

flash

America is disappointed in its high hopes for Colin Powell's 1996 presidential candidacy. At the close of his whirlwind book tour for *My American Journey*, the General and his wife Alma announce in November that he will not seek the Republican nomination.



Pete Souza, Gamma/Liaison

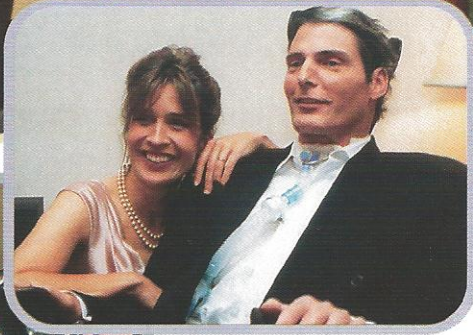
Stand-up comic and sitcom star Ellen DeGeneres makes the best-seller list with her book *My Point...And I Do Have One*.



Sandra Johnson, Retna

Calvin Klein's provocative CK Jeans campaign causes an uproar in August, bringing nasty headlines, threats of retailer boycotts and an FBI investigation. The scandal only seems to help sales.

Michael Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley announce their divorce almost a year after their surprise marriage. The tabloids have a field day speculating about the reasons for the marriage (was it a cold-hearted career move?) as well as the causes for the break-up (was he after Elvis' fortune?).

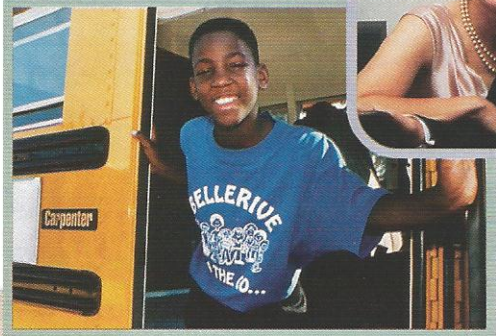


AP/Wide World

Breaking the Surface, the autobiography of Greg Louganis, former U.S. Olympic gold-medal diver who revealed earlier that he has AIDS, debuts at No. 2 on the best-seller list.

Christopher Reeve, in a wheelchair and hooked up to a portable respirator, appears with his wife, Dana, at the American Paralysis Association's annual gala on November 9, less than five months after a fall from a horse left him almost totally paralyzed.

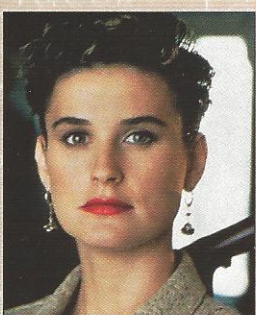
Popcorn magnate Orville Redenbacher, who transformed popping corn into a gourmet item, dies on September 19 from heart failure.



AP/Wide World

A 10-year-old St. Louis schoolboy, Larry Champagne III, becomes a hero by taking control of his school bus after the driver suffered a stroke. Champagne is later awarded a \$10,000 scholarship by the bus company.

Two Chinese women set a new Guinness world record in November by living in a room for 12 days with 888 poisonous snakes. The previous world record, set in Singapore in 1987, was 10 days with 200 snakes.



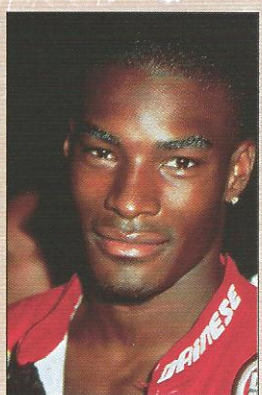
Marissa Roth, LGI

Actress Demi Moore becomes the highest paid woman in Hollywood, able to command \$12.5 million per movie, even after this year's flop at the box office *The Scarlet Letter*, loosely based on Hawthorne's classic.



Tim Messersfelder, LGI

Favorite of America's heartland for his *You Might Be A Redneck If...* jokes, Georgia-born stand-up comic and author Jeff Foxworthy gets his own ABC sitcom in which he plays himself.



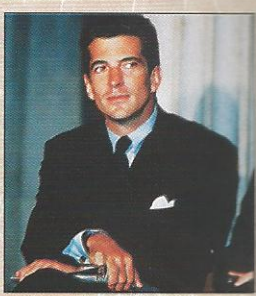
Nancy Kaszerman, Shocking Star

Model Beckford Tyson, singled out by Ralph Lauren for his all-American looks, signs an exclusive contract with the fashion designer in 1995.



AP/Wide World

Miss Oklahoma Shawntel Smith is crowned Miss America on September 16. During the broadcast of the 75th pageant, viewers phone in their votes to retain the swimsuit competition.



Ron Vincent, Bria Press

John F. Kennedy, Jr., is cofounder and editor-in-chief of *George*, a glossy new magazine covering American politics. Hounded all his life by the press, Kennedy joins their ranks, contributing a feature interview to each issue.