

Your guide to entertainment, the arts and travel

The Sunday Republican



'... we crisscrossed **la ville** till we found a spot with a view and plunked ourselves down.'



'We ended our day **au Louvre** at sunset by the big pyramid — our best photo yet.'



'This group of **monache** played great hide-and-seek. In black, little Rita hid well, 'til I peeked, which made my friend very annoyed.'



'L'Arco di Tito was built to proclaim the emperor's deeds and ensure that his fame in history surpassed all others.'



'The legend suggests that **la Bocca** will bite the hand of a liar. We tested its might by telling a lie that was small.'

Bone Voyage

Book Series of Hounds on Holiday Captures Hearts Of Dog Lovers, Travelers

WRITTEN BY KELLIE LAMBERT MCGUIRE
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Trolic in France and roam in Rome one must consider where to shop, which museums to visit and where the best bistros for begging are.

Especially if you are only two feet tall with fur, paws and tail, like Betty and Rita.

The two lovable canines' European adventures have been captured in black and white for two books: 1999's "Betty and Rita Go To Paris" and this year's "Betty and Rita: The Dolce Vita," both created by Boston-based husband-and-wife team Michael Malyszko and Judith E. Hughes.

Malyszko, a commercial photographer, snapped the photographs, and Hughes, a writer, created the poetic verse which accompanies the tale. The books, which measure 6-by-8-inches, have won the hearts of both dog lovers and travelers, Francophiles and Italophiles.

"We originally thought the first book would be a book for kids," Malyszko said via telephone from his Boston home. "We thought it was a great way for yuppie parents to show their kids Paris."

But to many readers, the book and its new sequel are about so much more.

One Birmingham, Ala., fan visiting Web bookstore Amazon.com said the tome "should be enjoyed by anyone who understands the mind of a dog or who has been to Paris. It will be especially pleasing to those who appreciate both." Another wrote "the dogs on their own are adorable, the words on their own are wonderful, the sights of Paris are beautiful — but put them all together in this lovely book and you get the dreamy package."

The original appeal is the canine attraction, of course. Betty, a mix of Labrador Retriever and Golden Retriever, and Rita, a mix of Labrador Retriever and Pit Bull, came to Malyszko and Hughes at different times — but the pair are just different versions of each other, one golden and one black. In

the afterword to the "Paris" book, Hughes writes "To know them and see them wrapped around one another in sleep is to understand more deeply the yin and yang of life."

"They were fast friends and hung out together all the time," Malyszko said.

And they became savvy superstar travelers who enjoyed the sweet life.

American Dogs in Paris

Malyszko and Hughes longed to spend a year of their life living in Paris and were able to do so in 1996. And Malyszko dreamt up the best activity for their French adventure.

"Four months before we left I said to my wife, 'Let's take photos of the dogs and write a book about it, and then we'll do the sequel in Rome,'" he said.

The couple, along with their now 14-year-old daughter Maevie, spent the first 10 months just enjoying the city. But then it was time to get to work. For two months, the couple took their dogs and camera all over the City of Lights. The canines were encouraged to act like tourists, and explored the city on paw, taking in its delights.

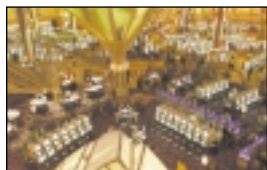
Betty and Rita were right at home in Paris. After all, 200,000 pampered pooches can go just about anywhere in the French capital, from parks to the finest restaurants.

"People are nuts about dogs in Paris," Malyszko said.

And in the photographs, the dogs appear to love Paris, tromping through the streets as though they owned them. The hounds visited the famed underground subway, le Métro; the Louvre; the Notre-Dame cathedral; the river Seine; the artist's hangout Montmartre, and enough cafes, parks and fountains

Please turn to 4H, DOGS

INSIDE PANORAMA



SKY HIGH GAMBLING
Mohegan Sun's new \$1 billion expansion, including Casino of the Sky, offers the best of most worlds.

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STAGE STRUCK

Yale Rep opens it's new season with Bernard Shaw's 'You Never Can Tell.'

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'HEARTS' ARISING

A powerful team of movie makers has been assembled for the latest Stephen King movie.

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BROADWAY

For modern audiences, Ionesco's 'Exit the King' hits disturbingly close to home.

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EXHIBIT: BRITISH ART

Yale showcases paintings that made us feel British

By Tracey O'Shaughnessy
©2001 Republican-American

Our notions of Britain are swathed in Gainsborough chif-fon.

They are animated by a Benjamin Britten soundtrack narrated by Maggie Smith. If our images of England look a bit like a back lot on a Merchant-Ivory production, that is due in no small part to this country's vestigial attachment to the Mother Land. Americans have been bathing in the refracted glow of England's rustic elegance, not only in art, but in literature and architecture, for centuries. As Henry Steele Commager once remarked, "it was in the approximation to or departure from things British that the Americans discovered their character."

The images we have of Britain have been shaped in no small part by those who collected its art. A stunning new exhibit at the Yale Center for British Art, "Great British Paintings from American Collections: Holbein to Hockney" reminds us of how much of art is propaganda, not just by those who create it, but by those who purchase it. It is no coincidence that most of the wealthy Protestant patrons who purchased British art did so in a period of huge Catholic and Jewish immigration to the United States. As curator Malcolm Warner writes, "One of the

Please turn to 5H, ART



Thomas Gainsborough's 'Mrs. Philip Thicknesse'

Big changes that showbiz must make

After the terrorist attacks, it's no longer business as usual

What now, Hollywood? Ever since Black Tuesday, showbiz has been struggling with the question, "What will audiences accept now, after they've gone through the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington?" How much violence, how much terrorism, what kind of humor, what kind of romance, what kind of sex will they pay money for?

No one knows, especially since the horror and shock of Sept. 11 resonates and wears differently on each of us.

But the dream merchants of Los Angeles and New York are running helter-skelter — canceling, postponing, rewriting, reshooting and rethinking. Everyday the news wires and newspapers have a dozen stories



After the show
John Greenwald

Please turn to 2H, BIZ