



AT LEFT:  
John Dillon  
transfigures  
the world.  
Ditto for  
magician  
Michael  
Chamberlin,  
AT RIGHT.



## Magical moments at Montross Library

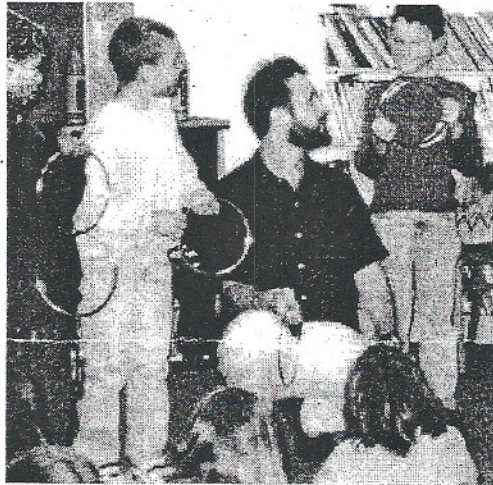
by C.P. Latané

One particularly mysterious Saturday recently, Montross Library was every bit as magical as Harry Potter's Hogwarts School for Wizards. The reason was that Master Magician Michael Chamberlin was on board to present one of the most entertaining, inspiring and creative magic shows that this writer has ever experienced.

The Chevy Chase native has been performing professionally since the age of 12 and tailors his wonderful magic inspirations specifically for children, although adults are equally enraptured and amazed.

Chamberlin has two decades' experience as a fulltime professional magician. He has performed more than 4,500 times on the east coast for such clients as Xerox, McDonalds and MCI, at galas and private parties for Union Station, the French and Italian embassies and First Night Annapolis, as well as hundreds of shows for kids at schools, birthdays, carnivals, the Fairfax County Park Authority, and Anne Arundel and Prince George's County libraries.

Magician consultant and writer for the National Geographic book *You Won't Believe Your Eyes*, a favorite for novice magicians, he has also designed and created magic for stage productions of *Pip-*



*pin and Dracula.*

A member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and various other professional societies, he is also an actor and director and has studied at the Studio Theatre acting Conservatory.

During his visit here on Nov. 17, he helped turn the library into a world of wonderment for three dozen onlookers.

With help from the youngsters in the group, he bewitched, bewildered and amazed his awe-

struck audience with his talented prestidigitation — as snakes flew through the air, fish flew onto hooks and magically increased in number, and rings of hoops leapt together bewilderingly.

Those pressed into service as his "assistants" were as mystified as the others, and left the stage shaking their heads, mind boggled by the brilliance of the varied acts.

Through it all, his energetic, comedic wit rivaled that of actor Bill Murray, eliciting laughter that was deafening at times.

If only the whole county could have been there for this great presentation! This real life Wizard Magician literally conjured up sorcery while capturing his viewers' imaginations as wondrously as any Potteresque character in books or movies. We wish him success in all his endeavors.