

THE TRIBUNE

# Arts & Entertainment

## Doodle auction draws a star-studded crowd

KATE GILDERDALE  
Correspondent

Come to the Uxbridge Community Centre Saturday night, have a fabulous evening with friends and neighbours, and take home a unique doodle, created and signed by your favourite celebrity.

The stars will be out again at the fourth annual Celebrity Doodle Auction, which begins at 6 p.m. Your host and master of ceremonies will be Kenneth Welsh, one of Canada's best known actors and winner of a 1997 Gemini award. Contributors to this year's auction include John Travolta, Great Big Sea, Margaret Atwood, Walter Campbell, Christopher Hogwood, Don Cherry, Graham Greene, John Richmond and James Bessey.

As well, an awesome selection of goodies will be featured at the live auction, including a superb limited edition print by internationally acclaimed wildlife artist Robert Bateman. Beautifully framed and matted, this work is number five of just 20.

If hockey is your passion, you can pick up a unique piece of history by bidding on the photo of Bobby Orr signing a contract with Alan Eagleson. And if you've been to the event and want the T-shirt, you'll be even

more enchanted by the opportunity to walk away with the coveted, one-of-a-kind 1998 Doodle Vest, designed and created by Judy Findlay and Jane Buckles.

Among other beautiful treasures on the block are a stunning knit fur scarf by Paula Lishman, a pen and ink drawing by John Roberts, a coffee table from Gildercroft Antiques and a mirror from Ross Colby. Music lovers can take their pick of signed CDs by such luminaries as Sarah McLach-

lan, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Jack Grunsky, Andre Gagnon and Thomas Baker and fans of k.d. lang can bid on a sultry signed photo of this talented singer.

All this, and a delicious selection of finger foods, for a mere \$5 a ticket. A limited number of tickets will be on sale at the door and wine and beer will be available from a cash bar during the evening.

All proceeds will go to the York-Durham Heritage Railway Association.

## Aniston shines in *Object of My Affection*

One of the problems with movies starring Jennifer Aniston is that they all tend to become Jennifer Aniston movies.

Let me explain. Generally speaking, films with big name stars can become something other than a vehicle for that star if they offer enough in the way of plot, dialogue and supporting characters. Take *As Good As It Gets*, for example. It starred Jack Nicholson, but it wasn't "a Jack Nicholson movie."

He was simply part of a bigger picture.

The problem with Aniston's previous films, *She's the One* and *Picture Perfect*, is that they've been little more than excuses to capitalize on her television success. Her characters have been little more than recreations of Rachel from *Friends*.

That could all change, though, with *The Object of My Affection*, a funny and touching romantic comedy with a twist.

In the film Aniston plays Nina Borowski, a social worker with a heart of gold who has her share of man trouble.

Her latest beau is a nice but unexciting



Screen Scene

Stuart Green

lawyer named Vince (John Pankow from TV's *Mad About You*). The two appear to be in love, but not madly.

Enter George (Paul Rudd), an intelligent, good-looking, sweetheart of a guy who, unfortunately for Nina, also happens to be gay. When George moves into Nina's apartment following a particularly nasty breakup with his doctor boyfriend, the two become very close, so much so that when Nina becomes pregnant with Vince's baby, she dumps Vince and asks George to play the father figure.

George is willing and able until he meets a young actor named Paul and his priorities change.

Directed by British filmmaker Nicholas Hytner, *The Object of My Affection* is very similar in subject and tone to *My Best Friend's Wedding*, although that film was far superior.

Aniston is remarkably understated as Nina. While she still fills almost every frame of the film, it's not a chore to watch her. She actually shows some range in this roll beyond that of her TV persona.

While some of that may be just her personal growth as an actress, Hytner and screenwriter Wendy Wasserstein deserve some credit for creating characters and situations that give her room to maneuver.

They also deserve credit for their handling of the gay characters and situations. The film's greatest weakness is in its climax. Without giving away the ending or anything else that you may be wondering about, it's safe to say that things get wrapped up a little too conveniently to be believable. The film could have used a bit more cynicism and a little less sentiment.

But strong performances from Aniston and Rudd and a delightful turn by Alan Alda and Nina's step brother-in-law make it good for a few laughs.

### OPEN JAM

at Father's Steakhouse

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- Many guest appearances from well known and local bands

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Sealed tenders, for the following contract, placed in the envelopes provided, clearly marked as to contents, will be received by the Clerk's Department, Municipal Offices, 19 Civic Avenue, Stouffville, Ontario, L4A 7Z6, until:

**THURSDAY, MAY 7TH, 1998, 3:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME**

**CONTRACT WS-98-10 - GRADALL RENTAL**

The work is for the supply and operation of a gradall unit suitable to mechanically excavate ditches and/or road bases for the term of this contract, as outlined in the tender.

If information is required, please contact the Public Works Department, at (905) 640-1900 or (905) 895-2423.

The Corporation of the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and also reserves the right to accept other than the lowest bidder.

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