

Entertainment



Peter Pan vs. Captain Hook

The Halton Hills School of Dancing is busy rehearsing for Peter Pan which takes to the John Elliott Theatre stage on June 7, 8 and 9. Seen here rehearsing in the studios are Melissa Harrington as Peter Pan and Heather Cunningham as Captain Hook. The fascinating story closely follows Barrie's original book and includes pirates, Indians and of course a crocodile and all the other colorful characters. There are over 100 performers in all. It is excellent entertainment for children. Tickets may be purchased from the Halton Hills School of Dancing, 142 Mill St., 877-1581. Performances are Friday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Backdraft sparks but rarely ignites

By DAVID GIAMMARCO

Backdraft leads the pack of summer movies to be released over the next three months (52 films to be exact) and it's styled in a colossal, blockbuster kind of way - the kind of film that dazzles audiences and packs 'em in all summer long. But where there's smoke doesn't necessarily mean there's fire.

Directed by Ron Howard, *Backdraft* means well but when the smoke finally clears you're left with absolutely amazing special effects and thrilling action sequences - but little else.

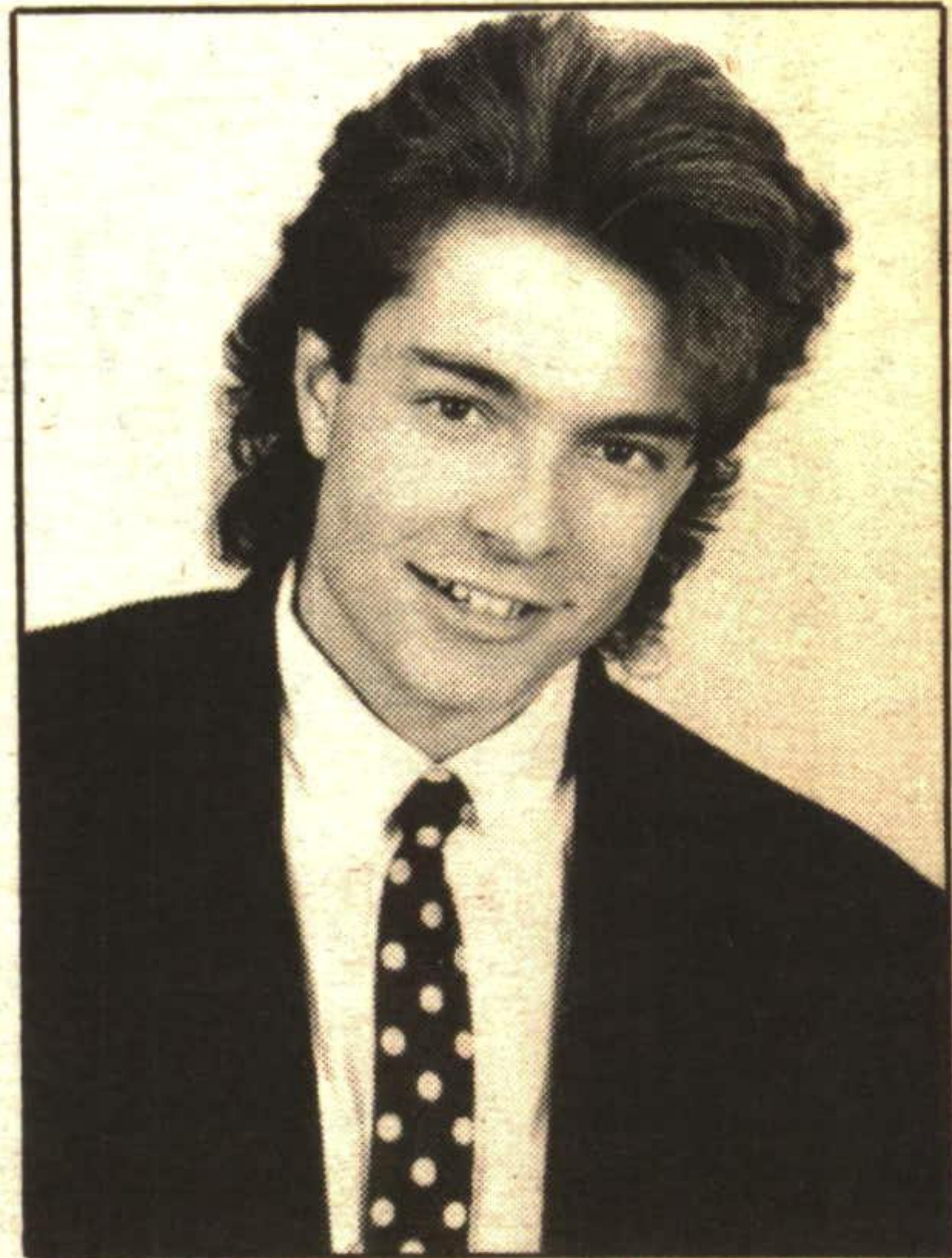
Backdraft stars Kurt Russell as Stephen McCaffrey, an ace Chicago firefighter prone to acts of heroism which over the years have jeopardized his marriage and the trust of his men. William Baldwin (Alec's younger brother) plays Brian McCaffrey, Stephen's novice firefighting brother assigned to the same team. And the two of them haven't gotten along in years.

So after a few battles, both with his older brother as well as raging infernos, Brian decides he doesn't have what it takes and switches to arson investigation alongside Donald Rimgale, played by Robert De Niro. The two are investigating mysterious 'backdraft' fires - a dangerous phenomenon that turns

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a smoldering, innocuous fire into a screaming explosion at the introduction of fresh oxygen - like the opening of a door. So they turn to a locked up pyromaniac (Donald Sutherland) to help them track down the arsonist responsible for Chicago's newest threat.

The problems with *Backdraft* center on its many, many subplots, each one shallow and uninteresting, all handled as a simple brushstroke on the way to the next subplot. They involve Jennifer Jason Leigh as Brian's old flame, Rebecca De Mornay as Stephen's ex-wife, Scott Glenn as an embittered firefighter, J.T. Walsh as an alderman selfishly hacking away at the fire departments budget and the Donald Sutherland plotline is entirely laughable in its overly-close, practically verbatim, resemblance to *Silence of the Lambs* Hannibal "the Cannibal" Lecter.



The film suffers greatly because of the contrived moments and pedestrian writing that wedges in between the major action scenes. In fact, *Backdraft* is worth seeing only for the heart-stopping, eyebrow-singeing firefighting sequences - they're the only fuel to this movie.

Out of 10, *Backdraft* rates a six.

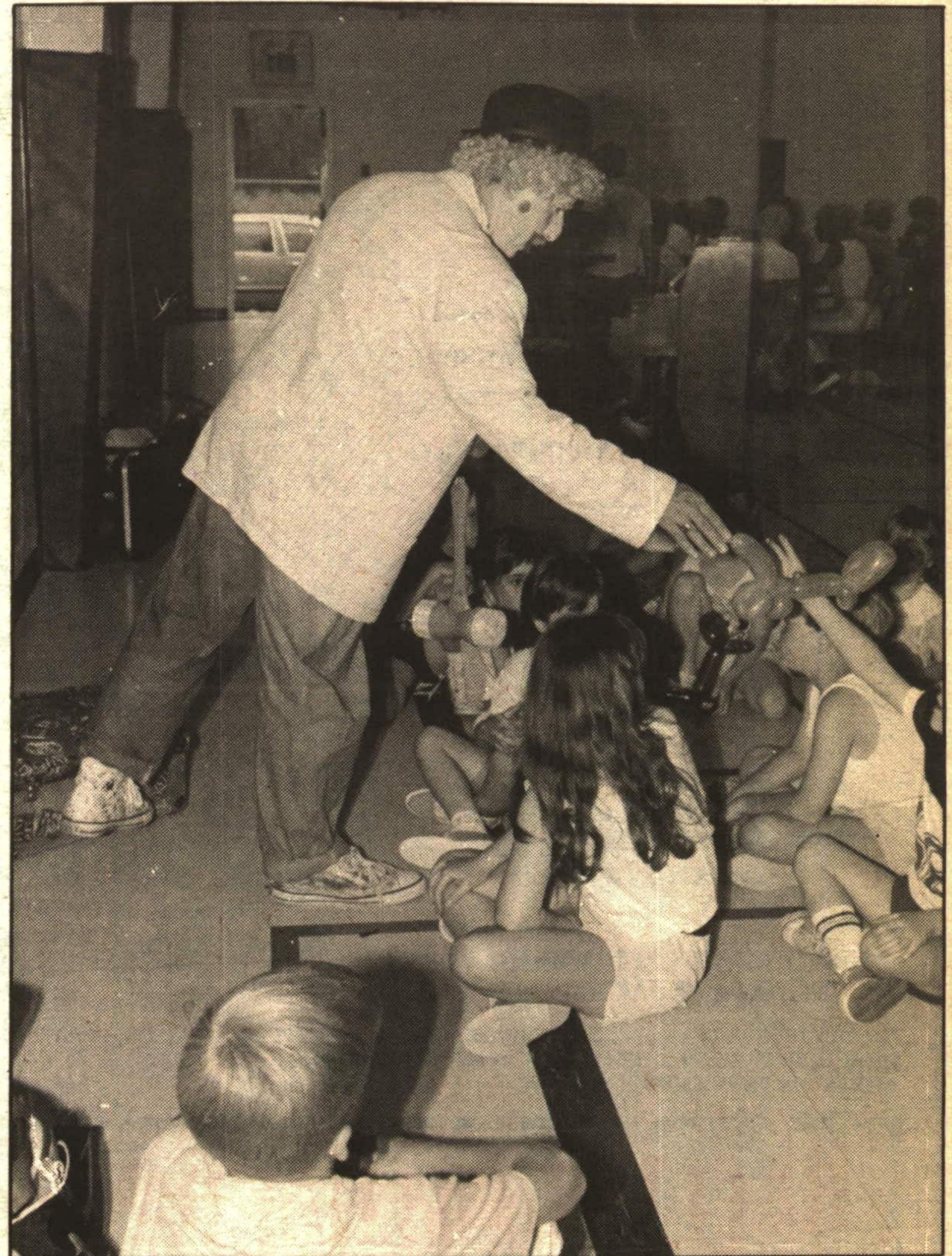
Fine art and fine food in one trip

Sculptor Andreas Drenters has opened his famous Rockwood Academy to the public every weekend until October 31. In several rooms of the Old Academy, as well as in the courtyard and garden, 187 pieces of sculpture will be displayed.

The hours to see the exhibition every Saturday and Sunday are from 1-5 p.m.

Chef Hebert Biemann at the restaurant "La Vieille Auberge" in Rockwood, has adjusted his luncheon and dinner hours to accommodate the Rockwood Academy view hours. If you would like to eat "haute cuisine" before or after you have experienced "fine art", you can do so at the Auberge from 11:30 a.m. on for lunch, or from 5 p.m. on for dinner. Between 2 and 5 p.m. desert and coffee is served.

So travel to the Rockwood Academy and La Vieille Auberge and experience fine art and haute cuisine all in one afternoon!



Bonkers the Clown had the kids in stitches during Saturday's huge chicken barbecue at Huttonville school, an annual fund-raiser for Norval United Church. Hundreds convened for a BBQ feast with all the fixin's, plus musical entertainment and balloons by Bonkers.

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