

C2 THE EVENING SUN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1988

THE FAR SIDE by GARY LARSON



Pymies on vacation

In short

Olivia turns 40: Grammy Award-winning singer Olivia Newton-John turned 40 as a surprise party planned by husband Matt Lattanz. Family and friends attended the gathering Monday for Newton-John, who just returned from a trip to England to promote her new album, "The Runaway."

ABT gains a dancer: Anita Lippe, principal dancer with the Baltimore Ballet, will join Mikhail Baryshnikov, artistic director of ABT, in welcoming Lopez, 24, to the company yesterday. The opportunity to invite Mr. Lopez to join ABT is yet another demonstration of our two countries' determination to accelerate cultural exchange in every possible way.

Fight for democracy: French actor-singer Yves Montand arrived in the military-ruled country of Chile to work for the restoration of democracy. "I had to come here to support the efforts to restore democracy in this country."

Soviet Monopoly: Forget Park Place or Boardwalk, commander Fred Square beckons Party Brothers, makers of Monopoly, announced yesterday that the Soviet people may soon have the opportunity to pass Go, collect 200 rubles and conduct wild real estate deals. The manufacturer of the best-selling game said it has created a Russian-language version of the game, using the Cyrillic alphabet.

Giime that time back: Comic Alan King claims he's never been totally secure with his success. "I get the feeling sometimes that I'm going to go to work one morning and it's all going to be gone," he says. "Someone's going to say, 'That's it. It's over. Giime that time back. Giime that time back on the water.'" He, he admits, what keeps him in the room. At 69 years old, he's as active as ever, trekking from his Long Island home to play everything from conventions to Vegas, doing his stand-up with the finesse of an old pro. "If you wake me up at 2 a.m., I do my whole act for you, from start to finish," he admits.

Hope for youngsters: Paid union scale and 897 sick 12 young residents of a New York City welfare hotel became actors for a day thanks to New Artists of "Play's Hope." The actors arrived the children to perform in an episode of the daytime serial July when the volunteered to teach acting, singing and fitness at the hotel. The 12 performed Monday in a segment in which welfare hotel residents chose a drug dealer from their neighborhood.

Jackson dazzles Pittsburgh: As four giant TV screens revealed the special effects of his "Thriller" and "Bad" videos, Michael Jackson dazzled a crowd of nearly 17,000 with a high-energy show that was part Little Richard and part Lou Vega. Monday's sold-out audience at Civic Arena included pre-teens in white, bannister in white and college students in leather who sang. "I drew flowers at a laser light stage and danced in the jungle. Covered in black and silver, the 30-year-old singer danced with a fan during 'She's Out of My Life.' I danced a football jacket for 'Thriller,' and drew the bagged chains of the night with his trademark snowsuits during 'Billie Jean.' Last night's and tonight's shows also were sold out.

Town Grier/Sept. 28-29

TONIGHT: The Tactical Air Command Band will perform a live concert at Towson State University's Concert Hall at 7:30 p.m. Call 321-2234.

SHOWTIMES TONIGHT: Center Stage - "The Importance of Being Earnest," 8 p.m. Through Oct. 20. Call 322-0931.

Mechanic: "The Yearning," 8 p.m. Through Oct. 23. Call 429-4200.

THEATRE PROJECT: "John Groppe," 8 p.m. Through Oct. 11. Call 779-8358.

TOMORROW: Robert Ousehart, professor of art history at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, will deliver a lecture at The Walters Art Gallery titled, "Beyond Hagia Sophia: Defining Holy Space in Byzantine Art." 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 342-9600 ext. 230-237.

COMING UP: On Sunday, Oct. 9, Cythura Anderson will have its annual fall showing of "Romans from 500-4 p.m." The show will feature locally conceived art as well as some imported trees. Free. Call 367-2127.

Inside traders are just doing what comes naturally

LOOKING UP FROM his paper, Slava Grobnik shook his head and said, "I see that there's another one of them feeding frenzies going on." Are the bloodthirsty networks and the press at it again? "No, I mean the Securities and Exchange Commission. They charged another bunch of those inside traders from Wall Street. Why are they always picking on these guys?"



Mike Royko

"That's a silly question. What they did was illegal. It's not getting on side-line and double parking. It's what they did really that was wrong?" "None it is. It's getting inside information to get the edge. To make vast sums of money. What's wrong with that? Isn't that the American way, making all you can?"

"Hey, don't you think most people would use insider information to make a fast buck if they had a chance? But that's the whole point. Most people don't have access to inside information. If they do, it's their own fault. If the average mope doesn't have the initiative to get some inside information, why pick on the guy who does?"

"I hadn't thought of it that way. When you should. You think getting insider information is easy? No, I take hard work. I read about these inside guys. They go at it 18 hours a day. They ain't clock-watching. So aren't we supposed to respect hard work? Just look around this joint. What do you see?"

"I see guys reading the sports pages and looking at 'Wheel of Fortune' on TV." "So what?"

"You think this young guy Michael Milken, who they just charged, spent his time that way? You think his pal Ivan Bosny did? You bet they didn't. They were out there hunting for inside information, doing takeovers, using their God-given noddles while sage like us are talking about which football player just powder up his nose."

"What about family values and friendship and loyalty?" "Shouldn't members of families help each other?" "Of course."

"Well, Milken helped his brother and his brother helped him. So they charged the brother, too. And they charged some of the Pomer family, just because they helped each other. So what is it with the Reagan administration? Don't believe in the American family? Or in friendship?"

"That's not what I've been hearing. I hear that if you do something for your kid, or your grandkid, you do it. If there's someone working in your family business who's helping you, he does it. When you can, you make a phone call or two. And if you don't, what kind of cold-blooded animal are you?"

That does seem to be the prevailing mood.

"Sure. So here are these hard-working Wall Street guys who happen to be in a position to know something about some deals that are going down. Are they supposed to be stupid and ignore it, or smart and use it?"

"The law says they should ignore it. 'Then ain't they saying that it's better to be stupid than smart' faces when it's against the law, they're smarter than the next guy?"

"It's very confusing. But I think the idea is that by taking advantage of their special position, they profited at someone else's expense. Do you think that's fair?"

"Who said it's fair? Go ask any American Indian. Their real deal is what made this country great. But we must follow the law and observe the rules. 'Not when the laws and the rules are stupid. When that happens, you get a patriot like Otto North being indicted. Or a fine young patriot like Danny Dreyfus getting chewed up in a feeding frenzy. And now we get these fine patriots on Wall Street, just following the American tradition of getting the edge on the next guy, and they're in deep deeps.'"

"I hadn't thought of it that way. 'Then you should think that before he leaves office, President Reagan should give Milken and Bosny and the rest of them pardons.' Aren't you going to extremes?"

"Come on. They didn't break into a office and blow a safe. They didn't rob a bank. They didn't loot a bank's truck. They didn't mug some old lady on the street, or snatch a gold chain on a subway. And they sure as hell didn't shoot anybody. You know, I'm starting to see your point. 'OK, say after me: I pledge allegiance...'"

Tribune Media Services

BSO's newest member will play to help student

By Scott Duncan

LAST THURSDAY, Emily Contirolla began her career as principal flutist with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. The next night she was on strike, along with 95 of her new BSO colleagues.

"Oh, well, it was fun while it lasted," she said yesterday of her brief stint with BSO.

This week, as BSO players picket Meyerhoff Hall and contemplate life without a steady paycheck, Contirolla has been busy putting together a benefit concert — not to raise money for benefit, but for Tiana Arana, a 21-year-old flute student struggling to stay in Baltimore and pursue her music studies.

"This is even more critical than my troubles," says Contirolla, 26, who was appointed the BSO's principal flutist only two weeks ago. "She needs help immediately."

Contirolla came to Baltimore from Pittsburgh, where she was co-principal flutist with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Four years ago she joined Contirolla because she was the youngest principal flutist in the orchestra. She was named to the post at the North Carolina Symphony.

Arana is a promising young flute student from Costa Rica who studied with Contirolla in Pittsburgh. Her career flourished under Contirolla's tutelage — Arana was accepted as a flutist at the prestigious Tanglewood Festival last summer. She originally came to the United States with her husband, who was studying under a Fulbright Scholarship. Her husband has returned to Costa Rica, but Arana wants to stay in this country and pursue her goal to be an orchestra musician. If she can't come up with the money to pay tuition at Peabody, she may be forced to return to Costa Rica.

"There is nobody to study with in Costa Rica," says Arana. "My dream is to play for an American orchestra."

With the aid of Tanglewood director Leon Finster, Arana secured a late admission for entrance at the Peabody Conservatory, and she was accepted this fall. But all scholarship funds had already been committed for this year. So Contirolla is mounting an all-out effort to raise enough money for Arana to stay. Last week, Arana just missed a bus and was stuck in traffic for an hour.



Emily Contirolla will play Sunday for her Costa Rican student.

... This is even more critical than my troubles. She needs help immediately... —EMILY CONTIROLLA

running down the street in pursuit when two women stopped and offered her a ride. They listened to my story and contacted friends in Guilford, who were able to provide Arana with a free place to live.

Now she is looking for funds to pay tuition and board. Tuition at Peabody is \$4,000, but Arana says she only needs \$4,000 because she can work at a part-time job at Peabody to defray some tuition costs. Contirolla estimates Arana needs another \$1,000 for materials and food, making a total of \$7,000.

Arana has already received one contribution of \$500. It came from one of the two nice ladies in the car," Arana says.

So late last week, just as the BSO was about to go on strike, Contirolla came up with the idea of a benefit concert. With the help of pianist Clinton Adams, Contirolla will perform flute works by Georges Aron, Joaquin Rodrigo, and Gustav Mahler to help her student.

Striking members of the BSO will also join Contirolla in Mizner's Quartet for flute and strings in a major A. 2P.

"I've never got to do this. It was hard enough getting her to Baltimore, so I want her to pursue her education now," Contirolla says.

Emily Contirolla will perform a benefit recital at 8:15 p.m. Saturday at St. Veron's Methodist Church, 1 E. Mt. Vernon Place. Tickets are available at the door for \$7.80 for students and seniors. Call 639-8187 for further information.

Animal lovers have new books to browse through

By Ellen Houck

GOOD BOOKS abound for pet lovers. And, while an animal person will find some pleasure in just about any written word that deals with pets, here are some new books you may want to own.

"Sandcastle and Sea Breeze," a children's book, is an exciting tale about a sea horse or think of it as a horse without a saddle. The lovely 48-page story and illustrations were created by Nika Clark Loydell, who lives in Mexico.

The book, her first for children, is available from The Gallop Press Ltd., 1920 Wheeler Lane, Sparks, Md., 21153. It costs \$19.95.

"Real Animal Heroes" is a carefully researched collection of 35 true stories about the courage, devotion and sacrifice of animals that have saved people's lives. The 188-page book was designed and edited by Paul Drew Stevens and illustrated by John Kesteven. It was published by Sharp & Thomas Publications Inc., 165 Paper Ave., Chico, Calif., 95928. The cost is \$14.95.

"Dog Training for Kids" was written and illustrated by Carol Lee Benjamin, an award-winning and widely published writer. It is for youngsters who want to learn how to train the family dog to be a \$9.95.

Pausing with pets

and grew up surrounded by her mother's collection of hundreds of sea horses. She received a bachelor's degree from Smith College, a master's degree in poetry and her doctorate in art history from Johns Hopkins University. She studied drawing at the Maryland Institute of Art and glass blowing at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts. She lives with her husband, Bruce, and two cats, and teaches in the Pre-1-in-schools program sponsored by the Maryland State Arts Council.

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come the ideal pet. There are 126 pages of text, photos and cartoons by the author. It was published by Howell Book House Inc., 250 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10102. The cost is \$2.95.

The deep emotions involved in the death of a pet are handled in "Joy in a Woolly Coat." Written by Julie Adams, it is a comforting book that tells of living with, loving and letting go of a treasured animal friend. It is Church's heartiest story of her relationships with her animal companions, beginning with the first dog she had when she was 12. It was illustrated by Constance Coleman and published by H.G. Krutner Inc., P.O. Box 1082, Tiburon, Calif., 94928. The cost is \$9.95.

The other contributors, whose role as Chiavari's condottieri is smaller, is Derek Lee Magin, who was born in West Point, N.Y., and grew up in Newark, His voice sounds warmer and more a cry between a master and a lover's falsetto.

Sarah Walker as the wife of Pompeo and Martin Dupuy as their son were especially effective in large parts. Bass John Robbins also was admirable as commander in chief of Ptolemy's army.

In 'Giulio Cesare,' Met Opera offers several firsts

By Mary Campbell

On the second night of its season, the Metropolitan Opera in New York presented a series of firsts. Handel's 1724 "Giulio Cesare" set its first time.

Trevor Pinnock, a British early music specialist, which he never conducted an opera before conducted.

The Met never before had a conductor make his debut on its stage. In "Giulio Cesare" it had.

Katherine Battle was the vocal star of last evening's "Giulio Cesare." Her voice is delicate but so focused that it never sounds weak. Sound comes from her like a golden thread. The coloratura passages aren't especially glittering from Battle because all her singing is sweetly open.

The musical style, vocal and orchestral, was exemplary. The orchestra, of only 50 players, did not consist of original instruments, which often are out of tune. Handel's music has severity, an emotional melody are stated, repeated and embellished without lapse. Pinnock managed to conduct so that often there also was urgency and excitement.

Tullius Trebonius sang Julius Caesar. She began with much fletid singing, making a strenuous effort to get it right, which she did, but sounding as though she had about half a voice. In the last act's third singing, her voice was much fuller, and, rich, though effort could still be heard. Her Julius Caesar didn't step forward as an opera's title character should.

Animal lovers have new books to browse through

Jeffrey Gull, a native of Cleveland, made his Met debut as Ptolemy, Chiavari's main, a contending role. His voice is interesting and not unpleasant, though it doesn't sound entirely human. It sounds like a cross between a female mezzo-soprano and a male baritone coming through a hollow reed.

The other contributors, whose role as Chiavari's condottieri is smaller, is Derek Lee Magin, who was born in West Point, N.Y., and grew up in Newark, His voice sounds warmer and more a cry between a master and a lover's falsetto.

Sarah Walker as the wife of Pompeo and Martin Dupuy as their son were especially effective in large parts. Bass John Robbins also was admirable as commander in chief of Ptolemy's army.

The production was created by the English National Opera in 1979 and has been performed at the San Francisco Opera and in Geneva, Switzerland. The women's costumes are lavish and don't attempt to look Egyptian. Colors are basically Elizabethan, with bustles and ruff collars.

The concept of the stage sets was pleasing. Each scene had a few pillars or monuments or thrones. Before each scene, singers would step forward and a screen would drop behind them so the stage could be changed for the next scene. It was worthy without being symmetrical.

John Colley, in charge of production, John Franco, sets, and Michael Stern, costumes, were making Met debut.