

Why is this man, being attacked by two hair brush wielding children, smiling? The reason would be clear to those who know Dr. Zed. When Gordon Penrose becomes Dr. Zed, members of his young audience help him transform by messing his hair and applying his make-up and costume. Mike Odlozinski and Katherine Tonner of Robert Baldwin school were selected to help create a living version of the cartoon character featured in Owl magazine.

**He's Dr. Zed**

# Teacher adopts novel approach

By JANE MULLER  
Staff Writer

A couple of hair brushes, a dab of white grease make-up, a pair of wire rim glasses, a white lab coat and several sets of helpful hands combine for a dramatic transformation.

Gordon Penrose, a retired master teacher of science becomes Dr. Zed, made possible and witnessed by young audiences across the country.

To thousands of Canadian children, Dr. Zed is a cartoon character featured regularly in Owl magazine for the past six years.

Appearing not unlike that slightly mad scientist, Dr. Zed outlines a new scientific experiment each month using principles like air pressure, heat and friction.

It is the method of getting these science basics across which makes the two-page magazine spread so effective.

Dr. Zed shows the how, why, and what of experimental procedures comprised of easily obtainable equipment.

Simplicity is the all-important factor in Dr. Zed's experiments as they cater to the magazine's readership of eight to 12-year-olds.

Although the publication and Dr. Zed are unknown to many in that age group, the scientist, with a flair for the zany, is busy for two or three days each week changing that.

**Day Visit**

A day-long visit to Robert Baldwin school last week was an example of Dr. Zed's method of stimulating interest in science and at the same time making children aware he exists.

Mr. Penrose's pseudonym and the character attached to it may appear fictitious to his readers, but the message is 100 per cent reality.

"We check each experiment many times," explains the long-time educator.

His cartoon counterpart was created by Annabel Slight and Mary Anne Brinkman, the magazine's founders and its editor Sylvia Funstone. The experiments however, are Mr. Penrose's creations.

He refers to Dr. Zed as a "natural extension" of what he was already doing. That extension culminates in the visual effect achieved at the start of each of Mr. Penrose's performances.

**Enchanted**

His enchanted audience participates in transforming Mr. Penrose from his average man on the street appearance to the kindly scientist with hair askew and eyebrows exaggerated. Hairbrushes for two volunteers, eye glasses for another, make-up for a fourth and the stereotypic lab coat for another and the group has created a living likeness of the Owl cartoon.

This exercise sets the mood for Dr. Zed's performance, repeated four times during his day at the local public school for a total of eight classes. His audience included special education and grades four and five students.

"I enjoy seeing people become interested in science. They realize how enjoyable it can be. A lot are afraid of science and shy away from it," Mr. Penrose explains as he prepared for his next show.

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CARNIVAL  
FRIDAY  
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11/1983  
8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.**

**moonlight  
madness**



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## Friday, February 11 Schedule of Events

See complete schedule, page C13.

EVENT & SPONSOR	LOCATION	TIME
BINGO: Milton Senior Chess Club No. 88	Lawyer Legion 71 Ontario Street	1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
OPENING CEREMONIES & CROWNING OF PRINCE & PRINCESS (Murray Hood M.C.)	Milton	7:30 p.m.
FIREWORKS DISPLAY	Milton	7:45 p.m.
BONFIRE & ENTERTAINMENT (Brantford Crown Band will be wandering the streets & Milton District Pipes & Drums)	Milton	8:00 p.m.
FAMILY SKATING	Milton	8:00 p.m.
MOONLIGHT MADNESS SALE (Downtown Business Association)	Downtown 182 Main Street	8:00 to 11:00 p.m.
ENTERTAINMENT & SOCIAL GATHERING (Canadian Legion)	Canadian Legion 71 Charles Street (Food and entertainment will be available)	8:00 to 11:00 p.m.

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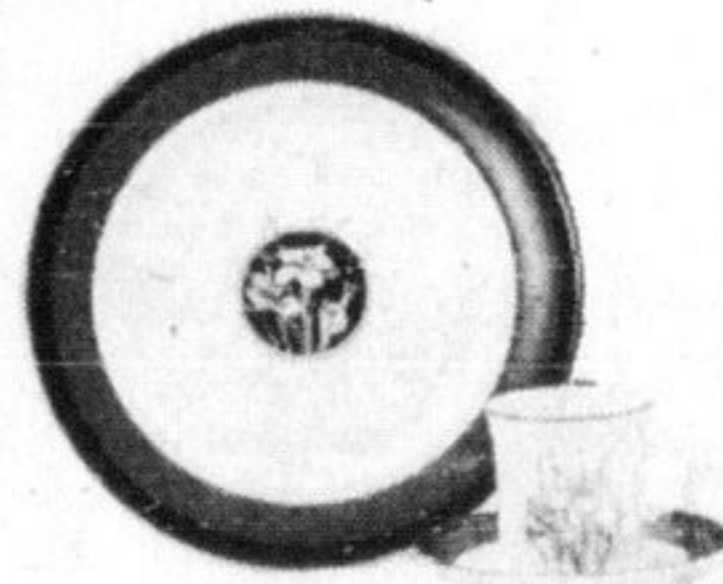
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\* UPON COMPLETION OF BASIC INFORMATION FORM.

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