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SIDELINES

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Quotes of the week

*"Never play leapfrog with a unicorn."
-Unknown*

If you have any stories you would like to see in a future issue of FLASH!, please call Susan at 898-2917. We'd love to hear about your thoughts and ideas.



Allen's 'Hannah and her sisters' provides masterful look at infidelity

"A DEEPER LOOK" VIDEO REVIEW

Jared Wilson

Staff reviewer

Woody Allen's "Hannah and Her Sisters" (1986), a masterpiece

of contemporary cinema, takes place over the course of two years. It begins with a family Thanksgiving, and ends with another two years later. This setting is of utmost importance in the film, as Allen seems determined upon depicting the romantic and social foibles of his characters in a familial context. The family is the moral center and, to its members, the reminder of duties and responsibilities. The man most in need of this reminding is Michael Caine's Elliot. Elliot is infatuated with

Barbara Hershey's Lee, the beautiful sister of his wife, the naive Hannah, played with a subtle vigor by Mia Farrow. The film opens with Elliot's voice-over, his innermost thoughts, and this device is used repeatedly throughout the movie, as Allen attempts to share with us the gradual befuddlement of a middle-aged man smitten with a younger woman he should not have. Elliot works hard to earn our approval, and though he never does, he never really earns condemnation. Caine's selfish philanderer may not be sympathetic, but he is at least palatable. He is a scoundrel, but his good-natured goofiness transforms him into one we enjoy watching.

Allen divides the film into thirteen segments and sets in

motion the broad display of human emotional development. Most of these portrayals are obviously extensions of his own psyche. Caine, despite his earnest performance, is undoubtedly a variation on Allen himself (much like Alan Alda in several of Allen's films and, most recently, Kenneth Branagh in "Celebrity"), complete with the requisite neuroses and paranoia. Allen himself appears as Mickey, Hannah's ex-husband, who believes he may have a brain tumor.

The beauty in this arrangement finds its genesis in Allen's distinct mastery of composition. He separates himself into separate identities in order to best tell the story, in order to best portray the film's theme: the search for meaning.

Allen understands that, for many, the search for sexual fulfillment connects directly to man's questions about purpose, identity and existence; thus, the storyline involving Mickey's flirtation with religious involvement parallels Elliot's affair with Lee.

Elliot leads a confused life. At once, he feels strong affection for Hannah and strong desire for Lee. He is both disenchanted with the family life and responsible to participate in it. He suffers at the hand of his own misguided wishes. An interesting catch in this situation is that involvement with Lee is not necessarily an extrication from family life. She is his sister-in-law, and much of their interaction takes place at family get-togethers. (cont'd on pg. 6)



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Teen movies surprise hits of the year (so far)

THE MOVIE GUY

Jared Wilson
Staff reviewer

How hard was it to make a list of the best films thus far in 1999? Let's just say I hope the best is yet to come, because, while 1999 has been one of Hollywood's most profitable years in recent history, as of September, they haven't exactly given us that sure bet Best Picture yet.

This is not to say that 1999 was devoid of good pictures though. In fact, this appears to be the year of the "popcorn movie," as some of my favorites were comedies. "Election," a rather adult tale of high school life starring Matthew Broderick and Reese Witherspoon was devilish

fun. It helped that this "teen movie" wasn't really a teen movie at all, but an intense character study starring soul-less kids I swore I went to high school with. "Election" sizzled with a wry mean spiritedness, and Broderick's immoral teacher (who lectures on ethics, of all things!) delicately walked the line between pathetic and sympathetic — his best role in years.

Another comedy that had all the makings of a disaster, "Dick," proved to be one of the smartest films of the year. "Dick" tells the story of two dimwitted schoolgirls who stumble into the unlikely job of walking President Nixon's dog Checkers. The movie would have us believe these two girls eventually became the notorious Deep Throat, the informant who dished on the Watergate scandal. Implausibilities

aside, "Dick" safely avoided drowning in 70's kitsch and offered something rare among "cheese" comedies — intelligence. The leads, Michelle Williams (TV's "Dawson's Creek") and Kirsten Dunst

beyond their years in their portrayals of characters with the potential for unidimensionality.

Near the start of the year, as Billy Crystal and Robert DeNiro went through the motions in the awkward "Analyze This," Mike Judge directed a cast of little-knowns in an irreverent, offbeat and wildly expressionistic comedy called "Office Space." Capitalizing on the current "work stinks" mentality brought to the pop mainstream by the success of the "Dilbert" comic strip and television shows like ABC's "The Drew Carey Show," Judge's film stars Ron Livingston ("Swingers") as a hapless cubicle slave at a heartless computer company.

The comedy is certainly played broadly, but "Office Space" is a winning satire injected with acidic wit.

And speaking of satires, it was tough to tell whether Albert Brooks was skewering screenwriters or Hollywood in general in his latest film, "The Muse," but either way, Brooks has crafted a charming little movie. "The Muse" isn't as involved as "Lost in America," and its humor isn't as deep-cutting as "Mother," but Brooks is still in fighting shape. This film, which stars Sharon Stone as an honest-to-goodness muse who helps struggling screenwriters churn out hits (there is a great cameo with Martin Scorsese along these lines), is laugh-out-loud funny throughout. (The tennis scene with Jeff Bridges is particularly hilarious.)

Moving away from comedies, now, I must express my surprise in an action film daring me to include it in a Top Ten list at the end of the year. The Wachowski Brothers' "The Matrix" was one of the most innovative science fiction adventures ever filmed, and the

effects were nothing less than breathtaking and groundbreaking. "The Matrix" even struck me as an adrenalized Stanley Kubrick movie. (Kubrick always toyed with a film called "A.I.," about created artificial intelligence taking over its creators.) Thank goodness that, for the most part, Keanu Reeves kept his mouth shut.

Speaking of Kubrick, I guess I must mention the highly anticipated "Eyes Wide Shut," which was anticlimactic for two reasons. First, it was not Kubrick at his finest; and second, all the talk of Kubrick's "dirty little sex movie" was ill-conceived. Not only was there not a sex scene to speak of, none of the implicit sexuality was titillating in the least. In fact, sex is equated with death in "Eyes Wide Shut," and the film appears to be Kubrick's tribute to monogamy. All in all, it was a pretty good movie, but not a great film (as was hoped for).

A film that has "stayed with me" is M. Night Shyamalan's "The Sixth Sense." I contrast it with another popular movie this year, "Arlington Road." "Arlington Road" played out as if it had been carefully put together, as if every scene was somehow building to something incredible. And it was, but when the finale comes, you desperately re-trace the steps the film made to get to that point and you realize it was one of the shoddiest, live-in-the-moment movies ever to fake you out. On the other side, "The Sixth Sense" plays out like a fairly suspense yarn, but when the incredible ending comes, and you desperately re-trace the steps the film made to get to that point, you realize it was put together so meticulously. "The Sixth Sense" never cheats. Every scene gives away the ending, but you never know it until you get there. There are two flaws I've found in the film,

(cont'd on pg. 6)



Michelle Williams and Kirsten Dunst in "Dick."



Hailey Joel Osment and Bruce Willis in "The Sixth Sense"

Teaming of Martin and Murphy does not live up

NATURAL TALENT

Aaron Tallent
Staff reviewer

The movie "Ed Wood" is an ode to low-budget filmmakers who think their cheesy films are profound. For those who have not seen the film, it tells the true story of a cross-dressing filmmaker who makes some of the worst films ever while thinking he is achieving cinematic greatness.

"Bowfinger" constantly

reminded me of "Ed Wood." The elements were extraordinarily similar. Bobby Bowfinger, a low-life filmmaker, shoots a cheesy science fiction film on a shoe-string budget with a gang of misfits and nutcases working as his cast and crew. If only "Bowfinger" had been as good as "Ed Wood."

Bobby Bowfinger (Steve Martin) is a down-on-his-luck filmmaker who comes across a script titled "Chubby Rain." The script is nothing more than a retread of bad 1950s science fiction movies, but Bowfinger flips for it.

He tries to pitch the script to studio executives with no luck at all. In one scene, he embarrassingly tries to act like he

is a big-shot producer, fake ponytail and all.

Bowfinger then tries to pitch the script to Kit Ramsey (Eddie Murphy), the hottest star in town. Ramsey has a few problems. He is always thinking people are out to get him. His only peace comes from a religion called Mind Head, which reminds us of Scientology.

Suffice it to say, Ramsey turns Bowfinger down. Bowfinger makes the film on his own. With a budget of \$2,000, Bowfinger will go ahead and make the film with Kit Ramsey. The only catch is that Ramsey does not know that he is being filmed.

The actors start coming up and acting out their scenes with

Ramsey while Bowfinger and crew hide in the bushes with a camera. Needless to say, Ramsey freaks out and goes into hiding. This leads to Bowfinger hiring a nerdy Ramsey lookalike, also played by Murphy, to fill in on certain scenes.

"Bowfinger" is entertaining and fun to watch, but I expected more from a comedy that teams up Steve Martin and Eddie Murphy. Martin and Murphy seem to be having fun, and the stellar supporting cast gives the film a boost. The main problem is that the film is funny in some parts but lukewarm throughout most. A lot of the gags are not that funny.

The strong supporting cast includes Heather Graham as an

actress who sleeps her way to the top and Christine Baranski as a bad actress who makes things worse by overacting.

Terence Stamp has a small part as the leader of Mind Head, and Robert Downey, Jr. found time to play a studio executive before he was sent to jail.

"Bowfinger" is interesting to see because of the teaming of Martin and Murphy. The two stars make the film fun.

I hate to think how much more fun it would have been if the jokes had been funnier.

STARS (out of four): **1/2

Have glory days passed Murphy Center

Susan McMahan
Staff reporter

Before there was the First American Music Center, before there was Gaylord Entertainment Center and before there was Adelphia Coliseum, there was the Murphy Center.

During the height of its popularity, the Murphy Center was the best place in the Nashville area to perform, and some of the biggest names in music from the '70s and '80s played the building that is now better known for hosting Blue Raider basketball.

Elvis Presley, Boyz II Men, Billy Joel, Rod Stewart, Garth Brooks, Tina Turner and U2 are just a few of the performers that have graced the stage in 126 concerts since the building opened in the early '70s.

In past years, there were concerts and other special events held at the Murphy Center every few months. Now, there are events only once or twice a year, if that often.

Harold Smith, director of MTSU's Student Programming, understands the situation and it is part of his job to put Middle Tennessee State

University — not just the Murphy Center — back on the local concert scene.

What's changed?

For one thing, the Murphy Center was the best because it was the only venue capable of holding big concerts when it opened. The only local competition was the Municipal Auditorium.

Since the Murphy Center opened its doors, the First American Music Center opened as Starwood Amphitheater and the Gaylord Entertainment Center opened as the Nashville Arena. Both of these venues are larger than the Murphy Center.

Another big factor in the decline in Murphy Center concerts is the nature of the concert business. Smith said the venue could get in touch with artists through booking agents. Now, concerts are handled through outside promoters.

"The live concert industry gave rise to a new profession — the outside promoter," Smith said, adding that most concerts are scheduled in this manner.

Promoters often ask for a guaranteed amount of money to make sure they get the highest possible profits. Smith said he has a friend that is opening a coliseum and had to guarantee a promoter \$500,000 profit for his first concert.

"Ticket prices would have to be sky high to break even at MTSU," Smith said.

He added concerts are a competitive market, and each venue has to offer more than the other to attract a concert. The goal at MTSU was more about bringing quality shows at the lowest possible ticket price to campus than profits.

Smith said MTSU will

make a little profit on a show no matter if the show is a sellout or barely sells tickets. The ticket sells either make or break the concert promoter.

The promoter will make high profits on a sellout show and a small profit on a showing selling in the medium range of

hold. Smith said attracting shows is a competitive business, and the Murphy Center can't compete with other local venues because of seating capacity.

Angela Kelley, marketing coordinator at the Gaylord Entertainment Center, said the arena can hold 20,000 people for concert events. Half of the events at the arena currently are concerts.

Kelley said this is because there is only one professional team, the Nashville Predators, using the arena at this time. As Nashville gets more professional teams, the ratio of concerts to other events will drop.

The arena has effected other local venues, Kelley said, because the facility and its acoustics are newer and state of the art. The Center opened as the Nashville Arena on Dec. 18, 1996.

With the Murphy Center's capacity crowd hovering at around 12,000, Smith said it is hard to attract concerts that people want to attend. Event size can be scaled back to about 6,000 by leaving the bleachers closed, but events can not be much bigger than 12,000 people.

"The Murphy Center is going to hold 12,000 people today, tomorrow and, I imagine, as long as it stands," Smith said.

He added knowing that the Murphy Center's facilities are limited when compared to other local venues means that MTSU has to decide if the school should be involved in the concert business.

Smith, who has been with MTSU 31 years and the school's only director of Student Programming in MTSU history, has helped bring 126 concerts to the Murphy Center. Despite



Photos provided by Jack Ross/MTSU Photographic Services

Tina Turner dances privately for Murphy Center concert guests at her Oct. 29, 1987 show.

50 to 60 percent. If the show is a bust, the promoter loses money.

"Most of our concerts are in the sellout to medium range," Smith said. "We have very few promoters that took a bath."

Does size matter?

Outside concert promoters are interested in filling seats, and the more seats they can fill, the better. That's why venues with higher seating capacity are higher in demand.

Most shows are in the 15,000 to 18,000 seat range, which is about what the First American Music Center can



Rod Stewart takes a moment to chat with his Murphy Center audience at his Sept. 29, 1984 show in Murfreesboro.

the challenges from other area venues, Smith hopes to continue to attract more performers to campus.

How do you attract performers?

MTSU does not seek out artists to perform concerts on campus.

For example, Smith said he could not decide to reunite the Beatles at the Murphy Center and call their managers. Instead, the way it works is that a concert promoter will look at the areas already routed on the tour and decide if another show is needed.

Smith said most performers don't want to go more than 350 or 400 miles between shows, because a longer drive means an extra day is needed to travel.

For concerts to come to MTSU, Smith said that one of two things must have happened — other local venues must not be available, or the promoter passed on the area and MTSU decided to put the concert on without the promoter.

Smith said that taking on the responsibility of a concert is a tough decision, because he must decide why the promoter originally passed.

MTSU is in a better position to take on responsibility than in the past



Dolly Parton puts on a show for Murfreesboro. She opened for Kenny Rogers at MTSU on Nov. 11, 1986.

concerts by?

because of the change in the Student Government Association student activity fee passed in the spring election. Student Programming now gets a set amount from each student's fee.

"The student activity fee money is new money," Smith said. "We're a little better than before."

Football stadium, anyone?

Does Smith think about putting the expanded football stadium to use as a concert venue?

"Every single day," he said, adding emphasis to each word.

In fact, Smith said the prospect of concerts was one of the key selling points for expanding the stadium to its current size. Provisions were

even made for tractor-trailer entry to the stadium.

This allows for easier concert set up.

Ryan Simmons, assistant media relations director of Blue Raider Athletics, said existing stadium seating is 30,788. This doesn't count any seats that would be set up on the field.

This figure could be a plus for MTSU, because the other new outdoor venue, Adelphia Coliseum, has twice the seating capacity as Floyd Stadium.

Smith said only a few concert tours can afford to fill stadiums that large. Acts like the Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd and the Elton John and Billy Joel tour are the type of concert that can attract 60,000 fans.

(cont' on page 6)



U2's Bono (center) moves in mysterious ways during his band's Nov. 28, 1987 concert at the Murphy Center.

Ticket prices: then and now

Think ticket prices haven't risen dramatically over the years? Think again.

Take the King himself. When Elvis Presley played the Murphy Center five times during 1974 and 1975, tickets for all seats were a mere \$10. Last year, more than 20 years after his death, Elvis sold out Radio City Music Hall in New York City.

That's right — devoted fans paid big bucks to see a pre-recorded Presley perform with living members of his band. After Radio City, the screen show went on a nationwide tour, including a stop at Nashville's First American Music Center.

If people paying several times the cost of Murphy Center show tickets for canned Elvis isn't a good enough example, here's the asking price for current tickets for other MTSU concert alumni.

Keep in mind that most of these Murphy Center performers had a general public ticket price and a reduced student price. The prices listed are for the general public. The MTSU concert information was provided by Student Programming. Current ticket prices and dates were obtained from www.ticketmaster.com.

The Beach Boys played Murphy Center back Oct. 12, 1985. This show cost fans \$14.50 per seat. Now, the band will be looking for California girls in their audience in San Diego on Sept. 23. These girls will be shelling out anywhere from \$45 to \$81.50 per seat.

The Boss has reunited with the E Street Band for a national tour this year. A seat at his Sept. 27 Chicago show will cost \$37.50 to \$67.50 per seat. When he made a stop in Murfreesboro back on Dec. 9, 1984, tickets went for \$16 per seat.

REM made a stop in Mansfield, Mass., Sept. 11. Tickets at the show ranged from \$29.50 to \$39.50. Everybody in that audience would hurt if they

knew tickets were \$17 when the band played Murfreesboro in support of their Green tour on March 31, 1989.

Easy listening favorite Barry Manilow stopped at the Murphy Center Dec. 4, 1982. Tickets were \$15 per person. When he takes the stage in Portland, Ore., Sept. 18, tickets will be \$29.50 to \$52.50.

Hank Williams Jr.'s rowdy friends will be coming over for a concert in Nashville Sept. 25. Tickets for this show are \$15 to \$35. When he played in Murfreesboro on April 21, 1985, tickets were only \$12.50 each.

The Eagles, Jackson Browne and Linda Ronstadt are teaming up for a special show at the dawn of the new millenium. When the three performers take the stage Jan. 1, 2000, in Los Angeles, tickets range anywhere from a reasonable \$50 to \$1,000. All three on that bill are Murphy Center alumni. The Eagles played Oct. 8, 1979 for \$12.50 per ticket. Browne was here Oct. 10, 1980 for \$10.50 per ticket. Ronstadt had the cheapest tickets — \$6 for her Oct. 18, 1975 show. Add the prices for their MTSU shows and you get a ticket price of \$29, which is almost half the price of the cheapest seats for the big show.

Also performing special New Year's Eve shows are two other Murphy Center veterans. Rod Stewart and Jimmy Buffett will countdown the end of the year in Las Vegas and Universal City, Calif., respectively.

You'd better have extra money lying around if you'd like to attend Buffett's party. This one night trip to Margaritaville will cost you \$500 to \$1,500 per person. When he brought the party to MTSU on April 14, 1979, his asking price was \$7.50 per ticket.

Tickets for Stewart's bash range from \$400 to \$1,000. When he played MTSU in Sept. 9, 1984, the asking price was

\$15 per ticket. He came back on March 23, 1996, but ticket price information for that show was unavailable.

Another two-time performer is Elton John, who played here Oct. 12, 1973 for \$6 and Oct. 7, 1984 for \$15. His Sept. 23 show in Jacksonville, Fla., will cost concert goers anywhere from \$48.50 to \$58.50 per ticket, which is at least three times more than his second appearance and at least eight times more than his first appearance. I guess that's why they call it inflation.

Still don't believe in the power of rising prices? When the New Kids on the Block were hangin' tough on the Murphy Center stage Feb. 2, 1990, they commanded \$19.50 per ticket. Fans in Cincinnati paid \$18.50 on Sept. 11 to see just Joey McIntyre perform. Think of how much it would be to see all five New Kids on tour now.

MTSU has hosted more than just concerts in the Murphy Center over the years. Professional wrestling has come to Murfreesboro five times over the years. The World Wrestling Federation came to MTSU three times in 1991. For the first two WWF events, tickets were \$13 each. Tickets were \$12 for the last appearance of the year. Fans in Houston, Texas, can see the WWF in action Sept. 20 for \$18.25 to \$36.25 per ticket.

World Championship Wrestling and NWA wrestling didn't fare as well as the WWF. In fact, the WCW and NWA had the two lowest paid ticket sales of any Murphy Center event. Less than 2,000 fans attended each of these events in the early '90s, which speaks volumes about the increase in popularity of pro wrestling. Have you ever heard of Lipizzan Stallion? Their 1984 show sold out more seats than either of these wrestling events.

Two two-time Murphy Center veterans sing us a song from their pianos, man. Elton John (right) performs at during his Oct. 7, 1984. Billy Joel croons during his March 15, 1987 show in Murfreesboro.



(from pg. 2) To remedy this complication, Elliot arranges happenstance encounters on the street, in a bookstore or even in the apartment Lee shares with her Svengali boyfriend Frederick (Max von Sydow).

Allen's Academy Award-winning script laces Elliot and Lee's dialogue with melodrama, suggesting that they are more enamored with the created romance of their affair than with actual feelings of intimacy with each other. When not in

bed, they spend their time slow dancing or eating, cultivating an atmosphere of "culture" they believe will sustain their relationship. They speak of needing each other and liking the notion of needing each other, always skirting around the fact that the latter is true but the former is not.

In one inspired scene, Elliot sits on the edge of his bed. Hannah is asleep behind him, and his thoughts, via voice-over, say, "What passion today with

Lee. She's a volcano. It was a totally fulfilling experience." Then, these self-patronizing thoughts bleed into his guilty conscience. He cursonversion, the sisters' men-chasing, the New York environment (really a character itself). In this manner, the infidelity storyline takes on greater significance. It appears real, because it is shown, not isolated, but in its real context.



Bruce McCulloch and Will Ferrell in "Dick"

(from page 3) but they don't dampen my enthusiasm for it and I won't reveal them, for they give away the picture's secret.

The two best dramas I've seen this year are a French film entitled "La Vie Reveal desust defend his son's innocence and defend his own dignity. As is usual in Mamet's films, "The Winslow Boy" is about much more than is played out superficially on the screen. There are issues of trust, progress, familial

pride, and social turmoil all bubbling beneath its surface, and the movie even features a love story that is played entirely between the lines. It's a great work and the best film I've seen this year (so far).

My grades: "Election": B; "Dick": B+; "Office Space": B; "The Muse": B-; "The Matrix": B; "Eyes Wide Shut": C+; "The Sixth Sense": A-; "La Vie Reveal des Angles": B; "The Winslow Boy": A.

(from pg. 5) "There's not many shows that come in that are gigantic shows," he said.

MTSU's stadium could attract concerts that are still large, but are smaller than concerts for venues like the coliseum.

Simmons said summer concerts would not be a problem for the Athletic department because there are no regular uses of the stadium at this time.

"They wouldn't let themselves get into a scheduling conflict — particularly in the summer," Simmons said.

What's it like to work with "The King?"

"I've seen so many personalities, and they're all related to this one venue," Smith said.

Smith remembers Elvis, who performed five shows at the Murphy Center in 1974 and 1975, as a very humble person. His manager, Col. Tom Parker, and Smith worked well together and Smith believes Elvis would have played the Murphy Center another time if he had not died in 1977. Smith heard Elvis was planning a tour at the time of his death.

The easiest performer to work with was the late John Denver, who came to Murfreesboro in 1974 and 1978. Smith describes him as the same off stage as his on-stage persona. One of his performances fell on his birthday, and Smith and company decided to celebrate. A local restaurant was rented out and Denver was given a post-concert birthday party.

Smith was surprised by the members of The Who when they played here in 1975.

"You'd think they would be scary," Smith said, "but they were very nice."

One nice, but demanding, performer is Garth Brooks. He played four shows at the Murphy Center in 1991 and 1994. However, Smith said Brooks didn't expect anyone to do something he would not do himself.

"Anyone who can keep a career going like that has to be smart," Smith said. "There's country music, and then there's Garth Brooks."

On Smith's not-so-nice list are performers Barry Manilow, who was here 1980 and 1982, Diana Ross, who performed here in 1986 and Elton John.

Smith describes John's attitude as "Big 'I,' little 'U.'"

Despite the star personalities he's had to work with, Smith still says he has the best job in the world and loves being MTSU's only director of Student Programming to date.

"I wouldn't take \$20,000 for the experiences I've had," he said. "But I wouldn't go through it again for \$50,000."

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Brad's Game Corner

Brad Whitaker

Sega's much anticipated release date of "9/9/99" has come and gone and the Dreamcast has finally come home to video game enthusiasts. Sega pulled out all the stops in hyping their great machine. After the day of release, the Dreamcast was pushing the 80 million mark and is still rising fast.

One little overlooked jewel in this new system is the 56k modem installed in the back. This will open a whole new world for gamers, as this new modem will let you find a challenge on-line. The down side to this is that gamers won't be able to experience on-line play until early next year. Sega has just announced a partnership with AT&T, making AT&T's WorldNet Internet service preferred for the Dreamcast.

Users who sign up for the service through Sega will receive a free Dreamcast keyboard (which retails for around \$25). If you already have WorldNet service, you can purchase a Dreamcast through

Sega's on-line store and also get a free keyboard. Extra peripherals like an Arcade Stick, Fishing Stick, Light Gun and Rally Wheel will be available in the months to come.

Sega also debuted a wide variety of game titles at launch with names such as Ready 2 Rumble Boxing, Soul Caliber, NFL 2K, Blue Stinger and the much-hyped Sonic Adventure. The future looks bright for Sega this time around as more titles will be released in the upcoming weeks.

Where's Sony, you ask? Well, they are planning on releasing Playstation 2 next summer. The nice thing about the Playstation 2 is that it will be backwards compatible, which means that all your Playstation games you own now will be playable on the new system. As of now no modem is being planned to be put into the machine. Mistake? Only time will decide, but the way it looks now, Sega is ready to reclaim it's crown as king of the video game industry.



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Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black
Tribune Media Services

Aries (March 21-April 19). Move quicker on Monday to finish a work-related project. Tuesday and Wednesday, stick close to home. Your attention will be needed there. Thursday and Friday are good for sporting events and romance, not necessarily in that order. The weekend looks good for meticulous work, such as varnishing boats.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). Watch your money Monday, or it'll slip right through your fingers. Tuesday and Wednesday are better for saving and finding bargains on groceries. Thursday and Friday, the family needs your time and attention, but on Saturday and Sunday, you can scoot away for personal games and romance.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Don't make promises you can't keep. The money is coming in Tuesday, but could be all spent by Wednesday if you're not careful. Practice organizing groups of people Thursday, and you could find yourself in a leadership position by Friday. Have the family over to your place this weekend.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Clean out the closets on Monday, and throw stuff away. Follow a hunch on Tuesday, and find a treasure on Wednesday. Figure out how much you want on Thursday, so you can ask for it and get it on Friday. Study difficult material over the weekend. You'll retain it well.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Your team leads you to victory on Monday, but it's pressure from a persistent person who makes you perform on Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday, you're getting stronger, and on Friday, you're very powerful. Save major decisions and actions until then. Saturday looks good, but Sunday is best for increasing your wealth.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You set the agenda Monday. You're getting more confident Tuesday, and showing up more like a leader. On Wednesday, others could come to you for advice, and on Thursday and Friday, you'll be hustling to keep up with demand. Saturday and Sunday are best for travel, but not all that great for romance.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're looking very good on Monday, but don't blow your money showing off. Tuesday and Wednesday, toe the line to gain an older person's respect. Follow a strong friend's lead on Thursday and Friday, and clean out your closets over the weekend.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You might get a loan on Monday from a person who has too much. Tuesday and Wednesday are good for planning a cruise, even if you can't go yet. The workload is intense Thursday and Friday, but the pace should be good. Give friends your full attention over the weekend.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Get a nice gift for a loved one on Monday. You can find a way to pay for it on Tuesday or Wednesday. Your work should be steady all month. Thursday and Friday look good for sports and other outdoor activities, and this weekend is a good time to pay your respects to an older person.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're lucky with paperwork Monday, and with finding the right words. A partner provides what you need on Tuesday and Wednesday. The money should come to you by Thursday or Friday, and this weekend looks good for travel.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Heed a loved one over a friend on Monday. Focus on the books Tuesday and Wednesday. The competition is fierce on Thursday and Friday, but you can hold your own. Invest in another's talents over the weekend.

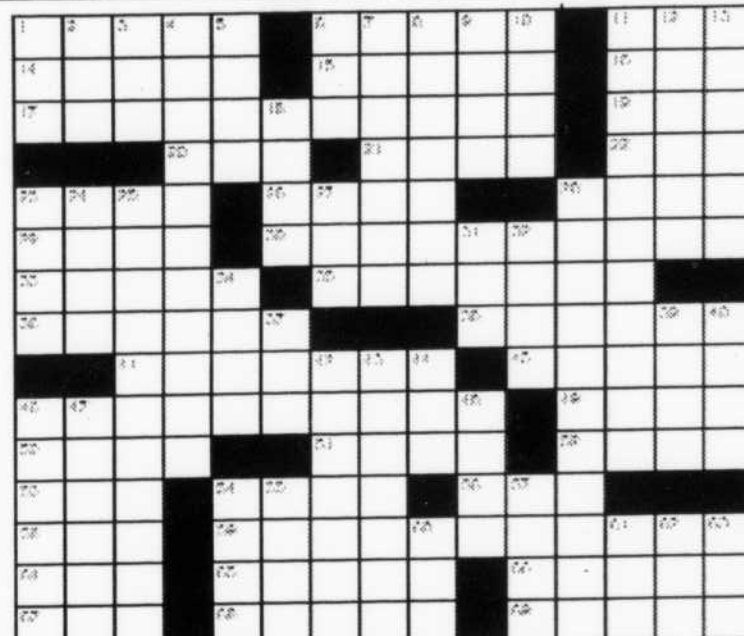
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). Make up your own mind Monday. Don't follow frantic leaders. Your intuition is good on Tuesday and Wednesday, so others may follow you. Do work that will last on Thursday and Friday, and give your partner constructive criticism over the weekend.

ACROSS

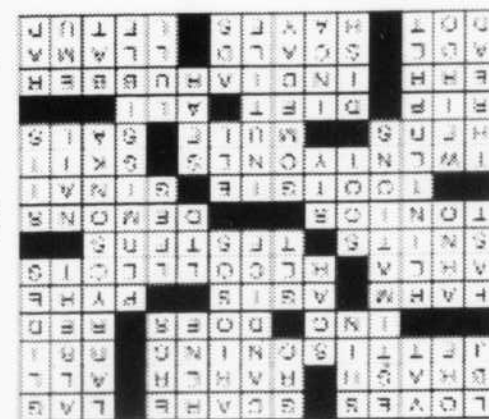
- 1 Adores
- 6 Frighten
- 11 Response time
- 14 Impetuous
- 15 Fewer and farther between
- 16 Each and every one
- 17 Cussing all
- 19 Baseball stat.
- 20 Business abbr.
- 21 Dainty matronies
- 22 Devil's color
- 24 Graign
- 26 Fire-sale phrase
- 28 Pile of combustibles
- 29 Region
- 30 Galls to mind
- 32 Annoying file
- 35 Examiners
- 36 Restorative drinks
- 38 Evil spirits
- 41 Dustin Hoffman movie
- 45 Middle East peninsula
- 46 Blackjack winners
- 49 Theatrical sketch
- 50 Word on a towel
- 51 Slip-on slipper
- 52 Mineo and Maglio
- 53 Grave letters?
- 54 Food tap
- 56 Mr. Baba
- 58 Go wrong
- 59 Elastic substance
- 61 Summer cooler
- 62 Use boiling water
- 65 Vicuna's kin
- 67 Period
- 68 19th president
- 69 Slacken

DOWN

- 1 JFK's successor
- 2 Valuable vein
- 3 Aging vessel
- 4 Gurnsey
- 5 Part of a leg
- 6 Lobbies in theater
- 7 Actress Bergen
- 8 Recitative opera passages
- 9 M. Descartes
- 10 Work units
- 11 Super Bowl VIII MVP
- 12 Cinnamon or Gort
- 13 Moves smoothly and effortlessly
- 16 Danish
- 23 Speedy
- 24 Piss's river
- 25 Find a new meaning
- 27 Fixed
- 28 Legal
- 31 Inc. in Britain
- 32 Wine landmark
- 34 Highlander
- 37 Farm pen
- 39 Talon
- 40 Parks oneself
- 42 Eventually
- 43 Lacking



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- 44 Cave dwelling fish
- 46 Thin strand
- 47 Oddball
- 48 Scorch
- 49 Menu entree
- 55 Andes resident
- 57 Off peak period
- 60 Want
- 61 Winged mammal
- 62 Flightless bird
- 63 Litter sharply

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