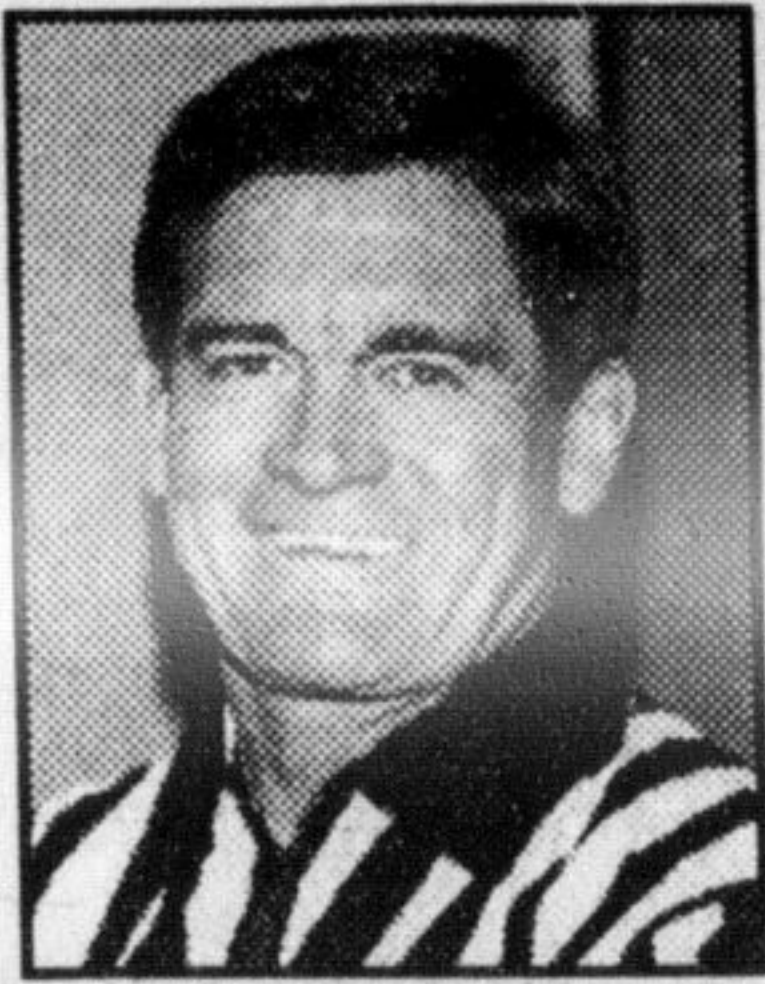


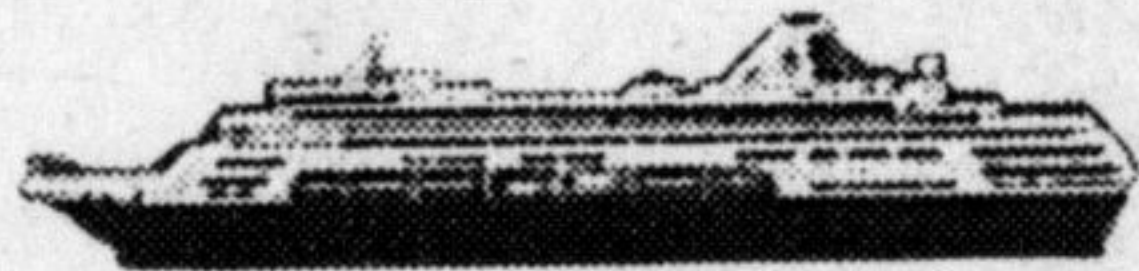
Travel

with
Bruce Hood

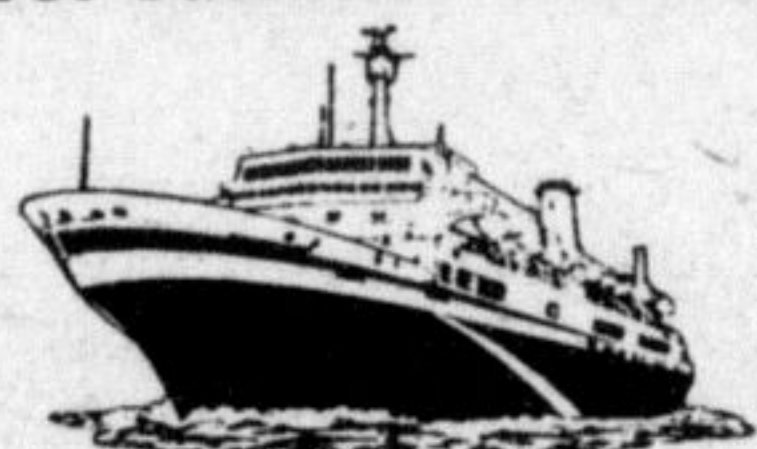


FIRST MINUTE — NOT LAST MINUTE!

THE NEW 'THEME' WHICH IS FAST TAKING OVER in the travel industry is 'first-minute' booking of travel, rather than last-minute. It has been more obvious this year already than ever before with the NEW MILLENNIUM upon us, and people seeking to get their plans made and set for this historic time. But with THE LATEST ANNOUNCEMENT BY VACATION SUPPLIERS that there will be less space available overall this year, and the OFFER OF GREAT 'EARLY BOOKINGS (FIRST MINUTE!) INCENTIVES, it is very unlikely there will be any degree of last minute bargains as have appeared in previous years. BOOKINGS ARE AHEAD BY AS MUCH AS 30% in many programs as compared to this time last year, as reported by at least one of the suppliers recently.



PRINCESS CRUISES 2000 EUROPE PROGRAM is outlined in its newly released brochure, which details the 45 departures they offer. MOST INTERESTING TO MANY is their CRUISETOUR offering of Land Tour packages in conjunction with a 'GRAND PRINCESS' or 'CROWN PRINCESS' cruise. More and more people are opting to extend their planning beyond the cruise. Princess offers 23 different itineraries on board four ships. Get your brochure today, and plan for summer 2000!



AND WHILE ON CRUISE SHIPS - RADISSON SEVEN SEAS IS OFFERING FALL SAVING OF UP TO US\$2,200 PER PERSON on 15 cruises in Europe, Arabia, India, the Far East and the South Pacific from August to December. AS WELL 'TWO FOR ONE' SAVINGS ARE AVAILABLE on the "Seven Seas Navigator's" 16-night maiden "GRAND ATLANTIC CROSSING" on Oct. 2 from Nice to Fort Lauderdale.

???

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Actress taps into an array of roles to explore wide-ranging creativity

By IRENE GENTLE
The Champion



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Milton's Alaina Brouwer is a bonnie dancer and actor, as she will prove at Ceilidh '99, playing at the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts tonight and tomorrow.

Alaina Brouwer has an open, friendly face, an engaging personality and a voice as welcoming as warm milk on a cold night. In other words, she's a perfect villain.

And in fact the 20-year-old Milton dancer, actor and arts teacher got a taste of the seamy side of life through her recent portrayal of Madge Shelton at the 1999 Ontario Renaissance Festival.

Old Madge was a saucy bit who did some time as King Henry the Eighth's mistress.

"She was the little trollop of Trillingham," joked Ms Brouwer, referring to the village the festival takes place in.

But though the King's bit of fluff may have been a vamp, she barely registered in the villain category.

Neither, sadly, does the promisingly named Bonnie Goodbum. That Austin Powers style heroine is played by Ms Brouwer in Ceilidh '99, showing at Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts this Saturday.

But if all this flirty femme stuff seems too hot, parents, relax.

No femme fatale

The Ms Brouwer who will be teaching children drama and dance at Burlington's Sundance Studios and the Milton Centre for Music and Theatre Arts is hardly a vixen from the Salome school of femme fatales.

Instead, she is a genuinely sunny person who loves children, loves to dance and loves to see people achieve their personal best. "I really enjoy children. I enjoy their potential and their innocence," she said.

She is also enamoured with their fearlessness.

She saw that in action during a stint as a counsellor at Milton's drama camp last summer.

"The first day everyone would come in with a brother or sister and kind of stay with them. At lunch time it was pretty quiet," said Ms Brouwer. "By the end of it, the quietest person was up there doing solos."

Playful quality

It is a quality she has tried to emulate in her work with children. "Part of what makes a good teacher is being able to maintain authority while being able to get down to their level and be playful," she said.

Ms Brouwer discovered her love of dance at an age when just pulling on ballet shoes was a challenge.

Her passion for drama took a little longer to emerge.

She was in her final years at E.C. Drury before Ms Brouwer

• see TERROR on page 17



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