

table talk

Master chefs

Two chefs from area restaurants are among six chefs selected by the Grand Master Chefs of America for its "Grand Master Chefs of Detroit" series. They are Miles Chelka of the Golden Mushroom in Southfield and Keith Farnie of Chez Rafael in Novi. The other chefs chosen are Jeff Baldwin of the Whitney Restaurant in Detroit, Edwin Greenwald and Mary Mandich, both of Van Dyke Place in Detroit, and Edward Janos of the Money Tree in Detroit. All will teach gourmet cooking in their restaurant's kitchen (except the Van Dyke chefs, who will teach at the Whitney), for small classes this spring. Each chef will be honored at an awards reception in May, when they will be presented with Grand Master Chef of America medallions.

Brandy's Cafe

A new menu is available at Brandy's Cafe, which opened in 1985 in the renovated Orpheum Theatre in Ann Arbor. Among the items featured are grilled chicken, fresh pasta, gourmet pizza and Italian specialties, burgers and croissant sandwiches. Some of the Mexican dishes on the earlier menu will be retained. The offerings are those that are favorites at the Cottage Inn restaurants owned by John and Sam Roumanis and Nick Michos, who also own Brandy's. Lunch entrees range from \$2.99-\$5.75, dinner entrees from \$3.25 to \$11.95.

Caesar salad

Joseph Calomme, maitre d' of La Fontaine in Detroit's Westin Hotel, describes how to make a real Caesar salad. In the February issue of Gourmet magazine, in "The Gourmet at Large" by Fred Perretti, "Monsieur Joseph" tells of the salad's origin — it was first made by Italian Alex Cardini, who created it at a hotel owned by his brother, Caesar, in Mexico. Originally named the Aviator Salad, it was renamed Caesar, for his brother. Essential ingredients include romaine, egg yolk, garlic and anchovies.

Potpourri Cafe

Husband and wife Clark and Patricia Davis are on the job at the new Potpourri Cafe in Farmington. He's the chef, and she's the manager of the cafe, owned by Ernie and Sandy Aljouny of Farmington Hills. The Aljounys also own

Dogwood's Deli in the Downtown Farmington Shopping Center.

The Potpourri Cafe, which opened last fall, is at 34637 Grand River, in a small strip mall on Grand River, between Farmington and Drake roads. Seating 50, the cafe has a light, airy decor by Ron Rhea, who is noted for the many restaurant interiors he has designed.

Chef Dekett said the broad menu features 11 dinner entrees, 10 salads, a whole sandwich board like a deli, and eight croissant sandwiches. "Fratelli chicken is one of our hottest items," he said. This chicken dish was featured on Jack McCarthy's "Friday Feast" on television.

Other entrees are chicken strudel, seafood strudel, fresh fish every day (including whitefish, scrod and salmon), stir fries (chicken, beef and shrimp), vegetarian pasta dishes (fettuccini bolognese and pasta primavera), omelettes and quiche. Prices range from \$3.95 to \$8.95. No liquor is served.

The Potpourri Cafe is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays.

On the move

Mark Davis, owner of Punched-In, has signed a purchase agreement to buy the vacated Sportman Bldg. on Pierce Street in Birmingham. Davis hopes to move his restaurant there. He will know definitely on April 5 if the purchase is completed. The restaurant presently is in Birmingham's Continental Market. Davis said the market owner has not renewed any of the tenant's leases, necessitating a move. The new location has upper and lower levels totaling 3,200 square feet, almost double the space at his current location.

Irish fare

Diamond Jim Brady's in the Prudential Town Center in Southfield will celebrate its eighth birthday at a St. Patrick's Day celebration, in March. Irish fare will include corned beef and cabbage, lamb stew, a cold bread, green beer and birthday cake for all. Entertainment starts at 7 p.m. and goes on "until the last prechaun calls it quits," Mary E. Brady says.

Menu specials

St. Patrick's specials including corned beef and cabbage and Irish lamb stew will be on the menu Tuesday, March 17, at the Clarkson Cafe. Beer and other beverages will be green.

'Angel Heart' is a loser

This week's overdose of unpleasant, explicit violence is well-packaged in two recent releases, "Lethal Weapon" and "Angel Heart," both R-rated for many good reasons.

While it may be hypocritical to say so, the Mel Gibson-Danny Glover performances, along with Shane Black's screenplay and some pretty snappy editing, make "Lethal Weapon" a potent and entertaining film in spite of its violence.

Nothing, however, can save "Angel Heart" from what it is: an old story, which becomes fatally confused as it explains the mystery that private eye Harry Angel (Mickey Rourke) was hired to solve.

There's an all-star cast — Robert DeNiro, Mickey Rourke, Charlotte Rampling and Lisa Bonet — and a number of fine supporting performances. Michael Sersale ("Midnight Express," "Fame" and "Birdy") has created a gripping, suspenseful photography. The film also has a fine music track. However, writer-director Alan Parker ("Midnight Express" and "Fame") presents a frightening story whose structure collapses in disaster during the film's last 30 minutes.

ANOTHER MAJOR complaint: it seems that the production's chief expense was for enormous quantities of stage blood. Even the love scene the Motion Picture Producer's Rating Council found objectionable is drenched in blood.

"Angel Heart" highlights the utter nonsense associated with the rating council and its irrational system, which makes films prey to a con-

stantly shifting appeal process and re-rating system.

According to a Tri-Star Pictures news release, the film was rated X and then received an R when 10 seconds of two people making love was cut. But it's OK to drench the remaining footage in blood.

What a marvelous hypocrisy! The film is allowed to show a good deal of the lovemaking process, as well as hearts torn from living bodies, enormous quantities of blood, voodoo ceremonies, vivid and vigorous violence of all sorts and gross descriptions of a gentleman asphyxiated with his own genitalia. But 10 seconds of the sex act is offensive?

Wow! What priorities! Where does the rating council find such values? Our media teach that violence is the way to resolve conflict, violence is fun, violence is entertaining, violence makes money — but be careful about explicit sexuality.

MAYBE the rating council finds its values in American society.

Nonetheless, "Mickey" Rourke's Harry Angel is vintage private-eye stuff. "Angel Heart" opens with a nifty sequence establishing Angel as an offbeat, unsuccessful private de-

Monday, March 9, 1987 O&E

(F-TXO)O&E



the movies Dan Greenberg

ective whose Brooklyn background generates sharp dialogue in the best private-eye tradition.

Harry is hired by the mysterious Louis Cyphre (Robert DeNiro). This is 1955 and Cyphre has a contract on Johnny Favorite, a pre-World War II crooner who has disappeared.

Harry's search for Johnny leads him all over, up in Harlem and down to Louisiana. Harry is always going up dark stairs to the accompaniment of tense, nervous music, where he discovers another, dead body and more blood. The staircases often look similar and the blood of his dreams is just a shade lighter than the blood of his reality. Perhaps he doesn't dream in full Technicolor?

It's all very intimidating and could have been a pretty good movie. But its excessive violence and poorly structured conclusion, one without much plot support, makes "Angel Heart" a loser in this corner.

EVERY ONCE in a while two actors strike a certain spark that

lives on an otherwise routine cop show, as in "Hanky and Panky" and the Cosby-Culp "I Spy" some years ago. Whatever the secret of their charisma, Mel Gibson and Danny Glover

have it in "Lethal Weapon."

This fast-paced film is slick and pleasantly tense, as much from expectation as from actual graphic gruesomeness, although it is by no means for the faint-hearted.

On his 50th birthday, Detective Sgt. Roger Murtaugh (Danny Glover), teamed with a new partner, Murtaugh's Riggs (Mel Gibson), a suicidal undercover cop whose CIA training in Vietnam makes him a registered "lethal weapon."

Riggs is a real nut but has a good sense of his own craziness, which makes him quite appealing. Riggs and Murtaugh get off to a rocky start as Riggs jumps off a roof with a suicidal character threatening to do himself in. Fortunately, the net was in place.

While the film's opening credits were rolling, a successful suicide took place. Or was Amanda Hunsacker (Jackie Swanson) pushed? It just so happens that her father saved Murtaugh's life in Vietnam, so he owes him.

THE FILM HAS Mr. Big and his sadistic albino henchman running a big dope ring. Sound familiar? Well, it is, except that the way in which the story is told, and how the actors tell it, makes all the difference in the world. "Lethal Weapon" is fresh and entertaining because of its high-energy pacing and the electricity between Gibson and Glover.

Despite its violence, and some suggested scenes bordering on the "edacious," "Lethal Weapon" is enjoyable and nowhere nearly as offensive as "Angel Heart."



DINNER / THEATER PACKAGE

A feast for palate and soul.

Enjoy dinner at the Kingsley at 6 p.m. and the Birmingham or Meadowbrook Theater at 8 p.m. on Wednesdays. Package includes theater tickets and 20% discount on all menu items, except drinks. Call for reservations.

Kingsley Inn

Woodward at Long Lake Road • Bloomfield Hills • (313) 642-6100

TENNIS FOR JUNIORS AT FRANKLIN RACQUET CLUB

"IN A CLASS BY ITSELF"

Take this opportunity to be part of our total Tennis Program. Our top-rated professional staff, headed by Jon Fischer, Director of Junior Tennis.

CLINICS FOR ALL LEVELS, AGES 3-18 YEARS

- Private Lessons
- Junior League
- Video Tape Analysis
- Travel Teams
- Mental Skills Consultant
- Tournament Assistance

OUR SPRING SESSION BEGINS MARCH 16
CALL 352-8000, EXT. 38, to reserve your spot in the area's #1 Jr. Tennis Program.

FRANKLIN Racquet Club & Spa
29350 Northwestern Hwy. • N. of 12 Mile • Southfield

Vacation Planner

Presented by the
Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

PLAN YOUR VACATION TODAY--ANTICIPATION IS PART OF THE FUN!

Hawaiian Tour

\$1484 COMPLETE PER PERSON
Based on 10 Day Occupancy

16 DAYS-DEPARTS TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1987 - RETURNS WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1987

☐ WAIKIKI Deluxe Aloha Cocktail Party Flower Lei Aloha Greeting City Tour of Old and New Honolulu Punch Bowl Iolani Palace Manoa Residential District International Market Place Pearl Harbor Cruise	☐ KONA & HILO Black Sand Beach Mauna Loa and Kilauea Volcanoes Thurston's Lava Tube Giant Fern Tree Forest Famous Volcano House Banyan Tree Drive Hilo's Orchid Gardens Rainbow Falls Beach Party Luau	☐ MAUI Mysterious Valley Excursion Old Whaling Capital of Lahaina Fabulous Kaanapali Resort
--	---	--

☐ **KAUAI**
 Waimea River Boat Cruise
 Fern Grotto

YOUR MAN TOURS

24824 MICHIGAN AVENUE
 DEARBORN, MI 48124
 (313) 278-4102

Yes

Please send me at no obligation a tour brochure explaining all the details and applications for the following tour:

☐ HAWAIIAN TOUR

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____

Your Price Includes...

☐ Air Transportation- Round trip via scheduled airlines coach class, with in-flight meal service ☐ Aloha/Hawaiian Airlines-Jet flights between the islands ☐ Hotel accommodations-based on twin/double bedrooms in the resort hotels; all rooms with a private bath ☐ To-your-room baggage handling ☐ Personal Transfer- Airport to hotel round trip throughout ☐ Tips for baggage handling are included

