

rites gloomy letters to the Devil in which he imagines murdering his sister. He dislikes how she is being sed and struggles with the question at many did during the Schiavo case: what is the value of a human life if it is imprisoned in a coma?

Directed capably by Nick Sandow, the actors are attractive and appealing, but they never appear in sync with one another. Mr. Daly, the lean-cut former star of the television series "Wings," seems perfect for the role of the smiling believer, but he doesn't create chemistry with the statuesque Ms. Woods, who can't overcome the fact that her function is that of an effective plot device rather than a convincing three-dimensional character.

Though it shares several elements with John Patrick Shanley's play "Doubt," what "Henry Flamethrower" doesn't have is fully rounded characters who dramatize its themes; you always have the sense of the author manipulating the action. Mr. Belluso has written a thought-provoking and neatly constructed play, but unfortunately you cannot completely believe in any of the characters.

**"GENUINELY TOUCHING!"**  
YORK TIMES

**"Unbound crossed strictly Ballroom!"**  
-Kenneth Turan, LOS ANGELES TIMES

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-Jami Bernard  
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## Mamet Attacks Hollywood

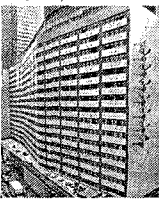
"Glengarry Glen Ross," the David Mamet play that is in the midst of a successful revival on Broadway, tells the story of a cynical business veteran who is blown about by corrupt, corrosive forces beyond his control. A sequel of sorts will be available in the June issue of Harper's Magazine. In a five-page essay titled "Bambi v. Godzilla," about the lot of the writer in Hollywood, Mr. Mamet — who has written many screenplays, including "The Verdict," "The Untouchables" and "Wag the Dog" — dips his pen into a reservoir of experience for a jeremiad against Hollywood's tendency to treat writers as one more below-the-line expense, and not a very important one that that. "In my experience, almost every financial interchange with Hollywood ends with an accusation by the corporation of theft," he writes. "You didn't do what I wanted; you didn't work hard enough; you intended to defraud me." These are the recurring complaints of industry. They may be translated as: you forgot to work for nothing." In a telephone interview, Mr. Mamet said he was not coming off any specific trauma with Hollywood but just felt like sharing his thoughts in the form of an essay.

"Writing for Hollywood is a constant trauma," he said. "This is not an attempt to settle scores or to point fingers. I just wanted to write about how Hollywood takes this simple process of exposing photo-sensitive material to light to capture an image and complicates it into this marvelously byzantine and intricate mechanical, financial and aesthetic hierarchy." Mr. Mamet said the Hollywood machine would rid itself of the necessity of dealing with and paying for writers if it could. "The problem for them is, the story is the one thing that producers can't do," he said.

DAVID CARR

## Preserving the Summit

The Summit Hotel on Lexington Avenue at 51st Street, below, with its sea-foam brick and curving facade, is expected to be designated a landmark today by the New York City Landmarks Commission. The hotel was designed by Morris Lapidus, the Miami architect known for his flamboyant flourishes. The Summit, now known as the Doubletree Metropolitan, has been undergoing renovations, including



replacement of the original windows with new units, covering the first-floor panels and blue mosaic tiles, and remodeling the penthouse rooftop. Any further changes would have to be approved by the Landmarks Commission. Modern preservationists who vociferously protested the building's alterations had called for a hearing on the Summit and another Lapidus building, the 1949 Paterson Silks store at Union Square. The Silks building had already been partly demolished when the commission agreed to hold a hearing about it.

ROBIN POGREBIN

## Call for a Hearing

A former chairman of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission called on the current commission yesterday to hold a hearing on 2 Columbus Circle, to be reconstructed as the Museum of Arts and Design. "I think 2 Columbus Circle should have a hearing," said Gene A. Norman, who served as chairman of the commission from 1983 to 1989. Mr. Norman went on to say that "if people are preventing things from moving in a forward direction, they should be replaced." He made his comments before the City Council Committee on Governmental Operations at a hearing on oversight of the landmarks commission led by Councilman Bill Perkins of Manhattan. Robert B. Tierney, the current chairman of the commission, was not present to hear Mr. Norman's testimony or those of the many other members of the public who called for more transparency from the agency. Mr. Tierney left after presenting his own remarks, in which he said "almost everything we do is transparent and open." The building on Columbus Circle, designed by Edward Durell Stone as Huntington Hartford's Gallery of Modern Art, was never designated a landmark.

ROBIN POGREBIN

## A Challenge for 'Survivor'

Tom Westman, below, a 41-year-old firefighter from New York City, won the 10th edition of CBS's "Survivor" on Sunday night. Mr. Westman had been both physically and strategically dominant throughout the game, a threatening combination that normally results in an early expulsion. He beat Katie Gallagher, an advertising executive who said she knew she did not stand a chance against him, in a 6-to-1 vote. The two-hour final episode drew



20.31 million viewers in Nielsen's estimates, and the one-hour live reunion show brought in another 16.72 million. Those numbers were not enough for CBS to topple ABC, which was No. 1 in total viewers and among adults 18 to 49. The second-to-last "Desperate Housewives" of the season attracted 25.04 million viewers and heaped misery on the housewives' spouses: Tom (Doug Savant) lost his job, Carlos (Ricardo Antonio Chavira) was arrested for hate crimes and Rex (Steven Culp) had a heart attack.

KATE AURTHUR

## Footnote

Ann Curry, the news anchor on the "Today" show, will be co-anchor of "Dateline NBC" starting next month. Neal Shapiro, the president of NBC News, announced yesterday. She will work with Stone Phillips, the program's current anchor.