ntertainment

'Butcher's Wife' relies on Moore to carry load

By Gerri Pare **Catholic News Service**

NEW YORK — Neighborhood romances get turned on end when a clairvoyant bride shares her psychic insights in The Butcher's Wife (Paramount).

When chunky butcher Leo Lemke (George Dzunda) returns from a fishing vacation in the Carolinas, his Greenwich Village neighbors are bedazzled by his catch — a barefoot, beautiful blonde bride named Marina (Demi Moore), who has second sight.

After an impetuous marriage to Leo the very day she met him, Marina blithely sets about rearranging her neighbors' romantic relationships. Three unhappy women receive her special attention: inhibited choir teacher Stella (Mary Steenburgen), lonely lesbian Grace (Frances McDormand) and Robin (Margaret Colin), who starts pressuring her psychiatrist boyfriend Dr. Tremor (Jeff Daniels) to marry her.

In due time Stella and the butcher are trying to avoid romance as are Marina and the doctor, while Grace and Robin aren't.

Director Terry Hughes has turned out a romantic comedy that capitalizes on Moore's huge popularity last year in another psychic-oriented comedy, Ghost.

Overall, the movie is visually delightful, but the doctor's self-serving advice to Stella to have an affair with the butcher and the suggestion that one can be "persuaded" to switch sexual persuasions are troubling, though they fit conveniently into what is very much a silly fantasy.

Due to an implied lesbian relationship, mild sexual innuendo and an instance of rough language, the USCC classification is A-IV - adults, with reservations. The MPAA rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned that some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



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Demi Moore stars as Marina, a clairvoyant from North Carolina whose sudden marriage brings her to Greenwich Village, and Jeff Daniels is Dr. Alex Tremor, a psychiatrist who becomes aware of her uncanny influence on everyone in the neighborhood, in The Butcher's Wife.

ining Around the Diocese

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