



Homegrown talent produces TV movie

by MELYNDA JARRATT
Brunswickan Staff

It may not be Hollywood, but at the New Brunswick Film Co-Operative in downtown Fredericton, some truly adventurous and talented people are spending a lot of their spare time making movies.

For instance, Kevin Holden, Montreal born but raised in Fredericton, he is the director of *The Spectre of Rexton*, a made for television movie which spins a tale of ghostly revenge upon two rival gangs of rum-runners during the Prohibition Era in New Brunswick. Based on a legend made famous by one of Canada's better known authors, Stuart Truman, *The Spectre of Rexton* was originally intended as a project with which the Film Co-Op could "...really sink its teeth into..."

Kevin and his more hard core colleagues at the Co-Op, including Tony Merzetti and Co-Ordinator Dave Clarke, went through literally hundreds of ghost stories and tall tales from the Atlantic region before they decided that *Spectre* was "...the one that would work the best."

With the support of the Canada Council of the Arts and partial funding from both the National Film Board of Canada and the Province of New Brunswick, *Spectre* became more than just an idea on paper when shooting began last July. Filmed almost entirely in the Fredericton area it has proved how an almost fledgling industry can be a success with a group of wildly enthusiastic volunteers.

Because nearly eighty percent of the scenes required darkness for a truly eerie effect, the cast and crew were working from dusk until daylight, some forsaking the natural inclination to sleep so that the film could go on. On location at Kings Landing or on a lonely country road in Durham Bridge, Kevin found that one of the biggest problems was not a lack of interest or apathy but keeping the crowds away so they could go on to the next shot.

Using a cast and crew made up entirely of volunteers, Kevin says "...I couldn't have asked for anything better. Considering all the stress we were under and all the odd hours, I'd say we accomplished the impossible." Further, he adds, "...at any given point there would be from fifteen to twenty-five people on the set...ranging from experienced

film-makers to totally inexperienced housewives..."

However, if you saw the preliminary shots like I had the opportunity to one day last week, you would never know that the *Spectre of Rexton* was the end result of a lot of hard work on the part of amateurs. That probably has a lot to do with the fact that all of the volunteers at the Film Co-Operative take their work very seriously.

Kevin maintains a steady interest in film at all times; when he is at work at Channel 10 or when he is at the Co-Op digging around in the back-room for some elusive piece of equipment or a shot that looks "...just right". Besides working on the completion of *Spectre*, Kevin has also been active in other areas of film and television.

One of his more visible works was a series of vignettes commemorating the New Brunswick Bi-centennial last year. You may have seen it and didn't even know it was produced here in Fredericton. As well, he sold another commercial to NBC this past year which was focused on the sensitive topic of child abuse. It would appear in all respects that Kevin Holden is on the



Emma (the Ghost)
Bob Mcleod
Rick Sequin

The Hogan Gang
Ruk Spacek, Paul Hanna & Bob Mcleod

verge of a successful filmmaking career.

The Spectre of Rexton is still in post-production, filmmakers jargon which means that it will be a little while yet before you and I will see it on television. However, all good

things take time, and if you ever visit the Film Co-Operative you will see that its members are still very enthusiastic about wrapping it up.

If you or anyone you know has an interest in seeing how

the film industry in New Brunswick is operating, take a short hop down to 51 York Street or phone 455-1632. The

door is usually open and the people there would be genuinely interested in meeting you.

James Dean: the Rebel lives on

Once again I am envious of the entertainment available in the larger U.S. centres that is simply not available here.

Warner Bros. Classics will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the death of legendary actor James Dean with a

film tribute of "Rebel Without A Cause" and "East of Eden," beginning September 22 in New York at the Bleeker Street Cinema and continuing through October 3 in 12 other cities across the nation.

The star of three films in his brief career, Dean's meteoric

rise to stardom abruptly and tragically ended with a fatal auto accident on September 30, 1955.

Best remembered for his riveting performances in "Rebel Without A Cause," "East of Eden" and "Giant",

the latter two earning him Academy Award nominations. Dean, who was born in 1931 and rose from an Indiana farm-boy to a film superstar and ultimately became Hollywood's personification of restless youth in the 1950's - the American rebel.

Among the cities participating in the Dean commemorative retrospective are Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Dallas, Boston, Philadelphia, Denver, Portland, Seattle, Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Charlotte, in addition to New York.

Wall's Revamp means business

by KAYE MacPhee

On Thursday, September 26th, at 5:30 p.m., a new member of the Fredericton business community made its debut.

This new venture is a second-hand clothing store and Susan Wall the proprietor (a former UNB-F student) has named it *Revamp*. The store is located at 266 York Street near Charlotte St.

Initially, the store's hours will be 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Ms. Wall informed the Brunswickan that she will accept clean clothes on consignment. Those bringing in the clothing will receive 60% of the store's selling price; if interested you may contact Ms. Wall during the aforementioned business hours or call her at 455-1170.

In addition to second-hand clothes, locally made clothing and jewellery will be available, as well as new costume jewellery and accessories.

Ms. Wall would like to stress that if a customer has a specific article that is not in the store or has a suggestion concerning stock, she will do her utmost to comply.

Ms. Wall is looking forward to dealing with students from both the UNB-F and STU campuses.

Though many of our Brunswickan readers may not be aware of who James Dean was, the three movies he made in the early 50's are timeless and would be enjoyed by viewers of any age.

Hopefully the UNB Film Society or another UNB group will be able to provide the students with this series of films in the near future.