

Arts & Entertainment

How sweet it is

CAROL GARDNER
Correspondent

Chocolate. Is there a lovelier word in the English language? Not according to three local business people whose lives have become sweeter after going into the chocolate business.

When Charlotte and Linda Randazzo decided to open their own business, chocolate seemed like a natural choice. The mother and daughter team have relatives in the chocolate business in Belgium; their source for quality chocolate was eas-

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Quality is at the top of Brooke Jones' ingredient list as she concocts her heavenly chocolate almond brittle. The Stouffville woman sells her sweets at craft shows and fairs.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Flubber falls flat

This bad habit Hollywood has developed of remaking baby-boomer nostalgia pieces for a new generation has got to stop.

Turning old TV shows into campy movies is one, but the almost line-for-line remakes of films that weren't really that good to begin with is quite another entirely.

Take for example *Flubber*, a remake of the popular 1961 Disney film *The Absent-Minded Professor*. Robin Williams takes over the role of scatterbrained scientist Phillip Brainard made famous by Fred MacMurray

(not Jerry Lewis who was the unrelated Nutty Professor).

The plot, which is a verbatim re-write of the original, revolves around the discovery of a super goo compound that makes people and things bounce extremely high.

Brainard's discovery becomes the target of an evil entrepreneur who wants to market the goo and make money off it.

And as Brainard is trying to keep the goo to himself, he's also struggling to hold on to the woman he loves (Marcia Gar Harden) who

has fallen under the influence of Brainard's arch nemesis (Christopher McDonald).

Apart from doing nothing new with the original film, except the addition of a few nifty special effects, *Flubber* is a hideous mess of a film.

Williams is remarkably restrained in his role, letting loose just long enough to interact with the goo in a few amusing but hardly original Three Stooges-like slapstick moments. It's almost painful at times to watch Williams, a giant talent who has to start picking his roles more carefully, subject himself to this torture.

Director Les Mayfield, who also unleashed the horrendous re-make of *Miracle on 34th Street* on moviegoers, appears to have no idea what to do with the film. In two particularly tedious scenes, he subjects the audience to extended coverage of a basketball game and a pointless flight over Brainard's home town in a flubber-powered car.

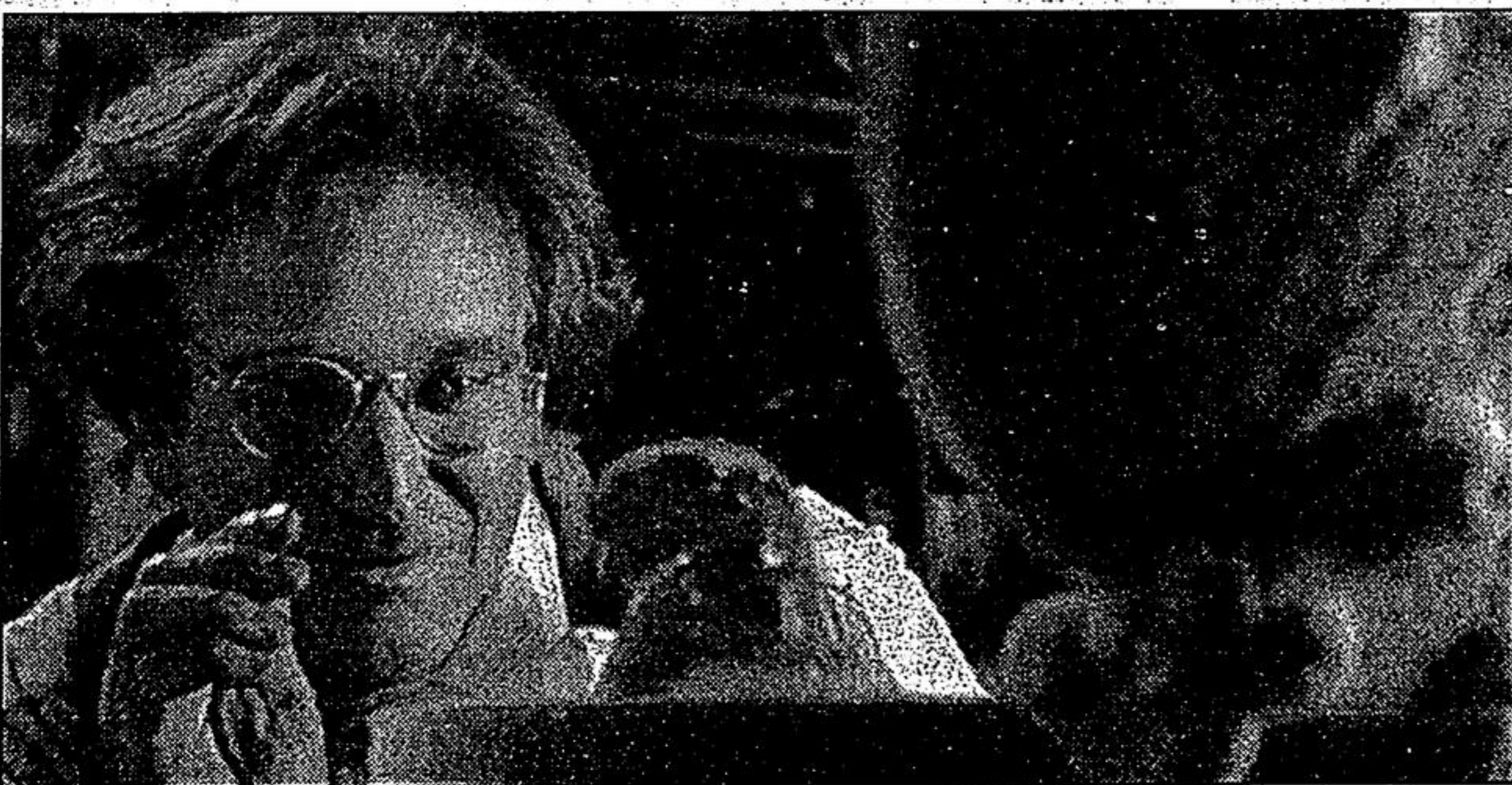
Flubber may keep children amused in spells, but there's nothing to keep them interested for all 90 minutes.

And it certainly offers nothing for grown-ups beyond the nagging feeling that you've wasted your time and money.



Screen Scene

Stuart Green



Robin Williams as absent-minded scientist Phillip Brainard, who discovers a super bouncy compound he calls flubber.

Bethlehem Live on this weekend

spotlight

FULLERTON'S

Tonight: All the hits with Fitzpatrick and Sebastien, Friday and Saturday. Grant Fullerton, Sunday: The return of Stumblin' Blind Great Rockers, 6 to 10 p.m.; Trivia with Martyn Allmand at a new time every Sunday - 3 to 5 p.m. 6211 Main St. Stouffville, 642-5360.

BETHLEHEM LIVE

A presentation of the Christmas story, Nov. 27 through 30, 6 to 9 p.m.: at Christian Blind Mission, Hwy. 47, Stouffville

THE TOWN CRIER RESTAURANT & PUB

Linda Kroon hosts the new Pub-Quiz. English breakfasts served Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8-12. Lunch and dinner served daily. 6298 Main St. Stouffville, 642-6937.

BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE

Markham Missionary Church presents original play *Because of His Love*, a Victorian Christmas musical drama, Dec. 7, 13 and 14. No tickets required, everyone welcome. 5438 Major Mackenzie, 294-5081.

FOSTER MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This Sunday at 2 p.m., featuring Intrada String Quartet, Nancy Hall and Brian Larter, and One Voice community Choir. Tickets \$10 advance at Blue Heron Books and Quaker Pharmacy, or \$12 at the door.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Tree lighting ceremony presented by Uxbridge Cottage Hospital Foundation on Wednesday, Dec. 3. Refreshments, games, silent fireworks. Entertainment by One Voice community choir. For details call foundation office at 852-9771, ext 309.

THE GEORGE

A new British pub now open in Uxbridge. Great food, open for breakfast Saturday and Sunday, lunch and dinner every day. 104 Brock St. W. Uxbridge, 852-9549.

GREENBANK PRESENTS SWAMPERELLA

An evening of "ragin' Cajun" with the Swamperella Band and Sourpuss, Saturday, Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. at Greenbank Hall. Tickets \$16, available at Blue Heron Books. Call 852-7578.

JAZZ AT ST. ANDREW'S

Vocalist Lorraine Foster plays St. Andrew's United Church, 32 Main St. Markham, This Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets \$15, seniors/students \$12. Call 294-0351.

To promote your event in Spotlight, fax the details to (905) 294-1538, mail to 9 Heritage Rd., Markham, L3P 1M3, or e-mail to econsun@istar.ca.

Chapters invites you to enjoy these exciting NOVEMBER EVENTS!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH!
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

THE MONK WHO SOLD HIS FERRARI

Inspirational speaker and author Robin S. Sharma is here to share a spiritual fable about fulfilling your dreams and reaching your destiny.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

SMALL BUSINESS SUCCESS

Join us as entrepreneur extraordinaire Tony Fattal takes the mystery out of being a very successful small business owner.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH
1:30 - 2:30 P.M.

SAVE YOURSELF FROM FINANCIAL DISASTER!

Learn the secrets to prevent financial predators from ravaging your wealth and your peace of mind with Chartered Accountant Sjd Karmazyn

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