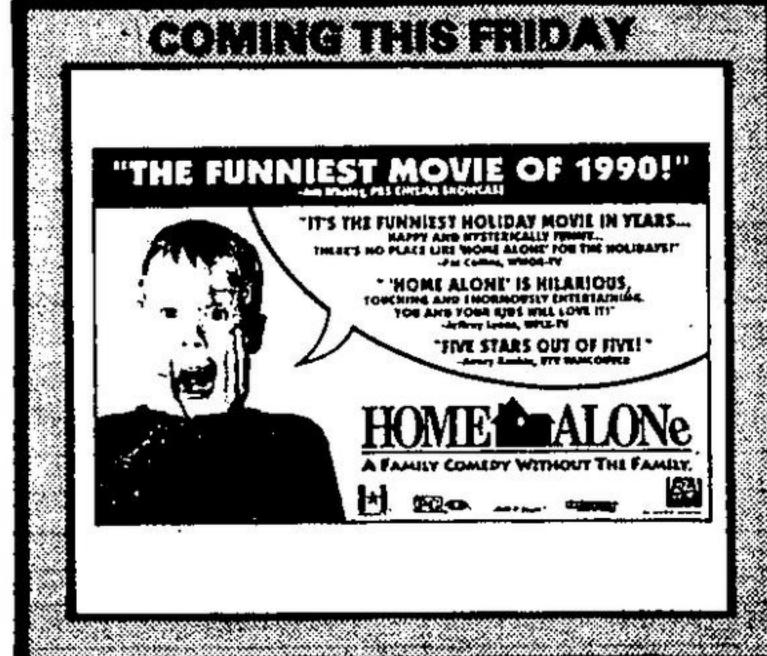
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