

Weberman launches movie career as law clerk

By CAROLYN ROSENBERG

Somewhat it wasn't supposed to happen this way.

When Ed Weberman, a 22-year-old law student at the University of Michigan, began work as a clerk for Southfield attorney Alan Jay Kaufman, he expected to write briefs and consult clients.

He never dreamed he'd end up a production manager of the soon-to-be-released movie, "Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep," starring Kathryn Grayson and Rory Calhoun.

The superman-like rise from law clerk to movie mogul was "amazing," Weberman said.

"I was responsible for the camera crew, the sound crew, the actors, hotel arrangements and the payroll, but I didn't know the first thing about making movies," the West Bloomfield resident said. "I learned everything right on the job."

The job actually began while he was working at Kaufman's law office.

The attorney is counsel for KBS Productions Limited, the corporation making the movie. Filmed entirely in Ann Arbor, the movie is based on the series of cold murders in the Ann Arbor area during the late '60s.

While originally scheduled to write a paper on Panama for Kaufman (who also is vice-counsel to Panama), Weberman began to work as his assistant, preparing contracts for the actors in the movie.

"I WAS SENT to Ann Arbor to see how things were going about a week after shooting began. I was told I'd be there for a couple of days."

"It ended up being five weeks."

The main reason for his stay was

that the director, William Martin, had his hands full.

"He was acting as the producer, too," Weberman explained. "I thought it would be road if he were up here by himself."

"The corporation asked me to assume production responsibilities until they found a replacement. They never did."

The law clerk-turned-movie mogul began a typical day with a 6 a.m. wake-up call, morning meetings with production assistants, supervisors, stagehands, drivers, crews and a consultation with the director. Ten a.m. was 11-Hour," he lamented. "The professionals—actors, crews, and others—began work promptly at 10."

Weberman recalled the time when an important prop was missing—his own car.

"We were filming with a rented trailer. We hooked it up to my car, and then broke for dinner. One of the assistants thought shooting was over for the day and drove off with the trailer and my car," he said.

The incident was a typical headache in the long day of a motion picture heavyweight.

"I never really slept. All of the meetings were in my room—the make-shift production office," he added.

"Marty, the director, thought nothing of calling me up at 4 in the morning to get my opinion on a new brains-torn."

"I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW I was called a production manager," he laughed. "If I was on location, I was the foreman. If the books needed managing, I was the accountant. If the press called, I was in charge of media."

But there was some glamour to the job, he admitted. "I got to talk to Bill Kennedy, Shirley Eder and Bill Bonds. The close feeling between the cast and the crew also made it a satisfying experience because we all had the same goal."

Being a production big shot also gave him insight into the "real world," he said. "In law school, you can get 80 per cent on a test and feel

terrific. But it's not so in this business. "Little things matter. But the chance to do what I did was one I'd never get with a major production company."

If the opportunity came around again "it would be hard to say no. Yet, I still want to be a lawyer," he said.

The premiere is scheduled for this spring, with possible simultaneous openings in Ann Arbor and Southfield.

Will the production manager be tucked away in the corridors of the law library at that time?

"No, I'll still be working on the movie catching up on paperwork, contracts and correspondence."

"I hate to leave the exciting life, it's so hard to sit behind a desk and hit the books again," he lamented.

Weberman said his secret desire is to appear on the Johnny Carson show.

"After all, I'm not just a production manager, you know..."

Besides having his name in the credits of the film, the production chief finally landed a part.

"In the very last shot of the last day of shooting, I, Ed Weberman, flash by the camera in my car," the celebrity concluded.

"It's my present."

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NEWS RELEASE

LIBERTY STATE BANK & TRUST SERVES COMMUNITY DURING SNOWSTORM

Friday, January 27, 1978—Waterford Township—While area banks closed due to the blizzard, Liberty State Bank & Trust remained open to serve the community. Although it is not the usual practice for the bank to cash checks for non-customers, exceptions were made as people came in needing money for food and gasoline.

Area grocery stores refused payroll checks from people in need of groceries because they themselves were low on cash and their banks were not open to service them.

CB's as well as radio station WPON informed the community that Liberty State Bank & Trust was the only bank open in Waterford, Union Lake, Pontiac, and Drayton Plains. Payroll checks from Pontiac Trucks and Coach, Fisher Body Division of General Motors, Pontiac Motor Division, City of Pontiac employees, and employees of the area school districts were all cashed courtesy of Liberty State Bank & Trust.

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BARGAINS

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New to Ferris State College's hockey squad is Farmington native Tim Noble. The 6-2, 180-pound defenseman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gus Noble of Farmington, has helped the Bulldogs to a 5-5 record while skating against three NCAA Division I hockey powers. The Bulldogs, coached by Rick Duffett, get back on the ice Jan. 6 at Chicago State.



Polisano promoted

Anthony J. Polisano, of Farmington Hills, has been promoted to second vice president and investment officer in the Bank Investments Department at Manufacturers Bank. Polisano received his bachelor's degree from Lawrence Institute of Technology. He joined the bank in 1963 and was named an officer in 1974.

Residents appointed to Hills' commissions

Seven people have been appointed to membership on Farmington Hills' boards. Two other residents have been reappointed.

Those being appointed for the first time are James Ebel, who will sit on the community library board; Ann Hathorn, Zoning Board of Appeals; Emma Cartee, Historical Commission; Irene Rogala, Building Authority; Floyd Schulz, Beautification Commission; Jerome Neyer, Building Appeal Board; and Reginald Carey, Industrial and Economic Development Commission.

Reappointed were Thomas McMillan and Liston Sheppard, who will be serving on the city's Board of Canvassers.

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