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DOORS OPEN
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FREE PARKING
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2 Top Gun

Fri., Mon.-Thurs. 7:05 & 9:25
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SUBJECT TO
CLASSIFICATION
Theatre Board Ontario

VIOLENCE
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SWEARING
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3 The Fly

Fri., Mon. - Thurs.
7:10 & 9:15
Sat. & Sun.
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4 Ruthless People

Fri., Mon.-Thurs. 7:00 & 9:00; Sat. & Sun. 3:35, 7:00 & 9:00

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SATURDAY & SUNDAY MATINEE

1 Transformers, The Movie

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PARENTAL
GUIDANCE

2 The Great Mouse Detective

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FAMILY

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FAMILY

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Bring this ad to qualify for a draw



Magician Dan Laffey, pictured here during a promotional appearance at last weekend's Stouffville Trade Show, is featured in a magic festival cabaret that wraps up a four-day stand tonight (Sept. 20) at Deer Park Inn's Theatre in the Park.

— Chris Shanahan


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Presto cabaret dazzling

By CHRIS SHANAHAN

Staff Reporter

If *Presto* can't save the Stouffville Magic Festival, nothing can!

This featured attraction of the often-controversial event is simply the most entertaining variety show that has ever graced a Stouffville stage.

And the most baffling illusion of all will be if people don't flock in record numbers to see the cabaret and other features of the Sept. 17-20 festival.

Presto performer Dick Joiner, that comic genius with a wonderfully insane laugh, is at his manic best in this theatrical look at magic past, present and future.

The same goes for brilliant medieval conjuror Michael Ross, who really does spell his name that way! His witty banter and polished delivery are those of a consummate professional.

The show lives up to all the enthusiastic advance billing dished up by producer/director Joseph Albert, himself a character in *Presto*'s intriguing *Miracle of the Sands* act.

Locally-based performers Dan Laffey and Jeff Evason are both smooth as a magician's silk scarf in their respective roles as an 1800s classical magician and modern-day illusionist.

Presentation of each magical era is enhanced by an impressive array of visual effects including a slide show.

The cabaret features original musical by Andy and Donna Lee Parisien and well-choreographed stage performances by *Presto* dancers Wendy Lyn Cawthorne and Marci Figuer.

Even Whitchurch-Stouffville chief librarian George Schlukbier, who doubles as magic festival co-ordinator, got into the act. He plays an unforgiving copper in a musical Vaudeville sketch.

Mr. Schlukbier has made it clear that 1986 is the make-it-or-break-it year for the 5-year-old magic fest. If attendance figures don't show a marked increase, he said, this will likely be the event's final year in Stouffville.

Although *Presto* played to less-than-capacity audiences earlier in the week, Friday and Saturday shows were expected to draw big numbers.

Tonight's dinner show, the seventh of a total of eight performances, is sold out. However, tickets (\$12) are available at the door for the late nite grand finale beginning at 10:30 p.m.

Watch for the Markham Fair Supplement coming September 24th.

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