

Sitcom satire plugs team spirit



Shelley Long calls her troops to a halt in "Troop Beverly Hills."

By Judith Trojan

NC News

NEW YORK — Thanks in large part to Shelly Long's comedic talents, "Troop Beverly Hills" (Weintraub) is surprisingly entertaining fluff.

Long shines as the impossibly rich, spoiled Beverly Hills matron, Phyllis Nefler, whose biggest accomplishment to date seems to be negotiating her way through the pricey boutiques on Rodeo Drive. Since her marriage to muffler magnate Freddy (Craig T. Nelson) is on the skids, Phyllis decides to salvage her life by helming her daughter's (Jenny Lewis) disintegrating Wilderness Girls' troop.

Of course, Phyllis' outlandish methods of troop leadership antagonize the Wilderness Girls' district leader, Velda Plendor (Betty Thomas). Gung-ho Velda will stop at nothing to discredit Phyllis and her troop of rich princesses. But Phyllis survives in spite of Velda's jealousy and underhanded sabotage.

Phyllis' methods of restoring her own and her troop's credibility are, in fact,

unorthodox and utilize many of the skills she perfected during years as shopper and benefit-party maven. The girls earn merit patches for such skills as jewelry appraisal and gardening with glamour. They perform community service by describing fall fashions to the blind. When their first camping trip is rained out, the troop moves indoors and toasts marshmallows and munches croissants around a fireplace at the Beverly Hills Hotel. They also sell a record number of cookies during various celebrity events Phyllis organizes to promote the troop to the girls' previously indifferent rich parents and friends.

Although this sounds like a tribute to materialism, "Troop Beverly Hills" has something positive to say about the merits of team spirit and commitment, the importance of following the rules and not cheat-

ing to attain one's goals, the psychological rewards of unified families and the personal satisfaction of not yielding to adversity. And for all of these attributes, the formerly self-involved, dispirited girls rightfully look to Phyllis, not Velda (played to mean-spirited perfection by Thomas), as their role model.

As directed by Jeff Kanew, this is basically a better-than-average sitcom-caliber satire on the salvation of a narcissistic shopper and some lonely rich kids. "Troop Beverly Hills" should especially entertain older adolescents and adults who enjoy similar pursuits.

Due to fleeting rough language and minimal sexual innuendo, the USCC classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The MPAA rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

Dining Around the Diocese

Big Apple Cafe
682 Park Avenue
271-1039

A European cafe atmosphere greets you at the Big Apple Cafe, a comfortable fun place to dine. Located in the chic Park Avenue area, the Big Apple offers foods that are prepared fresh daily. Enjoy outdoor dining this spring and summer. Open menu all day. On Sundays, stop by after mass for a sumptuous brunch, from omelettes to french toast. Hours: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight, Sunday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Cannon's
1551 Mt. Hope Ave.
(1 minute north of W. Henrietta Rd. exit off Rte. 390)
(716)461-1026

A Rochester favorite for 23 years, featuring a diverse menu including seafood, steaks, chops, veal, and Italian dishes. For the late night diner we serve until 1 a.m. Mon.-Sat., and midnight Sun. Lunches are served daily from 11 a.m. til 3:30.

Charlie Brown's Family Restaurant
495 Goodman St. North
One block from Main St. E.
(716)326-3606 / Take out

One of Rochester's cleanest and newest restaurants, where you will find delicious food prepared and served in a comfortable atmosphere at reasonable prices. Breakfast specials daily starting at 95¢. Open 7 days 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. — Fri till 9 p.m. Senior citizen discount available on lunches and Fri night (except specials). Owned and operated by Charles D. Scanio.

Charlie's Coldwater Station
607 Coldwater Rd., Gates
(716)247-3860

Just a short drive from the hustle and bustle of the city, you'll find Charlie's Coldwater Station, tucked neatly next to the railroad tracks on Coldwater Road. (Between Buffalo Road and Westside Drive).

As one of the last surviving railroad stations of the 1800's, it has an interesting history. During WWII, the station served as a Post Office. After sitting idle for some time, it was used as a furniture store which Charlie Diem took over in 1976. In 1984, Charlie converted the station into a unique restaurant, doing most of the work himself.

Charlie's Coldwater Station features a tremendous Sunday Brunch from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The items featured include salads, juices, sweetrolls, pancakes, french toast, bacon, sausage, hash browns, all types of eggs cooked to order and a variety of special items.

At 1:30, Charlie's Coldwater Station takes away the breakfast items and adds scalloped potatoes and unlimited prime rib changing it to an afternoon dinner buffet, available up to 6 p.m. A sumptuous dessert table helps to complete your Sunday feast!

Brunch is \$7.95, Dinner Buffet \$9.95. There are reduced rates for children under 12. Children under 4 are free. For a Friday Fish Fry that's second to none try Charlie's for the largest Haddock Fry in town!

Conesus Inn
2170 East Lake Road
(East side of Beautiful Conesus Lake)
(716)346-6100

Now is the perfect time to take a leisurely

drive to the Conesus Inn. Located on Conesus Lake, the Conesus Inn serves dinners Tuesday through Saturday from 5 p.m. and Sundays beginning at 4 p.m. As always you'll find the same spectacular Prime Rib, Alaskan King Crab Legs and Australian Lobster Tail that you've come to expect and enjoy from the Conesus Inn. The beautiful surroundings and atmosphere of the Conesus Inn make it an ideal spot for dinner. Whether it's an intimate evening for two or a large gathering of friends...the Conesus Inn has a perfect evening of dining waiting for you. While you're there, remember to choose a fine wine from their extensive wine list. Reopen for yet another season of splendid dining, visit the Conesus Inn soon... "For The Prime of Your Life." Just ten minutes from exit 9 off 390. Call today for reservations.

Crystal Barn
Corner Clover & Jefferson
at the Barn Bazaar in Pittsford
(716)381-4844

A pleasant blend of crystal chandeliers and Victorian motif set in an authentic country barn, creates a memorable atmosphere...for lunch, cocktails or an enjoyable dining experience. Your host George and Katherine Gerkos and Chef Russell Brindisi pride themselves in presenting you with the most carefully selected and prepared dinners as well as unique special creations for each evening. We most sincerely hope that you'll find our quality uncompromising and our service unsurpassed. Reservations are appreciated.

Flaherty's Three Flags Inn
1200 Bay Road, Webster
(716)671-0816
113 Rt. 31
(716)223-1221

Stop in for lunch or dinner and try some of our homemade soups and specials. A neighborhood tavern and grill since 1970, our friendly and relaxed atmosphere has become a favorite spot for people from all over the county. Our full menu offers you a choice of anything from broiled steak and chicken to our now famous chicken wings. For sports fans we offer your choice of five monitors for your favorite sports viewing. Open 7 days a week, 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. See you there!

Fornataro's
2155 Long Pond Rd.
(corner Long Pond & Spencerport Rds.)
(716)426-1240

Along the streets of Rome or in the Italian countryside, the word "trattoria" conjures up images of a family-like dining room just off a kitchen, fragrant with the rich aroma of simmering meat sauces, tomatoes and fresh peppers. Such could be a description of Fornataro's. Serving dishes like Filet Fornataro (beef dressed in a sweet sauce with melon balls and grapes), Saltimbocca, Veal Marsala and Madeira, Fettucine Alfredo in its golden cheese dressing, and Beef Tenderloin flavored with spices and cognac in a marinara sauce. Most pastas are homemade. Wines and liquors are used liberally in the cuisine as are artichoke hearts and fruits. Lunches served Monday through Friday, dinnery seven nights a week. Banquet and private party rooms are available.

Irondequoit Town Lounge
705 Titus Avenue
(716)342-3465

Serving lunches 11:30-3 p.m. daily except Sunday. Featuring an Early Bird Special every night but Friday. Fish Frys every Friday. Our party room can accommodate up to 60 people for your next gathering. Clip out this ad and receive \$5.00 off two dinners (not valid on dinners under \$8.00), offer good Sunday thru Thursday, during the month of May. Please present ad when ordering.

Mr. Dominic's at the Lake
4699 Lake Avenue
(716)865-4630

Noted for their fine Italian dinners that include 11 veal dishes and homemade pasta, Mr. Dominic's is now open for lunch. Early Bird dinner specials Sunday-Friday. Also offering 10% senior discount. Delivery is available for your luncheon group of ten or more. Lunch hours from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Dinner hours Monday-Friday 4:00-9:30 p.m., Saturday 5:00-10:00 p.m., Sunday 3:00-9:00 p.m.

Mrs. Murphy's Smorgasbord & Lobster House
Bath, New York
(607)776-6211

Our 50th Anniversary Festival is now on. Wednesday and Thursday Buffet, \$8.95. Also, 12 Early-Bird Specials \$3.95 and up, 5-8 p.m. Friday's, Famous Fish Dinners. Smorgasbord with Prime Rib and Crab Legs Fridays and Saturdays. Sunday Champagne Brunch 12-2:30, \$6.50. Sunday Smorgasbord 2:45 p.m. till. Take 390 S. to Rt. 17, exit 37 or 38.

National Hotel
Rte. 20A & 39
Cuylerville, NY 14481
(716)382-3130

Built in 1837, the 150 year old National Hotel is a landmark in and of itself. Serving dinners only, Tues.-Sat. 4:30-10 p.m. and Sundays, 12-8 p.m. A special Senior Citizen menu is featured nightly and Sunday. From Rochester, take 390 South to exit 8. The National Hotel is located on Rts. 20A & 39 in Cuylerville just 3 miles south of Geneseo or 3 miles east of Letchworth State Park. Reservations are appreciated.

(Oswald's) Hof Brau Haus
406 Lyell Ave.
(716)458-2084

Authentic German cooking in an old world Gasthaus decor. Specializing in German wines, and featuring more than 50 imported beers. Special arrangements for groups. Serving lunch and dinner. Live Bavarian entertainment on weekends.

Papa Joe's
8506 Grieg Street
Sodus Point, NY
(315)483-6372

Your hosts Don and Jude Buchwald welcome you to Papa Joe's Restaurant located on the scenic waters of Sodus Bay. Featuring steak, veal, chicken, seafood and pasta dishes. Not one, but two chefs, Chef Pasquale and Chef Nique, prepare all your meals fresh daily on the premises for your dining pleasure. Every Thursday we feature Prime Rib, Chicken French or Chicken Centra for only \$7.95 each. Steak and



lobster, at only \$14.99, is served daily for the season. Enjoy complete lunch and dinner menus on our casual outdoor deck or in our elegant indoor dining area. Lunches and dinners served 7 days a week, 11:30 a.m. til 10:00 p.m. Major credit cards accepted. Reservations appreciated. "Papa Joe's...A truly unique dining experience."

Sherwood Manor Restaurant
60 W. Main Street
Honeoye Falls, NY
(15 Minutes south of Monroe and Clover Sts.)
(716)624-3580 Closed Mondays

Your host, Andy Carafos, invites you to dine in relaxed elegance, sampling from a menu featuring the finest quality prime rib served in upstate New York. Fresh seafood, veal, steaks, chops, and poultry, as well as several daily luncheon, dinner and early bird specials round out the extensive menu. Banquet facilities available for parties to 125.

Sodus Pt. Fish & Crab House
Sodus Pt., N.Y. 14555 (on the Seaway Trail)
(315)483-2314

Discover Sodus Pt. at its finest! The area's first waterfront fish and crab house serving lunch and dinner on beautiful Sodus Bay. Surrounded with glass and decking, the breathtaking view is surpassed by the food. Join us for dining or dancing in our authentic Cape Cod nautical atmosphere. Located on Greig St. in Sodus Pt. Reservations are appreciated.

Yellow Rose Cafe
1784 Penfield Rd.
Penfield, New York 14526
(716)385-3673

Come and dine at this historic landmark; former home of Daniel Penfield, founder of Penfield. We offer good cooking, good service and a quiet, gracious atmosphere. Hours are Mon.-Fri. 11:30 a.m.-1 a.m.; Sat. 11:30-2 a.m. and Sun. 10 a.m.-12 midnight. Both lunch and dinner are our special talents. See you there!

Dining Around the Diocese

The first issue of each month, the *Catholic Courier* will be featuring some prime dining spots in and around the Rochester diocese. If you, or someone you know, would like to have your restaurant included in our Dining Guide, call the *Catholic Courier* at (716)328-4340. Look for our Dining Guide in the upcoming months, and pay a visit to the restaurant of your choice, and enjoy a pleasant evening of "Dining Around the Diocese."