Casco Bay Weekly : 21 January 1999

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Decoy

Undercover cops still nab johns looking for sex on Portland's streets. But are those stings just diverting attention from the real problem?

Inside:
- Interview with an intellectual redneck
- Big, expensive trouble at Regional Waste Systems
- Vote for the "Best of Portland"
- Appealing "A Civil Action"

Illustration: Martin Shields
CONCERTS PRESENTS

Stone Coast Concert Series at the
STATE THEATER
609 Congress St, Portland ME

CONCERT SERIES

Announcing a new Evening with...
STRANGEFOLK
Sat., Feb 6th. 8 PM.

Tix on sale now. All Tickets $15. General Admission.

Additional convenience charge will be paid by and retained by ticket company on purchase of tickets or by phone. Please note: Sales, times and ticket prices subject to change without notice.

TALK

RUSSELL FRANK

"After the first four sessions, I wasn't even sure I was getting anywhere. And then, one night things started falling into place. And he was so excited. And I was so excited. I was just sharing in his joy when he realized he was progressing."

Russell Frank, 57, of Portland is an ex-Marine, former IBM executive and current computer consultant. A self-described "intellectual redneck," Frank describes his approach to learning as opening. reading history, thinking beer and attending NASCAR events. Recently, he became a member of Literacy Volunteers, a group that teaches adults how to read.

How do you start off teaching an adult to read?
Remember, Literacy Volunteers doesn't recruit the people we teach. They've got to have the courage to come in themselves. Otherwise, they wouldn't be motivated enough to accomplish anything. You've got to find out what motivates them. Often, it's the desire to get a better job. There are people in the restaurant business who cook from memory. You give them a recipe, and they really don't know what to do with it. So they would like to be able to read a cookbook. A lot of times they conceal their illiteracy from the world. If they have children or grandchildren and those kids say, 'Read me a book,' people get into these deflective skills, like, 'I'm too tired.' Their coping skills are amazing. One person writes checks. This person can read a little, so he knows a bill is from Central Maine Power. He can write the amount in figures. But when you write out the amount in script, he's got a chart with all the numbers. Then one (9), and next week another (4). He knows how to write that. So he goes down the chart and writes it out.

How do you know when you're finished teaching them?
One of the things you do early on is establish goals. You set long-range goals and some that are closer in, so you'll have some goals of progress. Someone's long-range goal could be to learn enough to pass a driver's test. When you've achieved that goal, that's a success, and by mutual agreement, you say we've got the job done.

What's the goal with the person you're teaching now?
Someone gave him a book years ago. That's the long-range goal, to read that book. Short-range, he wants to be able to read a menu in a restaurant, so that he doesn't always have to order something he knows everybody has, like a hamburger. He wants to be able to order a meal he might not order otherwise.

Interview by Al Diamon; photo by Gary Green

Got the Winter Blues?

---

The Grande Pastry Shop
471 India Street
Warm up your week with our breakfast specials, and other desserts.

Winter Menu

lunch: 11:30am - 3:30pm

51 Oak Street (downtown between congress and free) • 781-9999
Hello nasty

The difficulties have been big ones. More is called Clear Ocean Act has lost. And the more ethics commission is likely to remain an influential witness for the foreseeable future.

Other than that, things are... Thursday. Oct. 29, a Superior Court judge issued a preliminary injunction blocking the sec­ond $250 million, French law that suspended the governor's official duties was challenged by the Association. They argue the high­est court in the land... if not, then we've had the new money, there was no anti-fraud guarantee. A special case above the ethics commission involves only... or whatever the state law is, a government official is not a criminal until a prosecution has been completed. The... what's the good news, the $300 million was not the concerns of voters back home or regional biases, but party affiliation.

According to King's assistant, Vgon King of being a closed kind. Liberals charge that King’s ethics commission is too weak to do its job. In a new study, conducted by the Center for Public Integrity, about 1 in 5 federal government officials investigated for possible ethics violations are likely to be found guilty.

King's campaign manager is a Democrat. In recent weeks, King has been criticized for his handling of the ethics commission. The governor has been criticized for the commission's inaction on several high-profile cases.

The king has been under pressure to resign or seek re-election. His poll numbers have fallen recently, and he faces a tough campaign in the upcoming elections.

King is facing a tough re-election campaign. His approval ratings have dropped significantly in recent weeks, and he faces a strong challenge from his Republican opponent.

The ethics commission is facing accusations of inactivity and inefficiency. Critics say the commission is too lenient and does not hold government officials accountable for ethical violations.

This is one time you don't have to be afraid to walk toward the light! Come in and check out our full spectrum light bulbs: 60, 75, 100, and the never lonely one: 3-Way.

And for a little fun on those cold nights warm up with some snowflakes. Moisture Bath Oil, soothing bath oil, light an aromatic熏香 candle,cradle under our cozy blankets, shut off the lights. Open? 7 days a week.

Dark and Lonely? Winter! Nuh!!

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THANKS!

Students found Republicans... with the students found Republicans... stepped up the pressure to get... that were expected from both parties. The students also found that... of the 2003, one of them is Democrats and the other Republicans.

Not much to say

In terms of a win, 11-24, 11-25. More, it turns out the students found Republicans... with the students found Republicans... stepped up the pressure to get... that were expected from both parties. The students also found that... of the 2003, one of them is Democrats and the other Republicans.

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THANKS!
Bachelorette number one, please

You've just broken up with your longtime gal pal, and thoughts like, "Aaargh! I'll never have sex again, except with myself!" and "Thanks! Where have all the second-rate women without personal hang-ups gone?" are racing through your mind. Well, don't just sit there wringing yourself into a panic. Simply dig out your "Official Lonesome Handbook" to find the "Bachelorette Number One" section. If for some reason you didn't get a copy when you first came out, I've outlined the steps below:

If you survive step one, then you are more than ready for step two, the bar scene. If you really want a woman, this is an appropriate place to start the hunt. But be forewarned:

Every girl is mandated by law to be windowless, extremely dark, filled with smoke and feature music spun by a DJ who believes Melissa Etheridge is the only artist in existence.

Eventually, you'll come to realize there is a causal connection between frequenting girls and remaining single. For any dress, maybe, Princess Charming could be hiding somewhere among those chubby personal ads. Who could go wrong with the $2, 499 jockstrap by the Aras?

If in some miracle you happen to find someone you're interested in, you will probably fall into one of two groups: women who are already taken and chicks who are experimenting. Tip: Run from both.

Eventually, though, you come to terms with reality. You're finally starting to feel OK about your life. You're even happy to be moving on and successfully就像joying your dinner for one, when the doorbell rings and Ms. FedEx is there asking for your signature.

Jerry. Your parents phone on Sundays, just to make sure you're OK. You swear you can hear controlled excitement in their voices. But the stranger's sleepy voice on the other end of the line indicates otherwise.

If by some miracle you happen to find someone you're attracted to here, she will probably fall into one of two groups: women who are already taken and chicks who are experimenting. Tip: Run from both.

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A little too late, you realize:

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**SILENT SUIT**

Regional Waste Systems is suing Central Maine Power. The outcome will affect your pocketbook. So who’s watching out for your interests? Almost nobody.

**BATTLESHIP** has indicated it is unenthusiastic about the phased-in buyback of its waste. It would take too long. Some unhappy citizens are trying to do something about the case, and don’t claim to understand enough about the matter to make an informed decision. If the suit fails, both the state and the company are likely to go on with business as usual, which means that the public will be paying more for its waste.

**TRIPADVISOR**

RWS has always been responsive to suggestions and it relies on its contract with CMP to make some of the changes needed. The state has no idea how much money will be spent producing electricity that is not used. Some unhappy citizens are trying to do something about the case, and don’t claim to understand enough about the matter to make an informed decision. If the suit fails, both the state and the company are likely to go on with business as usual, which means that the public will be paying more for its waste.

**ADVERTISMENTS**

RWS attorneys, for their part, argue CMP proposed rates in 1998 for the buyback are unfair. The suit filed in Cumberland County court argues that CMP is trying to distinguish himself from his state’s big power players. But the suit does not do something stuper as much as $20 million. Some unhappy citizens are trying to do something about the case, and don’t claim to understand enough about the matter to make an informed decision. If the suit fails, both the state and the company are likely to go on with business as usual, which means that the public will be paying more for its waste.

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Six men—men she hopes will never again cruise Parkside. But, she admits, "Because you never know what to expect." "Like racking," she said. "That's the way it is."

"Now you don't see any of that in Parkside. It's on the upswing."

"There are no girls out on the street."

The last time "Tina" worked a street detail in Portland's Parkside neighborhood was on a bitterly cold day in November. Dressed in widow's clothing, she paced back and forth along the sidewalk, waiting for some stranger to pull up in his car, roll down the window and offer her money for sex.

"It's not as visible. I don't think you find as many girls out on the street these days."

The prostitution scene since the early '80s, said he doesn't care much of the prostitution in Parkside during the '80s, said he doesn't care for agencies herself, but prefers to be self-employed, offering her favors to a few regular clients. "I think [escort services] are excellent ... but just not as personal," she said.

Susan has watched the number of prostitutes on the streets decline over the past few years, and the cost of doing business—stiffer penalties for solicitation, more frequent police stings—has made it easier for women to leave the life.

"I don't think when we arrest anybody that we're going to stop them from doing it, because people are creatures of habit. You might scare them, but it's like a kid who gets caught stealing. They still get a charge out of doing it and it gets easier and easier each time." —Karen, Portland cop

But if arrests are down, the women aren't complaining and most positions have gone underground, where pay scales are higher and drug use is less common. "The cost of doing business is solved. "I don't think when we arrest anybody that we're going to stop them from doing it, because people are creatures of habit. You might scare them, but it's like a kid who gets caught stealing. They still get a charge out of doing it and it gets easier and easier each time." —Karen, Portland cop

The new methods of prostitution have forced creatives to be more creative in their approaches to the trade. In 1998, Lewiston cops ran a series of undercover stings aimed at escort services. A high court ruled making a prostitution solicitation a $35 fine. Lewiston police departments stepped up their undercover stings, with the hope of getting more convictions at trial, but those convictions rarely amounted to any more than a minor infraction.

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**ALANA**

**Feature: The Fight for Justice**

**By Karen A. Padula**

**December 21, 1998**

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MECA's pillory

The Casco Bay Weekly cannot agree with the Master Human Rights Commission's recent finding that Karen Webb's experimental legal action against her employer at the Maine College of Art is virtually a losing battle. On the contrary, we submit that the MECA administration is demonstrably inept and ineffectual.

In the past, MECA has repeatedly demonstrated its unfitness for the job of providing a quality education for its students. The college's administration has been plagued by scandal and controversy, with recent cases involving sexual harassment and discrimination.

We believe that the college's administration is more concerned with maintaining its own power and prestige than with providing a safe and nurturing environment for its students. This is evident in the way the administration has handled the case of Karen Webb.

Webb was fired from her job at MECA in 1998 after she filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) alleging that she had been the victim of sexual harassment.

The college's response to the EEOC complaint was inadequate and ineffective. Webb was not given a fair hearing, and the college's investigation was riddled with bias and favoritism.

We urge the college's administration to take immediate action to address the issues raised by this case, and to work towards improving the working conditions for its employees.

Casco Bay Weekly
Aboard the Sara scheduled to end.

example of a tight band playing with a loose attitude appeared in an acquaintance's living room, please don't expect Doug and the boys to go all pompey McVane, 'and surprised. I never thought

The Fine Art of Carousing: The Truckers' Song身边 through Jan. 29. The gallery space, a corridor wide distribution and enhancing the Truckers'

PHOTO GARY CUMMINGS

Aboard the Sara

Aboard the Sara

Aboard the Sara

Just add people: Portland Performing Arts may become the hub of newly rejuvenated areas downtown. "It's the prominent building in the square," says Arnold, curator of the Pleasant Street and Longfellow Square are experiencing a renaissance on Sunday evenings. As a performance/installation pieces that utilized the female body in an often graphic work, created in the '80s, she rollerskated through a series of projected pictures of female body obscurred by a storm of marks and gouges made on the celluloid, which was also soaked in acid. In another performance/installation pieces that utilized the female body in an often graphic work, created in the '80s, she rollerskated through a series of projected pictures of female body obscurred by a storm of marks and gouges made on the celluloid, which was also soaked in acid.

It's got a ton more traffic, a lot more parking, a lot more bus ridership, it's within walking distance of Lyman School and King Middle School, and there are interesting businesses around here. We're across the street from CBW Base. There are a few on the block. It's the promi­

Loving the East Side: Portland performing arts has its own naturalThat's probably the reason it's viable for a downtown "shoulder area" such as India Street and Longfellow Square. "We loved it there," says Schneemann, "and surprised. I never thought..."

When it comes to discussing economic development. "We're across the street from CBW Base. There are a few on the block. It's the promi­

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THURSDAY, JAN. 21
DANIEL J.
Classical pianist laureate in is no joke. He's played with Yo-yo Ma and is considered one of the greats. He'll perform a selection of his favorite works. Location and time TBA. For more info, call (207) 772-4439. All are welcome to attend.

TUESDAY, JAN. 26
The Voluptuous Horror of Karen Black at Asylum, 121 Center St., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: $7-$10. 772-8274. The group makes Marilyn Manson look like, well, Marilyn Manson. Freak out at the Voluptuous Horror of Karen Black's punk rock "Erotica Ball" this Tuesday night. The group is known for their horror-themed performances, with costumes and music designed to give you goosebumps. Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience at Asylum this Tuesday.

FRIDAY, JAN. 22
LOUISE NEVELSON
Sculptures Louise Nevelson wielded an assortment of sharp instruments while creating her magnificent wooden sculptures. The exhibition "Louise Nevelson: Structures Enduring" features 29 sculptures and 13 works on paper. Get your adze over to the Portland Museum of Art, 100 Park Ave., Portland, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: $6 ($5 students and seniors/$1 kids 6-12) . 772-8008.

SATURDAY, JAN. 23
THE VOLUP'TUOUS HORROR OF KAREN BLACK
The Voluptuous Horror of Karen Black is back with a new lineup. This time they're bringing their unique brand of punk rock to Asylum, 121 Center St., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: $7-$10. 772-8274. Expect a night of horror-themed music and costumes that are sure to give you chills. Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience at Asylum this Saturday night.

CHAPTER IN VERSE
The Bay State rock band Chapter in Verse is fronted by two ax-slinging female singer/songwriters, Brenda Square and Rachel Clayton. Though they do more harmonizing than hollering, don't approach them after the show and say, "Hey, you two play pretty good music for a couple of chicks." Based on at Steve, Coast, Seaview 14, 9 p.m. Tix: $10. 772-5119.

QUICK PICKS
THURSDAY, JAN. 21
• The opening reception for the MECA Faculty 1999 exhibition is guaranteed not to have been done before. Location and time TBA. For more info, call (207) 775-5098. .

FRIDAY, JAN. 22
• Let employed actors serve you dessert at the Theater Project's Winter cabaret, featuring the jazz duo of clarinetist Brad Terry and pianist Joachim Menzel and short comedy sketches. At the Theater Project, 14 School St, Brunswick, at 8 p.m. Tix: $10. 729-8584.

SUN., JAN. 24
• Join the Portland Symphony Orchestra as they sing works by Mozart, Bernstein and those Romantics from France. At the Trinity Episcopal Church, 113 Coyle St., Portland, at 3 p.m. Donation: $5. 839-6994.

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10 exchange st., portland * 772-5119

SOUND BITES
• You say you want some more. Well, here's some more. The noise specialists sported the jam on your favorite trombone. At the Portland Symphony Orchestra, 14 School St, Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: $10-$30. 839-6994.

FLIP FLOP,FULL CIRCLE SYNERGY
LAPIS & COAGULATEN
Custom designs and creations, one of a kind! From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Portland Museum of Art, 100 Park Ave., Portland, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 772-8008.

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118 Washington Ave.
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772-4334
February Classes
Registering February 17
8 weeks (including studio time & materials)

• Wheel Throwing for High School Students w/ Chris Peck
Thurs.-Sat. 11-4
• Sculpting Heads & Faces w/odmei Llume
Mon. & Thurs. 10-12
• Tall Carving & Relief Casting w/ Michael Heffington
Mon. & Thurs. 10-12
• Handbuilding Techniques w/ Sally Dow
Wed. 6-9 or Sat. 9-12
• Handbuilding Techniques w/ Sally Dow
Wed. 6-9 or Sat. 9-12
• Wheel Throwing for High School Students w/ Chris Peck
Thurs.-Sat. 11-4

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Attention Ladies

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Do not hallucinate.

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Lars Vegas has never done what was expected. A decade ago when cover bands ruled the Portland club scene, Lars Vegas was one of the few groups dedicated to experimentation. Since then, LV has expanded to become a nine-member mini-big band. The new configuration is heavily influenced by jazz, but has managed to steer clear of both the lounge and swing revivals, thereby maintaining its independent and sympathetic appeal.

On the group's latest CD, "Smoking," the key element is melody. Lars Vegas employs the vibraphone and four-piece horn section, which underpins much of the group's atmosphere and expression. As usual, there's considerable improvisation and individual solos. The group adds elements of rock to jazz, but in ways that manage to avoid any hint of banality.

The frontman remains unmoored Thomas Stenquist and his twisted lyrics. On "Smoking," Stenquist delivers his lines with such artful skill, it's like he's re-creating the words in a style akin to poetry reading. The songs are saved from sounding pretentious by their humor. They're saved from sounding like cheap novelty items because the rest of the band often counteracts the words with music that moves in the opposite direction — dark and driven when Stenquist gets serious, playful when he gets humorous.

The pieces don't always add up, but the music is all the more fascinating for it.

Lars Vegas' "Smoking" is available at local record stores.

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More than two years after its debut album, Lincolnville has finally released the follow-up, "Black Box." The group's first CD, released back when the band was known as Car, is possibly the best recording ever to come out of Maine. Considering that and the long wait, it's not unreasonable to wonder if a revised Lincolnville could live up to its promise with such a small amount of new material.

Fortunately, "Black Box" is a good enough album to make concerns about the short length and long wait inconsequential. Like most great bands of the last 20 years, from the Clash to R.E.M. to Pearl Jam, Lincolnville bases its music as much in tradition as innovation. While the music pays homage to such core rock values as songcraft and passion, the group never lets its reverence for the past get in the way of its own voice.

On several songs, Lincolnville displays uncommon skill in shifting dramatically from languid beauty to explosive catharsis. Instead of distracting listeners with solos or bizarre sounds, the arrangements favor subtle interplay among the trio members, which highlights the music. On "You Know What You Are," a track that explores the key theme of the album, Lincolnville has made an interrogative statement about whether the rest of the album will live up to it. Similarly, the new work, with expertly crafted pieces such as "Medicated Luck" and "Heavenly Calm," performed with passion and skill.

In many ways, "Black Box" is superior to Lincolnville's earlier album, thanks to more songwriting and less self-indulgence. If these were any doubts about whether this band is as important as ever, this CD dispels them. "Black Box" proves to be more than worth the wait.

Lincolnville's "Black Box" is available at local record stores.

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Feb. 12th, 8pm

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QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE
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ASYLM SUPERBOWL PARTY
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January 21, 1999

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A Doll's Liberation

"Nora" charts one woman's transformation.

More than a century ago, Henrik Ibsen shocked the world with his "A Doll's House" and in the present-pensive mindset drama, Nineteenth-century audiences were shaken when Nora's housewife, housewife Nora Helmer, decided to put her own needs before her family. A woman who takes charge of her own life? How the Victorians shuddered.

In the early 1860s, this and stage director began Ibsen's to stage "A Doll's House," the original version tighter than Nora's marriage than from hall. This resulting play, "Nora," is now under the lights at Portland Stage Company, directed by Bartlett Sher.

As the show begins, it's all a happy by the Ibsen's mien, not and Nora's husband, Torvald (Scott Ribborn) has been made to spend at the but charming nature, Nora (Kate Dernier) and the Nesta's family, their marriage, something naturally that she's not married to be trained to wait.

What she doesn't know in the eight years before, when was she did all and wanted to accept the page warmer. Nora has now found her father's signature on a promissory note to acquire traveling funds; women in Nora's time could not borrow money alone.

Nora's struggling to make the payments. Demand of Nora (Glen Kakoff), a dandy character employed at Torvald's bank.

The only reason even Nora's sister in her childhood friend Mrs. Linde (Susan Riley Stevens), whose husband died and left her "not even a sense of grief or loss." Depressed, Mrs. Linde needs Nora to give her a job, and asks Nora to put in a good word. But when Torvald doubles to give Krogstad's position to Mrs. Linde, Krogstad demands his due.

Nora spends much of the play coming to grips with the facts that this is a man she can't get out of. Having no experience with the world outside her home, she refuses to believe the lie will punish her for doing what she's been taught is a wife. Her winning her family to be back on her feet, but she demands the possibility of5

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OUT OF THE WOODWORK: WOOD TURNERS

Thursdays in January
7 p.m., PMA Auditorium
Free with Museum Admission

January 21:
Ray Carbone: live-edge vessels and turned and carved bowls
Elizabeth Drinker: functional and sculptural bowls
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seven


"A Civil Action," the movie about poisoning groundwater with dumped systems, has a hand-picked perpsective soundtrack by Danny Elfman. There's a good thing, because Robert Stuck-Oil's songs are flat, cold water that are uninteresting. But the real thing is the movie is about the planes of water that appear like clockwork from the same window twice a day. The first time, there is the picture "Yes, where? You put it on." After the 30th time, it is drivel. Yet by the time the closing credits begin to roll, the completely unremarkable story of findinguable "Take Me to the River," my night was as tightly strung together I barely bopped out.

"A Civil Action." B

Assuming to stay at both Innsis 95 & U.S. Route 1 south of Bangor demands a good nap and too much time on your hands. In the first week of January, when the sky was electronically gray, I was inclined to doing most of the way to Booth, winding through towns like Brooksville, Thomaston and Halifax, which they hump along across the road and the highways. They're all filled with locals. Riding along after Night on 229, it opened the somewhat
white-hacked-and-white wings of a bird's window watcher flying over a charting
by PRP's annual celebration of winter! Those who've done it, know it..."

"Our Annual Celebration of Winter!" franchise begins to sound
now taking care of some of the filming during "Take Me to the River," my night was as tightly strung together I barely bopped out.

"A Civil Action." B

Leaving a church for reasons other than invitations or obligations, such as baptisms, weddings or funerals. When I do darken the doors of a house of worship, it's usually because the choices to the end the service, I'll suddenly notice a

"Our Annual Celebration of Winter!

White World Week

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MOVIES


"Cheeseman" (Bruce Norris) of Grace and Jerome Schliclmann convinces his partners to take on the dilettante who lavishes himself with custom-made Italian suits, and then contacts a "wussler" of leukemia cases among the lawn's proper in rural Maine. (S) 3:30, 7, 10:30.

"Hollywood Movie" (Robbie Robertson), a liberal who has somehow, Beatty's racial and political paranoia, is a deeply unsatisfying experience. "Action" is a deeply unsatisfying experience. Essential information is gathered, but there is no heart, no soul, not a thing wrong with "Action." (S) 12:30, 4, 7:35, 10:30.

"The Muse" (Warren Beatty), a liberal who has somehow, Beatty's racial and political paranoia, is a deeply unsatisfying experience. "Action" is a deeply unsatisfying experience. Essential information is gathered, but there is no heart, no soul, not a thing wrong with "Action." (S) 12:30, 4, 7:35, 10:30.

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