

## Rambling script, forgettable cast cause downfall of 'Big Picture'

By Judith Trojan  
Catholic News Service

"The Big Picture" (Columbia) aspires to be a big satire of Hollywood focusing on the struggles of one film school grad, who is determined not to compromise his values on the way up the ladder of success. Unfortunately, director and co-writer Christopher Guest takes the "Big" in his title too seriously and drones on long enough to make one really big, redundant picture.

Budding filmmaker Nick Chapman (Kevin Bacon) does end up compromising his values, of course. His coveted screenplay is unrecognizable trash by the time it's ready to be filmed; he dumps his devoted girlfriend, Susan (Emily Longstreth), for seductive starlet Gretchen (Teri Hatcher); and turns his back on his cinematographer friend, Emmet (Michael McKean, also a co-writer), when the chance to work with a well-known cinematographer arises.

There's nothing new in this rags-to-riches-to-rags story, and there's too much artsy use of jarring cornball fantasy se-

quences that amateurishly satirize great movie moments and other pop culture trends.

Bacon brings class to the thankless role of overnight sensation Nick Chapman, and there is a notably zany cameo by Martin Short as the quintessential Hollywood agent. The wall-to-wall Hollywood in-jokes may keep industry types and film school grads rolling in the aisles. But for the uninitiated, the rambling script and the rest of the cast are forgettable. In fact, "The Big Picture" resembles the type of self-indulgent, high-gloss student film that it seeks to lampoon.

Due to some sexual innuendo and vulgar references, the U.S. Catholic Conference classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned that some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Trojan is on the staff of the U.S. Catholic Conference Office for Film and Broadcasting.



Kevin Bacon (left), starring as a young director determined not to compromise his values as he struggles to the top in Hollywood, sets up a shot with his best friend in "The Big Picture."

## 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: 11a.m. to 11p.m. weekdays, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight, Sunday 11a.m. to 10p.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 6a.m. to 3p.m. — Fri 'til 9p.m. Senior citizen discount available on lunches and Fri night(except specials). Owned and operated by Charles D. Scanio.

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

Anytime is the perfect time to take a leisurely drive to 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. Open this season until December 16th. 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!

**The Holloway House**  
Rt 5 & 20, E. Bloomfield  
1-657-7120

Enjoy the colonial surroundings of the historic Holloway House for birthdays, anniversaries, or just plain dining out! Built in 1808 as a stagecoach stop, this restaurant (with a ★★ Mobil Guide rating) offers both a full-course and a-la-carte menu including turkey, steak & seafood. Round out your meal with their famous Sally Lunn Bread and homemade desserts. Enjoy the Saturday Prime Rib Special from 12-3 p.m. Sundays. Owned and operated by the Wayne Family for 29 years, they welcome you for lunch from 11:30A-2P or dinner from 5:30-8:30P. Sat. til 9 p.m., Sun. 12-7:30 p.m. Closed Mondays.

**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 October. Please present ad when ordering

**MaMa Deak's Pasta Kitchen**  
569 Thurston Road  
(716) 235-7500

Dine in an atmosphere reminiscent of Mama's kitchen... casual and quaint. Featuring homemade Gnocchi's, Baked Lasagna, Linguini with Clam Sauce and more pasta favorites.. Now serving Friday and Saturday evenings: Alaskan King Crab Legs with your favorite side of pasta. Great food at great prices. Serving Mon. - Thurs. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Fri. 11 a.m. til, Sat. 5 p.m. til.

**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, 5-8p.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 2:45p.m. till. Take 390 S. to Rt. 17, exit 37 or 38.

**National Hotel**  
Bed and Breakfast Inn  
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 Bed and Breakfast Inn 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.

**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. Fall hours: Lunch Sunday's 12-3; Dinners Thurs.-Sat. 5p.m.-10p.m., Sunday 3p.m.-8p.m.

**Victor Milling Co. Rest.**  
75 Coville Rd. (off Maple)  
924-4049

Tucked away in the heart of Victor you'll find this unique and relaxing restaurant. This Fall, enjoy the open hearth's warmth as you peruse the eclectic menu, which features many original recipes including a well-known seafood bisque. Starting Sept. 14, try the Thursday prime rib buffet for \$12.95. Hours for dinner are Mon - Sat from 5 p.m. Lunch, Tues - Fri 11:30 - 2. Lunch menu changes daily.

### 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."