

New home for Canadian Music Centre

The Canadian Music Centre opened its new national headquarters recently in a renovated Victorian mansion in downtown Toronto.

Named Chalmers House in honour of Canadian arts patrons Floyd and Jean Chalmers, the new facility will double the space available for the Centre's activities and will provide a secure space for the more than 7 000 scores housed in its library.

Chalmers House will also be the new location for the offices of the Canadian League of Composers, New Music Concerts, the Ontario Choral Federation and the Canadian Music Educators Association.

A non-profit organization, the Canadian Music Centre exists to promote, disseminate and make readily available the music of Canadian composers, both to musicians and to the general public, at home and abroad. It offers a wide range of programs and services, including a unique lending library of 7 000 scores of Canadian works, a music photoprinting service, audio resources, performance materials, research materials, educational programs, *Concert Canada* radio programs, and a general information centre for concert music by Canadians.

First native TV series launched

Native Express, the first native television series to be delivered by satellite to Canada's remote North, is set to broadcast this month.

The half-hour public affairs programs "for, by and about native people" are a kaleidoscope of information and entertainment. Each program is divided into four or five segments that include documentaries on native artists, events in native communities, lifestyle and education, as well as interviews with chiefs and native politicians about aboriginal rights and other issues affecting native people.

Native Express got on track with a \$37 000 grant from the Canada Ontario employment Development program.

The Canadian Satellite Communications Inc., provides satellite television service to remote and underserved regions of the country and will send the programs five times a week to Northern Canada starting this month.

Native Express will also be shown three times a week — Friday, Saturday and Sunday — on Toronto's multilingual television network, MTV.

Runner stars in TV film

During the peak of his career in the early 1900s, police had to ask Tom Longboat to quit his training runs along Toronto's waterfront since too many fans were gathering to see the legendary marathon runner and were causing traffic jams.

So says the director of *Wildfire: The Legend of Tom Longboat*, a one-hour film about the champion Canadian runner, who stunned the racing world in 1907 at the age of 19, when he won the famed Boston Marathon a full five minutes ahead of his nearest rival. (The Boston course has since been shortened, but Longboat's record still stands on the old course.)



Terry Harford, who plays Tom Longboat in *Wildfire: The Legend of Tom Longboat* displays original trophy awarded to Longboat for winning the Toronto race in 1906.

It was the first of several records Longboat, an Onondaga Indian from the Six Nations Reserve near Brantford, Ontario, was to break.

"He was the Wayne Gretzky of his day," says David Tucker, who also wrote the drama seen recently on CBC television.

Modern sports fans, accustomed to the action of hockey or baseball, probably cannot appreciate how his marathon running was in its heyday, says Tucker. In Longboat's prime, from about 1907 to 1913, standing-room crowds would regularly gather to cheer on their favourites at New York's Madison Square Garden.

Toronto actor Terry Harford has the lead role and Allan Royal stars as Tom Flanagan, Longboat's manager. Canadian poet, Irving Layton, also makes his acting debut in the film as fast-talking promoter Harry Rosenthal, who discovered the Indian athlete.

David Tucker first became interested in Longboat in 1981, when his young son brought home a book about the runner written by Bruce Kidd, who is also a champion runner. At the time there was little interest in the film, says Tucker. But he believes the success of the movie *Chariots of Fire* and interest in the upcoming Olympics helped change the tide.

Arts briefs

The government of Nova Scotia and the federal government have announced a joint donation of \$4 million toward the construction of a new art museum on the Halifax waterfront. Total cost of the structure is expected to be \$8.2 million. The new 5 400 square metre home of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, which was founded in 1908, will reflect the historic architecture of Halifax. It will house the gallery's collections of Nova Scotia artists, regional folk art and Canadian art.

An asteroid discovered in 1980 has been named in honour of Helen Hogg, professor emerita of astronomy at the University of Toronto. The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Massachusetts, honoured Dr. Hogg on behalf of the International Astronomical Union. Other newly discovered asteroids were named for Leo Tolstoy, Salvador Dali, Marc Chagall and the Greenwich observatory.

Summer of the Loucheux, Portrait of a Northern Indian Family, was named a blue-ribbon winner in the anthropology division of the American Film Festival, held recently in New York. The film was a first-time effort by the husband-wife team of Graydon Macrae and Linda Rasmussen of Edmonton, who produced and directed. The film also won two prizes at the 1983 Alberta Motion Picture Industry Association Awards.

The Canadian inventor of the Peter Principle, which states that in a hierarchy individuals tend to rise to their level of incompetence, was recently awarded the humourists' equivalent of the Nobel Prize in Paris. Laurence Peter's 1969 book has been translated into 39 languages and sold nearly six million copies. It was given the award by the Association for the Promotion of Humour in International Affairs.