



PART III

Albert and Peggy Hlibok
fuss over their son
Greg at his recent
graduation from
Gallaudet University.



The First Family Of Deaf Rights

Greg Hlibok of Queens led the Deaf President Now movement at Gallaudet University. And his parents, his brothers and sister — all of them deaf — are leading the way in the country's struggle to deal with the issues of living with disabilities. First of two parts. Pages 4-5.

Theater: Alliance Plans to Cut Broadway Ticket Prices. Page 7

Part III / Food: Gobbling Up More Turkey, More Ways Than One.

Kiss: The Next Generation

*** **DAYS OF THUNDER.** (PG-13) Stock car racing — the machine, the men, the trophies — the story may seem familiar but the performances are solid and the racing itself is breathtaking. Starring Tom Cruise, Robert Duvall, Randy Quaid, Nicole Kidman, Michael Rooker, Cary Elwes. Written by Robert Towne and directed by Tony Scott. At area theaters.

By Mike McGrady

TO BORROW an appropriate phrase from the world of stock car racing, "Days of Thunder" may not quite "run like Jack the bear." (Definition: "All components operating at maximum efficiency.") It might even be observed that superstar Tom Cruise may not even be "running on the ragged edge." (Definition: "Driving to his extreme limits.") However, while the story line is basic Formula One, the movie manages to generate its own thunderous cinematic excitement.

Although the reassembled "Top Gun" talent team — star Cruise, director Tony Scott, producers Don Simpson and Jerry Bruckheimer — are working with auto racers instead of naval pilots, the similarities outnumber the differences.

Both flicks explore the union of man and machine in high-risk ventures. Both follow the struggles of a naturally gifted neophyte — Tom Cruise in each instance — who, in learning to master himself as well as his machine, suffers a series of setbacks on his way to maturity and victory. In each movie, the story is most definitely *not* the thing; what generates all the sparks is brilliant high-intensity movie-making.

Cruise portrays a brash young Californian who comes to the Carolinas looking for a stock car to drive. Robert Duvall is the backwoods mechanic who builds the world's greatest racing machines and Randy Quaid is the promoter who brings the two together and then arbitrates their personal differences as they proceed from track to track on their way to Daytona and the big one.

At different stages of the tour, Cruise finds himself pitted against two equally brash drivers (expertly played by up-and-comers Michael Rooker and Cary Elwes), but the primary

Please see **DAYS** on Page 17



Doctors Hospital following surgery for a stomach ailment. The 56-year-old woman was a member of the Medill-McCormick-Patterson newspaper dynasty — her father, Joseph Medill Patterson, founded the New York Daily News. She fulfilled a lifelong ambition on Sept. 3, 1940, when the first edition of Newsday rolled off the presses in a converted Hempstead garage.

Aug. 28

Some 2,000 black and white Long Islanders joined more than 200,000 others in the nation's capital today for a massive civil rights demonstration climaxed by the Rev. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

Nov. 9

A mob of 2,000 stormed onto the track and turned Roosevelt Raceway into a battleground last night after a six-horse wreck wiped

starring Martha Raye.
• Caruso's Restaurant on Hempstead Turnpike in Levittown offers a special weekday chicken cacciatore or shrimp parmigiana dinner for \$1.95 and businessmen's luncheons for 95 cents to \$1.65.

out their chances of winning the Twin Double. Fifteen were arrested and track security chief Conrad Rothengast died of a heart attack.

Nov. 22

The nation reacted with shock today to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas. The stunning report prompted Newsday to publish a rare "extra."

THIS WEEK

30 Years Ago: Newsday reporter Jane Gerard, satirizing a vegetarian's cross-country hike, arrived at Montauk Point after walking 106.1 gourmet-filled miles from Garden City "without missing a meal or developing a muscle."

5 Years Ago: The state Public Service Commission, in a landmark decision, ruled that Long Island Lighting Co. spent \$1.35 billion too much in building the Shoreham nuclear power plant because of mismanagement. The commission forbid LILCO from recovering the cost from ratepayers.

Research by Donna Giordano

By Laura Muha

REBUBEN AND DANNY SIWEK have it all: the dolls, the posters, the magazines, the albums. Twenty-three albums, to be exact — every one the rock group Kiss has ever recorded.

The group has been a part of their lives since childhood: When Danny was 3 and Reuben was 9, they would paint their faces and prance around the house the way co-founders Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley did onstage.

But when Kiss brings its new show to the Nassau Coliseum tomorrow night — a show publicists describe as "Kiss at its blistering best" — only one of the brothers plans to be in the audience. Reuben says he'd rather stay home in Oceanside.

"I still love the old Kiss — but to me, they're like two different bands," said Reuben. "Back then, they stood for excitement, with the makeup and the music. They're not the same band anymore."

Well, Reuben, you're right. Even Gene Simmons says so.

"What he says is absolutely true: Kiss is *not* the same band today as it was then," Simmons said in a telephone interview yesterday. "I hope not. . . I'd rather be moving ahead than looking backward to see where I've been. The past is the past."

So what makes this new Kiss, the Kiss of the '90s, different? "It's sleeker," says Simmons. "It's not a big, cumbersome sort of dark beast. But it is a living, breathing, walking animal, and it evolves like all things, naturally."

For Kiss, that evolution has meant a dramatic change in image, if not in music. Gone is the black, silver and white makeup that was the band's trademark for most of its 17-year history. Gone are Ace Frehley and Peter Criss, two members of the original band, replaced by Eric Carr and Bruce Kulick. Gone are the 8-inch platform shoes. Gone, in short, is the group's larger-than-life, cartoon-hero image that spawned comic books and even a movie. That they continue to sell albums — the latest

is "Hot in the Shade" — and pack arenas is sweet revenge to band members whose critics said they were all image, no substance; that without their makeup they would never last.

"The best revenge of all is success," said Simmons. "Seventeen years, twenty-three albums and a partridge in a pear tree later, we have our cake and eat it, too."

Which doesn't mean that everyone is equally happy. "I know that the older fans would prefer to have the band put the makeup back on," Simmons said. "I'm sure [Paul] McCartney goes through the same thing, the 'Why-don't-you-look-like-the-Beatles' from the older fans, but the younger fans couldn't care less."

Or, if they don't exactly "care less," they can still appreciate the new Kiss. Take, for instance, Nick Darrow of Massapequa Park, who at 12 is younger than the band itself. He has seen pictures of the group in makeup and thinks it was "cool"; in fact, he'd like to see the band do it again. But even without makeup, he thinks they're great. "I like them because they're more creative than other bands," he said. "They don't just sit there and scream into the microphone. They talk about what they feel."

"When you got it, you got it — and they have it," agrees Bert Kuczek, 16, of Huntington, who discovered Kiss two years ago when he became interested in heavy metal music.

Like Kuczek, many new fans of Kiss are not "Kiss-specific."

"Kiss doesn't have the rabid following that they did in the Seventies," says Gilda Caserta, who runs Kiss Central, an information center for the group's 42 fan clubs. "Now you get [people saying] 'Oh yeah, I like Kiss, too.' You wouldn't get that in the Seventies. You'd either get 'I love them' or 'I hate them.'"

But Simmons says that doesn't bother him. "In the Sixties it was the Beatles or the Stones — and that's all there was. In the Seventies, there was Kiss, and that's all there was," said Simmons, adding, "Those days are gone . . . unless you're the New Kids on the Block."

What is not gone, however, is the motivation

Please see **KISS** on Page 17



Kiss fan Danny Siwek of Oceanside with his collection of Kiss albums and items

Fun, Games & Stuff
Kidsday

GAMES



Kidsday Illustration / Nick Lamanna

IT'S TIME FOR JACKS

By Erika Greenfest
 Kidsday Staff Reporter

What's that saying, "All that goes around, comes around?" Well, jacks are coming back. For the last 15 years jacks have been forgotten, or at least not talked about. Recently, especially at camp, jacks have worked their way back up the chart. It is a fun game and it is easy to play. You can buy a set of jacks at most stationery stores for about \$2.50. It comes with an extra ball and about five extra jacks so you can still play when you lose one.

If you get good try the "fancy" boards, whose names are Lollipop, Sweep the Parlor, Snake in the Grass, and Jack Be Nimble. Instructions for those games usually are included with your jacks. Have fun playing with just yourself or a couple of friends and your camp gear is not complete without bringing the jacks with you.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL

OUR EXPANDING DESERTS

By Nadia Whitley and Shondieria Tool
 Kidsday Staff Reporters

Most kids think that deserts are extremely hot, sandy places where you can die of thirst. They are actually places where there is less than 10 inches of waterfall a year and very little vegetation, or plant life. The African Sahara desert, the largest desert in the world, is only about 20 percent sand in many places, with the remaining area covered by smooth rock or rubble.

The African Sahara's boundaries are traveling south at a rate of a few feet every year. Scientists have found that they are expanding because of overgrazing of livestock and the cutting of wood for fuel. This changes a half-dry area into a dry area and causes the desert edges to spread.

Did you know that there are polar deserts which are large barren areas covered with snow and ice? Protecting our environment should not be a once a year festival, it should be daily concern. If we are not careful, the Earth will one day resemble the moon. The rainforest and the hole in the ozone, pollution and expanding deserts may sound like a trendy topic, but it is something that is going on all around us and should be something that we work daily to protect.

Your work can be published in Kidsday, too. Send your recipes, stories, reviews, puzzles and letters to Daily Kidsday, Newsday, Long Island, New York 11747. Include your name, address, telephone number. If you can, include art with your work.

First Family of Deaf Rights

HLIBOKS from Page 5

advances, have become successful in the hearing world.

"Life has changed a great deal for us," says Peg, and by us she means deaf people in general. "Many good things have happened that we never dreamed of." Interpreting American Sign Language has become a certified and growing profession, with interpreters routinely used in the courtroom and the classroom, by the political podium and the theatrical stage. A few years ago the television networks started to caption many of their programs, an innovation called closed captioning because it requires the purchase of a special electronic device that looks like a VCR. (The letters CC in TV listings connote programs that are closed captioned.) The Hliboks are among those activists trying to get closed captioning on local TV; so far, only WWOR/Ch. 9 captions its evening news. "I was surprised to see that hearing people had similar conversations as deaf people — in terms of their feelings and their interests," Peg says. Her favorite programs are the news, "20/20" and "Unsolved Mysteries". "All television programs should be captioned, not just for deaf people but for hearing people. That way children and newcomers could learn English."

New York State has had TDD's, or

telecommunication devices for the deaf, since the beginning of 1989: Any hearing person can call an 800 number in New York to reach an operator who will act as intermediary, talking to the hearing person, and typing on a TDD to the deaf person. "The relay service has made so much of an impact on my life, especially in politics," says Peg. (The problem is that the service is currently limited to in-state calls — a situation that will change in three years because of the disabilities act.)

The largest change, though, is not one of technology but of attitude, by hearing people and among the deaf themselves.

"The more people know what deaf people can do," says Peg Hlibok, "the less isolated deaf people become." Peg has been accepted for a Ph.D. in educational administration, a program offered through Union Institute and Gallaudet University. "It's time for schools to consider having deaf administrators. Many deaf teachers are tired of working for the uppers who know little about deaf culture, etc." Sounds like another Hlibok and another deaf president in the near future. This time, though, the two might be the same person. / ■

NEXT: Bruce Hlibok the playwright, and the culture of deafness; Stephen Hlibok the stockbroker, and the potential of doing business with deaf people.

Kiss: The Next Generation

KISS from Page 3

behind Kiss performances, which is, in a word, fun.

"Kiss has never talked about politics, religion or the meaning of life," said Simmons. "Any fan that goes to a Kiss show is not going to go there to try to figure out... the meaning of life. We're much closer to what football games are about: nothing."

Simmons calls the group's current, 70-city tour "the best show we've taken on the road in well over a decade." The tour was supposed to start in January but was delayed until May because the group wasn't happy with what the show looked like; it was supposed to have an "after World War III" theme, with twisted irons and girders and rubble decorating the stage. But at the last minute the band didn't think that was spectacular enough, so they started over with what Simmons calls a "simpler, bigger idea" based on the cover of their new album.

The result is a 40-foot tall Sphinx — "Leon Sphinx," they've dubbed it — that shoots lasers and rockets from its eyes. At the start of the show, the band comes out of the mouth in a haze of smoke; underneath are 10 feet of amplifiers.

The two-hour show also includes some of the band's old hits, many of which they had to relearn, said Simmons.

The reaction of the fans? "Standing on the chairs," he said.

And if those fans aren't the same ones who were standing on chairs in the 1970s — if some old fans are staying home because they don't like the new Kiss, if their show at the Coliseum isn't sold out when once it would have been — so be it, said Simmons.

"I lost him, but gained an entire generation," he said of Reuben. "Nothing is forever. But... I had a chunk of his life and I know without me that life wouldn't have been the same." / ■

'Thunder-'ous Ride for Cruise

DAYS from Page 3

competition remains with himself, and the real goal, both on the track and off, is "to control something that's really out of control."

Racing aficionado Cruise worked out the basic "Days of Thunder" story with pro Robert Towne ("Chinatown"), who then wrote the script — but the truth is the film slows down whenever the cameras leave the track. Cruise's unlikely love interest this time out (remember Kelly McGillis in "Top Gun"?) is the glamorous neurosurgeon (Nicole Kidman) who treats him after a particularly nightmarish collision and likes what she sees.

Although the film has one or two ludicrous scenes, nothing dims the luster of the racing sequences — the infighting at 200 miles per hour, the high-in-

tensity drama in the "pit," the careening cars and the kind of crashes that silence a crowd. All of this has been filmed brilliantly by Ward Russell, making his debut as a cinematographer. Russell has worked with director Tony Scott on all his past films and the new film looks very similar to "Top Gun," and will probably appeal to the same audience.

If the humans, often viewed in extreme close-up, never quite take a back seat to the machinery, that may be due to the quality of the performances. Young Tom cruises along in fine style, and equally vital to the success of the film is Duvall. In fact, it's Duvall's funny, down-to-earth performance that keeps the vehicle from veering off course and crashing into the same cliché walls that have claimed so many prior racing movies. / ■