

Second City kept audience in aisles

By Scott Anderson
Staff Writer

"I'll just make it fun for myself," exclaims a member of the Second City Touring Company during a skit. This sums up the attitude of the performers in the troupe.

Six members of the famous Canadian comedy outfit brought their latest project, Free Trade and Drinks, to Midland Secondary School last Tuesday night. The show was sponsored by the North Simcoe Arts Council, which raised an estimated \$3,000.

With acts ranging from a mouse being caught in a trap (complete with sound effects) to a stand up comedy routine by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the cast showed its incredible range and imagination.

Nothing was sacred during the performance, as the troupe satirized national, international and even local issues.

One skit - which the Midland audience could really identify with - was a parody of the town council. Armed with suggestions from the audience, the actors took a look at the local mandatory recycling law and the problems Midland has with skateboarding on public streets.

Although not exactly sure about the mandatory recycling issue, the Second

City players managed to paint a picture of the confusion around this law. "I used to love my garbage," explained one distraught 'council member.' "It was mine. Now I have to take it to 900 locations."

The local parking enforcement officer, Brenda Caley, was the also the sub-

ject of biting satire.

The touring troupe is known for creating a slice-of-life environment, lampooning modern life - politically, socially and culturally.

Garry Campbell, best remembered for his nerdy portrayals, said during a post-performance inter-

view that it's important to enjoy one's self while performing. "Improv must be fun," he says.

The show featured many new faces, with Campbell the only holdover. Scripts change every six months and there is a rapid turnover. With faces changing so fast, it can be tough to

adapt. Not the case, he says, with this cast. Members (Terry Hart, Jonathan Wilson, Kathryn Greenwood, Moira Dunphy, Karen Hines and himself) work well together, he said.

"We got lucky with this bunch of people," he said.

In its 12-year history, the

company has trained some talented people (Dan Aykroyd, John Belushi, Martin Short, John Candy and Eugene Levy to name just a few) who have gone on to successful careers. Although they enjoy the job, most use it as a training ground.

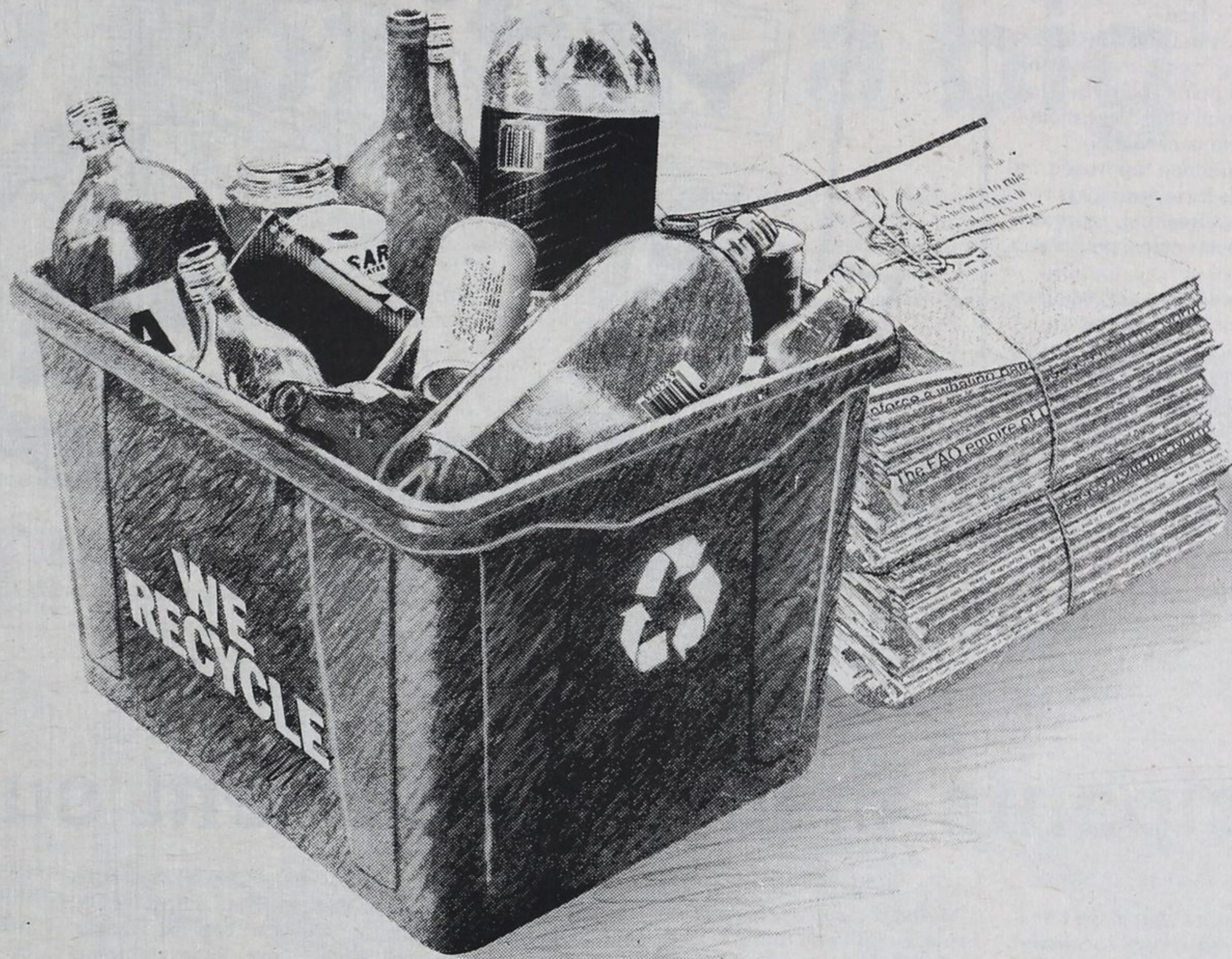
"It's nice to get paid to

fool around," he says.

More than 430 people watched the cast "fool around" for close to two and a half hours.

At one point during the show, Campbell exclaims "It really was a beautiful experience!"

Yes, it sure was! It sure was!



Apology

Letter wasn't mailed

A story in the Sept. 14 edition referred to information contained in a Midland Business Improvement Area letter which had not been mailed at the time. We regret the inconvenience this may have caused.

Eyes closed

Despite the season, people in Midland who use water other than at the specified times and days are breaking the law. There's no need to worry, though. "We close our eyes at this time of year," Public Utilities Commission manager Art Evans said.

The bylaw specifying when water may be used out of doors is in effect year round. During the summer dry period the bylaw was publicized. Warnings were issued.

The underground water level "is pretty well back to normal," Evans said. "We are not going around checking unless people are using water unnecessarily."

You and Your Blue Box!

The Townships of Tay and Tiny and the Village of Victoria Harbour have now joined Midland, Penetanguishene and Port McNicoll in a curbside Blue Box recycling program. If you have a blue recycling box, please participate. It's part of an important community project to help reduce the household waste that goes into landfill sites and to conserve our precious natural resources.

Simply collect and store newspapers, glass bottles and jars, beverage and food cans and plastic

soft drink containers in your Blue Box. Then put it at the curb for pick-up by 8 a.m. on your regular garbage collection day.



Please bundle all newspapers and

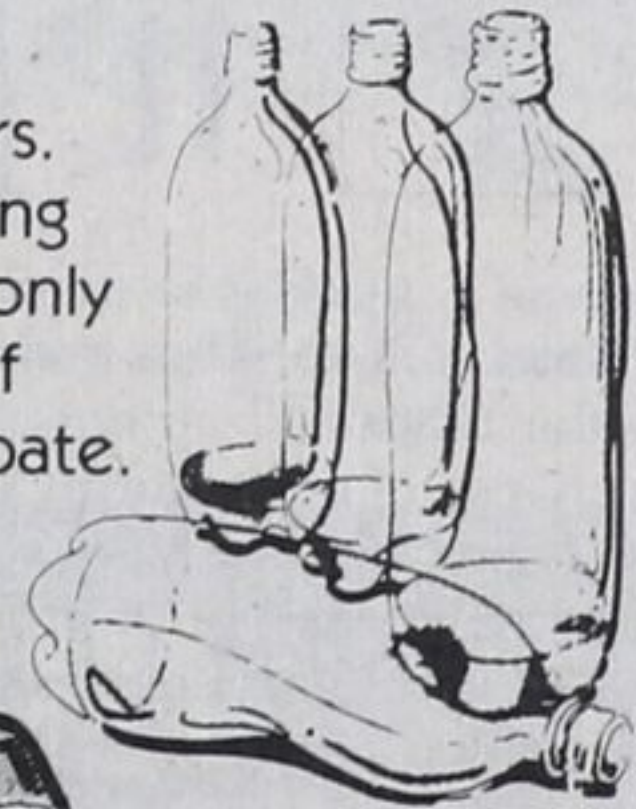
inserts or

place them in a grocery bag on top of, or beside, your Blue Box. To avoid attracting pests, remember to rinse



out containers.

Our recycling program will only be a success if we all participate.



If you have any questions, call the "Blue Box Line" at

526-0625.

Recycling.

It only works if we all do our part.



The soft drink industry and its container suppliers - supporting the establishment of recycling programs throughout Ontario.