

EXCLUSIVE EXCERPT: LBJ'S VIETNAM CONFESSIONS

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# GENERATION

# 9-11

Terror, War  
And Recession  
Hit Home  
On Campus



University of Michigan students Paxton Williams, Brenda Fathy Abdelall and Ben Perry

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**SCOUTS' HONOR:** Neighbors want the property to stay pristine

BOY SCOUTS

## Is It Time to Break Camp?

**T**HIRTY YEARS AGO HENRY W. Jackson, a late Arizona rancher, bequeathed 420 acres of his mesquite-covered ranch to the Boy Scouts, and called upon them to "protect the view and the value of the mountains," as he told a local newspaper in 1974. Last week his daughter Anne Miller returned to the foothills of Rincon Peak outside Tucson to plead with a judge to give the land back to the family's trust because the Scout leaders plan to sell it off to developers. "If my father had wanted the [Scouts] council to have money, he would have given them money," she says. "He gave them land for the boys to camp on, not for high-density development."

Similar battles are breaking out across the country, where a number of the 423 camps and 258 high-adventure Scout reservations are sprouting FOR SALE signs. As Michigan Scouting historian Dave Eby puts it, "Nothing on the planet raises ire of scouters more than the sale of their particular camp." But maintenance bills on aging buildings, shifting membership demographics and funding shortfalls leave some local lead-

ers little choice. A New Jersey council agreed three months ago to sell 750 acres for an undisclosed sum after the United Way, in protest over the Scouts' policy barring gays, yanked \$130,000 in annual grants. The tract went to another nonprofit which will not develop it. But in other districts, new owners can seem the antithesis of scouting. In July the Firestone Scout Reservation sold a pristine 2,500-acre canyon in southern California to buyers who planned a hydroelectric plant there (the Sierra Club has sued). In April a lumber company bought the 132-acre Camp Bill Stark in Beaumont, Texas; last week the land was clear-cut and the new owners set up deer-hunting blinds, says the executive director of the Stark Foundation, which had donated the land. "Let me see if I can control my language here: I'm devastated," he says. "I thought they were teaching our kids to leave the wilderness in better shape than you found it."

In Tucson, Miller sued to stop the sale, as have many neighbors of the property. They say they would withdraw opposition if the local Catalina Council would agree to build only one home on the land. But a council lawyer calls this proposal unac-

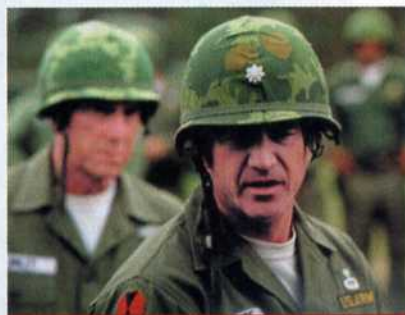
ceptable. "That would not bring us enough money," he says. They plan to build up to 11 houses there. A trial is scheduled for next March—unless the Scouts can get a merit badge in conflict-resolution by then.

DAVID FRANCE

HOLLYWOOD

## Ready for War

**H**OLLYWOOD IS SUDDENLY CONVINCED that audiences are ready for combat—and has launched a ground campaign to land the first war movie in the multiplex. A month after a nervous MGM pushed its World War II drama "Windtalkers" from this Friday to next summer, three other studios all decided last week to ride the country's patriotic wave and move up their fighting flicks. First Sony switched its Somalia story "Black Hawk Down," starring Josh Hartnett and Ewan McGregor, from March 1 to Dec. 28. Then Paramount moved its



**MEL ON THE MOVE:** Juggling dates

Mel Gibson drama "We Were Soldiers," about the first U.S. battle in Vietnam, from next summer to March 1. Finally, 20th Century Fox jumped over everybody, taking its Gene Hackman downed-pilot-hero tale "Behind Enemy Lines" from Jan. 18 to Nov. 30. The studios believe moviegoers want a lot more artillery than they're seeing on CNN—thus ending the internal peace that briefly governed showbiz after the attacks.

JOHN HORN

## BOOKS ALL BOXED UP

**T**his elaborate telling of the life and loves of a Japanese emperor's son is arguably the world's oldest novel. "The Tale of the Genji" set an insanely high standard for anything that came after it. Written by a lady of the Heian court in Japan in the 11th century, "Genji" can be daunting. This latest edition (translated by Royall Tyler. Viking, 2 vols., slipcased, \$60) is reader-friendly at every turn, with generous footnotes, character lists and lots of illustrations to show what robes looked like, or swords, or houses. You have to reach for comparisons to Tolstoy or Proust to convey just what a captivating experience this story can be.

• There aren't many books that you'll want to keep in the box they came in. But when you rub the ultrasuede cover of "Billy Wilder's Some Like It Hot" by Dan Auiler (Taschen, \$150), a homage to Wilder's cross-dressing classic, your first thought is likely to be, Did I wash my hands? The publisher has created a giddy, authoritative tribute to Wilder on his 95th birthday. Besides photos from the film and set, this big-as-a-coffeetable book contains a rarely seen first-draft script and a facsimile copy of Marilyn Monroe's shooting script, complete with coffee stains and her notes. If the price seems a mite steep, well, nobody's perfect.

MALCOLM JONES



'GENJI'