

SCTV going down the tube

by Mark Roppel

Anyone who watched the season premiere of SCTV on Saturday night and thought that it stank on ice, take heart, you are not alone.

The reason for the decline and fall of TV's funniest show is the loss of nearly half the original cast: Catherine O'Hara, Dave Thomas and Rick Moranis have all left.

Not only were Thomas and Moranis responsible for the nefarious McKenzie brother and a host of brilliant impersonations including Walter Cronkite, David Brinkley, Woody Allen and Bob Hope, they were the head writers as well (even back in the days at Global TV Dave Thomas was chief scribe).

Eugene O'Flaherty's Guy Caballero and Andrea Martin's Edith Prickly were as good as ever but were not enough to carry the show.

(Where were Count Floyd and Libby Wolfson?)

A parody of Canada in general and the CBC in particular ranged from nasty to boring, the highlight being when Mary Lou Findlay turned to Barbara Fromp ("you don't pronounce the 'p'") and self-consciously inquired, "is that right Barbara?"

I am afraid that SCTV has gone the way of Saturday Night Live, and the CBC may as well "Take it off, eh."

This article was written last week. In the meantime, the second SCTV show of the season has aired and I may have to eat some of my words: the elaborate Guy Caballero cheque forging scandal was almost funny. Nevertheless I maintain that without Dave Thomas and Rick Moranis, SCTV has about as much punch as Mohammed Ali on his fifth comeback attempt.

A scary, creepy trivia quiz

This scary quiz was put out by Warner Brothers as part of the promotion for their new film Creepshow, now showing at the Capitol Square. It's tough - the Arts Editor only got 3 out of 25. For answers, come to the Gateway office, room 282 SUB.

1. What 'moon' related songs are sung in An American Werewolf in London?
2. George A. Romero's fourth feature film was released in the theatres under the title The Crazies. It was shown on television under a different title. Name it.
3. Who created the make-up effects for The Howling?
4. Who designed Boris Karloff's make-up in the 1931 Frankenstein?
5. Jack Clayton filmed it as The Innocents, but by what literary title is it better known?
6. Jack Clayton question #2. Clayton is currently making a horror film of sorts for Disney Studios. What is it and who wrote the film's source material?
7. You know her as Money Penny in the James Bond films and in the Toronto Sun, but what role did Lois Maxwell play in Robert Wise's The Haunting?
8. This Canadian director made a racing car movie called Fast Company, starring William Smith, but he is better known for a quartet of horror films. Name him and the four films.
9. Who was the victim of the murder plot in Henri-Georges Clouzot's Les Diaboliques? Name the performer.
10. What was George A. Romero's next feature film after Night of the Living Dead, and what was different about it genre-wise?

11. He directed the horror film Phase IV, but he is better known for the opening titles he did for three celebrated Hitchcock films. Name him and the three films.

12. Name the actors who played the protagonist in both versions of Invasion of the Body Snatchers.

13. Who played the sisters in Brian de Palma's Sisters?

14. What Stephen King book most recently won a Hugo Award?

15. Who directed The Bird with The Crystal Plumage and what connection does he have with Romero's Dawn of the Dead?

16. The director of The Texas Chainsaw Massacre released a horror film this summer that was a big success. Name him and the film.

17. Who produced the 1951 version of The Thing? It is now believed that he directed the lion's share of the film, yet he does not receive credit. Who does?

18. Ben was the name of the sequel to Willard, but who sang the title song?

19. Bob Clark, the man who gave us Porky's, made a horror film starring Keir Dullea. Name it.

20. What film had worms as its 'creature'?

21. What does "redrum" mean and what is it from?

22. Who blew up at the end of Brian de Palma's The Fury?

23. Speaking of dying, how does David Warner meet his maker in The Omen? Be specific.

24. Future World was Westworld's sequel, but only one actor appeared in both films. Whom—

25. "I don't know what's in there, but whatever it is it's weird and it's pissed off." Who said this about whom and in what film?



Famous Canadian quintet show off their Brasses.

Brass gives polished performance

review by Wesley Oginski

The Canadian Brass did not let Saturday's fresh snowfall deter them after just returning from their Australian tour.

From the lilting strands of the theme for *Masterpiece Theatre* (actually *Rondoy* by Mouret) to the jazzy sound of Thomas "Fats" Waller, the Brass played it all to the delight of the audience filling the Jubilee Auditorium last Saturday (November 6).

Charles Daellenbach (tuba), Graeme Page (French horn), Eugene Watts (trombone), Ronald Romm and Fred Mills (trumpets) compose the polished quintet who have played across Canada, the U.S., Europe, and China. Their combination of musical artistry and animated fun made the music delightful.

Typical of their performance was the Canadian Brass' display of the fine art of opera.

First they gave a rendition of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, featuring a solo performance of the tuba (Daellenbach) as Figaro.

Then a presentation of Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* was given with all the tragic elements removed, since the Brass felt tragedy had no

place in opera. Yet the beautiful *Un Bel Di Vefremo*, the moment Madame Butterfly yearns for her husband, was presented separately unabridged.

So as the instruments portrayed the characters essential to the opera, the audience wound its way through the story. Suddenly the trumpets led into "When I'm Calling You" from *Rose Marie* to provide a happy ending.

The story's moral, according to French hornist Page, "East is east and west is west, but the true north saves the day."

For the purist the Brass presented Mostly Fats, a tribute to "Fats" Waller and Bach's *Air on a G String* (played in D).

With the Waller selections, a version of "When the Saints Come Marching In" was intermixed with Handel's *Hallelujah* chorus. If you think this confused the audience, think how the Queen felt when she heard it on the Brass' Australian tour.

How else could this concert end but with a standing ovation after their encore. A well deserved ovation.

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