

Science phobia

continued from page 8

"you can't get a date if you know too much." Two successful recent movies feature main characters who are actually both scientists and women: *Roxanne* and *Top Gun*. Both are the exception rather than the rule. By and large, our popular culture, especially movies, continues to portray scientists as losers or lunatics, and science as a bizarre hobby or as the force of evil itself.

"Most scientists I've met are quite sane," affirmed Dr. Betts. The idea that a person with an analytical mind is cold and heartless is another regrettable misconception. "Scientists are mostly caring people," Dr. Betts pointed out. "They're more sensitive to society's concerns than the average person."

Dr. Fournier, however, suggests that stereotyping in itself is not the problem, but rather whether people believe the stereotypes. If the public has little or no access to scientists and their work, he says, stereotypes may be readily accepted.

Real-life role models are also few and far between. While hockey players, for example, are interviewed every Saturday night on prime-time TV, you'll rarely see a scientist given as much attention. Even Nobel Prize winners are given only five or ten minutes. Those scientists who do get regular exposure (David Suzuki and Carl Sagan come to mind) have had to take it upon themselves to become "media stars"

If we wish to close the gap between scientists and the rest of society, we must act now. Otherwise, the gulf will widen to the point where changes will be impossible. Our educational system must accommodate science and technology at every level. Young people must be given an adequate background in the sciences if they are going to tackle problems of energy production, space research, and environmental issues in the next century. In addition to educating ourselves, we must also try to change some deeply rooted stereotypes. We, in turn, must listen to what they have to say, and make an effort to understand.



Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey is represented in Canada by FBM Distillery Ltd., Brampton, Ontario

THERE'S SOMETHING SPECIAL about the Tennessee hills as a place for making Jack Daniel's.

You see, we make an old-fashioned whiskey that can't be hurried in any manner.

And out here, where the pace of city living is all but forgotten, a man can slow down and do things right. We could probably make a bit more Jack Daniel's if we made it in a factory. (Make it faster, probably, too.) But after a sip we think you'll agree: there's something special about whiskey that comes from the hills.



JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

If you'd like a booklet about Jack Daniel's Whiskey, write us here in Lynchburg, Tennessee, 37352 U.S.A.

Life of a Busker

by Bob Keeler

Last Friday night I put on three pairs of socks, two pairs of long underwear, an undershirt, a t-shirt, and another shirt on top of that, two sweaters, a pair of warm pants, two scarves, a warm coat, a toque and a pair of gloves with the fingers cut off. Then I grabbed my guitar and walked downtown to work. Well, it's not work, really. It's too fun to be work, but I do make money. Can you guess what I do? I busk.

You may have seen me. For the last month or so, every weekend, I have been playing on the library steps. I usually play with my friend Benn. You may ask (and some of you have asked) why we would be out in the middle of January playing guitar. It is not because we are crazy. Well, not really . . . OK, that might have something to do with it. But it is also because we have to pay rent. We need the money. That is the main reason. And, as I said earlier, it is fun. We would much rather sing to an audience than to a wall in my bedroom. It is also nice to get a compliment now and then on your singing and playing. And if you write your own songs (as Benn and I do), it is very nice to know that people like them.

Because it is January, there are not too many buskers out playing. This is good for those of us

who do busk. It makes it easier to find a spot, and the crowds do not get tired of seeing an open guitar or banjo case on every corner. But wait till spring. When the weather warms up, everyone who knows "American Pie" will be walking up and down Argyle Street looking for an empty doorway or corner. And of course there is the Buskers Festival in August. That's when street performers from around the world come to compete for big cash prizes. Finding a spot to play then is almost impossible.

I was lucky to find a few spots to play in during the last festival. That was when I started to busk regularly in an attempt to supplement my summer job income. I did not do too well. The first time I busked I made only \$13 and I knew about five songs. I think that had something to do with making so little. Now I know considerably more songs and I make considerably more money.

But money is not all a busker receives from his or her audience. A part of the fun for me is getting weird things thrown in my case. Items I have received include a plate of chocolate brownies, a marble, countless sticks of gum, a Mirage bar, 12 free passes to see *Prophecy* at the *Misty Moon*, a \$10,000 bank note from hell, a ferry token, and a full-size Christmas tree. Last weekend someone brought me a small pizza.



I have to go now. This article was already late when I started it. But before I go I'd like to thank you for reading this far. Maybe you will see Benn and me playing this weekend. Bye.

(P.S. We don't know "American Pie" so please don't request it. Thanks.)

The General Motors Lobster Pot Hockey Tournament



"The Pursuit of Excellence"



Ticket Prices
January 31 - Student Admission Free
February 7 - Blue Zone Night Ticket Package \$7.00

- ▶ Wednesday, January 31, 1990, 5 pm
Saint Francis Xavier X-Men vs
Dalhousie Tigers
- ▶ Wednesday, January 31, 1990, 8 pm
Acadia Axemen vs
Saint Mary's Huskies
- ▶ Wednesday, February 7, 1990, 5 pm
Consolation Final
- ▶ Wednesday, February 7, 1990, 8 pm
Championship Final
- ▶ Halifax Metro Centre
- ▶ Tickets available at Metro Centre
Box Office and all ATS outlets.

(For out of town ticket buyers call 1-451-1221)

EXPORT 'A' INC.
University
Challenge
Cup

Canadian Air Atlantic
SHOPPERS
DRUG MART

Labatt's
Blue