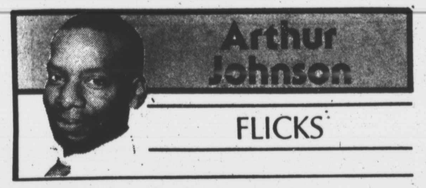


'Bolero': Bo's body and SEX, nothing more

In "Bolero" Bo Derek is cast as (it would be an exaggeration to say "she portrays") a 1920's American heiress determined to lose her virginity to a sexy, dark-haired prince charming. That's not a very challenging quest when the heiress looks like Bo Derek. So the film must come up with several ways (none of them very intelligent) to prolong and complicate the heroine's quest before actually delivering what everyone wants to see — Bo Derek's nude body.

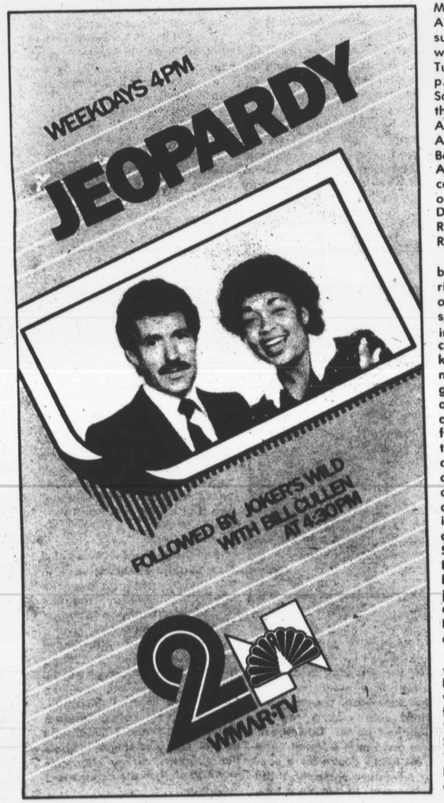
Throw in some attractive location scenery, some inane dialogue delivered like a 13-year-old by Miss Derek, and some supporting characters (played by George Kennedy, Andrea Occhipinti and Ana Obregon) who add almost nothing to the storyline but who can distract the audience whenever Miss Derek opens her mouth or is not exposing her breasts, and movie patrons may not feel like complete suckers when the film ends.

It doesn't work. Miss Derek's lack of any discernible talent aside, her husband, John, who also wrote (?) and photographed "Bolero" apparently has no idea how to put a coherent film together. While it is apparent that he has a future making soft porn films (a thimble-full of plot, a pinhead of characterization and an ocean of simulated sex), he displays here neither the wit nor substance to make an intelligent or intelligible screen narrative.

Most of "Bolero" is shot in extreme closeup, like a TV film, so we get an endless series of heads crowding the screen. When he gets tired of heads, he has Bo disrobe again. I'm sure he shot every scene twice, once with Bo's clothes on, then with them off. Then when the film was edited, if any scene was too boring, he could select the scene with her breasts showing.

But who is going to see "Bolero" for intellectual stimulation? I mean, I doubt if Meryl Streep or Jane Fonda cried when they didn't get this role. "Bolero" is about Bo's body and sex and it delivers both in abundance if you can sit through the ridiculous interludes that are sandwiched between the skin shots. Miss Derek retains her crown as cinema's reigning centerfold (if you look hard you can still see the staple in her navel). It all makes you wonder how a man can present his own wife in such a sexually explicit film as if he were a pimp and she were his top prostitute.

"Bolero" is everything you would expect from the Derek family, and that's not much. Viewers are advised to take a clothespin for the nose.



Neil Simon's "Brighton Beach Memoirs" set as Mechanic Theatre opener

Neil Simon's hilarious new Broadway hit, "Brighton Beach Memoirs," will open the Morris A. Mechanic Theatre's 1984-85 subscription season in a three-week engagement beginning Tuesday, September 25 at 7:30 p.m. and continuing through Saturday, October 13. Winner of the 1983 Drama Critics Circle Award and Outer Critics' Circle Award for "Best Play," "Brighton Beach" has been directed by Tony Award winner Gene Saks. The cast features (in alphabetical order): Skye Bassett, Patrick Dempsey, Brian Drillinger, Richard Greene, Lynn Milgrim, Rocky Parker, and Lisa Waltz.

"Brighton Beach Memoirs" has been hailed as Neil Simon's richest play and as a sharply observed comedy of the human spirit. Frankly autobiographical in nature, "Brighton Beach" is a comedy-drama about a close-knit, hard-working family whose mutual respect and love are its greatest strength. Set in 1937 in a small house in the beach area of Brooklyn, New York, two families that are forced to live together are confronted with cramped living quarters, financial troubles, the pangs of adolescence, sexual awakening and the knowledge that the coming of World War II threatens to divide them. As observed by Simon's 15 year-old protagonist, Eugene Morris Jerome—a would be writer who keeps a constant journal of the activities of his eccentric household—"Brighton Beach" makes audiences laugh, cry and remember.

Since 1960, a Broadway season with out a Neil Simon comedy has been a rare one. His first play was "Come Blow Your Horn," followed by such hits as "Barefoot in the Park," "Plaza Suite," "The Sunshine Boys," "Chapter Two," and "They're Playing Our Song," among others. Simon's new version of "The Odd Couple," rewritten for women and starring Rita Moreno and Sally Struthers, will be presented later this season at the Mechanic Theatre (November 13-December 1) in a pre-Broadway engagement.

"Brighton Beach Memoirs" will be presented here under the producing aegis of Emanuel Azenberg, Wayne Rogers and Radio City Music Hall Productions in association with Centre Theatre Group/Ahmanson. The two-story setting has been designed by David Mitchell, the costumes are by Patricia Zipprodt, and the lighting is by Tharon Musser.

"Brighton Beach Memoirs" opens Tuesday, September 25 at 7:30 p.m. Performances thereafter are Monday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m., with matinees Wednesday and Saturday at 2 p.m. and Sunday, September 30 at 3 p.m.

Tickets will go on sale in person at the Mechanic Theatre box offices beginning Tuesday, September 4 at 10 a.m. Theatregoers may charge their tickets by phone to a major credit card by calling TeleCharge at 625-1400 (out-of-state, call toll free, 800-638-2444). Groups of twenty or more should call (301) 752-1407.

"Brighton Beach Memoirs" will be the first production of the 1984-85 Mechanic Theatre Subscription Series. The eight show line-up also includes Anthony Quinn in the role he first made famous on film in the musical "Zorba" (Lyric Opera House, October 16-November 4); Rita Moreno and Sally Struthers in the pre-Broadway tryout of Neil Simon's new version of "The Odd Couple" (November 13-December 1); Louis Jourdan in a new stage adaptation of Lerner & Loewe's movie musical classic, "Gigi;" Harvey Fierstein's Tony Award winning "Best Play," "Torch Song Trilogy" (January 8-26); the pre-Broadway premiere of P.J. Barry's new play, "The Octette Bridge Club" (February 4-23); the pre-Broadway premiere of Jule Styne's musical version of "Treasure Island" (Spring 1985); and Tom Stoppard's triumphant new play, and this year's Tony winner, "The Real Thing" (Spring 1985).

For additional information please call 625-1400.

Vagabond Players

"The Miracle Worker" will open the season for the Vagabond Players on September 20. The play will run until October 21. The theatre is located at 806 South Broadway and information for this and other productions can be obtained by calling 563-9135.

UMBC Alumni Association

The University of Maryland Baltimore County Alumni Association will hold their annual Crab Feast and Picnic on Sunday, September 16 from 1 to 6 p.m. on Giffen Hill. For tickets call 455-2901.

Limestone Musical Dinner Playhouse

"The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" opens at the Limestone Musical Dinner Theatre Playhouse on Friday, September 21. For information call 666-8080.

The Tube

TV program guide for Baltimore/Washington

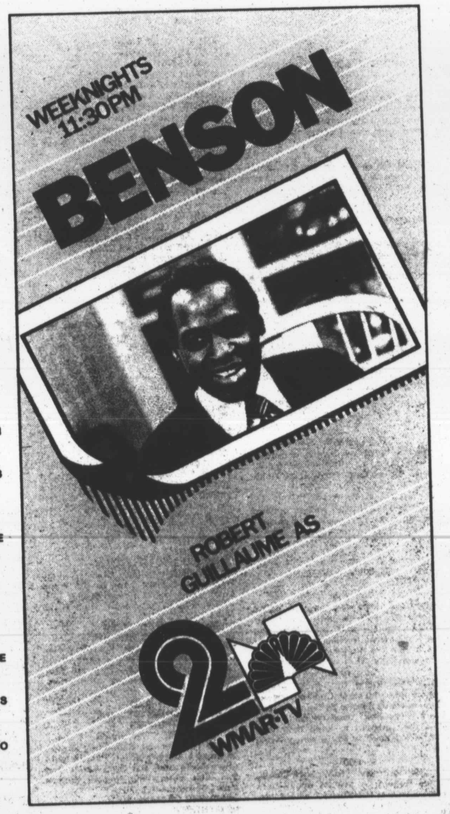
Friday, September 7, 1984 to Thursday, September 13, 1984

WEEKDAY DAYTIME REGULARS

DAYTIME

MORNING

—5:00—
(5) MEDSAT (FRI)
(HBO) NOT NECESSARILY THE NEWS (TUE)
—5:05—
(HBO) SUMMER SOLSTICE (MON)
—5:25—
(11) THE MUPPETS (WED)
—5:30—
(5) PEDSAT (FRI)
(11) THE MUPPETS (THU)
(HBO) HBO COMING ATTRACTIONS (TUE)
—5:45—
(11) DEVOTIONS
—5:50—
(13) NEWS
—5:55—
(20) JIM BAKKER
—6:00—
(2) 20 MINUTE WORKOUT
(4) FRED THOMAS IN THE MORNING
(5) PANORAMA
(7) ABC NEWS THIS MORNING
(9) CBS EARLY MORNING NEWS
(11) LEARNING TO READ (MON, WED, FRI)
(11) LEARNING TO DO (TUE, THU)
(13) MORNING STRETCH
(35) JIMMY SWAGGART
(HBO) MOVIE (MON)
(HBO) NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (WED)
—6:30—
(2) (4) NBC NEWS AT SUNRISE
(9) (13) NEWS
(11) CBS EARLY MORNING NEWS
(13) ROCKY AND FRIENDS
(HBO) LOST IN DEATH VALLEY (FRI)
(HBO) MOVIE (THU)
—6:45—
(37) A.M. WEATHER
—7:00—
(2) (4) TODAY
(5) THE FLINTSTONES
(7) (13) GOOD MORNING AMERICA
(9) (11) CBS MORNING NEWS
(20) WOODY WOODPECKER (FRI)
(29) BUGS BUNNY AND FRIENDS (MON-THU)
(33) INSPECTOR GADGET
(33) FOCUS ON SOCIETY (FRI)
(33) AMERICAN STORY (MON, WED)
(33) GROWING YEARS (TUE, THU)
(HBO) PETER NO-TAIL (TUE)
(HBO) FRAGGLE ROCK (WED)
—7:30—
(5) GREAT SPACE COASTER
(29) SCOOBY DOO (FRI)
(29) SUPERFRIENDS (MON-THU)
(29) LILIAS, YOGA AND YOU
(29) HE-MAN AND MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE
(33) SESAME STREET (R) CC
(HBO) MOVIE (WED, FRI)
(HBO) STANLEY, THE UGLY DUCKLING (MON)
—8:00—
(5) POPEYE AND FRIENDS
(29) BUGS BUNNY AND FRIENDS (FRI)
(29) WOODY WOODPECKER (MON-THU)
(30) MACNEIL / LEHRER NEWSHOUR
(33) THE FLINTSTONES
(HBO) HBO COMING ATTRACTIONS (MON)
(HBO) MOVIE (THU)
—8:30—
(5) TOM AND JERRY
(29) MIGHTY MOUSE
(33) GREAT SPACE COASTER
(33) MISTER ROGERS (R)
(HBO) MOVIE (MON)
(HBO) NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (TUE)
—9:00—
(2) (9) DONAHUE
(4) TIC TAC DOUGH
(5) INCREDIBLE HULK
(7) CELEBRITY FAMILY FEUD
(11) LOVE CONNECTION
(13) PEOPLE ARE TALKING
(29) W.O.W.!
(29) SESAME STREET (R) CC
(33) FOOTSTEPS
(33) FAMILY
(33) TOMORROW'S FAMILIES, TOMORROW'S FRIENDS
(HBO) MISSING PERSONS: FOUR TRUE STORIES (FRI)
—9:30—
(4) DIFF'RENT STROKES (R)
(7) FAMILY FEUD
(33) BODY LANGUAGE
(29) ROMPER ROOM
(33) POLKA DOT DOOR
(33) INTERACTION
(HBO) VIDEO JUKEBOX (TUE)
—10:00—
(2) ALICE
(4) THE FACTS OF LIFE (R)
(5) SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN (FRI)
(5) ANDY GRIFFITH (MON-THU)
(7) NEWLYWED GAME (FRI)
(7) SCRUPLES (MON-THU)
(9) MORNING BREAK
(11) THE NEW $25,000 PYRAMID
(13) HOUR MAGAZINE
(29) (35) 700 CLUB
(29) SESAME STREET (R) CC
(33) ELECTRIC COMPANY (R)
(33) GED
(HBO) MOVIE
—10:30—
(2) LAVERNE & SHIRLEY & COMPANY (FRI)
(29) LAVERNE & SHIRLEY (MON-THU)
(4) SALE OF THE CENTURY
(5) BEWITCHED (MON-THU)
(7) GONG SHOW (FRI)
(11) PRESS YOUR LUCK
(33) READING RAINBOW (FRI)
(33) VOYAGE OF THE MIMI (MON-THU)
(33) READING RAINBOW
—11:00—
(2) (4) WHEEL OF FORTUNE
(5) BREAKAWAY
(7) EDGE OF NIGHT
(9) (11) TENNIS (FRI)
(9) (13) THE PRICE IS RIGHT (MON-THU)
(11) CELEBRITY FAMILY FEUD
(29) (33) MISTER ROGERS (R)
(33) EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING (FRI)
(37) AFLOAT AND ABOAT (MON-THU)
—11:30—
(2) (4) SCRABBLE
(7) (11) LOVING
(29) LOVE, AMERICAN STYLE
(33) BLACK FORUM (FRI)
(33) ANASA BRIGGS (MON)
(33) HOWARD PERSPECTIVES (TUE)
(33) COMMON CENTS (WED)
(33) VOICES OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT (THU)
(33) I LOVE LUCY (FRI)
(33) NEWS (MON, WED, THU)
(33) CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S FUND (TUE)
(33) TEACHING WRITING
(HBO) MOVIE (MON, TUE)

AFTERNOON

—12:00—
(2) (4) (7) (9) (11) (13) NEWS
(5) PANORAMA
(29) FAMILY
(29) AMERICAN PLAYHOUSE (FRI)
(29) YAN CAN COOK (MON)
(29) AMERICAN GOVERNMENT SURVEY (TUE, THU)
(29) WRITE COURSE (WED)
(30) MACNEIL / LEHRER NEWSHOUR
(33) BIG VALLEY
(33) EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING (MON, WED-FRI)
(33) ALL THAT GLITTERS (TUE)
(HBO) HBO COMING ATTRACTIONS (WED)
(HBO) NOT NECESSARILY THE NEWS (THU)
—12:30—
(2) (4) SEARCH FOR TOMORROW
(7) (13) RYAN'S HOPE
(9) (11) TENNIS (FRI)
(9) (11) THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS (MON-THU)
(29) JUSTIN WILSON'S LOUISIANA COOKIN' (MON)
(29) CONGRESS: WE THE PEOPLE (TUE, THU)
(29) FOCUS ON SOCIETY (WED)
(33) INTERACTION
(HBO) MOVIE (WED, THU)
—1:00—
(2) (4) DAYS OF OUR LIVES
(5) (13) MOVIE
(7) (11) ALL MY CHILDREN
(29) GIDGET
(29) FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK (MON)
(29) MYSTERY! (TUE, THU)
(29) FIRING LINE (WED)
(33) EVENING EXCHANGE
(33) READING RAINBOW
(HBO) MOVIE (FRI)
(HBO) NOT NECESSARILY THE NEWS (MON)
—1:30—
(9) (11) AS THE WORLD TURNS (MON-THU)
(29) INDEPENDENT NEWS
(29) SMALL BUSINESS MY WAY: AN AMERICAN PORTRAIT (FRI)
(29) CREATIVE ALTERNATIVE FUTURES (MON)
(33) GED
(HBO) MOVIE (MON)
(HBO) REMEMBER WHEN: ON THE AIR (TUE)
—2:00—
(2) (4) ANOTHER WORLD
(7) (13) ONE LIFE TO LIVE
(29) EYE ON WASHINGTON
(29) SHELTER (FRI)
(29) DO IT YOURSELF SHOW (MON)
(29) MASTERPIECE THEATRE (TUE)
(29) NOVA (WED)
(29) OPEN MIND (THU)
(33) SMITHSONIAN WORLD (FRI)
(33) A WALK THROUGH THE 20TH CENTURY WITH BILL MOYERS (MON)
(33) FIRING LINE (TUE)
(33) KUP'S SHOW (WED)
(33) NOVA (THU)
(33) CRITICS' PLACE (FRI)
(33) VICTORY GARDEN (MON)
(33) SQUARE FOOT GARDENING (TUE, THU)
(33) GOOD EARTH GARDEN (WED)
—2:30—
(5) INSIGHT (FRI)
(9) (11) CAPITOL (MON-THU)
(29) KID'S BREAK
(29) CALLIGRAPHY WITH KEN BROWN (MON)
(29) PRESENTE (THU)
(33) MICROWAVE COOKERY (FRI)
(33) GREAT CHEFS OF NEW ORLEANS (MON)
(33) YAN CAN COOK (TUE)
(33) KATHY'S KITCHEN (WED)
(33) ROMAGNOLI'S TABLE (THU)
(HBO) MOVIE (TUE, FRI)
(HBO) THE NIGHTMARE OF COCAINE (THU)
—3:00—
(2) (4) SANTA BARBARA
(5) BUGS BUNNY AND PORKY PIG
(7) (13) GENERAL HOSPITAL
(9) (11) GUIDING LIGHT (MON-THU)
(29) BUGS BUNNY AND FRIENDS (FRI)
(29) SCOOBY DOO (MON-THU)
(29) MISTER ROGERS (R)
(33) ANOTHER LIFE
(33) CAPTAIN CHESAPEAKE / THE FLINTSTONES (FRI)
(33) G.I. JOE (MON-THU)
(33) HODGEPODGE LODGE
(HBO) THE EVERLY BROTHERS REUNION CONCERT (MON)
—3:30—
(5) TOM AND JERRY (FRI)
(5) G.I. JOE: A REAL AMERICAN HERO (MON-THU)
(29) WOODY WOODPECKER (FRI)
(29) SUPERFRIENDS (MON-THU)
(29) SESAME STREET (R) CC
(33) JUST BETWEEN US
(33) SUPERFRIENDS (FRI)
(33) VOLTRON DEFENDER OF THE UNIVERSE (MON-WED)
(33) VOLTRON: DEFENDER OF THE UNIVERSE (THU)
(33) READING RAINBOW (FRI)
(33) VOYAGE OF THE MIMI (MON-THU)
(HBO) THE INVESTIGATORS: CRUSADING REPORTERS OF THE AIR (WED)
(HBO) VIDEO JUKEBOX (THU)
—4:00—
(2) GOOD TIMES (FRI)
(7) JEOPARDY (MON-THU)
(4) FANTASY ISLAND
(5) HE-MAN AND MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE (MON, TUE, FRI)
(5) TRANSFORMERS (WED, THU)
(7) LOVE CONNECTION
(9) HOUR MAGAZINE (MON-THU)
(11) SANFORD AND SON (MON-THU)
(11) LOVE BOAT
(29) SCOOBY DOO (FRI)
(29) BUGS BUNNY AND FRIENDS (MON-THU)
(33) FOOTSTEPS
(33) HE-MAN AND MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE
(33) SESAME STREET (R) CC
(HBO) MOVIE (MON, THU)
(HBO) PETER NO-TAIL (TUE)
(HBO) FRAGGLE ROCK (WED)
—4:30—
(2) JOKER'S WILD
(4) PEOPLE'S COURT (MON-THU)
(5) BATMAN
(7) CHIPS
(11) THE JEFFERSONS (MON-THU)
(29) SUPERFRIENDS (FRI)
(29) VOLTRON (MON-THU)
(29) SESAME STREET (R) CC
(33) POLKA DOT DOOR
(33) SCOOBY DOO
(HBO) LOST IN DEATH VALLEY (FRI)
(HBO) NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (WED)
—5:00—
(2) NEWSCOPE
(4) YOUNG PEOPLE'S SPECIAL (FRI)
(4) FAMILY FEUD (MON-THU)
(5) STAR TREK
(7) NEWS
(11) BARNEY MILLER
(11) THREE'S COMPANY
(29) BUGS BUNNY AND FRIENDS
(33) (33) MISTER ROGERS (R)
(33) EIGHT IS ENOUGH (FRI)
(33) FLINTSTONES (MON-THU)
—5:30—
(2) (4) (7) (13) NEWS
(11) TAXI
(29) LAVERNE & SHIRLEY & COMPANY (FRI)
(29) LAVERNE & SHIRLEY (MON-THU)
(29) READING RAINBOW (FRI)
(33) (33) ELECTRIC COMPANY (R)
(33) MUSIC VIDEO (MON-THU)
(HBO) FRAGGLE ROCK (FRI)
(HBO) STANLEY, THE UGLY DUCKLING (MON)
(HBO) A SINGLE LIGHT (TUE)
(HBO) MOVIE (WED)