Weaver battles obnoxious spirits in Ghostbusters II

STAR SPEAK



Sigourney Weaver returns in "Ghostbusters II" to do battle with obnoxicus spirits that have once again taken over New York City. Her appearance in the farcical film is something of a surprise. She is a widely respected dramatic actress who received not one but two Oscar nominations in 1989.



Sigourney Weaver

Weaver's role as the tragic zoologist Dian Fossey in "Gorillas in the Mist" earned her an Oscar nomination for Best Actress. Her unscrupulous businesswoman in "Working Girl" landed her a Best Supporting Actress nomination.

Weaver, a graduate of Stanford and the Yale School of Drama, is the daughter of former NBC president Sylvester "Pat" Weaver. She became a star in her first major movie role as

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Ripley, the commander of a spaceship in "Alien." (She had a bit part in an earlier film, Woody Allen's "Annie Hall," playing Allen's girlfriend at the end of the comedy.)

The Manhattan-born actress soon demonstrated her range in a series of unusual roles. She played a scholarly prostitute in "Half Moon Street"; an arms dealer in "Deal of the Century"; a romantic diplomat in "The Year of Living Dangerously; and a newswoman stalked by a murderer in "Eyewitness."

Q. You're a serious actress who received two Oscar nominations in one year. Why did you do a piece of fluff like "Ghostbusters II"?

A. Bill Murray is one of my favorite actors - he and Bill Hurt. What pleased me about "Ghostbusters II" is that the characters were all fleshed out, compared to the first film.

Q. So many stars, when they make an issue-oriented film like "Gorillas in the Mist," become involved in the issue dramatized in the movie. But after the film comes out, they often drop their support. Are you still doing anything to help save the endangered mountain gorillas of Africa?

A. I'm continuing as honorary chairman of the Digit Fund, which was founded by Dian Fossey to help the gorillas.

The government of Rwanda wants to increase the number of tourists allowed to see the gorillas, which may agitate them. I sent a man to Rwanda to do research and see if an increase in tourism is harmful.

I've also adopted a gorilla named Magee. She just had a son named Rainy Weather. Adoption costs \$5,000. I'm trying to initiate other

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programs that aren't so expensive so schools that can't afford \$5,000 can become "friends" of gorillas for \$300. Q. At one point in your life, you

I love playing patrician characters. I can spot a patrician 20 feet away!"

— Sigourney Weaver

wanted to be a journalist. Do you think you would have been happy in that career?

A. I probably wouldn't have made as much money - not that I feel rich. Journalism appealed to me because



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you dive into a story and find out as much as you can. You get to the heart of it. You look at it from the point of view of the subject, which is the same as acting.

Q. Do you agree with the magazine article that described you as patrician?

A. Compared to a lot of other people in the world, I have had a lot of advantages. But I don't think I've had that upper-class, haughty upbringing.

My father had a show-business background. If your parents are in show biz, you don't fool yourself into thinking you're Consuelo Vanderbilt.

ters, like Kätharine (Parker) in "Working Girl." It's fun to play them because I went to school with patricians. I can spot a patrician 20 feet away!

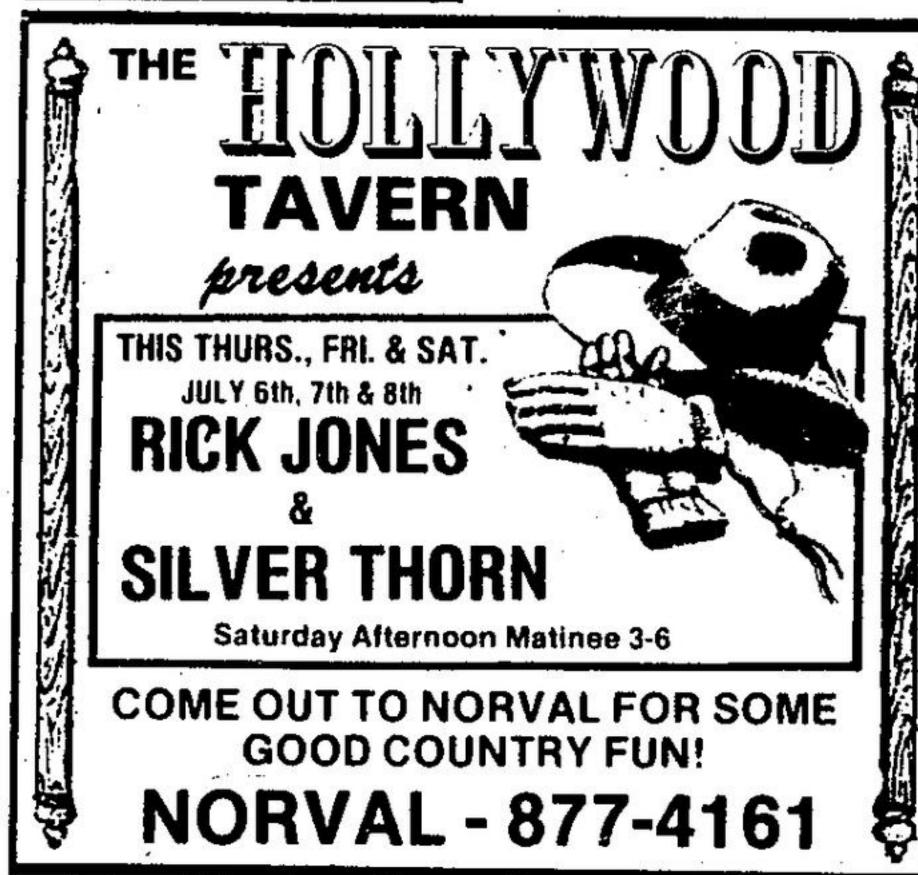
Q. Your British mother wanted you to marry Prince Charles. Would you be happy as the Princess of Wales?

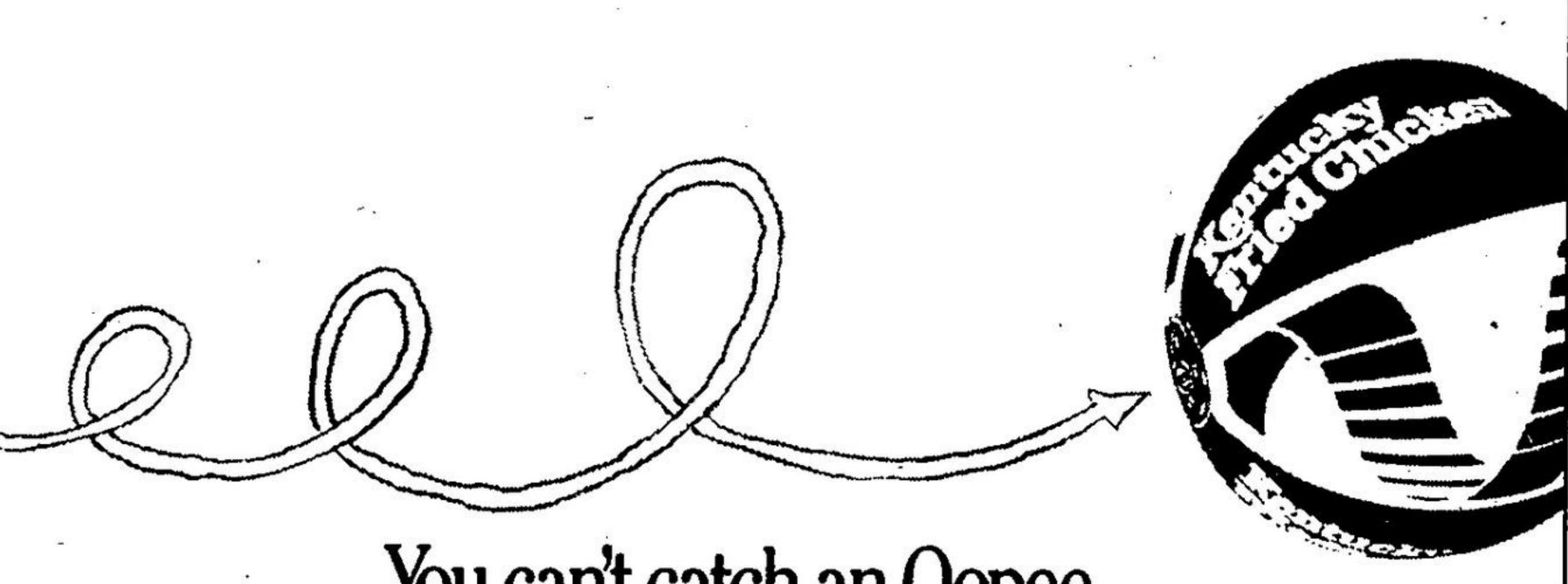
A. Diana doesn't seem particularly happy. As an actor, I think it would be interesting to do for a week. It's pretty hard work. It looks like you do publicity all the time, but never get to do the film — you just publicize it.



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