STREET SENSE

Answer or don't use a letter

Dear Readers,

! Ebid, a very interesting response from a lawyer last week about one of my columns:

A few weeks ago, I published a letter. from a reader. She expressed pain, about the confusion of her marriage, and in an extramarital affair. The writer was anylous, about her di.

riage and in an extramarital affair. The writer was anclous about her di-lemma and asked that I answer her questions right away. The her letter, she also said that she and her histband were going to begin seeing a marriage counselor. I replied that since she and her husband would be seeing a therapist, I did not want to give any advice other than saying that getting pro-lessional help was their best course of action.

of action.
The lawyer I have mentioned was

not satisfied with my response and felt that either I should have told this lady what wrong with her or not use the letter.

I would like my readers to respond and guide me as to whether you would prefer that I not put the letter in or put it in with a less even-hand eresponse. I think it would be harriful to the writer to do either one—not use the letter or be curt in a response.

What do you think?

Barbara

If you have a question or a comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street Sense at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.



Barbara Schiff

ALTERNATIVE MOVIE

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templ to get as far away from Hollywood as possible. Murnau, who drcetted the acclaimed "Nosferati"
(1921) in his native Germany and
"Sunrise"(1926) in America, had
waged (and often lost) constant battes with the American studios.
The idea of filming native people
in the South Sea Islands appealed to
him greatly. Hooking up with a new
production company and outdoor director Flaherty, he set out to make
an exotle love story with authenicle
locales in Tahliti, Bora Bora and
Morea.

orea. TROUBLE BEGAN almost upon TROUBLE BEGAN almost upon arrival. Funding for the pleture was errate, while the directors rarely saw eye to eye. According to film historian Andrew Sarris, "Where Flaherty expressed man's adaptability to nature, Murnau pondered on man's place in the universe. Where Flaherty was concerned with the rhythm of living, Murnau was obsessed with the meaning of life."

Flaherty soon found himself on the outside of the production, even to the point where he was replaced as cameraman by Floyd Crosby.

The finished film, though full of incredible imagery, was unfortunately released at an awkward time, when audiences were lining up for talkles. "Tabu" was one of the last great Illms released silent with a synchronized music score.

"Tabu" was one of the last great illims released silent with a synchronized music score. Murnau died in a freak car accident shortly before "Tabu" was released, which began the film's complete the state of the second state of

Venture classics in their own right.

Both were made under incredible circumstances. "Grass" records the migration of the Bakhtiara nomads of Persla, who annually cross vast snow-covered mountain rangess and freezing cold rivers will slif their wordly possessions and animals in the total cold their cold processions and animals in the cold their cold processions and animals in the langles of Siam. It included amazing animal sequences with man-eating ligers, filmed in close proximity so that the directors could achieve greater depth of field.

The directors, always interested in technical innovations, used a wide screen process called Maganascope to record a climactic stampede of elepants. The screen image opens up to almost double width, a gimnitch that will be re-created during the Detroit Film Theater screenings.

The cold of the col

Jonathan, a charlematic charmer played by Matt Dillon, blinds her to his dark side in "A

GRADING THE MOVIES

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"The Five Heartbeats" (A-, R). Good entertainment and excel-lent music in story of fletitious black singing group. "GoodFellas" (B+, R, 145 min-

utes). Martin Scorses's intense, compelling saga of three mobaters re-turns after receiving half-dozen Os-car nominations. Despite good act-ing and fine technical values, the film is to be condemned for giorty-ing viclous and violent gangsters. "The Hard Way" (B, R, 105 min-utes).

"The Haru way (G. N. Section) utes).

James Woods as tought cop doing comedy doesn't match Michael J. Fox's excellent spoof of movies and movie people in this entertaining, unsuaul buddy film.

"Home Alone" (B., PG, 100 min-

utes).

Engaging comedy about young boy (Macaulay Culkin) left at home by accident.

"If Looks Could Kill" (C+, PG-

13)

High school student flunks French but winds up living the life of James Bond. "King Raiph" (B, PG-13, 95 min-

"King Halph" (B, PG-13, 95 min-utes).

Vegas lounge pianist (John Good-man) is in line for British throne in delightful comedy.

"The Long Walk Home" (A- PG,

"The Long Wate 1902."

55 minutes).

Excellent performances by Sissy Spacek and Whool Goldberg personalize the 1955 Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott.
"The Marrying Man" (C+, R, 110 minutes).

Sexy, sultry singing Kim Bas-inger can't save this muddled Neil Simon script. "Mortal Thoughts" (B, R, 104

"Mortal Thoughts" (B, R, 104 minutes).
Poorly structured plot detracts from excellent performances by Demi Moore and Glenne Headly as New Jersey beauticlans.
"New Jack City" (B. R).
Fairly well done, inner-city drug, gang and undercover cops story.
"Out for Justice" (*, R).

Macho-man Steven Seagal is a

Macho-man Steven Seagal is a tough cop, "The Sileace of the Lambs" (C., R, 115 minutes).

Disgusting film about FBI Cadet (Jodi Foster) confronting cannibatistic psychiatrist and serial killer. Despite technical accomplishment, this film is only for those who take ghoulish delight in the suffering of others.

"Sleeping With the Enemy" (C+, R, 95 minutes).
Julia Roberts' excellent per-formance as battered wife who takes matters into her own hands can't overcome weak scenario about psychotic hubble.

"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles II: The Secret of the Ooze" (PG, 88

minutes).

Lots of action but little violence as everybody's favorite turtles do

it again.
"Up Against the Wall" (*, PG-

Prejudice and racism take a ter-rible toll on Black teenagers.

SCREEN SCENE

Continued from Page 2

stroversial project — researching her all Bayarian town's stand against the zis during World War II.

"Ju Duo" (China — 1990). A dye factory owner's wife has an affair with her hibband's adopted nephew in this Oriental turn on "The Postman Always Rings Trilec." China's entry for the Academy Award generated some controversy when the government tried to pull it, fearing it was too steamy.

MICHIGAN THEATRE, 18301 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Call 689-8397 for information. (41.50, 32.50 students and senior citizens). "British Animation fuvacion" (British 1991), through May 3 (call for show times). A varied collection of cartoon shorts (including television commercials) from the metiling poof of London, with titles like "Joility Farm," Night Visitors," "Siedgehammer" and the Oscar-winning "Creature Comforts."

TELE-ARTS THEATRE, 1540 Wood-

ward, Detroit, Call 963-8590 for informa-tion. (84 or \$2.75 students and senior citi-zens)

"Berkley in the Sixtles" (USA — 1990), through May 12. The rise and fall of the student movement in the 1960s is charted in this award-winning documentary. Archival footage fetures a cast of thousands, including Ronald Reagan, Martin Luther King Jer, Allen Ginsberg and The Grateful Dead, plus present day interviews with activate from the rivers with activate from the rivers with activate from the results.

STREET SEEN ------**Denise Susan** Lucas

Our intrepid Street Scene reporter is always looking for the unusual and welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and entreprenurs. Send those to this column in care of this newspaper, 38251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 2131.



Racy accessories

The Grand Prix is almost here and those drivers have always known black and white checks are a winning combination. Fashion accessories that seem like a blast from the past, but definitely shout "Right now" included checkerboard gloves (\$22) and checkerboard "Right now" included checkerboard umbrella (\$40). From Jacobson stores.



Pocket Computer

The most advanced pocket organizing computer to date is the Super Wizard. It has memory to store more than 2,600 names and numbers. Cost is \$199. From Sharper Image, Twelve Oaks Mall, Novi, and Somerset Mall, Troy.

VIEWING

VIDEO

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characters don't function well as generic incompetents.

with Fine classification wists — and with fine performers like Cage and Glancardo Giannian ("New York Stories") — "A Time to Kill" has the basic largedients of an ennobling character study, but it turns sour pretty quickly because of its faulty script.

April 25 also was the place does

pretty quickly because of its faulty script.

April 25 also was the release date for four significant foreign films, the best of which is Louis Malte's ("Atlantic Cliy," "Au Revoir Les Enfants") "May Fools" (1890, R, color, 105 miautes).

The film takes some very funnan pature in a black sather revolving around a large, dispersed family gathering for the funeral of their matriarch, Milou Sel and the French countryside and lovingly photographed with a quality suggesting. French impressionist painting, the story is told against the backdrop of the May 1968 revolution.

The family members are mainly

The family members are mainly interested in themselves, their share of Milou's state, the difficulty in the family for the mainly food and supplies during the revolution and, only perhaps, slightly in grieving for their mother and grandmother's passing.

Malle brings the exactly right light but biltersweet touch to this comedy of human foibles.



If you're going to call yourself community newspapers,



You need to care about your communities.

WE DO. Our main goal is to bring you good, solid, local news that you won't find any

WE DO. Our main goal is to bring you good, solid, local news that you won't find any where else. We do that twice each week in 13 newspapers.

But throughout the year we also sponsor and promote a variety of events that benefit our communities. Events like the Wayne County Park System's Family Friness Day, the Marriott Soccer Classic, 10K Runs, and educational seminars. We care about people of tail ages and show it with support of such organizations as Oakland County's Food Bank, the Holiday Gill Drive, and Project Graduation. Youngsters in a number of schools will enter the second annual birdhouse building contest and we've taken an active-role and life. The promotion of recycling in our communities.

No, we don't swoop into our communities when a story breaks, turn on the bright lights and focus on the situation for a few minutes and then disappear. We're here proportion.

and focus on the situation for a few minutes and then disappear. We're here everyday day in and day out.

And we're happy about it. We hope you are, too.



Birmingham Essentio, Canton Observer, Farmingson Observer, Garden City Observer, Essentiol Livonia Observer, Physican Observer Riedford Observer, Boshesser Essentiol, Gountled Ecompolities, Essentiol West Boomte a Ecompolities was an Observer