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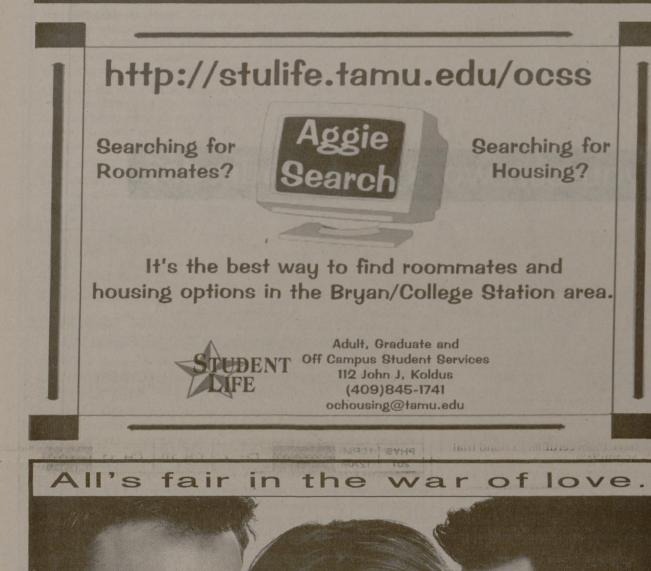
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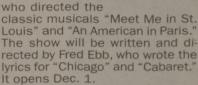
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minnelli salutes her father on Broadway

YORK (AP) — Liza Minnelli will play Broadway's Palace Theater in December for 24

performances and she will not come cheap.

The top ticket price will be \$125. Her show, "Minnelli on Minnelli," will salute her father, Vincent Minnelli,



The 53-year-old Ms. Minnelli, plagued in recent years by voice and weight problems, said she has gone into rigorous training for the engagement after operations on her throat and her hip.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS and has said he near I think everybody should get last fall. healthy again — so I'm doing everything," she said. "I never, ever per-

GGIELIFE

n't. But I can now. **Cash hospitalized** with pneumonia

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) Johnny Cash is battling pneumonia again, a year after nearly dy-

Cash, 67, was listed in serious condition yester-day at Baptist Hospital. "He was read-mitted on Sunday

after spending several days here last week," hospi-

tal spokesperson Jessica Etz said. "He is not critical; his life is not in danger

and it feeds you.

It's truly acting."

- Taye Diggs

on his love for the theater

The country legend was hopital-ized twice in 1998 for pneumonia

After Stella, actor Taye Diggs grapples with sum

NEW YORK (AP) — It does not take much to figure out why Taye Diggs makes women swoon.

Just one look at his smooth, unblemished skin usually does it. Or his taut, lean muscular body. Or that steamy shower scene in How Stella Got Her Groove Back.

As he relaxes in a pinstriped suit in a midtown hotel the bespectacled Diggs professes not to understand what it is about him that makes women so hot and bothered.

"I try to intellectualize it, and you can't. A lot of it is the fact is that I don't feel like I'm worth someone screaming about," said one of People magazine's 50 Most Beautiful people.

What everyone's screaming about is a 29-year-old Rochester, N.Y., native who is fast becoming one of Hollywood's brightest new stars. His film debut in 1997 as Angela Bassett's sexy young Jamaican lover in Stella made him an instant star — and a sex symbol. Since then, he is blazed the screen in *Go* and "You get out there

In his new film, *The Best Man*, Dig-gs plays a newly published author whose supposedly fictional book about love and romance threatens to wreak havoc on his best friend's nuptials as his old buddies try to decipher hidden clues about their own lives in the book. The Universal Pictures release opens Oct. 22.

The ensemble cast star Nia Long, but Diggs gets top billing. Not bad for a struggling actor who was working at Disneyland just a

few years go. It is a far cry from his childhood in Rochester, where he and his four younger brothers and sisters lived in the gritty part of the city. Young Scott Diggs (Taye is his nickname) liked to dance around the house, and his mother, who now teaches drama at Indiana University, recognized star quality in her son and sent him to Rochester's School of the Arts

My mother said, 'You're talented, so go to school so you can work on this," he remembers.

"I was upset because I wanted to go to a school that had sports. I wanted to play on the athletic teams and what not. Then I took all the classes - I took dance classes, I took singing classes and acting classes and enjoyed doing them all equally.'

It was then that the young Diggs began an entertainer.

From the School of Arts, Diggs wento: versity, and after he graduated, headed to N to pursue his acting dreams.

the musical "Carousel." After working in a year, he had a notion to see the world tioned for a Caribbean cabaret bit at Tok After his seven-month stint in Japan

dirt in 1996 when he won the part of the iamin Coffin III in the original cast of the Tony award-winning musical "Rent" Like everyone else, Diggs had no idea the musical come a Broadway blockbuster. I was hyped because it was a gig," hes

point, I had told myself that I didn't want to so I was a little annoved

rage fo sing. But it was a job ... a static to be working. "Then, when it blew when the excitement cam

about Acco It was his role in Stella rp., s gs on the Hollywood map. e eligi for which his sexy good eir fai eled body proved to be mo methi than his acting abilitie akes learning an accent that has ingen this day believing he is a born and raised Ja

Diggs said he will always remember h when he found out he got the role. "I just ended up jumping up and do like pounding the bed so hard," he said

Besides roles in the upcoming mo Haunted Hill, Mary Jane's Last Dance a the Gun, Diggs also plans a return to the M He is set to star early next year in the offsion of the musical "The Wild Party," bas era poem by Joseph Moncure March. (Ano is planned for Broadway in April.)

Theater remains his true love. Theater, it's do or die," he said. "You get and it feeds you. It's truly acting.

formed because I wouldn't. I could-Mrs. Americas custody battle FARMINGTON, Uta

FORT V tody battle betw America and her exh ome resolved in a trial. g-overo Starla Stanley's f rk easie Mike Pomeroy, said in that she fought violent The Fo

on

rent spouse in front of A judge Tuesday order ly bett Ms. Stanley, 32, http://www.stanley.com/ s, to U

ound the was tension trying to. children from her Indust Pomeroy with the three celebi her second husband,S al ded She said last week The ol bloodied Stanley's nos did I said intensive couns play S their marriage, which lor disp

Ms. Stanley was dcusto Hawaii last month. Sh The ne ed family values but ormati her family strife.



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