

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1994

Clinton on education

An 'Affair' to remember

Movie critic Mike Clark reviews 'Love Affair' with Warren Beatty and Annette Bening reprising roles made bening reprising foles made famous by Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr. Other new movies being reviewed: Woody Allen's 'Bullets Over Broadway' and 'Radioland.' Tomorrow.



BENING AND BEATTY



Booksellers are putting their faith in the pope

By Deirdre Donahue
USA TODAY

Will the nation's estimated 57 million Roman Catholics turn out to buy Crossing the Threshold of Hope by His Holness John Paul II?

That is the question facing booksellers as an estimated 1.3 million copies of the book (Knopf, \$2.0) hit U.S. books (Knopf, \$2.0) hit U.S. books (stores today. About 20 million by the policy of God.)

By Deirdre Donahue

copies are being released worldwide.

The pope received a report-de \$9 million to answer questions of faith and God posed by Italian journalist Vittorio Methods and the history of Christian due to the pope from St. Augustine to St. Thomas Aquinas, million copies of the book (Knopf, \$2.0) hit U.S. book stores today. About 20 million

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The book evolved from a proposed TV interview in 1993 to be conducted by Messori. While the pope canceled because of scheduling problems, he wrote out answers to Mesor's proposed questions.

John Foshee at Ives Bookshop in Fort Myers, Pla, has ready, After the success earlier this year of The Catechism of the Catholic Church, he ex-

pects the book to do well for several reasons. With Christmas approaching, "it's coming out at the right time for girl giving." Moreover, "a lot of people want to read about him."

And for those who wish to read more of the pope's thoughts: Viking is releasing Prayers and Devotions: 365 Daily Meditations, (\$17.93) which presents excerpts from the pope's earlier writings.

Firm-run schools' scores mixed

Tooting their own horns



TRUTH OR FICTION: Moviegoer Jane Cutolo, 30, of Berkeley, Calif., is suing Miramax Films for false advertising claiming It lied Monday by repoing a false advertising claiming It lied Monday by repoing 30 a million. However, and the second second second and the second second

President Clinton tells
USA TODAY education
writers how he feels about
private companies running
public schools and his
opinion on California's
Proposition 187 which
would bar illegal immigrant
children from public
schools. Interview, 1A, 7D.

CLINTON: Talks
about education

SUNNY DAYS: Looks like things are looking up for

SUNNY DAYS: Looks like things are looking up for e sunshine State as the number of tourists visiting Florida in August jumped by 12% over last year. "Our efforts to reverse the negative images of Florida are obviously paying off," says Gov. Lawton Chiles. According to pre-liminary estimates released Tuesday by Florida Commerce Secretary Charles Dusseau, more than 3.6 million tourists visited in August, up from 3.2 million from a year earlier. The jump represents the largest single-month increase in nearly two years in nearly two years.

OUTTA HERE: Chuck D,

will leave the group in January to devote his time to his community-based youth organization and to establish other musical groups he has been managing. In his announce-ment on BET's Teen Summit, D said: "Rap music and hip-hop represents and reflects the young. . I put in a solid IO years. Now, I have to be able to go up to the next phase and help the business and the industry of hip-hop so it can be controlled by black minds." Founded by D in 1981, Public Enemy has released IO albums, including the current Muse Sick-N-Hour Mess Age.

WORK THAT BODY: So how are folks going to spend that extra hour we're being handed on Oct. 30 when Daylight Saving Time ends? Swiss watch company Tag Heuer asked more than 1,000 people just that 51% plan to exercise, play sports or go for a walk or ride; 15% will catch up on work or putter around the house; 13% will catch some nuch-needed ZZZs, 8% will hang out with friends and family; 4% will read. Using the extra hour to have sex appealed to a meager 1%.

WINDY CITY OPERAS: The Lyric Opera of WINDT CITY OPERHAS: The Lyric Opera of Chicago announced two operatic commissions Wednesday. For the 1987-98 season, Anthony Davis will compose Amistad, based on a true story in 1838 about African slaves taking over a slave slip) and attempting to return home. And having had as a will be shown to the commission of th

GRACE UNDER FIRE: Charleston, S.C., officials gread Tuesday to allow makers of the third Die Hard action flick to use the Grace Bridge for a stunt in which a pickup truck appears to be pulled from the span by a passing freighter. In the scene, doubles for actors Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson slide down cables from the bridge onto the ship. Councilman Henry Smythe had opposed the filming because of the traffic jams he said it would create. The date for the stunt has yet to be set.

USA SNAPSHOTS®

Restrictions

Jeans come with rules

About 95% of students are allowed to wear jeans to school. Those with and without restrictions such as no holes or no blue jeans:

LIFE ROT LINE: 1-900-555-5555 95c per minute Movie reviews, horoscopes, soaps, Dr. Joyce Brothe

Angioplasty as effective as bypass

By Doug Levy USA TODAY

There's not much difference menefits from bypass surgery and less-invasive angled heart afteries, say two studies in today's New England Journal of Medicine.

Researchers say the results mean doctors should lay out the alternatives to patients and allow them to decide which procedure they prefer.

Both studies randomly assigned heart patients to one other way on the studies randomly assigned heart patients to one other way to be a signed heart patients to one other way to be a signed heart patients of the studies of the studi



GRIDIRON GLITZ: The 1984 tuba section of Marching Royal Dukes, James Madison University's marching band, above, have come a long way. This weekend, the 350 musicians, including Alana Takeuchi, right, will receive the Suder Trophy, the bigge among bands.



Reading dips; math up a bit

USA TODAY

BALTIMORE — Reading scores fell at eight Baltimore public schools run by a private firm as elementary school scores rose districtwide, new city test results show.

Math scores at the privately managed schools rose slightly, however.

Lat officials, citing preliminary test results, said achievement was up at the schools run by Education Alternatives Inc. the company that recently won a contract to run the Hartford, conn., public school system.

But results from the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills, released Monday, show average reading scores for the eight school sfell to 37 last private from 37.5 in. 1997. The company schools rose to 44.8 from 43.6 (50 is the national average).

Districtwide, math scores

elementary schools rose to 44.8 from 43.6 (50 is the national average).

Districtivide, math scores rose to 47.7 last spring from 45.3 in 1993. At the EAI schools, they rose to 40 from 38.6.

Critics arent impressed and question the wisdom of the city's five-year, \$140 million contract with EAI. Baltimore is in the third year of the contract, but school officials say the program wasn't officially up and running until 1993-94.

"There are no achievement benchmarks" in the contract, says Linda Prudente, Baltimore Teachers Union. "They're getting tremendous amounts of money and not showing anything for it."

High expectations have created problem, says kell Harring the contract, and the schools show the schools had farther to come."

COVER STORY

The band is top brass at Va. college



By Craig Wilson USA TODAY

Please see COVER STORY next page ▶

Well-heeled pets can now sip the good life



No restrictions

Tooting their own horns



Photos by Matt Mendelsohn, USA TODAY

GRIDIRON GLITZ: The 1994 tuba section of Marching Royal Dukes, James Madison University's marching band, above, have come a long way. This weekend, the 350 musicians, including Alana Takeuchi, right, will receive the Sudler Trophy, the biggie among bands.



COVER STORY

The band is top brass at Va. college



CYMBAL MAN: George Fitzgerald provides flourishes.

By Craig Wilson USA TODAY

HARRISONBURG, Va. — The air is crisp, the leaves are falling, and thousands of people are strolling across the campus of James Madison University, heading to Bridgeforth Stadium.

It's another football Saturday. Well, sort of.

In truth, it's another marching band Saturday.

Everyone on this campus of 12,000, nestled in the Shenandoah Valley, knows football is only an excuse for the marching band to strut its stuff.

So popular, and so good, are the 350-strong Marching Royal Dukes

that back in 1989, when the visiting team failed to show for a game, the 15,000-seat stadium still filled with fans who waited for the band to perform. And it did. As they're fond of saying here, "We don't need a football game to have a halftime show."

In the brassy world of marching bands, there are the big boys. Ohio State. Michigan. Florida A&M. Texas. This year the Marching Royal Dukes have proven to be David to their

Please see COVER STORY next page ▶

COVER STORY

Only a third of the band are music majors

Goliath.

At JMU's homecoming game against William & Mary Saturday, the band will be presented with the Sudler Trophy, given annually by the John Philip Sousa Foundation. For marching bands, it's the Oscar, the Emmy, the Pulitzer and the Nobel Prize all rolled into one. In short, a big deal for anyone, but particularly for James Madison.
"It's kind of like having the em-

ployee of the year awards, and the janitor wins it," jokes Pat Rooney, JMU's director of bands.

No joke, really. The Marching Royal Dukes can sweep up most any competition. They are bold, brassy and bigger than life. And they don't play by the rules. Free-form drills are their forte. No cutesy formations

for them. No script letters.
"We're kind of like Patton's Army. We don't want them to know where we're coming from," Rooney says. "We're more contemporary than most college marching bands. We play opera, symphonies, rock and roll. We put on a show, a pageant." At the homecoming game, for example, the band will perform Dvorak's Carnival Overture.
"It's opera on the field," Rooney

says. "All the emotions are right there. You cry. It makes you happy." The band's cult followers eat it up.

They don't budge when the band is on the field. If they want a hot dog or Coke they buy it during the game. And when the game sputters to an ig-noble end (actually the JMU Dukes are doing better than usual this year with a 5-1 record), no one rushes to leave the stadium. If anything, the

crowd swells for the post-game show. When Rooney came here in 1982 from a small college in Oklahoma, JMU president Ronald Carrier told him, "I want the best marching band I can have."

Rooney produced.

"This was going to be a steppingstone to a big-time college," he says, "and this became my big-time col-

lege."
"They're an outstanding band,"
"they're an outstanding band," says Jon Woods, director of the marching band at Ohio State, which won the Sudler Trophy in 1984. "They've adopted the drum and bugle corps style and it's proven very successful for them."

It's also a style that's not that easy

to pull off.

Contemporary drill style is more difficult than some of the other old drill techniques," Woods admits. "Schools that have adopted that style, like James Madison, have a challenging drill program."

Rooney says his band is "conser-vatively trendy. We do what the high schools are doing, but we do it bet-

Although many of the students come to JMU just to be in the marching band, not one is on a marching band scholarship. Only a third of the band members are music majors.

We have kids who are going to be professional musicians next to a biology major, and we often can't tell which is which," Rooney says.

Late every summer there are tryouts. "A lot of the kids just get scared away," Rooney says. "We send out the music and they look at it and then they just don't show up. We'd rather scare them off than cut them." This year about 400 brave souls showed up for tryouts.

Those who make the cut are in for

hard work — about 15 hours a week. The band's routines are numerous, and every piece of music has to be memorized. And that takes even more hours off the field.

"Oh, no, no, no," Rooney is quick to respond when asked if the band ever takes music out on the field. "We take no prisoners. We pride our-selves on that."

If he thinks someone might not know the music, is faking it, Rooney will walk up to him and stand. "I like

to quietly get into someone's face."

And if a member misses a rehearsal without offering a good excuse, his grade automatically is lowone letter. All this for one credit.

The practice sessions, every weekday afternoon from 4:30 to 6, can be

grueling.
"The herd mentality is coming out again," Bill Posey, a drill instructor, yells over the loudspeaker to the tuba section during a practice the other day. "You're getting twitchy, sloppy." They run through the drill again and conin and conin again and again.

"We just work until it's right," says Rooney, standing atop scaffolding on the edge of the practice field.

By Saturday morning the kinks ave been worked out. When the band takes the field, Rooney is up in the stands. The five drum majors

"When the halftime starts, the kids are in control," he says. "I'm up there watching, scared to death. My stomach is in a knot, no matter how many times we do this."

The first time Christopher Lee, a 19-year-old freshman trombonist from Dover, Del., took the field, his heart was pounding.

When we came out on the field you could barely hear — the crowd was so loud," Lee says. "And that gets you psyched. It's really an amazing feeling.

Jeremy Brown, 23, now a graduate student, was bitten by the band bug early and never recovered. He's been a Marching Duke for six years, drum major for the last two.

He didn't even know JMU had a marching band when he arrived

from Frederick, Md. "Now I can't imagine going through college with-out being in the marching band."

But most of America still doesn't know about the JMU Marching Dukes. No matter how good, they will forever remain a semi-hidden treasure. JMU is a Division AA football school, relegating it to the second-tier in the world of collegiate pigskin powers.

"You'll never see us at a bowl game," says Rooney, who admits New Year's Day with all its bowl games and marching bands and ba-ton twirlers is the hardest day of the year for him.

While he will never criticize or put down another college marching band, Rooney admits watching some of them perform on national TV is more than he can bear.

"I drink a lot that day."

Another thing that causes Rooney to cry in his beer is that neither of his sons have marched for him at James

"No," sighs Rooney, shaking his head sadly. "They play football."