

Keeping Pace with the A-list

The Buzz



BY KAREN FELD



Salvatore Laporta/AP

Sophia Loren waves as she arrives in her hometown of Pozzuoli, in southern Italy, on June 22. Loren will be attending the National Italian American Foundation's 30th anniversary Washington gala in October.

Gen. Peter Pace, the nominee to be the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is the hot A-list dinner party guest these days. He's the first Marine ever to be named top military boss. And last Friday evening, **Debbie Dingell** nabbed him for a barbecue at the Potomac home she shares with her husband, Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich.

Winners and sinners at Billy Graham crusade

Not only did the Clintons turn out for **Billy Graham**, the nation's spiritual counselor, at his final U.S. crusade in New York City last weekend, but so did **Elizabeth Ray**. She was the pretty blonde Capitol Hill clerk who told reporters in 1976, "I can't type, I can't file," and said she was hired for sex. Ray's liaisons with her boss, Rep. **Wayne Hays**, D-Ohio, chairman of the House Administration Committee, led to his fall from grace. But, these days, Ray feels the grace of Billy Graham and his call to God. Looking stunning, she says that she "felt a kinship" with the 86-year-old Graham because he hails from near her hometown in North Carolina.

Court buzz all over town

Power players lunching at the Palm were buzzing all week about the high court — how many vacancies and how soon. Bush opponents fear he may have the opportunity to fill not only Chief Justice **William Rehnquist's** slot but also that of Associate Justice **Sandra Day O'Connor** before the first Tuesday in October.

Birthday boy and his toys

Hermen Greenberg and his beautiful wife, **Monica**, hosted a glorious "Country Picnic" complete with a country band at their well-manicured Rutledge Farm in Middleburg, Va., on Sunday afternoon. The occasion was Hermen's birthday, but he bought 1,000 toys and since there were three generations of longtime family friends on hand, they were a big hit with the youngsters. Well-wishers — **Norma Lee** and **Morton Fungler**, **Grace** and **Morton Bender**, **Susan** and **Larry Harris**, **Mary Ann** and **Eivind Bjerke**, **Rosemary Bogley**, **Ridgeback breeder Jay Hyman**, **Ray Poston**, **Wyatt** and **Tandy Dickerson**, and his daughter, **Elizabeth Sinclair**, who is the ex-wife of **Greg Earls**, now residing at Federal Medical Center Devens prison outside Boston — as well as Hermen's brothers, **Harold** and **Raymond Greenberg** and their wives, and his sister, **Lee Kirstein** — enjoyed the magnificent tented buffet lunch from bison to birthday cake.

Bed, board and Bufferin

I ran into **Ward 5 Council Member Vincent Orange** the other evening at a party at **Morton's**, where the D.C. mayoral candidate discussed the pros of a new stadium

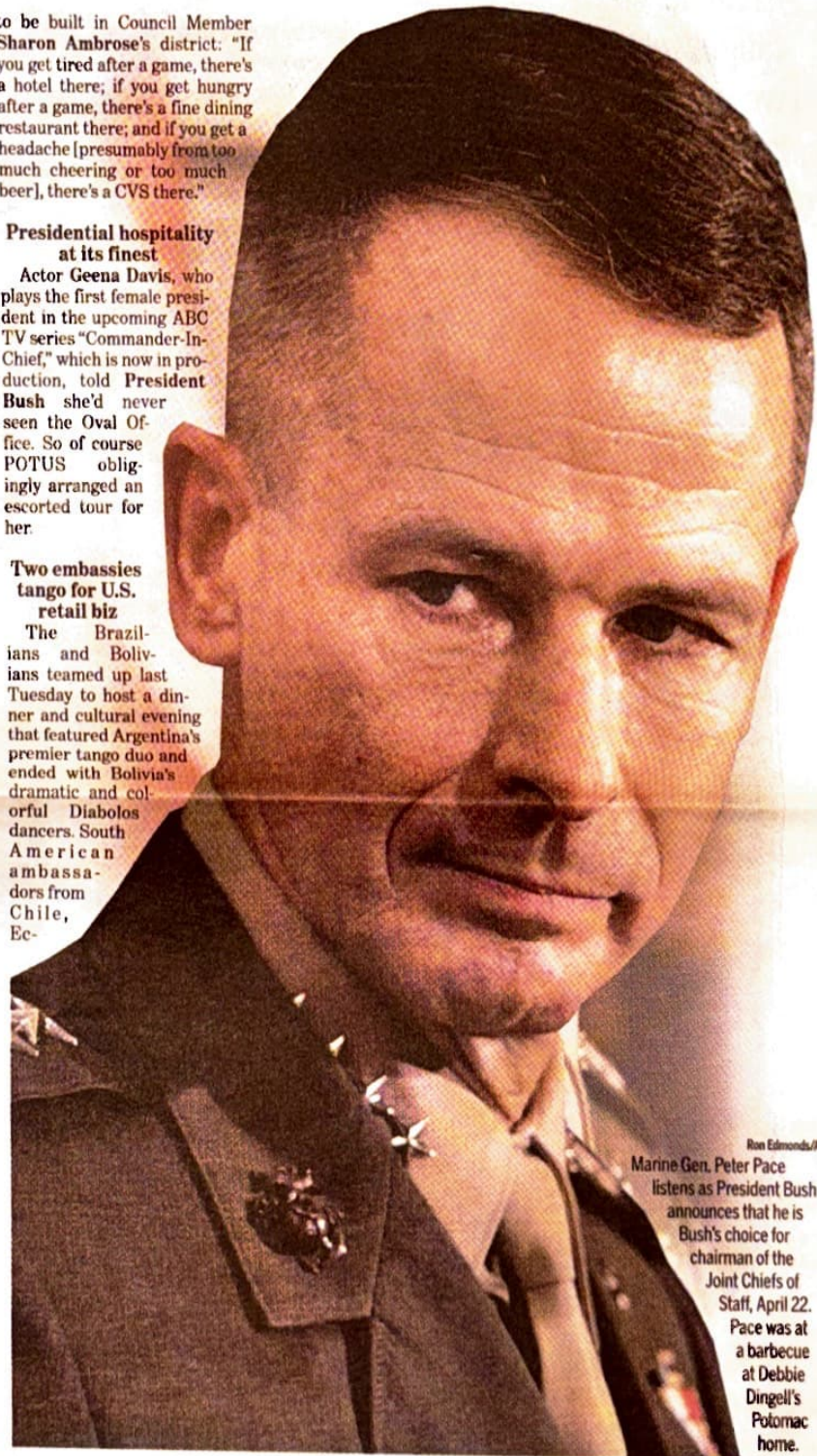
to be built in Council Member **Sharon Ambrose's** district: "If you get tired after a game, there's a hotel there; if you get hungry after a game, there's a fine dining restaurant there; and if you get a headache [presumably from too much cheering or too much beer], there's a CVS there."

Presidential hospitality at its finest

Actor **Geena Davis**, who plays the first female president in the upcoming ABC TV series "Commander-In-Chief," which is now in production, told **President Bush** she'd never seen the Oval Office. So of course POTUS obligingly arranged an escorted tour for her.

Two embassies tango for U.S. retail biz

The **Brazilians** and **Bolivians** teamed up last Tuesday to host a dinner and cultural evening that featured **Argentina's** premier tango duo and ended with **Bolivia's** dramatic and colorful **Diablos** dancers. **South American** ambassadors from **Chile**, **Ec-**



Ron Edmonds/AP
Marine Gen. Peter Pace listens as President Bush announces that he is Bush's choice for chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, April 22. Pace was at a barbecue at Debbie Dingell's Potomac home.

uador, **Peru**, **Paraguay** and **Venezuela** joined in the fun. **Bolivian** Ambassador **Jaime Aparicio** and his chic wife, **Pamela**, and Georgetown boutique owner **Keith Lippert** organized this event for the National Retail Federation, which included chief executive officers from 30 of the largest companies in the United States, including **Sears**, **Radio Shack** and **Saks Fifth Avenue**.

The dinner was hosted by **Brazilian** Ambassador **Roberto Ab-**

denur and **Mrs. Abdenur**. Guests dined on seared sea scallop with lump crabmeat followed by red snapper and beef medallions. The party then moved to the **Bolivian** Embassy, where the ambassador and **Mrs. Aparicio** hosted guests for dessert and entertainment. Ambassador **Aparicio** was delighted with the evening: "This event was an initial step to build bridges in the Americas and show the potential of South America as a region and trading partner

with the largest retailers from across the United States."

Bellissima! Sophia is coming

The **National Italian American** Foundation is planning a big 30th anniversary Washington gala on Oct. 15. One of the film industry's great sex symbols, **Sophia Loren**, a frequent and most charming dinner guest at the Clinton White House, has agreed to attend.

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