

**ENTERTAINMENT
 BRIEFS**

**Pop-eyed fans mob king of
 pop in streets of Moscow**

MOSCOW (AP) — Russians these days are skeptical of men who wear rows of medals, erect huge statues of themselves and conceal the state of their health — whether that means Josef Stalin or Michael Jackson.



Jackson

Jackson arrived in Moscow Sunday and had to dash to his waiting car to escape a mob of screaming fans. At his concert on Tuesday, he found plenty of pop-eyed fans, but also a large contingent with eyes narrowed in contempt. Michael Jackson likes to be called the 'king of pop,' although a more fitting name would be 'com-vestor Stallone,' political commentator Vladimir Zakharov wrote in Friday's edition of Izvestia. "He has ... started bringing on his tours huge statues of himself, made in the worst traditions of totalitarian monumentalism (one of them he managed to ensconce in Prague on the same spot where once stood a sculpture of Stalin — yet another lover of pseudo-army uniforms)," Zakharov wrote.

Actress' daughter objects to new sitcom boyfriend

NEW YORK (AP) — Lea Thompson will have a new boyfriend on "Caroline in the City" this fall, which is bad news for her real-life daughter, who doesn't like the idea of mommy kissing somebody besides daddy.

"She doesn't like it when I kiss other guys," Thompson says in the Sept. 23 People. "It really makes her mad. I had to explain to her that I would be kissing a new guy on the show this year. I say, 'Mommy loves Daddy, but this is her job.'"

Thompson, 34, is married to movie director Howard Deutch. Daughter Madeline is 15.

Madeline was also critical of her mom's new hairdo. Thompson chopped off her shoulder-length hair at the suggestion of show producers. While she likes the bob, her daughter took one look and said diplomatically, "Well, it will grow back."

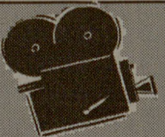
Real-life caters to director in film 'Fly Away Home'

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Good filmmaking depends on adapting to life's little accidents, "Fly Away Home" director Carroll Ballard says.

"That for me is the great thing about making a movie, the process," said Ballard, who also made "The Black Stallion" and "Never Cry Wolf." "Because it's changing all the time," he said. "You go into a film having a certain dream of what you're going to be, and one hour into it there are things that are impossible, that you can't do. So it's a question of always shifting and making the best out of every accident that comes along."

Ballard used the approach in "Fly Away Home," starring 14-year-old Anna Paquin as a girl from New Zealand living with her estranged father in Canada. "Like her character, Anna was born in Canada, but her mother was from New Zealand, her father was Canadian, and during the shooting of the movie they were getting divorced," Ballard said. "We just put together stories that happened to people who were involved, took this from there and that from there, and made a story out of those things."

**WEEKEND
 BOX OFFICE**



LOS ANGELES (AP) — The action thriller "Maximum Risk" starring Jean-Claude Van Damme made its debut as the weekend's top-grossing film with an estimated \$5.8 million in ticket sales.

"Fly Away Home," about an estranged father and daughter who help a flock of geese migrate, was second with \$5 million, industry sources said Sunday.

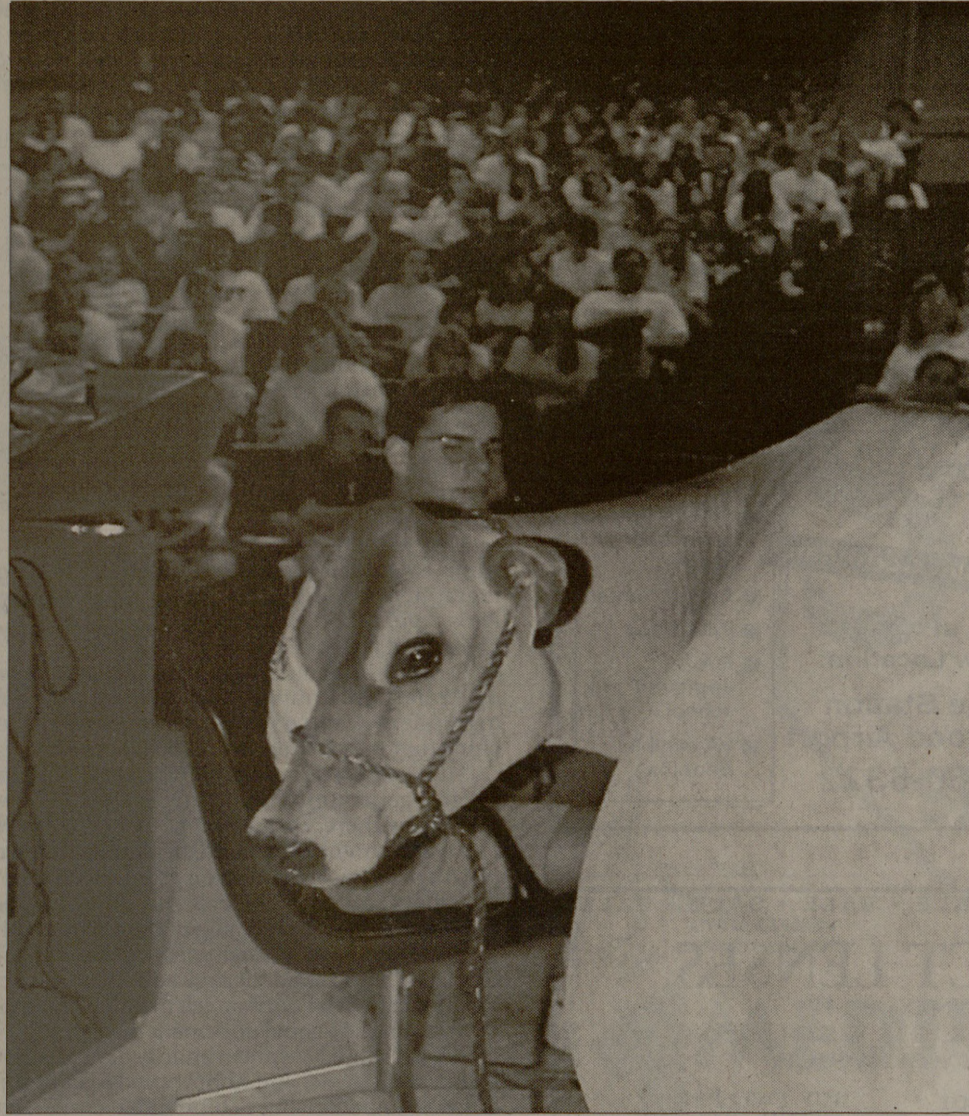
Both films were released by Columbia Pictures, and the timing of the one-two punch is ironic considering that Sony Corp., Columbia's parent, had forced out studio chief Mark

Donner on Friday after a summer of expensive flops including "The Cable Guy."

"Bulletproof" was third with \$4 million, followed by "Tin Cup" with \$3.5 million, and "First Kid" with \$3 million.

Final figures were to be released Monday. The preliminary top 10:

1. "Maximum Risk," \$5.8 million.
2. "Fly Away Home," \$5 million.
3. "Bulletproof," \$4 million.
4. "Tin Cup," \$3.5 million.
5. "First Kid," \$3.3 million.
6. "The Rich Man's Wife," \$3.2 million.
7. "A Time to Kill," \$2.9 million.
8. "The Spitfire Grill," \$2.5 million.
9. (tie) "Independence Day," "Jack," \$2.1 million each.



A Jersey cow helps students in Professor Howard Hesby's Animal Science 107 class.

**Giving
 students
 a little
 Moo-
 tivation**

Story by Joseph Novak

Photos by Tim Moog

Students in Professor Howard Hesby's Animal Science 107 class are learning the importance of animal industry — with some help from a cow.

Nine words, printed on a syllabus for Professor Howard Hesby's Animal Science 107 class, state an underlying theme of the course.

"Never let going to class interfere with your education." The phrase refers to Hesby's interactive style of teaching, which students witnessed Monday, Sept. 9.

On that day, Hesby said he wanted to illustrate how animals improve plant food sources, so he invited two students to eat a special breakfast.

"In the breakfast, I gave them raw corn, hay and water," Hesby said. "The students decided they didn't want to eat the hay or the raw corn. So the class decided they should feed it to an animal."

Hesby brought a Jersey cow from the Animal Science Dairy Center and a Leghorn hen from the Poultry Science Center into the classroom for "breakfast."

"We feed the raw corn and the hay to the animals and they make high-quality food," Hesby said. "The laying hen eats the raw corn and makes eggs, and the cow eats the hay and makes the milk. So that makes a high-quality breakfast out of poor-quality foods. That's the importance of the animal to the human industry."

Afterward, the students were allowed to pet the chicken. Hesby's class is not a sedentary one. The class may take about 13 field trips this semester, touring the Howard Owens Cutting Horses Farm, the V 8 Brahman Ranch, the Shallow Wells Puppy Farm, the Food Safety Inspection Service training center and the Animal Blood Typing Genetics Lab near College Station.

Students can also earn extra credit for milking cows at the Dairy Center, feeding and harnessing horses at the Horse Center, helping with chores at the Sheep Center, breeding pigs at the Veterinary Medical Center Research Park, and by watching a purebred cattle sale. Students are also allowed to go on three special 11-day field trips for credit hours during semester breaks.

Hesby has been with Texas A&M for 25 years, and he has taught Animal Science 107 for seven years.

He said his goal in teaching this class is to get students interested in learning about the importance of animals.

"We're just trying to illustrate the importance of the animal industry in the food chain," Hesby said. "If we tell students that, they won't believe us. It's better to show them."

Hesby's students benefit from his not-so-conventional teaching methods.

Alan Mosley, a sophomore biomedical science major, said the class is interesting.

"It's pretty interactive; the field trips are good," Mosley said. "Other than that, the class keeps you awake."

Laura Reilly, Hesby's assistant and a graduate student in agricultural development, said that the best reason to be in the class are the field trips.

"The class is real introductory, not real scientific, but there is some good scientific information thrown in there," Reilly said.

Cathy Elmer, a sophomore biomedical science major, said she likes the class.

"It's a lot of fun," said Elmer. "It's probably the most interesting class that I've taken."

Hesby said there have been other interesting occurrences in the class. "Last semester, a young student who had not eaten meat since she was 12 learned the importance of high-quality amino acids in protein for the human body," Hesby said, "and she started to eat meat again."

Animal Science 107 is held in three different sections. Hesby teaches one section, assistant professor W. Shawn Ramsey teaches another section, and professor Ronnie Edwards teaches the honors section. The three instructors use similar teaching methods. Ramsey brought a cow into class and sheared a sheep for his students to illustrate the importance of wool in the animal industry.

Students interested in seeing more about this class can visit Hesby's World Wide Web site at <http://aggweb.tamu.edu/ansc/hesby.htm>.



Susan Souers, a freshman animal science major, holds a Leghorn hen as it is passed around the classroom.

"We're trying to illustrate the importance of the animal industry in the food chain ... It's better to show [the students]."

- Dr. Howard Hesby
 professor of animal science



Professor Howard Hesby feeds sophomore animal science major, Rachel Mier's hair to a cow.