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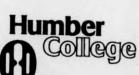
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# Thumbless poet wins award

By DAN "LEGS" SPITZ

Winners of the second annual Toronto Injured Poets Contest were announced yesterday and a thirdyear student beat 100 other writers to win in the "Missing Appendage"

To qualify as an entrant, creative writing major Frank Bixby amputated his left thumb before submitting his entry to the contest last December.

"It was worth it," Bixby said this morning after picking up his \$500 prize. "My writing was really going nowhere, so this should put it back on track."

Bixby's poem, "Civic Meditation," deals with the injured poet's sense of isolation in the city. Bixby said he wrote the poem in couplets because he felt the form best expressed "the dualistic nature of man's struggle for self-knowledge."

Jack R. Cumber and Margaret Frailey-Smith, both of Don Mills, won the "Break Par" and "Non-Ambulatory" categories respectively.

Ward 3 alderman Joe Santino, one of the judges, said that the annual contest began in 1987 in order to allow Toronto's injured writers "the opportunity to express themselves in a multi-faceted, urban context."

Other judges included mayor Tom Sewer, Ward 7 alderman Ruth Tuckey, and York's director of libraries, Elinor Hoffmann.

## Totem Pole Headway



Between now and next year's competition, York's Bixby has his sights on the upcoming North York Persecuted Writers Award. Bixby entered the contest last year but his entry was disqualified because he couldn't prove to the judges that he was being persecuted for his religious beliefs.

"I guess it was sort of cliche,"

"This year I might be a communist, then move to the States. But it'll be tough to get the government to write a letter to the judges saying, 'Yeah, we're persecuting so-and-so."

Weather permitting, Bixby's "Civic Meditation" will be printed in next week's Excalibur.



FRANK BIXBY'S THUMB BEFORE THE OPERATION . . .



Compiled By RUDY SARZO

LIFE

There will be a display of Little Green and Purple Things in the Gallery of the Mind, Fine Arts Building, from April 8-12.

The Jewish Students Federation is pleased to present a lecture by Superman entitled Judaism and the Double Identity, 8 pm, April 12 in the Kryptonian Theatre.

LIBERTY

The Young Socialists are pleased to present a guest lecture by Fidel Castro, entitled Freedom and the Individual. The lecture takes place in Karl Marx Memorial Hall, sometime this summer.

The New Age Society is pleased to present Shirley MacLaine in concert. MacLaine will sing many classics from the various centuries in which she lived. The concert will take place April 16, 1989, 1845, 1734, 1623 and 1548 in the Great Pyramid of Cheops, Egypt.

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

(and the answer is "NO!" They're not playing here.)

Bruce Springsteen will be Dancing in the Dark at the Grad Lounge all

J.R. Ewing will be giving a lecture on Capitalism and Fair Play in room 132 Administrative Studies Building at 8 pm, April 17.

Amnesty International is pleased to present Apollonia 6: The Reunion Tour, featuring a guest appearance by Prince. The concert takes place April 19, in the West Bear Pit. FREE.

Excalibur is proud as a peacock to present The Bay City Rollers, A Reunion Concert, in the East Bear Pit at 3 pm, April 19. Bring your kilts and great a free bagpipe!!!!!!

Seven Fine Arts students will be Spraying White Goop on a Wall in front of a live audience all next week in Central Square. FREE.

Four writing students will be Reading Random Words Out of A Hat, every Tuesday all summer in the West Bear Pit. FREE.