GOOD GRACIOUS: Cancel out greed with free-trade holiday gifts | Page 31



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Thursday



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Frist's 'Sabbatical': GOP leader won't run for president | 3



Redskin Legacy: Campbell follows a trail blazed by Doug Williams | 15

WeekendPass





Weather >> Cloudy, Breezy



Security Tight for Papal Visit

VIEW FINDERS: Turkish photographers help each other get a glimpse of the plane carrying Pope Benedict XVI as he departs from Ankara on his way to Istanbul on Wednesday. Authorities in the Muslim nation took massive security precautions for the Istanbul stop, clearing the roads of all traffic for the papal motorcade. • 'Reciprocity': Pope calls for mutual respect among faiths | Page 9

Radiation Found on Two Jets

Airliners are latest twist in probe of ex-spy's poisoning

LONDON | Officials found traces of radiation on two British Airways jets as part of an investigation into the poisoning death of a former Russian spy, and the airline appealed Wednesday to tens of thousands of passengers who flew to Moscow or other cities to contact health authorities.

Two Boeing 767s at London's Heathrow Airport tested positive and a third was

grounded in Moscow awaiting examination, British Airways said. The airline said "the risk to public health is low" but that it was attempting to contact to some 33,000 passengers who have flown on the jets since Oct. 25.



The announcement was the latest twist in a case that has aggravated tensions between Britain and Russia and could strain sensitive negotiations on issues as diverse as energy, NATO expansion and the nuclear ambitions of Iran and North Korea.

Britain has been careful not to blame the Kremlin for the death of Alexander Litvinenko a former KGB agent and fierce critic of Russian President Vladimir Putin. But criticism of Putin's increasing authoritarianism has intensified since the poisoning.

Authorities would not say if the radiation on board the two jets was polonium-20. High doses of polonium-210 — a rare radioactive element usually made in specialized nuclear facilities — were found in Litvinenko's body. (AP)

TEXTS | Don't 4get 2 Tip A Boulder, Colo., restaurant chain will use new technology to allow customers to pay for their meals via text message, the Rocky Mountain News reported. Noodles & Co. says the method — in which customers use a free service that links to their



checking or savings bank account - allows customers to cut down on credit card fees, but the company has its own reason for the plan: Customers can agree to receive notices of events and special promotions by text message as well. (EXPRESS) EyeOpeners | Page 2

eye Openers

SLEEP

He Dreamt He Was Flying

A window cleaner in Nashville fell asleep on the job — while working 20 floors up outside a skyscraper, the Tennessean reported. Passers-by eventually noticed the man wasn't moving, and contacted fire officials, who said, "He just fell asleep." Firefighters tugged on the ropes and held up a sign from inside the window to get his attention. When he woke up, the cleaner lowered himself to the pavement and was examined by paramedics who had arrived on the scene. "I figured he had just either passed out or maybe he had fallen asleep," said witness Leroy Anderson. (EXPRESS)

POLITICS

'Noise-o-Meter' Will Decide Debate Victor

A Malaysian politician has a solution for ending screaming matches in a state legislature: Set up a "shouting therapy" room where they can argue to their hearts' content. "There is an urgent need for such a center," Sarawak's deputy chief minister, Alfred Jabu, said Wednesday. Jabu said law-makers had degraded proceedings by turning the assembly into a "fish market." Lawmakers who shout too much should be sent to a room where they can yell and scream without disrupting proceedings, he said. (AP)



TICKLING THE IVORIES

Baby Grand

You can mock sympathize with someone by miming to play a tiny violin. But if you can't play the violin, you may need other options. Take a cue from Japanese pianist Maiko Ichiyanagi, who played Wednesday on the world's smallest "Grand Pianist," produced by Japanese toy maker Sega. The piano — shown here in Tokyo — has 88 working keys and can automatically play 100 pre-installed songs. The grand piano — one-sixth the normal size — will go on sale April I for \$400. (EXPRESS)



You wouldn't be messin' with them fairies, if you knew what was good for ya.

NEESTATIONS

Option B: Build New Luxury Goblin Shelter

A Norwegian man is threatening to sue his town to prevent them from tearing down his barn, which he fears will upset fairies and goblins that live there, the Nordlys newspaper reported. This fall, officials declared the building a derelict structure, and are fining him \$47 a day until he levels it. But Hakon Robertsen refuses, saying, "Underworld creatures have taken up residence in the building." (EXPRESS)

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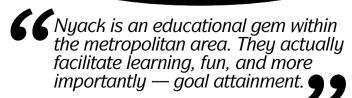
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NOW, IT'S PERSONAL: The Bush administration wants North Korea's attention, so, like a scolding parent, it is trying to issue luxury sanctions on Kim Jong II's favorite items — including iPods, plasma televisions and Segway scooters.

Nation

In Brief

FRESNO, CALIF.

Pastor Charged in Killing of Elderly Man to Gain Millions

A preacher was arrested at the Mexican border and accused of deliberately crashing his pickup truck and killing an 85-year-old farmer in a scheme to get his hands on the man's multimillion-dollar trust fund. Howard Douglas Porter, 55, was being held without bail Wednesday in San Diego on suspicion of murder, attempted murder and embezzlement from an elderly person. (AP)

ST. LOUIS

Student Killed in Fire At Fraternity House

A fire at a fraternity house near the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus killed a student early Wednesday, less than two weeks after a fire killed a student at a Nebraska fraternity house. Three students lived at the Pi Kappa Alpha house in St. Louis, and two got out when the fire broke out around 3:30 a.m., university spokesman Bob Samples said. Police identified the victim as Brian Schlittler, 25. (AP)

CAPE CANAVERAL, FLA.

NASA Set for Night Launch

Preparations are on schedule for NASA's first nighttime space shuttle launch in four years, managers said Wednesday. The space agency plans to launch Discovery at 9:36 p.m. on Dec. 7. It will be the third launch of the year and the fourth since the Columbia disaster killed seven astronauts in 2003. (AP)

Iraq Study Group Reaches Accord

Panel to issue report next week; Pentagon eyes new deployment

WASHINGTON | A bipartisan commission has reached a consensus on new U.S. policies for Iraq and will announce its recommendations next week, the group's co-chairman said Wednesday.

Former Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., declined to disclose any specifics about the Iraq Study Group's decisions. The report, much anticipated by the Bush administration and members of Congress, is coming out next Wednesday amid the spiraling violence in Iraq that has raised questions about the viability of the Iraqi government and U.S. policy for a deeply unpopular war



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Peter Pace discusses the Iraq war on Wednesday. The Pentagon is pushing for more troops in the region next year.

"This afternoon, we reached a consensus ... and we will announce that on December 6," Hamilton told a forum on national security at the Center for American Progress, a liberal group. "We're making recommendations," said Hamilton, who led the group with former Secretary of State James A. Baker III.

Defense officials, meantime, said the Pentagon is developing blueprints to send four more battalions to Iraq early next year, including some to Baghdad.

The extra combat engineer battalions of Army reserves, would total about 3,500 troops and would come from around the United States, said officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because the deployments have not been announced.

Frist Abandons Run at White House

Senator says he will leave politics to focus on medical practice

WASHINGTON | Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist renounced a bid for the White House in 2008 on Wednesday, an early dropout from the most wide-open presidential race in decades.

"In the Bible, God tells us for everything there is a season, and for me, for now, this season of being an elected official has come to a close," said the Tennessee Republican, a surgeon before he entered politics in 1994.

Frist made his announcement as several potential GOP hopefuls were descending on Miami for the annual meeting of the Republican

Governors' Association. Among them were Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, outgoing head of the group, and Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee. Sen.

Frist

John McCain, R-Ariz., planned private meetings with governors Thursday followed by a reception.

Frist's statement did not specify a reason for dropping out of a race he had eyed for more than a year, and had included trips to the key early states of Iowa and New Hampshire. He said he "will take a sabbatical from public life" and "return to my professional roots as a healer and to refocus my creative energies on innovative solutions to seemingly insurmountable challenges Americans face." DAVID ESPO (AP)

Calm Hurricane Season Closes

MIAMI | The mild 2006 Atlantic hurricane season draws to a close Thursday without a single hurricane striking the United States — a stark contrast to the record-breaking 2005 season that killed more than 1,500 people and left thousands homeless along the Gulf Coast.

Nine named storms and five hurricanes formed this season, and just two hurricanes were considered major. That is well short of the rough season government scientists had forecast. (AP)



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Nation



FREE VACCINES: New Hampshire announced plans Wednesday to become the first state to offer the new cervical-cancer vaccine free to all females in January. Cervical cancer is the No. 2 cancer killer in women.

Top Court Tackles Warming

States urge justices to mandate regulation of greenhouse gases

WASHINGTON | Frustrated by Bush administration inaction on global warming, states and environmentalists urged the Supreme Court Wednesday to declare greenhouse gases to be air pollutants that the government must regulate.

The court's first case on the politically charged topic showed an apparent split between its liberal and conservative justices, with Anthony Kennedy potentially the decisive vote in determining whether the administration must abandon its refusal to treat carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases as air pollutants that imperil public health.

Justice Samuel Alito, who with Chief Justice John Roberts seemed most skeptical of the states' position, said that even in the best of circumstances, the reduction in greenhouse gases would be relatively small.

Justice David Souter indicat-



Global warming activists rally in front of the Supreme Court on Wednesday.

ed that every little bit would help. "They don't have to show that it will stop global warming. Their point is that will reduce the degree of global warming and likely reduce the degree of loss," he said.

The case involves whether the **Environmental Protection Agency** must regulate emissions of greenhouse gases from new vehicles under a provision of the Clean Air Act. When a decision comes sometime before July, it could have a significant ripple effect that could extend to power plants as well as states' efforts to impose more stringent regulations on car tailpipe emis-Sions. Mark Sherman (AP)

Man Saved From Gator's Clutches

LAKELAND, FLORIDA | Deputies rescued a naked man from the jaws of a nearly 12-foot-long alligator Wednesday, saying the man was high on crack cocaine.

Polk County deputies responded to multiple calls about a man yelling for help at about 4 a.m.

They could not shoot the animal because it was too dark, the sheriff's office said.

Adrian J. Apgar, 45, was taken to the hospital in critical condition with his left arm hanging by a tendon.

He also had an apparent bro- in the lake. (AP)



Florida contracted trappers to capture the alligator suspected in the attack.

ken right arm and leg injuries.

"I remember him saying, 'I'm over here, get here quick, he's still got me, he's going to kill me, my arms are broken," deputy Michael Parker said.

It was not clear why Apgar was

Faulty Wiring Suspected in Mo. Fire

ANDERSON, MO. | A fire that killed | building, where the fire started in 10 people at a group home for the elderly and mentally ill could have been caused by faulty electrical wiring, authorities said Wednesday in ruling out arson.

However, the exact cause of Monday's fire may never be determined because the south end of the the attic, was destroyed, state Fire Marshal Randy Cole said.

Experts said wiring in the Anderson Guest House had been improperly spliced. Nothing indicated natural gas was involved, and investigators weren't focusing on anything but the wiring. (AP)



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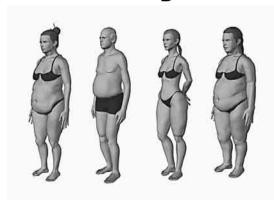
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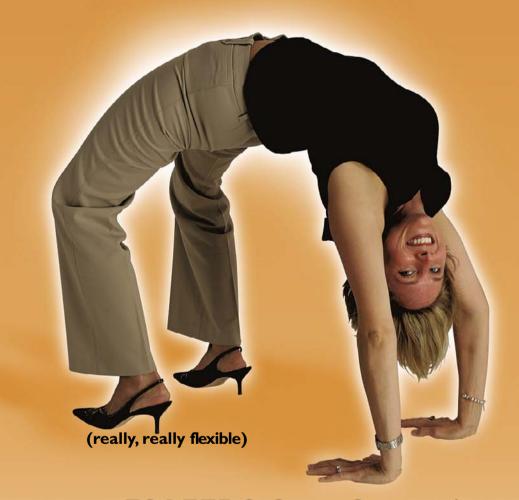
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Nation



Portland lawyer Brandon Mayfield, left, who was arrested in May 2004 in the Madrid bombings, settled his lawsuit with the U.S. government Wednesday. He'll get \$2 million.

Wrongly Accused **Man Settles Suit**

Lawyer arrested in '04 Madrid bombings gets \$2M and apology

PORTLAND, ORE. | A lawyer the FBI wrongly arrested after the 2004 Madrid terrorist bombings because of a misidentified fingerprint has settled part of his lawsuit against the U.S. government for \$2 million.

Brandon Mayfield, who was detained for two weeks in 2004, maintained that he was arrested because of his Muslim faith.

Mayfield was arrested in May 2004 on the basis of a fingerprint found on a bag of detonators in Madrid that was mistakenly matched to him after the March 11, 2004, train bombings that killed 191 people and wounded more than 1,500.

Mayfield was jailed on a mate-

rial witness warrant but was released after the FBI acknowledged the fingerprint was not

"Not only does my detention as a material witness in the Madrid bombing underscore the fallacy that fingerprint identification is reliable, I hope the public will remember that the U.S. government also targeted me and my family because of our Muslim religion," he said in a statement Wednesday.

Justice Department spokeswoman Tasia Scolinos said the FBI has since adopted suggestions for improving its fingerprint identification process "to ensure that what happened to Mr. Mayfield does not happen again."

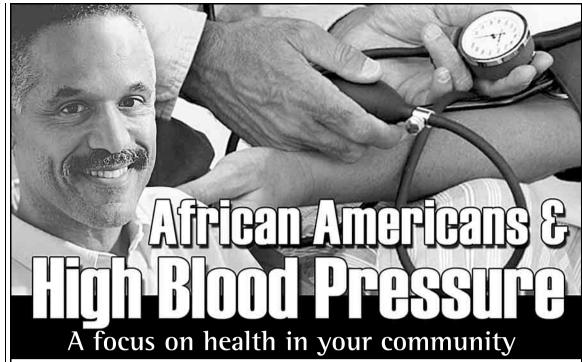
The U.S. also formally apologized to Mayfield as part of the settlement, Scolinos said. ANNE M. PETERSON (AP)

FEMA Ordered to Resume Payments

WASHINGTON | A federal judge ordered the White House Wednesday to immediately resume housing payments for thousands of people displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

U.S. District Judge Richard J. Leon's ruling was the second court victory for Katrina victims this week. A federal judge in Louisiana

said Monday that many homeowners might be entitled to more insurance money for flood damage. In the Washington case, Leon said the Federal Emergency Management Agency did not adequately explain why it ended a housing assistance program for people who lost their homes in the 2005 storm. (AP)



African Americans, more than *any* other race or ethnic group, have a greater risk of developing high blood pressure. Not only is it more common, it occurs at a younger age and can lead to severe heart failure, stroke, and kidney problems.

Local physicians are conducting a research study of the investigational use of two approved medications, compared to a single approved medication, in their ability to lower high blood pressure. Members of the African American and Black communities with known or suspected high blood pressure may qualify to participate. All study-related care is provided and compensation for time and travel may be available.

To learn more about this research study, please call:

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World



SAVED BY THE BELL: London police are distributing silver bells for shoppers in London's central retail district to attach to their bags, which will jingle if thieves strike. The plan, dubbed "Operation Yuletide," is aimed at curbing theft in busy shopping areas.

In Brief



Mexican legislators sleep at the Congress hall as part of an election protest.

MEXICO CITY

Leftist Lawmakers Protest As Inauguration Approaches

Ruling party lawmakers on Wednesday sought an end to their unruly standoff with leftist legislators in the congressional chambers where in two days President-elect Felipe Calderon is due to be sworn in. Leftist and conservative lawmakers stormed the speaker's platform in Congress on Tuesday. Legislators of the leftist Democratic Revolution Party, who say their candidate, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, won the razor-thin presidential election, vowed to stay put, blocking Calderon's inauguration ceremony. (AP)

PARIS

Report: Sarkozy Confirms He Will Run for Presidency

Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy said he will run in France's presidential elections next year, according to comments posted Wednesday on the Web site of the newspaper Liberation. Sarkozy, the charismatic leader of Jacques Chirac's ruling conservative party, has long been expected to announce the move. (AP)

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

Tamil Rebels Have Not Quit Cease-Fire, Officials Say

Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger rebels have not quit a truce despite calling it "defunct," European cease-fire monitors said Wednesday, as the government called for renewed peace talks. Thorfinnur Omarsson, a spokesman for the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission, said the Tigers assured truce officials they would not withdraw from the 2002 cease-fire. (AP)

Bush-Maliki Talks Abruptly Delayed

Meeting shift comes amid Iraqi political boycott, leaked memo

AMMAN, JORDAN | President Bush's high-profile meeting with Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki on Wednesday was canceled in a stunning turn of events after disclosure of U.S. doubts about the Iraqi leader's capabilities and a political boycott in Baghdad protesting his attendance.

Instead of two days of talks, Bush and al-Maliki will have breakfast and a single meeting followed by a news conference on Thursday morning, the White House said.

The abrupt cancellation was an almost unheard-of development in the high-level diplomatic circles of a U.S. president, a king and a prime minister. There was confusion — and conflicting explanations — about what happened.

Bush had been scheduled to meet in a three-way session with al-Maliki and Jordan's King Abdullah II on Wednesday night, and had rearranged his schedule to be in Amman for both days for talks aimed at reducing the spiral of violence in Iraq.



TALKING POINTS: President Bush had an abbreviated meeting and dinner with Jordan's King Abdullah II in Amman, Jordan, on Wednesday after the schedule shift.

The last-minute cancellation was not announced until Bush had already come to Raghadan Palace.

White House counselor Dan Bartlett denied that the delay was a snub by al-Maliki directed at Bush or was related to the leak of a memo written by White House National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley questioning the prime minister's capacity for controlling violence in Iraq.

"Absolutely not," Bartlett said. He said the king and the prime minister had met before Bush arrived from a NATO summit in Latvia. "That negated the purpose to meet tonight together in a trilat-



King Abdullah II greets Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in Amman.

eral setting."

However, Redha Jawad Taqi, a senior aide of top Shiite politician Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim who also was in Amman, said the Iraqis balked at the three-way meeting after learning the king wanted to broaden the talks to include the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The Iraqi prime minister also faced political pressure at home about the summit. Thirty Iraqi lawmakers and five cabinet ministers loyal to anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr said they were boycotting Parliament and the government to protest al-Maliki's presence at the summit. TOM RAUM (AP)

V

Power play: When President Bush meets with the Iraqi PM, it will be clear the real power in Iraq rests with another man: Mugtada al-Sadr. | **Today's Post, A Section**

Darfur's Casualty Count in Question

Widely ranging death tolls an indicator of limited access to area

KHARTOUM, SUDAN | As violence in Darfur escalates, a debate is growing over how many people have died in what officials call the world's worst humanitarian crisis. A U.N. agency's survey cites at least 200,000 deaths, but other studies say the death toll could be closer to 400,000 or more.

Sudan's government, however, contends the deaths are only a tiny fraction of that.

The dispute occurs in part because, ever since fighting began in early 2003, humanitarian workers have had only limited and perilous access to Darfur, a sprawling,



The U.N. says 4 million people in Darfur are currently in urgent need of aid.

arid region of western Sudan.

Both violence and government restrictions have kept aid groups and researchers away. Right now, for example, violence makes nearly 40 percent of the population inaccessible to aid workers, said Ramesh Rajasingham, the head of the U.N. Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Sudan.

Overall, the U.N. says 4 million people in Darfur are currently in desperate need of aid — nearly two-thirds of the estimated Darfur population of 6.5 million.

On deaths, the last official, independent mortality survey for Darfur was published in March 2005. Based on data collected in refugee camps in Darfur, a team from the World Health Organization estimated that 10,000 of these refugees died each month between the end of 2003 and October 2004 — mostly of malnutrition and disease linked to the violence. By March 2005, when the survey was released, the total number had risen to 200,000 deaths, the WHO later estimated.

NATO Lifts Aid Restrictions

RIGA, LATVIA | In a show of solidarity, NATO leaders agreed Wednesday to come to each other's aid in emergencies anywhere in Afghanistan, but their summit failed to muster significant reinforcements for operations in Taliban strongholds.

Officials said all 26 NATO members will lift restrictions on rushing to help fellow allies in trouble. NATO's top soldier, Canadian Gen. Ray Henault, said the move sent "a strong message of unity, determination and certainly solidarity."

But key allies including France, Germany, Italy and Spain will not be sending troops to fight regularly alongside the British, Canadian, Dutch and U.S. forces on the front lines of battles with the resurgent Taliban. (AP)

World

Pope Focuses on Turkish Christians

Al-Qaeda in Iraq denounces pontiff's pilgrimage to Turkey

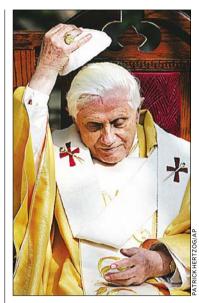
ISTANBUL, TURKEY | Pope Benedict XVI began his pilgrimage among Turkey's tiny Christian communities Wednesday by paying homage to an Italian priest slain during Islamic protests and expressing sympathy for the pressures facing religious minorities in the Muslim world.

The messages — made at one of the holiest Christian sites in Turkey — could set the tone for the remainder of Benedict's first papal trip to a Muslim nation as he tries to strengthen bonds with the spiritual leader of the world's Orthodox Christians.

The pope is expected to sharpen his calls for what the Vatican calls "reciprocity" — that Muslim demands for greater respect in the West must be matched by increased tolerance and freedoms for Christians in Islamic nations.

But too much pressure by the pope — who arrived in Istanbul late Wednesday — could risk new friction with Muslims after broad gestures of goodwill in the opening hours of the trip Tuesday that sought to ease simmering Muslim anger over the pope's remarks on violence and the Prophet Muhammad.

A statement claiming to be from al-Qaeda in Iraq denounced the pope's visit as part of a "crusader campaign" against Islam and an attempt to "extinguish the burning ember of Islam" in Turkey. Vatican spokesman the Rev. Federico Lom-



Pope Benedict XVI adjusts his skullcap during a mass in Selcuk, Turkey.

bardi said the declaration — posted on several Islamic militant Web sites shows the need for faiths to fight "violence in the name of God."

The pope's deepening ties with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I — called the "first among equals" of the Orthodox leaders — is also watched with suspicion in Turkey as possible challenges to state-imposed limits on Christian minorities and others.

The pope began the day at the ruins of a small stone home near the Aegean Sea coast — the site where the Virgin Mary is thought to have spent her last years.

At an outdoor Mass attended by only 250 invited guests, the pope noted the challenges facing the "little flock" of Christians in Turkey. BRIAN MURPHY (AP)





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World



The traditional St. Nicholas wears bishop's garb while his scary sidekick, Krampus, gives naughty kids lumps of coal or threatens them with a swipe of his switch.

Austria: 'Nein' to St. Nick in School

Ban on St. Nicholas in Vienna kindergartens stirs a holiday ruckus

VIENNA, AUSTRIA | St. Nick, nein! A ban on St. Nicholas at Vienna's kindergartens is taking some of the hoho-ho out of the holidays for tens of thousands of tots this year.

And it's creating a political ruckus, with opposition parties accusing City Hall of kowtowing to a growing Muslim population by showing Europe's Santa the kindergarten door.

Municipal officials insist their decision is prompted more by psychology than political correctness.

Instead of joy, the sight of a strange bearded figure at the door evokes fear in most kids, they argue. And they point out that the policy on St. Nicholas is more than a decade old — though they concede it is being enforced more rigorously than in the past.

While Santa rules in the far north, the jolly elf has little tradition in Austria and surrounding countries. As in past years, some booths at Vienna's main Christmas market are again plastered with stickers depicting Santa with a diagonal red bar across his fluffy white beard — the work of a group in Austria, Switzerland and Germany that sees Santa as a symbol of the commercialization of Christmas.

Instead, kids grow up with traditional Dec. 6 visits from St. Nicholas or Nikolo — a bearded, mitered figure in bishop's garb dating back to the 4th century who hands out sweets to good girls and boys.

As for naughty kids, there is St. Nick's sidekick, who in Austria goes by the name "Krampus" — a hairy, behorned figure who gives them lumps of coal and threatens them with a swipe of his switch unless they mend their ways.

But suggesting St. Nick is as scary as Krampus is just plain dumb, argue opponents of the "No to St. Nick" policy.

For child psychiatrist Max Friedrich, the ban is "total nonsense." He described St. Nicholas as a "positive figure who encourages and rewards children," in comments Wednesday to the daily Oesterreich. (AP)







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RAMPING UP: A ramp opening next week is expected to make merging from the Beltway's outer loop to I-95 in Springfield, Va., safer and less confusing. Currently, motorists connecting to I-95 merge left, crisscrossing with drivers merging right.

Local

Boy Pleads Guilty to Homicides

13-year-old had killed his mother, brother with knife, ax handle

UPPER MARLBORO. MD. | A 13-vearold boy entered the juvenile form of a guilty plea Wednesday for killing his mother and 9-year-old brother in April with a knife and ax handle after an argument with his mother.

The boy, who was 12 at the time of the killings, entered a plea of "involved" to two charges of firstdegree murder at a juvenile court hearing in county Circuit Court. Under state law, children under the age of 14 cannot be charged as adults.

He will likely be sentenced on Dec. 19 to a detention and treatment center in South Carolina until he turns 21, according to Ramon Korionoff, spokesman for the county state's attorney's office. The boy would also receive help for "certain issues with his mental health," Korionoff said.

County police found the boy's mother, Katrina Denise Powe, 31, and brother Mystery Toma Hillian, dead in the family's Forestville apartment on April 22. (AP)



RICHMOND, VA. | HOUSEGUESTS



MILLER TIME: Va. Del. William R. Janis, R-Henrico, center, entertains Delegate Jackson H. Miller's children, Nathaniel, left, and Jackson Jr., before a swearing-in ceremony for Miller on Wednesday in the Patrick Henry Building's House chamber. Miller is the only delegate to be sworn in this year.

Md. Football Star **Pleads Guilty**

Admission of helping in Smoothie King theft may hurt career

ROCKVILLE, MD. | A star high school football player pleaded guilty Wednesday in connection with the armed robbery of a smoothie shop in March, a case that could cost him the chance to play in some major college football programs.

Patrick Lazear, 18, admitted he provided a replica gun and drove the getaway car in the March 30 robbery that netted \$463 from a Smoothie King in Bethesda. Lazear's share was \$40, according to prosecutors.

Lazear, who pleaded guilty to

conspiracy to commit robbery, could be sentenced to up to 18 months in prison when he goes before county Circuit Judge Katherine Savage on Dec. 15. The charge carries a maximum 15-year term, but Lazear worked out the lower sentence in an agreement with prosecutors.

Lazear had been recruited by more than 20 Division I schools, including the University of Alabama and top-ranked Ohio State, which offered him a scholarship. Spokesmen for both schools said they stopped pursuing Lazear because of his legal problems.

Lazear spoke only to answer questions from Savage about his plea. Stephen Manning (AP)

Fairfax Debates Food for Homeless

FAIRFAX, VA. | From now on, feeding | the homeless in Fairfax County will require more than just a big heart. You'll also need a commercial-grade refrigerator, a three-compartment sink and county certification.

Officials said this week a campaign to enforce the county food

code at shelters is aimed at preventing food poisoning among the homeless. But operators of shelters said forcing them to reject donations of sandwiches or casseroles prepared at home or in church kitchens is not in the best interest of their clients because it will make it harder to provide them with healthy, hot meals.

"Homeless people eat out of Dumpsters, and Mom's pot roast has got to be healthier than that," said Jim Brigl of Christian Emergency & Transitional Services. (AP)

Maybe not: Fairfax state legislator savs she will introduce bill to allow home-cooked food. Today's Post. Metro

HEARSAY | TOLLS

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The Lotteries

Wednesday, November 29

DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers 5-7-3 4-9-2 **Evening Lucky Numbers (Tues.)** Mid-day DC 4 1-4-4-1 Evening DC 4 (Tues.) 1-8-1-0 Rolling Cash Five (Tues.) 5-12-21-29-31 Daily 6 (Tues.) 7-15-22-24-25-39 (14)

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3 9-1-5 Evening Pick 3 (Tues.) 0-3-7 Mid-day Pick 4 1-6-8-7 Evening Pick 4 (Tues.) 9-1-8-9 Match 5 (Tues.) 6-18-24-28-39 (30)

VIRGINIA Mid-day Pick 3 (Wed.) 1-6-8 Evening Pick 3 (Tues.) 3-5-4 Mid-day Pick 4 (Wed.) Evening Pick 4 (Tues.) 5-4-1-7 Mid-day Cash 5 (Wed.) 2-5-24-27-33 Evening Cash 5 (Tues.) 6-13-17-23-33

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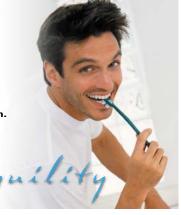
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Money



BUCK UP: Discount retailer Dollar General Corp. said Wednesday it plans to close 400 stores next year and open about 300 new locations to improve profitability. In the most recent quarter, Dollar General reported a 40 percent decline in profit on increased costs.

New Home Sales Slide in October

But median price of a new home rings in higher at \$248,500

WASHINGTON | Sales of new homes in the U.S. fell in October by the largest amount in three months, a fresh sign of the cooling taking place in the once-sizzling housing sector.

The Commerce Department reported Wednesday that new home sales totaled 1.004 million at a seasonally adjusted annual rate, a 3.2 percent decline from September. That was the largest drop since July, when home sales plunged by 9.2 percent.

Home prices, meanwhile, went

up in October, after falling sharply in September.

The median price of a new home sold in October was \$248,500, up 1.9 percent from the same month a year ago.

The 1.004 million pace of sales logged last month was slightly weaker than the pace of 1.050 million economists were forecasting.

Sales fell in all parts of the country, except for the West, where they went up.

In the Northeast, sales plunged by 39 percent, the steepest drop since January 1996. In the Midwest, they dropped 5.6 percent and in the South, they slipped 1.7 percent. In the West, sales rose 3.2 percent. Jeannine aversa (AP)

Market Action

New Yor	k Stock I	Exchang	e	NASDAQ Stock Market						
Gainers stock	LAST	DAILY Change	DAILY Percent Change	Gainers stock	LAST	DAILY Change	DAILY Percent Change			
TitanMt s vjGrace Manitow s NY Times RegalBel	30.42 16.52 59.92 24.76 52.05	+2.17 +1.15 +4.16 +1.73 +3.60	+7.7 +7.5 +7.5 +7.5 +7.4	HltcrTc h WirRonin n Dynavax TAT Tch Iomai n	2.64 7.18 9.79 14.56 5.09	+1.37 +2.60 +2.39 +2.57 02	+107.9 +56.8 +32.3 +21.4 -0.4			
Losers				Losers						
DollarG NYSE Gp n SchMau SturmRug AdvAuto	15.70 95.75 25.02 10.23 34.83	-1.01 -5.45 -1.37 55 -1.75	-6.0 -5.4 -5.2 -5.1 -4.8	Consulier TOP Tank s Phazar Spherix 3Com	8.97 5.04 7.25 2.17 4.02	-1.47 82 97 27 47	-14.1 -14.0 -11.8 -11.1 -10.5			

Rates			Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)						
	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK		TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO			
Prime Rate	8.25	8.25	British Pound	.5138	.5126	.5816			
Fed Funds close	5.25	5.25	Canadian Dollar	1.1380	1.1309	1.1681			
3-month disc	4.91	4.93	European Euro	.7601	.7582	.8485			
2-year	4.69	4.75	Japanese Yen	116.31	116.10	119.52			
10-year	4.52	4.56	Mexican Peso	11.0108	11.0338	10.5600			
30-year	4.62	4.65	Taiwanese Dollar	32.50	32.72	33.47			

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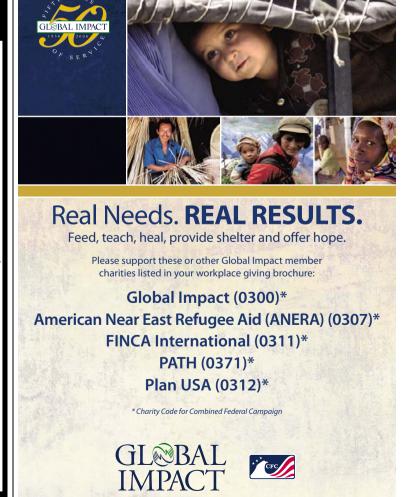


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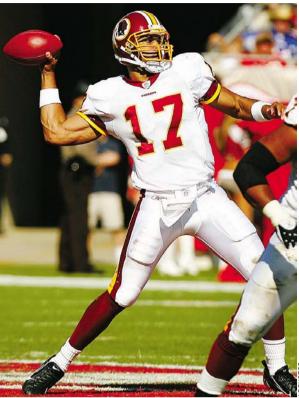


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The age of Memphis mayor Willie Herenton, when he steps into the boxing ring on Thursday to fight former heavyweight champion Joe Frazier. Herenton, a former amateur boxer, and "Smokin' Joe" are fighting to raise money for Memphis' drug court.

Sports





 $Super Bowl\,MVP\,Doug\,Williams, left, and\,new\,starter\,Jason\,Campbell\,have\,a\,lot\,in\,common, including\,size, personality\,and\,race.$

The Inevitable Comparison

Campbell carries the torch for ex-Redskins legend Doug Williams

REDSKINS | From the moment Jason Campbell decided he wanted to wear No. 17 as a quarterback for the Washington Redskins, he knew he would be forever linked to Doug Williams.

They already had much in common. Both are from small towns in the deep South. Both have laid-back personalities. Both have played for coach Joe Gibbs. Both are 6-foot-4 and skinny with rifle arms.

And, of course, both are black.

"I have the utmost respect for Doug Williams," Campbell said Wednesday. "I feel we're still carrying the torch that Warren Moon carried, and Randall Cunningham and Doug Williams, and all the guys who played before us. They really gave us an opportunity to play a position and to do the things that we're doing."

Williams played for the Redskins when black quarterbacks were still an NFL novelty. He was the first black quarterback to win a Super Bowl, earning MVP honors in the

TAYLOR HONORED FOR TACKLES. INT

Redskins safety Sean Taylor won defensive player of the week for his performance in Sunday's 17-13 home win over the Carolina Panthers:



→ Taylor totaled six tackles in Sunday's game, but none more important than a fourth down play in fourth quarter. With just over two minutes left in the game, Taylor made an open-field solo tackle on WR Drew Carter just short of the first down. The safety, who has consistently been burned all season, also grabbed his first INT of the year in the waning minutes. "I saw an extra step in him," LB Rocky McIntosh said. "He was having a lot of fun out there."

title game in January 1988. Legend has it that he was asked "How long have you been a black quarterback?" the week before the game.

Much has changed since. It's hard to imagine an NFL without Donovan McNabb, Steve McNair, Michael Vick, Aaron Brooks, Daunte Culpepper, Vince Young or any of the other blacks who have played the position over the last two decades. Vick, whom the Redskins will face on Sunday when the Atlanta Falcons visit Washington, thinks the topic of black quarterbacks now belongs in a bygone era.

"I really don't get into all that. I do know this: I'm a quarterback and I know how to play this position. That's where I'll leave it," Vick said.

For Williams, though, it still matters. He went through too much to feel otherwise.

"I've kept up with Donovan McNabb, Vince Young, Jason and McNair and Michael Vick, for obvious reasons," Williams said. "Because I know the road people like myself and James Harris traveled to get to the point to play in the league. So I pull for Jason Campbell to play well. ... Some people might say that's being racist. That's not being racist. It just reflects some of the hurdles that we had to overcome to get to this point."

Receiver Trio Hurting Falcons With Drops

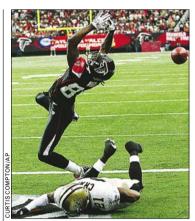
Muffed catches lead to missed first down and TD opportunities

FOOTBALL | When the Atlanta Falcons wrapped up their practice Wednesday, most of the players headed for the locker room. Roddy White stayed behind. So did Michael Jenkins and Ashley Lelie.

The Falcons' embattled receiving corps got in some extra work, which certainly seemed appropriate after their dismal performance last weekend. The trio combined to drop five passes in a 31-13 loss to New Orleans — all of which would have gone for first downs.

In fact, White might have scored a crucial touchdown early in fourth quarter after finding himself all alone at the Saints 10 when the defender fell down. But he let the pass from Michael Vick slip from his hands, prompting coach Jim Mora to fall to his knees in disbelief.

"For anything to grow, it has to die," receivers coach George Stewart said, trying to sound optimistic in a morose sort of way. "Hopefully, we've



WR Roddy White drops a potential TD while his defender lays on the ground.

gone as low as we can go, because it feels like we're at rock bottom."

With his team mired in a fourgame losing streak heading to the final month, Mora expressed confidence in his receivers. He also made it clear he won't stand for many more performances like the one against New Orleans.

"We can't rule anything out," Mora said. "I'm not going to sit here and tell you everything is good. We've got to start catching the ball." PAUL NEWBERRY (AP)

Warner Set to Publish Bo's Book

COLLEGE FOOTBALL | Former University of Michigan football coach Bo Schembechler had completed a book on leadership at the time of his death and Warner Books will release it next fall, the publisher announced Wednesday.

"Bo's Lasting Lessons: A Legendary Coach Teaches the Timeless Fundamentals of Leadership" was finished a week before Schembechler died, on Nov. 17, at age 77.

According to Warner, the book "draws on Bo's 21 years of coaching experience at the University of Michigan and focuses on his extraordinary ability to motivate his players and staff." (AP)

TODAY'S TV LINEUP

RAVENS (8 P.M. ON NFL NETWORK) The Ravens play the Bengals with a chance to secure the division title with a win. Who cares if you can't watch it because you don't have the right cable package?

CAPITALS (7 P.M. ON COMCAST) The Caps stay home for a game against Marwwty Turco and the Dallas Stars.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL (7:30 P.M. ON ESPN) The SEC, ACC and Big 12 all have champion-

ship games on Saturday. But first, the MAC title goes up for grabs when Central Michigan plays Ohio.

BASKETBALL (8:15 P.M. AND 10:30 P.M. ON TNT) The first game — between the Pistons and Heat — looked promising at the start of the season. The second game — between the Jazz and Lakers — is actually a game between good teams.

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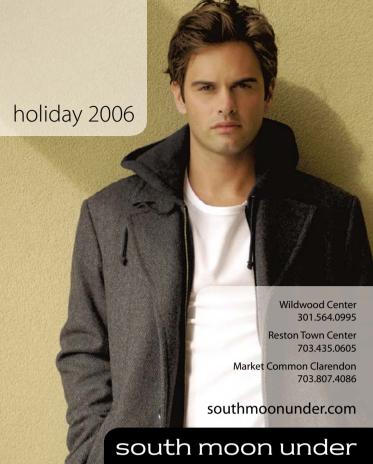
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A FAST RETURN: Track star Justin Gatlin worked out as a receiver for the Houston Texans, but coach Gary Kubiak said signing him was "not something we would do right now." Kubiak said Gatlin, who tested positive for steroids in April, looked "very impressive" to team officials.



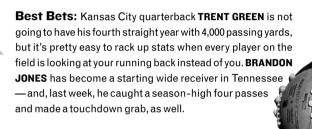
Sports

DREAM TEAM ►► THE UPS AND DOWNS OF FANTASY FOOTBALL









Not A Chance: Considering how much consistent run support has shortened the learning curve for QB Vince Young, don't expect the Titans to jeopardize wins by playing the moves-devoid, inexperienced **LENDAL WHITE**. None of Atlanta's current active receivers has at least 325 yards on the season. None has at least 30 catches. So don't bother with new starter ASHLEY LELIE. CHRIS MINCHER (EXPRESS)

ON THE WEB | For more Fantasy analysis, visit readexpress.com every Thursday.

Owens: Cutting Kicker Could Be a Mistake

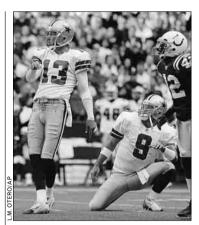
Star receiver says his friend never lost the Cowboys any games

FOOTBALL | Terrell Owens isn't just sorry to see his pal Mike Vanderjagt go. He thinks the Dallas Cowboys made a mistake by releasing the wayward kicker.

"I don't see what he did wrong to warrant him being cut," Owens said Wednesday. "I hope it doesn't come back to haunt us. Whoever made that decision, I'm pretty sure they're hoping the same thing."

Vanderjagt was released Monday, only 11 games into a three-year, \$5.4 million contract.

He was 13-of-18 on field goals, a 72.2 percent success rate that was the lowest of his nine-year career. However, he's still the most accurate kicker in league history (86.5 percent) and only one of his misses was completely botched; three hit the right upright and another was blocked.



Mike Vanderjagt, left, watches his kick hit the upright against Indianapolis.

In their brief time as teammates, T.O. and the "idiot kicker," as Pevton Manning once called Vanderjagt, really hit it off.

"Going into the Colts game, the guy was 12-of-15. That's still a high kicking percentage," Owens said. "He didn't lose any games for us. If I had to put myself in the mix, I feel like I lost some games and I'm still here, so it's just unfortunate." (AP)



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Sports



"These kids nowadays, you can't tell what they are going to say. ... Actually, what would talk have to do with the outcome of this game?" - Cowboys coach Bill Parcells on Jeremy Shockey's comment that there was "no way in hell" the Cowboys could beat the Giants at their best.

Ravens Can Shut Up the Bengals

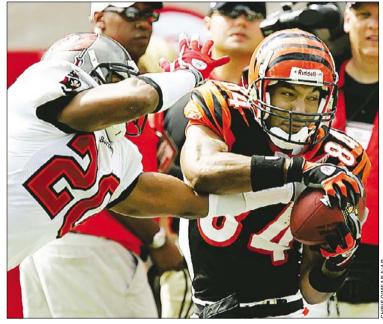
A win in Cincinnati would give Baltimore the AFC North title

RAVENS | Marvin Lewis won't compare Baltimore's current defense to the record-setting one that helped the Ravens win the Super Bowl six

"That's a long time ago," said Lewis, who was their defensive coordinator in 2000. "I don't even remember that. They're this vear's version of the Baltimore Ravens."

This version is looking like a champion, too.

With a victory over Lewis' Cincinnati Bengals on Thursday night, the Rayens (9-2) would become the first team to clinch a division championship this season. A victory in



Cincinnati wide receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh has come under fire for saving the Bengals were better than the Ravens even after losing to Baltimore 26-20 on Nov. 5.

Cincinnati would snatch the AFC North title away from the Bengals (6-5) and put the Ravens on course for greater things.

First, they'd like to put the mouthy Bengals in their place.

Some Ravens are miffed by the way receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh talked down to them the first time they met this season. The Ravens won 26-20 on Nov. 5, but Houshmandzadeh wasn't about to give them any credit after the game.

"Deep down, we know we're better than Baltimore and they know it," Houshmandzadeh said. "We've got better players than they do."

Houshmandzadeh isn't backing down.

"I think we're better than them," he said Tuesday. "We'll find out."

Sure will. JOE KAY (AP)

Qatar Can Prove Worth as Host Of Asian Games

OLYMPICS | Letting the International Olympic Committee know that it is interested in hosting the 2016 games was the easy part.

Now the Qatar National Olympic Committee has less than three vears to convince the world's sporting community that size doesn't matter when it comes to staging the Summer Games.

Qatar raised some eyebrows earlier this month when it revealed its Olympic aspirations for this tiny, oilrich Middle Eastern nation.

The formal bid is expected to be made in January, and the IOC will select the host city in 2009. In the meantime, Qatar has to prove itself capable of staging sports' biggest event, starting this week with the Asian Games. (AP)



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Sports



IS P-K4 A DRUG? Chess players, like athletes in any of the other sports at the Asian Games, will be required to undergo doping tests in Doha, Qatar, when the competitions start on Saturday. "They will be treated exactly the same as any other sport," said Julian Hocken, the manager of the chess venue.

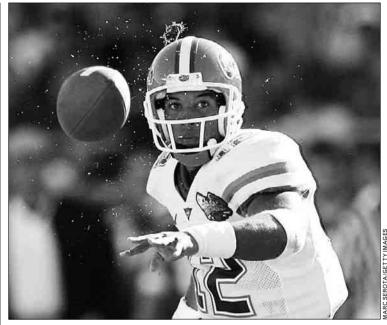
Conference Titles Go Small Scale

Championship games will have little impact on the national picture

 $\begin{array}{l} {\tt COLLEGE\,FOOTBALL\,|\,Championship} \\ {\tt Saturday\,is\,a\,local\,affair.} \end{array}$

As the Southeastern, Atlantic Coast and Big 12 conferences prepare for their championship games this weekend, only No. 4 Florida is clinging to the hope — and it's slim, at best — of getting a shot at the national title.

Arkansas, which will face the Gators for the SEC title, was knocked out of the race for No. 1 by a loss to LSU last week. Georgia Tech and Wake Forest were never in the national picture, though both managed to win their respective divisions in the ACC. Oklahoma and Nebraska are two of college foot-



Florida QB Chris Leak will lead the Gators in the SEC title game against Arkansas on Saturday. Florida is one of the few teams still playing for a chance at the national title.

STAYING RELEVANT

In recent years, Championship Saturday has had a major impact on the BCS title game:

- → In 2005, Texas beat Colorado in the Big 12 Championship to set up the anticipated matchup with USC, a game Texas won.
- → In 2004, both Oklahoma and Auburn won their conference championships to stay undefeated. Oklahoma lost the national title to USC and Auburn beat Virginia Tech in the Sugar Bowl.
- → Oklahoma lost the Big 12 title game in 2003 but still played (and lost in the national title game). LSU won the SEC, but was snubbed.

ball's traditional powers, but they have five losses between them heading into the Big 12 championship. "I don't really look at that," Georgia Tech linebacker Philip Wheeler said Tuesday. "I just play for what I can play for."

Through the years, the SEC and Big 12 championship games have often taken on the role of playoff games in the national title race.

That's not the case this season. No. 1 Ohio State (12-0) has already claimed its spot in the title game, and No. 2 Southern Cal (10-1) merely needs to beat heavy underdog UCLA to wrap up its trip to Arizona.

Florida (11-1) is hoping a UCLA upset and a big win over No. 8 Arkansas (10-2) will help the Gators leapfrog both USC and No. 3 Michigan in the BCS standings. But coach Urban Meyer seems to have accepted his team's fate.

"I think the BCS has done the best they possibly could in a very difficult situation," he said. "For anybody who thinks logically, it's not the best system, but it's probably the best at this time." (AP)







Research Study Trying to Improve Depressive Symptoms Quickly

Several medications are effective for treating depression; however, they take weeks or months to achieve their full effects. NIMH is studying whether a drug can cause a rapid antidepressant effect in patients with bipolar or unipolar depression. The study also tries to see if it can sustain the results with another medication in certain patients. Understanding how this works may help us understand depression and design better antidepressants. NIMH is seeking people ages 18-65 with depression (unipolar or bipolar) who are:

- Free of other serious medical conditions
- Willing to participate in a minimum of a 12-day inpatient stay

Research medications provided free of charge. Compensation and transportation reimbursement is provided.

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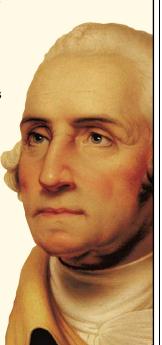


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Studying the Antidepressant **Effects of Sleep Deprivation**

Sleep deprivation has rapid & brief antidepressant effects in some depressed people. NIMH is exploring how a drug that mimics the effects of sleep deprivation in the brain, may also bring about a rapid antidepressant response in people who are depressed. Understanding how this works may help us understand depression and design better antidepressants. Study includes multiple overnight stays & free sleep evaluations to rule out sleep disorders. NIMH is seeking people ages 18-60 with depression who:

- Are free of other serious medical conditions
- Do not have any sleep disorders

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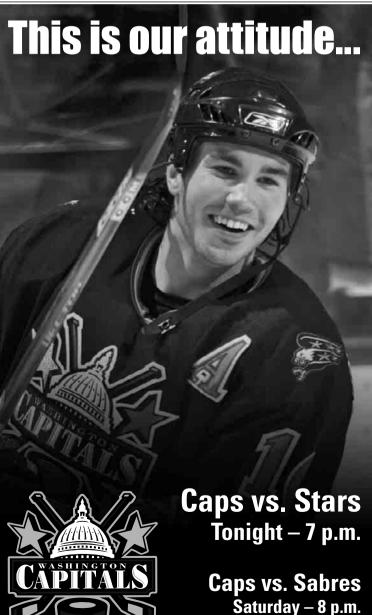
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GOD, COMPLEX: HBO has seen the light and is developing a series based on the smart, dark comic book "The Preacher." A dodgy Texas clergyman is given a supernatural mandate to travel across America and find God, who has abandoned his duties there.



Television

ON TV TONIGHT

I'M MAYA ANGELOU, B----!

Tonight's season-ending installment of ICONOCLASTS (9 p.m., Sundance) presents one of television's least-likely tandems when Dave Chappelle pays a visit to the home of poet Maya Angelou.

BOO FROM THE BRITS

A skeptical psychology professor and a self-professed psychic make an unlikely team in the genuinely creepy series **AFTERLIFE** (9 p.m., BBC America), making its U.S. premiere.

LOVE TAPS

Betty and Daniel wrestle with relationships on **UGLY BETTY** (8 p.m., ABC). Salma Hayek guest-stars.

HALF-SIBLING 'ANATOMY'

Meredith's half-sister needs care on **GREY'S ANATOMY** (9 p.m., ABC).



POETIC LAUGHTER: Even Maya Angelou thinks Dave Chappelle is funny.

CREEPY FOREST

Curtis (Forest Whitaker) appears to be stalking Kovak on **ER** (10 p.m., NBC).

NEW YORK 'TREES'

Marin returns to Gotham with Alaska on her mind on **MEN IN TREES** (10 p.m., ABC).
KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURES SYNDICATE)

Let the Japes Begin

NBC's new Thursday lineup returns to its past comedic success

LAUGHS | For some reason, NBC returns to its "must-see" comedy block one night after sweeps ends.

"Scrubs" (9 p.m., NBC) enters its sixth season with an episode that appears to have been written with sweeps gimmicks in mind. Both JD (Zach Braff) and Dr. Cox (John C. McGinley) project their personal problems on patients beset with grave illnesses. This self-absorption is exemplified by the fact that Braff and McGinley don makeup



BLUE 'SCRUBS': Dr. JD dresses up as a Blue Man Groupie on "Scrubs."

to play their own patients.

"The Office" (8:30 p.m., NBC) falls a bit flat with an episode written by series creators Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant. Michael goes overboard when he hears employees making comparisons between work and prison. His "Scared Straight" intervention seems absurd even by his standards.

On "My Name Is Earl" (8 p.m., NBC), the hapless Randy decides to take a life-altering step, finally declaring his love for Catalina. As a token of affection, Randy plans to make a pinata of movie star Salma Hayek because Catalina can't stand her. In real life, Hayek happens to be the producer of, and a frequent guest star on, "Ugly Betty," which airs opposite "Earl" on ABC. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURES SYNDICATE)

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DC Firm seeks exp person to provide Concierge/ Front Desk duties. Must possess exc commun/ comp skills, proficient in Word and Excel, Min of 3 yrs exp red'd as Concierge. Call for interview 202-543-6080.

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Must enjoy working w/ the public. Friendly,
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Driver
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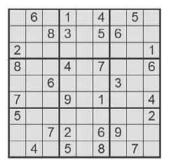


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Gifts you'll respect in the morning | 31



Blog Log: Ms. Jessica Simpson's mouth | 32

Empathetic: Gibson comforts Richards 134

Technology

Scientists work to bring out the humanity in artificial intelligence

George the robot is playing hideand-seek with scientist Alan Schultz. George whirrs and hides behind a post until he's found.

Then a bit later, he hunts for and finds Schultz hiding.

If that sounds childish, consider that Schultz is working his way up to teaching the robot to play Capture the Flag.

What's so impressive about robots playing children's games?

For a robot to actually find a place to hide and then hunt for its human playmate is a new level of human interaction. The machine must take cues from people and behave accordingly.

This is the beginning of a real robot revolution: giving robots some humanity.

"Robots in the human environment — to me that's the final frontier," said Cynthia Breazeal, robotic life group director at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "The human environment is as complex as it gets; it pushes the envelope."

Robotics is moving from software and gears operating remotely - Mars, the bottom of the ocean or assembly lines - to finally working with, beside and even on people.

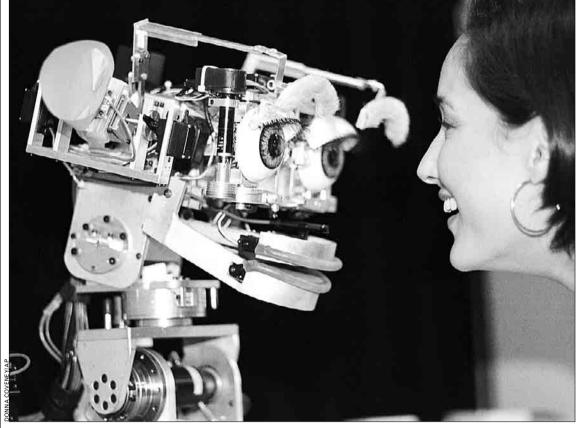
"Robots have to understand people as people," Breazeal said. "Right now, the average robot understands people like a chair: It's something to go around."

The researchers who are injecting humanity into robotics are creating robots that can connect with humans in a more "thoughtful" way. They are building robot receptionists and robot physical therapists. They are finishing Right now, the

average robot understands people like a chair: It's something to go around."

CYNTHIA BREAZEAL. MIT

work on Huggable, a teddy bear robot line that will help monitor the mental and physical health of sick children for only a few thousand dollars apiece. Robots are coaxing autistic kids out of their shells. And there's a cute penguin robot, Mel, that makes eye contact with people and nods when they talk.



The places in which we will MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE: The next evolution for robots, researchers say, is to give the machines some humanity.

first see these robots are the most human-oriented fields those that require special care in dealing with the elderly, young and disabled.

That's why George's game is important. As a machine, George is not a breakthrough. He's an offthe-shelf robot reprogrammed at the Navy Center for Applied Research in Artificial Intelligence, which Schultz directs.

George moves with a bulky red wheelbase and binoculars that gaze around the room below a computer screen with an animated face - complete with blinking blue eyes. What's different is the way he interacts with people.

"George, go hide," Schultz orders the robot in a cluttered



room at the naval research lab. George's "head" rotates around several times. Computer codes zip by on the monitor as George is thinking.

Finally, George announces in a mechanical, definitely non-human voice: "I will hide now."

He ducks behind some boxes and declares: "I made it to the

Schultz finds George easily. George has a harder time spotting Schultz, but eventually succeeds.

For a child, this is nothing, but for a robot, this should lead to a lot.

'We have only scratched the surface," said Sebastian Thrun, the Stanford Artificial Intelligence Lab director who won the Defense Department's Grand Challenge for a robot car that drove itself through the desert last year. He predicted that 10 years from now robots will roam the health care system and that in our homes. multi-armed robots will be doing the cleaning. "There will be a lot of personalized devices," he says. SETH BORENSTEIN (AP)



Filling Up on Blondie'

Business

Cartoonist realizes his dream of making Dagwood's a reality

Near as Dean Young can recall, Dagwood Bumstead started creating colossal sandwiches in his modest cartoon kitchen around 1936.

Through the years, the overstuffed works of edible art built by the bumbling patriarch of the "Blondie" comic strip have become familiar to millions around the world who take respite in the funny pages.

Now Young, who took over writing the "Blondie" strip when his father, strip creator Chic Young, died three decades ago, is realizing a dream by opening a chain of sandwich shops bearing Dagwood's name and whimsical image.

The first Dagwood's Sandwich Shoppe, its walls festooned with brightly colored images from the world-famous strip, opened earlier

There's this feeling I have that Dagwood is with us. He's not just somebody who's in my mind living there: he's actually helping us do this thing."

DEAN YOUNG. RESTAURATEUR

this month in a Palm Harbor, Fla., strip mall, not far from the Clearwater Beach studio where the 66vear-old Young works daily putting words in his characters' mouths.

The specialty: A 1 1/2-pound, double-decker, 24-ingredient behemoth called - what else? - The Dagwood. Yours for \$8.90.

There's this feeling I have that Dagwood is with us," Young said on the first day. "He's not just somebody who's in my mind living there; he's actually helping us do this thing. It may be a little far out, but I like it, it feels good."

Young is anything but a silent



Customers line up to try an overstuffed sandwich at Dagwood's in Palm Harbor, Fla.

celebrity partner. He worked tirelessly with the executive chef developing signature sandwiches such as the New Orleans Roast Beef Po'Boy and the Turkey Club Royale, putting on a few pounds along the way.

The real business know-how comes from partner Lamar Berry, a restaurant franchising specialist.

Berry thinks the concept will allow Dagwood's to muscle in on a crowded sandwich market led by giants Subway and Quizno's. Young said he wants customers to feel like they're stepping into a comic strip, even in the restrooms that feature wall murals of Blondie (for the ladies) and Dagwood (for the gents). A flat-screen TV continuously flashes panels from the strip.

Berry said he expects 50 or so Dagwood's franchises to open around the country in the next year and, if things go well, 600 to 800 within the next five years. He and his famous partner were smiling as they watched the rush on opening day.

'What a wonderful idea," said 71vear-old Bob Carmen, who came for lunch with a friend. "It's definitely different, with all the cartoons on the wall and everything."

Carmen doubted, however, that younger people read the comics like his generation and wondered whether images from the strip are as familiar to them.

Ron Paul, president of Technomic Inc., a Chicago-based restaurant consulting firm, wondered the same thing.

"It's kinda cute," Paul said of Dagwood's comic theme. "It is differentiated [from competitors], but I'm not sure the nostalgia play is going to be good enough. They're going to have to work really hard on the food." MITCH STACY (AP)

Today Hi/Lo/W

62/46/9

52/36/pc

Fri. Hi/Lo/W

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area









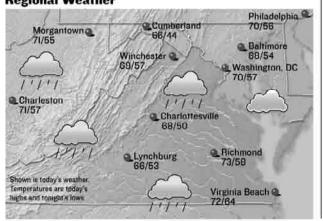






46° / 29°





Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuW

Almanac

52° / 36°

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Wed. Temperature

High	619
Low	47°
Normal high	529
Normal low	369
Average humidity	

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m	0.00"
Month to date	5.16"
Normal month to date	2.93"
Year to date	46.21"
Last year to date	41.04"
Normal year to date	36.20"
6	

washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

D.C. Metro: Today, variably cloudy, breezy, warm, shower High 70. Wind south-southwest 7-14 mph. Tonight, mostly cloudy, shower. Low 57.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	7:06 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:47 p.m.
Moonrise today	1:51 p.m.
Moonset today	1:54 a.m.

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70s

National Weather for Thursday, November 30

National Cities World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	City	
Atlanta	68/5I/c	57/37/t	Amsterdam	10
Boston	64/55/c	62/40/r	Athens	- 13
Chicago	39/24/sn	32/21/sn	Berlin	ğ
Dallas	40/29/1	51/28/s	Buenos Aires	
Denver	34/16/s	39/14/c	Calgary	
Honolulu	79/67/s	80/70/pc	Dublin	
Los Angeles	70/45/s	72/47/s	Geneva	
Miami	83/74/pc	84/73/pc	Moscow	- 1
New York City	68/56/c	70/40/t	Rome	3
Orlando	80/65/pc	83/64/pc	Sydney	1
Seattle	44/33/c	42/26/pc	Tokyo	

42/26/pc | Tokyo

Styles





From the American Red Cross comes a new line of T-shirts. Designs include the "Our boys need sox," the pink "heart attack," and a dog-emblazoned "Man's Best Friend." (\$20-\$22, redcrossstore.org)

DO-GOOGETIE TITES

Greed is good, sure. Who can argue with that? But some people insist on celebrating the holidays by, like, loving people. If you know (or are) such a person, we've rounded up gifts that support worthy causes at home and around the world, but are still stylish enough to please the coldest hearts around. After all, what has the mall done for humankind lately? KRISTEN PAGE-KIRBY (EXPRESS)



Nirvana's

wool scarf, hat and fingerless gloves (great

craftspeople in rural Nepal. (Scarf, \$30;

hat, \$20; gloves, \$22; Shoefly, 2618 Wilson

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This blank-page leather journal was handmade by Indian artisans; as an environmental bonus, the paper is tree-free, made from 100 percent recycled cotton cloth. (\$36, The Textile Museum, 2320 S St. NW; 202-667-0441)

Make your Christmas colorful beyond the typical red and green. This miniature ceramic creche is a fairtrade piece from artisans located in the Andes. (\$16, Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King St., Alexandria; 703-684-1435)





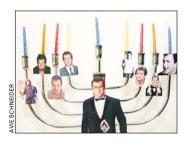
Shopping



Buy Sally's Bowls

Well, OK, there aren't any bowls on the ARENA STAGE ON EBAY auction, running now through Dec. 7, but there is other cool stuff. Niftv items include the custom-made rabbit-fur coat featured in this fall's "Cabaret," above, as well as lunch with Artistic Director Molly Smith. dinner for 12 with Washington Post wine critic Ben Giliberti and LASIK surgery. Proceeds benefit the theater's Community Engagement Programs, which promote theater literacy among area youth. If you're stuck for a gift for the theater lover in your life, look no further. K.P.K.

Contest



Holiday Decorating Throwdown Launched

If you're tired of that ho-hum gold menorah or the glass snowman ornament Mom won't let anyone but her touch, enter the NPR Make Your Own Menorah/Ornament contest. Just follow the example of the Mel-Norah, above, and decorate to your sick little heart's content. Then post a picture of your creation on flickr.com and tag it "nprholidaycontest." The best menorah gets "Hanukkah Lights," a book and CD set based on the NPR program of the same name; the best ornament gets the four-CD "NPR Jazz Christmas." The deadline is Dec. 11. See npr.org for details, k P K

Online



from readexpress.com

Majority Have Faith in Fenty

EDUCATION | Express readers have expressed their faith in D.C. Mayor-elect Adrian Fenty's plans to take control of the District's

troubled public schools to institute reform. A majority, 65 percent, said Fenty should oversee the schools from City Hall. Although some



Fenty

READEXPRESS.COM commenters were skeptical about the prospect of a mayoral takeover, some commenters advocate change. "The D.C. public schools [are] desperately due for a change. The incoming mayor should appoint one person to oversee [the] schools. It seems like there are too many chiefs [and] not enough Indians."

And another: "Of course he should. He already took the first step to go to New York and California to look at their schools to see what's working. I completely trust him to do a good job for D.C. public schools." MICHAEL GRASS (EXPRESS)

Writing on the Wall

SIGHT SCENE | Artist Molly Springfield has found a soulmate in William Henry Fox Talbot, a 19th-century British gentleman and pivotal pioneer in the field of photography. Talbot developed the calotype process of printing positive images from negative prints. Springfield has ben-



DREAM TEAM: LenDale White's signature move--forward — won't earn him time.

efited from Talbot's process: The artist is known for drawing by hand highly realistic graphite reproductions of texts, including notes from middle school and photocopies of the works of Proust. "Gentle Reader," a show of her works on display through this weekend at Transformer Gallery, sees Springfield deviate somewhat from her traditional trompe l'oeil style by adopting Talbot's primitive photographic process. Go to READEXPRESS.COM for a full interview. KRISTON CAPPS

→ Coming Up Today

You can't make trades anymore, so what are you going to do when the benchings begin? Check out Dream Team for late-season free-agent finds.

Poll Center

Should fast-food chains be forced to cut trans fats?

1 Yes

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Should Adrian Fenty take control of D.C.'s public schools?



As of 5:50 p.m. Wednesday. Not a scientific pol

GIVE YOUR OPINION ON TODAY'S POLL QUESTION AND GET A STATION-BY-STA-TION BREAKDOWN OF HOW YOUR FEL-LOW METRORAIL COMMUTERS VOTED AT READEXPRESS.COM/POLLCENTER.PHF



'It never occurred to me that I could create a simple comic strip based simply on Jessica Simpson's expressive mouth."

GALLERYOFTHEABSURD.COM, THE CELEBRITY GOSSIP ARTIST, COMPILES A NUMBER OF PHOTOS OF SIMPSON'S MOUTH FOR COMIC RELIEF.

Expecting the Worse

"Frankly, at this point all we can do is sit back and watch the disaster unfold. And suppress anger at the knowledge that those responsible will likely never be punished.

SPORKINTHEDRAWER.TYPEPAD.COM

THINKS CONDITIONS IN IRAQ WILL ONLY DETERIORATE BECAUSE OF IRAQI PRIME MINISTER NOURI AL-MALIKI, WHOSE PLANNED MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BUSH WAS DELAYED UNTIL THURSDAY

Wows Over Wii

"Not only do I want to play it again right now (so badly) despite having to stand up and move around and stuff, I want to play it again ... because I want to stand up and move around and stuff."

KOTTKE.ORG ON THE NEW NINTENDO WII.



Holiday (Con)fusion

"Only two more weeks until the Festival of Lights begins. ... I celebrate in my own special way. This way includes one Gentile, two half-Jews, a decorated plunger, latkes and a revamped dreidel song that gets new and improved lyrics every year. ... This year should be the fifth anniversary of what we call Hanumas."

BUGGING-YOU.BLOGSPOT.COM IS PREPARING TO CELEBRATE A VERSION OF HANUKKAH.



Scraping By on 3-Figure Salaries?

"But no. we're talking about \$120,000 year. As ... George Bush and Dan Snyder ride around in their limousines, and go to great parties and jet off to Rome for Tom Cruise's wedding on a regular basis, Vincent Orange is simply trying to get by."

THEDCUNIVERSE.BLOGSPOT.COM TAKES ISSUE WITH OUTGOING D.C. COUNCIL MEMBER VINCENT ORANGE (ABOVE) PUSHING A PAY RAISE FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS

Live Online

D.C.'s New Chief

Newly appointed D.C. police chief **CATHY LANIER** was online Wednesday at washingtonpost.com to discuss her plans for the city's police department once she takes over in January.

Are there plans to beef up patrols in Adams Morgan during peak hours,



and will that pull resources away from east of the Anacos-

Beefing up patrols in Adams Morgan

is already happening. In order to accomplish this, resources are not being pulled away from areas east of the Anacostia. The personnel comes from the officers already assigned to the Third District and does not impact any other area.

I'm sure you'll do a great job but realize that many before you have tried and failed. I hope you have that secret weapon in your back pocket to decrease crime, clean up the streets, etc.

My secret weapon is my strong belief that the citizens, the police officers and the community have a fundamental desire to live in an environment that is vibrant and safe.

Gang activity seems to be a toporder item in the Montgomery County and NoVa jurisdictions. How high of a priority is this issue for you?

Criminal activity is my first priority; however, I believe that gang involvement is one of many "facilitators" of criminal behavior that needs to be addressed. I would prefer to [go] one step further and intervene before young people are tempted to get involved in gangs rather than trying to arrest them out of it later.

Do you consider yourself a trailblazer for women in law enforcement? Also, how do you plan to re-energize community policing efforts?

I don't consider myself a trailblazer (although my mother does). There are a lot of women who have gone through an awful lot before me so that I would even have this opportunity. As far as re-energizing our efforts, I think engagement is the key. Everyone needs to feel like they are essential to our success.



FORGET TO GO TO THE ATM. Don't have any cash — or credit cards, either? Relax. With FEED Tribes (feedtribes.com), you can pay your restaurant bill with a cell phone text message. While the free service hasn't been launched yet, and participation will be limited at the start, your phone may soon be your wallet.

TODAY ON LIVE ONLINE: Post Home staff editors Annie Groer and Jura Koncius answer your decorating questions at II a.m. | washingtonpost.com/liveonline

LOOK

Bizarro | Dan Piraro

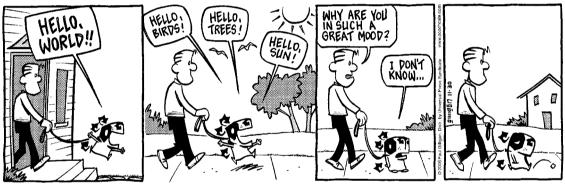
That was SO embarrassing! Why didn't you tell me your former ventriloquist was going to be here?

Cornered | Mike Baldwin



"I probably shouldn't wake him. He needs the exercise."

Pooch Cafe | Paul Gilligan



Pearls Before Swine | Stephan Pastis



The Duplex | Glenn McCoy



Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You may be quiet and introspective during the first part of the day, but later on you'll be eager to share your opinions with abandon.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your desires are increasing, and you must work hard to balance urges that are driving you in two or three different directions simultaneously.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) If you expect to reap the rewards available to you at this time, you must be painstakingly persistent and detailed in your efforts.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You won't satisfy that special someone with the same old attention; you must be willing to add something unique and eyeopening to your repertoire.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) This may not seem to be a highly romantic day on the surface, but underneath your passions are beginning to demand special attention.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You're not one

to be hurried in any way. You'll want to approach each and every activity with care, having prepared thoroughly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You may be unusually harsh when it comes to other people's feelings — but during the evening hours someone is sure to break through your shell.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may find yourself vacillating between two primary choices, unsure which one exactly will get you the results you most desire.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You are likely to be quite stable, despite the emotional atmosphere in which you find yourself at work and at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You'll be attracted to those who share your temperament and your artistic outlook. Step up communication; seek out those making firm plans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You're feeling confident, even cocky. Take care, however. Not everyone shares the opinion that you are at the center of the universe.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You may be more interested in physical activities than in mental pursuits. Your body is crying out to be challenged — in more ways than one.

Letters

Bush Sends Mixed Message

PRESIDENT BUSH has said that our troops will not leave Iraq "until the mission is complete" ("Bush: U.S. to Complete Iraq Mission," Nov. 29). Really? I distinctly remember that more than three

and a half years ago, he proudly flew his plane onto an aircraft carrier bearing a banner that declared, "Mission Accomplished." I guess that means we should have left Iraq in 2003. Or was the president just overly optimistic when he declared, "Mission accomplished"?

-DANIELLE KICHLER Washington, D.C.

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters. PO Box 17370. Arlington. VA 22216.

Today in History

1782 The United States and Britain sign preliminary peace articles in Paris, ending the Revolutionary War.

1936 London's famed Crystal Palace, constructed for the International Exhibition of 1851, is destroyed in a fire.

1962 U Thant of Burma, who had been acting secretary-general of the United Nations following the death of Dag Hammarskjold the year before, is elected to a four-year term



Clinton signed the Brady Bill in 1993.

1993 PresidentClintonsignsthe Brady bill, which requires a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases and background checks of prospective buyers.

People



"Three-quarter profiles rule, dude."

ROMY

Sofia Resists Urge to Use 'Michelle' as Middle Name

SOFIA COPPOLA has given birth to her first child, a daughter named Romy. The baby was born Tuesday in Paris to Coppola and her boyfriend, Thomas Mars, singer for the French rock band Phoenix, spokesman Robert Garlock said. "Mother, father and daughter are all doing well," he said. Coppola, 35, is the daughter of Oscar-winning director Francis Ford Coppola. She won a best screenplay Oscar for 2003's "Lost in Translation," which she also directed. (AP)

FINALLY

Procrastination Never Pays

CHRISTIAN SLATER and Ryan Haddon were officially divorced as of Nov. 21, almost three years after they separated, E! Online reported. The couple wed in 2000; in 2003, Had-



don was arrested after reportedly hitting Slater in the head with a glass. He needed nine stitches. (EXPRESS)



SPLITS Then Again, She Thinks 'Dignity' Means 'While Wearing Low-Cut Suits'

Citing concern for her children and the media frenzy over her impending divorce, PAMELA ANDERSON said

she wants to break up with Kid Rock "amicably" and "with dignity." "I'm very concerned with the press on mine and Bob's divorce ... my children can read — and I'd like to resolve this amicably — not fueling fires — and with dignity," Anderson wrote on her Web site. "Kids don't know the difference between fact and tabloid ... does anybody?" (AP)



SERIAL ARRESTEI

It's Tuesday — Time for Jail!

SNOOP DOGG was arrested for investigation of illegally possessing a handgun and drugs as he left NBC Studios after appearing on "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno," police said. The rapper and two entourage members were arrested around 6 p.m. Tuesday after a search of his home and car. Police seized a handgun and some illegal drugs. He made bail of \$60,000 and was released shortly after 1 a.m. Wednesday. (AP)

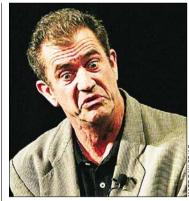
AGING

Michael Laughs off Senior Moment, but Cries Inside



MICHAEL DOUG-LAS briefly lost his footing while standing in a cherry-picker basket 25 feet in the air to christen

a new art museum in Bermuda on Monday, but managed to steady himself. "I had a good laugh and stumbled. I had a little moment," he said. (AP)

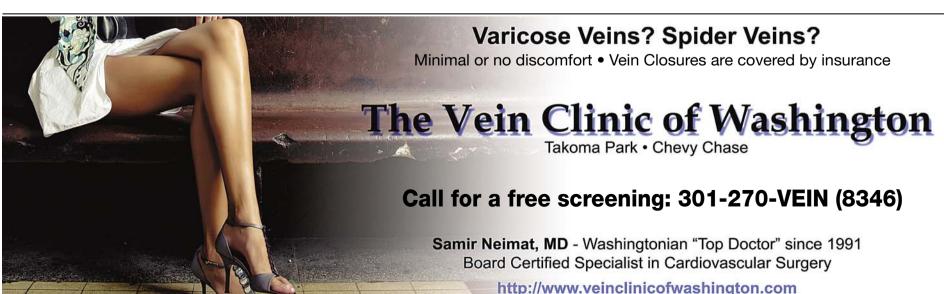


Mel tried to deter viewers with Aramaic and Mayan, but failed. Next: Linear B.

EMDATHV

Translation: 'At Least I Was Drunk for My Racist Tirade'

"I felt like sending Michael Richards a note," MEL GIBSON says in Entertainment Weekly. "I feel really badly for the guy. He was obviously in a state of stress. You don't need to be inebriated to be bent out of shape. But my heart went out to the guy." He added: "They'll probably torture him for a while and then let him go. I like him." Gibson says he's not anti-Semitic. "I never have been and never would be," he said. (AP)





My, My My

ACROSS

- 1 Arms are raised for these 5 Noted giant slayer 10 Credit card balance, e.g. 14 Resting upon 15 Destroy
- gradually 16 Neutral color 17 It prevents rainouts
- 18 1989 Best Picture nominee 20 Put at risk 22 Informer
- 23 Uno follower 24 Well-
- coordinated 25 George
- Harrison hit 32 Small amounts 33 Distinctive
- alows 34 Step into character, e.g.
- 37 Become ragged at the edges 38 "Married With
- Children" name
- 39 Go quickly 40 Wet, spongy ground
- 41 Prevention unit? 42 Donny's sis
- 43 MacMurray rerun 45 "Do I
- second?
- 49 Industrious insect 50 Generous
- statement 53 Lends a hand 57 1964 Best
- **Picture** 59 With the greatest of

60 Actor Sharif 61 Where lavalava lovers likely live 62 Popular picnic dish 63 Fourth rock from the sun 64 Word with "upper" or "lower" 65 Sea bird

DOWN

- 1 African ravine 2 Molecule
- 3 Have a ball
- racecars 5 Downfall
- derived from benzene
- often
- date, sometimes 9 Nimblefingered, e.g.
- as from a windshield
- 11 Dangerous bacterium
- steak 13 Student 19 Some
- amphibians
- 25 Irritate 26 Ages ago
- 29 Daily meal
- anarchy

- 4 Place for

- 8 Mid-month

- 12 One way to cook
- 21 Deer with threepointed antlers
- 27 Lee or Laurel

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- 6 Chemical group
- 7 Remote letters,
- 10 Clear moisture.

- 28 Insulting gibe,
- 30 Opposite of 31 Hope unit

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34 Prefix with

pleasing 41 Dweller on the Gulf of Masirah, 42 Type of wear 44 Words with "1-2-3" or "A-B-C" 45 Words often mouthed to a TV

47 "I trust him about

__ lineman

(start of a skeptic's phrase) 48 Some jungle sounds

spawning others

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- 53 Mighty efforts 54 Merchandise mover 55 Nicholas, for
- one 56 Darned, e.g. 46 Words for the county"

Yesterday's Solution

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Su|do|ku

Degree of Difficulty: HARD

8

9

2

8

Fill in the boxes so each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com



puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.

Yesterday's Solution 5 6 8 7 3 2 9 6 8 4 3 6 4 5 1 3 9 6 5 2 8

	ь	8				
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We are recruiting for the next training class of volunteers to become advocates for abused and neglected children. After just 30 hours of training, you will be sworn in as an Officer of the court, assigned a child and given legal authority to conduct research regarding his or her best interests. Afterwards, the court reports and recommendations that you submit will have a lifelong impact on the future of a child in the District of Columbia.

Training will begin Saturday, January 20th. Call Seetal @ 202.887.0007 or email at sparikh@casadc.org. Visit us at www.casadc.org for more information and an application.

Shane Salter, Chief Executive Office



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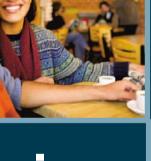




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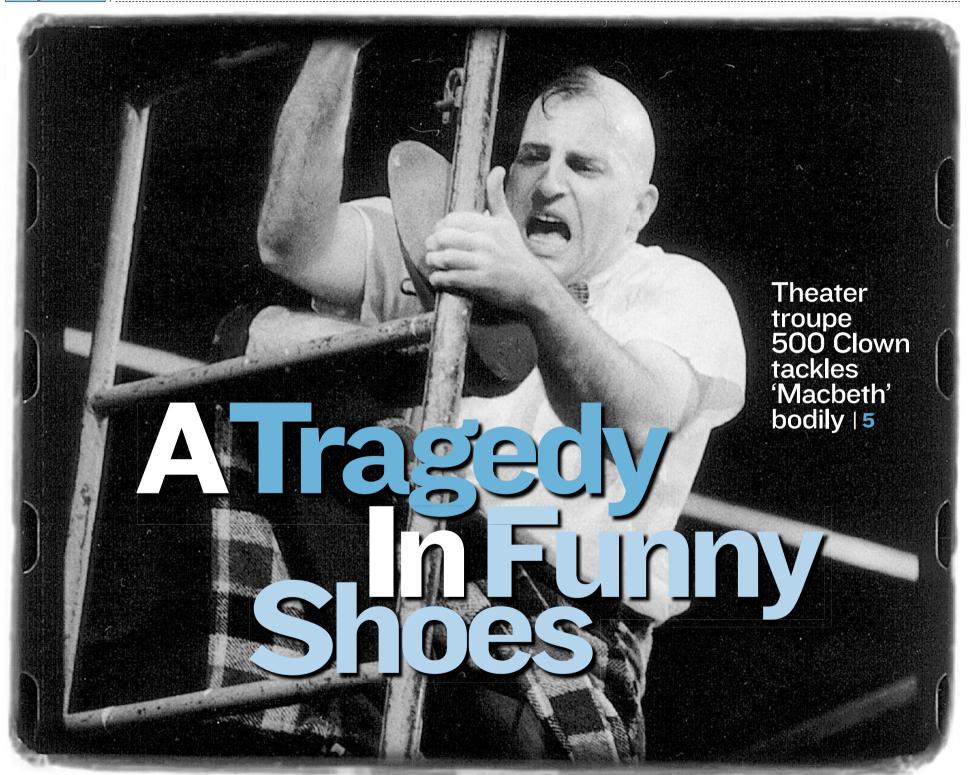
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[on the] Spot

NAME: Dorothy Danner GIG: Director, Virginia Opera

carlisle floyd's 1956 opera "Susannah" stems from an ancient story of misogyny, hypocrisy, justice and betrayal. The story, from the Apocryphal Book of Daniel, involves the virtuous Susannah, who is spied upon by lustful elders while bathing and accused of sexual transgressions. For his great American opera, Floyd transported the tale's bones to 1930s Appalachia, where it is no less relevant. Danner discussed her psychologically complex and cleanly staged version of "Susannah."

What are the unique challenges to staging an American opera, as opposed to the traditionally opulent European kind?

Well, "Susannah" is leaner. ... And because it's based on a parable, some of the roles aren't as developed. There's freedom and fun in figuring out some of the characters, such as the Elders. But it feels more like doing a play than an opera.

Does that make it easier or harder to stage?

It certainly has its own complications — how to make a smooth transition between each scene, for example, because there is no transition music. That's why we worked so closely with the designer to find how we could get from scene to scene. All the sets glide; we tried to make it very cinematic.

Did your direction accommodate the folkiness of the music?

It is a different feel than a story about a count and countess, so I'm trying to find how those people must behave in that isolated community. Also, because I do so many comedies, I have to learn, in a way, not to be clever. ... This is not a story about clever people. So you



SINS OF THE FATHERS: Lillian Sengpiehl as Susannah confronts the Rev. Blitch (Marc Embree) for his hypocrisy in Floyd Carlisle's American opera "Susannah."

have to just bring this story to life, dig deep to find these characters. ... These are not happy peasants. I had to make it interesting without being clever.

It was written in the 1950s, but has a very Depression-era feel. Did you stick to that time period?

Yes, we made a choice to do that,

only because I loved Walker Evans' photographs and wanted to evoke that feel.

Susannah is a tough role for someone who's primarily a singer. She has to do a lot of difficult acting.

Lillian [Sengpiehl] is very open, and she loves the role and that's marvelous. I think she has no "These are not happy peasants. I had to make it interesting without being clever."

cynicism within her. But I think that gives her a very nice quality for Susannah.

Do you have a certain amount of freedom not being based in the capital?

I just love to go out and work; on an opera stage, in a church basement, wherever I have freedom — the work is the important thing. That's sort of the glory of it.

ARION BERGER (EXPRESS)

→ GMU, Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m., \$44-\$90; 703-993-2787.



Bad Girls Go Everywhere HotTickets CONCERTS, SHOWS & EVENTS ON SALEN

'Legends!' features catfights, jewels and divas of a certain age

 ${\tt STAGE}\,|\,It's\,a\,common\,entertainment$ formula: Drag out two aging '80s stars and watch them go at it.

It worked for Alien and Predator and Freddy and Jason, so why not Alexis and Krystle? The latter require slightly less makeup.

The "Dynasty" divas take the stage in a reprisal of "Legends!," James Kirkwood's tale about two former stars and enemies who are tricked into doing a Broadway show together. The tour, which makes a stop at the National Theatre, bombed in the '80s, when it starred Carol Channing and Mary Martin.

Prepare to be shocked: Joan Collins plays Sylvia Glenn, the prickly



KITTENS WITH A WHIP: Linda Evans and Joan Collins reprise, approximately, their "Dynasty"-era roles in a revival of the aging-glamour-gal showcase "Legends!"

film star, while Linda Evans plays the sweet-as-Crystal-Lite Leatrice Monsee. Thrust on stage together, the pair bicker, trade barbs and, before you know it, hair is pulled. Embrace the feminism!

Making the voyage to the '80s complete, "Dynasty" costume director Nolan Miller will outfit the ladies. Really, who doesn't miss huge shoulder pads and ginormous hair? No one, that's who.

For director John Bowab's sake, let's hope this tour doesn't reflect the original, which was better known for its stars' backstage antics. But for ours ... let's see some claws, ladies. ERIN TROMPETER

→ National Theatre, 1321 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; through Dec. 3; \$32.75-\$126.25: 202-628-6161. nationaltheatre.org. (Metro Center)

baritone

Donald McCullon

MENTION

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Leonard Slatkin, Music Director

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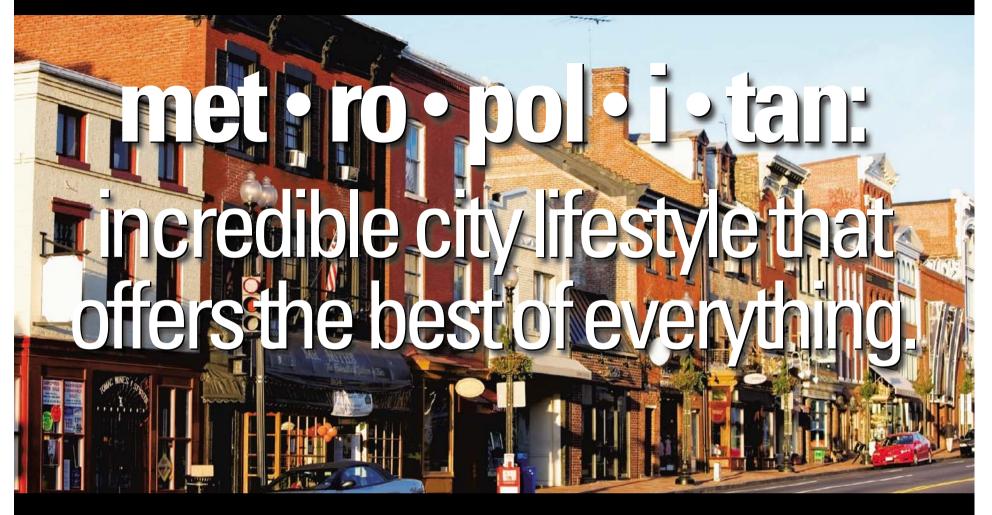
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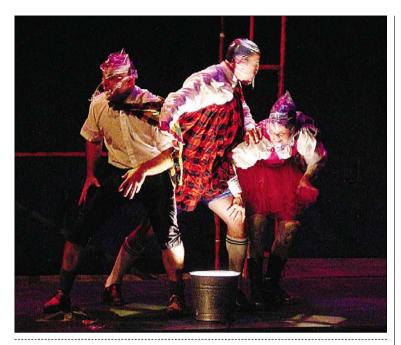
Visit: I-495 to Branch Ave. exit. At light go straight, cross over Auth Rd. Make a right at stop sign onto Auth Way. Sales Center is ahead on left.







Entertainment WeekendPass



'Macbeth' as torn down and rebuilt by a bunch of clowns

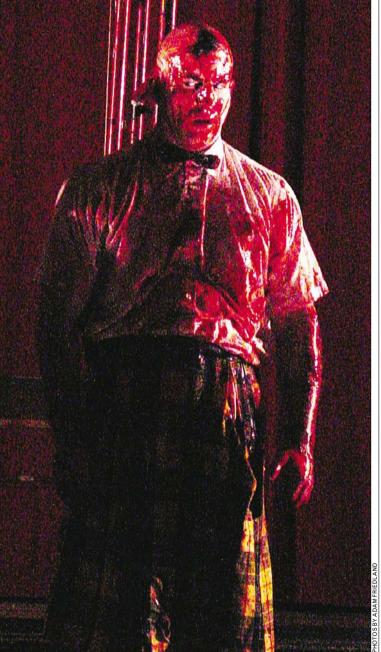
STAGE | What if a clown got hold of the highest office in the land? (Please hold your jokes.) There would be unfettered, childlike awe; there would be silliness; there would be shocking abuses of power. If "500 Clown Macbeth" is any indication, there will be lots of blood spilled before the thing is over.

At Clarice Smith Center this weekend, the avant-garde Chicago theatrical troupe 500 Clown tackles Shakespeare's tightest tragedy with its signature combination of fierce physicality, vintage-inspired postmodern clowning, pratfalls, violence, shock and awe.

500 Clown founder Adrian Danzig was intrigued with the idea of putting the play's themes of power, corruption and responsibility into the careless hands of a bunch of clowns, in this case himself and company members Paul Kalina and Molly Brennan, who vie to become king — that is, to play the lead role in "Macbeth."

"We started with the idea that, what would happen if a clown loves to play a king, because he gets to hold a scepter and say, 'Off with his head!' and things like that. So we thought, what if he gets to play Macbeth? Because there's all this enthusiasm a clown brings to what he gets to do."

Macbeth's — or, more properly, his wife's — desire to amass power at the expense of men's lives resonates far differently now than it did 400 years ago, Danzig explained. "In Shakespeare's day, ambition was something you would eschew because it would mean that you're acting against God. God had given you this person to be and this role to play, and you were rejecting that. And now, if you're an unam-



 $\textbf{`SO MUCH BLOOD IN HIM':} \ William \ Shake speare's terset ragedy is no less violent$ — perhaps even more so — in the hands of three foolish but ambitious clowns.

66 We're really interested in a bodily impact of theater."

> ADRIAN DANZIG. FOUNDER OF 500 CLOWN

bitious person, you're pretty much an idiot."

So the clowns vie for the crown with all the guts, claws and slyness of fools — or children. 500 Clown uses naivete in its most aggressive form, as well as its innocent one. The troupe isn't terribly verbal, but this show does use words ("It is not mime at all," said Danzig," which I would not wish on the audience."), as well as the attending crowd, to tell its story.

Shakespeare it may be, as taught in high schools and performed in community rep theaters. But decorous it isn't.

"We're really interested in a bodily impact of theater," said Danzig. "It should excite the mind and address the mind, but the body is where we live, and the work that we're trying to do should kind of blow through someone at the level of the chest." ABION BERGER (EXPRESS)

→ University of Maryland, Clarice Smith Center, Route 193 and Stadium Drive, College Park, Md.; through Sun.; \$30, \$7 students with ID; 301-405-2787, clarices mithcenter.umd.edu.



FOR COMPLETE EVENT LISTINGS SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT



THE HARD TOMORROWS

Bittersweet Melodies

The music of local indie rockers the Hard Tomorrows evoke a drizzly day nonetheless brimming with promise. The HTs open for hipster poster boy Jeremy Enigk and his band, who evoke Enigk's previous bands: Sunny Day Real Estate and the Fire Theft.

→ The Rock and Roll Hotel, 1353 H St. NE; Sun., 8 p.m., \$18; 202-388-7625.

CHILDREN'S POETRY SLAM

Lil' Everyone

Can little kids rock the mic? See for yourself as elementary and middle school students from D.C.'s public schools converge on the Elstad Auditorium at Gallaudet for the D.C. Scores Golden Mic Poetry Slam, Let's see — what rhymes with "Lunchables"?

→ Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Ave. NW; Thu., 5 p.m., free; 202-393-6999.

SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK

Strut Your Tartan Stuff

For 35 years, bagpipers, pipe and drum bands, dancers, groups of Scottie dog fanciers and Santa $himself \, have \, paraded \, through \, the \, streets$ of Alexandria, unofficially kicking off the local holiday season. The Campagna Center hosts a Christmas Marketplace all weekend.

→ Campagna Center, 418 S. Washington St., Alexandria; parade begins at 10:30 a.m. on Sat. at the corner of Wilkes and South Pitt streets: 703-549-0111.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Please send press releases and photos to expressevents@readexpress.com



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w/ John Brown's Body & Fear Nuttin' BandSa 6

Emily Haines & The Soft Skeleton This is a seated show....W 10

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An Invasion of Panic

'War of the Worlds' proves again the power of fear itself

STAGE | Almost 70 years ago, an elaborate radio hoax by Orson Welles had 1.2 million Americans believing their planet had been invaded by Martians. No little green men, no "We come in peace!" — just tentacled creatures with a heat ray and a jones for destruction.

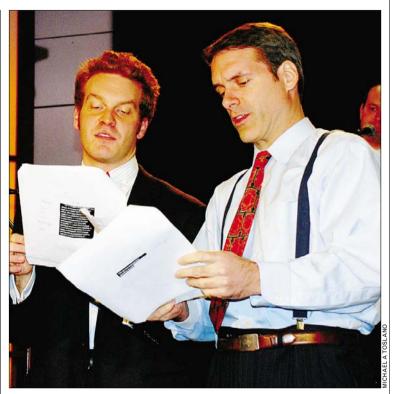
Scena Theatre captures this classic broadcast in its play-within-a-play staging of "War of the Worlds," playing at the D.C. Arts Center. Intertwining the action in the CBS studio, where Welles and Mercury Theatre on the Air work their magic, with reactions of Americans listening to the broadcast, Scena artistic director Robert McNamara demonstrates how the broadcast caused such panic.

With no TV cable news pro-

grams to confirm the invasion and no cell phones to check the whereabouts of loved ones, people understandably freaked out. If only they had noticed the date Oct. 30, 1938, the day before Halloween — they might have uncovered the hoax.

Scena's version of the broadcast begins with radio actors milling about, musing over their lines and waiting for direction from Welles (Dan Brick). Welles foretells the end of man's dominion of Earth, and the broadcast fades into a combination of weather reports and music of the period, interspersed with news of a meteorite crashing.

Welles himself takes the persona of Professor Pierson, of the Observatory at Princeton, who at first terms the phenomenon a meteor and scoffs at the idea of aliens, but later "witnesses" the Martian destruction.



The cast replicates the radio voic- | MARS ATTACKS: Theater meets radio in Scena Theatre's innovative staging.

es of the day; at a Scena rehearsal, an actor was instructed to use his "smile" voice to introduce a piece of music early in the broadcast, while another was directed to imitate FDR in an address as secretary of the interior.

Into Howard Koch's adaptation, McNamara inserts a chorus of average Americans' reactions to the news. At first, the responses range from confused to blase, but as word spreads of "aliens" marauding through the East Coast, torching soldiers and citizens, they become hysterical.

Some are convinced it's Hitler, while one woman posits it might be those "crafty" Japanese. Other listeners swear they can smell the black smoke from the heat rays. The voices often overlap to create the tense and panicked mood that resulted from the broadcast.

Scena will attempt to re-create that atmosphere in its own radio broadcast of the play, set for Dec. 8. erin trompeter

→ D.C. Arts Center, 2438 18th St. NW; opens Dec. 2, through Jan. 14; \$20-\$30;703-683-2824, scenatheatre.org.(Woodley Park-Adams Morgan)

The Fine Art of Rocking Out

Tenacious D is in on the joke, is the joke, totally rocks the joke

STAGE | You like Tenacious D. The question is whether that like is a still-laugh-and-head-bang-simultaneously kind of like, or if that like is a thought-it-was-funny-when-Ifirst-heard-it-but-that-was-1997 kind of like.

Regardless of whether you've been convinced it's the greatest band in the history of mankind arguably the entire point of Tenacious D's existence — you can't really get it by just hearing it.

We've had plenty of chances to see the duo (you know who they are by now) do their thing one way or another over the years — especially Jack Black, whose schtick of prancing around in a musically instigated craze has been featured in "High Fidelity," "School of Rock" and tons of other films without ever seeming to get old — but it can be argued that Tenacious D isn't as much of a band as it is a visual art installment. After all, it's hard to convey over-the-top, all-out rocking without partaking in actual over-thetop rocking out. That performance piece - rocking beyond rocking and then rocking further — is exactly what they do.

And considering the (shocking!) less-than-enthusiastic reviews of Tenacious D's new movie, "The Pick of Destiny" — the soundtrack of which is the impetus for the band's new tour — it's a performance act that, this time around, might work better live.

With help from similarly notable musical mockster Liam Lynch - this is his "United States of Whatever" - "The Pick of Destiny" actually sounds like, well. rock music that bands might seriously attempt to make. The joke is still there, but it doesn't come off as strong when the guffaw-inducing



Jack Black, top, and Kyle Gass might have become too big for their britches.

gusto in which the two furiously jam out their songs actually works. The only option you're left with is to join them. You hipsters who shamelessly went nuts to Tenacious D before — it was all part of the joke, right? - may have a harder time fighting that shame this time around.

For the rest of the fans who hunger to share Tenacious D's love for the above-and-beyond total rock experience: You'd better get your neck ready. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll thrash around overtaken with the absolute rockingness of it all — still. Tenacious D: the best band since the invention of sound? Hell, yes.

You'll yell until your lungs hurt. But, with an air of creeping legitimacy, you may not feel the need for the giggles afterward. CHRIS MINCHER (EXPRESS)

→ GMU, Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax; Sun., 7:30 p.m, \$40; 800-551-7328.





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WHEN: Sun., 4 p.m.

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Entertainment WeekendPass



POWERS OF EARTH AND HEAVEN: John Martin's dramatic 1827 mezzotint "Joshua Commanding the Sun to Stand Still."

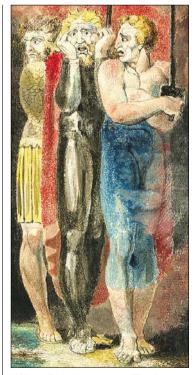
Into the Mystic

British Romantic painters embrace the unknown at the NGA

MUSEUMS | The cultural mind moves in cycles between reason and unreason, empiricism and mysticism, the seen and the felt. The cultural mind is, of course, often of two minds, hence our current political divisions. But some forms of culture — visual ${\rm art, for \, instance-are \, particular-}$ ly well suited to holding opposing ideas in a delicate balance.

Although Romanticism was a reaction to the Enlightenment, old new ideas don't roll over and die as soon as new new ideas come along. Some of the most provocative works in "The Artist's Vision: Romantic Traditions in Britain," a show of works on paper from the collection of the National Gallery of Art, straddle the line.

Valentine Green's 1769 mezzotint after Joseph Wright "A Philosopher Shewing an Experiment on the Air Pump" ostensibly records a scientific demonstration that a bird cannot live without oxygen. But it is presented as a theatrical nocturne. Staring directly at the viewer, the natural philosopher



William Blake's uncheery "The Accusers of Theft, Adultery, Murder (War)."

gestures his achievement like a magician, pointing out of the frame with one hand, working his trick (opening a stopcock to suffocate the bird) with the other. An older man seems lost in meditation. Two girls experience a dawning awareness of death: the younger gazes dolefully at what could have been a pet, the elder shields her eyes with her hand. On the other side of the picture, a man and a woman look longingly at one another, this lesson in mortality sparking seize-the-day desire. The question isn't merely what we know of nature, but how each reacts to that knowledge in turn.

Some Romantics saw personal mood echoed in the landscape, as in a 20-year-old Aubrey Beardsley's callow "Withered Spring." Others seated visions of the supernatural in the great outdoors. Charles Mottram's subtly colored mezzotint and etching after John Martin "The Plains of Heaven" depicts a pale blue, celestial city that may rest on cloud or stone.

As always, there are ruins from George Cuitt the Younger's "Rievaulx" to Samuel Palmer's "The Enchanted Castle at Dusk" — to serve as reminders that regardless of what you think of nature, it doesn't intend to keep you around. GI ENN DIXON

→ National Gallery of Art, 4th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; through Mar. 18; 202-737-4215. (Archives-Navy Memorial)

A Lesson In Moving & Shaking

STAGE | Music business mogul Miles Copeland and his Bellydance Superstars have a point to make, and, lucky for us, it's a sensual, entertaining one. The Supes come to the Birchmere on Thursday night for a return engagement that is part of their plan to re-establish what we call belly dancing as a demanding and expressive art form.

The Bellydance Superstars reckon that in the three short years they've existed as a dance troupe, they have performed about 375 concerts in 16 different countries. And this weekend, they continue their ongoing mission to spread the jiggly gospel to the masses, all the while fighting to legitimize what is called "rags sharqi" in Arabic as an ancient and difficult form of artistic expression.

The origins of belly dance are a little murky. Some believe it was conceived as a way for North African and Middle Eastern women to prepare for childbirth; other theories suggest it derived from religious dance. But the Bellydance Superstars maintain it's the future of the dance that's more important.



The Bellydance Superstars travel the globe to spread their jiggly gospel.

Wherever it originated, it's enjoyed a long history in the Middle East and since its move to the United States it has not only assimilated and picked up a Western and rather vulgar and inaccurate - name, but it's also mutated and now incorporates techniques of modern and jazz with its folkloric roots.

And despite the spangles and the chiffon, the Bellydance Superstars are here to prove that fusion is the future. Darona Williams (Express)

→ Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; Thu., 7:30 p.m., \$29.50; 703-549-7500.

STAGE | OVER THE RIVER



ARE WE THERE YET? Paula Vogel's troubling "The Long Christmas Ride Home" combines elements of traditional theater, Bunkaru puppetry and Noh theater in a tale of holiday angst so accute it's almost hallucinatory. Serge Seiden directs the Washington, D.C.-set play at the Studio Theatre.



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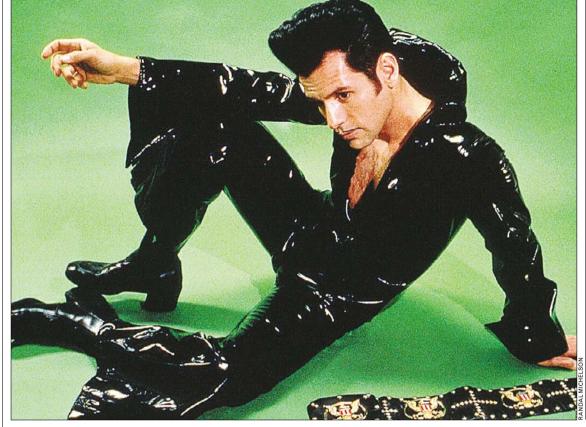
El Vez Is Everywhere

The Mexican Elvis brings the sexy and knows what time it is

MUSIC | "El Vez" literally translates from Spanish as "The Time." And if you squint, the greatest living Mexican Elvis impersonator could be mistaken for Morris Day: the skinny mustache, the pompadour, the snazzy duds. Oh-ee-oh-ee-oh. It's the first clue that El Vez is a renaissance man.

"I'm running for president in 2008 — 'El Vez for Prez," said Robert Lopez, offering the second clue to his alter ego's versatility.

His campaign stop in Washington this Friday is Christmas-themed and involves "punk, glitter, protest songs, Mexican folklore, gospel and Christmas carols. And some good political stuff, too." Plus, breakaway costumes and sexy El-Vettes. "First of all, it's entertainment," said Lopez, "but through the back door I'm getting other ideas — political, sexual, spiritual, whatever."



ELVIS, THE VINYL YEARS: Gallery owner and former punk gutarist Robert Lopez went into the Elvis business partly on a whim.

Nearly 18 years ago, Lopez was a former punk guitarist running a Los Angeles gallery. The impersonator hired for an opening exhibit of Elvis-themed work was lousy. "I thought, 'Sheesh, I could be Elvis," and, as a joke, Lopez flew to Memphis for the annual tribute week memorializing the King's passing. El Vez was born on the plane.

Then, said Lopez, "It snowballed — and backfired, because I'd planned to do it just once. But I got a blurb in the L.A. Times. Then I got a call to be on an NBC TV show. Now I've toured the world."

Truly, Elvis is everywhere. And in everyone. "We were doing mashups back in '88," said Lopez. "Dylan, the Staple Singers, New York Dolls, Eno, Bowie and, of course, Elvis, all mixed together. Plus, not everyone knows Chicano history, but lots of times people leave the show proud to be Mexican — even if they're not. There's this punk rock idea that you, too, can wear the crown, you can be the King."

Or the Prince. You listening, Morris? El Vez says it's time for the sexy people to get out on the dance floor. Bob Massey

→ Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; Fri., 9 p.m. \$15; 202-667-7960. (USt.-Cardozo)

Grunge Minus the Dirt

Hard-rocking Hinder exhibits both extreme behavior & power riffs

MUSIC | Oklahoma post-grunge late bloomers Hinder will play in front of a very happy sold-out crowd at the 9:30 Club this Thursday night.

This is no small feat in today's musical landscape for a blue-collar hard rock band that released its debut full-length album, "Extreme Behavior," just over one year ago.

Hinder's fast rise to fame was certainly aided by the surprise popularity of its rocking power ballad, "Lips of an Angel," which peaked at No. 3 earlier this year despite the fact that it was not even originally intended to make the album's final cut.

The Oklahoma City-based quintet plays a brand of college boy-



MEN OF THE PEOPLE: Hinder is beloved by fans, not so much by rock critics.

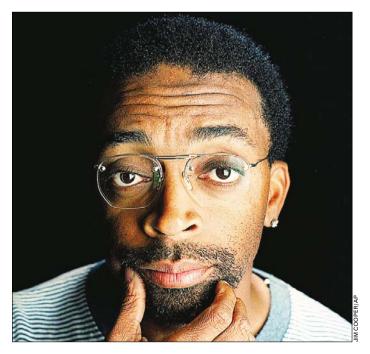
friendly, riff-based hard rock that is strongly influenced by the American grunge movement of the 1990s.

The band has carved a niche for itself — its music is both more aggressive than most coming out of the indie-rock scene and more fun-loving than most contemporary metal.

Music critics aren't all fans, but Hinder seems happy settling for fans' love of testosterone-fueled lyrics and guitar riffs. And it's, uh, point of view. So will the packed 9:30 Club fill up with smoke when Hinder launches into "Get Stoned" on Thursday night? You'd better believe it. GREGORY RE

→ 9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW, Eighteen Visions, Lynam, Thu.; sold out; 202-397-7328 (USt.-Cardozo)

LECTURE | WORDS OF WISDOM



CHAT ROOM: Filmmaker Spike Lee, always one of students' favorite visiting lecturers, drops by the University of Maryland on Thursday for "An Evening With Spike Lee," open to the general public as well as students. Stamp Student Union, Hoff Movie Theater, Campus & Union drives, College Park, Md.; 8 p.m., \$20, \$10 with UMd. ID; 301-314-9845, see.umd.edu.

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Playing Jazz Solitaire

Matthew Shipp finds his way back to his forte — solo piano

MUSIC | For the past four years, it's seemed as if jazz pianist Matthew Shipp has been reinventing himself as an electronica musician.

Albums such as "Nu Bop," "Equilibrium" and "Harmony & Abyss" (all on Thirsty Ear Recordings) saw the avant-garde musician and composer toying with hip-hop, broken beat and techno idioms.

But as of his latest disc, "One," Shipp is revisiting the solo piano format. "Right now, solo piano is the best way for me to express myself," he said, noting that he'll dedicate much of his Sundaynight performance at Twins Jazz to material from "One."

Shipp added that solo piano is his favorite instrumental setting, despite his recent wander-



ings: "I have sole responsibility of | ALONE AGAIN, NATURALLY: Shipp has toyed with contemporary idioms, but he always comes back to himself and the 88 keys.

generating the space and time of the music, and making sure that it moves."

His music has proved as challenging as it is moving. A decade ago, Shipp was cited as the heir apparent to free-jazz hero, Cecil Taylor. Shipp acknowledges the debt. "The major models for solo pianists of my generation would be solo concerts — Keith Jarrett's 'Köln Concerts' and Cecil Taylor's 'Air Above Mountains," he said.

"Those albums provided a model for a new realm of improvisation, intellectual structure and emotion to explore with solo piano using a vocabulary that was very idiosyncratic to a particular composer. I consider myself as continuing the evolution of that idea, but in my own distinct way."

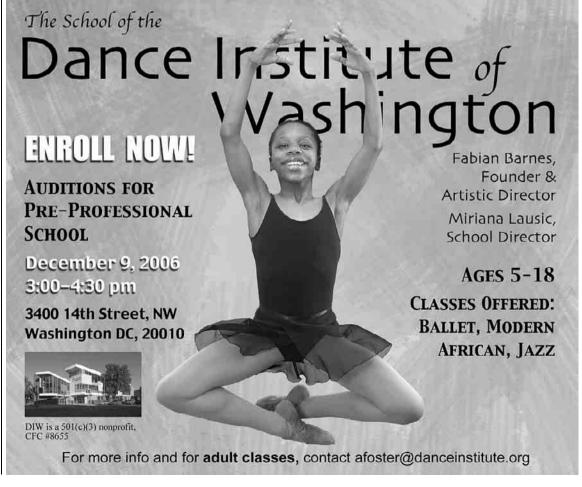
"I treat the piano like a giant jigsaw puzzle," he said. "To me, musical language is all relative, meaning that if I go from a standard to an original, I'm trying to connect all the parts of my concert in a very linear way and perform music that's indicative of my personality." JOHN MURPH

→ Twins Jazz, 1344 U St. NW; Sun., 8 p.m.; \$15; 202-234-0072 (USt.-

OUT & ABOUT | BLADE RUNNERS



ICE CASTLES: Celebrate icy slickness on Sunday with a Community Day at the Sculpture Garden Ice Rink. Washington Capitals players will be on hand, there will be demonstrations, and helpful gallery staff will discuss Gilbert Stuart's sober but whimsical "The Skater" and other paintings.



Gibson's Spin Cvcl

A studio goes into its damage-control mode for 'Apocalypto'

SELLING MEL | Even before Mel Gibson's drunken, anti-Semitic tirade this summer, his upcoming film "Apocalypto" was a tough sell.

Graphically violent, subtitled and cast with unknown actors who speak in an obscure dialect, Gibson's tale of a collapsing Mayan civilization was already outside Hollywood's mainstream. Then came Gibson's drunken-driving arrest in July, threatening to turn the Oscar-winning director from the film's biggest asset into its biggest liability overnight.

Last week, distributor Walt Disnev Studios kicked off a campaign aimed at shifting attention from Gibson and onto his movie. On Nov. 23, the director appeared on a prime-time special from Disney's ABC network, hoping to blunt any potential damage he caused "Apocalypto."

Gibson also agreed to a similar prime-time special on Univision's weekly news magazine show "Aqui v Ahora" on Nov. 30 as part of a promotional blitz aimed at Hispanics.



POINT AND SHOOT: Mel Gibson on the set of his period action movie, "Apocalypto." Walt Disney Studios is hoping to focus attention on the film, not the director.

On Dec. 7, one night before "Apocalypto" debuts. Gibson is scheduled With Jay Leno."

"The public is smart enough as a guest on "The Tonight Show | to differentiate what happens in someone's personal life and their professional life," said Disney Studios Chairman Dick Cook. "And, while we knew the marketing mountains we'd have to go up, you realize the movie is in the hands of someone who has conquered all these obstacles before and succeeded in an extraordinary way."

Nonetheless, it's uncertain whether Gibson's fans are ready to forgive him, let alone embrace an R-rated movie he has made on a topic unfamiliar to most audiences.

Disney plans to position "Apocalypto" as a riveting action adventure, opening the movie on more than 2,000 screens. Its publicity materials, trailer and TV spots play up the film as a visceral, "heart-stopping" story of a man who escapes from a world on the brink of destruction to save himself, his pregnant wife and their child.

Cook said the studio has no choice but to gloss over Gibson's personal problems. "You ignore it — there's no other way," he said. CLAUDIA ELLER (LOS ANGELES TIMES)

THE WASHINGTON POST'S FILM CRITICS TACKLE THIS WEEK'S BOX-OFFICE TOP 10

Happy Feet

Anyone watching this computer-animated flick about an adorable tapdancing penguin named Mumble is going to flip. desson тномson

2 Casino Royale

Reinventing James Bond as a kind of Navy SEAL with an attitude problem, "Casino Royale" turns out to be cracking good entertainment and a fresh start. STEPHEN HUNTER

3 Deja Vu

ATF agent Doug Carlin (Denzel Washington) goes back in time to unravel a crime. The plot is cockamamie, and the depictions of a terrorist attack offensive. DESSON THOMSON

4 Deck the Halls

This laugh-free comedy is about two suburbanites who battle over who will celebrate joy with the most joyless. industrial-strength, mega-wattage methodology. STEPHEN HUNTER

Borat: Cultural



THE FATEFUL DAY: "Bobby" is an earnest and ambitious look at a national tragedy.

Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan

No petard goes unhoisted as Kazakh journalist Borat cuts his wide and occasionally vicious swath through the U.S. ann hornaday

6 The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause

This sequel, which re-stars Tim Allen and 40 pounds of phony belly, has an almost criminal lack of invention or charm. STEPHEN HUNTER

7 Stranger Than Fiction This film is supposed to be about Harold Crick (Will Ferrell) and the authorial voice in his head. But the

filmmakers are more interested in a lightweight romance. DESSON THOMSON

8 Flushed Away

This computer-generated cartoon is shot through with cheeky wit and hilarious musical numbers. Ann hornaday

9 Bobby

Emilio Estevez's uneven but affecting drama about the day Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated gets more right than it does wrong. ANN HORNADAY

n The Fountain

Darren Aronofsky's futuristic romantic thriller and trippy meditation on love and loss is also an earnest, magnificent wreck, ANN HORNADAY

Indies&Arties

A Festival of Festivals

One of the most compelling films in the series "Rebels With a Cause: The Films of East Germany" screens on Friday. Kurt Maetzig's 1965 "The Rabbit Is Me" infuriated East German officials, who banned it. In this courageous film, a student confronts a powerful judge about his hypocrisy.

Also, "The Conversation," the thriller that made Gene Hackman a star, screens all weekend as part of AFI's sprawling retrospective "Francis Ford Coppola Redux," and British director Carol Reed's socially conscious coal-mining drama "The Stars Look Down" screens on Sunday. → AFI Silver, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; 301-495-6700. (Silver Spring)

It's Getting Dark at LoC

The National Film Registry's "Shades of Noir" series kicks off at the Library of Congress on Friday with a screening of Boris Ingster's seminal "Stranger on the Third Floor," with noir stalwarts Peter Lorre and Elisha Cook Jr., and Robert Siodmak's "Phantom Lady," about a man falsely accused of murder. It also stars Cook and the great Franchot Tone.

→ Library of Congress, Mary Pickford



The East German drama "The Rabbit Is Me" tackled Soviet-era hypocrisy.

Theater, 101 Independence Ave. SE; Fri., 8:30 p.m., free; 202-707-5677.

'The Journals of Knud Rasmussen'

Anyone who saw the magnificent, Shakespearean Inuit epic "Atanarjuat the Fast Runner" has been longing for Zacharias Kunuk and Norman Cohn's next film, and here it is. The pair's "Journals" tells the story of the last great Igloolik shaman and his daughter as a confusing modern world encroaches. Kunuk and Cohn will be on hand for a post-screening

→ National Gallery of Art, 600 Constitution Ave. NW; Fri., 6:30 p.m., free; 202-842-6799. (Archives-Navy Memorial)

PERFORMANCES

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washingtonwomenschorus.org 'A Perfect 10 for the Women's Chorus' —The Wash Post, May 9, 2006

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WeekendPass Entertainment

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→THURSDAY

Apex: College Night with DJ Randy White, VJ Steve Rosa, 9 p.m., \$5, free with college ID.

Bangkok Blues: GHz, 7:30 p.m., \$6. Black Cat: Owls and Crows. (The Sounds of) Kaleidoscope, the Exponentials. 9 p.m., \$8 (backstage).

Blues Alley: Michael Henderson and Art Sherrod Jr., 8 & IO p.m., \$25.

Bohemian Caverns: Stock 13 dance narty, 9 n.m., \$10.

Chick Hall's Surf Club: Hillbilly Jazz, 9 p.m., free.

Crossroads: Get Twisted Thursdays, 10 p.m., \$10.

DAR Constitution Hall: Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, 8 p.m., \$20-\$105.

DC9: Jukebox the Ghost, the Hatch, Go Mordecai, 9 p.m., \$8.

Five: Static Age: DJs Steve EP, Stereo Faith, Killa K., Krasty McNasty, 9 p.m., \$8 (free before IO p.m.).

Iota: Jesse Malin, John Faye, 9 p.m., \$15. Kennedy Center: Catfish Hodge, 6 p.m., free. NSO: Ivan Fischer (conductor), Brahm's Second Symphony, 7 p.m., \$20-\$80. An Evening with Carlos Ibay, 7:30 p.m., \$75.

Love: College Night, 9 p.m., \$10. 9:30 Club: Hinder, Eighteen Visions,

Lynam, 8:30 p.m., sold out.

Palladium: One Night Stand, 9 p.m., \$10 (ladies free with Internet pass).

Platinum: DJs QicSilver, Smokey Joe & José, free with pass from platinumclubdc.com, \$15 after II p.m.

The Red & the Black: Rambling Shadows, the Chariots, Inspector Doo, 9:30 n.m. \$8.

Rock and Roll Hotel: Cinemechanica, Kodiak, For the Taking, Maple, 9 p.m., \$8. Strathmore: The Mozartean Players,

7:30 p.m., sold out. Twins Jazz: Minor Thoughts Quintet, 8 n.m., \$10-\$30.

Wolf Trap: Del McCoury Band, 8 p.m., \$30.

Zanzibar: Familiar Faces, 8 p.m., \$15.

→ FRIDAY

Apex: DJ Chad Jack. VJ Mark Hawkins. Karaoke with Gladys Kravitz, 9 p.m., \$8. Bangkok Blues: Dixie Power Trio, 8:30 p.m., \$6.

Birchmere: Four Bitchin' Babes, 7:30 p.m.,

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Black Cat: El Vez, Lysa Flores, 9 p.m., \$15. Ecumencia Farewell Bash: A Little Something for Everyone with the Blue Vampire, 9 p.m., \$5 (backstage).

Blues Alley: Kim Waters, 8 & 10 p.m., \$25.

Bohemian Caverns: Young Lions, 9 p.m.,

Chick Hall's Surf Club: Heroes and

Friends, 9:30 n.m., \$2.

Crossroads: Escape Fridays, 9 p.m., \$10. DC9: Liberation Dance Party, 9 p.m., \$5. First Trinity Lutheran Church: Reflec-

tions on War and Peace: 18th Street Singers, 7 p.m., free.

Five: Absolute Addiction dance night. 9 p.m., \$10.

Iota: Kenin, Sparky's Flaw, Mark Vedete, 9 p.m., \$10.

Jammin' Java: Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers, Todd Wright, 8 p.m., \$15.

Jaxx: Roadducks, the Gypsy Son, Most Wanted, 7 p.m., \$23 (\$20 in advance).

Kennedy Center: Actors from the Shakespeare Theatre Company read selections from Edward Albee's works.. 6 p.m., free. NSO: Ivan Fischer (conductor), Brahm's Second Symphony, 7 p.m., \$20-\$80. Enchanted String Ensemble: Footsteps on

Lyceum: 20I S. Washington St., Alexan-

9:30 Club: 815 V St. NW; 202-265-

Phish Tea Cafe: 1335 H St. NE:

mysnace.com/dcheavensenthand

Palladium: 2135 Queens Chapel Rd. NE;

dria, 703-778-6310.

mirrorsdc.com.

202-669-0001

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Mirrors: 33 New York Ave. NE:

2222.

the Mountain, 7:30 p.m., \$40-\$55.

Love: Marc & Taz: First Friday, 9 p.m., \$10. Mirrors: The Lissen Band, Yanni and Mike. the Crossover Band, 8 p.m., free (before IO p.m. with Internet pass).

9:30 Club: Dark Star Orchestra, the Bridge, 9 p.m., \$24.

Platinum: College Fridays, free with pass from platinumclubdc.com, \$15 after II p.m.

Rams Head: Doug Segree Band, Jordan Page Band, 8 p.m., \$20.

The Red & the Black: Shwa, Tim Blane, Goat, 9:30 p.m., \$8.

Rock and Roll Hotel: Radio Four, Rubber Bullets, DJ Cassidv, 9 p.m., \$10-\$12.

Smithsonian Jazz Cafe: The Statesmen of Jazz, 6 p.m., \$10.

Strathmore: Pinchas Zukerman, violin/ viola; Marc Neikrug, piano, 8 p.m., \$55-\$85

Twins Jazz: Keith Killgo, 9 & II p.m., \$15. Wolf Tran: Schooner Fare, 8 p.m., \$25. Zanzibar: Miki Howard, 8 p.m., \$20.

→ SATURDAY

Apex: Apex Follies: Drag show hosted by Kristina Kelly, DJ Mark Hawkins, VJ Steve Rosa, 10:30 p.m., \$8.

Bangkok Blues: One Nation, 8:30 p.m.,

Birchmere: Four Bitchin' Babes, 7:30 p.m., \$29.50.

Black Cat: Los Amigos Invisibles, Bio Ritmo, 9 p.m., \$20, 60s Garage and Soul. 9:30 p.m., \$5 (backstage).

Blues Alley: Kim Waters, 8 & 10 p.m., \$25.

Bohemian Caverns: Keith Ailer Quartet, 9 n.m., \$10.

Chick Hall's Surf Club: Dr. S.O. Feel Good Band, Rawhand Band, 9 p.m., \$15.

Crossroads: The Overstanding Tour: Sizzla, 10 p.m., \$20.

DC9: Tease: DJ Ris Richards, DJ John Redden, free before IO p.m., \$10 after.

Five: M3 Music: Music Makes Magic dance night, 9 p.m., \$10.

Iota: Tarbox Ramblers, Scourge of the Sea,

Apex: 415 22nd St. NW: 202-296-0505. Bangkok Blues: 926 W. Broad St., Falls Church: 703-534-0095.

Birchmere Music Hall: 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria: 703-549-7500. Black Cat: 1811 14th St. NW; 202-667-

7960 Blues Alley: 1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-337-4141

Bohemian Caverns: 2001 IIth St. NW; 202-299-0801

Chick Hall's Surf Club: 47II Kenilworth Ave., Bladensburg, Md.; 301-927-6310.

Crossroads: 4103 Baltimore Ave., Bladensburg, Md.; 301-927-1056.

DAR Constitution Hall: 1776 D St. NW; 202-628-1776.

DC9: 1940 9th St. NW; 202-483-5000. First Trinity Lutheran Church: 50l 4th St. NW: 18thstreetsingers.com.

Five: I2I4B I8th St. NW; 202-33I-7I23.

Iota Club & Café: 2832 Wilson Blvd... Arlington; 703-522-8340.

Jammin' Java: 227 Maple Ave., Vienna; 703-255-1566

Jaxx: 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield; 703-569-5940.

Kennedy Center: 2700 F St. NW; 800-444-1324 Lime Club: 1824 Half St. SW; 202-479-

Rams Head: 33 West St., Annapolis, Md.; 410-268-4545. The Red & the Black: 1212 H St. NE; 202-

Platinum: 915 F St. NW: 202-393-3555.

Rock and Boll Hotel: 1353 H St. NF: 202-Love: 1350 Okie St. NE; 202-636-9030. 388-7625

> Smithsonian Jazz Cafe: National Museum of Natural History. Constitution Avenue & I0th Street NW: 202-633-INNO

State Theatre: 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church; 703-237-0300.

The Music Center at Strathmore: 530l Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda: 30l-581-5100

Twins Jazz: 1344 U St. NW: 202-234-0072

Wolf Trap: 1645 Trap Road, Vienna; 877-WOLFTRAP.

Zanzibar on the Waterfront: 700 Water St. NW: 202-554-9100.

Entertainment | WeekendPass

eScene

Vandaveer, 9:30 p.m., \$12.

Jammin' Java: Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers, Jonathan Williams, 8 p.m., \$15.

Jaxx: Hell's Elite Fest: Recently Vacated Graves: True Zombie Metal. Altar of the Apocalypse, Xanoths, Infidel, Semperfy, Decimation, Mikhail, Crematory, Critical State, Sledge House, 2:15 p.m., \$12 (\$10 in advance).

Kennedy Center: Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, 6 p.m., free, NSO: Ivan Fischer (conductor), Brahm's Second Symphony, 8 p.m., \$20-\$80. Left Bank Concert Society: A String Family Portrait, 7:30 p.m., \$30.

Lime Club: Rare Essence, 9 p.m., \$10-\$25 (ladies free before midnight with Internet nass).

Love: Hip-hop, International, Old Skool, A Moe & Fito Exclusive, 9 p.m., \$10.

Lyceum: Music from Around the World, 7 p.m., \$25.

9:30 Club: Dark Star Orchestra, 9 p.m., \$24

Platinum: Hip-hop, reggaeton, club mix, 9 n.m., \$15.

Rams Head: Hard Travelers, 2 p.m., \$21.50.

The Red & the Black: U.B.U. Dance Party: DJs Mellie Mel, Mlsguided, 9:30 p.m., \$5.

Rock and Roll Hotel: Strangeways: Music of the Smiths and Morrisey All Night Long, 9 p.m., \$10.

State Theatre: The Machine, 9 p.m., \$18 (\$15 in advance).

Strathmore: BSO at Strathmore: Baroque in Nature, 8 p.m., \$43-\$100.

Twins Jazz: Keith Killgo, 9 & II p.m., \$15. Zanzibar: Traffik: Shurwayne Winchester and the Sunshine Band, 9 p.m., \$20.

→ SUNDAY

Bangkok Blues: Mark Mandel's Allstar Blues Jam with Terrence McArdle & Big Trouble, 8 p.m., free.

Birchmere: Judy Collins, 7:30 p.m., \$49.50

Blues Alley: Kim Waters, 8 & 10 p.m., \$25. Chick Hall's Surf Club: Blues Jam, 4 p.m., free.

Crossroads: Dancehall Sunday: Jason Steele, Andy G. Jet Lee, Steelie Basement, IO p.m., \$10.

Five: Trade, 9 p.m., \$8.

Iota: Chris Harford and the Band of Changes, Dave Dreiwitz, Scott Metzger, Ghostfinger, 8:30 p.m., \$10.

Jammin' Java: Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Competition Award Ceremony, 7 p.m., \$5.

Jaxx: Ion Dissonance, As Blood Runs Black, Nights Like These, Murderwalk, Extortion by Duress, In Alcatraz 1962.



You Don't Have To Be Jewish

from 15 countries, the 17th Annual Washington Jewish Film Fest opens on Thursday and runs through Dec. 10 at nine area venues. The festival's highlights include several appearances by Eytan Fox, one of Israeli cinema's most successful new directors. Fox will be honored with the WJFF Decade Award and appear at several screenings this weekend. On the documentary front, WJFF presents, among many others, "Blues by the Beach," an unscripted first-hand account of a terrorist attack on a popular Tel Aviv beachfront bar and Freida Lee Mock's "Wrestling With Angels" — the product of three years spent filming playwright Tony Kushner. The festival's entire schedule is available at wiff.org. TIM FOLLOS (EXPRESS)

5:15 p.m., \$12 (\$10 in advance).

Kennedy Center: The D.C. Accidentals, 6 p.m., free. Young Concert Artists Series: Jean-Frederic Neuburger, piano, 2 p.m., \$30.

9:30 Club: Jet, the Blue Van, 8:45 p.m., \$25

Phish Tea Cafe: Heaven Sent Band, 7 p.m., \$10.

Platinum: DJs Alizay, Trini & Superslice-Muzik Nashun spin hip-hop, reggae and R&B, free with pass from platinumclubdc.com, \$15 after II p.m.

Rams Head: Slim Man (CD release) I p.m., \$15. Hard Travelers, 3 p.m., \$21.50.

The Red & the Black: The Kyle Sowashes, 9:30 p.m., \$7.

Rock and Roll Hotel: Jeremy Enigk, the Hard Tomorrows, Cedars, 9 p.m., \$15-\$18

Twins Jazz: The Jason Hwang Quartet, Matthew Shipp, 8 p.m., \$10-\$30. Wolf Trap: Holiday Sing-A-Long, 4 p.m.

Adamson Gallery: "Kelly Towles: I Call Shotgun," the artist's hip, tricky paintings, through Dec. 9, 1515 14th St. NW: 202-232-0707, adamsongallery.com.

LAST CHANCE Alex Gallery: "In

Silence Dreams Are Hidden," Finnish painter Hannu Palosou, Maciek von Ato's "What You Don't See." "Garden Journal XIV." handmade paper flowers and vegetables by Ann Zahn, all through Nov. 30. 2106 R St. NW; 202-667-2599, alexgalleries.com.

American Art Museum and National

Portrait Gallery: "William H. Johnson's World on Paper," never-before-exhibited prints by the African-American modenist. "Passing Time: The Art of William Christenberry" images of the American South as it wears away, ongoing. "Portraiture Now," through Jan. 7. "Ruth Duckworth: Modernist Sculptor," through Jan. 15, "An Impressionist Sensibility: The Halff Collection," one of the finest private collections from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, through Feb. 4. "Joseph Cornell: Navigating the Imagination," a survey of the visionary modern artist's boxes, collages, objects, dossiers, films and graphic designs, through Feb. 19. "Josephine Baker: Image and Icon." opens Fri.. through March 14. "Temple of Invention:

History of a National Landmark," the construction of "the noblest of Washington's buildings," through July 8. 8th & F streets NW; 202-633-1000, www.npg.si.edu, americanart.si.edu/index3.cfm.

American Painting: "Arrangements in Focus: New Still Life Paintings," by Barbara Nuss, through Dec. 31, 5118 MacAr-

Continued on E18



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heScene

Continued from F17

thur Blvd. NW; 202-244-3244, classicam ericanpainting.com.

Anacostia Community Museum: "Two Hundred Years of Black Paper Dolls: The Collection of Arabella Gravson," tracing social change through paper dolls: "D.C. Undercover: Photographs by Steven M. Cummings," citizens of the District wearing caps and hats, through April 29. "Banding Together: Public School Bands as Instruments of Opportunity," through May. 1901 Fort Place SE; 202-633-1000, anacostia.si.edu.

Ann Loeb Bronfman Gallery: "The Song of Songs: The Honeybee in the Garden," illuminated manuscripts by artist and scribe Debra Band, through Jan. 7. 1529 16th St. NW; 202-518-9400, washingtondcjcc.org.

LAST CHANCE The Art Club of Washington: "The OUT LOUD! Painters: Painting Outside the Lines." a group of abstract painters who share a common vision, through Dec. I. 2017 I St. NW;

202-331-7282.

BlackRock Center for the Arts: "A Phenomenon of Nature," glass sculpture by Syl Mathis, Michael Janis and Tim Tate, through Dec. 29. I290I Town Commons Drive, Germantown; 30I-528-2260, blackrockcenter.org.

City Paws: "Dog City," 20 images capturing the essence of local D.C. canines, through Feb I. 1823 14th St. NW; 202-232-7297. citypawsdc.com.

Conner Contemporary Art: "Origin." digital light sculpture by Leo Vilareal, through Dec. 22. 1730 Connecticut Ave. NW: 202-588-8750. connercontemporary.com.

Corcoran Gallery of Art: "Contemporary (Re)defined," the museum's largest contemporary exhibit, through Jan. "The Paradise Institute," a film and multimedia installation by Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller, through Jan. 14. "Joan of Arc." the French icon as seen through lenses of society, politics and culture, through Jan. 21. "Sight/Insight: Photographs From the Permanent Collection," through Jan. 31, 500 17th St. NW: 202-639-1700, corcoran.org.

Curator's Office: "To Beat the Devil:

DANCE | DON'T STOP



SHAKE IT ALL DAY LONG: Jane Franklin Dance presents a Dance Sampler festival at Gunston Arts Center on Saturday, featuring a variety of classes and performances by Franklin's troupe, above, Furia Flamenca, Motion Mania Dance Theatre and others, Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington; Sat., performances begin 8 p.m., \$10-\$30; 703-228-1850.

Jason Hughes," conceptual works in diverse media, through Dec. 30. 1515 14th St. NW: 202-387-1008. curatorsoffice.com.

DAR Museum: "Myth or Truth? Stories We've Heard About Early America," the museum examines the reliability of "history," through March 3I. 1776 D St. NW; 202-572-0563, dar.org.

Discovery Galleries: Kurt Bittle and Randall Browning, very different photorealist painters. 4840 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda; 301-913-9199, discoverygalleries.com.

Distinctive Lifestyle Gallery: "Recent Abstract Works by Michele de la Menardiere," through Dec. 1755 S.St. NW: delamenardiere com

District Fine Arts: "Inclement Weather," paintings by Melchus Davis, through Dec. 13. 1726 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-328-9100. dfaonline.com.

District of Columbia Arts Cen-

ter: "Exchange: Richmond @ D.C.," a micrcosm of Richmond's vibrant, eclectic and lavered arts communities, through Dec. IO. 2438 I8th St. NW: 202-462-7833, dcartscenter.org.

LAST CHANCE Elizabeth Stone Gal-

Continued on E20



"Dear **Manolo**"

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express

POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16 FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10 3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690# 4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670# Adv. Tix on Sale THE NATIVITY STORY [PG] *A Adv. Tix on Sale PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG-13) * Adv. Tix on Sale CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) ** DEJA VU (PG-13) DIG (1100 1140 1230 200 300 400 500) 645 733 EUROPE VI (PG-13) DIG (1100 1140 1230 200 300 400 500) 645 733 EUROPE VI (PG-13) DIG (1100 1140 1230 200 300 400 500) 645 733 Adv. Tix on Sale CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) * Adv. Tix on Sale BLOOD DIAMOND (R) - ID REQ'D * 30BBY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (210 500) 750 1040 DEJA VU (PG-13) DIG (1215 1245 115 330 400 430) 645 715 745 905 1025 CASINO ROYALE (PG-13) DIG (1200 1230 100 315 345 415) 630 700 730 945 1015 # PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG-13) ★ # CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) ★ # (PG) DIG (1210 240) 520 750 1020 # (D'D DIG (100) 420 740 1035 # DIG (1150 1240 130) 310 410 510 610 725 830 TENACIOUS D IN: PICK OF DESTINY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG DECK THE HALLS (PG) DIG 220 450 170 740 1010 FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG-13) DIG 1220 235 520) 735 940 LET'S GO TO PRISON (I) - ID REQ'D DIG 120 235 520) 736 940 HAPPY FEET (PG) DIG 1250 20 335 405) 620 710 950 STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG-13) DIG (110 355) 650 935 ENACIOUS D IN: PICK OF DESTINY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (120 230) 500 730 95 FLUSHED AWAY (PG) DIG BORAT (R) - ID REQ'D DIG OC & DA: BORAT (R) - ID REQ'D DIG SAW III (R) - ID REQ'D DIG THE PRESTIGE (PG-13) DIG Adv. Tix on Sale BLOOD DIAMOND (R) - ID REQ'D ★ Adv. Tix on Sale BLOOD DIAMOND (R) - ID REQ'D ★ Adv. Tix on Sale PURSUIT OF HAPPVINES (PG-13) ★ Adv. Tix on Sale PURSUIT OF HAPPVINES (PG-13) ★ Adv. Tix on Sale CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) ★ OC & DA: BORAT (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (540) 1035 TENACIOUS D IN: PICK OF DESTINY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (220 520) 745 1005 915 AdV. Tix on Sale BLOOD DIAMOND (R) - ID REC/D ★ TENACIOUS D IN: PICK OF DESTINY (R) - ID REC/D D (210 450) DECK THE HALLS (PG) DIG ECK THE HALLS (PG) DIG ECK THE HALLS (PG-13) DIG (205 235 455 525) 725 945 EASINO ROYALE (PG-13) DIG (1245 115 393 400 430) 645 715 745 EASINO ROYALE (PG-13) DIG (1245 115 393 400 430) 645 715 745 EASINO ROYALE (PG-13) DIG (125 155 405 439) 720 ELISHED AWAY (PG) DIG (230 445) 710 740 925 955 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (144 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (144 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (144 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (144 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (145 420) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) BIG (145 440) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) BIG (145 440) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) BIG (145 440) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) BIG (145 440) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) BIG (145 440) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) BIG (145 440) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) BIG (145 440) 855 EANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) BIG (G) EANTA C LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) - ID REQ'D DIG BOBBY (R) - ID REO'D DIG (100 440) 740 1020 THE FOUNTAIN (PG-13) DIG (230 515) 750 1015 CASINO ROYALE (PG-13) DIG (1220 120 350 510) 610 710 840 950 1040 THE QUEEN (PG-13) DIG

104 HAPPY FEET (PG) DIG (1200 1230 130 300 330 410) 630 700 911 STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG-13) DIG (115 405) 645 931 BORAT (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (250) 715 810 941 V. Tix on Sale PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG-13) ★
V. Tix on Sale CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) ★
3BY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1220 300) 700 101
IACIOUS D IN: PICK OF DESTINY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (127 300) 901 101 DEJA VU (PG-13) DIG (1205 1245 115 315 400 415) 715 740 805

105/ IAPPY FEET (PG) DIG (1135 1215 210 250 450 515) 730 8IT ITRANGER THAN FICTION (PG-13) DIG (1145 225 500) 750 104 LUSHED AWAY (PG) DIG (1130 220 430) 750 IORAT (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1200 220 500) 805 103 ANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) DIG (1130 205 445

DEJA VU (PG-13) DIG (115: DECK THE HALLS (PG) DIG LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) - ID REQ'D CASINO ROYALE (PG-13) DIG HAPPY FEET (PG) DIG STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG-13) DIG STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG-13) DIG

(100 425) 725 800 1030 (1245 205 400 440) 700 (130 445) 745 1030 (1225 235 500) 720 (1220 240 455) 750 1005

BABEL (R) - ID REQ'D DIG

ASINO ROYALE (PG-13) DIG (1200 100 330 415) 700 735 (1300 1200 200 245 515) 750

205 440 (1140 1215 250 320) 645 730 (1120 145 42)

See it in a newspaper format and by retired Canadian newsman Bob Moss.

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ower Ave and Telegraph Road in Ale 703-998-4AMC

949, 1023 DEJA VU (PG13) / 2:00, 2:35, 5:00, 6:00, 8:00, 9:00 THE FOUNTAIN (PG13) / 12:35, 3:20, 5:55, 8:30 TENACIOUS D IN THE PICK OF DESTINY (R) / 12:40, 3:25,

CASINO ROYALE (PG13) 1:15, 2:15, 4:45, 5:45, 8:15, 9:15 IAPPY FEET (PG) 1:00, 1:45, 3:45, 4:30, 6:30, 7:15, 9:10, 10:00 LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) 12:50, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:25
LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) 🖂 🖾 12:50, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:25
A GOOD YEAR (PG13) 2:25
STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG13) 12:15, 3:05, 5:50, 8:45

BORAT (R) 2:15, 4:35, 5:30, 7:05, 8:05, 9:35, 10:30 FLUSHED AWAY (PG) 1:40, 4:10, 6:45, 9:05 THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 9:5

SAW III (R) 2:30, 5:35, 8:20 THE PRESTIGE (PG13) 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

THE DEPARTED (R) 1:05, 4:30, 8:00

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG13)
1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:20
THE QUEEN (PG13) 2:05, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20

AMC SPRINGFIELD MALL 10 Loisdale and Franconia Road

703-971-3991

DECK THE HALLS (PG) ✓ 1:50, 4:30, 8:30 DEJA VU (PG13) ✓ 1:40, 4:50, 8:15 TENACIOUS D IN THE PICK OF DESTINY (R) ✓ 5:10, 8:30 CASINO ROYALE (PG13) 1:30, 4:40, 8:00 HAPPY FEET (PG) 2:00, 5:00, 8:40, 8:40 LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) 5:00 STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG13) 4:50, 8:15

FLUSHED AWAY (PG) 4:40, 8:00 THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 4:30, 7:45 THE DEPARTED (R) 7:30

AMC MAZZA GALLERIE

Jenifer and Wisconsin 202-537-9553

DECK THE HALLS (PG) / 3:00, 5:15, 7:30 DECK THE HALLS (PG) 💷 🖾 🗸 3:00, 5:15, 7:30 TENACIOUS D IN THE PICK OF DESTINY (R) ✓ 2:30, 4:50,

CASINO ROYALE (PG13) 1:45, 4:45, 7:45 HAPPY FEET (PG) 2:00, 4:30 BORAT (R) 3:30, 5:35, 7:40

AMC SELECT BABEL (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30

LOEWS GEORGETOWN 14

3111 K Street, N.W. 202-342-6441

DEJA VU (PG13) / 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:25 THE FOUNTAIN (PG13) \(\times\) 12:50, 3:15, 5:40, 8:15, 10:50 TENACIOUS D IN THE PICK OF DESTINY (R) / 2:10, 4:35,

CASINO ROYALE (PG13) 12:00. 1:00. 3:10. 4:10. 6:30. 7:30. 10:00. HAPPY FEET (PG) 12:10, 2:45, 5:25, 8:05, 10:45

STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG13) 2:25, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35
BORAT (R) 12:05, 1:20, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15, 10:30
THE PRESTIGE (PG13) 3:45, 10:10 THE DEPARTED (R) 12:25, 6:50

AMC SELECTA BOBBY (R) ✓ 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:40

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG13) 12:30, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 9:40 THE QUEEN (PG13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:05

LOEWS LEXINGTON PARK 6

21882 FDR Boulevard

-SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT No passes or discount coupon

DECK THE HALLS (PG) 5:10, 7:45 CASINO ROYALE (PG13) 5:00. 8:00

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18

DECK THE HALLS (PG) / 2:00, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
DEJA VU (PG13) / 1:15, 2:05, 4:20, 5:10, 7:20, 8:10, 10:20
THE FOUNTAIN (PG13) / 1:250, 3:10, 5:30, 7:55, 10:15
TENACIOUS D IN THE PICK OF DESTINY (R) / 2:20, 4:45,

THE PICK OF DESTINT (pt / 220, 438; 705, 925)

CASINO ROYALE (PG13) 1:10, 230, 415, 600, 745, 9.30

CASINO ROYALE (PG13) □ se 2.30, 600, 9.30

HAPPY FEET (PG) 1:00, 1:45, 3:45, 4:30, 6:30, 7:15, 9:10, 10:00

LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) 2:10, 7:40

A GOOD YEAR (PG13) 2:15, 5:05

STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG13) 1:30, 4:05, 6:55, 9:35

BORAT (R) 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 8:05, 9:15, 10:15

FLUSHED AWAY (PG) 1:25, 3:305, 6:15, 7:35, 6:45

THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 1:20, 5:50 6:25

3:50, 6:25
THE PRESTIGE (PG13) 9:00 PM
THE DEPARTED (R) 4:25, 9:50

BOBBY (R) / 1:40, 4:35, 7:25, 10:10
FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG13) / 12:45, 2:55, 5:20, 7:30, 2:40 BABEL (R) 1:50, 5:00, 8:15

AMC COLUMBIA MALL 14

10300 Patuxent Parkway 410-423-0520

DECK THE HALLS (PG) 2-35, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
DEJA VU (PG13) 1:30, 2:55, 4:20, 5:45, 7:10, 8:35, 10:00
THE FOUNTAIN (PG13) 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
THE FOUNTAIN (PG13) 82 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
TENACIOUS D IN THE PICK OF DESTINY (R) 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50

CASINO ROYALE (PG13) 2:45, 6:10, 9:25 HAPPY FEET (PG) 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:05

LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) 10:10 PM

STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG13) 1:40, 4:05, 6:45, 9:15

BORAT (R) 2:00, 4:15, 6:50, 9:05

FLUSHED AWAY (PG) 1:55, 4:00, 6:05, 8:10

THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 2:10, 4:25, 6:40, 8:55

4:25, 6:40, 6:35 THE PRESTIGE (PG13) 6:20 THE DEPARTED (R) 3:05, 9:10

BOBBY (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40
BABEL (R) 1:35, 4:35, 7:35

LOEWS FAIRFAX SQUARE 8

8065 Leesburg Pike 703-506-9857 802

A GOOD YEAR (PUTS) 5:10, 5:00
SAW III (R) 4:40, 7:30
FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS (R) 4:20, 7:20
THE PRESTIGE (PG13) 4:00, 7:00
QUIEN MATO A LA LLAMITA BLANCA? (NR-NOT RATED)

MAGIC JOHNSON CAPITAL CENTRE 12

S01E-324-42-20
DECK THE HALLS (PG) 12:10, 2:10, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05
DEJA VU (PG·13) 12:30, 1:00, 3:30, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00
THE FOUNTAIN (PG·13) 1:55, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
CASINN ROYALE (PG·13) 1:253, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00
HAPPY FEET (PG) 1:15, 3:45, 6:35, 9:15
LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) 12:00, 2:20, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
THE RETURN (PG·13) 2:00, 7:10
BORAT (R) 12:50, 3:00, 5:15, 8:00, 7:00
BORAT (R) 12:50, 3:00, 5:15, 8:00, 7:52, 9:35
THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

SAW III (R) 4:40, 9:40

BOBBY (R) 1:35, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15

1350 19th St. 1-800-FANDANGO #711

FAST FOOD NATION (R) 4:30, 4:50, 7:10
COPYING BEETHOVEN (PG13) 5:00, 7:40
FUR: AN IMAGINARY PORTRAIT OF DIANE ARBUS (R)
4:20, 7:30

THE ILLUSIONIST (PG13) 7:30 LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE (R) 4:40, 7:20

LOEWS UPTOWN 1 3426 Connecticut Avenue N.W. 1-800-FANDANGO #713

THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 5:45, 8:45 BOBBY (R) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00

AMC TYSONS CORNER 16

DECK THE HALLS (PG) ✓ 12:40, 2:55, 5:15, 7:35, 9:55
DEJA VU (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 2:15, 4:05, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:50, 10:45
DEJA VU (PG13) ✓ 2:15, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45 TENACIOUS D IN THE PICK OF DESTINY (R) / 12:50, 3:10.

5:30, 7:30, 10:15 CASINO ROYALE (PG13) 1:10, 2:30, 4:20, 5:40, 8:50, 10:00 HAPPY FEET (PG) 12:50, 2:10, 3:20, 4:40, 5:50, 7:10, 8:20, 9:45 LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) 10:40 PM STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG13) 1:45, 4:50, 7:45, 10:25

BORAT (R) 12:55, 3:05, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35, 10:35 FLUSHED AWAY (PG) 1:05, 3:15, 7:25, 10:05 THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:05

330, 545, 805
THE DEPARTED (R) 1240, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20

AMC SELECT

BOBBY (R) / 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 10:10

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG13) / 12:45, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:30

AMC RIVERTOWNE 12

Exit 4A I-95, 1/2 mi. on Oxon Hill Rd. 703-998-4AMC

DECK THE HALLS (PG) ✓ 5:10, 8:10

DEJA VU (PG13) ✓ 4:30, 5:00, 7:30, 8:00 **CASINO ROYALE (PG13)** 4:35, 7:35 CASING NOTALE (PUT-3) 4:39, 7:39
HAPPY FEET (PG) 4:45, 7:25
LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) 5:20, 7:25
THE RETURN (PG) 31, 5:15, 7:45
FLUSHED AWAY (PG) 4:40, 7:00
THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 5:05, 7:50 SAW III (R) 5:30, 8:05 THE DEPARTED (R) 4:20, 7:30

AMC SELECT BOBBY (R) / 4:50, 7:40

AMC COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8 Courthouse and Birch Rd.

703-998-4AMC DEJA VU (PG13) / 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

THE FOUNTAIN (PG13) < 5.00, 7.15, 9:35

STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG13) 4:30, 7:05, 9:45

FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS (R) 4:10, 9:45

THE DEPARTED (R) 4:45, 8:00 SAMC SELECTAR

BOBBY (R) / 4:15 7:20 10:1

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG13) ✓ 4:50, 7:10, 9:20 BABEL (R) 4:20, 7:45

LOEWS SHIRLINGTON 7

2772 South Randolph 703-671-0910 801

THE FOUNTAIN (PG13) 1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30

AMC SELECT

THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND (R) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40 **FAST FOOD NATION (R) 1:50, 7:30**

BABEL (R) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00 COPYING BEETHOVEN (PG13) 2:10 4:40 7:40 9:50 THE QUEEN (PG13) 1:20 3:50 7:00 9:10

LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE (R) 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:20

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DECK THE HALLS (PG) ✓ 5:20, 7:45
DECK THE HALLS (PG) ☑ ✓ 5:20, 7:45 CASINO ROYALE (PG13) \$\simeq 5:00, 8:00
LET'S GO TO PRISON (R) \$\simeq 5:40, 8:15
A GOOD YEAR (PG13) 5:10 THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 5:30, 8:15

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DEJA VU (PG13) 2:00, 4:35, 7:15 CASINO ROYALE (PG13) 3:10. 6:30 HAPPY FEET (PG) 2:00, 5:00, 7:15 BORAT (R) 2:10, 4:40, 7:25

FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS (R) 7:45

BABEL (R) 3:00, 7:00



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BABEL (R) 12:30, 9:30 FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG-13) 1:50, 4:00, 7:00, 9:20 BOBBY (NR) 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55 THE FOUNTIAN (PG-13) 1:52 6:45, 7:26 9:45 1:35, 4:35, 7:25, 9:45 THE QUEEN (PG-13) 1:25, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15 1:25, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15 STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG-13) 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 LITTLE CHILDREN (R) 3:45, 6:50, 9:40 COPYING BEETHOVEN (PG-13)

P&G WESTFIELD MONTGOMERY

101 Democracy Blvd. Beth. 301-767-9555 BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM! HAPPY FEET (PG) 2:30, 5:00, 7:25 FLUSHED AWAY (PG) 2:45, 4:45, 7:00 THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE

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CINEMA ARTS THEATRE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG-13) 10:05, 12:05, 2:25, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20 **BOBBY (R)** 9:50 am, 12:10 2:35, 5:00, 7:50, 10:00

BORAT (R) 10:10 am, 11:55 am 1:50, 3:40, 5:30, 8:00, 9:45 1:50, 3:40, 5:30, 8:00, 9:45 BABEL (R) 10:00 am, 1:00, 4:15, 7:20, 10:05 MARIE ANTONIETTE (PG-13) 12:05, 2:30, 7:40 FAST FOOD NATION (R) 9:45 am, 4:55, 9:55 THE QUEEN (PG-13) 9:55 am, 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:30, 9:35

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ABDUCTION: THE MEGUMI YOKOTA STORY (NR) 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:40 THE CAVE OF THE YELLOW DOG (NR) 2:25, 4:40, 7:10

THE FOUNTAIN (PG-13)
2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:25
FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG-13) 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30, 10:00 SHUT UP & SING (R) 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50

2:20, 4:50, 7:50, 7:50 BABEL (R) 2:00, 8:00 THE QUEEN (PG-13) 2:10 4:35, 7:20, 9:3 THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND (R) 1:40, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45

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Capsule reviews of popular new DVD releases

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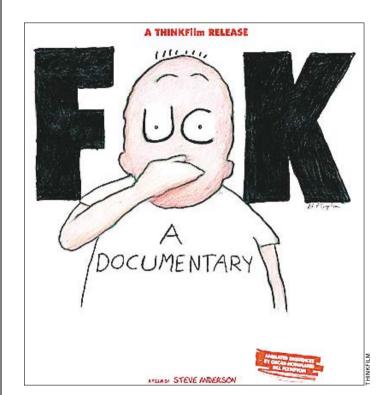


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WeekendPass



A Charged Word's Many Meanings

FILMMAKER STEVE ANDERSON aims his camera at comedians, writers, scholars, linguists and actors for this lively discussion of the English language's incendiary — but very useful - F-bomb. The forms it takes, the damage it does, the catharsis it provides and other effects and mutations of the Big One are discussed. When even that word isn't enough, Oscar-nominated animator Bill Plympton provides evocative visuals in between clips of some of the F-word's great public moments. Too bad Anderson couldn't get Dick Cheney to comment. Arion Berger (Express) EStreet Cinema, 555 11th St. NW; opens Fri.; 202-452-7672. (Metro Center)

Continued from E18

lery: "Reach Out and Read/Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children Anniversary Exhibit," the work of five artists and illustrators, through Dec. 2. II27 King St., Suite 20I, Alexandria; 703-706-0025, elizabethsto negallery.com.

Ellipse Arts Center: "All Arlington Salon," all-media exhibition for artists who live, work, study or maintain studios in Arlington, through Dec. 16. 4350 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington; 703-228-7710, arlingtonarts.org/ellipseartscenter.htm.

EWI's A Woman's Story Gallery:

"Reflections," oils on canvas by Israeli-American Regina Margarita Barker-Barzel, through Dec. 16. Exit Signature Reality, I307 King St., Alexandria; 703-7786310, ewint.org.

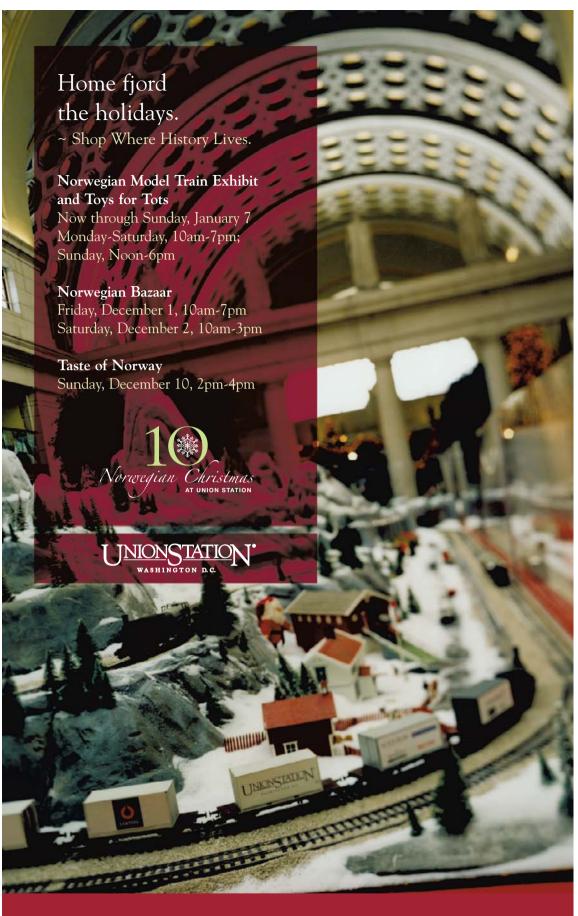
Flashpoint: "Consume," a group exhibition that asks viewers to consider the nuance and ambiguity inherent in our concepts of consumption, through Jan. 6. 916 G St. NW: 202-315-1310, flashpointdc.org.

Folger Shakespeare Library: "Technologies of Writing in the Age of Print," an exhibit examining the way individuals in early modern Europe relied upon pen and paper to negotiate what we now refer to as "information overload," through Feb. 17. 20I East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-7077, folger.edu.

Foundry Gallery: "Holiday Show," work by Foundry Members, through Dec. 3I. I3I4 I8th St. NW; 202-463-0203, foundry-gallery.org.

Fraser Gallery: "Sky Light," by Maxwell MacKenzie, through Jan. 6. 7700 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 301-718-965I,

Continued on F23



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Dining WeekendPass



Wine-Centric Italian

If you're a fan of Italian cuisine. among the first to visit Roberto Donna's Bebo Trattoria, and a regular at Arlington's Italian Store, A La Lucia is likely in your repertoire. Owned and operated by former Galileo maitre'd Michael Naveri, the restaurant offers fare that includes mussels in white wine, meatballs in polenta, linguini vongole and pasta puttanesca.

Yet it's wines that Naveri has been showcasing lately in the restaurant's recently opened wine room, part of Michael's Wine Connection store that opened last fall. This month alone, Naveri hosted several tastings in the space, which included a French tasting of 10 wines for \$20.

Though Nayeri's wine selection in the bar and the store is wide enough to accommodate discerning wine connoisseurs, he's especially fond of the 2005 Vietti Arneis and Campagna Falanghina, as well as his most popular selection, Nobile di Montepulciano. "Though they're less expensive, everyday wines are good for me because they're accessible," he said.

Keep an eye out for several Italian wine tastings in late January and early February. In the meantime, there's still room to book a holiday party in the wine room. Though it's big enough to seat 40 people, Nayeri will consider a range of party sizes and can serve guests



COZY UP TO THE BOTTLE: A La Lucia's Yellow Room is a warm spot in winter.

anything from wine flights to tasting menus. MELISSA MCCART

→ 315 Madison St., Alexandria; 703-836-5123.

NEW TO YOU

A Taste of Africa

Nestled on a side street next to Balducci's in Old Town, Morou and Heather Ouattara's new restaurant "is a fine-dining restaurant that happens to be in a neighborhood," said Heather Ouattara. Farrah Olivia has only been open for three weeks, but it has plenty of appeal for diners who want to get in on a good thing early. After all, the restaurant seats only 18 tables at a time. Vegetarians and vegans are also in good hands at Farrah Olivia - the five- and seven-course tasting menus (\$52 and \$72) can accommodate the part-time vegetarian or the strictest vegan.

Part of the menu's appeal is its use of unusual ingredients and exotic spices. Inspired by his African upbringing, the Ouattaras add complexity to traditional entrees with spices such as dried escargot and alligator pepper. The restaurant makes liberal use of grains of paradise, which he adds to honey to flavor chicken and to coffee powder for beef. Farrah Olivia's exotic tastes do not extend to vineyards and farms. The restaurant offer sNapa, Sonoma, Mendocino and Willamette area wines and supports dairies in Virginia and California. "We want to help out farmers as we go," said Morou. (мм)

→ Farrah Olivia, 600 Franklin St., Alexandria; 703-778-2233.

>> WHAT'S EATING YOU?

Please send press releases, photos and food to dining@readexpress.co

LIVE ONLINE

What would you say is the best steakhouse in town to visit during the holidays?

For the sake of nostalgia, nothing beats the venerable Prime Rib in my book

→ Prime Rib. 2020 KSt. NW: 202-466-8811. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)

I'm supposed to find a restaurant in Georgetown for Saturday night

that would be less than \$20 per person for dinner. Any suggestions for an exciting spot?

Is this with or without booze? If you sup on the early side, Bistro Francais has a nice fixed-price menu. Nearby, consider the Indian-themed Amma Vegetarian Kitchen.

- → Bistro Francais, 3124-28 M St. NW; 202-338-3830.
- → Amma Vegetarian Kitchen, 3291-A M St. NW; 202-625-6625.

I love cheap, simple, authentic Mexican/Tex-Mex/Southwestern food. Can you suggest some good south-of-the-border fare?

Guaiillo!

→ 1727 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-807-0840. (Court House)

I'm planning on buying some friends a gift certificate to Citronelle. About how much would two people spend on dinner there? Plan on a minimum of \$375 for two people.

→ Michel Richard Citronelle, 3000 M St. NW; 202-625-2150.

Washington Post Sunday Magazine columnist TOM SIETSEMA talks restaurants Wednesdays at 11 a.m. on washingtonpost.com/liveonline.





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WeekendPass



LOAFING AROUND: Paul Christou's artisanal breads and rolls are slow to develop.

Old Town's Hot Stuff

At Gold Crust, the old ways of making bread are the best

TRADITION | At Gold Crust bakery in Alexandria, Paul Christou points to a vat of soupy dough he calls poulish, which burbles for the day in a refrigerated room. This yeasty liquid is a "starter," the beginnings of what may become Italian bread, ciabatta loaves or dinner rolls. "This isn't mass-produced bread, and our customers can taste the difference," said Christou. "We make bread the way it was made 60, 70 years ago."

Christou is giving a bread-making lesson, which includes the difference between poulish, his Italian bread starter; bijan, a starter for stiffer white breads; and levain, which he makes by hand for wheat and rve loaves — all of which are aged for at least 24 hours, molded into loaves or rolls, aged some more, then baked and prepped for sale.

Christou learned starters for artisan breads from his Greek paras well as more retailer demand. Yet there's something special about picking up loaves from the familyrun bakery, particularly when the backdrop is hundreds of cooling loaves on display. Visitors stopping in to pick up a loaf or two can check out the steam oven, the braided breads, the kitschy baker statue, and, at this time of year, the

ents when he was young. Though

he had retired from the bakery

business, his children decided to

open this bakery six years ago and

asked for him to move to the area

to help. Since then, it's become

the bread supplier to area restau-

rants including Chadwick's, Al's

Steak House, Athena Pallas and

the White House and "We supply

Trader Joe's with 4,000 artisan

anticipates production as usual,

despite more visitors to the source

During the holidays, Christou

baguettes a day," he said.

→ Gold Crust Baking Company, 501 East Monroe St., Alexandria; 703-549-0420

pies. MELISSA MCCART



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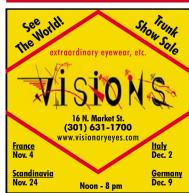
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Entertainment WeekendPass

Scene

Continued from E20

thefrasergallery.com.

Freer Gallery of Art/Arthur M. Sackler Gallery: "Freer — A Taste for Japanese Art," through Jan. I. "Freer and Tea: Raku, Hagi, Karatsu," through Jan, I, "In the Beginning: Bibles Before the Year 1000," through Jan. 7. "Perspectives: Simrvn Gill," the Singapore-born contemporary artist transforms found objects into installations, through April 29, "Parades: Freer Ceramics Installed by Gwyn Hanssen Pigott," through Nov. 4, 2007. Jefferson Drive & I2th Street SW; 202-633-4880, www.asia.si.edu.

Galerie Myrtis: "Art of the Collectors," African and African-American works of art from prominent local collectors, ongoing, 500 9th St. SE; 202-548-7575.

LAST CHANCE Gallery A: "Three Painters From Korea," work by Jin Hi Lee, Kyung Ae Kim and Hojun Song, through Nov. 30, 2106 B St. NW: 202-667-2599. alexgalleries.com.

Gallery Neptune: "A Winter Art Exhibition," painting by Greg Ferrand, mixed media by Lisa Williamson, dolls by Gwendolyn Aqui, opens Fri., through Dec. 30. 4808 Auburn Ave., Bethesda; 301-718-0809. gallervneptune.com.

Gallery Plan B: "Gallery Group Show,"

paintings, sculptures, prints, drawings, drawings and photography from gallery artists, through Dec. 30. I530 I4th St. NW; 202-234-27II, galleryplanb.com.

G Fine Art: "Blending Lines," by Iona Rozeal Brown; "Juke," a video installation by Jefferson Pinder, both through Jan. 6. I5I5 I4th St. NW; 202-462-I60I, gfineartdc.com.

Glenview Mansion: "Bockville Art League's December Show." 150 works from a variety of artists, opens Sun., through Dec. 3I. 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville Civic Center Park: 240-314-5006, rockvillemd.gov/arts.

Goethe-Institut: "Lichthogen/Arc d'Light," steel sculptor Wulf Kirschner and painter Nicola Staglich collaborate, through Jan. 31. 812 7th St. NW; 202-289-I200, goethe.de/washington.

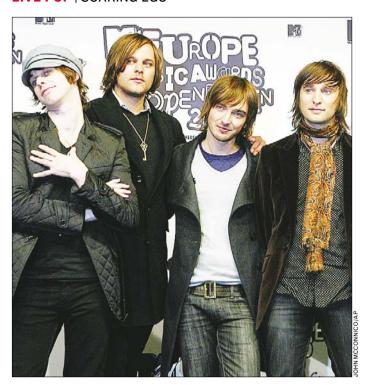
Govinda Gallery: "Elvis at 21: New York to Memphis." Alfred Wertheimer's revealing portraits and candid shots of a young Elvis, through Dec. 30. I227 34th St. NW; 202-333-II80, govindagallery.com.

LAST CHANCE Heliport Gallery:

"Freedom." the work of four refugee, asvlum artists: Dr. Kvi May Kaung, Win Pe. Machyar Gluenta and Hatim Eltayeb Mohamed Ali Elmaki, through Dec. I. 8001 Kennett St., Suite 3, Silver Spring; silversp ringdowntown.com.

Hemphill: "Jacob Kainen," figurative paintings and works on paper: "Windows and Signs," by Godfrey Frankel, through

LIVE POP | SOARING EGO



LUST FOR LIFE: Aussie group Jet takes the stage this Sunday at the 9:30 Club. The quartet are the authors of the logy Pop-"inspired" hit turned ubiquitous TV jingle, "Are You Gonna Be My Girl?" It's also the band that likens itself to the Rolling Stones when it really just sounds like Oasis.

Dec. 22, I5I5 I4th St. NW: 202-234-560I. hemphillfinearts.com.

Hillyer Art Space: "Across the Page:

Selections From Pyramid Atlantic's Artists and Archive," through Jan. I. 9 Hillyer Court NW; 202-338-0680,

artsandartists.org.

Hirshhorn Museum: "Black Box: Jesper Just," short films focusing on juxtapositions, through Dec. IO. "The Uncertainty of Objects and Ideas: Recent Sculpture," through Jan. 7. "Collection in Context," an exploration of contemporary sculpture, through Jan. 7. "Ways of Seeing: John Baldessari Explores the Collection," Baldessari's installation uses works from the museum's holdings, through July 26. 7th Street & Independence Avenue SW: 202-633-1000, hirshhorn.org.

International Visions Gallery: "Title Withheld." Hallide Salam: "My Father's Garden." Debra Dilworth, through Dec. IO. 2629 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-234-5112

Irvine Contemporary: "The Trophy Room," scluptures of life forms from the genetic revolution by Joshua Levine: "Three New Artists from China." pieces by Li Jian Ping, Liu Jian and Ye Qiang, both open Sat., through Jan 7. 1412 P St. NW; 202-332-8767, irvinecontemporary.com.

Jane Haslem Gallery: "A Harvest of New Works on Paper," an assortment of recent works by gallery artists including DeWitt Hardy, George Harkins and Lincoln Perry, through Dec. 15. 2025 Hillyer Place NW; 202-232-4644, janehaslemgallery.co.

The Jerusalem Fund Gallery: "Jerusalem: Between Visions and Realities." an exploration of the city's complex histori-

Continued on E25





THIS WEEK AT THE TEXTILE MUSEUM

FREE! Family First Saturdays: "Magic Carpet" Saturday, Dec 2, 2-4 pm

FREE! Lunchtime Textile Talk: "Chin Textiles as Burmese Art" Thursday, Dec 7, 12-12:30 pm

Currently on view: Mantles of Merit: Chin Textiles from Mandalay to Chittagong and Pieces of a Puzzle: Classical Persian Carpet Fragments

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cal, religious and emotional significance, through Dec. 22. 2425 Virginia Ave. NW; 202-338-1958, thejerusalemfund.org.

Kathleen Ewing Gallery: "A. Aubrey Bodine," a retrospective exhibition celebrating his 100th anniversary; "F.I. Wall: New Work, Deconstruction and Reconstruction," through Dec. 22. 1609 Connecticut Ave., NW; 202-328-0955, kathle enewinggallerv.com

Katzen Arts Center: "Marc Cameron Boyd: Logocentric Playground," through Dec. 15. "High Times, Hard Times: New York Painting 1967-1975"; "Gifts from the Katherine Dreier Estate"; "William F. Calfee and the Washington Modernists": Carlos Saura: Flamenco": "Twenty-first century Ibero-American Art"; "Guy Dill: A Decade"; "Talia Green: Entropy Filigree," all through Jan. 2I. 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW; 202-885-2787, american.edu/

Library of Congress: "Illuminating the Word: the Saint John's Bible," part of the first handwritten, illuminated Bible to be commissioned by a Benedictine monastery in more than 500 years, plus ornate Bibles from the Middle Ages, through Dec. 23. "Enduring Outrage: Editorial Car**STAGE | WE FEEL YOU, KID**



SO-CALLED GROWN-UPS AREN'T: Barbara Park's children's book series "Junie B. Jones" comes to life at Imagination Stage in the musical "Junie B. Jones & a Little Monkey Business." The 6-year-old wrestles with insecurity surrounding the looming arrival of a new sibling. Don't worry, Junie — as you get older, those emotions will only intensify.

toons by Herblock," an exhibition of original work by the Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist, through Jan. 20.

"Cartoon America: Highlights From the Art Wood Collection," through Jan. 27. 101 Independence Drive SE; 202-707-8000,

loc.gov/exhibits.

Luther W. Brady Art Gallery: "The Franz and Virginia Bader Fund: Artists of the First Three Years," the work of artists who have been awarded a Bader Fund grant, through Jan. 26. Media and Puhlic Affairs Building, 805 21st St. NW; 202-994-I525, gwu.edu/~bradyart.

Marsha Mateyka Gallery: "Whiteline and Watercolor: Recent Works," by Aline Feldman, opens Sat., through Jan. 20. 2012 R St. NW; 202-328-0088, marsham atevkagallery.com.

National Academy of Sciences:

"Nikon's Small World Winning Images," through Dec. 20. "Hidden Codes," paintings of genetic code by Dennis Ashbaugh, through May IO. 2100 C St. NW; 202-334-2436, national academies.org.

National Air and Space Museum:

"Earth From Space," rare views of surface events such as hurricanes, dust storms. forest fires and volcanic eruptions, through Jan. 7. "Treasures of American History," many of the National Museum of American History's choicest items from Dorothy's ruby slippers to Jacqueline Kennedy's inaugural ball gown - find a temporary home, ongoing. 6th Street and Independence Ave., 202-633-1000. eathfromspace.si.edu.

National Archives: "Eyewitness: American Originals From the National Archives," written and recorded firsthand accounts of major historical events, through Jan. I. Constitution Avenue between

Continued on E26



HANDELS

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Fri., Dec. 1: READING OF PLAYS WRITTEN BY 1996 KENNEDY CENTER HONOREE EDWARD ALBEE

Actors from the Shakespeare Theatre Company read various selections.

Sat., Dec. 2: TARGET FAMILY SATURDAY NIGHT: LIZ LERMAN DANCE EXCHANGE

Featuring "Gumdrops and Funny Uncles," a work exploring the concept of family.

IN THE THEATER LAB

Sun., Dec. 3: THE DC ACCIDENTALS

A cappella group covering rock and

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▲ Norwegian Visions is a Norwegian-North American cultural partnership program initiated by the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mon., Dec. 4: MERRY TUBACHRISTMAS!

Local tuba, sousaphone, and euphonium players perform in this annual tradition. Rehearsal at 3 p.m.

Tue., Dec. 5: ARTEFACTS DANCE COMPANY

Program incorporating projection and live music.

hand bells

Wed., Dec. 6: CAROL RINGERS AND THE PEACE RINGERS Holiday music performed on traditional

IN THE TERRACE THEATER

Thu., Dec. 7: NORWEGIAN VISIONS: THE TORD GÜSTAVSEN TRIO

Gospel-tinged jazz and unique interpretations of classics.

Fri., Dec. 8: NATIONAL SYMPHONY **ORCHESTRA YOUTH FELLOWS**

High school musicians perform classical works by Beethoven, Bach, and Kreisler.

Sat., Dec. 9: THE DC YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Young people ages 4 to 19 perform holiday repertoire.

Sun., Dec. 10: WASHINGTON NATIONAL OPERA'S DOMINGO-CAFRITZ YOUNG ARTIST PROGRAM

Young artists perform scenes from

Mon., Dec. 11: LEVINE SCHOOL OF MUSIC SENIOR SINGERS' CHORALE

Musicians over age 55 perform holiday music.

Tue., Dec. 12: THE UNITED STATES **NAVY BRASS QUARTET**

Classical repertoire and holiday favorites.

Wed., Dec. 13: THE MAVERA ENSEMBLE

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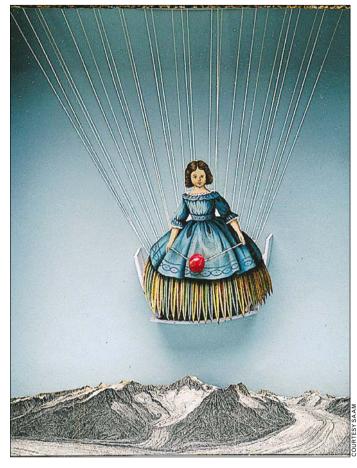
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E26 | EXPRESS | 11.30.2006 | THURSDAY

WeekendPass

MUSEUMS | BOXED IN



PUTTING IT TOGETHER: Joseph Cornell's boxes were constructed with the painstaking exquisiteness of a visionary. "Joseph Cornell: Navigating the Imagination," the Smithsonian American Art Museum's sumptuous exhibit of the assemblagist's strange, lovely, often sinister bibelots is a journey into the mind and obsessions of an artist who straddled the line between outside and lauded art-world bigfoot.

Continued from E25

7th & 9th streets NW; 202-357-5300, www.archives.gov.

National Building Museum: "The Green House: New Directions in Sustainable Architecture and Design," through June 30. "Washington, Symbol and City," ongoing, "Cityscapes Revealed," highlights from the museum's permanent collection, ongoing. 40I F St. NW; 202-272-2448, nbm.org.

National Gallery of Art: "Constable's Great Landscapes: The Six-Foot Paintings," through Dec. 3I, "The Streets of New York: American Photographs From the Collection, 1938-1958," through Jan. 15. "Alexandre-Louis-Marie Charpentier," the French artist's works in a variety of media, through Jan. 28. "Prayers and Portraits: Unfolding the Netherlandish Diptych," pieces from the 15th and 16th centuries, through Feb. 4. "Strokes of Genius: Rembrandt's Prints

and Drawings," an outstanding collection of the Flemish master's works, opens Sun., through March 8. "An Artist's Vision: Romantic Traditions in Britain," a survey of British romanticism with works by William Blake, J.M.W. Turner, Samuel Palmer and others, through March 18. 600 Constitution Ave. NW; 202-289-3360,

National Geographic Society: "Echoes of 1608: John Smith's Voyages on the Chesapeake," includes a replica of Smith's 30-foot-long boat, through Jan. 7. "Bizarre Beasts, Past and Present," an interactive exhibit showcasing weird and wonderful animals, through Feb. 2. "Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2006." winning and commended entries, through Feb. 4. II45 I7th St. NW; 202-857-7588, nationalgeographic.com/museum.

National Library of Medicine: "Visible Proofs: Forensic Views of the Body." ongoing, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda: 30I-496-6308, www.nlm.nih.gov.

National Museum of African Art:

"First Look: The Walt Disney-Tishman African Art Collection," through Dec. 3.

Entertainment WeekendPass

eScene

"Body of Evidence." contemporary African artists use the body, ongoing. 950 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-1000, nmafa.si.edu

National Museum of Health and Medicine: "Scarred for Life." 35 ink prints showing surgical scar marks by Ted Meyer, through March. 6900 Georgia Ave. NW, AFIP, Building 54; 202-782-220, nmhm.washingtondc.museum.

LAST CHANCE National Museum of Natural History: "Arctic: A Friend Acting Strangely," through Nov. 30, "Change Is in the Air," capturing our atmosphere, through Nov. 30. "Nature's Best: Experience Nature Through the Act of Photography," through March 19. "Visual Griots of Mali." 40 black and white photographs by Malian youth, through April, "Transitions: Photographs by Robert Creamer," through June 24. IOth Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-I000, www.mnh si edu

National Museum of Women in the Arts: "The Book as Art," 20 years of artists' books, through Feb 4. I250 New York Ave. NW; 202-783-5000, nmwa.org.

National Postal Museum: "Trailblazers & Trendsetters: The Art of the Stamp," through Oct. 3, 2007. 2 Massachussetts Ave. NE: 202-633-5500. postalmuseum.si.edu.

LAST CHANCE Nevin Kelly Gallery: Solo exhibition of new mixed-media works by noted American artist Eugene Healy. through Dec. 3. I5I7 U St. NW; 202-232-3464. nevinkellygallery.com.

Numark Gallery: "The Last Show." artists who have worked closely with the gallery take part in its final exhibit, through Dec. 16, 625-27 F.St. NW: 202-628-3810. numarkgallerv.com.

LAST CHANCEC Orchard Gallery: "A Closer Look," Sophia McCrocklin's colorinfused fabric collages, through Nov. 30. 7917 Norfolk Ave., Bethesda: 240-497-

Pass Gallery: "Pass Group Show," paintings and digital prints, through Dec. 16. 1617 S St. NW; community.webty.net/PASSGALLERY/ PASSGROUPSHOW2006

Prisons Gallery of Art: Paintings by Tammy Williams, who was recently

EXHIBITS | BEST FRIENDS FOREVER



BEAUTY AND THE BEASTS: CityPaws Animal Hospital will also be an art gallery through Feb. 1. Graeme King's "Dog City" — some 20 photos ranging from cute to quite cute — opens with an artist's reception on Friday at 6 p.m.; the show's proceeds will benefit the Washington Humane Society.

released from prison after IO years, 1600 K St. NW, Suite 501; 202-393-1511, prisonsfoundation.org.

Project 4: "The Popcorn Project," a series of lectures and events featuring specialists attuned to the international contemporary art market, through Dec. 6. Kate Hardy's watercolors, Noelle Tan's overexposed silver and gelatin prints, through Dec. 23, 903 U.St. NW: 202-232-4340.

Randall Scott Gallery: "No Fancy Titles," group exhibition, through Dec. 30. 1326 14th St. NW; 202-332-0806.

Strathmore: "73rd Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Minature." through Jan. 6, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, N. Bethesda; 30I-58I-5200, strathmore.org.

Target Gallery: "Dick, Dirk, Dark: In Memory of Richard Martin," a memorial exhibit honoring the life and work of one of the gallery's original artists, through Dec. 3. 105 N. Union St., Alexandria; 703-838-4565, torpedofactory.org.

Textile Museum: "Pieces of a Puzzle: Classical Persian Carpet Fragments," through Jan 7. "Mantles of Merit: Chin Textiles From Mandalay to Chittagong," through Feb. 25, 2320 S St. NW: 202-

Continued on E29



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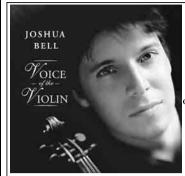




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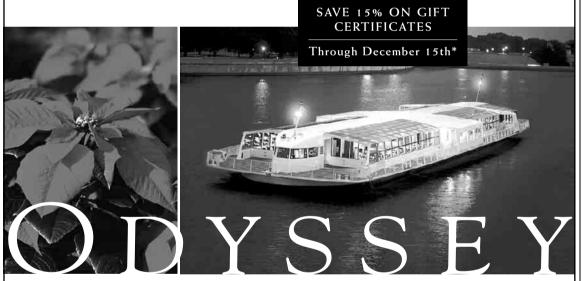
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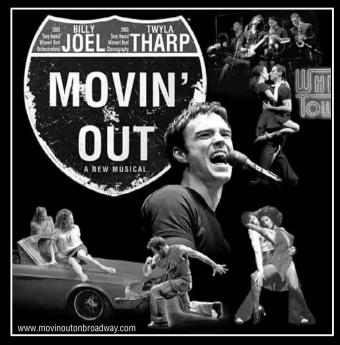
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Continued from E27

667-044I, textilemuseum.org.

LAST CHANCE Touchstone Gallery:

"Mama Love," photographer Camille Mosley-Pasley explores the powerful connection between mothers and children. through Dec. 3. 406 7th St. NW; 202-347-2787, touchstonegallery.com.

Transformer Gallery: "Gentle Reader," by Molly Springfield, through Dec. 2. I404 P St. NW; 202-483-II02, transformergallery.org.

Union Gallery: "Selections: Works by University of Maryland Students," through Dec. 14. UMd., College Park, 301-314-8492, union.umd.edu/gallery.

U.S. Botanic Garden: "Lines on Paper: How a Fantasy Becomes a Garden." through Jan. 15. 413 7th St. NW; 202-783-2963, usbg.gov.

Warehouse: "Dynamic Field," under-represented U.S. artists present the city as a stage in which citizens interact with each other and the built world, opens Sat... through Dec. 23. 1021 7th St. NW; 202-783-3933, warehousetheater.com.

Washington Printmakers Gallery:

"Other Worlds," prints by Betty MacDonald, through Dec. 31, 1732 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-332-7757, washingtonprin tmakers.com.

LAST CHANCE Washington

Sculptors Group: Sculpture Month, an open studio exhibition at 31 area studios, through Nov. 30. washingtonsculptors.org.

Washington Studio School: Drawings, paintings and sculpture by certificate program students, through Dec. 22. 4505 Stanford St., Chevy Chase; 301-718-7210, washingtonstudioschool.org.

WVSA ARTiculate Gallery: "Every Dog Has Its Day: Celebrating Our Canine Companions," doggy portraits, through Dec. 14, IIOO I6th St. NW: 202-261-1233. wvsarts.org/gallery.

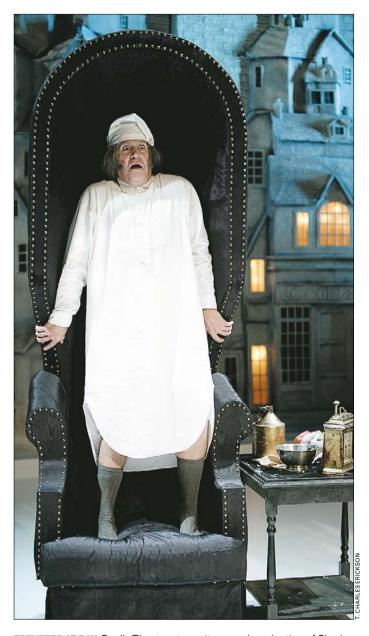
LAST CHANCE Zenith Gallery: "Food, Glorious Food - Just Desserts," a melding of food, art and charity; "Inanimate Adventures," Robert C. Jackson explores life's drama using anthropomorphic objects, both through Dec. 3. "Survivors Among Survivors," paintings by Renee du Rocher, through Jan. 4. 4I3 7th St. NW; 202-783-2963, zenithgallery.com.



Babel: How It Was Done in Odessa:

Stories adapted from the work of Russian playwright Isaac Babel by his grandson, Andrei Malaev-Babel, through Dec. 17.

STAGE | SCARY CHRISTMAS



EBENEZER AT BAY: Ford's Theatre stages its annual production of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," and it's no hokey Victorian tearfest. Suitably creepy, haunted and morally rigorous, this aptly subtitled "Ghost Story of Christmas" is a vivid and entertaining take on the timeless tale. Ford's Theatre, 511 10th St. NW; through Dec. 30, \$30-\$55; 202-347-4833.

Black Box Theatre, Communications Arts Center, Montgomery College, Chicago and Philadelphia Aves., Takoma Park; 301-650-I368, montgomerycollege.edu.

The Beaux' Stratagem: Two recently impoverished gentlemen scheme to woo two women of status and fortune, through Dec. 3l. \$19-\$76. Shakespeare Theatre. Company, 450 7th St. NW; 202-547-II22, ShakespeareTheatre.org.

SATURDAY ONLY Black Expres-

sions: Dance Maryland!: Two innovators in the world of dance. Kwame Opare and Gesel Mason, unite to fuse an eclectic mix of dance traditions and styles, Sat., \$15. Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Rd., Cheverly; 30I-277-I7IO, masonrhvnes.org.

Cinderella: Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical version of the fairy tale, through Dec. 3I, \$34-\$44, kids half-price. Olney Theatre Center, 2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Olney, Md.; 301-924-3400, olneytheatre.org.

SATURDAY ONLY Dance Sampler:

A celebration of the great variety of dance that the D.C. community offers, \$10-\$30. Gunston Theater One, 2700 Lang St., Arlington; 703-298-3235, ianefranklin.com.

LAST CHANCE Dorothy Meets Alice:

Two of literature's most remarkable characters go head-to-head in a tale set neither in Kansas nor down a rabbit hole, through Sun., \$8. Adventure Theatre,

Continued on E30

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WeekendPass Entertainment

Continued from E29

7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo; 30I-320-5331.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY Dream a Little Dream: The nearly true story of the Mamas and the Papas, one of the most influential groups of the 1960s, featuring band member Denny Doherty, Fri. & Sat., \$55. Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College,

51 Mannakee St., Rockville; 201-279-530I, montgomerycollege.edu/PAC. LAST CHANCE Equus: The Washington

Shakespeare Company presents the story of a psychiatrist's exploration of the disturbed mind of a violent teenager, through Sun., \$20-\$35. Clark Street Playhouse, 60I S. Clark St., Arlington; 800-494-8479, washingtonshakespeare.org.

Faith Healer: Brian Friel's tale of a faith healer revealing a dark memory via his own confession, through Dec. 23, \$15-\$20. Gunston Theater One, 2700 Lang St., Arlington; 703-892-0202,

keegantheatre.com

THIS WEEKEND ONLY 500 Clown

Macbeth: Shakespeare's "Scottish Play" is wildly deconstructed as threeclowns fight for the right to play the lead role, Thu.-Sun., \$30 (\$7 students). Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Route 93 and Stadium Drive, U-Md., College Park: 30I-405-2787, claricesmithcenter .umd.edu

LAST CHANCE An Inspector Calls: A gripping and enigmatic mystery by the renowned playwright J.B. Priestley, through Sun., \$35-\$40. The Washington

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Stage Guild, I90I I4th St. NW; 240-582-0050, stageguild.org.

Juanita the Walrus Goes on a Shonning Spree: The haby-sitting area of a shopping mall serves as the setting in this musical for children of all ages, through Dec. 17, \$10. Venus Theatre, 9148 Canterbury Riding, Laurel; 30I-470-2460,

The Washington Post | Weekend Section



Season's **Best:**

Your holiday event guide, from "Nutcracker" performances to lighting displays, sing-alongs, concerts and more. | Cover

→ Also, "A Raisin in the Sun" at the Atlas Performing Arts Center; reviews of all the new films. venustheatre.org.

Junie B. Jones & A Little Monkey

Business: In this musical comedy, precocious kindergartner Junie B. feels the pangs of sibling rivalry while her mom is still pregnant, through Jan. 14, \$10-\$20. Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda; ImaginationStage.org.

King of Cool: The Life and Music of Nat King Cole: A cabaret featuring Cole's career and personal life, featuring

Jimi Ray Malary, through Dec. 23, \$35. MetroStage, I20I N. Royal St., Alexandria; 800-494-8497

The Little Prince: Rick Cummins and John Scoullar adapted the beloved children's book for an exuberant stage play, through Dec. 10, \$25-\$55, \$20 for kids and teens. Round House Theatre Silver Spring, 864I Colesville Road, Silver Spring: 240-644-II00. roundhousetheatre.org.

The Long Christmas Ride Home:

Paula Vogel's play about fragile family bonds is told through puppetry, music and storytelling, through Dec. 31, \$39-\$55. Metheny Theatre, I50I I4th St. NW: 202-332-3300, studiotheatre.org.

Martha, Josie and the Chinese Elvis:

An aging dominatrix receives a surprising birthday visitor, through Dec. 17, \$20-\$48. Woolly Mammoth Theatre, 64I D St. NW; 202-393-3939, woollymammoth.net.

LAST CHANCE A Midsummer Night's

Dream: The Folger Theatre moves Shakespeare's delirious romantic roundelay to the glamorous 1930s, through Sun., \$25-\$36. 20I East Capitol St. SE; 202-675-0342, folger.edu.

The Nutcracker: Classika Theatre tackles (what else?) a classic in this dance-theater work told with live action and beautifully crafted puppets, through

Entertainment Weekend

TheScene

Dec. 3I, \$12-\$14. The Arts Barn, 2II Kent Sqare Road, Gaithersburg; 301-258-6349.

Paul Mooney: Comedian Mooney shares a bill with fellow legend Dick Gregory, Sat., \$45. Lincoln Theatre, I2I5 U St. NW; 202-397-SEAT, lincolntheatre.org.

A Raisin in the Sun: Lorraine Hansberry's play about race, class and family struggle performed by the African Continuum Theatre Company, through Jan. 7. \$32-\$37. Atlas Performing Arts Center, I333 H St. NW: 202-299-7993, af ricancontinuumtheatre.com.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY La Raison

d'etre: Farafina Kan presents a dance and musical performance in the tradition of West Africa's Mandingue people, Sat. & Sun., \$20. Dance Place, 3225 8th St. NW: 202-269-1600, danceplace.org.

Seasonal Disorder: The Washington Improv Theater's annual take on holiday madness. No one is spared, no one gets what he or she wants and no one has a script to work from in this lively, everchanging show, through Dec. 30, \$10-\$12. Flashpoint, Mead Theatre Lab, 916 G St. NW; through 202-315-1318, washington improvtheater.com

She Loves Me: Budapest in the 1930s is the setting for this romantic musical comedy about secret pen pals and first impressions: Ernst Lubitsch fans will recognize the story that became his 1940 film "The Shop Around the Corner," opens Fri., through Dec. 3I. \$55-\$74. Arena offers a Family Fun Pack for \$10; two patrons must be between the ages of 5 and 18. Arena Stage, IIOI 6th St. SW; 202-488-3300, arenastage.org.

The Skriker: A shape-shifting fairy pursues two young women, Josie and Lily, hungry for the latter's unborn child. through Dec. 23., \$12-\$18, Warehouse Theater, IO2I 7th St. NW; 202-783-3933., warehousetheater.com

The Snow Queen: Hans Christian Anderson's holiday fable about an evil Snow Queen, through Dec. 31, \$12-\$14. The Arts Barn, 2II Kent Square Road, Gaithersburg; 301-258-6349.

SATURDAYS ONLY Son of a Bush:

Gross National Product's timely sketch show, ongoing, \$30; Warehouse Theater, IO2I 7th St. NW; 202-783-3933, warehousetheater.com

LAST CHANCE Still Going Solo: Horizons Theatre presents a showcase of four compelling one-woman shows, through Sun., \$15-\$20. Warehouse Theater, IO2I 7th St. NW; 703-39I-2929, horizonstheatre.org.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY Susannah: Set in New Hope Valley, Tennessee, Carlisle



A Misfit on the Playground of Life

LAZLO S. GASKY is new to his elementary school — and he's from another country to boot. In the Kennedy Center's musical adaptation of Katie Couric's children's book "Brand New Kid," Lazlo is tormented with abandon. Fellow second-grader Ellie McSnellie, doubtless accustomed to teasing herself, eventually decides to become the new kid's friend, rescuing him from loneliness and teaching youngsters about the importance of tolerance. Adults will enjoy the adaptation's solid acting and all will appreciate Cafeteria Lady, who asks her charges what they'd like, then invariably serves up something else. TIM FOLLOS (EXPRESS) Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; through Dec. 10, \$15; 800-444-1324. (Foggy Bottom)

Floyd's homespun folk opera is the tale of a young woman victimized and persecuted by her town's religious zealots, Fri. & Sun., \$44-\$90. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Dr., Fairfax; 703-993-2787, gmu.edu/cfa. War of the Worlds: Adapted from H.G.

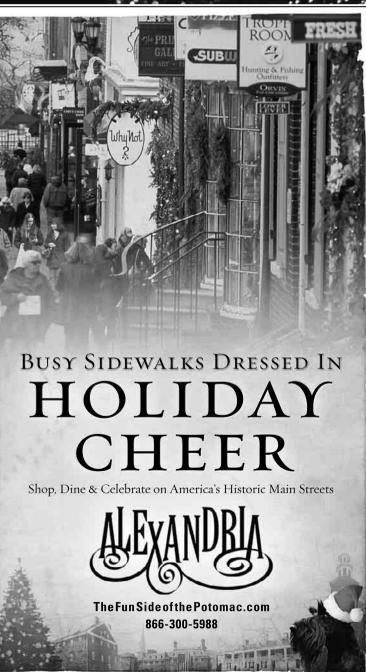
Wells' novel and Orson Welles' radio play the play explores the masterful manipulation of the media and its impact on ordinary Americans, through Jan. 14, \$25-\$32. D.C. Arts Center, 2438 I8th St. NW; 703-683-2824, scenatheatre.org.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY A Winter

Paper Moon: A new production of the cabaret tribute to Harold Arlen, including classics such as "Over the Rainbow." and "Down with Love." Fri.-Sun., \$18-\$29. GALA Theater-Tivoli, 3333 I4th St. NW; 202-518-0152, inseries.org

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown: A heart-warming, plucky musical featuring the Peanuts gang in their 56th vear, through Dec. 17, \$10-\$15, Black Box Theatre, Howard Community College, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia. Md.; 410-772-4900, howardcc.edu/ studentarts.







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