



Life

FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 1997

BEST BETS

WHAT'S HOT AND HAPPENING THIS WEEKEND

VIDEO

The screen's most entertaining civics lesson since 12 Angry Men was also one of last year's most controversial movies: The People vs. Larry Flynt from two-time Oscar-winning director Milos Forman. Sharing its video spotlight this week are further inducements to viewing: Desmond's Breaking the Waves (with Oscar-nominated Emily Watson); the all-star rock documentary Message to Love; and Frank Capra's still kinetic 1932 Depression drama, American Madness. (Video column, 3D)

BOOK No topic is more passionately contested than how to raise children correctly. Dona Mack's The Assault on Parenthood: How Our Culture Undermines the Family (Simon & Schuster, \$25) explores the philosophical issues being debated. Many parents find that the government, the schools, the courts, the media undermine their legitimate authority and destabilize families, putting children in jeopardy. A feisty conservative examination of an important topic.

ALBUM Kenny Garrett, considered by many to be the best alto saxophonist in jazz today, plays with great emotion and imagination on his new Songbook. The album finds him in the company of pianist Kenny Kirkland, bassist Nat Reeves and drummer Jeff "Tain" Watts, with whom he often tours in a quartet. The sidemen get ample opportunity to shine. Garrett, 36, shows his versatility with his 11 compositions here, swinging from the red-hot Wounded Steps to the grooving Brother Hubbard to the thoughtful Before It's Time to Say Goodbye. The latter was originally intended for Miles Davis, with whom Garrett played for several years.

DRINK Hard to believe that there are any more undiscovered quality wine regions in California, but the Santa Cruz Mountain area is Gilroy fits the bill. Perhaps underappreciated is more accurate, since connoisseurs have been drawn to this region for decades. Producers David Bruce, Ridge and Santa Cruz Mountain Vineyards are the best known, and a cabinet from Los La Chance recently was served at the White House. Look for \$12-\$25 offerings from Abilgen, Kathryn Kennedy, Byington, McHenry and Zayanic.

BEST BET FOR STARDOM Tanea Stewart
Background: The director of Theater Arts at Alabama State University has been acting for more than 20 years. Best known for her recurring bias Kibbedee in In the Heat of the Night and as Samuel L. Jackson's wife in A Time to Kill.
Onstage: Created the original Profiles of Black Women. Through poetry, song and prose pieces that I have written, I talk about my experiences of growing up in the South and overcoming the obstacles of racism and poverty.
Cutting corners in career: "Many times we all want to skip steps, but I've learned not to because when you do, if you fall, you have a big drop."
Look-alike: "I'm compared to Patti LaBelle. I've had people walk up to me in Vegas and say, 'I know it's you, Patti!'"
Next up: In the USA Network movie My Stepson, My Lover June 25, also touring with artists, including Gladys Knight, Tremaine Hawkins and Esther Rolle, in Curtis King's Symphony With the Divas in October.

INSIDE TODAY

On TV: Turner Classic Movies airs vintage documentary series Hollywood, 3D.
Interview: Julianne Moore, right, star of The Lost World: Jurassic Park, 4D.
Movies: A review of Buddy, 4D.



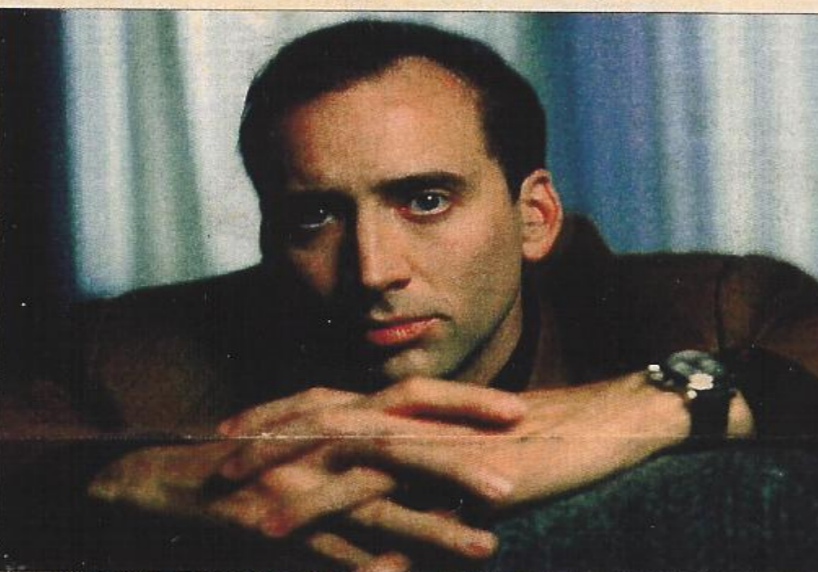
The musical theater magic of Washington, D.C., director Eric Schaeffer, 6D.
Theater review: Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde, 6D.
A guide to using the Internet to select a college, 9D.



"If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. Parents always catch the second person." Age 10
To encourage their interest in golf, kids 18 and under get in free to the BellSouth Senior Classic.

GEMS of the USA
Traveling scenic highways, 1,2E
Small surprises in big cities, 8E
Guidebooks for vacation planning, 9E
New roller coasters, 10E

Nicolas Cage, man of action



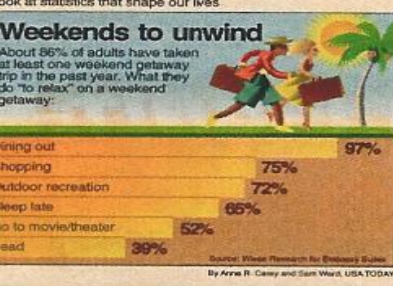
With 'Con Air,' he indulges latest flight of fancy

HOLLYWOOD — Nicolas Cage, cast in City of Angels as an angel sent to escort souls to heaven, stares at Meg Ryan, playing a surgeon struggling to save a patient's life. His cobalt eyes reflect wonder, longing, love. Take after take, he never blinks. Only when the scene is wrapped does he wince and rub his dried-out orbs. An unblinking angel is not in the script, it's in Cage's head. "I sort of put that on myself," he admits later, sitting on a plush purple couch in a luxury trailer on the set. "I'm learning it's impossible to play an angel because of the physics," he muses, noting "alarming parallels between Albert Einstein's theory of relativity and St. Thomas Aquinas' hierarchy of angels." Cage is not an actor who merely memorizes lines. For his film Con Air, which opens today, he endowed his fantasy hero Cameron Poe with a hard bod, a Southern drawl, a plash purple couch in a luxury trailer on the set.

Nestling fossil feeds dino-bird link theory

The oldest known fossil of a baby bird shows that it had a head and neck like a meat-eating velociraptor but was otherwise similar in its development to modern birds, researchers report today. The discovery, reported in the journal Science, further supports the link between birds and dinosaurs. The fossil represents a remarkable combination of ancient and modern physical features, says Luis Chiappe, American Museum of Natural History, New York. The nestling, which is 4.5 inches long, hatched 135 million years ago in the Pyrenees of northern Spain — only 5 million years after the appearance of Archaeopteryx, regarded as the oldest known bird. There are very few embryos and hatchlings that are known as fossils," says Chiappe. "Before this find, the only ones we knew of were in the range of 80 million years old. Now we're pushing the record of hatchlings back by 50 million years. The fossil was found eight years ago by an amateur collector. Two years ago, the collector gave it to paleontologist Jose Sanz at the Universidad Autonoma in Madrid for identification. Had it been kept in a private collection, the importance of the fossil would never have been known, Sanz says. The most important similarity between the fossil and modern birds are tiny holes in the bone that are present during development and disappear in maturity. That shows birds developed in the Cretaceous period much as they do today. The bird also had wings and feathers, which would have made it an effective flyer. But beyond that, similarities end. The fossil had a primitive skull, sharp teeth and bones to support powerful neck muscles for chewing. In other words, birds of the dinosaur era would make Alfred Hitchcock's The Birds look like Disney. "If you were to take a time machine and go back 130 million years you would have a hard time recognizing the birds," Chiappe says. "They had teeth, big claws in the wings and long tails."

JSA SNAPSHOTS



Turn left at the Picasso: A drive-up art gallery

What do artwork and hamburgers have in common? You can now get both at drive-ins. At least you can in Salt Lake City, at the new Drive Through Art Gallery. If you've got just three minutes, you can see contemporary art, says Don Brady, who has opened the drive-through gallery in a former savings and loan building in an exclusive residential neighborhood. "I hardly ever have time to go to galleries except on vacation or when I'm traveling on business," says Brady, who owns an interior design firm in town. "But people do have time on the way home from work, or between work and going out to dinner. Now they can use that time to see great art." Art lovers can drive through at any time, but Brady says evening is best. "It looks particularly beautiful when the lights are highlighting the art." Brady installed glass windows, 13 feet high and 90 feet long, on one side of the building, so as cars drive past the front of the building, the artwork is displayed on the left-hand side. On display through July 19: artist Tom Judd's Blackboard Chronicles, a series of chalkboard drawings. Up next will be Venice, Calif., artist Sue Balmforth's collection of antique found objects. Installing the exhibits can cost up to \$4,000, but admission is free. The artwork is for sale (not Judd's however, since it was drawn right on the gallery wall and will be washed off). Brady hopes to expand the drive-through concept, using old banks and carwashes. Will serious art buyers go for the drive-in experience? Bruce Wolmer, editor of Art & Auction magazine, has his doubts. "Ultimately, the experience of art involves a certain physical relationship to a room, the body moving around the work of art." Still, Wolmer acknowledges the benefits. "The audience for contemporary art is limited. If it takes a drive-in gallery to stir up interest, that's fine."

Don Brady graduated in painting and drawing and continues to have an avid interest in art. He created the Don Brady Drive Through Gallery in Salt Lake City. This is the only drive-thru gallery in the world and has received extensive publicity. It has been featured on the cover of the life section of USA Today. Twenty seven publications from all over the world have featured articles on Don Brady and his gallery. 48 Hours did a five minute story on it with Dan Rather introducing the Drive Through Art Gallery.



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By Cathy Hainer USA TODAY
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