

NAMES & FACES

BY SUSAN BICKELHAUPT AND MAUREEN DEZELL

has decided to host a gala fund-raiser at
 arma in late spring to raise funds for the
 ust. Party appearances can be deceiving.

Harshbarger honored

val Patrick, head of the civil rights division
 the US Justice Department, flew up from
 ashington Thursday to be keynote speaker
 a New England Region Anti-Defamation
 league lunch honoring Attorney General
 ott Harshbarger, who received the league's
 st David A. Rose Civil Rights Award.

More glory for Washington

Harvard University will bestow more glory on
 Academy Award-winning actor Denzel Wash-



ington this afternoon in ceremonies on campus.
 The annual Harvard Foundation Award hon-
 ors "outstanding contributions to the perform-
 ing and intellectual arts." He'll be feted during
 the annual Cultural Rhythms festival. Past re-
 cipients include **Debbie Allen**, **Andy Garcia**,
Graham Greene and **Jimmy Smits**.

Sean Penn argues for televised executions

Actor **Sean Penn**, who plays a convicted mur-
 derer executed by lethal injection in the film
 "Dead Man Walking," says he thinks state-or-
 dered executions ought to be televised. Inter-
 viewed on the PBS program "Talking With **Da-
 vid Frost**," set to air last night, Penn said,
 "There's a lot of arguments for the idea that it
 ought to be a televised event. I would say that
 it should be. . . . If [people are going to say],
 'Well, it's not a totally uncivilized thing to do,'
 then they ought to see what it is they are do-
 ing."

Caldwell felled by food, not by fatigue

Producers of the Broadway hit "Master Class"
 called yesterday to tell us that actress **Zoe
 Caldwell** was felled this week by food poisoning
 — not exhaustion, as initial medical reports said.
 Caldwell, who portrays the legendary **Maria
 Callas** in **Terrence McNally's** play, collapsed
 during her Wednesday evening performance.
 Both Wednesday's and Thursday's productions
 of the show were canceled. Caldwell was ex-
 pected to return to her role last night.

Politics makes impractical bedfellows

His bureau with the White House investigating

Abductees against 'Nova'

Set your phasers on stun, boys. An
 upcoming WGBH program about UFO
 abductions has several participants howl-
 ing betrayal, claiming they were sand-
 bagged by "Nova" producers who ignored



MACK

all evidence support-
 ing their tales of
 dances with aliens —
 and whose film por-
 trays unwitting ab-
 ductees as "weak-
 minded patsies," in
 the words of investi-
 gator **Budd Hopkins**.

Hopkins, author
 of "Intruders," and
John E. Mack, the
 Harvard shrink wrist-
 slapped by the university for ministering
 to the saucer-assisted, are two of the fea-
 tured subjects in "Kidnapped by UFOs?,"
 which airs Tuesday. Hopkins had high
 hopes when he invited a "Nova" crew to
 Florida, where he debriefed a family (in-
 cluding two small children) about their
 extraterrestrial adventures. Now a seeth-
 ing Hopkins has ripped off a letter accus-
 ing producers **Denise Dilanni** and **Paula
 Apsell** of "mangling the truth," "tamper-
 ing with evidence" and sensationalizing
 the results to score rating points. He says

Dilanni and Apsell "should be ashamed of
 themselves."

Mack's office is preparing its own re-
 buttal to the "Nova" show, arguing that
 it's hopelessly biased, heavily reliant on
 naysaying scientists (like **Carl Sagan**)
 with no clinical experience in the area and
 that it disregards "the potential psycho-
 logical harm to this population," meaning
 the abductees. Meanwhile, Mack and his
 lawyer personally served notice on 'GBH
 execs yesterday that they will sue for
 defamation if portions are not excised be-
 fore broadcast. The hot-button footage
 concerns **Donna Bassett**, who surfaced in
 Time magazine two years ago when
 Mack's book "Abduction" appeared. Bas-
 sett, a self-proclaimed investigative jour-
 nalist, posed as an abductee with the in-
 tent of exposing Mack as a charlatan.
 Mack supporters counter that Bassett is a
 well-documented wacko whose prominent
 role in the "Nova" film is "reflective of its
 overall sloppiness," according to Mack at-
 torney **Eric MacLeish**.

Residents of Planet 'GBH were not
 returning calls late yesterday. However,
 the flap can only whet viewer appetite for
 one more bite of Big Mack and company.

JOSEPH P. KAHN

"Serving in Silence: The Margarethe Cammer-
 meyer Story" to produce a TV movie for CBS
 about a lesbian who waged a successful legal

Baitz ("Three Hotels") and **Craig Lucas** ("Pre-
 lude to a Kiss") talk shop with controversial
 performance artist **Holly Hughes** at the Out-