

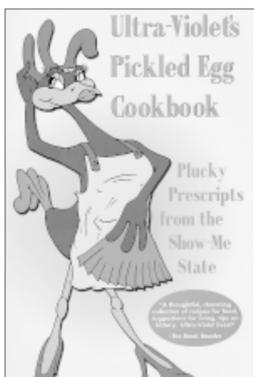
If You Don't Know Jack Cheese About Pickled Eggs Or Muffins, Try These Latest Cookbooks on for Size

By MICHELLE H. LePOIDEVIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Every Easter, my mother and I go through the usual scramble of finding the perfect pickled egg recipe to sate my father's craving.

His doctor, who constantly advises him to "trim the fat" so to speak would rather have us scour for low fat recipes.

Mom has a love/hate relationship with baked goods. She loves to eat them, but goes into a cold sweat when trying to translate a homemade



and breads will be mesmerized by each generous chapter and the accompanying photography which is top quality.

Specially ordered by the Smithsonian Institute and notable bookstores nationwide, this cookbook contains more than basic recipes and pretty pictures, but an abundant history of the milling and bread making industry and poetry. This qualifies the volume as a true coffee-table book that anyone can pick up and get an education from.

A Romance With Baking, Karol Redfern Hamper and Shelley Odegard, Redfern Books, hardcover, \$50.00.

Finally, more than 40 pickled egg recipes are ready for the savoring thanks to Violet S. Clayton of Mis-

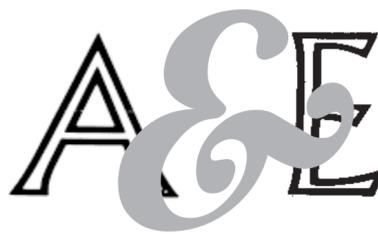
souri. Boasting more of a cartoony, church cookbook type of volume, the variety of recipes is extraordinary.

Eggs laced with Louisiana hot sauce, jalapeños, and traditional pickling spices may be chosen among other recipes with orange zested eggs, red and green peppers, and even string beans and cinnamon sticks.

Clayton points out the nutritional value of the oval-shaped wonders and reminds the reader of how economical the product may be as well.

While the laminated cover of this publication is cleverly cartooned with a plucky little hen on the front, it is not as attractively packaged and durable as the aforementioned volumes.

Ultra-Violet's Pickled Egg Cookbook: Plucky Prescripts from the Show-Me State, Violet S. Clayton, laminated paper cover, \$16.95.



In Aussie 'Survivor,' Only Strong Will Outwit, Outlast, Outplay

By STEVEN KRAKAUER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD - You want to know the truth about "Survivor?" Take it from me.

Some people call me a big fan, others call me obsessed, but you can call me the self-proclaimed Survivor Genie.

Last year I predicted, during Episode Two, who the final three contestants would be on Survivor Island in Palau Tiga. My choices? First place - Sean (fifth), second place - Rudy (third) and third place - Richard (first).

For this year's series, which takes place in Australia, I will improve on my Survivor prophecy ability. Here are my predictions.

Third Place

Nick Brown. This young Harvard grad student has got it going for him. He's smart and strong, and lays low enough not to annoy people. And for all you ladies out there, he's also a model. When the teams merge, he'll be the victor in many Immunity Challenges. One mistake will be his ticket out of Australia.

Second Place

Elisabeth Filarski. She's a beautiful young New Englander who, from the first episode where she helped lug the group's crate to her vigorous stick gathering, was an obvious ally. Her respectable personality and reasonable demeanor should last her at least into the merger. Expect to see her emerge as the "civil" one of the group.

First Place

Jeff Varner. Is it just me, or is this guy completely Richard-esque? He wants to win, he wants to win bad. Just seeing him make gagging noises while trying to cause the other team to lose immunity shows the absolute extremes this guy will go to. He's a complete contestant. He has a black belt in Tae Kwon Do, was captain of his college cheer team, is a former bartender and salesman, and has a degree in journalism. Oh, and he started his own company.

Down the stretch he might not be well liked, but, trust me, he'll make his first of many millions on "Survivor."

The Other Survivors

The louddown on the not-quite-as-successful contestants
Look for Kucha tribe to lose the next couple Immunity Challenges, as they are a much weaker team physically. From the previews of next weeks show, it looks like Michael Skupin is approaching a Jack from "Lord of the Flies" state of mind. Not quite the kind of guy you want hang-

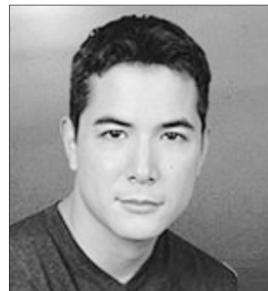
ing around. Also, sorry grams, but it's your time to go.

Look for Roger Bingham and Mike to get kicked off next.

For those of you Jerri-haters, don't worry, the woman solely responsible for Kel's early exit will be gone with her cooking buddy Keith Famie very soon. This chef



ADIOS... Deb Eaton and Kel Gleason get the boot on CBS' second installment of "Survivor." Who will be the ultimate survivor? Leader/Times reporter Steven Krakauer has the answer.



can't even make rice, how is he supposed to make it through Tribal Council?

The issue of Alicia Calaway is one that definitely takes some consideration. We haven't seen much of this Kucha member, but what we have seen is that she's a rat and not to be trusted. Say goodbye to Alicia after the merger.

The soft-spoken Kimmi Kappenberg reminds people of another gentile from New York, Fran Drescher. Oy vey! Kimmi acted brave in gobbling down her giant worm in Episode Two, but her vulgar talk and annoyance alone will get her knocked out early into the merger.

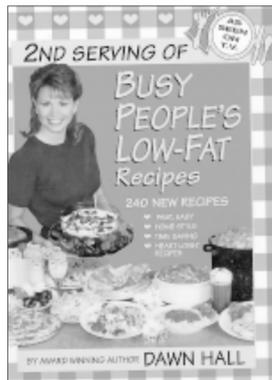
"Mad Dog" Maralyn Hershey will have to leave Australia prematurely. If she were only a little younger she would have had a chance to win it all.

Colby Donaldson, on the other hand, has the physical strength to take home the million, yet his non-existent survival smarts will exit him around Episode 7.

Finally, mom Tina Wesson will only stay as long as kind hearts are around number 6.

Amber Brkich will probably make it to the number 5 spot, if she can remain inconsequential. Finally, leave it to the 7-footer to place in the final four, but eventually Mitchell Olson will turn too nice and he'll come back to his home state of New Jersey.

To send your predictions or opinions about Steven's choices, please write steven@goleader.com.



bread recipe.

Our problems were solved with a trio of cookbooks which recently reached offices of *The Leader/The Times*.

There could not be three cookbooks more diverse than "Second Serving of Busy People's Low-Fat Recipes," "A Romance With Baking," and "Ultra-Violet's Pickled Egg Cookbook." One author hails from Ohio, another from Seattle, and the last from Missouri.

The pen of Dawn Hall, who scribed the 240-recipe volume, "Second Serving of Busy People's Low-Fat Recipes," spills over with experience and personal anecdotes. She starts off with the award-winning author's

heart-wrenching tales of cancer, food addictions and survival. She becomes the lead character of the tome and we want to learn from her.

"If you need encouragement," Hall writes, "I want to encourage you. No problem is too big for God." Her philosophy certainly applies to the simplicity of her recipes, how "budget-friendly" her suggestion are, and how much time each takes to prepare.

Hall covers all of the bases: appetizers, soups, salads, side dishes, entrees, and sweets. All 274 pages contain full tables of nutritional information, so there is nothing to hide and everything to gain from a regimen of healthier eating.

Second Serving of Busy People's Low-Fat Recipes, Dawn Hall, Cozy Homestead Publishing, Inc., hardcover, \$15.95.

Karol Redfern Hamper and Shelley Odegard of Seattle share the credits on the beautifully photographed 310-page baking cookbook and coffee-table book "A Romance With Baking, A Millennium Dedication to the American Flour Milling Industry."

Anyone who becomes easily entranced by a smorgasbord of pastries



WESTFIELD WATERCOLORIST...
"The Irish Influence," a watercolor painting by Lydia Brunelli of Westfield, won an Honorable Mention in the professional category during the 34th New Jersey Senior Citizens Art Contest and Exhibition held recently at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan.

Sample Some of Bach's Works During Westfield Bach Festival

WESTFIELD - The public is cordially invited to attend a concert series, "The Westfield Bach Festival," on the last weekend in February during which participants can sample the masterpieces of Johann Sebastian Bach at three different churches.

The Planning Committee for the festival consists of the music directors of the five churches: Charles Banks of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Rives Cassel of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Trent Johnson of First United Methodist Church, James Simms and David Drinkwater of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, and Barbara Thomson of First Congregational Church, all of Westfield.

The concerts will be presented at three different churches over the course of the weekend.

Concert 1 - The first concert is a program of chamber music on Friday, February 23, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. This concert will include among other works, Brandenburg Concertos Nos. 4 and 6.

Concert 2 - The second concert is an Organ Marathon on Saturday, February 24, at 3 p.m. at First Congregational Church. The program will include five organists, Mary Lou Stevens at 3 p.m.; Mr. Cassel at 3:30 p.m., Mr. Drinkwater at 4 p.m., Mr. Johnson at 4:30 p.m. and Ms. Thomson at 5 p.m. Each organist will play for a half hour. This program is designed for attendees to come and go at their leisure.

Final Program - The final program is on Sunday, February 25, at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. This gala concert, featuring the Westfield Bach Festival Chorus, Soloists and Orchestra, will include Cantatas Nos. 51 and 80 and a concerto for two harpsichords.

For more information, please visit www.westfieldbachfestival.homestead.com.

Tickets will cost \$50 for the series or \$20 each for the concerts on Friday and Saturday, with a \$30 fee for the Sunday concert.

Tickets for the complete series only will be available at The Classic Basket, Lancaster, Ltd., Periwinkles, Betty Gallagher Antiques, First Congregational Church, First United Methodist Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Holy Trinity Catholic Church and The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

Admission to individual concerts can be purchased at the door.

The Westfield Foundation has awarded a generous grant to present this series. Since the grant and ticket prices will only cover a portion of the expenses, financial contributions are welcome. To make a contribution, please call Mr. Cassel at (908) 233-4996.

Frankenstein

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ture." Christopher Bentivegna was phenomenal as the monster, with a glorious voice and the perfect combination of rage and childlike curiosity.

Talent like this is hard to come by. Keep that boy!

A fully staged version of *Frankenstein, the Musical* will be produced this coming April at The Park Performing Art Center in Jersey City, and all systems are go to begin the long and arduous task of getting New York producers interested in the project. If these three gentlemen have as much patience as they do talent, I'm sure that we will all be hearing from *Frankenstein, the Musical* in the not too distant future.

were pushing full force on stage, were to no avail.

The piece was well received by the audience, who appreciated the vigor in which the piece was played, but had the acoustics been more in sync with this orchestral music, the walls would have come down.

The Brahms Symphony No.4 was the true musical jewel of the evening. The Brahms was attacked with a vigor and fire that in fact saw two second violins literally snapping their strings, and a dozen others sending numerous strands of bowhair flying.

The treacherous waters of the first movement, with its many tempo and mood changes improved with each measure. Principal horn player Sharon Moe did a stellar job with accuracy and tone, but in several sections did not complete musical phrases and ideas.

Timpanist Barry Centanni was consistent and excellent throughout the whole work.

Several musically savvy of the evening commented that Maestro Wroe's second movement in particular was astounding. This is a truism. Despite several sections of intonation problems, specifically referring to the slightly flat Second clarinet in the doubled section at the opening of the second movement, the movement was stylistically, one of the best that could have been heard.

Highlights went on to included many clear, concise and musical solo sections by Principal clarinet William Shadel.

Horn sound in particular, which reflected well off the shell, was excellent. But, they overshadowed the string sections, who could not compare in volume, despite their push for sound.

While the horns were playing at proper volume and sounded even better in their highlighted solo sections, of which there are many, some

Contrasting Works for WSO

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of the lesser, supportive parts created an imbalance in ensemble sound. One horn sitting in either the third or fourth position, came in early in an attack towards the end of the piece.

In the final analysis, acoustics are half the battle. The Union County Arts Center is truly a gem of a hall, originally created for vaudeville style acts. However, there are some acoustical problems in the hall that can be amended to respond more effectively to the special needs of symphonic music.

First, an acoustical cloud is needed to direct upper and middle string section sound upwards. In addition, risers are needed for the woodwinds, horn and trumpet sections in addition to the end stands of the upper string sections.

Lastly, and most importantly, all of the gaps, or "sound vacuums" need to be closed behind the orchestra. This can be done by extending or amending the current acoustical shell, which will create a more solid sounding board for the orchestra.

The Westfield Symphony Orchestra defines passion in music. This can only be commended and enthusiastically supported. They are an orchestra who, along with their talented Maestro, deserve to excel and are certainly a testament to vigor, enthusiasm and finesse.

The next appearance of the Westfield Symphony Orchestra will be in a powerhouse concert to be held on Saturday, March 10, at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield at 8 p.m.

Special risers will be newly installed for the orchestra, which will feature Ryo Goto, younger brother of world renowned violinist Midori, in the beautiful Bruch Violin Concerto in G Minor, the Symphony Breve by Scarmolin, and the formidable Symphony No.6 of Tchaikovsky.

For tickets, please call (908) 232-9400.

Editorial

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pantry, turning the brass door-knob and peeking into the room. Sometimes, I hope to see him turn around with a toothy grin and tell me not to look at my valentine because he's still putting on the finishing touches. The scent of sawdust still emanating from the room, I whisper instead, "Happy Valentine's Day, Pop-Pop. We miss you."

WESTFIELD Bach FESTIVAL
Johann Sebastian Bach

<p>Concert I: Brandenburgs! The Ducal Chamber Players</p> <p>Friday, February 23, 7:30 p.m. St. Paul's Episcopal Church 414 East Broad Street</p> <p>Program: Trio Sonata in G Major Brandenburg Concerto #6 French Suite #5 in G Brandenburg Concerto #4</p>	<p>Concert II: Pulling Out All the Stops: Bach Organ Marathon</p> <p>Saturday, February 24, 3:00 p.m. First Congregational Church 125 Elmer Street</p> <p>Organists: Mary Lou Stevens (3:00 p.m.) Rives Cassel (3:30 p.m.) David Drinkwater (4:00 p.m.) Trent Johnson (4:30 p.m.) Barbara Thomson (5:00 p.m.)</p>
<p>Concert III Westfield Bach Festival Gala Concert Westfield Bach Festival Chorus, Soloists, and Orchestra Andrew Megill, Conductor</p> <p>Sunday, February 25, 7:30 p.m. The Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity Westfield Ave. and First St. 908-233-4996</p> <p>These concerts have been made possible in part by a generous grant from The Westfield Foundation.</p> <p>Tickets for the individual concerts (2-23: \$20, 2-24: \$20, 2-25: \$30) available at the door. Advance tickets for the series only (\$50 for all three concerts) are available from The Classic Basket, Lancaster, Ltd., Periwinkle's, Betty Gallagher Antiques, Visit us online at http://www.westfieldbachfestival.homestead.com</p>	

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