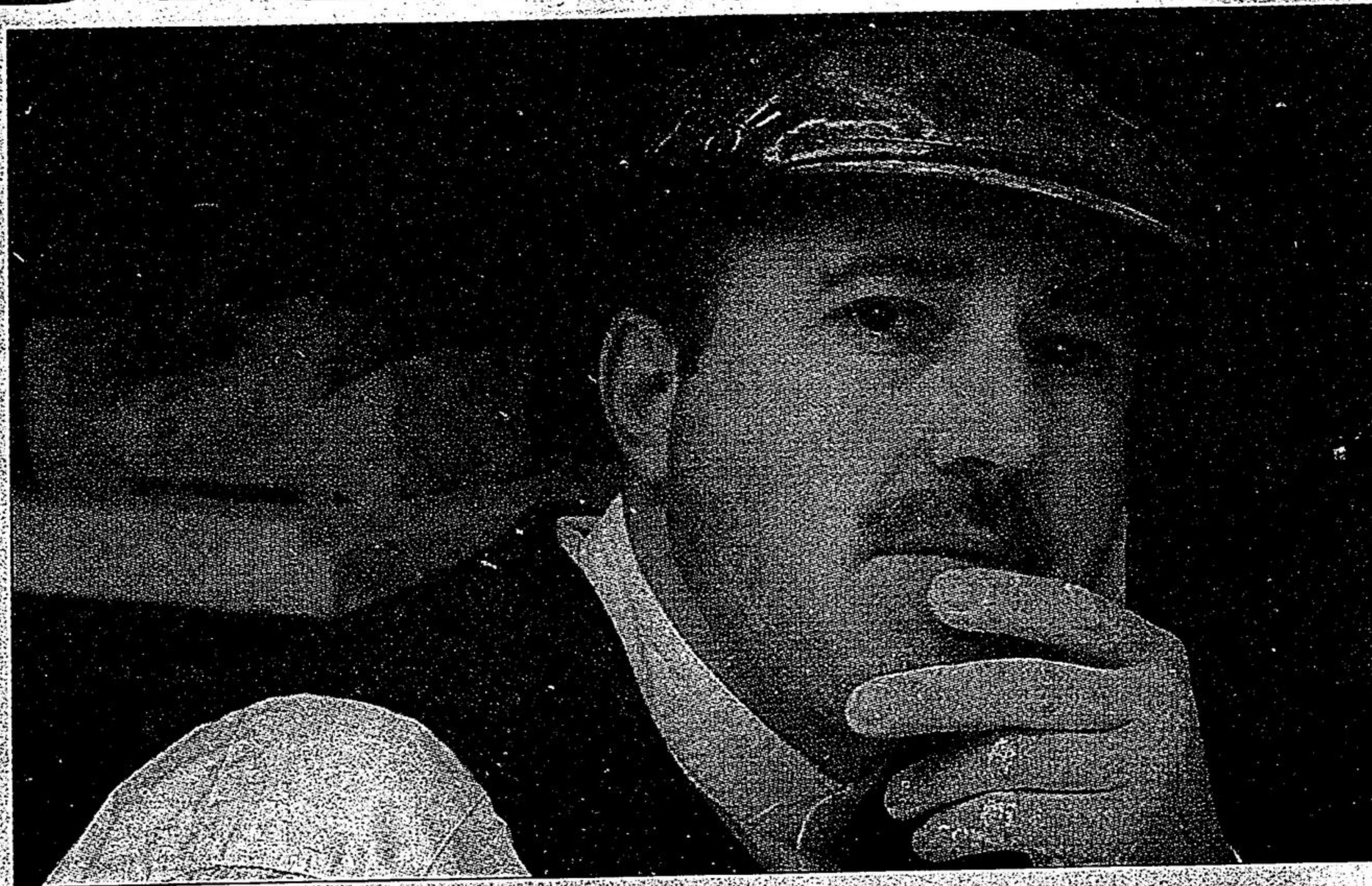


ETCETERA

STONE MAN



'I come from a family of history. If it dies, fine, but it won't live on with machinery, not with me. Sometimes it's better lost for the right reason if our generation doesn't take the time to appreciate it.'

BY DAWN LIERSCH
Staff Writer

When the day comes that Robert

Little closes his Stouffville-based stone-carving shop, he worries it may mark the final chapter of an ancient art.

Sometimes toiling into the wee hours of the morning using wooden mallets and hand-forged chisels, Little has faced an uphill battle in his attempt to carve out a niche in the slowly dying art of stone carving.

The Irish-born craftsman, who now makes his home in Cedar Valley, is one of only a handful of master stone carvers in North America.

Using tools from the late 1800s and early 1900s, he forges classically detailed porticos and pediments, Louis XIV-style mantelpieces and Grecian urns in the manner of artists of old.

"Modern tools take the charm out of the purpose," he

said, gently running his hand along the neck of a hand-forged Victorian reproduction called Lady Anne to show the movement of the chisel work.

"If you can achieve it by hand with great discipline, you don't need modern tools."

Little works from three-dimensional sketches and then makes moulds out of clay to isolate any flaws before chipping away by hand.

He stressed a knowledge of the human anatomy is key when working by hand and measuring by eye more often than with a template.

See STONE, page 17.

Photography by Steve Somerville



COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

In support of the Markham Stouffville Hospital and RMCC
SATURDAY MAY 13TH - 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

MCDONALD'S RESTAURANTS
HWY 7 & MCCOWAN, HWY 7 & WARDEN
HWY 48 & 16TH AVE, SANDIFORD DRIVE, STOUFFVILLE

BOOKS, CHILDREN'S TOYS, SPORTS EQUIPMENT, SMALL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

CUSTOMERS AND STAFF GARAGE SALE ITEM DONATIONS
GLADLY ACCEPTED AT THIS MCDONALD'S BETWEEN MAY 8-12

"CLEAR OUT YOUR CUPBOARDS"

"YOUR CHILD'S UNWANTED TOYS OR BOOKS CAN HELP
CANADIAN CHILDREN IN NEED"

"DONATE YOUR OLD SPORTS EQUIPMENT TO HELP THE HOSPITAL"
"YOUR UNUSED SMALL ITEMS, CAN BE ANOTHER PERSON'S TREASURE"

2 CAN DINE
McValue
EVERYDAY After 4PM
\$6.99
Plus Tax
2 Extra Value Meals
Choose from Big Mac, BigKro, Quarter Pounder, with Cheese, McOlder, Filet-O-Fish
2 Extra Value Meals include 2 large sandwiches, 2 medium fries and 2 medium soft drinks for \$6.99 plus tax.

McHappy Day May 16th, 2000

In Markham and Stouffville we are raising funds for The Markham Stouffville Hospital and Ronald McDonald Children's Charities.

YOU can help us raise funds for these great organizations!!

"Helping Hands" - minimum donation of \$1.00 display the hand, in your car, at home or at the office.

Lapel Pins - Minimum donation of \$2.00 - wear with pride to show your support

Get your company involved with advance \$1.00 off coupons for a Big Mac or Bagel, your staff will love you for it!

Ask us how you can be a VIP on McHappy Day.



McHAPPY DAY

MAY 16th, 2000

For further details call
Janet Peters at
905-477-2891 ext. 23