

The ladies of the night

Some new twists in the 'oldest profession'

By MICHAEL CONTOS
Mercury Staff Writer

She is 26-years-old. Her carefully set bangs slightly conceal two penetrating blue eyes, while the rest of her long, dark brunette hair hangs loosely, casually caressing her shoulders and back. She's studied Shakespeare, read Freud, and for a number of years nurtured an ambition to be a model. But an unexpected child prevented it; she still hopes to be a fashion designer someday supporting herself and her five-year-old daughter living in Stowe.

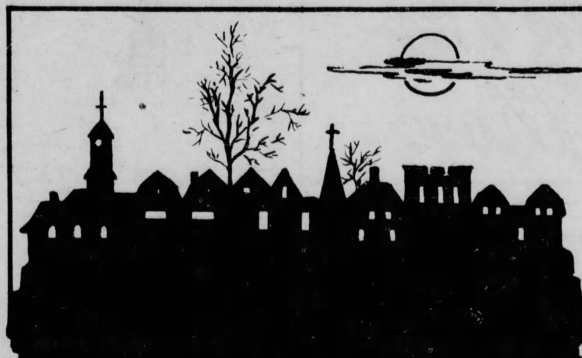
She is a call girl.

It's not so much that she wanted to become a prostitute. But after graduating from an area high school and a stint as a recording secretary she found it was an easier way to make a living.

She never operates in her home. She's affiliated with a dating service that notifies her when a client is available. The customer usually pays between \$50 and \$300 for several hours in a hotel or motel room in the conservative Main Line area. She receives about 40 per cent of the take.

Recently, she had nude photographs of herself sent out to prospective customers. The dating service had screened the clients insuring her protection from any troublesome customers or disguised police. She calls the photos "merchandise advertising," and since the service has distributed them, she claims her business has increased. She's now averaging \$500 a week.

Authorities said little or no prostitution occurs in Pottstown. According to borough



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police Capt. John J. Moore, the last arrest for prostitution was seven years ago. He added the professionals never became entrenched in the borough. "If we hear of one staying at a motel we usually issue a disorderly conduct citation or other charge. They take the hint and move on."

A member of the police vice squad, Neal Petenbrink, said there was only one arrest involving prostitution during the five years he's worked the borough. "It happened recently," he said. "We arrested a fellow for soliciting for prostitution. He sold a man a key to a motel room that allegedly had a beautiful blonde inside, patiently waiting."

Surprise. There was no blonde, Pettenbrink added.

There were only six cases of prostitution prosecuted in Montgomery County in 1975. According to Ross Weiss, assistant district attorney, five were dismissed; one pleaded guilty. "It's hard to arrest a person for prostitution," Weiss explained. "You need a victim, who at the same time is an accomplice in the crime. By the time the case comes to our office, the charges have either been dropped or lessened to other offenses."

The district attorney's office receives numerous tips about pornographic book stores and massage parlors fronting for prostitution in such areas as Collegeville, Norristown and Cheltenham. One such tip led police in September to break up an alleged prostitution ring operating out of the Valley View Apartments in King of Prussia.

The manager of Dial-A-Massage, Leonard Kósmín, 48, Philadelphia, was

charged with taking requests by phones and assigning female masseuses to go to the home, office or motel of a client. Police said he charged a base fee of \$40 plus added costs for added services.

Why is Pottstown seemingly void of prostitution?

"Many people don't have the money," said one borough patrolman. "And during such a permissive period, they figure they can usually get it for free. Others go to Philadelphia or Reading."

During 1976, Reading police made 245 prostitution related arrests - 219 arrests were of customers. Police readily admit they have tried to restrict the traditional center of prostitution to a four-block area between Franklin and Chestnut streets and Seventh and Eighth streets' but sources note the profession thrives in areas such as Elm and Cherry streets.

For years, Reading was traditionally known as a "mob town" and it wasn't until 1964 that a vice squad was reorganized and strengthened under Mayor Eugene Shirk. "Through the years, we have attempted to curtail the activities," said Lt. Fred Yerger of the vice squad. "This past year we took a different approach and used a female decoy to arrest the customers."

Police said one part-time auxiliary police woman was involved with more than 75 per cent of the cases. "Many customers were from your area (Pottstown)," Yerger said.

Prostitution is often referred to as the "oldest profession." In Reading, many share their income with madams or managers of

brothel homes, as the intellectual and independent courtesans of ancient Greece once did. Theodora, A Byzantine temptress eventually married the Emporer Justine, and Japanese geisha have long been a part of the Oriental culture.

Authorities said not all solicitation is done on the streets of city centers. This past month, prostitutes were discovered operating in the upper middle class area of Chester County's West Goshen Township.

A female reporter for the Coatesville Record answered an ad for a massage parlor called Travel Massage. When the manager suggested the reporter could make additional money, he was arrested for encouraging prostitution.

Gene M. Pastor, 20, West Goshen, who allegedly ran the business, was charged with promoting prostitution and criminal solicitation.

Chester County officials are still investigating an Oxford Township case involving two juvenile prostitutes. About six months ago, it was learned two girls, 12 and 13-years-old, had contracted a serious case of venereal disease. Further investigation showed the youths were being chauffeured from camp to camp where mushroom laborers worked.

James MacElree, deputy district attorney of Chester County, said the juvenile prostitutes were an isolated case. "There's been under a half-a-dozen prostitution arrests in 1976," he said. "The enforcement on the streets is not as great. Police are trying to deal with more serious crimes."

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Call girls:

Some cities ban them; others befriend them

Although prostitution is a crime in most parts of the United States, it is sanctioned by such countries as West Germany and Japan. The Soviets claim prostitution does not exist within its borders, for under communist dogma it is a product of a capitalist society.

Up until the late 19th century, prostitution was given informal approval in urban centers as New York, New Orleans, Chicago and Philadelphia. An 1848 booklet entitled "A Gentleman's Guide to Leisure Night Life," described some 40 brothels in center city Philadelphia from Columbia Avenue to South Street, and from 22nd to Eighth streets in which the names of madams and "sporting girls" were listed.

The pamphlet, on record at the Temple University Paley Library, also included the type of entertainment and certain rates for an evening. It acted as a consumer advocate by also recommending houses to stay clear of, noting the type of clients who patronized the lower class establishments.

Las Vegas has legalized prostitution. And Boston officials have restricted the activities to the "sin city" of the "Combat Zone." Any sailor who has visited Baltimore knows of "The Block," while Chicago's "Loop" has been traditionally known as a red light district.

In Pennsylvania, the crime of prostitution has been on the books since the end of the 19th century. There have been several amendments to the law and the following is from the 1972 Pennsylvania Crimes Code Book:

"A person is guilty of prostitution, a misdemeanor, if he or she: is an inmate of a house of prostitution or otherwise engages in any activity as a business or loiters in or within view on any public place for the purpose of being hired to engage in sexual activity."

The law is harsher for the managers of the profession: "It's a felony for promoters of prostitution...and anyone who promotes the prostitution of a child under 16...a wife, child or ward..."

Solicitors also are charged, as in most of the 245 cases in Reading last year, the customers committed summary offenses in trying to hire prostitutes. The fine was less than \$40.

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FEBRUARY 4

- 6:00 **3 6 10 NEWS**
12 TODAY IN DELAWARE
17 VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA
29 BEWITCHED
45 EMERGENCY ONE!
 6:30 **3** NBC NEWS
6 ABC NEWS
12 CBS NEWS
17 TAKE 12
29 JOKER'S WILD
 7:00 **3** LAWRENCE WELK
6 TO TELL THE TRUTH
12 NEWS
17 MACNEIL / LEHRER REPORT
29 THE ODD COUPLE
45 THAT GIRL
60 ADAM-12
 7:30 **3** \$128,000 QUESTION
6 EYE ON
12 WEEK IN REVIEW
17 THE ODD COUPLE
29 HOGAN'S HEROES
45 SANFORD AND SON
 "When John Comes Marching Home" Wedding preparations are underway for Lamont and Janet, then John, Janet's former husband, shows up and wants her back.
6 DONNY & MARIE
 Guests: Paul Anka, The Osmond Brothers, Paul Lynde.

- 10** CODE R
 The island's emergency service has a heavy day when two ten-year-old boys float out to sea on a homemade raft, someone is making bootleg whiskey, and two firefighters walk off the job.
12 WASHINGTON WEEK IN REVIEW
17 OF LANDS AND SEAS
 "Himalaya"

- 29** THE F.B.I.
45 THE COMMANDERS
 "Eisenhower" 1hr.
 8:30 **3** CHICO AND THE MAN
6 WALL STREET WEEK
 9:00 **3** QUINCY (PREMIERE)
 "Snake Eyes" The mysterious deaths of several patrons at a resort hotel involve Quincy in a desperate effort to prevent the story from leaking out and causing panic.
6 AMERICAN BANDSTAND'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY
 Host Dick Clark and his special guests, top television and recording artists, will recall the music, dances, idols, foibles and fads of the 1950s, '60s and '70s.
12 SONNY AND CHER
 Guests: Glen Campbell, Muhammad Ali, Farrah Fawcett-Majors.
17 DAVID SUSSKIND
 Part I "The Nazi Next Door—War Criminals Hiding In The USA" David Susskind interviews Nazi Hunters, immigration officials, and an attorney for an extradited Nazi. Part II "What The Government is Doing About It" The government now admits to investigating a large number of people suspected of Nazi war crimes. Guests: Cong. Joshua Eilberg (PA) and Cong. Elizabeth Holtzman (NY).
29 9:00 MOVIE
 "Rio Bravo" (1959) John Wayne, Dean Martin. A courageous sheriff of a small bordertown, aided by three unusual deputies, fight to keep a wanton murderer in jail. 2hrs.
45 CINEMA 29
 "Mr. Lucky" (1943) Cary Grant, Laraine Day. A professional gambler seeks to raise a bankroll by operating games of chance at a charity bazaar. 2 1/2hrs. (B)
12 EVEREST THE HARD WAY
 1hr.
 10:00 **3** EXECUTIVE SUITE
6 BEST OF GROUCHO

- 10:30 **3** HONEYMOONERS
 11:00 **3 6 10** NEWS
12 HARRISBURG REPORT
17 LOVE, AMERICAN STYLE
45 MARY HARTMAN, MARY HARTMAN
 11:30 **3** TONIGHT
 Host: Johnny Carson. Guests: Erma Bombeck, Luciano Pavarotti.
6 MILLION DOLLAR MOVIE
 "Maybe I'll Come Home In The Spring" (1970) Jackie Cooper, Sally Fields. A teenage runaway returns home and tries to rebuild her life.
12 CBS LATE MOVIE
 "Cancel My Reservation" (1972) Bob Hope, Eva Marie Saint. A TV personality with marital problems decides to leave, but becomes involved in a homicide investigation.
17 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TENNIS
29 HOLLYWOOD SHOWCASE
 "Stanley" (1972) Chris Robinson, Alex Rocco. A Vietnam vet uses a rattlesnake as his personal weapon of revenge against mankind. 2hrs. 10min.
45 DARK SHADOWS
 12:00 **3** NIGHT GALLERY
 1:00 **6** MIDNIGHT SPECIAL
17 NEW JERSEY FORUM
 1:20 **45** EDITORIAL (TIME APPROXIMATE)
 1:25 **3** LATE SHOW
 "Carrie" (1952) Laurence Olivier, Jennifer Jones. 2hrs. 25min. (B)
 1:30 **6** S.W.A.T.
 "Dealers In Death" Dom Luca and T.J. McCabe are on special undercover assignment to track down the supplier of sophisticated automatic weapons being used in a series of crimes.
 2:35 **6** WOMEN: PERSPECTIVE
 3:50 **10** NEWS (R)
 4:20 **10** JOEL A. SPIVAK (R)

Brolin makes new film; hopes to take off in astronaut role

By JAMES MEADE
 Copley News Service

HOLLYWOOD — James Brolin, one of the few contract actors in motion pictures, is under contract to Universal Pictures. Universal put Brolin in "Gable and Lombard" as Clark Gable. Since the movie was received poorly, it also is up to Universal to get Brolin out of it.

"Gable and Lombard" didn't really do me any good," Brolin said. "We thought we were making an old-fashioned fun picture. I never thought the critics could hurt so much. So Universal said I should do some commercial pictures. I was offered 'The Car' and I smelled a hit. It will do well."

In "The Car," filmed last year, Brolin plays a deputy sheriff up against an apparently driverless car that terrorizes a small Western town.

Now Brolin, one of Hollywood's hardest-working and most promising young actors, is making another thriller. In "Capricorn One," Brolin plays the leader of three astronauts whose families are threatened if they do not help NASA fake a manned mission to Mars to keep space appropriations coming.

"These heavy space suits and that nose cone are claustrophobic under hot lights, especially in the first few days of filming," said Brolin, peeling down as much of the space suit as he could to eat lunch.

Writer-director Peter Hyams had his three astronauts, including Sam Waterston and O.J. Simpson, strapped in nose cone seats for most of the first week's filming.

On the subject of acting sitting down strapped in an astronaut's chair, Brolin said that wasn't much of a problem.

"Peter is an artist and is visual-minded," Brolin said. "He'll make even sitting down exciting. Peter has made my character an idealized guy. As I view Brubaker (Air Force Col. Charles Brubaker), it's a question of how much depth to give him. Brubaker is a hero to the public because he's an astronaut but, to himself, he's just a guy doing a job."

"I'll give the character some sort of depth. He's a guy with two things in life — his job he's trying to do and his family, wife and children, that he's trying to preserve."

"It's different than the hijacker in 'Skyjacked,'" Brolin said of one of his early movie

roles.

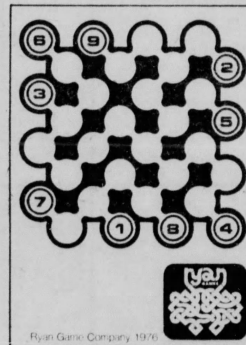
"I didn't have to dig deep for him. I knew that guy when I read the screenplay because I had read about 40 actual hijackers."

"Theoretically astronauts have robot-like personalities because they are programmed for a highly technical job. At the beginning of the space program, there was a lot of joking around. One guy brought a salami sandwich aboard and it gummed up an exhaust system. I don't know what astronauts do about boredom, but we're not about to make a movie about boring people."

Brolin calls himself "the fellow least likely to become an actor." The Los Angeles native attended University High School, Santa Monica Junior College and the University of California at Los Angeles, briefly. Earlier, he was slanted toward some phase of the aircraft industry.

His father, a construction contractor, knew a man who knew a man, William Castle, who was making two military TV series at Ziv Studios. The friend of a friend commented the 15-year-old Brolin should try acting and arranged an audition.

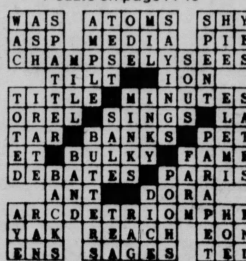
Puzzle solutions



Puzzle on page A-15



Puzzle on page A-16



Puzzle on page A-9

The Ladies of the Night

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MacElree called prostitution a "victimless crime. It's victimless from the standpoint that it's voluntary. Of course, there are exceptions, such as the Oxford case."

One prostitute, who has successfully evaded Pottstown police for more than 10 years, calls herself an "independent." She shares none of her earnings and discreetly solicits in area hotels, bars and dining facilities. She said she was strictly in it for the money, averaging \$300 a week. During a recent strike, she claimed she made the most money in years from the unemployed personnel.

She is 33-years-old. Every two weeks she visits an area physician for a complete physical. She claimed experiencing sexual arousal or orgasm is regarded not only as unprofessional, but as fatiguing and inefficient.

The area resident said she never allowed affection to develop for a client. "I've been hurt too many times," she confided. "Plus, it's bad for business," she quickly added.