INSIDE CANADA

YTV Achievement Awards salute Canadian youth

by JOHN CROOK

A two-hour gala celebration honors Canada's best and brightest young people as the sixth annual Youth Achievement Awards telecast airs Saturday, April 8, on YTV.

For the second consecutive year, the unpredictable Tarzan Dan serves as principal host for the hyperkinetic happening. He was a recent Gemini nominee for his hip host work last season.

Phil Guerrero of "The Zone" and Eva Preger share co-host chores. Guest performers include Des'ree ("Ya Gotta Be") and Alan Frew ("Healing Hands"), former lead singer with Glass Tiger.

This year's awards will be presented Thursday, April 6, at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa and taped for the Saturday telecast. The 1995 honorees, culled from more than 1,250 nominees, are as follows:

Acting: Ashleigh Aston Moore, 13, of Vancouver, currently starring as Donna/Alpha on "The Odyssey."

Band: Noir Silence from Saint-Georges, Que., winners of the CEGEP Rock Competition.

Bravery: 14-year-old Cristina Dudman of Tiverton, Ont., who rescued her family from a burning

Dance: Matjash Mrozewski, 18, of Sudbury, Ont., now a corps member of the National Ballet.

Environmental: Paul Brown and Anie Galipeau, both 19, of Ottawa, who invented a "Green Walkman" that requires no batteries.

Entrepreneurship: Adam Spiers of Red Deer, Alta., 19-year-old owner of two successful businesses.

Innovation: Chris Heyn and Ram "Puvi" Puvanesasingham, both 19, of London, Ont., devised a way to turn plastic into clean-burning fuel.

Instrumental: 16-year-old violin virtuoso Antoine LeFebvre of St-Lambert, Que.

Public Service: Jason DuBois of Rosetown, Sask., the 18-year-old president of the provincial chapter of Students Against Drunk

Specialty Performance: Preston Pashe, 14, of Portage la Prairie, Man., the reigning Teen World Champion of Hoop Dance.

Sports: 13-year-old black belt karate champ Trevor Nash of Binbrook, Ont.

Terry Fox Award: Jean-Dominic Levesque-Rene, 11, of lle Blizard, Que., who has worked to link cancer and lawn-care chemicals while battling his own non-Hodgkins lymphoma.

Vocal: Tie between Measha Gosman, 17 of Fredericton, and Tara Lyn Mohr, 16, of Roblin, Man.

Visual Arts: Byron Hodgins, a 19-year-old artist from London, Ont.

Writing: Acclaimed 19-year-old playwright Elise Moore of Winnipeg.

President's Award: Manisha

Eva Preger, Phil Guerrero and Tarzan Dan (from left)

Barti of Cornwall, Ont., who at 19 is the first student to become a part-time, full status commissioner with Ontario's Royal Commission on Learning.

SOAP SCOOP

Actors leaving popular roles on Days

by CANDACE HAVENS

Daffodil

"Days of Our Lives" fans are in tears over the impending departure of Patrick Muldoon, who plays Austin.

Muldoon is a fan favorite, and has been since the day he joined the show. But the actor decided he wanted to try and pursue other interests while he is still young. While it wasn't planned this way, it is interesting that Deborah Adair (Kate), Lisa Rinna (Billie) and Muldoon, who play family on the show, are all leaving their roles. Rather than just writing them off, "Days "plans to recast the roles.

Dear Candace: The actor who plays Sonny's dad (Mike) on "General Hospital" looks familiar.

Tulip

Has he been on any other soap operas? -Mary in Michigan.

Dear Reader: If you ever watched "Ryan's Hope," you might remember that Ron Hale portrayed bad guy Roger.

Dear Candace: I think "As the World Turns" is a super soap, but I am sick of Jessica being a doormat for her ex-husband, Duncan. The lady needs a new love. -Linda Brown, Sparta, Ga.

Dear Reader: You are not the only one who feels that way. Tamara Tunie, who played Jessica until recently, felt the same. It was hard for her to believe a strong woman like Jessica would take all the dirt that

Duncan dished out. Tunie said she never would have been as patient as lessica.

Dear Candace: I've watched "Days "for more than 20 years, and I have never been upset with the story, until the writers chose to write this demon possession thing. (The good doctor Marlena is possessed by the devil).

I have a hard time believing that Diedre Hall (Marlena) would agree to do something like this. I find myself turning the television off whenever this story line comes on. I don't think I'm alone in my concerns about this. Hopefully this sick story line will go away quick-

Patrick Muldoon

ly. -A disappointed fan in Porterville, Calif.

Dear Reader: You are definitely not alone in the way you feel about this story line. More than half of the letters received for this column in the last month were from readers who did not like the demon possession of Marlena. Not one of the fans who wrote those letters, and there are a lot of them, said they enjoyed the story line.

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Send your comments to
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Hyacinth