

Arts & Entertainment

Nelson's 'gentle touch' to be felt at Dickens

Singer started out impersonating Elvis while a student at Holy Rosary School

By **ANDREW JENKINS**
Special to *The Champion*

As a young boy growing up in Milton, Marc Nelson had an interest in music that propelled him to start writing songs at the ripe age of 15.

His first step into the spotlight came with his impersonation of Elvis Presley at Holy Rosary School.

From then on, with inspiration from such artists as Van Morrison and Sting, he began to look at the norms of the average day and started writing lyrics fueled with simplicity yet deeply meaningful.

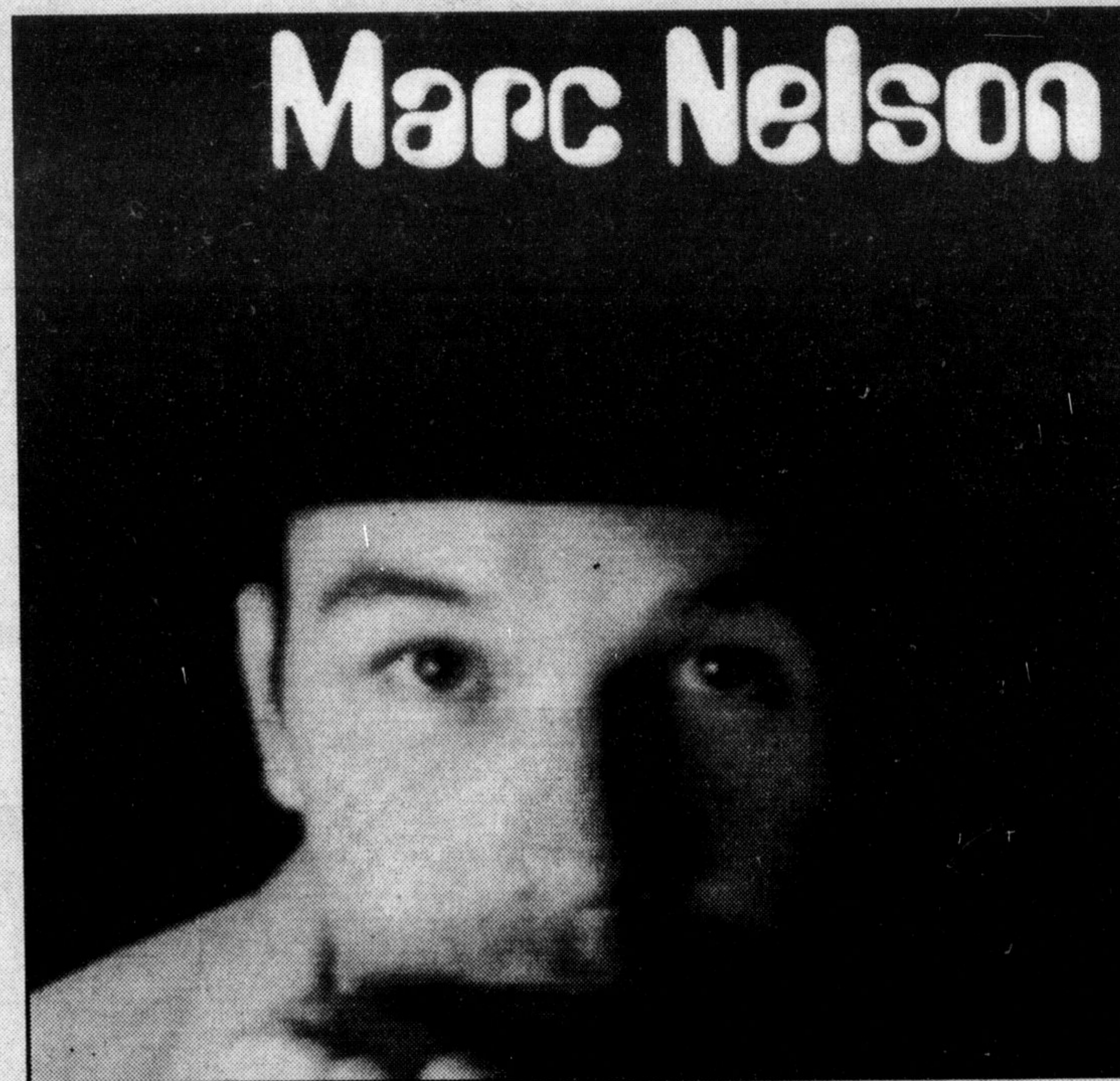
The musician now has one album to his name — 'Decent Bloke Material'.

Mr. Nelson spent several months in the Caribbean writing the majority of the songs for the recording.

The atmosphere and the calmness of the scenery aided him in writing his sweetly poetic lyrics.

Then, upon returning home to Canada, he began recording.

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Marc Nelson

Former Milton resident Marc Nelson will perform at The Dickens tonight in honour of St. Patrick's Day. The musician will take the stage performing his own material as well as few Celtic numbers. Featured songs will include selections from his new compact disc 'Decent Bloke Material'.

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Chance to lead symphony will be one auction item

Normally it takes years of hard work and training to earn the right to conduct a symphony orchestra.

But there may be a short cut for at least one lucky music fan.

Just turn out for the Milton Concert Presentation's silent auction fundraiser next Friday at 7 p.m. at Milton Alliance Church.

That's also the date and place of the Toronto Philharmonia's next concert, Brass by Request.

Items can be viewed before the concert begins. Bidding will take place during intermission.

Potential prizes include the opportunity to conduct the Toronto Philharmonia at the first of next season's concert series in Milton.

Philharmonia conductor Kerry Stratton is also on the bidding block, and those feeling lucky can vie for the chance to take the maestro home for dinner.

Other prizes include tickets to the Benson and Hedges Symphony of Fire, the Renaissance Festival and seasons tickets to the Milton Concert Series.

Water colour paintings by local artists, dried flower arrangements and landscap-

• see **SERIES** on page 15

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