

Covey helps teens help themselves

BY CASSIE SMITH

Today's typical teen juggles school, work, home, extracurricular activities, and a social life. With all these balls in the air, it's difficult not to drop one. Sometimes, when we're not paying attention, we drop them all. When this happens, it's our character that suffers. In his incredibly helpful book, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, Sean Covey offers several suggestions teens can use to keep their character from stretching too thin.

The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens begins by teaching the reader how to identify old habits, break them, and then form new habits. Covey's philosophy is that a habit will break you or make you. With this in mind, he urges you to be completely honest with yourself about major flaws in your personality. He also encourages readers to work hard at reaching their personal growth goals.

Participation is key to getting everything you can out of this book. Covey insists that the reader be active in his or her transformation from being less than productive to being a totally successful person. He di-

rect you in the right direction using entertaining recollections, cartoons, and famous quotes.

Covey is concise and to the point. The chapters flow easily from one to the next and the order of habits make perfect sense.

Being pro active, planning ahead, and synergizing are examples of the awesome habits Covey introduces to the reader. He explains what the habit is, how and when to use it, and the baby steps to take to achieve it.

This book is a big confidence booster. It is the most positive, energy-filled self help book I've ever read! I definitely recommend it to anyone. It will be a huge deposit in your personal bank account.

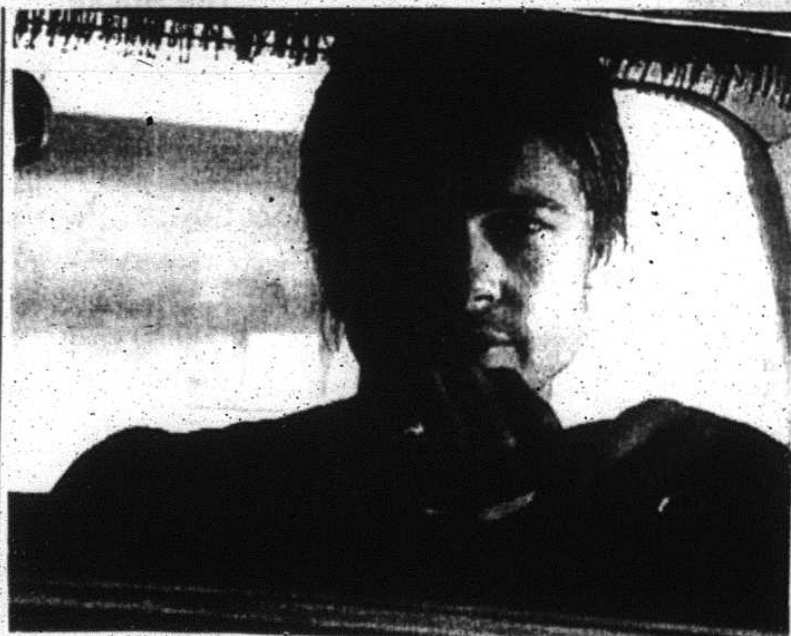
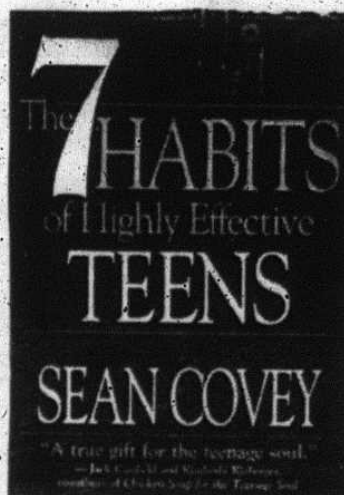


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Brad Pitt plays Jerry Weibach in his latest film, *The Mexican*.

Arriba! *The Mexican* is good fun

BY LINDSEY PARSONS

Big screen bigwigs Brad Pitt and Julia Roberts are living la vida loca in their new flick, *The Mexican*. But, their crazy antics are enjoyed separately on screen as Pitt and Roberts barely share any scenes.

Pitt plays Jerry, who works for an LA crime boss and must head to Mexico to fulfill one last duty: retrieving an antique pistol known as "the Mexican." His girlfriend, Samantha (Roberts), tells him not to go but instead to go with her to Las Vegas. He says he can't and leaves while she drives away to Vegas alone. En route to the city, Samantha is kidnapped by gang-

ster, Leroy (played by James Gandolfini from *The Sopranos*), who also wants the gun.

The movie continues as Samantha and Leroy become best buddies and Jerry runs into all sorts of trouble south of the border.

The Mexican, though slow in some parts, was an enjoyable movie overall. Perhaps the best part for the females were the close-ups of Brad Pitt. The same probably applies for the males and Julia Roberts. But, James Gandolfini puts forth the best performance in a surprising, somewhat comedic role for this *Sopranos* mean guy.

The simple, but fun humor in

this romantic comedy is made up of spastic jerking from Brad Pitt and screamfest babbles from Julia Roberts. If you're expecting to see much on screen pairings of the two lead stars, though, you'll be disappointed. They are only together in a few scenes which makes it hard to tell if these two have any acting chemistry.

If you don't walk into the theater expecting an Oscar-worthy performance, then *The Mexican* will be quite enjoyable for you. And, if you happen to get bored with the plot, you can always just sit back and wonder how Brad Pitt can be so caliente!



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