

Mona Freeman Wants Adult Movie Roles From Now On

By GENE HANDSAKER
AP Newsfeatures

HOLLYWOOD — Little Mona Freeman is a big girl now. She wishes the studios would hurry up and find parts that would let her act her age.

She's 25. She has been married for several years to an auto dealer named Pat Nerney. Their daughter is three-and-one-half. So what does Mona play on the screen? Well, she recently finished a role as Joan Fontaine's 14-year-old daughter. Black stockings, flat heels, and long hair tied with a ribbon helped the illusion. While she was expecting Mona, Jr., she played Betty Grable's daughter in "Mother Wore Tights".

No more of those "Dear Ruth" pictures for her, Mona said. In those "Dear Wife," "Dear Brat" she's a dedicated juvenile whose militant causes upset her jurist father, Edward Arnold. "No more of those," she amended, "unless it's one where I grow up, get married, and have children."

Miss Freeman, a doll-like, green-eyed blonde 5 feet two-and-one-

Out Of Service



CAMP LEJEUNE—Marine Sgt. Willis C. Beck, 27, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Beck, Route One, has been released from active duty under the release program inaugurated by the Marines in June.

The program calls for the release of several thousand reservists each month until all those desiring release are returned to inactive duty. The North Carolina Leatherneck was graduated from Waynesville Township High School in 1940 and attended Western Carolina Teachers College.

The veteran Marine participated in Task Force 58 at Iwo Jima in World War II, also served in the Okinawa campaign. Prior to his recall to active duty, Beck worked for Home Security Insurance Co. in Durham. Sgt. Beck is married to the former Doris Anne Blalock of Waynesville. While serving his current tour of duty, Beck was assigned to Guard Company, Marine Barracks here.

half inches tall, thinks it's her small size that makes her look young. "I'm happy I don't look 25," she said. "When I'm 30, maybe I'll look 25; then I'll be even happier."

What roles would she like? "Something really offbeat," she said. "I'm not sure I know what I mean, but I'd know it if I saw it. Not necessarily a girl with a twitch. No more juveniles, though I'd play a girl of 18 if it's a grown-up part with a love interest."

She was Alan Ladd's love interest in "Branded" and Bill Holden's in "Streets of Laredo". But western roles don't appeal to her. The Wanda Hendrix-Ann Blyth-Nancy Olson type of part is what Mona said she yearns for.

Through one of those freak twists of casting fate, she played the mother of two children in "That Brennan Girl"—about five years ago. "And no critic said I was too young in that," Mona said proudly.

Her Paramount bosses agree she should play more mature parts, Mona disclosed. It's just a question of finding them.

Of course, looking extra young has its advantages. "Sometimes somebody at the door asks, 'Is your mother at home?'" Mona remarked. "If it's somebody I don't want to talk to, I say 'no' and shut the door."

TRUMAN WITNESSES SEALING OF U. S. CONSTITUTION



ON THE 164th ANNIVERSARY of the signing of the U. S. Constitution, President Truman (left) refers to the historic document as "a living force in our life" during ceremonies in Washington's Library of Congress. Witnessing the permanent sealing of the original parchments on which the Constitution and Declaration of Independence were written, he attacked the Soviet government for imposing tyranny on its people. At right, E. Carroll Greltz, of the Bureau of Standards, guarantees protection against time's ravages for the Constitution as he removes air and pumps helium gas into a case containing the document. (International)

Film Editor Can Make Or Break

HOLLYWOOD — Barbara "Bobbie" McLean owns a little gold medal engraved, "In Bobbie I Trust. — From Joe."

It's topnotch Director Joseph Mankiewicz' tribute to her editing of "All About Eve." 1950 Oscar winner. The film won writer-director awards for Joe and an editing nomination for Bobbie—her seventh.

She received an Oscar for "Wilson," whose star, Alexander Knox, sent her a medal that says: "You cut a President and got away with it." And Darryl Zanuck sent her a leather-bound copy of the film's script inscribed: "To the best film editor in the whole world."

Hollywood has about 260 film editors, informally known as cutters, of whom eight or 10 are women. To male astonishment that a mere woman can snip perhaps 200,000 feet of exposed film into a 10,000-foot feature, Bobbie replies mildly: "There are a lot of women authors—very good ones."

Petite, pretty and blue-eyed, Bobbie grew up in the business. Her father had charge of a film laboratory at Fort Lee, N. J., when movies were made there. She cut and patched film during school vacations and once played a bit part in a Norma Shearer film.

In Hollywood she was an assistant cutter on several Mary Pickford pictures. Since 1933 she has edited some of Zanuck's biggest productions, including the current "David and Bathsheba."

She spends a lot of time on the sets and works closely with the directors. Every director she has worked for has asked for her again. She edited the last 27 of Director Henry King's films, including "Twelve O'Clock High."

Her neat cutting-room has rows of film cans on shelves and strips of film hanging from nails. She looks at film in a projection room or through a small viewer called a Movieola.

"You get a lot of film every day," Bobbie said, making it sound simple. "and you pick as you see fit and tell the story as you want."

"You play a scene for all it's worth. Sometimes you're asked, 'How do you know where to cut?' You don't—you just automatically feel it."

"In a musical, you cut on the beat so it's not jarring. It takes a sense of timing. It takes a dramatic sense. And you must never let a lot of film throw you."

Malaya's Population
The population of the Federation of Malaya has increased 30 per cent during the last 16 years.

LAFF-A-DAY



"So you're Mrs. Brewster? Goodness, I didn't even know Charley-boy was married."

Crosley Contest Is Announced By Rogers Electric

Max Rogers, manager of Rogers Electric Company, has announced that his company is participating in a giant nation-wide \$2,000,000 "American Way of Life" contest.

The contest, conducted by the Crosley Division, Avco Manufacturing Corporation, will feature large cash and merchandise gifts to individual winners, as well as over \$500,000 in cash to be given to churches and recognized charities.

The contest is simple to enter and easy to win, because there is nothing to buy," Mr. Rogers said. To enter, it will be necessary to answer a simple true and false quiz and write in fifty words or less, "What The American Way of Life Means to Me," on a national and a local entry blank. The blanks are available, without obligation, at Rogers Electric Co., Mr. Rogers

Persecute Christians
One aspect of the Korean war of particular concern to religious leaders is the manner in which the Communist armies are reported to have singled out Christians as special targets of persecution and retaliation. According to a report in the Pusan Christian Times, 20,000 Christians, including priests and pastors, have been slain by the North Korean Communists since the beginning of the war.

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Soldier Is True To Life Movie's Wisecracking

HOLLYWOOD—(AP)—In every war movie, a standard character is the wisecracking Soldier. You know—the glib guy who discusses dames in Brooklynese or the Texan who ends every drawing comment with "That's for sure."

Far from being just a script-writer's fabrication, such zanies exist in every real outfit, a war-hero tells me. Further, Capt. Raymond Harvey is glad of it. They keep up morale.

Some GI humor seems pretty trim, though. Harvey recalls one chap who'd munch a cracker or crust of bread, just for the heck of it, when his fellows were famishing for a drink of water. And another who'd bark, "Awright, lean up the cigarette butts an' trash around here!" This pseudo-ergerant would thus disturb exhausted buddies resting after some rigorous maneuver.

Harvey, of nearby Aitadena, won a Congressional Medal of Honor for a singlehanded assault with grenades and rifle on enemy bunkers and foxholes in Korea. He left 10 dead and 25 wounded. Recently he was technical adviser on the Korean-war movie, "Fixed Bayonets."

Fun in filmland: When "Denver and Rio Grande" was on location in Colorado not long ago, Dean Jagger took his own 16-mm. movies of the spectacular action. It included a landslide and two real trains colliding.

Also, one 5 a.m., Jagger caught a shot of Producer Nat Holt soundly sleeping in a chair-car seat. Dean's private production will be shown at a party in the producer's honor. Repeated inserts showing Holt sleeping will indicate—falsely, of course—that the boss snoozed all through the crashing action.

Jane Russell outlines the plot of "Son of Paleface": Bob Hope loves me, I love Roy Rogers, Roy loves Trigger, Trigger hates Hope. A prop on this set is an enormous statue of Hope, as a buckskinned pioneer, standing triumphant over a fallen Indian. Over the Redman's neck the crew hung a sign the other day: "Creeping Crosby". Bing'll get a still picture of the

scene... Danny Thomas pointed to his hook nose while emceeing a benefit the other evening. Then he introduced Bob Hope: "His nose goes the other way. In a rainstorm, he'd drown."... Hope noted a small mongrel passing by. "If Crosby were here," he snarled, "he'd throw a saddle on it."

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Musical Late News

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After you make a turn, the front wheels instinctively seek a straight course. This car seems to guide itself.

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