Ententainment

Locally-shot De Niro flick hits the big screen tonight

Godsend may want to pay close attention to the scenery.

They could just see a familiar site or two, as part of the Nick Hamm-directed horror - which opens tonight and stars Robert De Niro, Greg Kinnear and Rebecca Romjin — was filmed in Milton back in December 2002.

Of particular familiarity to local viewers will be Town Hall's Victoria Park, where a

Miltonians who take in the new thriller scene was shot with Mr. De Niro and young co-star Cameron Bright.

> Godsend is the story of a young couple (played by Kinnear and Romjin) who after losing their eight-year-old son in a car accident befriend Mr. De Niro's genetic scientist, who reverses the rules of nature to reunite the family. While initially successful, the cloning experiment provides the couple with more than they bargained for.

Filming in Milton lasted about a week.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Milton Players (from left) Tim Beddoes, Geoff Ford, Norm Champoux and Susan Cranford are set to hit the stage with The Affections of May.

Cranford makes directing debut with Foster comedy

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

Brian Cranford's feeling frazzled about his directing debut with the Milton Players, he sure isn't showing it.

But then he's not exactly a rookie when it comes to the production arena — either on stage or screen. A television veteran and current CTV graphic designer, Mr. Cranford's worn just about every other hat with the local theatre group — twice lending his acting talents to the fold.

So the next logical step was to take the reins and run a performance himself .- which he's doing with ongoing preparations for the season-ending production of The Affections of May, set to hit the stage next Friday.

"Brian's been great. Whatever he tackles he does so very professionally. He's very thorough and seems to be working well with the

actors," remarked Milton Players publicity director Joan Patch.

While not taking anything away from his efforts, Mr. Cranford admitted he's fortunate to have such an experienced cast — that includes his mother, Susan, as the warm-hearted comedy's much sought-after centerpiece.

"It's been easier with her on board simply because she's a seasoned actor," said the Milton Players' first-time director. "I get what I need out of her, like I do with everyone else in the cast."

Also, with stage props at a minimum and only four actors to oversee, Mr. Cranford said the Norm Foster-written tale is a suitable one for him to debut with.

"As far as I'm concerned Norm is one of the best playwrights there is. His words really hold up on their own and I'm simply trying to follow his vision."

Riddled with humour and a little sexual innuendo to boot, The Affections of May is set in a small

Eastern Canadian town where May and Brian Henning — played by Tim Beddoes — have just moved from the big city in order to open a bed-and-breakfast.

Longing for home — including the job and mistress that come with it — Brian winds up packing his bags and leaving poor wifey to fend for herself in unfamiliar surroundings.

Now one of the few single women in Grogan's Cove, May soon finds herself with dueling suitors — in the form of Geoff Ford's bank manager Hank and Norm Champoux's handyman Quinn.

What ensues, said Mr. Cranford, is enough hilarity to rival even the most side-splitting sitcom — as dear May comes to grips with her newfound popularity and decides where, if anywhere, her own affections should be directed.

"It's not quite as over the top as a British farce, but it's definitely a see PLAY on page 15



Saturday & Sunday

9 a.m. · 4 p.m.

Adults \$4.00

Children Under 12 FREE

Parking FREE

- Over 120 juried crafts people In the Great Gambrel Barn, The Aberfoyle Town Hall and Individual Exhibitor Tents
- **★** Handmade quality
- **★** Superior workmanship
- **★** Great gift ideas for Mom
- Country decorating at it's best

ARTS MILTON

★ Live entertainment **★** Beautiful Spring location

★ Food Available

COUNTRY HERITAGE PARK 8560 Tremaine Road, Milton, ON Call 905-878-8151

\$1.00 OFF ONE ADMISSION WITH THIS AD MG



905-878-8895





