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The Parthenon

Marshall University's student newspaper

Wednesday, Feb. 29, 1984
Vol. 85, No. 71
Marshall University
Huntington, WV 25701

Getting acquainted first priority

Nitzschke assumes office

By Paul Carson
Special Correspondent

Increasing the quality and diversity of academics at Marshall University will be his overriding priority, according to incoming President Dr. Dale F. Nitzschke.

Nitzschke was introduced to area media and university faculty Tuesday during a press conference at WPBY-TV studios. Also present at the news conference were Acting President Sam E. Clagg, Board of Regents President John Saunders, Acting BOR Chancellor William K. Simmons, and former President Robert B. Hayes.

In his opening address Nitzschke said his first priority would be getting to know the "territory". He said this means becoming acquainted with faculty, students, classified staff, Institutional Board of Advisors, programs, and budgets. He said he pledged to West Virginia and especially the people of Huntington the kind of leadership which recognizes the essential nature of the relationship between university and community.

"I have seen the documents, read the reports, and examined state and local planning statements," Nitzschke said. "Now what I need is first-hand contact."

However, Nitzschke said his short and long term top priority is increasing the quality and diversity of academic programs at Marshall. He said this would be accomplished through many different avenues.

"First of all there will be a very rigorous self examination of all academic programs," Nitzschke said. "This will be designed to provide a solid process for

the internal allocation and re-allocation of resources, both human and material."

He said increasing the quality and diversity of academic programs must include first and foremost enhancing the quality and diversity of all current and future faculty. He said this would require the acquisition of substantial sums of additional money for faculty development to be used in support of faculty research and travel.

He said endowments to support faculty improvement from private fund raising efforts must be increased.

"The university must increase its efforts to establish faculty chairs, particularly in those disciplines having a major impact on the local economy, and having the potential of enhancing opportunities for Huntington and the tri-state area for economic diversification," Nitzschke said.

He said in order to enhance the quality and diversity of the Marshall student body, for both the traditional college age student and the adult, Marshall must find funds to provide additional types of student scholarships.

Nitzschke said he also would initiate a process to be used for Marshall's 10 year comprehensive accreditation review. He said the review is scheduled for the 1985-86 academic year.

Nitzschke said a major commitment will be made to expand the library's holdings as well as the quality and diversity of its services.

"The ability of the university to significantly and positively impact the economy of the state of West Virginia," Nitzschke said, "is directly related to the

See NITZSCHKE, Page 4



Photo by Bob Messer

New Marshall president Dale F. Nitzschke made his first official appearance on campus yesterday at a press conference in Smith Hall.

Anything better than nothing, says faculty member

By Mike Friel
Staff Writer

Despite the fact the Legislature has failed to approve salary increases for higher education faculty the past two years, Dr. William E. Coffey, professor of social studies, remains optimistic.

Coffey said he believes the Legislature will act on the salary proposals and grant an increase this year.

"(If no pay raise is granted), we will be at the bottom of the salary scale-50th place," he said. "I can't predict how quickly that will erode the quality of our educational programs."

However, Dr. Christopher Dolmetsch, assistant

professor of modern languages, said he is "not optimistic" about the Legislature granting any pay raise.

"It's anybody's guess as to what they will do," said Dolmetsch. "I would not wager any money on their (the Legislature's) actions. The Legislature has been notoriously negligent toward state and government employees in the past."

Dolmetsch said he believes Marshall faculty would settle for the 7.5 percent increase proposed by Delegates Sue Davis and Pat Hartman, both D-Cabell.

"I wouldn't say we would be happy with it, but something is better than nothing," he said.

The Davis-Hartman bill was referred to the House Finance Committee where it rests with less than two

weeks remaining in the legislative session.

Coffey said he believes faculty favor the 10 percent salary increase proposed by the Board of Regents.

"The governor's proposal, which is less than that of the BOR, but more than the 7.5 percent increase proposed by Hartman and Davis, is the lowest proposal we will accept," Coffey said.

The West Virginia Education Association had said it would ask its members to strike if a pay raise was not granted to public school teachers. But Dolmetsch said it is unlikely any Marshall faculty would strike because of the lack of pay increases. However, he said a group of faculty members will travel to Charleston Thursday to lobby for the BOR proposal.

Individual honors roll in for champs

The honors continue to roll in for the Southern Conference champion Thundering Herd. Coach Rick Huckabay was named the league's coach of the year. Earlier LaVerne Evans was selected as a first-team selection in the All-Southern Conference voting.

While pleased with his honor, Huckabay said he would trade it for a player-of-the-year award for Evans. The 6-foot-5 senior finished third in that balloting.

But both agree that the individual honors are less important than team's goal this weekend at the SC tournament. The top-seeded Herd will play noon Friday against Davidson. See related stories, page 6.

Students charge contest with discrimination

By Richard Sullivan
Staff Writer

Charges of racial discrimination concerning the "Mr. Athlete" contest held last week by the Little Sisters of Alpha Tau Omega are "silly," according to Mary Jo Miller, Springfield, Ohio senior and president of the organization.

But a number of students, writing to The Parthenon, complained that not one black athlete was included in the contest, even though some university teams are up to 80 percent black.

"Their contest wasn't run in a fair manner," Kevin D. Hardy, Dunbar senior, said. "It was unfair for them not to ask any black athletes to participate."

In the contest, pictures of white male athletes from a number of varsity sports, including basketball and football, were posted. Contributions were solicited for each athlete. The winner was determined by a point system in which pennies were negative votes and other currency was positive.

The winner of the "Mr. Athlete" contest was a white football player Dan Patterson, a junior college

transfer quarterback from Arizona.

"We all know if this was a valid contest there would at the least be one black contestant," Christina Brown said in a letter published in Friday's Parthenon.

"It wasn't the 'best athlete' contest," Miller said. "It was the 'Mr. Athlete' contest. It was just done for fun."

Miller said the contestants weren't chosen with formal criteria. "It was just who the girls knew in the sport."

"What makes the lil' sisters think we, the students, will sit back and say nothing while they tack any athlete on the board simply because they are their friends, slighting the better and more deserving players just to make a buck?" Brown said in her letter.

A black basketball player was asked to participate, Miller said, but the member who knew him didn't arrange to have his picture taken in time.

Hardy said he thought the Little Sisters should apologize "to the athletes in general."

"It wasn't done intentionally," Miller said. "It wasn't done to offend anyone."

Beyond MU

W.Va.

Committee favors faculty pay raises

CHARLESTON— College professors and instructors would receive 7.5 percent pay raises under a bill approved unanimously Tuesday by the Senate Finance Committee.

Sen. Keith Burdette, D-Wood, chief architect of the pay raise bill, said it would provide at least \$6.2 million for faculty pay raises at state-supported colleges and universities.

The legislation also would create a step-schedule pay scale designed to equalize salaries at comparable institutions throughout the state, he said.

The basic 7.5 percent raises would cost \$4.7 million, Burdette said, with another \$1.5 million added for equalization. Another \$300,000 was included to bring base-level instructors making less than \$14,000 per year up to that minimum.

Maximum pay scales for professors at institutions offering doctorate degrees (only faculty at West Virginia University would qualify) would be near \$35,300 per year, after the 7.5 percent pay raises are added.

Hospital bill drafted

CHARLESTON— The Senate Finance Committee finished work Tuesday on a bill turning West Virginia University Medical Center over to a private corporation and authorizing construction of a new \$6 million hospital on the Morgantown campus.

The committee spent two days working the bill over, inserting provisions giving the Senate power to review and confirm appointments to the 17-member board of directors that would oversee the new hospital.

Disputes over the board's membership — and who would make the appointments to it — led to several hours of debate, ending with a decision to allow the governor to appoint most of the members and give the Senate confirmation power. A similar bill that passed the House of Delegates on Monday does not contain those provisions, however, and Senate leaders predicted that the issues would be settled in a conference committee.

The House bill on the WVU Hospital was killed in the Senate Finance Committee when the members voted unanimously to toss out the House version and substitute their own.

Tax unfair, Krishnas say

MOUNDSVILLE— Politics and religious persecution are behind an \$84,670 property tax bill levied on the sprawling Hare Krishna community in Marshall County, sect leaders said Tuesday.

Krishna spokesman Art Villa said the tax bill will be appealed to the Marshall County Circuit Court within 30 days. He claimed that the county sheriff and tax assessor are harassing the sect because it isn't a "typical American religion."

The Krishnas' tax problems began last August when Marshall County Assessor Alfred "Pinky" Clark announced that he was voiding the sect's religious tax exemption because, in his opinion, the sprawling New Vrindaban community was not used "exclusively for divine worship" and was therefore taxable.

The assessor has set the value of the religious center — which includes two palaces, a gift shop, restaurant, 11 vacation homes, lodge, kitchen and sewer system — at \$6.5 million. The ornate central palace has become one of the state's biggest tourist attractions, drawing thousands of visitors each year.

The Krishnas have appealed Clark's decision on the religious tax exemption, and also have challenged the \$84,670 tax bill.

U.S.

Court ruling limits denial of funding

WASHINGTON— The Supreme Court, in a victory for the Reagan administration, ruled Tuesday that the government may not cut off all aid to a college because it practices sex discrimination in a particular program.

By a 6-3 vote, the court gave a narrow interpretation of a 1972 federal law banning sex discrimination at colleges that receive federal aid.

The justices said the law mandates that funds be cut off only for the specific program that receives the federal aid.

The case has been one of the most closely watched by women's rights groups, who have accused the administration of snubbing women and minority groups.

The case pitted the government against tiny Grove City College in Grove City, Pa.

The private, co-ed liberal arts college was ordered under Title IX of the 1972 law to file a form with the Department of Education guaranteeing it does not practice sex discrimination.

Grove City refused to provide the paperwork, even though it is on record as opposing discrimination based on race or sex.

The only form of aid the college receives from Washington is in the form of federal grants to its students to help defray their educational costs.

Justice Byron R. White, in his opinion for the Supreme Court, said the receipt of the grants "by some of Grove City's students does not trigger institution-wide coverage under Title IX."

Despite its decision that the government can't cut off all federal aid, the justices upheld the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and ruled, 9-0, that Grove City must comply with the paperwork ordered by the Department of Education.

Volcker seeks support for larger deficit cuts

WASHINGTON— Federal Reserve Board Chairman Paul Volcker told the nation's governors Tuesday that the federal deficit should be cut \$50 billion a year to extricate the nation from an economic gridlock.

Volcker also said President Reagan's call for a \$100-billion down payment on the deficit is "not very impressive" if the changes come toward the end of the three-year period.

Volcker's position put him in step with the proposal before the National Governors' Association winter meeting, which calls for deficit reductions of \$143 billion over the next three years and \$460 billion over five years.

Volcker applauded the governors' attack on the deficit although he did not endorse the proposal before them today for final adoption. Questioned about what level of deficit reduction is needed, Volcker said:

"The figure I have thrown out is an annual rate of \$50 billion. If you have a \$100-billion program heavily weighted to the third year ... it may not be very impressive if very little is done in the first year," he said.

The governors approved the proposal on a vote of 28-10.

Reagan gave the governors little encouragement that changes might be made this election year when he met with them at the White House on Monday.

"He very clearly stated that 1984 is not the year to start a major campaign against the deficit. It has to wait until after the election," said Florida's Gov. Bob Graham, a Democrat, after meeting with Reagan Monday. "That's a very serious mistake."

World

From The Associated Press

Lebanon summit possible soon

BEIRUT, Lebanon— A Syrian-Lebanese summit may begin this weekend in Damascus to find a way to end the violence in Lebanon, government sources said Tuesday. There were new reports that President Amin Gemayel was ready to scrap Lebanon's pact with Israel as a concession to Syria.

Heavy artillery, rocket and machine-gun fire continued along the "green line" dividing Beirut into Christian and Moslem sectors, and police said six people were killed and 13 were wounded.

Guerrillas fired on an Israeli army patrol in southern Lebanon, and the Israeli military command said in Tel Aviv that two soldiers were killed.

In Jerusalem, two grenades exploded in the doorway of a store on the main shopping street, injuring 21 people. Two Palestinian groups backed by Syria claimed responsibility for the attack.

At the United Nations in New York, France called for a cease-fire throughout Lebanon and proposed U.N. troops monitor the truce in the Beirut area. The Security Council was expected to vote on the measure Wednesday.

Iraq claims Iranian rout

NICOSIA, Cyprus— Iraq said Tuesday it won the biggest victory of the 3½-year war by crushing an Iranian attack and driving Iranian forces back across the border near the southern city of Basra.

"Iraq's flag was hoisted at the last fortified position held by the Iranians at the Iraqi village of al Beidha ... and all enemy forces have been crushed except for those who surrendered," a battle commander said in a cable to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. The contents of the cable were aired by the official Iraqi News Agency.

Iran had no reports on action near Basra, Iraq's second largest city; Iraq said more than 30,000 Iranians were killed in three days.

The claims could not be independently verified. Western reporters are rarely allowed in the war zone. U.S. officials also could not verify claims but have determined the fighting is escalating fast, said a State Department source in Washington who asked for anonymity.

Iran reported a victory 90 miles north of Basra, at Iraq's Majnoon Island, five miles from the border. Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency said Iraqi soldiers fled after a bitter battle there.

Terrorist blast injures 21

JERUSALEM— Two hand grenades exploded in the entrance to a blue jeans boutique on Jerusalem's main shopping street today, injuring 21 people, police and hospital officials said.

Police spokesman Rafi Levy said two of four Soviet-made grenades placed in a box in front of Avi's Boutique on Jaffa Road exploded.

Levy said several people were detained for questioning. No arrests were announced and no group claimed responsibility.

The blast blew out the front window of the boutique, but merchandise inside the shop was intact. The owner, Avraham Hakkak, and two customers were not hurt.

Four Arabs and 17 Israeli Jews were injured by shrapnel or flying glass, according to hospital officials.

Most seriously hurt was a Lebanese man wounded in the stomach, according to officials at Bikur Holim Hospital. The other injured Arabs were Palestinians and at least two of them were reported to be Israeli citizens.

Opinion

West Virginia must recognize true priorities

The current legislative session, House and Senate leaders agree, has been relatively unproductive — even boring.

So far, only a few major pieces of legislation have been passed. One of these dealt with child abuse and neglect, an almost instantaneous reaction to the alleged murder of a St. Albans four-year-old by her mother.

It is heartening to see that state government can be so responsive to social problems, yet sad to realize that some of the more common, ongoing concerns of West Virginians are still ignored.

Ranking high on the list of concerns is the need for quality education, and this absolutely requires that we pay teachers a salary commensurate with the demands placed upon them.

The constitution guarantees free public education for a reason. Uninformed people in a free society make half-baked decisions,

something America can ill afford in a competitive world economy.

This is equally true of West Virginia's place in the national and world economy. We need to ensure that future development here will be based on choices we make ourselves, and that exploitive outside interests are balanced by thoughtful policy-making in Charleston.

To accomplish this now and in the future, we need representatives who are intelligent and aware, and who have more than a temporary interest in the aspirations and needs of our state.

Such people can only come from within, and our current education system is the means for producing those people.

Good teachers, therefore, are among our most valuable resources. It is nothing short of criminal that we don't treat them as such.

If our representatives act now to grant fair



Jeff
Seager

compensation to all West Virginia's teachers, they will be making the best possible investment in this state's social and economic development.

If, however, we continue to let good educators migrate to better-paying jobs elsewhere, we will also continue to wallow in a political and economic quagmire.

Our priorities now will determine our opportunities in the future.

Congratulations, Coach Rick Huckabay, for winning Southern Conference Coach of the Year!

ATO little sisters accused of ignoring black athletes

Editor:

This letter refers to the Mr. Athlete contest, the Little Sisters of the Maltese Cross (Alpha Tau Omega) sponsored. The contest consisted of seven contestants who represented each sport and no one is black.

When I first saw the poster with the contestants' pictures, I wondered why there were not any black athletes represented. Therefore I asked one of the young ladies who were sponsoring the contest, why?

When I asked her what criteria they used she said, they just asked people they knew. I then asked her, did they ask any black athletes. Her reply was, they were going to ask them, but they ran out of time.

I believe this is how people at Marshall show their lack of acknowledgment toward black students. This is just another area where they attempt to exclude the presence of black students despite the fact that in the area of sports we make up 50 percent of the participants in this program. Our basketball team is a

prime example. Out of fourteen players eleven of them are black.

Therefore, I would like to bring attention to this act of discrimination and suggest to Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity and their Little Sisters if they cannot take time to be responsible in their activity, they should not conduct such activities.

Sincerely,
Kevin Hardy
Senior

Winner of Mr. Athlete contest might not be best MU athlete

Editor:

In view of the recent Mr. Athlete Contest that was held in the lobby of the Memorial Student Center on Tuesday, February 21, 1984, sponsored by the Alpha Tau Omega's Little Sisters, I felt that the contest was very poorly done for various reasons.

The first reason is the contestants selected to represent each of the areas of each of the different sports that exist here on Marshall University's campus does not necessarily represent the outstanding in his career in basketball this season; not trying to take away from Don Turney's efforts because he always was outstanding in his efforts this season. But Tur-

ney was not necessarily the best athlete this season.

Secondly, if one wanted to be technical, anyone wanting to select an athlete properly in such a contest would logically take a cross selection of the athletes that exist here on the campus. The ratio of blacks' to whites' participation in sports should also be represented.

My final reason for writing this letter is to quote the young lady who was working the table when she was approached as to why there was not a black athlete represented in the contest. She stated, "There was not enough time to ask blacks."

Well, how much time does it take one person to ask another person in the limelight like LaVerne Evans, Larry Fourqurean, or Sam Henry or anyone else here on campus in football, basketball, or soccer and other competitive sports to answer a question whether he would represent his particular sport?

Sincerely,
Connie Jones

Sorority women say escorts appreciated

Editor:

We would like to respond to the past articles and letters to the editor concerning recent crime on campus and the escort services of the Pi Kappa Alpha and Lambda Chi Alpha fraternities.

One sorority member's opinion on the fraternities' motives does not speak out for all Greek women on campus.

We agree that fraternity men have other things they could do at 9 o'clock than walk girls home. We believe that these men are doing this because they do care about the safety of the women on Marshall's campus.

We would like to thank the men of the Pi Kappa and Lambda Chi Alpha fraternities for their thoughtfulness and hope that the opinion of another sorority member would not make you discontinue the escort service.

Sincerely,
Kelly James
Mary Beth Tinney
Kathy Eakle
Susan McCamey
Deborah Frederickson
Delta Zeta Sorority members

Letters Policy

The Parthenon welcomes letters concerning the Marshall University community. All letters to the editor must be signed and include the address and telephone number of the author.

Letters must be typed and no longer than 200 words. The Parthenon reserves the right to edit letters.

Corrections

Errors that appear in The Parthenon may be brought to the attention of the editors by calling 696-6696 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays. Any errors that appear in The Parthenon will be corrected on Page 3 as soon as possible after the error is discovered.

The Parthenon

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Governor's proposal just political, says SGA

By Burgetta Lee Eplin
Staff Writer

Although Student Government members agree that the salary increase proposed by Gov. Jay Rockefeller for teachers and school staff is necessary and long overdue, mixed feelings exist about the proposal itself.

Rockefeller proposed a 7 percent to 10 percent increase and plans to use a \$29 million budget surplus from 1983 to help fund the move. The Legislature has not approved the bill yet but it should pass, according to Del. Patricia O. Hartman, D-Cabell.

Christopher L. Swindell, Logan junior and Student Senate President, said he believes the fact that raises are being set in motion from a budget surplus shows "what Charleston thinks about teachers."

He compared the bill to a Band-Aid used to patch a long-existing problem.

Swindell said that Rockefeller only proposed it because he realizes that "he's blown it. The teachers should have a raise long before now."

Michael L. Brison, South Charleston junior and Student Body Vice President, said he believes Rockefeller is

using this proposal as a political ploy to pacify the state and teachers by finally giving "well overdue" pay increases.

Michael L. Queen, Clarksburg junior and Student Body President, made a resolution on behalf of Marshall at the Board of Regents-West Virginia Association of Student Government convention in January. He stated the WVASG should support any teacher and staff pay raises.

Swindell, who agrees with Queen, said the Legislature is "being near-sighted and failing to look at the long-

term effects. He said, "the Legislature needs to get back to economic policies and adopt a business climate conducive to drawing industry...to provide the tax base to ensure the raises for teachers."

Brison said the proposed increase is necessary and vital to West Virginia. Marshall is "losing quality teachers semester by semester from the lack of money. The state's only hope lies in keeping these teachers in state, which is difficult to do when they are underpaid. The only salvation we have lies in higher education."

Internship applications due Thursday

By Dawn Johnson
Staff Writer

The Washington Center has an internship program for students who would like a chance to work in their chosen field before graduation. Linda D. Olesen, assistant director of the Career Planning and Placement Center, said.

"The purpose of internships is to provide career related experiences," Olesen said.

The center, which is located in Washington, D.C., provides its services to students across the nation.

Olesen said attending the center is "just like attending another school" and there are fees which have to be paid. Initial fees are for housing and the program itself while student activi-

ties, an application fee, a housing security deposit and an apartment maintenance fee are additional costs for the program.

A limited amount of scholarship money is awarded from the center to eligible students. Current funds are available for minority students, students in particular placement areas, students who are dependents of employees for the Quaker Oats Company or its subsidiaries and students from selected states and colleges.

Qualifications for the scholarships include:

-Submission of a regular completed program application two weeks before the deadline of the term.

-Applicants must be a U.S. citizen and live during the internship in Washington Center housing or no-cost housing.

Scholarship applications are evaluated by an internal review committee and decisions are based on merit by student's ranking in four categories: personal qualities, career related qualities, educational strengths and skills.

A student must score at least 60.5 on a 100 point rating scale of the categories to be eligible for a scholarship. The deadline for summer position applications is March 1 and the deadline for fall positions is April 15.

The internships help students determine if they are "in the field they wish to be in" by allowing them a chance to see what working in their chosen profession will be like, Olsen said.

For more information students may come by the Career Planning and Placement Center or contact Linda Olesen at 696-2370.

Plans set for journey to Capitol

By Janice Boggs
Staff Writer

Higher Education issues will be the topic for a faculty, staff and student delegation the legislature Thursday, Dr. William E. Coffey, Professor of social studies, said.

The delegates will meet with representatives of Wayne and Cabell counties in the House Finance Committee and chairmen of the House and Senate Education Committees. For people who can provide their own transportation, there will be a meeting at 11:30 a.m. with Senate President Warren McGraw, D-Wyoming, in his office, Coffey said. A limited size group will speak with House Speaker Clyde See, D-Hardy, in his office at approximately 3 p.m.

Buses leave at 11 a.m. from the Memorial Student Center and Delegates will return at approximately 3:30 p.m., Coffey said.

Interested students may contact the student government office and faculty members may contact Coffey.

Nitzschke

From Page 1

overall quality of the institution, determined in large part by the quality of its library."

Nitzschke said he would be remiss if he did not reflect on his relationship with governing boards. He said there could be no denying that the record shows he has not always been in complete harmony with such boards.

"However, there also can be no denying that regardless of that fact, the essential nature of such a body to higher education, in my eyes at least, has by virtue of these confrontations

enhanced, not diminished, my respect for governing boards," Nitzschke said. "There is no acceptable alternative to a good solid lay governing board for higher education."

He said he believes his somewhat controversial and direct dealings with the board of regents in other states has resulted in an abnormally high degree of understanding and appreciation for the "next to impossible job" governing boards are expected to perform.

On the subject of intercollegiate athletics Nitzschke said his position has been clear from the beginning. He said he supports intercollegiate athlet-

ics and the university should strive to be the best it realistically can be given the available resources. He said the program must be under the complete control of the university and must operate within its assigned budget.

Concerning the movement in the community for a new football stadium Nitzschke said he was in complete support of the statement Clagg released last week which said procedures and priorities must be followed involving university construction. However, he declined to comment on projects already named on the university's priority list.

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Queen exits Jay's meeting; cites tardiness

By Burgetta Eplin
Staff Writer

Marshall University was not represented at Friday's Governor's Advisory Council of Students meeting in Charleston.

Although Student Body President Michael L. Queen was in Charleston at Gov. Jay Rockefeller's bequest to attend the meeting, Queen did not stay.

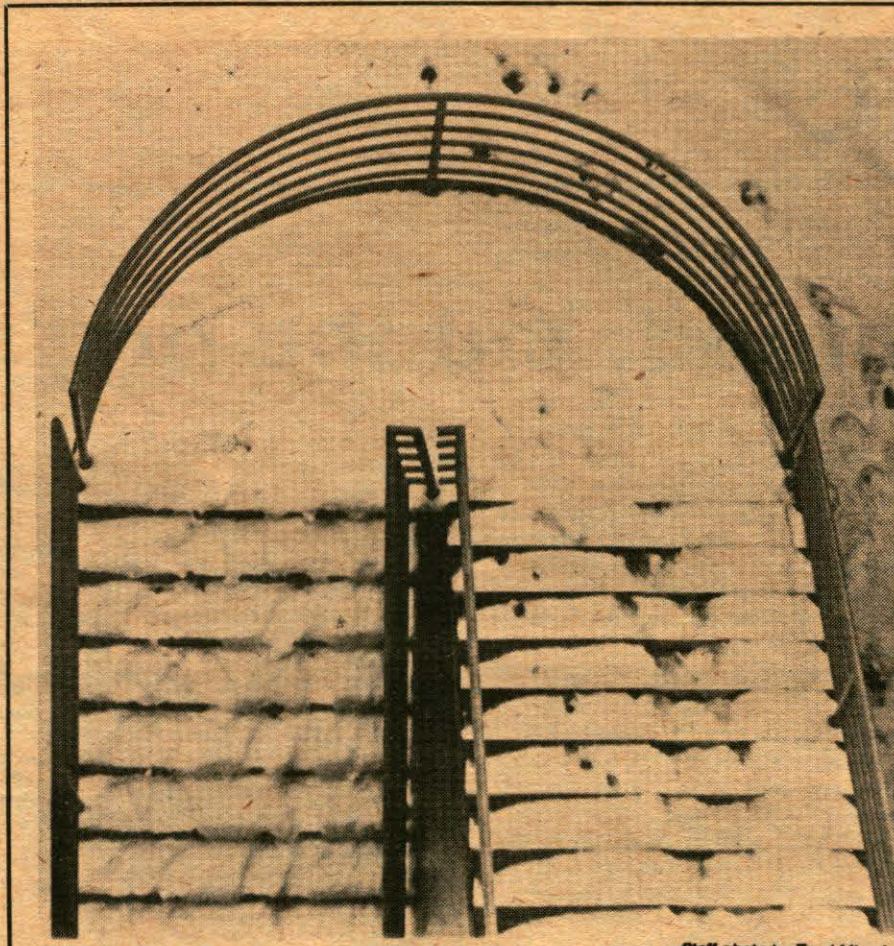
The meeting, for all state college and university student body presidents, was scheduled for 3 p.m. At 3:45 p.m., Queen said he left because Rockefeller had not yet arrived.

"How many times has education taken a back seat? This wasn't the first nor the second, but the third time you were late and very late at that," Queen said in a letter being sent to Rockefeller today to explain Marshall's absence.

"I see this as nothing less than rude and inconsiderate on your part," Queen said in the letter. "We went to Charleston with good intentions and came home angered and humiliated. I wonder how many times you have consistently been late for senior citizen groups or meetings with religious leaders.

"I also question the validity of the Advisory Council. Why hasn't it ever been called together before you introduce legislation so you could adequately and sincerely see how the students will react before the fact? It is meaningless to meet and discuss issues you have already taken sides on one way or the other, and I question your sincerity in calling meetings such as Friday's.

"Governor, I realize you are a busy man," Queen's letter continued. "However, education is the future of West Virginia and my advice to you is that education should raise on your priority list. Listen and not just hear what administrators, educators, and students have to say."



Staff photo by Tami Miracle

Up the down staircase

Looking down from atop the new addition to the Science Building, this stairwell lays covered up to its steps in snow. The footprints are a portent of what winter could offer students next year on their way to class or a lab in MU's newest structure.

OU professor set to speak on Nicaragua

By Pamela McCallister
Staff Writer

Dr. Thomas W. Walker, an Ohio University professor, will lecture on the "Crisis in Central America" Thursday from 6:30-9 p.m. in Harris Hall's Room 134.

Walker's lecture will include an examination of American foreign policy in this region and a discussion of the Nicaraguan revolution's aftermath in Central America and the problems faced in building more stable governments there, according to Charles F. Gruber, assistant professor of social studies.

Walker will discuss American media coverage of the political and military conflict in Central America too, Gruber said.

Walker has made seven trips to Nicaragua and countries bordering it since 1979. He has written and edited books and articles on Nicaragua and is co-chairman of the Latin American Studies Association, an academic and professional group which is involved in making policy recommendations on Central America.

Chaplain to speak at Newman Center

By Theresa Hanak
Staff Writer

Fr. Jeremiah Cullinane, the Catholic Chaplain at the University of Charleston, will be presenting a series of lectures on Wednesdays during Lent, beginning at 8 p.m. March 7, in the Marshall Newman Center.

The first lecture, based on the concept of faith, will be followed by a Mass at 9:10 p.m., with a distribution of ashes, Tim Bradford, Associate Cam-

pus Minister for Marshall's Catholic community, said.

Other topics, in the order of their presentation, will be the advent of church, spiritual and secular values, socio-economic issues, contemporary moral issues and prayer—the path to Holiness, according to Bradford. There will be no lecture presented on March 14, because of spring break, but they will resume on March 21.

Other Lenten activities will be morning prayer beginning at 7:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the

Newman Center. These prayers will focus on Scripture readings.

On Thursdays, at 8:15 a.m., there will be ecumenical morning prayers with the St. Augustine Mission.

John Brant, vice-president of the Newman Association, will be conducting Stations of the Cross, on Monday evenings at 8:30, followed by Mass at 9:10, according to Bradford.

These additions to the weekly schedule will not interrupt regular activities, Bradford said.

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Sports

Coach-of-the-year honor 'pleasing'

Huckabay proud, but the ring's the thing

By Leskle Pinson
Staff Writer

Being named the Southern Conference coach of the year has left Rick Huckabay with mixed emotions.

"I'm proud to receive the award and it makes me happy that the people saw fit to vote that way," the MU coach said. "But I would trade it for the player-of-the-year award for LaVerne Evans."

Evans finished third in that voting behind The Citadel's Regan Truesdale and Willie White of UT-C. Huckabay said that finish can be attributed to two factors.

"First, the way that I coach held him back; the fact that he didn't play 40 minutes a game," he said. "I said I would play everyone and when you do that you take away from the exposure of someone who might be a star."

Huckabay said that if Evans filled the same role Truesdale does for The Citadel, his scoring would be increased anywhere from five to eight points a game. He finished the regular season with a 20.1 average, second in the league to Truesdale's 22.4.

Huckabay said the second reason was the "regionalization" of the voting. "There are not as many votes in this area as down in the Carolinas, that is a factor," he said.

The voting is done by the Southern Conference Sports Media Association.

"Of course I like to think in the back of my mind that I am a good coach, but to tell the truth I don't think about things like this that much," Huckabay said. "The main thing is the team and winning a championship."

The Herd completed its first regular-season championship Saturday by beating Davidson, 66-65. The matter of picking a championship ring has already been taken care of.

"The rings are ordered," he said. "I've designed them and they will be made to those specifications. I patterned it after the Final Four ring I have from LSU and the North Carolina national-championship ring."

The money for the team members' rings comes from an awards fund in the Athletic Department. There is a limit on the amount of money that can be spent.

Regarding his honor, Huckabay said he wanted to give the praise to assistant coaches Dan Bell, Henry Dickerson and Johnny Lyles.

"The award should be given to the four of us, those assistants deserve it as much as I do," Huckabay said. "I would say they do more for the team than any assistant coaches in the country."

Huckabay once said that at LSU he was the "hardest-working assistant in the country." He wants his assistants to realize that they carry a lot of clout on the team.

"If one of the assistants comes in here and says one of the players should be run off then that player is gone," he said. "I wouldn't question the decision and the team knows that."

Huckabay and the rest of the staff will be putting in some new wrinkles in preparation for the this weekend's SC tournament.

"We won't be making any major changes but there are some little things I would like to put in, some late-game situations and maybe some inbound plays," he said. "I saw something on television last night that I want us to try to do. It's almost what we are doing now but there's just a little bit I would like to add."

Marshall opens the tournament noon Friday against Davidson. The winner of that game will advance to play the victor of The Citadel-Appalachian State contest.



Photo by Todd Meek

Rick Huckabay may not have been able to lead his team through the season with his eyes closed but he did good enough a job to be named the top coach in the Southern Conference. At his left is assistant coach Dan Bell.

Dream game sees MU take NCAA title

SEATTLE, WA. (AP) -- The Marshall University Thundering Herd's Cinderella story is complete after last night's 80-79 thriller in the Kingdome over the highly favored North Carolina Tar Heels in the finals of the NCAA tournament.

Marshall's Don Turney hit a 15-foot jumper at the final buzzer to cap a 14-4 rally in the final three minutes of the game.

To say the Herd was a longshot to win the NCAA tournament is an understatement, but it was a position that first-year coach Rick Huckabay enjoyed.

"We took on all the games with the attitude that we had nothing to lose, but everything to gain -- and it worked," Huckabay said.

Marshall pulled off five tournament wins by spreads of not more than five points, including Saturday's overtime triumph over Georgetown, which put the Herd in the finals.

The top-ranked Tar Heels owned the first five minutes of the game, taking off on a commanding 16-4 tear, but the Herd woke up and held its own throughout the first half and went to the locker room with an eight-point deficit, 41-33.

Marshall's LaVerne Evans, who lead the Herd with 26 points, said, "At halftime all the guys knew we had a chance, but no one dared to say it. It was like it would've jinxed ourselves or something."

The second half was business as usual, as the Tar Heels' lead fluctuated between eight and 13 points. It appeared North Carolina would claim its second championship in three years -- until the final three minutes.

Marshall jumped on the Carolina's lead with some key buckets by Evans and David Wade, and some timely steals by Jeff Battle. Marshall pulled within three, 79-76.

An Evans jumper put Marshall just one point behind, 79-78, with 49 seconds to play. North Carolina coach Dean Smith gestured frantically to his team as he saw the Tar Heels' lead dwindle.

Carolina broke through Marshall's demon press, and began to set up for a stall.

But the Herd's Sam Ervin fouled Brad Daughtery, and the Tar Heels were at the line shooting a one-and-one with 30 seconds left.

Daughtery missed his first shot and Wade

J. Shep
Brown



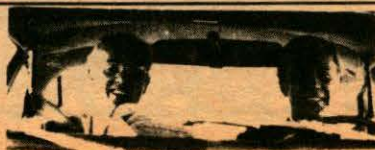
rebounded for the Herd.

After Battle took the pass and crossed halfcourt, Marshall called its final timeout with 23 seconds left.

Marshall's offense was patient, almost too patient. UNC's Buzz Peterson deflected an Ervin bounce pass off Evans chest that appeared to be heading out of bounds with three seconds remaining. But in a mad scramble for the ball Turney saved it and put up a desperation shot for the winning basket.

And then my alarm clock woke me. It was 7 a.m. and time to get ready for class. Wouldn't it be nice if dreams came true.

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HERF funds awarded to nine organizations

By Robin Ratliff
Staff writer

Nine proposals from student organizations were approved by the Higher Education Research Fund, according to Nell Bailey, dean of student affairs.

The Parthenon and the Chief Justice were jointly awarded \$424 for Parthenon sports reporters and a member of the Chief Justice staff to attend the Southern Conference Tournament in Asheville, N.C., March 3-5. The award will cover travel and hotel expenses.

Munchcon IV was awarded \$575 in travel expenses for two guest lecturers. Lawrence Watt-Evans, a novelist, and

Richard Pini, co-author of Elquest, (an alternative comic book) will address the annual convention.

The sixth annual Student Leadership Banquet was awarded \$450 to cover the costs of student dinners. The banquet is sponsored by student life.

The Marshall Jazz ensemble was awarded \$630 for transportation expenses to the Romanian Jazz Festival this summer.

Omicron Delta Kappa was awarded \$360 for six members to attend the national ODK convention in Birmingham, Ala., March 23-25. The award will cover the costs of registration and travel expenses.

The Home Economics Association

was awarded \$438 for delegates to attend the National Home Economics conference in Anaheim, Calif., this June. The award will cover the costs of airfare and registration.

The Model Security Council, a program designed to educate college students concerning the workings of the United Nations, was awarded \$252 to send delegates to the Jackson's Mill conference. The award will cover the cost of registration.

The Public Relations Student Society of America was awarded \$220 to send delegates to the National PRSSA conference in Washington, D.C., in March.

Kermos, the Student Potters Guild,

was awarded \$149 to sponsor a ceramic workshop in April.

Three proposals were put on hold until the next meeting, Bailey said. The HERF committee will investigate the possibility that the Learning Disability Program be funded by state funds. Also, the committee recommended that the Hall Advisory Councils purchase a telephone answering service for the housekeeping staff instead of using HERF funds.

The committee rejected a proposal to purchase a direct access telephone tape system. Bailey said the system will go into operation in the upcoming academic year. "We required a more refined budget," she said.

Pediatric surgeon brings med school needed skills

By Helen Matheny
Staff Writer

After three years of searching the School of Medicine has acquired a certified pediatric surgeon.

Dr. Stephen A. Wolfe is certified by the American Board of Surgery in both general surgery and pediatric surgery. Wolfe has only been at Marshall four months. He has brought with him a specialization in the treatment of children.

"He is a tremendous asset to a very distinctive part of surgery," Dr. Robert L. Bradley, professor and chairman of surgery, said. Bradley said Wolfe's responsibilities include teaching medical students and residents, research and clinical practice in the community, southern West Virginia and surrounding areas.

Wolfe said before pediatric surgery was available here, children had to be taken to Morgantown, Columbus or Cincinnati. "We provide quality care as well as any place else and bring them (children) home," Wolfe said. "We are developing a situation where any general surgical problem can be taken care of in Huntington."

Bradley said, "Children are not just miniature adults. Their problems are different, and their bodies often respond quite differently to disease. Wolfe will provide expert care to children with a wide variety of surgical problems."

Wolfe said children have a wide variety of diseases that adults do not have. "You can't read about them in a book. It takes learning, training and experience to know how to handle them."

For example, because some children are born with the structural ability to have an Inguinal hernia, Wolfe said it was the most common surgery done by pediatric surgeons in the United States.

One of the most important things to remember working with children, is details, Wolfe said. "You have to be sure nothing slips by." A minor environmental change for an adult could be meaningless, but it could be a catastrophe for a child.

Another aspect Wolfe said has to be considered is social issue. "We don't deal just with children. We deal with parents and families. We deal with the whole emotional environment."

Wolfe said he operates on newborns, infants and young children. He has performed surgery on an infant weighing less than one kilogram. Wolfe said although it might be easier to become emotionally attached to children he tries not to do it.

"I enjoy working with little children and young kids better because of the rewards and positive feedback caring for little children rather than old folks. I don't have to worry about my patients going out drinking and smoking."

The national pediatric organization did a study 10 years ago which determined 400-450 pediatric surgeons were needed in the country. There are presently 425 certified pediatricians, Wolfe said. The number could increase as practice styles change.

Strict limitations are placed on students wanting to be pediatric surgeons. Only 16 are turned out per year in North America. He said this year there are four or five applicants for each of these positions.

Exclusively involved with children for five and a half years, Wolfe previously taught at the University of Chicago. He received his M.D. degree from New York Medical College and performed his residency in general surgery at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. Wolfe also practiced pediatric surgery at the Children's Hospital of Michigan.

Learning laboratory gives student nurses experience

By Linda Goldman
Staff Writer

Only "dummies" get shots, have their temperatures and blood pressure taken and are given baths, by student nurses in the Learning Laboratory.

The learning lab in Prichard Hall is where nursing students learn and practice these and other techniques before administering them to people in hospitals, according to Rebecca S. Brown, instructor in the School of Nursing.

Brown is a part-time instructor in the learning lab. She said the lab gives "hands-on" experience to freshmen and sophomores, which prepares them for work in the hospitals. She added that freshmen spend their second semester working in the hospitals and sophomores work in hospitals for the semester plus an additional year.

Freshmen are required to spend a certain amount of assigned time in the lab while sophomores choose their own schedules. Student nurses working toward their bachelor's degree also may use the lab equipment.

Most of the materials and equipment used in the lab are like those used in hospitals, Brown said. Some of the materials are provided by the School of Nursing, and hospitals sometimes donate certain equipment.

With this equipment, the students learn to perform injections, intravenous fusions, catheterizations and enemas, Brown said. They also learn the correct procedures for making beds, giving baths, changing dressings, opening gauze packages and administering medicine.

Some of these techniques, such as making beds, are practiced by students on other individuals, she

added. However, most of techniques are practiced on mannequins. Brown said the mannequins are cadavers that have been casted in rubber. The mannequins are very expensive but also very life-like, she said. All of them are given names.

Many details are involved in performing these tasks, according to Brown. Therefore, all students' work must be checked by instructors before the students go to the hospitals. Nevertheless, she said students are less anxious about treating people in hospitals when they have practiced on mannequins.

The Learning Lab also consists of reading and audiovisual rooms. Brown has two graduate students and one work-study student helping her with these sections.

"Nursing students are very reliable," she said. They always return the books to the reading room. She added that sometimes the students are given reading assignments.

Brown said instructors sometimes make video tapes of themselves in the audiovisual section to use as teaching instruments. Video tapes also are used to teach the students to communicate correctly. The students are filmed as they listen to another person speaking. Then, they are allowed to view themselves on the tape.

The Learning Lab gives students a chance to get to know one another and to study together, according to Brown.

Brown said she feels that the lab is a service to both Marshall University and the Huntington community because its equipment is sometimes loaned to both. Also, students do their hospital training in some of the Huntington hospitals, and some students acquire nursing jobs in these hospitals after graduating.

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Calendar

Accounting Club is sponsoring a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program weekdays through April 13 from 11 a.m. Monday; 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday; 8 to 10 a.m. Wednesday; 2 to 4 and 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday. For more information contact Roger Elswick at 525-1827.

MDA Fundraising Committee will be conducting registration for the WKKE/SGA Superdance from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until March 21 in the Memorial Student Center lobby. A \$2 fee is required for the dance and all proceeds will go to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. For more information call 696-6435.

Deadline for Clinical Training Applications of cytotechnology and medical technology is today. Information about qualifications and applica-

tions may be obtained from Professor Bruce Brown, of the clinical laboratory sciences dept., Old Main Room 234.

MU International Club will sponsor a pool tournament and anyone interested in participating may register before 4:30 p.m. today in Prichard Hall Room 119. Registration fees are \$1 for club members and \$2 for non-members. The tournament will be conducted from 2 to 4:30 p.m. March 2 in the Memorial Student Center Game room. For more information contact Judy Assad at 696-2379.

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. will be conducting a Hoagie Sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. today through Friday. Orders for the sandwiches will be taken each day and deliveries will be made on Friday. For more information contact Janis Winfield at 696-6705.

Anthropology/Archaeology Club will meet at 4 p.m. today in the Memorial Student Center by the fireplace. Plans for a trip to the Sunrise Museum in Charleston will be discussed and everyone is welcome.

University Heights Tenant Association will conduct a bake sale from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. today in Corbly Hall lobby. For more information contact Julie Foley at 522-8407.

Marshall Baptist Campus Ministry will conduct night chapel 9:15 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. tonight in the Campus Christian Center Chapel. The topic of the sermon will be "Building Sandcastles and Storm Cellars." For more information contact Buzz Harrison at 696-2444.

Women's Center will sponsor a

lunchbag seminar from noon to 1 p.m. today in Prichard Hall Room 101. Carole Boster, of the Huntington Human Relations Commission, will discuss examples of sex discrimination faced by women in this area.

Students for Christ will meet at 9 p.m. Thursday in the Memorial Student Center Room 2W37. For more information call 529-1341.

Young Democrats will meet at 5 p.m. today in the Memorial Student Center Room 2W29. An election will be conducted. For more information contact Sammi Parrish at 696-6435.

Political Science Department will sponsor a lunchbag seminar from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. Thursday in Smith Hall Lounge. Everyone is welcome.



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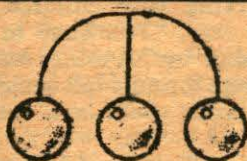
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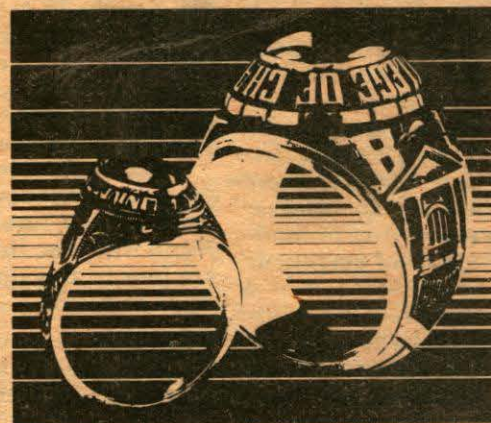
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THE LAST STARFIGHTER

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THE MOVIE MAGAZINE

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THE LAST STARFIGHTER

An Earthling kid tackles
some outer-space denizens ... **4**

FIRESTARTER

Stephen King's story
stars Drew Barrymore **6**

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New star Michael Paré
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TANK

James Garner hits the road
in one helluva machine ... **10**

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Molly Ringwald sparkles
in teenage tale **12**

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OUR COVER

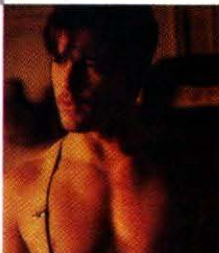
Michael Paré stars in *Streets of Fire*,
photographed by Stephen Vaughan/Sipa Press.



Molly Ringwald (left) stars in *Sixteen Candles*, a gentle comedy from the writer of *National Lampoon's Vacation*. James Garner in *Tank* (right) is a mean army man with his own vintage World War II Sherman tank.



Flames engulf cars, houses, and people in *Firestarter* (below), from Stephen King's bestseller. Drew Barrymore is the girl with the fearsome fire power.



Lance Guest (below, with video game) stars as a young Earthling who finds himself enmeshed in an intergalactic struggle in *The Last Starfighter*.



Michael Paré, whose face launched a career — his own — stars as Tom Cody in the first of three Walter Hill epics, *Streets of Fire*.

The Lonely Guy Contest Winner!

We had hoped that all entries in our Lonely Guy Contest would be snide and silly, as was our contest entreaty, but after reading through every scrap of paper, it was obvious that some of you took us seriously!?!?

Fortunately for our lives and our sanity, some of you *were* snide and silly. Our first place Lonely Guy is **Tony Razzini** of St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, Minnesota, who wrote: "(Yes, I am a lonely guy because) I go to the computer room here at SCSU and listen to the girls moan when their computer programs don't work." For his eavesdropping loneliness, Mr. Razzini receives a trip to Los Angeles for one, a screening of *The Lonely Guy* (for one), and assorted other lonely prizes as detailed in our last issue.

In addition to our winner, we have two runners-up who deserve Dishonorable Mention — no prizes, just our gratitude. **Kevin Davis** of Kearney State, Nebraska, is a lonely guy because "whenever I go out with girls they always tell me they never kiss on the last date." **David Laing** of Milwaukee, Wisconsin complains that "I drive down one-way streets the wrong way just to get someone to wave at me."

We mourn for so many of you whose pet ferns died, and whose parents have forgotten your names. We thank every entrant, and we certainly hope that you all become a little less lonely in 1984.

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LETTERS

In your Winter (83/84) issue you had an article on the upcoming movie *Iceman* (I'm always aware not to prejudge, but that title struck me as a winner). At any rate, the reason for my letter is article-writer Zan Stewart's remark "but there hasn't been a film which at once explores our future and our distant past."

Now, I'll admit that *2001: A Space Odyssey* must have been beyond many people, but what does Mr. Stewart think it was about? It explores human intelligence and man's destiny. What could draw history (pre-history and yet-to-come) closer together? Perhaps Ringo Starr in another caveman role?

I might suggest the books *2001: A Space Odyssey*, and its sequel, *2010: Odyssey Two*, both by Arthur C. Clarke; and especially *The Making of Kubrick's 2001*, edited by Jerome Agel, and *The Dragons of Eden* by Carl Sagan.

A reader
No address given

I was interested to read about *The Lonely Guy*; I'm one of the nine or ten people in this country who loved *Pennies from Heaven*, and I'm glad Steve Martin is still trying to do something besides *The Jerk*. Don't get me wrong, I liked *The Jerk* ... but I like *I Love Lucy* reruns, too. Eclectic taste and all that. I wish him well — and your magazine, too. I just wish it came out more often.

Sally Johanssen
Urbana, IL

DUNE

A fan club for the movie *Dune* is currently being formed somewhere in the arid sands of Hollywood. Those readers interested in joining, or receiving more information, should send name and address to:

DUNE FAN CLUB
Box 699
Hollywood, CA 90078

Details will be mailed as soon as they are available.

THE LAST STARFIGHTER

Computer War Across the Universe

BY BYRON LAURSEN

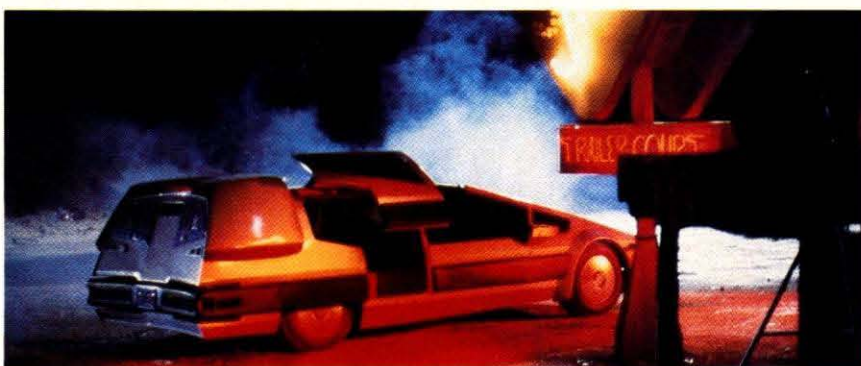
A movie script is a recipe, a schedule of ingredients and proportions. If the pages are going to produce a feast, those ingredients have to be top choice and their preparation must be careful. In the case of *The Last Starfighter*, the chefs are so proud of their methodology they won't tell a soul about the close details of their cookery: *The Last Starfighter* is the most secretive production in Hollywood since the last *Star Wars* installment, at least.

"The computer graphics for this film have seven-and-a-half times greater resolution than has been seen before," says producer Gary Adelson. "Some of the special effects sequences were actually shot before any of the live action photography was begun. There's a full year of work on the special effects alone. That's about all I can tell you."

The Last Starfighter is concocted from an imaginative leap outward. An arcade-type outer space blast-the-attacking-alien game becomes a training device for the "real" thing — good, old-fashioned good-vs-evil intergalactic warfare. Space armadas are laid waste. Alien blood washes starship interiors like Red Mountain Burgundy at a fraternity bash. Creatures, weird to the Nth degree, pitch high-tech tussles while the fates of galaxies hinge on the precision timing of fast-as-light, bogglingly destructive weapon blasts. In short, nothing like the Jane Austen novel you had to read in Survey of Eng. Lit.

Drawn into the struggle, unaware and even unwillingly, is an Earth boy from the boondocks. In the great tradition of epics and mythology, he overcomes his reluctance and grows into the role of hero. Initially he's shanghied into heroism by a magical trickster, an intergalactic con man. Then he decides, on his own under the press of battle, that life is worthless unless he chooses a path of honor. The story's threads can be traced back to all sorts of popular and classical works; those who have enjoyed such as *Lord of the Rings*, *Star Wars*, *The Niebelungenlied* and various Greek myths, not to mention American comic books, will sense some deep similarities in Jonathan Betuel's screenplay.

That's the recipe, in compressed form. The ingredients include a young director drawn from the USC Whiz-Kids film school background that has produced such



The lovers are Lance Guest and Catherine Mary Stewart (top). That's Guest again (above right) with a decidedly alien creature (veteran actor Dan O'Herlihy under the scales). The futuristic vehicle (above left) is Centauri's "car-space ship," Centauri being Robert Preston.

as Steven Spielberg, John Carpenter and others. They also include some promising young unknowns, ala *War Games*, and Robert Preston, who prepped for his role as the trickster Centauri through years of playing friendly and deceptive types — Julie Andrews' manager/confidante in *Victor/Victoria* being the latest in a string that runs back to *The Music Man*.

"We wrote the part with Preston in mind," says producer Adelson. "We were extremely happy when he agreed to do the picture."

Lance Guest is the hero, Alex. In his very first big screen role (he had a small part in *Halloween II*), the personable newcomer gets to vaporize the forces of evil. Not a bad start. His sweetheart, Maggie, played by Catherine Mary Stewart, encourages Alex to use his talents so he can go places. But Maggie never dreams that the places will be whole star systems away from their rural trailer park. Both Guest and Stewart have a fresh, tousled-haired



appeal that audiences should easily identify with. They're the ordinary people who find themselves in extraordinary circumstances, through which they learn that they're actually quite special people. Since nearly all of us believe, no matter what our surroundings, that we're secretly very special, the roles should provoke a lot of cheering.

The director is someone moviegoers have mainly seen behind a mask. Nick Castle is the son of Nick Castle, Sr., a well-known film and television choreographer. An actor by age eight, performing in *Any-*

(Continued on page 11)

QUANTUM LEAP

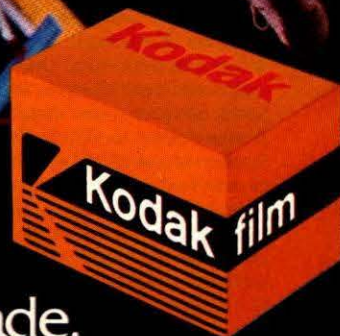


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FIRESTARTER

BY ANTHONY DE CURTIS

Sometimes it takes her half an hour to cry, sometimes . . ." Director Mark Lester's voice trails off hopefully. Lester is huddled with producer Frank Capra, Jr. in the forty-degree cold on the set of *Firestarter* in Wilmington, North Carolina. The subject of this confab is the adorable (the word comes instinctively at this point, as if it were her title) Drew Barrymore, who charmed the world in her starring role in *E.T. - The Extra-Terrestrial*. Lester has had nothing but good things to say about Drew, but tonight, as the production comes within a week or so of wrapping . . . well, no one wants any difficulties to arise now.

Yet Drew's initial problem drawing tears for what Lester describes as a "very emotional scene" puts her in very good company on this set. Nobody's doing much weeping over this \$15 million production, which after more than two months of shooting in a location virtually virgin to filmmaking, is both within budget and within four days of the original schedule. In fact, spirits around here couldn't be higher.

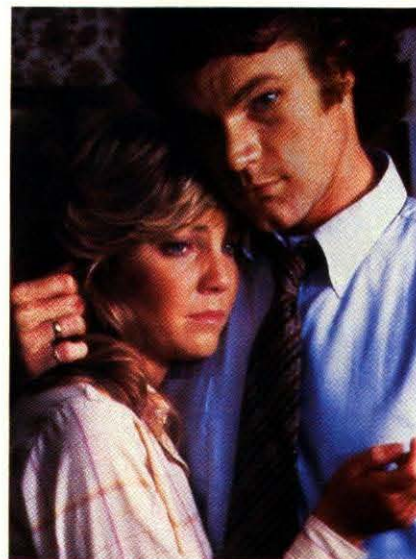
Based on the best-selling novel by Stephen King (author of *Carrie*, *The Shining* and *The Dead Zone*), *Firestarter* boasts both an all-star cast and fire effects of a scope and dimension that haven't been encountered since General Sherman used the South as a site for some epic incendiary scenes during the Civil War. The script by Stanley Mann (*The Collector*, *Omen II*) sticks closely to King's riveting story of two college students who, to earn some extra bucks, participate in a drug-related experiment secretly funded by the sinister Department of Scientific Intelligence, a C.I.A.-like government agency referred to

as "The Shop." In addition to the cash, the students, played by David Keith (*An Officer and A Gentleman*) and *Dynasty*'s Heather Locklear, pick up extra-sensory powers and some hot genes that enable Charlie (Drew Barrymore), the daughter they eventually produce, to torch at will anyone or anything that makes her angry. The Shopkeepers see young Charlie as a prime candidate for some further experiments, and their efforts to capture and eventually eliminate her and her father provide the core of *Firestarter*'s suspenseful action.

In addition to Barrymore, Keith and Locklear, *Firestarter* features three Academy Award-winners for Best Actor/Actress: George C. Scott, Art Carney and Louise Fletcher. Scott plays John Rainbird, a deranged hit-man for the Shop who yearns to achieve a kind of spiritual union with Charlie by bashing her brains in. Carney and Fletcher portray a trusting farm couple who shelter Charlie and her father, Andy, as they flee the Shop's murderous pursuit. Martin Sheen, who recently portrayed John F. Kennedy in the NBC miniseries *Kennedy*, appears as the Shop's genial administrator.

Director Mark Lester is delighted with these casting coups. "We have people that we never imagined would ever be in the movie, people like George Scott, Martin Sheen and Art Carney," he points out enthusiastically. "This became a much classier project because we had this great talent in it. The cast is beyond what I had expected when I started the film. Because it was so expensive to do the effects, we thought that we wouldn't be able to afford a large cast. But everyone was so confident in the script that they raised the budget and put more stars in."

This film's effects, however, will definitely give the stars a run for their money. Special effects for *Firestarter* were handled by Jeff Jarvis and Mike Wood, who have collaborated on such eye-stunners as *Polytergeist* and *Amityville 3D*. *Firestarter*'s demands presented the two with a real challenge. "Mike and myself have tried to develop some new, interesting, and different ways of burning people and burning houses down," Jarvis reports with understated cool. He is a large, broad man whose silvery gray hair and beard make him seem



Drew Barrymore (top right) has the gift and the curse of fire — one look from her, and flames envelop her unlucky victim (top left). Her parents (David Keith and Heather Locklear, above), were themselves victims of secret government experiments, and now renegade agents are after their "talented" daughter.

a combination guru and glamour-boy wrestler. "And we've come up with some things that've never been done before. Like the suit that the stunt people get into for their full body burns. We've actually cut the suit down to about one quarter the size that it normally is. When you see a full body burn in the movies, the suits are always so big and bulky, it looks like the guy is twelve times his normal size! For this film, we got it down so that the suits are approximately an eighth to a quarter of an inch thick. We've been able to achieve as much as a minute and forty seconds of burn time before we have to get the man out.

"We've also developed face masks from molds of the actors that we put over the suit, so you can look through the fire and actually see some facial characteristics. And there are a number of gels that have been invented to help protect the stunt

An All-Star Cast Brings Stephen King's *Firestarter* to Blazing Life

people, so we can burn people with a minimum amount of fire-retardant clothes on. They can do it with their open skin."

Glenn Randall, whose credits include *Star Wars*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, and *E.T.*, is an intensely soft-spoken man whose mild manner and blend-into-the-woodwork looks belie a familiarity with danger that would make Mr. T shudder. He is the man who had to devise the movie's pyrotechnic stunts as well as assemble a crew capable of passing these trials of fire. "Normally setting people on fire is a stunt in itself," Randall explains. "But we've been incorporating other stunts that involve not only the actual stunt, but the fire as well. We're

ished *Raiders II* when they contacted me for the project. I read the script and realized that we did have some huge problems. And it was a challenge. I've been in the business twenty-three years and have seen almost everything and done almost everything. I'm always looking for something new and different. The creative aspect of the business is what appeals to me at this stage of my career. We got some very unusual shots for this movie. We've been able to come up with some things that have not been put on film before. I'm well pleased."

Firestarter, opening May 11, was filmed entirely in North Carolina, with the bulk of

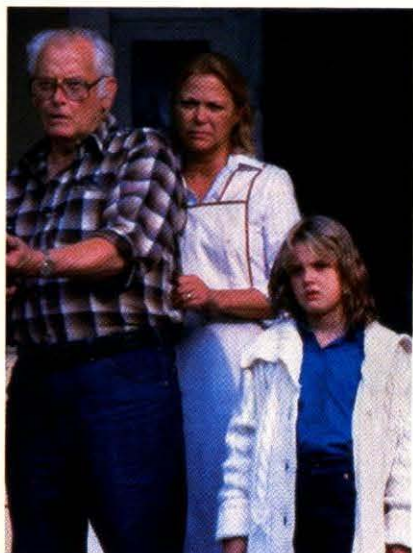
sky with torrents of flames and fire-balls hurtled hundreds of feet across the set to crash in thunderous explosion against the mansion house.

No stranger to such violent cinematic atmospheres, Mark Lester exudes an impressive calm amid the firestorm. Lester, an intense, distracted man with longish black hair swept back from his face and perpetually darting eyes, made his reputation with such action-packed extravaganzas as *Roller Boogie*, *Stunts* and *Class of 1984*, but it was the multidimensional quality of Stephen King's novel that made him decide that *Firestarter*, which was originally conceived as a vehicle for John Carpenter, was the right project for him. "I was given *Firestarter* by (executive producer) Dino De Laurentiis to read, and it was the first Stephen King book I'd read," Lester states. "And I loved it. It works on so many different levels: as a great love story, as a thriller, as suspense, as a supernatural study. That's what attracted me, the book itself."

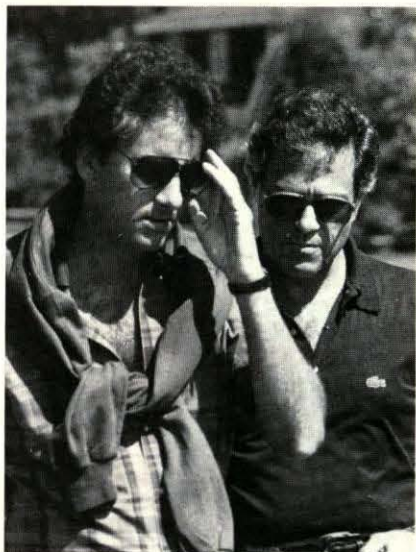
Lester's belief in the essential power of King's story is so strong that he is not at all concerned that *Firestarter's* eye-boggling effects will overwhelm its more emotional aspects. "It does separate in my mind, the effects portion of the film and the dramatic portion of the film," the director admits. "But without the human relationships and characters, the effects never work. We've seen so many effects in movies, and often the human story is lost. So in this I wanted to make sure that the human story is there and that people love the characters and are involved especially with the leads, Andy and Charlie. I wanted to make sure that the love story between the father and daughter was the central focus, so when the effects came they would be a plus to the whole movie."

Lester is convinced that the topical quality of *Firestarter* is also one of its great strengths. "I'm a very politically involved person myself, so that aspect of the story really interested me," he comments. "While the movie works on the entertainment level, I also kept in that social aspect that was in the book, which involves the civil liberties of people, and government agencies and their use of people for research in ways those people don't know about. All those issues that are in the book and that made it such a popular best seller, we kept those in the movie, though they're very subtly done. I think people who are looking for that will find it in the movie."

Asked what he'd like his audiences to feel as they leave the theater after seeing *Firestarter*, Lester replies, "I hope they'll leave on an upbeat note because we tried to keep it away from being a really gruesome film. I think they'll be very excited [he begins to laugh] and anxiously awaiting the sequel, *Firestarter II*, or maybe *Firestopper*, uh, directed by Richard Fleischer!" After more than two months on location and with a final week of heavy shooting left, Mark Lester is cracking jokes. Things must be going well.



George C. Scott (above left), Art Carney and Louise Fletcher (above, with Drew Barrymore), all Academy Award winners, star in *Firestarter*. Director Mark Lester (far left) and producer Frank Capra, Jr. (near left) confer on location in North Carolina.



drawing people on cables, staging high falls, catapult shots, a lot of various gags that are usually tricky enough without the additional problems of putting people in burn suits." This degree of artistic challenge is a good part of what drew Randall to *Firestarter* in the first place: "I'd just fin-

the shooting taking place on the 258-year-old, 12,000-acre Orton Plantation. Producer Frank Capra, Jr., an unpretentious lord of the manor who wanders the set with a glad hand and easy smile — and a watchful eye — regards the spectacular Orton site, which lies on an intercoastal waterway and formerly was a rice plantation, as a real find. "We looked a long time before we found this place," he recalls. "We looked in Mexico, we looked in Rome, we looked in Texas and in and around Louisiana. When we finally found this place, which was a combination of seeing a picture of it on the cover of a magazine and tracking it down through the Film Commission of North Carolina, we came here and said, 'This is perfect for us!'"

A full-size replica of the enormous plantation house and stables was erected for the production, and a pond was dug into the grounds. On this night of shooting, the gloomy, heavily forested plantation bore brooding witness as the stables lit the night



STEVEN VAUGHAN/SIPA PRESS

Michael Paré Stars in Walter Hill's *Streets of Fire*

BY DAVIN SEAY

An elevated train roars through the squalid city in the dead of night. From somewhere a woman's voice, hoarse and world weary, talks on, as if only to herself. "My brother's name is Tom," she says, "Tom Cody." Whiskey and coffee blunt the edge in her voice. "He was complicated. A lot more complicated than people thought. He had a lot of backbone at a time when it was kind of scarce..." As she speaks a lone figure hangs on the overhead straps of the subway car. He wears a long coat and a chambray shirt and at his side is a battered suitcase.

Thus Walter Hill introduces, with all the portentous significance his directorial skills can muster, the mythic lead of his latest film, *Streets of Fire*, the first in a projected film trilogy titled *The Adventures of Tom Cody*. Subsequent installments have been dubbed *The Far City* and *Cody's Return*. Cody is, from the get-go, a character considerably larger than life—a kind of Dirty Harry/Travis Bickle concoction with liberal doses of Brando and Dean added for the appropriate smolder and menace.

Streets of Fire takes Hill full circle, beyond the gritty black humor of his biggest hit *48 HRS.*, past the queasy bloodletting of *Southern Comfort* and *Long Riders*, harking all the way back to an especially gripping modern urban nightmare called *The Warriors*. Hill's first directorial effort (he started out as a screenwriter), *The Warriors* told the tale of roving, rival street gangs and sported speed-editing, street talk and a surfeit of spectacular violence. Billed as a "rock and roll action fantasy," *Streets of Fire* takes place in some gloomy, dirty future and revolves around the kidnapping of a

rock and roll singer (played by Diane Lane of *The Outsiders* and *Rumble Fish* fame) by a gang of bizarre bikers.

"The following story takes place in the Other World," writes Hill and co-scenarist Larry Gross on the very first page of the film's script, "a far-off place where genres collide—in this case, futuristic Fantasy meets the Western, gets married and has Rock and Roll babies..." On that same page is a couplet from the Bruce Springsteen tune from which the movie draws its name. "I live now only with strangers—I talk only with angels that have no place—Streets of Fire..." No one could ever accuse Walter Hill of not knowing exactly the kind of movie he has in mind.

Hill needed a face, a personality to match his consuming vision of the ultimate action hero. The search for an actor to portray, project and embody Tom Cody stopped dead at the clean lines of Michael Paré's jaw.

"He had the right quality," Hill says. "He was the only person I found who was right for the part... a striking combination of toughness and innocence."

It takes some kind of toughness to endure the scorching set on the San Fernando Valley backlot where the shooting of *Streets of Fire* is in its final week. To speed up the schedule, the entire set, six blocks of carefully detailed New York City streets, complete with elevated train tracks and a full-scale movie marquee, has been roofed over with an enormous expanse of plastic tarp to allow night shooting during the day.

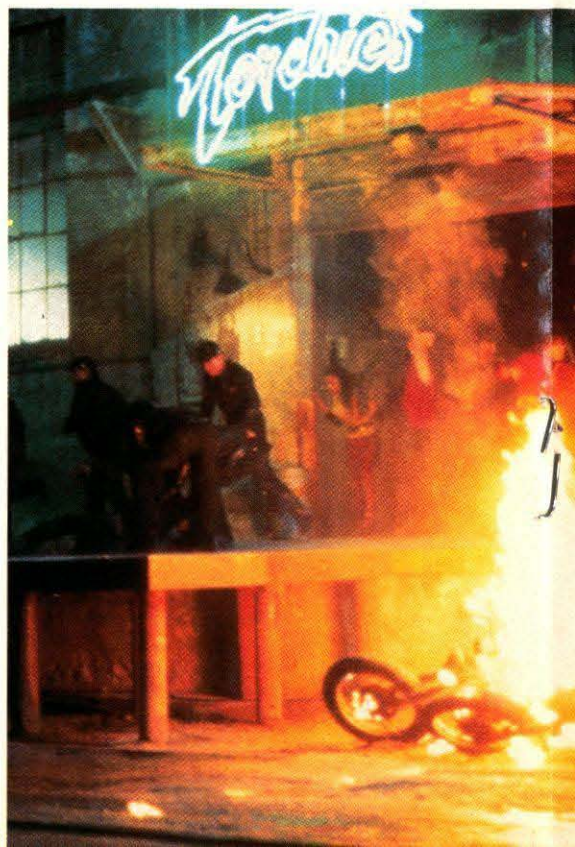
In the midst of this sweltering chaos

STREETS OF FIRE



The brooding, smoldering face of Michael Paré (above left) as hero Tom Cody, mythical creation of veteran action director Walter Hill (above). *Streets of Fire* harkens back to one of Hill's biggest hits, *The Warriors*; both films take place in their own time, neither past, present, nor future, where Western legend combines with fiery urban madness (below).

Diane Lane (opposite), who debuted as the precociously adorable young girl in *A Little Romance*, has grown up; she's a rock & roll singer, Tom Cody's former lover, whom he must rescue from a gang of leather-jacketed motorcycle bullies.



Michael Paré sits calmly smoking a Marlboro, watching Walter Hill set up yet another take of a shot they have been laboring over all afternoon. The 24-year-old actor is, incredibly, dressed in heavy suede britches and a long-sleeved woolen undershirt — Tom Cody's costume and a horrifying reminder of the price stardom sometimes exacts. Paré seems to mind neither the gruelling heat nor the hurry-up-and-wait pace on the set. He has apparently wound some internal clock to half speed, his lids at half mast over pale blue eyes, his blond hair occasionally re-ruffled by a harried make-up woman. He seems to be saving himself up, holding himself in careful reserve, forcing himself to move, talk and react with slow deliberation. The impression created is striking and a little unsettling — it's uncertain whether Michael Paré is about to explode or fall asleep.

"Walter has a vivid picture of what he wants," Paré observes, pulling the final cloud of smoke from the Marlboro and expelling it into the saturated air. "There's never a question of 'do I have what he needs.' You wouldn't be here if you didn't."

He has a point. The reason Paré is here is precisely because Hill saw in his classically chisled features and tightly self-contained presence the makings of a genuine American hero — Hill's own decidedly jaundiced version of the right stuff. Paré, even on first impressions, is uniquely qualified to fit Tom Cody's boots. He broods and flares with all the panache of a Matt Dillon or Richard Gere, resembling, albeit slightly, a considerably younger and healthier Nick Nolte with a touch of down-home Gerard Depardieu.

"Of course I'm lucky," Paré admits, while around him crew and extras slog through their jobs like penitents in hell. "I'm the luckiest guy I know." Biographical details bear out the assertion. Born in Brooklyn, eighth in a line of ten children, Michael's earliest ambition was in a field far from acting. "I went to the Culinary Institute in Hyde Park," he explains, "because that was the first real job I had after my father died and I got out of high school. It was something I could do and get at least a middle-class income. But I never considered it my life's work."

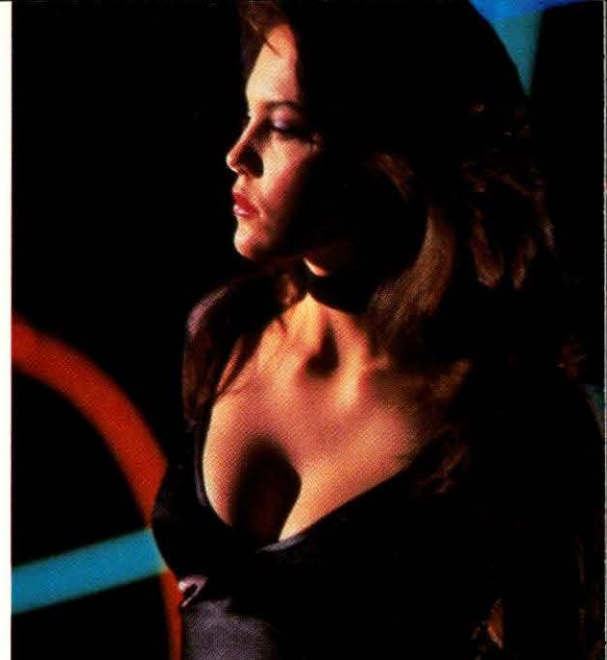
Well, maybe. If cooking was a temporary gig, Paré certainly took it seriously. He graduated from the Institute with a cooking degree and quickly landed a series of apprenticeship jobs that would in time certainly have resulted in full-fledged chefdom. At 21 he became an assistant baker at New York's très chic Tavern on the Green. It was just about then that Opportunity knocked, or rather tapped.

"Streets of Fire is a rock & roll fable," Hill says, "in the sense that the situation and totems of the film are identical with the concerns of most rock & roll songs."

"I was waiting in a bar for my girlfriend," he recounts, "when I felt a tap on my shoulder." Beckoning him to stardom was a New York-based talent scout who eventually put the rather bewildered Paré in touch with the late legendary agent Joyce Selznick. "She helped me get acting lessons," he explains. "I quit cooking and gave myself a year to make it as an actor."

Even someone with Paré's phenomenal good luck can hardly be expected to hit the big time in 12 short months. It took two full years before he landed a supporting role in a short-lived TV series called *Greatest American Hero*, where he stayed for another year-and-a-half, leaping in a single bound over the obligatory acting hurdles of off-off-Broadway, soap operas and commercials. "It was a good experience," he allows. "I learned how to hit my mark and get to make-up and wardrobe on time."

He also, it seems, learned how to project a considerable on-camera appeal. Writer/director Martin Davidson, spotting Paré on *Greatest American Hero*, recognized the former sous-chef's natural talent at conveying all manner of alluring and dangerous undercurrents and cast him in the title role of the turgid rock and roll melodrama called *Eddie and the Cruisers*. "It was a big gamble for both of us," Paré confides. "I



really felt the pressure, but in the end, being able to get up on stage and let loose, it all fell together." Apparently it didn't fall together far enough. One of the most substantial embarrassments of the '83 film season, *Eddie and the Cruisers* perished despite a massive publicity campaign, but Paré hardly went down with the ship. Even before the movie's release he'd been cast for both *Streets of Fire* ("Saw him in *Eddie and the Cruisers*," Hill says tersely; "Met a few times. Talked. That was enough for me.") as well as a co-starring spot in *Undercover*, an Australian effort directed by David Stevens of *A Town Like Alice* fame. "I play a New York promotion man in the 1920s who goes Down Under to sell corsets," Paré explains, while stage hands roll a fire-engine-red, chopped and channeled Mercury onto the set. "*Undercover* is a kind of Cary Grant and Doris Day screwball comedy and it was a lot of fun to make."

Hill summons him to the set. Climbing into the Merc, Paré waits for his cue, then jumps out and strides through a collection of vintage '51 bullet-nose Studebakers, decked out to look like 21st Century squad cars. He glares menacingly at the camera lens and Hill cries "cut."

One gets the impression that Paré is not as interested in keeping his private life private as many a more established and wary film star might be. What he does with his off-camera hours seems calculated to be quite normal and average. "I spend time with my wife," he says with a shrug. "Sometimes we go out with friends. Sometimes we stay at home and watch TV." Michael met Lisa, a law student who works as an assistant in the Los Angeles D.A.'s office, in New York. "She was a blind date for my brother Terrance, who writes romance novels for a living. We were married two years ago and moved out to Hollywood. When she finishes school we'll find a little place in upstate New York."

It all sounds quite, well, idyllic, but one wonders whether Paré, given his current status as a bankable property, will ever have the chance to indulge his bucolic dreams. If, as seems certain, *Streets of Fire* is another Walter Hill hit, Paré will be caught up in the destiny of Tom Cody for the foreseeable future when the film opens June 8. It's a fate that suits him well.





TANK

The two stars — Sherman's finest vintage armament (above, crushing a car and at least one brick building), and James Garner (inset left) as the Sergeant Major who restores the World War II mobile destroyer and then finds good use for it.

Where Does James Garner Drive His Tank? Anywhere He Wants To!

BY CHRIS MORRIS

James Garner is tank jockey Zack Carey in Irwin Yablans' forthcoming production *Tank*, directed by Marvin J. Chomsky from a screenplay by Dan Gordon. It's a plum role for Garner. Carey is a tough, acid-tongued professional soldier with some sturdy, old-fashioned ideas about love, duty, family and honor. He arrives at his new post, Fort Clemmons in the rural South, with his wife LaDonna (Shirley Jones) and his son Billy (C. Thomas Howell), daydreaming of his imminent retirement. His arrival at the fort attracts some immediate attention — after all, it isn't every officer who arrives on base with a completely restored tank in tow. The tank is Zack's hobby; it's been painstakingly reconditioned over the past fifteen years. Asked why anyone would want a Sherman tank, he replies, "Because the odds against accidentally shooting yourself while cleaning it are incredible."

The trouble starts for Zack Carey when he leaves the base one night and drives to neighboring Clemmons in search of a cold beer and a friendly alternative to the dull pleasures of the officers' club. In a Clemmons roadhouse, he strikes up a conversation with Sara (Jenilee Harrison), a young prostitute who works for the local vice lord, Sheriff Buelton (G.D. Spradlin).

When one of the sheriff's deputies roughs up the girl, Zack retaliates by beating the deputy senseless.

Buelton then strikes back at Zack by arresting his son Billy in a trumped-up drug bust. When Billy is finally sentenced to the state prison farm, Zack decides he's had enough of Southern justice and moves his own armament into action.

Zack Carey's vengeful tank raid on the Clemmons jail is just the beginning of an uproarious, explosive cross-country chase which pits the crazed Sheriff Buelton and his minions against the armor-clad firepower of the Sherman tank manned by

Zack, Billy and Sara.

Tank's high-spirited action is perfectly suited to the talents of James Garner. The durable and charismatic leading man, known to millions as TV's Bret Maverick and Jim Rockford, is himself no stranger to the role of military man. Some of Garner's best-remembered films, including *The Great Escape*, *Sayonara* and *The Americanization of Emily*, featured the actor as a wise-cracking American in uniform.

Shirley Jones has been one of America's most wholesome actresses since the Fifties,



"*Tank* was just a joy. It will be a great little part for me," Jenilee Harrison says of her role as the 17-year-old prostitute Sara. "The best thing for me was wearing absolutely no makeup, with my hair up on top of my head in a ponytail. They only cared about my acting, they didn't care how I looked." A welcome relief for the actress after her stint on ABC's *Three's Company* and her "surf chick" role in the TV movie, *Malibu*, where much fuss was made over appearance.

"James Garner is great, we became good friends," she says enthusiastically. "We played cards every night for three months. We played Jerry's Rules. Jerry is his chiropractor. It's a great card game."

As for the near legendary difficulty of star Garner, Harrison is clearly on Garner's side. "He takes an authoritative position many times, but that's just

to protect himself. James Garner has made himself a star, nobody else has done it. He never got out of line, never dictated anybody else's job."

Tank spent those three months on location in Georgia, "in some small towns, and we worked six days a week," Ms. Harrison remembers. And how was Georgia? "A lot of red clay," she says succinctly.

When asked about her career after *Tank*, Ms. Harrison replies, "I take it day by day. I plan on being in this business my whole life."

Judith Sims

when she rose to stardom as the singing star of the film versions of Rogers and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!* and *Carousel*. She graduated from girl-next-door roles to her latter-day identification as everybody's favorite Mom via her stint in the long-running TV series *The Partridge Family*, which co-starred her real-life stepson David Cassidy. But those accustomed to the squeaky-clean Shirley Jones may be in for a shock: Screenwriter Dan Gordon has conceived the distaff Carey as a tough, sometimes tart-tongued Army wife.

C. Thomas Howell comes to his role as Billy Carey fresh from his starring debut as Ponyboy Curtis in Francis Ford Coppola's film of S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders*. *Tank* is only Tommy Howell's third film (his first screen role was as one of Henry Thomas' bike-riding buddies in *E.T.*), but he's already getting a chance to display his versatility — the fast-paced action of this current project is in marked contrast to Coppola's introspective drama.

Not that Tommy Howell isn't at home with action. His dad, Chris Howell, is a well-known stunt man, and Tommy himself is quite the cowboy — he was California Junior Rodeo Association Champion in 1979.



Rounding out *Tank*'s cast are a master screen villain and a vivacious young actress. G.D. Spradlin is a superb and well-traveled screen heavy. If a part demands a menacing Southern or Southwestern type, Spradlin is the man for the job. The square-jawed, steely-eyed actor is well-known to connoisseurs of movie evil as the hard-nosed coaches in *North Dallas Forty* and *One on One*, the corrupt Nevada senator in *The Godfather Part II*, and the grim general who dispatches Marlon Brando's assassin in *Apocalypse Now*.

Tank marks the screen debut of Jenilee Harrison, but she should be no stranger to fans of the long-running TV comedy *Three's Company*. The blonde, curvaceous actress was prominently featured on the show as the bubble-headed roommate of John Ritter and Joyce DeWitt.

Tank's solid cast is put through their sometimes exhausting paces by Marvin

A little family get-together — Shirley Jones (center) joins Harrison, Garner, C. Thomas Howell and the tank — for a joyous homecoming after a very tough journey.

Chomsky, a veteran director whose credits include some of the most noteworthy TV films of recent years: *Holocaust*, *Roots* and *Inside the Third Reich* (for which he won the prestigious Director's Guild Award for best director).

The Georgia locations serve as a colorful backdrop for a brightly variegated story. *Tank*, opening March 16, offers audiences intimate family drama, raucous comedy, and, most of all, full-tilt action, much of it supplied by its eponymous centerpiece. As Zack Carey's Sherman slogs toward the state line at the climax of the film, crowds of onlookers roar — a response that's sure to be duplicated in movie houses around the country.

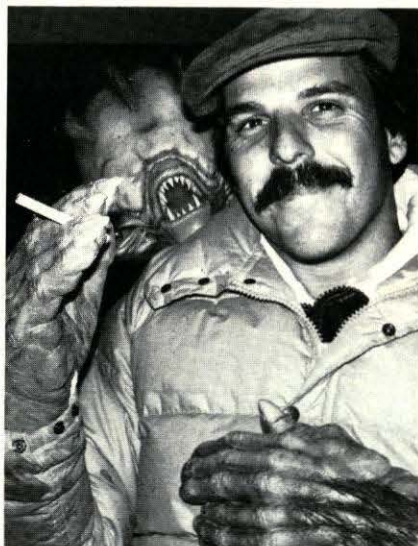
THE LAST STARFIGHTER

(Continued from page 4)

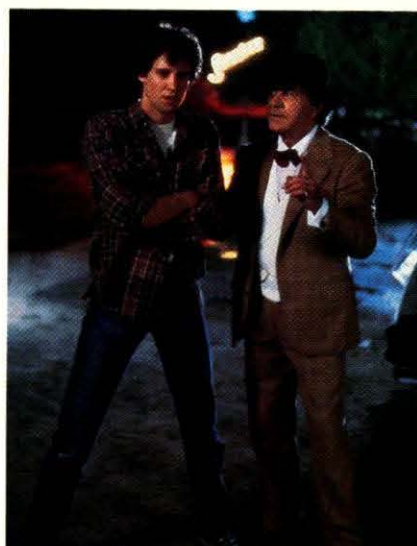
thing Goes, the younger Castle was a film school buddy of John Carpenter. They saw *The Resurrection of Bronco Billy*, a project on which they combined talents, win an Oscar in the "short subject" division. Castle later assisted Carpenter with the ahead-of-its-time science fiction movie *Dark Star* and, also with Carpenter, co-wrote the Kurt Russell-starring *Escape from New York*. The masked role? Castle was seen (and yet not seen) as the psycho killer in *Halloween*.

The in-kitchen mysteries connected to the preparation of *The Last Starfighter* concern, and I quote the only material available to the press at present, "... a facility that can fully utilize the most powerful graphic software ever written, for the most powerful computer that has ever been built, combined with an extremely high level of man-machine interaction."

Digital Productions, an independent company headed by John Whitney, Jr. and Gary Demos, has been tabbed to make the battles among the stars come alive. Until now, computer-aided images have been little snippets here and there — the rugged bolts that spin down on a Chevy truck emblem, to cite one often-seen example. Rather frequently, computer-generated images have been part of a live action scene, a minor overlay intended to create a



short-lived "How did they do that?" impression. For the first time, whole blocks of movie time are going to be high-resolution computer graphics, thanks to what's called the Digital Computer Scene Simulation Process. What appears on the screen will have come directly from the mind of the programmer/artist, with the substantial aid of a \$6.5 million CRAY IS/1000 computer. Compared to the secrecy surrounding their work at Digital Productions, Demos and Whitney make the people in charge of Russia's missile programs seem like compulsive blabbermouths. At this point only two things are conclusively known outside



Robert Preston (above, with Lance Guest) plays an intergalactic con man — a sort of Music Man in Outer Space. The film's producer, Gary Adelson (above left), is proud of his movie's technical achievements in special effects — which have remained top secret.

the inner circle of *The Last Starfighter*'s makers: The costumes for the aliens are the weird and whimsical creations of a master costume designer named Robert Fletcher and the space battle sequences are going to be a step beyond anything ever done before. It could be a feast. *The Last Starfighter* opens June 22.



Teenage Agony and Ecstasy, From the Writer of National Lampoon's Vacation

BY MIKE BYGRAVE

What's the worst thing that can happen to a teenager? According to Molly Ringwald, having the whole family forget your sixteenth birthday may not be the worst, but it comes close. That just happens to be the plot of Ringwald's new film, *Sixteen Candles*, opening May 11, and a subject close to her heart in real life. Her own sixteenth birthday is in February, 1984.

"Sixteen is so major. Especially if you live in Southern California, like I do, where you really can't go anywhere without driving. Turning sixteen and getting your driver's license is really like getting your freedom."

No one is likely to forget Ringwald's birthday. Indeed, some months prior to the event, negotiations were under way as to what kind of car she would receive as her present. "I want a Rabbit but my parents want me to get a BMW. I don't want a BMW because it'll look like I'm driving my

parents' car. A Rabbit is so cute — a white Rabbit convertible."

Ringwald has earned her car. She's been performing since she was 4, singing with her father's Great Pacific Jazz Band. She played one of the orphans in the West Coast production of *Annie* and later became a regular on TV's *Facts of Life*. But it was her role as John Cassavetes' daughter in Paul Mazursky's *The Tempest* which put her career into overdrive. Since then, she's made a couple of TV movies and the sci-fi epic *Spacehunter: Adventure in the Forbidden Zone*. *Sixteen Candles* is one of two films about teenagers in Chicago being made back-to-back by writer-director John Hughes, both starring Ringwald.

"John says he basically writes about teenagers because he finds them more interesting than adults, and I think that's great," Ringwald says. "*Sixteen Candles* will remind people what it's like to be a teenager again. When I read the script I thought, 'yes, this is exactly how it is to be 16.'"

Although she's been working most of her young life, Ringwald is the opposite of a "stage kid." She's fresh, unspoiled and, according to the highly regarded character actor Paul Dooley, who plays her father in

Sixteen Candles

Sixteen Candles, "a typical teenager off the set. But when she acts, she's charming and interesting to look at on film. You get the camera in close and there are ever-changing, subtle expressions going on underneath the surface. She has a face on which emotions play. Meryl Streep has that



kind of face, where you see three or four emotions going on as she says one sentence, and Molly has it too. There's more to her acting than just the words."

Ringwald acknowledges her life has been extraordinary, but says she never missed "having a normal childhood. I think I've gained much more than I've missed. I haven't had to waste half my life figuring out what I want to do. I've been able to do something sooner than most people and, if I don't want to keep doing it forever, at least I've had the choice and I know what it's like."

Her film work has introduced her to other things besides acting. For *Tempest* she spent two months in Greece and a month in Rome ("the first time I'd ever been abroad"). Working in Canada and meeting French-Canadians on *Spacehunter* led to her current interest in studying French. "I'm going to a French school now and I hope to learn enough so that, when it's time for me to think about college, I could go to a college in Paris."

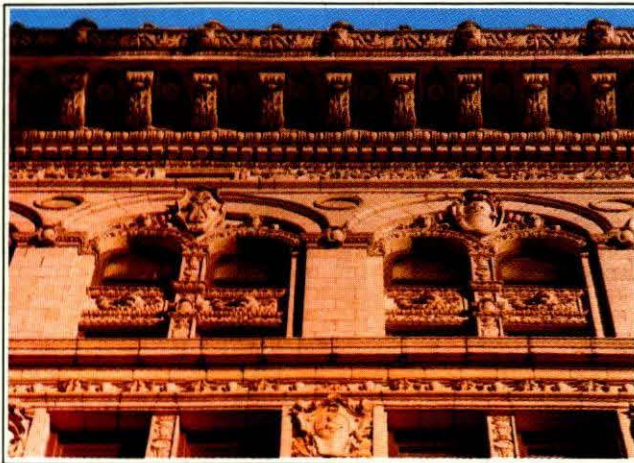
Ringwald credits the support of her family with helping her to keep a perspective

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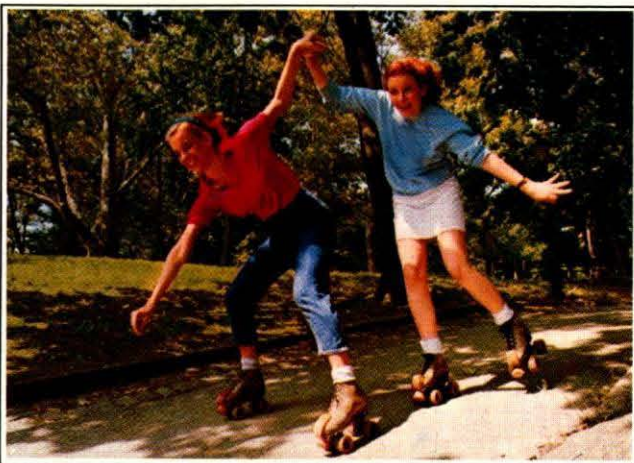


*It's Molly Ringwald's sixteenth birthday, but she has to spend it as a member of her sister's wedding party (above). Michael Schoeffler (top left and left, with Molly and writer/director John Hughes) helps her celebrate more romantically. Paul Dooley (opposite, above) is her harried father — if he looks familiar, it's because he played Dennis Christopher's harried father in *Breaking Away*.*

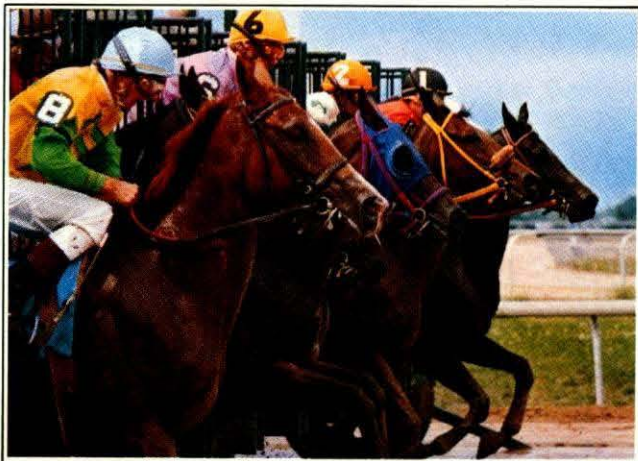
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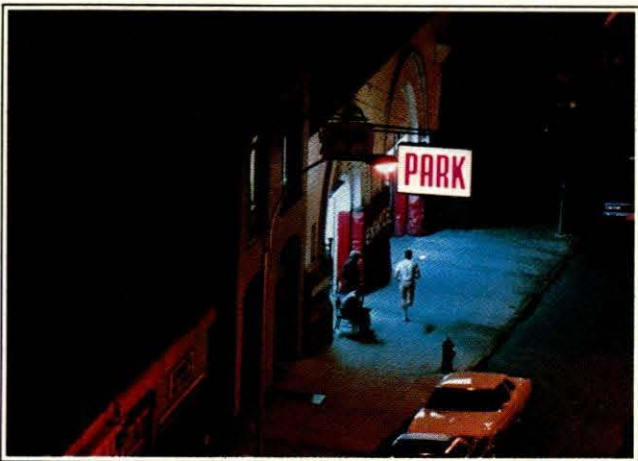
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Sixteen Candles

(Continued from page 12)



on her success. One teenage trait she doesn't have is rebellion. "I'm really close to my whole family. Show business can be really superficial and people are always telling me things. I wouldn't be able to deal with that without the family. If I didn't

have my parents to keep me down to earth, I don't know what I'd do."

Because of Molly's age, her mother usually accompanies her to locations. Though Ringwald herself decides what projects to accept, the family is involved in her decisions and there is an absolute prohibition on "taking off my clothes in a role. I wouldn't want to anyway. I know a lot of people just consider it work, but I'm not at the stage where I could take it in my stride."

Ringwald, whose own movie idols are the Jack Nicholsons and the Warren Beattys rather than any of her contemporaries, is honest about her films. She expressed dissatisfaction with *Spacehunter* and says in general "some of the films I've done I think could have been better. But they're all experience and that's what I need." She has no doubt about *Sixteen Candles*, though. "I guess you'd call it a teenage movie, but in a sense it's not. It doesn't make the adults in the film look like idiots or completely take the side of the kids. It keeps a good balance."

Ringwald is already working on the second John Hughes film, *Breakfast Club*, about "five teenagers in high school detention who are all total opposites. They hate each other at the beginning of the day and

they're best friends by the end." As well as Ringwald, *Breakfast Club* will feature two other rising young stars, Ally Sheedy (from *War Games* and *Bad Boys*) and Emilio Estevez, Martin Sheen's son (soon to be seen in *Repo Man*).

An avowed New Wave music buff, when she's not acting Ringwald can be found at rock clubs and concerts. In her own singing, she sticks to jazz: She still sings every Sunday at a San Fernando Valley hangout with her father's band, "mainly Billie Holiday and Bessie Smith numbers." Ringwald says she knows few people in the film business "though Emilio (Estevez) has been taking me to meet people like Tom Cruise for the first time." Her boyfriends tend to come from school "partly because my parents won't let me date anyone over 19." For the next couple of years the money she makes will continue to go into a trust fund, to be released when she's 18, and her plans for it are a nice mixture of the practical and the fanciful. "I'll use it to go to college, buy a house, and maybe buy a plane—or a boat." It's too far off for her to worry about. First comes that unforgettable sixteenth birthday and, just to make sure no one can forget it, Ringwald asked for a video camera for Christmas so she can film the whole event.

COMING SOON

Conan, King of Thieves, Part II is in full battle dress down in Mexico, clanging and sweating and, well, battling. Only two stars return from the first *Conan*—Arnold Schwarzenegger (with his costarring muscles), and Mako, who plays the wizened wizard narrator. New faces include bizarrely unique singer Grace Jones, who plays Zula, a warrior. Ms. Jones has already laid several stuntmen low with her enthusiastic and all-too-realistic whamming, thumping and poleaxing. Another warrior is former basketball star Wilt Chamberlain, who plays Bombaata, guardian of a young woman Conan is sent to fetch. Like the first, *Conan II* involves a quest, thieves and other lowlife, and supernatural elements, full of crypts and labyrinths, forests and deserts and grungy folk, all directed by Richard Fleischer from a script by Stanley Mann (who also wrote *Firestarter*, detailed elsewhere in this issue). *Conan* and *Dune* are operating side by side in Mexico, and there are at least three major overlaps—producer Raffaella De Laurentiis, publicist Anne Strick... and Carlo Rambaldi, who created giant sandworms and the

Guild Navigator for *Dune* (and *E.T.* himself in past credits). Mr. Rambaldi has constructed for *Conan II* a god that metamorphoses into a winged, clawed, nasty beast.

A handsome remake of a venerable American film looms in the distance. *Brewster's Millions*, which has enjoyed six previous versions (the first in 1914, the last in 1961), will be remade this year by director Walter Hill and producer Joel Silver (who collaborated on *48 HRS.* and *Streets of Fire*). For those unfamiliar with *Brewster's* long history, it is the tale of a young man who, in order to inherit a vast fortune, must give away or throw away \$30 million in 30 days. (In the earlier versions, the sum was \$1 million; the new edition has been adjusted for a few decades' inflation.) The film, scripted by Timothy Harris and Herschel Weingrod, will be shot on location in San Francisco for eventual release around Christmas 1984. And who will play Brewster this time? Maybe Bill Murray, maybe not.

All of Me is definitely not a remake, but the theme may sound familiar to fantasy addicts. Lily Tomlin plays the richest woman



Arnold Schwarzenegger, his pectorals and his sneer as they will appear in *Conan, King of Thieves, Part II*.

in the world who knows she's about to die. Unwilling to just leave in peace, she arranges to have her soul transferred to the body of gorgeous Victoria Tennant (*Winds of War*), daughter of a stablehand, but there's a hitch in the switch and Lily ends up inside attorney Steve Martin. Carl Reiner directs Phil Robinson's screenplay.

Brazil, which title has nothing much to do with that country, sounds like 1984 as seen through Monty Python—since Python animator/director Terry Gilliam is director and cowriter (with famous playwright Tom Stoppard and Charles McKeown). *Brazil*, we're told, is a twisted look at paternal governments,

red tape, and assorted other nightmares, and it stars Jonathan Pryce and Kim Greist as two innocents abroad in this plot, which also includes Robert De Niro, Monty Python's Michael Palin, Katherine Helmond (*Soap*) and Ian Holm (the latter two appeared in *Time Bandits* as the ogre's wife and Napoleon, respectively). The comic fantasy, filming in England, is produced by Arnon Milchan... who is also producing *Legend*, an "epic romance in primeval time," peopled (and animated) with dragons, fairies, elves, unicorns and sorcerers. The screenplay by William Hjortsberg will be directed by Ridley Scott (*Alien*, *Blade Runner*). **Judith Sims**

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