

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1986

## A trio of couples



Tennis star John McEnroe and actress Tatum O'Neal: New parents of a baby boy.



Taylor and Wagner (left): TV movie team; Stewart and Emberg: Soccer fans.



### Gazette News Services

LOS ANGELES — Things always happen in threes, as the saying goes, and yesterday, to take things one step further, they were happening with three couples.

In Santa Monica, Calif., actress Tatum O'Neal and tennis star John McEnroe were busy with their new son, reportedly named Kevin John McEnroe.

A hospital official announced yesterday that the eight-pound, 11-ounce boy was born Friday, and mother and baby went home Monday.

O'Neal and McEnroe at first denied rumors that the 22-year-old actress was pregnant. But in an interview in December, McEnroe

acknowledged the pregnancy and said the couple planned to marry.

McEnroe, 27, has long dominated tennis and is still ranked third in the world despite being absent from competition since the Masters tournament in New York in mid-January. Ivan Lendl is first and Mats Wilander second.

McEnroe said he decided to take time off because he was mentally and physically exhausted and wanted to spend time with O'Neal.

O'Neal is the daughter of actor Ryan O'Neal and made her name as a child actress opposite him in the 1973 movie *Paper Moon*. She won an best supporting actress Oscar for her role as a tough-talking, cigarette-smoking con artist.

She returned to the screen three years later in *The Bad News Bears*, and also had parts in *Nickelodeon*, *International Velvet* and *Little Darlings*.

In Hollywood, it was announced that Elizabeth Taylor and Robert Wagner are teaming up for the first time to star in a TV movie *There Must Be a Pony*, based on the novel by James Kirkwood.

And in London, rock superstar Rod Stewart and his girlfriend, model Kelly Emberg, left Heathrow Airport for Mexico to follow the Scotland soccer team in its World Cup campaign.

Stewart has long been a soccer fan, and as a youngster had hoped to become a professional player.

AP, Reuter

## Canadians must play by U.S. rules, Banff TV delegates told

BANFF, Alta. (CP) — The United States is the "most chauvinistic broadcasting country in the world" and Canadian producers must learn to live with that if they want to sell their programs south of the border.

That was the message delivered yesterday to delegates at the seventh annual Banff Television Festival by a panel of U.S. programmers.

"Part of the problem is that Canadians come to us with programs that don't have a universal look or an appeal to audiences in the U.S.," said David Simon, vice-president of programming for the new Fox Television Stations Inc., competing to be the fourth commercial network in the U.S.

Simon said Fox is open to ap-

proaches from Canadian producers, but added they should strive for elements that would give a show a U.S. appeal.

Gerry Golod, a former vice-president of programming for both CBS and NBC, put things harsher: "You've got a problem with your pool of talent in Canada," he said. "Once you get outside of Toronto that problem becomes more apparent. History has proven that once guys like (director Norman) Jewison make it up here, they pack their bags and get out."

"You cannot sit in Montreal and Toronto and go down to Los Angeles once a year," he told delegates. "You have to be visible on a daily or weekly basis. When I was at CBS the more

I saw of an individual... the more responsive I was to the ideas they were pitching at me."

More than 400 delegates are attending the week-long Banff festival. Winners in 10 categories will be announced at a banquet Friday night, when a special lifetime achievement award will also be presented to Canadian actor Lorne Greene.

The festival opened Sunday night with a gala honoring the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. hosted by federal Communications Minister Marcel Masse.

The Canada Post Corp. unveiled a new commemorative stamp that features five CBC logos suspended in the airwaves over a stylized map of Canada.

## Symphony series finale grand

By ERIC McLEAN  
Gazette Music Critic

The final program in the 1985-86 series of *Grands Concerts* by the Montreal Symphony was also a dress rehearsal. Charles Dutoit and the musicians will again be visiting the church in St. Eustache in the near future to make yet another recording for London/Decca, and it will feature the principal item in last night's concert: *The Planets*, by the English composer Gustav Holst.

You may be sure that the record will be a hit if they play it as well as they did in the Salle Wilfrid Pelletier.

Not the most original of England's late romantic composers, Holst was an orchestrator of consummate skill, a skill hardly matched by any of his contemporaries. And it is this fine appreciation for instrumental color that sustains his music — particularly this work — even today.

Of course it helps if the conductor happens to be Charles Dutoit, who has developed an uncanny ability to balance an orchestra and adjust it to

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*Montreal Symphony Orchestra*, under the direction of Charles Dutoit, in the last of the series of *Grands Concerts*, in the Salle Wilfrid Pelletier, Tuesday. Taking part were the women's chorus of the Montreal Symphony, prepared by Jean Edwards.

Three Preludes Debussy/Freedman  
Excerpts from the incidental music for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1826/1842)  
Mendelssohn  
Gustav Holst.  
*The Planets* (1914/18)

the acoustical conditions in which it is playing.

The bombast of Mars, the sensuousness of Venus, the light swiftness of Mercury, the robust humor and Elgarian dignity of Jupiter — each of the seven movements was given its special character, ending with Neptune, where the offstage voices of a female choir add the final mystical icing to the music.

There must still be some Montrealeers around who remember the Canadian premiere of Holst's *Planets*, which was given by the Montreal Orchestra in the early 1930s under the direction of Douglas Clarke, dean of music at McGill Uni-

versity, who had been a composition student of Holst.

Last night's program began with three of the 10 Debussy *Preludes* which the Toronto composer Harry Freedman transcribed for orchestra from the piano originals. They were *The Girl with the Flaxen Hair*, *The Sunken Cathedral*, and *The Hills of Anacapri*.

Freedman's achievement was to respect the character of each of Debussy's creations, while making them seem perfectly at home in an orchestral setting.

From a strictly musical point of view, however, the most important item in last night's concert was Mendelssohn's incidental music for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The overture is a miraculous piece of work for a 17-year-old; and the other sections, which were created when he was 37, are all touched with the same genius.

The MSO's first horn-player, John Zirbel, deserved bravos for his beautiful performance of the big solo in the *Nocturne*, one of the most moving passages in Mendelssohn's score.

## Theatre Shmeatre caught unprepared

By MARIANNE ACKERMAN  
Gazette Theatre Critic

Despite claims made on the poster and in press releases, Theatre Shmeatre's latest effort, *The Word Jew*, is only vaguely interested in tackling "the Jewish community's prejudices and the ever-popular prejudices of Canadian society." Thus 50 patrons who turned up at the Rising Sun last night were misled.

Skits aimed at the funnybone are fairly routine stuff, such as how a Jewish girl feels at the office Christmas party (uncomfortable). For the most part, there is no firm point of view, and little sign of preparation.

Wittiest (though not very) is a piece about a family business, "the Jewish conspiracy." In a flaming orange apron, Esther (Marlene Blanshuy) dictates policy to the Interna-

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*The Word Jew* conceived and performed by Theatre Shmeatre with Albert Nerenberg, Marlene Blanshuy, Rebecca Posner, Tamara Feder, Shawn Goldwater, Gorden Golden and Glenda Hirsch. At The Rising Sun, tonight at 8:30.

tional Monetary Fund from her kitchen, hubby (Shawn Goldwater) attends to Yasson Arafat who lives in the attic, and son Schlomo (Albert Nerenberg) is kept from the basement by 6 million Jews.

The strongest motivation behind *The Word Jew* is Nerenberg's desire to speak about research he is doing on a right-wing terrorist group called the Iron Guards. A murder at Montreal's Romanian consulate, an armed robbery here and the death of a Romanian-language newspaper editor in Toronto last year have all

been linked to the group, which persecuted thousands of Jews and Christians in the 1940s.

"Since working on the story, I've had people following me and looking through my mail," says Nerenberg. "The Iron Guards are active in Montreal, though it looks like a war between factions. I just thought theatre would be the best way to get information out."

As political theatre, *The Word Jew* is based on interesting material, but the comic format is a poor choice for presenting an audience with complex, new information. Though an extended run is planned, Theatre Shmeatre would be wise to rework their ideas before hitting the public again. Amid such a mixture of intentions and performance styles, this hastily pursued satirical/docudrama hybrid does not work.

## La Ronde mystery solved: Piché and Rivard perform

Paul Piché and Michel Rivard will perform Thursday, July 3, at the open-air theatre at La Ronde, *The Gazette* has learned.

The information ends a month of speculation about the identity of a mystery artist scheduled for the amusement park's *White Hot Nights* series.

Piché and Rivard join such stars as the Beach Boys, Mr. Mister, Starship, Gowan, Martine St. Clair and the Everly Brothers, who perform in the series between June 26 and July 28.

Tickets for all concerts are \$15 and are on sale at Ticketron outlets.

## CF pitches in for looted merchants

CFCF is doing its bit to help merchants victimized by last weekend's Stanley Cup riot.

The radio station is broadcasting its programs live on location from Splash, the heavily vandalized clothing boutique at the northeast corner of Ste. Catherine and Bishop. On-air personalities will make pitches on behalf of a fund that is being set up to bail out the merchants' losses.

The CF Splash specials, which began yesterday afternoon, will run from 10 this morning until tonight's Expos baseball broadcast at 6:50 and tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

## Coppola's son killed in accident

EDGEWATER, Md. (AP) — The son of director Francis Ford Coppola

## EYE ON ENTERTAINMENT

was killed and the son of actor Ryan O'Neal was slightly injured in a U.S. Memorial Day boating accident, officials said yesterday.

Lisa Hillman, an official at Anne Arundel General Hospital, identified the victim of Monday's accident as Gian Carlo Coppola, 23.

He was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital and that the apparent cause of death was a severe head injury.

Griffin Patrick O'Neal, 27, declined treatment for a shoulder dislocation.

Police said a runaway carrying two men cut between a tow boat and a disabled vessel near Annapolis, snapping the tow line.

**Soviet stars in Chernobyl benefit**

MOSCOW (Reuter) — Top Soviet pop stars are giving a concert at a Moscow stadium Friday to raise money for relief work needed because of the Chernobyl nuclear accident, theatre officials said yesterday.

The country's best-known singer, Alla Pugachova, and rock band Avtograph are among seven acts scheduled to appear at the unprecedented show at the northern Moscow Olympic stadium, an arena built for the 1980 Games.

## Tango producer steps in to help out

We whisk you to the lobby of the Pantages Theatre in Hollywood. It's the Los Angeles premiere of *Tango Argentino*, the musical that is up for three Tony Awards in New York this Sunday. Dudley Moore and Caesar Romero are in the audience. Some real stars are there as well.



Thomas Schnurmacher

A beautiful lady ambles up to the bar, rummages through her pockets and comes up with a total of \$1.75. She asks the bartender the price of a tequila. When he replies that it's \$3.50, she says, "In that case, give me a half a tequila."

"I'm sorry, miss," says the Hollywood bartender, patiently trying to look as sympathetic as possible. "That would be against house rules."

"Oh, come on," continues the young lady. "I left my purse at home. I'll give you the \$1.75. Just give me half a shot."

Her plaintive cry is overheard by none other than Montreal impresario Donald Tarlton, who is attending this distinguished opening because, along with Mel Howard, Tarlton is the producer of the show.

Demonstrating a spirit of largesse, Tarlton turned to the lady and magnanimously proclaimed, "Put away the \$1.75. It will be my pleasure to buy you a double."

The lady in question thanked Tarlton, who was animatedly chatting with theatrical tycoon Jimmy Nederlander.

Moments later, Tarlton spotted the tequila lady telling the story of his gentlemanly generosity to a man who appeared to be her husband. The man had his back to

Tarlton, but when he turned around, it turned out to be actor Ted Danson of the TV series *Cheers*. Extending his generosity to the entire family, Tarlton also bought Ted Danson a double tequila.

By the way, Tony nominee Tarlton will be attending the Tony awards this weekend.

"This is our one whack at legitimacy," he said. "After Sunday night, it's back to rock 'n' roll."

Canada's *Snowbirds* (including Capt. Gino Tessier of Joliette and Capt. Eric Dumont of Laval), the *Ray Ban Gold* aerobics team, the *Skyhawks Parachute Team* and some 50 aircraft from around the world will all be part of one of the largest air shows in Canada, *Expo Air*, which takes place this Saturday and Sunday at Mirabel Airport.

It's organized by Wings of Hope, a non-profit charitable organization that provides pilots and air transport for medical evacuation, preventive medicine programs and community development projects for the underprivileged population in the

Peruvian jungle and in isolated areas of Bolivia.

The air show will also feature a high performance demonstration by both the U.S. F-16 and Canada's new F-18 Hornet. The Royal Air Force of Britain and the Luftwaffe from West Germany will also be participating.

Expo mascot Youppi will be on hand on Saturday between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Admission is \$4 per person. Children under 12 will be admitted free on Saturday.

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Russian comedian Yakov Smirnoff, who has already appeared in Montreal on several occasions, will return for a one-nighter at the Salle Wilfrid Pelletier of Place des Arts on June 26.

The evening is a fund-raiser for the Israel Cancer Research Fund. Tickets are \$125 per person; tax-deductible receipts of \$100 will be issued on request. For further info, call 481-2723.

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The Rivard-Piché double bill on July 3 at La Ronde sounds OK, but I still think that it would have been more fun to have André-Philippe Gagnon. Speaking of La Ronde, my rock spy, Mike Raffone, tells me that Stevie Ray Vaughan will be performing in Montreal sometime this summer.

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The Miro in Montreal exhibition opens on June 20 at the Museum of Fine Arts, but the museum will be all a-glow on Tuesday, June 17 starting at 9 p.m.

Sherbrooke St. in front of the museum will be closed at that time to provide adequate room for assorted fiery Catalan dancers, singers and musicians who will provide a rousing soirée.

Tickets for the exhibition are \$5 per person. Anyone who buys six or more tickets before the June 20 opening will receive a free copy of the mischievous poster that accompanies the exhibition. During the exhibition, these posters will be selling for \$12 each. The Miro in Montreal exhibit will continue until Oct. 5.

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Watch for a new Noel Coward show starring Montreal's Peter Pringle. In addition to its Montreal engagement, the show is also set to go on a national tour.

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The plays *Little Blood Brother* written by Vittorio Rossi and *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea* by John Patrick Shanley, which won most of the awards at the recent Quebec Drama Festival, will be presented at the Playwrights Theatre on McTavish St. June 3 to 7 and 10 to 14.

Performing in the plays will be Jon Cuthbert, Vittorio Rossi, Mark Camacho, Antonette Taddeo and Robert Austern. General admission: \$7.

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My comedy spy, Juan Lyner, tells me that there is some talk of Jerry Lewis at the comedy festival coming up in July. No confirmations, just talk.