

Artist's work strikingly realistic

BY CHRIS SHANAHAN

Marc Barrie's latest painting is so life-like, one would think its main subject, a red-tailed hawk, was about to fly off the canvas.

This attention to detail and a vivid use of color have become the 23-year-old wildlife artist's trademarks.

Mr. Barrie used a hawk owned by a falconer friend as a model for his recent major work, entitled 'Approaching Storm'. That painting will soon be available in

limited edition prints through Mr. Barrie's Gallery, Brougham, and other outlets in Canada and the United States. The striking original is yet unsold.

The Goodwood-area native is still largely influenced by the natural terrain and wildlife around Uxbridge and Pickering.

"I get a lot of ideas from the countryside around here," Mr. Barrie says. "The only way for a wildlife artist to paint properly is to experience it. You have to be out there and see it."

He gathers much of his material during frequent field trips locally and beyond. One of the artist's next outings will be a month-long fall trek into the wilds of British Columbia.

Mr. Barrie has also found a wealth of subject matter around the Whitchurch-Stouffville farmhouse where he's been based for the past year.

"I was surprised by the number of birds there," he says of the approximately 50 species spotted back of his home.

Mr. Barrie's now in the process of producing an entry for a 'miniatures' art exhibition in Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 13 and 14. He creates between 12 to 20 originals a year depending on the magnitude of the works.

The self-taught artist began developing his talent while attending Uxbridge Secondary School. He's been painting full-time since 1980.



Wildlife artist Marc Barrie hangs his latest major work, 'Approaching Storm', at Gallery Brougham, located on Hwy. 7 just west of Brock Road. The 23-year-old Goodwood native has re-

ceived high acclaim within North American circles, with many of his originals among major collections. He's now based at a farmhouse studio south-east of Stouffville. —Chris Shanahan

Front door smashed

A Beckers Milk Store on Stone Mason Dr. in Markham was broken into Monday when a rock was thrown through the front door.

Police said a quantity of merchandise was stolen during the break-in which occurred between 12:01 a.m. and 5:25 a.m. Damage is estimated at \$300.

Main St. home ransacked

A Main St. Markham residence was broken into Aug. 4 when a screen was forced open and a window smashed.

Police said the house was ransacked and cash, jewelry and stereo equipment taken. Value of the stolen goods is unknown. Damage is estimated at \$50.

The break-in occurred between 5:30 p.m. and 11 p.m.

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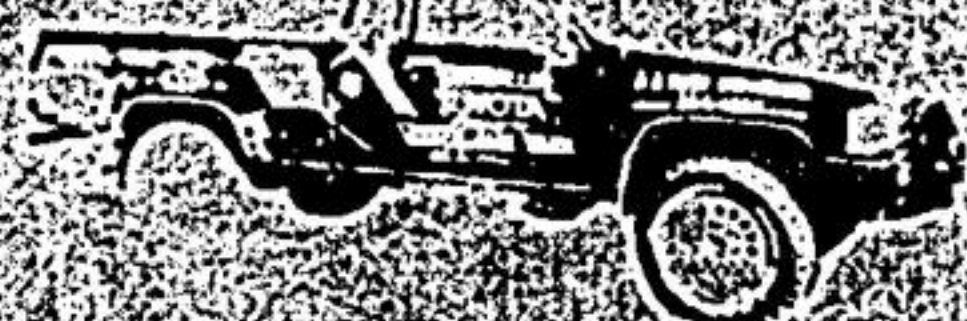
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