## Entertainment

#### Cool Runnings not stuck on movie stereotypes

By Lawson Oates and **Dawn Wood** 

All Canadians will remember one of the most curious and touching moments of the 1988 Olympics; the bobsled entry from Jamaica. It epitomized the essence of the Olympic spirit when four athletes from a Caribbean nation entered one of the most hairraising of winter sports. Cool Runnings, directed by Jon Turtletaub, captures the spirit of that reckless charge for an the role of Blitzer, puts in a Olympic medal

The cast of Cool Runnings is led by Canadian John Candy. Candy plays the role of Irving Blitzer, a two-time Olympic bobsled champion was disgraced in the 1972 Winter Olympics for cheating. Blitzer, self-banished to Jamaica, reluctantly becomes the coach of the Jamaican bobsled team. Candy, despite being far too young to play

very credible performance.

Candy's understated comic style is at its best as he cajoles and bullies his team and the Olympic bobsled establishment. He successfully turns the story not only into an account of the uphill battle of the Jamaican bobsled team, but one man's battle with his past.

The intrepid bobsled team is led by Leon (stage name), in the role of Derrick Bannock. Bannock is a sprinting hopeful who is accidentally tripped during the final heat of the 100 metre dash. Bent on becoming an Olympian, he sets out to form a bobsled team.

Bannock's father was also a sprinter and Blitzer once tried to interest him in bobsledding, based on the belief that sprinters could make good bobsledders. Bannock

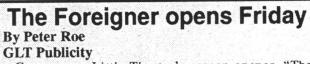
and is able to convince Blitzer the attempt is worth

The other members of the bobsled team are Doug E. Doug in the role of Sanka, Rawle D. Lewis and Malik Yoba. The personal challenge of each of the team members

steps in to complete the circle is explored and covers the trials of a rich man's son to a working class dreamer intent on leaving Jamaica.

The movie offers an ample amount of footage of bobsleds whisking around turns at high speed. This is clearly not a sport for weekend enthusiasts.

# **ACTON BOWL**



Georgetown Little Theatre's season opener, "The Foreigner" begins its two-week run at the John Elliott Theatre this Friday at 8 p.m. An important part of the production is the wonderful costumes designed and sewn by Mildred Blackett and Debbi Lewis. Aided by Donna Courneya, Mildred and Debbi have worked for many weeks to perfect the attire you will see on-stage in "The Foreigner".

"We really are novices," says Mildred, adding "this is the fourth play I've done".

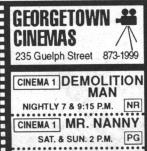
Debbi assisted costumes at Queen's University 15 years ago for the musical, "Kiss Me Kate" ("a totally different type of sewing, really slap-dash kind of thing. It has to look good on the stage").

Both women have been sewing since their teens, Mildred for 64 years! A consummate perfectionist, Mildred admits costume people have a tendency to beg, borrow and buy materials from friends of the theatre! "It's difficult to get costume people because they don't know what's involved, plus it's very time consuming. At every play, there's always something to scrounge around for! To see the finished product on-stage is the most gratifying feeling.'

Call 877-3700 for box office information today! Why wait for Halloween when you can relax in a comfy seat and marvel at some real costumes? See you at the theatre!

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