

The Andromedan Log #63

April 2002

INSIDE:
Book/Tape Reviews

STAR TREK

STAR WARS

Vol. 5 #15

The official monthly newsletter of Star Base Andromeda

Lincoln, NE

Fellowship of the Rings — 4 Oscars

The fan-favorite epic fantasy film *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* went into the 74th annual Academy Awards ceremony on Sunday, March 24th with an impressive 13 nominations. Of those, three were among the six “crown jewel” categories (*Best Picture*, *Best Director* and *Best Supporting Actor* [Ian McKellan as Gandalf]). When the longest Academy Awards ceremony ever held was finally over, *The Fellowship of the Ring* walked away with four statuettes...but none of the most coveted top awards.

A Beautiful Mind, a biographical picture about a disturbed genius, proved to be the main competition, also taking in four awards, including *Best Picture* and *Best Director* (for Ron “Opie” Howard). In the category of *Best Supporting Actor*, Jim Broadbent took the prize for his portrayal of a supportive husband in *Iris*, a biographical film about author Iris Murdoch’s descent into mental illness.

The Fellowship of the Ring took home Oscars in the categories of *Cinematography*, *Makeup*, *Original Score* (for Howard Shore) and *Visual Effects*. In addition to *Film*, *Director* and *Supporting Actor*, *FOTR* was also nominated and did not win in the categories of *Adapted Screenplay*, *Film Editing*, *Original Song* (“May it Be” by Enya), *Art Direction*, *Costume Design* and *Sound*.

The other major fantasy film of 2001, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*, came into the night with three nominations (*Original Score* [John Williams], *Art Direction* and *Costume Design*) but left empty-handed. Two other genre-related winners for 2001 include *Monsters, Inc.*, for which Randy Newman won *Best Original Song* (“If I Didn’t Have You”) — his first win in 16 nominations! — and *Shrek*, which became the first winner in the brand new category of *Best Animated Feature Film*.

Other genre nominees who went home empty-handed include *Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius* (*Animated Feature*), *A.I.* (*Original Score* [John Williams – a double-nominee this year!], *Visual Effects*), *Kate & Leopold* (*Original Song* - “Until” by Sting), and *Vanilla Sky* (*Original Song* - “Vanilla Sky” by Paul McCartney).

The night proved historic for more than just the length of the awards show — for the first time in Oscar history, three African-Americans were nominated in the major categories of *Best Actor* and *Best Actress*. Halle Berry (Storm in *The X-Men*) won for *Monster’s Ball* and Denzel Washington won for *Training Day*. This makes the first time that black actors have won the *Best Actor/Actress* category simultaneously in Oscar history! (The third actor was Will “Men in Black” Smith for *Ali*)

Tuesday Night SBA Meeting Changes

The officers of *Star Base Andromeda* were informed on April 2nd 2002 that we would have to relocate our Tuesday night meetings from the 4th floor auditorium of Bennett Martin Public Library through Tuesday May 7th, due to the library’s need to use that meeting space for a series of youth-related programming events. In discussions at the April 2nd meeting, it was decided that for the Tuesdays of April 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th and May 7th, *Star Base Andromeda* meetings would be held in the *UNL Student Union* (14th & “R” St.). The time is still the same — we begin at approximately 6:30. But now, we are gathering in the food-court area within sight of the Subway and Imperial Palace Express restaurants, on the North side of the main floor of the building. We also will not relocate partway through the meeting and continue it at an agreed-upon downtown restaurant, since there are at least four restaurants available in the Union.

continued in Club News on page 4...

Ender's Game Group

In an effort to be more pro-active in interacting with readers, staff at the Lincoln City Libraries’ Anderson Branch library in Havelock have been holding a “Reading Group” exercise regularly at their location and at the Bethany Branch library. In recent months, the Anderson book group have held discussions of all three of the books in the Lord of the Rings trilogy, aimed at both adults and youth. The Book Group meeting scheduled for

see Local Activities on page 35...

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The Andromedan Log is published monthly by Andromeda Press, a division of Star Base Andromeda. Address: 7210 Francis St., Lincoln NE 68505-1545. E-mail address: 71242.1306@compuserve.com.

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Phone numbers, addresses and e-mail addresses are printed here for club member use and for club business only, not for public distribution. Changes of Address should be sent to the SBA address above.

Annual membership dues for Star Base Andromeda are as follows: **\$10.00/Full member** — Receives all club publications, is eligible for office, and is able to vote in all elections or on issues associated with the club. Only full members able to attend at least 20% of club meetings are eligible to hold office; **\$6.00/Supporting** — Receives all club publications, however is ineligible to hold office or vote. All club publications are mailed first class. For postage outside the U.S. add an additional \$5.00.

The expiration month of your membership is listed on your mailing label. Renewal notices go out both the month before expiration and with your final issue of *The Log*. Club members wishing to join the SBA electronic mailing list, please send a request to the Editor's e-mail address.

Letters to the Editor:

The Andromedan Log encourages Letters of Comment and/or questions from fandom at large, and will attempt to make room for pertinent letters as often as possible. Please indicate if your letter is to be considered for publication. All letters submitted must include name and full address (and e-mail address, if you have one). Only name and city will be printed if your letter is actually used. Please send Letters to either the mailing address or e-mail address above right.

Seeking Columnists...

The Andromedan Log still seeks columnists to improve the mix of content in upcoming issues of the newsletter. We are currently specifically seeking members (or associates) of SBA interested in writing ongoing columns which would explore news and reviews in the comic-book and gaming fields. If you are interested in contributing a monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly column on either of these subjects, or if you have suggestions or comments about some specific interest not currently reflected in the pages of *The Log*, please contact the editor at the e-mail or regular mail addresses above.

We are also looking to add art to *The Log* on a continuing basis. If you are an artist who would be interested in contributing regular "spot illos", a cartoon strip, or a single-panel cartoon to issues of the newsletter on a regular or semi-regular basis, please contact the editor with a sample of your work (if a strip or single-panel cartoon). Spot illos will be accepted on a space-available and subject-appropriate basis.

The Andromedan Log is "of the members", "by the members", and "for the members", and we would enjoy including a distinct variety of member contributions!

Editorial Comments

Wow! Amazing! Two issues back-to-back! Two actual *Andromedan Log* issues in consecutive months! And both larger than usual, too! I hope nobody had a heart attack in shock over this unprecedented event!

In all seriousness, this shouldn't be considered an unusual feat, but you'd have to go back to Sep-Nov 1996 to find the last time 2 (or 3) issues came out monthly in the sequence they were supposed to. Actually, if the *Andromedan Log Index* is correct — and if you haven't received a copy of the *Index*, just ask me and I'll get you one — the longest string of consecutive monthly issues without an interruption was four months: September through December 1987. If we remain on schedule currently, we can break that record this July!

Anyway, my thanks to those of you who contributed to this issue, knowingly or unknowingly. Last month saw the introduction of a new semi-regular column by our beloved Presidio — Mike Ponte — in which he'll track recent developments in Space Exploration and related sciences. It seemed only appropriate to call it "*To Boldly Go...*". He promises there will be future installments, as subject matter warrants. This issue, we introduce a new page, "**Amusements**", on which we'll comment on gaming-related issues. For the first installment, there's a strategy article on the *Star Trek Customizable Card Game*, and a Classic Star Trek wordsearch — the solution to which will be in issue #64. If you'd like to contribute a column on game strategy for any games SBA members are playing, or anything else appropriate to this new page, you're welcome to do so.

As always, your submission deadlines for columns, news, reviews, officer reports and anything else for the next two issues are listed below. Help keep *The Log* interesting by providing varying viewpoints!



Scott C.
SBA Edi

Deadlines for contributions to upcoming issues of The Log:

Issue #64 (May) — April 23rd

Issue #65 (June) — May 14th

Deadline for Club Logo/T-Shirt Designs — August 31, 2002

WWWwebwatch

The entries this month are culled from the many postings made to the club's e-mail list over the past 2-3 years. All sites listed are still active and still have worthwhile content. Thanks to everyone on sballist who routinely post interesting genre-related sites for us all to check out. A special thanks to those SBA members or associates whose recommendations are listed below, including: *Dennis Keim, Agris Taurins, Mike Ponte, Scott Clark, Frank Dreier, Becky Wurm Clark* and *Diane Taurins*.

<http://www.darkecho.com>

Interesting site focusing on horror fiction – news, reviews, essays and other commentary.

<http://www.iplus.zetnet.co.uk>

Science fiction e-zine "Infinity Plus", out of the U.K.

<http://delrey.onlinewritingworkshop.com>

A free on-line and on-going writing workshop sponsored by the publisher DelRey.

<http://www.faire.org>

Current homepage for the Renaissance Faire of the Midlands, hosted by the Bluffs Arts Council and put on in Council Bluffs each year.

<http://www.courierpress.com/ghost>

Purported video and still footage captured by a webcam in a library in Evansville, IN.

<http://www.wsc.edu/student/activities/clubs/sfclub>

Homepage of the Wayne State College SF Club — their annual WillyCon is a subpage available from this site.

<http://www.magicdragon.com/UltimateSF/timeline.html>

A detailed historical timeline of science fiction events, both in the real world and projected by literature. Useful, but somewhat dated, with few new entries made since 1998.

<http://concuSSION.ninethirty.com>

Latest known site for the currently-on-hiatus Lincoln area convention known as ConCussion. Site may be inactive — three attempts on different days to connect in late March were unsuccessful.

<http://www.uchronia.net>

Site dedicated to the SF subgenre known as "Alternate History".

<http://www.dnapublications.com>

Site for the publishers of Science Fiction Chronicle (and Absolute Magnitude).

<http://www.aldovision.com/novels.htm>

Page dedicated to the works of A.A. Attanasio. Attanasio lives in Hawaii, but his brother lives in Lincoln and is employed by UNL. This page is a subpage on the brother's personal website.

<http://www.unl.edu/uevents/mine>

Home page of Diane Taurins, long-time SBA member and artist extraordinaire.

<http://www.spaceweather.com/aurora>

Gallery of photographs of the many aurora borealis which appeared throughout the northern U.S. in 2001.

<http://www.lego.com/studios/screening/movie.asp?title=montypython>

Scenes from Monty Python and the Holy Grail, enacted with Lego animation.

http://www.jessesword.com/SF/sf_citations.shtml

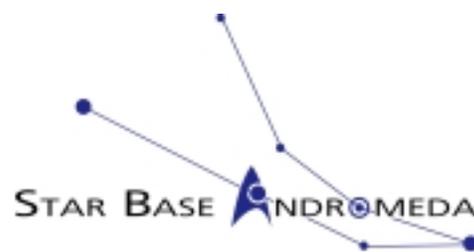
The Oxford English Dictionary is seeking the origins of various words associated with science fiction literature and the SF subculture. This site is attempting to track the origins of such words.

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SBA Logo/T-Shirt Designs Submitted to Date:

STAR BASE ANDROMEDA



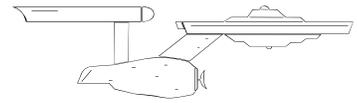
STAR BASE ANDROMEDA



LINCOLN, NEBRASKA,
ALPHA QUADRANT

Star Base Andromeda

Official Club News & Announcements for April 2002



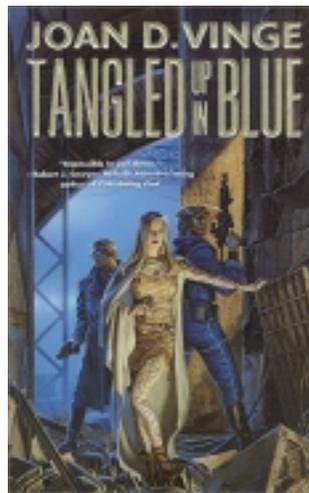
This does not affect Sunday **SBA** meetings at all, which continue to be held from 2:00 to 5:15 at Bennett Martin Public Library (14th & "N" St.) as usual. We will return to the library again on Tuesday nights beginning with the meeting of May 14th.

Return of the Writers Group

On the Calendar of Events listed on the back cover of this issue, you will see a rescheduled pair of SBA Tuesday night meetings dedicated to our **Writers Group**. It has been over a year and a half since we last attempted to push forward with the **Writers Group** activities, and the pair of May meetings have been scheduled to see if there is still enough interest to continue with this activity.

The **Writers Group** originally grew out of an interest, both casual and serious, on the part of several **Star Base Andromeda** members, to share their writings and seek critical input from fellow writers and SBA meeting attendees. The way the **Writers Group** events are arranged is as follows: Two back-to-back Tuesday night SBA meetings are designated as **Writer Group Meetings**. At the first, all writers who wish to participate should bring copies (10-15 at most) of their latest short story, or chapter or portion of a longer work). These are distributed to the meeting attendees, who are asked to read the contributions and be prepared to discuss them at the next meeting. At the second of the back-to-back **Writers Group** sessions, we hold a regular SBA meeting, sharing news, officer reports and other up-to-date items, then the rest of that night's meeting is dedicated to discussing the **Writers'** contributions and offering critiques, observations and writing suggestions.

This process only works if we have aspiring writers who wish to participate by offering contributions for discussion. If the May **Writers Group** meetings are successful, we will try to schedule these again on a quarterly or bi-monthly basis. If you wish to participate as a writer, please bring your contributions to the May 7th meeting (or otherwise make them available to members by that time). If you wish to participate as a critical reader, please be prepared to attend the May 14th meeting, and arrange to acquire the reading material on or immediately after the May 7th meeting. Let's see if we can't turn this into a strong element of **Star Base Andromeda**.



Book Discussion: May 21st

The latest selection for our assigned book discussion group is Joan Vinge's **Tangled Up in Blue**, commonly available as a \$6.99 Tor paperback. The Lincoln City Libraries owns approximately 6-7 copies, most of which were still available as of the last week of March. We will be discussing **Tangled Up in Blue** at the Tuesday night meeting on May 21st.

Tangled Up in Blue is set in the same universe as Vinge's Hugo-winning **Snow Queen**, and in fact is listed as the fourth book in the Snow Queen saga (after **Snow Queen**, **World's End**, and **The Summer Queen**). However, it has been described as a good stand-alone read for which knowledge of the Snow Queen saga is not necessary.

We hope to see a large percentage of you at the book discussion. Our previous discussions of Hal Clement's **Mission of Gravity**, Poul Anderson's **Boat of a Million Years** and Gregory Keyes' **Newton's**

Cannon have all been fascinating meetings and we expect the same this time 'round.

The book for our July discussion has not yet been selected. SBA members were recently polled for suggestions for both classic and contemporary SF and Fantasy novels to consider, and a decision about the next one or two **Book Group** titles is expected to be made shortly.

Game Week

Star Base Andromeda continues to dedicate at least one (if not more) of our Sunday meetings to **Games**. In the past year, we've played multiple sessions of **Risk 2210**, **Star Trek UNO**, **Star Trek Monopoly**, various trivia games, and the **Star Trek Customizable Card Game**, which several members have recently gotten hooked on. Although we will try to vary the themes of our **Game Week** meetings to provide some variety, there is definitely a strong interest in both **Risk 2210** and the **STCCG** among currently active members, and these two games will frequently take precedence.

If you have an unusual board or trivia game that you think would appeal to science fiction and fantasy fans, and you'd like to bring it to an upcoming **Game Week**, please let us know, so that we can pass the info on to other members in advance. Our **official Game Week** is the 2nd Sunday meeting of each month, although other Sundays can be dedicated to game-playing on short notice.

Video Week

We traditionally dedicate the final Sunday meeting of each month to showing videos of classic or contemporary genre television shows or movies. **Star Base Andromeda** was recently informed by the

Local Author News

Omaha SF author Melinda (M.S.) Murdock has a new trade paperback novel coming out from Writers Club/iUniverse. **A Sea of Troubles** (\$15.95) is a SF adventure novel featuring the exploits of an exploratory team of engineers sent to investigate the water world Okeanos.

Lincoln SF author Robert Reed learned his **Marrow** was the #10 best-selling SF paperback in the U.K. during 2001. Reed also recently sold his first non-genre work, a mainstream thriller. His recent sale to the on-line **Sci Fiction** site should be available soon, and he has a story in the current (May) issue of **The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction**. In a correction to the information in last issue's "Local Author News", **Marrow** came out in hardback in 2000, not 2001, although the paperback edition was just released last year!

If you (or someone you know) is a published science fiction or fantasy author from the region covered by **Star Base Andromeda**, then we want to publicize your work in the pages of **The Andromedan Log**. Please send us news about upcoming book signings, your recent story sales, or the schedule for upcoming appearances of your novels or short stories, and we'll list them there.

Officer Reports — March 2002

Presidio - Mike Ponte

Sunday meetings continue to be held beginning at 2:00 p.m. until about 5:00 p.m. at Bennett Martin Library. The second Sunday of the month has been reserved for playing science fiction-related games, while the last Sunday of the month is set aside for watching videos of television shows, movies, etc. decided on by club members. Tuesday evening meetings, beginning at 6:30 p.m., continue to be held weekly at Bennett Martin Library, with the option of going to nearby restaurants for dinner and continued discussion following the meeting.

General Manager - [vacant]

The SBA General Manager is responsible for such bookkeeping activities as applying for meeting space, and is the individual to run official club business meetings in the absence of the Presidio. See also: Special Report about changes to meeting locations, beginning on page 1.

Treasurer - Dave Teche

The last formal Treasurer's report was made November 16, 2001. Since that report, we have had only one club expenditure, \$5.00, for library equipment rental for a Club video showing in February of this year. More recently, four members have renewed full Club memberships. Those four members were Brian Hirt, Mark Murphy, Mike Ponte and Scott Clark, all renewing at our regular Tuesday meeting on March 12, 2002. Many thanks for your renewals!

We began this report with a balance of \$40.07 in the treasury. With the addition of the renewal membership dues and the one disbursement throughout the period, the Club treasury balance stands at a healthier \$75.07.

Editor - Scott Clark

With this issue, we have our first instance of two back-to-back issues in a long time. I was

hoping to keep our "regular" issue-size between 16 and 24 pages, but this one still grew to more. I'm still looking for potential columnists, as well as book/tv/movie reviews. Deadlines for contributions to the next two issues are on page 2. A special thanks to everyone whose contributions went into the current issue. I've also still got a backlog of special articles which I'll continue to slip into upcoming issues as space allows.

Correspondence Committee Chair - Scott Clark

Outgoing correspondence included the mailing of 16 copies of *Andromedan Log* #62. Incoming correspondence included an exchange of information via e-mail with Lincoln Northeast High School Sci Fi Club sponsor Carol Matthias, in which she indicated that there is not an organized club at LNE this year, but that she was trying to reorganize one and would pass around the copy of *The Log* which we traditionally send them.

Librarian - Frank Dreier

Hopefully, there will be a revised list of the SBA Libraries' holdings out in the foreseeable future..

Registrar - Mike Ponte

Star Base Andromeda currently has 14 Full Members and 5 Supporting Members. Our newest Full Member is Christine Cromwell, who joined on 0203.24. Now that the *Andromedan Log* has resumed publication, we will not continue extending memberships automatically. The next member to expire is Debby Linders on 0204.28, followed by Larry Forst on 0204.29. The remaining non-attending or long-distance members and their expiration dates: Marshall Cameron, 0205.24; Dennis Keim, 0208.18; Darrell Rhoten, 0304.13; Linda Bonyhady, 0309.16; Jeremy Rohn, 0309.22. The highest meeting attendance rate for 2001 is a tie: Scott Clark and Mike Ponte, both at 92 meetings attended out of 110, for an 84% attendance rate.

Publicity Committee Chair - Scott Clark

Work continues on a new tri-fold version of the club's promotional flyer. I hope to have a revised edition available for discussion at meetings shortly, which can then be distributed to local sci-fi speciality stores with copies of *The Log*.

Historian - Mike Ponte

SBA documents available to members include the current SBA membership roster, a comprehensive list of SBA members since the club was formed, the club constitution, and a timeline of club-related events since the formation of the club. Copies of past issues of *The Andromedan Log* are also available.

Rigel Committee Chair - [vacant]

Rigel Committees are formed to coordinate special public events on behalf of Star Base Andromeda, such as our semi-annual Open Houses, or Star Trek celebrations. The Rigel Committee Chair is directly responsible for organizing such events, and for reporting on same in a timely fashion to the membership as a whole. At present, no Rigel events are planned for the immediate future, thus no Rigel Committee is currently in session.

E-mail List Manager - Agris Taurins

No report provided.

ConCussion Convention Representative - Agris Taurins

No report provided.

library of a change in their equipment-usage fees. Starting April 1st, the library will now charge \$10 for the use of any equipment, instead of the \$5 fee that had been in place until that date. At recent SBA meetings, we have been discussing whether we should use club funds to purchase a TV/VCR combo which could be stored at a member's home and brought to our *Video Week* meetings (or other Sunday meetings as necessary). No decision has been made on this issue at present.

We will be holding *Video Week* at the April 28th meeting, although a theme has not yet been determined. Please contact your Presidio, or Publicity Officer (contact info on page 2) before that date (or attend a meeting) to find out what our video

selection for April will be. An announcement will be posted here once a decision has been made as to SBA's plans regarding video equipment purchase.

New Members

We welcomed one new full-time member since the last issue of *The Log* — Christine Cromwell of Nebraska City joined in March. Several memberships which had expired prior to the publication of last issue were all renewed, and we expect that more expired memberships will be renewed at our April club potluck.

Payback Bonuses

Diane Taurins earned a 2-month *Payback Bonus* to her membership status

for serving as the SBA contact who introduced Christine Cromwell to the club. You, too, can earn bonus months to your membership by helped to bring in new club members. For every new *Full Member* (\$10) who joins because of you, you earn 2 months to your membership. For every new *Supporting Member* (\$6) who joins because of your actions, you earn 1 month to your membership. This applies only to new members and not to expired members who rejoin the club. Christine came to us by searching the internet for Nebraska science fiction clubs...and finding Diane's website mentioning *Star Base Andromeda*.

Mediawatch

Genre News and Observations through April 2002

Bond XX

MGM and producers of the latest 007 flick announced that the suave secret agent's 20th big-screen adventure (for MGM/United Artists, anyway) will be called...Die Another Day.

This ends speculation that the film would be called Double Cross, Beneath the Sea, Beyond the Ice, the too easy Bond XX, Final Assignment or (based on a non-Fleming 'Bond' novel) Colonel Sun.

Die Another Day stars Pierce Brosnan in his fourth Bond outing after GoldenEye, Tomorrow Never Dies and The World Is Not Enough. And before you ask, no, we don't know how one can "die another day" if, assuming another day is tomorrow, "tomorrow never dies." Unless, of course, you only live twice.

The official word from producers Michael G. Wilson and Barbara Broccoli is that the title Die Another Day "carries on the tradition of the Ian Fleming stories and reflects the excitement and mystery of our latest script." That's the fancy way of saying the title is "cool and enigmatic," which is exactly how one fan on Ain't It Cool News posted all good Bond titles should be. (And, in case you were wondering, that one fan thinks Die Another Day meets both standards.) Reaction, overall, from 007 diehards has been mixed. But there also seems to be genuine relief that the Little Mermaid-y Beneath the Sea proved to be a false lead.

As for the new movie itself, other than the title, there aren't a lot of specifics. Things we do know: The plot involves North Korean baddies; Madonna will compose and perform the title song; Halle Berry is the proverbial Bond girl — the first who can claim to be an Oscar-winner, and, look for John Cleese and Judi Dench to return as 007-helpers R and M, respectively.

Shooting began in January in Hawaii and England. A knee injury suffered by Brosnan in February slowed production only slightly. A November 22, 2002 release date has been set.

While this project has been known unofficially as James Bond 20, it's really the 20th Bond produced by the Broccoli clan for United Artists and, later, MGM. Complicated rights issues meant that the Bond character also starred in the non-MGM/UA films Casino Royale, with Woody Allen spoofing 007, and Never Say Never Again, with Sean Connery returning to his roots and remaking Thunderball.

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License Revoked

In other Bond news, the famed secret agent has finally encountered one predicament even he can't escape: cancellation. After weeks of progressively lower ratings, ABC has lived and let its Saturday night **Bond Picture Show** franchise die. ABC had been airing the Bond movies in chronological order (except for the George Lazenby starrer *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*) starting with *Dr. No* Jan. 26. But viewers were neither shaken nor stirred by the programming strategy: in eight airings, the **Bond Picture Show** averaged only 6 million viewers. The second Bond flick, *From Russia With Love*, pulled the most viewers (7.1 million). There were four pictures — *The Spy Who Loved Me*, *Moonraker*, *For Your Eyes Only* and *Octopussy* — yet to air. ABC originally purchased the Bond movies as fall 2001 contingency programming in the event of a writers or actors strike. With no strikes, coupled with the events of Sept. 11, the network pushed 007 to midseason.

ABC will revert to more recent repeat theatricals on Saturday nights. The leftover Bonds may show up sometime on ABC this summer; after that, Viacom networks TNN, CBS and UPN paid \$30 million to take over broadcast rights of the classic features starting this fall.

He'll Be Back

You'd think Arnold Schwarzenegger would be tired of playing killer robots by now. Think again. Returning to what he does best, the aging Terminator has signed on to star in Warner Bros.' remake of Michael Crichton's cult classic sci-fi Western *Westworld*. Schwarzenegger will be stepping into the boots worn by screen legend Yul Brynner.

In the film, Schwarzenegger will play an outlaw cyborg programmed to be killed by rich gunslinging vacationers in a futuristic fantasy amusement park. But, after a short-circuit causes him to go haywire, the rogue robot ends up going on a rampage and terminating the tourists instead.

"I am very excited to be working on *Westworld*," Schwarzenegger said in a statement. "I loved the original film when I saw it in 1973 and have wanted to remake it for several years. After following the project for some time, I am really thrilled it has finally come together at Warner Bros."

Warner Bros. is banking a revival of *Westworld* will put into operation another blockbuster franchise for the studio, which has already got two more *Matrix* flicks in

the pipeline, the *Harry Potter* series, comic book heroes like *Batman* and *Superman* and *Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines*, in which Schwarzenegger will also reprise his most famous robotic role.

Warner Bros.' president of worldwide production Lorenzo di Bonoventura says Schwarzenegger's participation is a "great credit to the studio." "We couldn't be happier to present Arnold in the highly anticipated *Terminator* franchise, immediately followed by the remake of *Westworld*," he said in a statement. The franchise-happy Warner Bros. is also looking for more projects for the monosyllabic action star, including re-energizing another Arnold sequel.

The 54-year-old Schwarzenegger—who has struggled for a hit film in recent years and reportedly even contemplated giving up acting for politics—will be back for one last installment of *Conan the Barbarian*, the fantasy franchise that launched his career. Written by John Milius (who directed and coscripted the 1982 original with Oliver Stone), the new Conan flick will purportedly match the aging Arnold with a younger swordsman as they battle the forces of evil. Coincidentally, *Matrix* directors Larry and Andy Wachowski are rumored to be helping Milius write the story, which will continue the epic tale of a slave who grows up seeking revenge on the warlord who massacred Conan's tribe. Schwarzenegger is expected to segue into *King Conan* once he's finished with *Westworld*, which Warners has fast-tracked to begin shooting in either late 2002 or early 2003.

T3 Recasting News

Saving the world can be a tough job. But if producers of the would-be blockbuster sequel *Terminator 3: The Rise of the Machines* have their way, newcomer Nick Stahl will do just fine. The 22-year-old actor who played Sissy Spacek and Tom Wilkinson's unfortunate son in the Oscar-nominated *In the Bedroom* has landed the coveted role of twentysomething hero John Connor opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger in the long-awaited third entry in the *Terminator* series.

Saying hasta la vista to trouble-prone actor Edward Furlong, who originated the role of the teen Connor in *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*, producers tapped Stahl for the role of the humanity-saving hero after interviewing several promising young actors, including *A Walk to Remember* star

Shane West. Stahl will team up with his old T-800 cyborg pal (Schwarzenegger) to battle the seemingly unstoppable T-X, the latest killer model to come out of the factory.

Playing the murderous Terminatrix will be relatively unknown Norwegian actress Kristanna Loken. The statuesque blonde will be back from the future to hunt down and, yes, terminate Stahl's character so the machines can take over the world.

No specific plot details have been released, but given the title it's a safe bet we'll actually witness Connor finally assume the mantle of leadership he's been destined for since Mama Sarah (Linda Hamilton) and Daddy Kyle (Michael Biehn) got it on way back in 1984's original **Terminator**.

While it's unlikely Biehn will reprise his role in the latest installment, producers haven't ruled out a cameo by Hamilton, who could appear in flashbacks. (Schwarzenegger has said her character dies before the start of **T3**.) Furlong—who has battled substance abuse problems—is now 24 and in the right age range for the character. While he did join Schwarzenegger and Hamilton in a short film shot for the Universal Studios **Terminator 2: 3-D** attraction and has expressed interest in returning for the role, he was not asked to return for the sequel.

Stahl first got his break with Mel Gibson in 1993's **Man Without a Face**. Before **In the Bedroom**, the young thespian's credits included Terence Malick's war epic **The Thin Red Line**, Larry Clark's teenage drama **Bully** and the 1998 thriller **Disturbing Behavior** with Katie Holmes. Stahl will next appear in the upcoming indie flick **Bookies** with Rachel Leigh Cook and Lukas Haas, as well as **Carnivale**, a pilot for HBO costarring Clea DuVall.

T3 is being overseen by longtime producing partners Andrew Vajna and Mario Kassar through their C-2 Pictures. **U-571** helmer Jonathan Mostow will be taking the directing reins from the franchise's original writer-director James Cameron, who opted out of the project after a dispute with the producers over sequel rights. Part of the reason the producers are going with newbies like Stahl, Loken and Mostow in key roles is because they couldn't afford bigger names. **T3**'s film's budget is reportedly already north of \$180 million, with Schwarzenegger alone commanding around \$30 million. The sequel starts shooting in Los Angeles on April 15 and is due to hit theaters in summer 2003.

Rhoda vs. Little House – Take 2

The second episode of the drama about leadership of the Screen Actors Guild looked a lot like a rerun.

Former **Little House on the Prairie** star Melissa Gilbert easily defeated former

Rhoda star Valerie Harper to become president of the union, which represents more than 98,000 movie and TV performers nationwide, according to results released by SAG early Saturday.

Gilbert had also won a SAG election held in November, but a revote was called because the union elections committee threw out those results. Bitterness over that decision was evident in a flurry of mass e-mails sent to union members. Between votes, the 37-year-old Gilbert's support grew stronger. In the latest mail-in vote she garnered 21,351 votes, or 57 percent, compared to Harper's 12,613 votes, or 34 percent. The margin was 45.3 percent to 39.4 percent in November. Eugene Boggs was third and Angelotompkins took fourth place, the same positions they held in the first election.

"It's been kind of dismaying that I had to go through this again," Gilbert said early Saturday, "but the silver lining is that more of our membership voted than in any other election, which shows that our membership is interested in what we're doing." Turnout was a record 41% of SAG's 91,000 eligible voters, compared to 28.1 percent in November.

Harper, 61, said in a statement: "I want to sincerely thank everyone who supported my candidacy. In this election, rerun in a fair and uniform manner, the real winner is the democratic process."

The contest came in the aftermath of a commercial actors' strike and an averted walkout by movie and TV actors under one-term SAG President William Daniels (**St. Elsewhere**, **Boy Meets World**). The strike against commercial producers cost actors undetermined millions of dollars and the Los Angeles area at least \$125 million in lost production as it drove commercial work abroad.

Harper supported Daniels and his record. Gilbert was critical of the union's direction.

Last fall, the SAG elections committee voted unanimously that the positions of president, treasurer and secretary be rerun, alleging polling administrator Sequoia Voting Systems and top SAG executives violated rules. The problems included a two-day extension granted to New York members to mail in their ballots. Some union members contend the revote was simply an attempt to change the results of the election, and the U.S. Department of Labor is investigating.

Harry Potter 2 Casting News

The villain of **The Patriot** will play a sinister dad in the upcoming Harry Potter sequel. Jason Isaacs has signed on to play Lucius Malfoy in **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets**, Warner Bros. said Monday. Malfoy is the father of Draco

Malfoy, Harry's nemesis at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Isaacs is perhaps best known as the murderous Col. William Tavington in the 2000 Revolutionary War adventure **The Patriot**. Isaacs' other credits include **Sweet November**, **Armageddon** and **Black Hawk Down**. Tom Felton played Draco in last year's **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone**, but the character's father did not appear in that story.

Other new members of the **Chamber** cast include **Cats & Dogs** co-star Miriam Margolyes as magical gardener Professor Sprout, and Mark Williams (**The Borrowers**) as Mr. Weasley, the father of Harry's school chum, Ron. **Bridget Jones's Diary** co-star Shirley Henderson will play the self-doubting ghost Moaning Myrtle, while film newcomer Sally Mortemore will appear as librarian Madam Pince. Child actors Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson are reprising their roles as Harry and his friends Ron and Hermione, respectively. Kenneth Branagh previously agreed to play vain Gilderoy Lockhart, professor of Defense Against the Dark Arts. In **Chamber of Secrets**, set for a Nov. 15 release, Harry finds a diary that helps him uncover a mysterious force that's haunting the school.

The Fellowship of the Four

The Beatles thought to film **The Lord of the Rings** 30 years ago.

The band's film producer, Denis O'Dell, told the **Times** of London in February that Paul McCartney would have played Frodo and John Lennon would have been the wizard Gandalf. Ringo Starr and George Harrison would have had roles too, although they were not specified. He says that the band ran into a problem with finding a director. David Lean was interested but was caught up in filming **Ryan's Daughter**. Stanley Kubrick said that the books were unfilmable. O'Dell says that the group had thought about an album surrounding the film.

At the Academy Awards in March, ex-Beatle and nominated musician Paul McCartney confirmed O'Dell's statements, in conversation with Fellowship of the Ring director Peter Jackson.

John Lennon wanted to play the grasping, thieving creature Gollum in a 1960s Beatles version of the **Lord of the Rings**, New Zealand director Jackson told Wellington's **Evening Post** newspaper.

Jackson, whose own version of the first book in the fantasy trilogy, **The Fellowship of the Ring** won four Oscars, told the newspaper that the Beatles plan fell flat when author J.R.R. Tolkien rejected the

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plan. "It was something John was driving and J.R.R. Tolkien still had the film rights at that stage but he didn't like the idea of the Beatles doing it. So he killed it," Jackson told the newspaper.

George Harrison was to play the wise wizard Gandalf who advises the hobbit Frodo in his quest to destroy the evil golden ring at the center of the epic tale of good versus evil, one of the most popular books of the 20th century. Ringo Starr was to play Frodo's devoted sidekick Sam, while Lennon would take the part of the hobbit-like creature that tracks the heroes throughout the story, trying to get his hands on the powerful ring.

"There probably would've been some good songs coming off the album," Jackson said of the Beatles' plan. Jackson is currently working on the second film of the trilogy.

The Two Towers is due out in December and the last film, **The Return of the King**, will follow next year.

Spy Spoofs I

John Malkovich and Australian pop thrush Natalie Imbruglia will co-star in **Johnny English**, the latest Rowan Atkinson comedy vehicle, for Universal Pictures. The film is a spy caper spoof, with Atkinson of the 1997 comedy smash **Bean** starring as an incompetent British secret agent and Malkovich playing the villain, a scheming French business magnate. Imbruglia, who acted in the Australian soap **Neighbors** before embarking on her pop singing career, will make her feature debut as a female agent lusted after by the title character. Ben Miller (**The Parole Officer**) will play Atkinson's sidekick.

The film, which starts shooting April 15, is being directed by Peter Howitt from an original screenplay by Neal Purvis and Robert Wade (who wrote the last two Bond movies) and William Davies.

Spy Spoofs II

The name is Muniz. Frankie Muniz. The teen actor best known as the misunderstood kid-genius at the center of Fox's hit sitcom **Malcolm in the Middle** was close to snagging a whopping \$2 million payday in March to star in MGM's **Agent Cody Banks**, a James Bond-like spy adventure for the high-school set, reports **Daily Variety**.

Muniz's publicist, Cara Tripicchio, confirmed he was in talks, but says it's not time to dot the i's and cross the t's just yet. "It is true that he's in negotiations. But this deal is not even close to being closed. It's still in the negotiating stage," Tripicchio said.

If the deal goes through as expected, the 16-year-old thespian would become one of the highest-paid child stars in Tinseltown history, up there with **Sixth Sense**/**A.I.** star Haley Joel Osment and Macaulay Culkin. In

Weekend Movie Figures

The following is the weekend box office take, and cumulative box office total, for the top 15 films of the week ending March 31, 2002, plus other genre-related pictures in the top 60.

#	MOVIE TITLE	Weekly Take	Cumulative	Days
1	Panic Room	30,057,000	30,057,000	3
2	Ice Age	18,135,000	116,863,000	17
3	The Rookie	16,022,000	16,022,000	3
4	Blade II	13,022,000	54,921,000	10
5	Clockstoppers	10,108,000	10,108,000	3
6	E.T. the Extraterrestrial	6,183,000	24,294,000	10
7	Death to Smoochy	4,266,000	4,266,000	3
8	A Beautiful Mind	3,884,000	160,845,000	101
9	We Were Soldiers	3,723,000	67,601,000	31
10	Showtime	3,533,000	33,300,000	17
11	Resident Evil	2,935,000	34,386,000	17
12	Lord of the Rings: Fellowship...	2,383,000	301,308,000	103
13	The Time Machine	2,283,000	52,648,000	24
14	Sorority Boys	2,095,000	8,067,000	10
15	Monster's Ball	2,060,000	22,931,000	96
24	Beauty and the Beast [Special Ed.]	418,000	22,434,000	90
26	Return to Neverland	362,000	47,242,000	45
28	Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	252,000	316,441,000	136
31	Vanilla Sky	196,000	100,112,000	108
39	Dragonfly	136,000	29,214,000	38
42	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	90,000	80,706,000	101
46	Queen of the Damned	49,000	30,004,000	38
49	Monsters Inc.	34,000	252,813,000	150

fact, **Variety** reports Muniz's check would be the biggest since Culkin cashed in following the blockbuster success of his **Home Alone** franchise in the early '90s. (By comparison, top A-list stars like Tom Cruise, Tom Hanks, Will Smith and Julia Roberts earn more than \$20 million per film.)

Inspired by its Bond franchise, MGM's **Cody Banks** would give Muniz a chance to get suave and sophisticated with the ladies, playing a teen recruited by the U.S. government for secret missions in need of pint-sized infiltrators. No word yet on who'll play the spy kid's youthful Pussy Galore or if he'll be drinking his Shirley Temples shaken, not stirred.

The reasoning behind Muniz's big payday is simple: **Malcolm in the Middle** has not only made him the most popular kid in Tinseltown, consistently ranking among the top 20 TV shows, but Muniz's most recent big-screen effort, the PG-rated **Big Fat Liar**, is expected to gross more than \$50 million for Universal—a tidy profit considering the comic caper cost \$14 million.

Muniz also earned critical kudos costarring opposite Kevin Bacon in Warners' 2000 family tale **My Dog Skip**.

With MGM's Bond franchise the most successful in the history of cinema, the studio hopes Muniz can kickstart a similar **Cody Banks** series, while outmaneuvering Disney's similarly themed **Spy Kids**, which has a headstart (**Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams** is due in August). Filming on **Agent Cody Banks** is expected to begin on June 1—just as Muniz finishes work for the season on **Malcolm**.

Oh, the Movies You'll See

Hide the cake and the rake and the gown and the milk and the strings and the books and the dish and the fan and the cup and the ship and the fish. Mike Myers is making **The Cat in the Hat** movie. The **Austin Powers** actor has agreed to star in the Universal-DreamWorks live-action adaptation of Dr. Seuss' classic children's story.

Following in the steps of Jim Carrey, who played **The Grinch** in Universal's successful big-screen version of that other famous Seuss character, Myers will suit up as the stovetop hat-wearing feisty feline. He's replacing Tim Allen, who dropped out of the project to film **The Santa Clause 2**.

First published in 1957, **The Cat in the Hat**, currently ranks among the top 10 best-

selling children's books of all time and is considered one of Theodore Geisel's (aka Dr. Seuss) most beloved characters. The book focuses on two bored tykes stuck inside on a rainy day. They invite the cat into their house while their mom is away, only to find unexpected trouble when his antics wreak havoc.

Like *The Grinch* movie, the film version of Dr. Seuss' *The Cat in the Hat* will expand on the original story and characters.

The Cat in the Hat also puts Myers back on the mat with Universal, DreamWorks and Imagine Entertainment, which produced *The Grinch*.

The parties got into a nasty spat a year and a half ago when Myers backed out of Dieter—a big-screen version of his *Saturday Night Live* "Sprockets" skit about an existentialist German talk show host and his pet monkey—because he wasn't happy with the script. Universal sued Myers in June of 2000 for walking off the comedy, claiming the studio had already sunk \$3.8 million into the project. But Myers, arguing he had final say over the script, said it needed reworking. A month later he filed a countersuit against Universal and Imagine naming them "co-conspirators" and claiming the companies committed fraud, defamation and even hired someone to stalk and intimidate him into making the movie.

Things got so bad that Steven Spielberg stepped in and mediated an out-of-court settlement between the parties. Now, Imagine chairman Brian Grazer tells *Daily Variety* that both sides have put the conflict behind them. "After we made *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, we were contemplating *Cat in the Hat* at the time we were going through this whole Dieter mess, and I remember saying to one of his CAA agents that Mike would be really good as the cat," Grazer tells the trade paper. "They said, 'But you're in this thing with him,' and I said, 'Sure, but he'd still be great, the best creative choice.' Mike heard about that, and we started talking. I think both of us were flattered with the idea of putting art before all that other stuff. A creative bridge happened in an organic way."

The deal is also good news for famed production designer Bo Welch, who was supposed to make his directorial debut with Dieter and will now take the reins on *The Cat in the Hat*. For his part, Myers released a statement expressing his enthusiasm for the project. "It's great fun to be in a children's movie, and it's an honor to be asked to be part of the world of Dr. Seuss," he said. Myers, who recently signed to reprise the voice of the lead ogre in the sequel to *Shrek*, is currently putting the finishing touches on the third installment of *Austin Powers*, which is slated for release on July 26. Dr. Seuss' *The Cat in the Hat* is

scheduled to begin shooting in the fall for a tentative summer 2003 release.

Future Films

Radar Pictures (*Pitch Black II: The Chronicles of Riddick*) has optioned the film rights to Poul Anderson's SF novel *Brain Wave*, about a cosmic phenomenon that elevates the intelligence of all Earth life forms, *Variety* reported. The company has also optioned the rights to William Tenn's SF book *Child's Play*, about a man who mistakenly receives a Christmas gift from 500 years in the future.

Buffy DVDs

The DVDFile web site reported that the complete second season of *Buffy The Vampire Slayer* arrives on DVD on June 11. The set will feature the season's episodes in full-frame format with 2.0 surround sound, the site reported. The new DVD set will also feature more extras than the recently released first-season set. These include audio commentary on select episodes; interviews with series creator Joss Whedon; three featurettes, Designing Buffy, A Buffy Bestiary and Beauty and Beasts; more than 150 images of set designs, monsters and cast and crew; scripts for certain episodes; U.K. and U.S. ads and trailers for *Buffy* and its spinoff series, *Angel*; and updated cast biographies. The set will carry a suggested retail price of \$59.95, the site reported.

DragonBall Rights

Twentieth Century Fox has acquired the movie rights to the Japanese anime *DragonBall*, which the studio's Fox 2000 unit will develop as a live-action film franchise, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*. Japanese writer Akira Toriyama created *DragonBall* as a graphic novel, and it has been adapted as an animated television series, video games and straight-to-video releases, the trade paper reported. *DragonBall* tells the story of Goku and his friends, who battle against the evil Saiyan with the Namekian DragonBalls. The franchise is the basis of Cartoon Network's *DragonBall Z* series.

T'Challa Reigns

Blade II star Wesley Snipes told the media that his next comic-book related project will likely be a live-action adaptation of Marvel Comics' *Black Panther* series. "To be real honest, we wanted to do *Black Panther* before *Blade* came along," Snipes said in an interview while promoting *Blade II*. "The agenda was to do *Black Panther*, and then it got caught up in some title and rights issues. And then *Blade* was substituted for *Black Panther*. I mean, me and [director] John Singleton were talking about doing *Black Panther* in '93, '92. So

we've been on this a while."

Although the two characters both originated from the world of comics, Snipes said that he will strive to make *Black Panther* as distinct from *Blade* as possible. "[It] will be another challenge, because now I've got two comic-book superheroes. What's the fighting style? What's the look? Their backgrounds are completely different. *Black Panther* may lend itself to have more doubles, because he wears a cowl and the whole body suit. Maybe more CGI."

Black Panther centers around T'Challa, a costumed crimefighter whose real identity is leader of a fictional and scientifically advanced nation called Wakanda. When asked why he wanted to play the role, Snipes responded in a booming, regal voice: "He's a king! He's a king, man! What say you? He's a king!"

Vampires for the FBI

David Goyer, author of New Line Cinema's *Blade* franchise, has inked with the studio to direct another vampire tale with sequel potential, *Darksiders*. New Line plans to start production in the third quarter. *Darksiders* follows a band of bloodsuckers turned into special operatives for the FBI. Given the bloodlust they show for their work, the vampires are closely monitored by the government agency. Tom Parker and Jim Jennewein wrote the script.

Goyer, who's now on tap to write the third *Blade* installment, first worked with New Line on 1998's *Dark City*. He also adapted and directed *ZigZag*, based on the novel by Landon J. Napoleon. That picture premiered earlier this month at the South by Southwest film festival in Austin, Texas.

Goyer also told *Cinescape Online* that he is teaming up with horror maestro Clive Barker to create *Shadow House*, a new genre series for HBO. "I have a pilot at HBO with Clive Barker," Goyer told the site while promoting his vampire sequel *Blade II*. "It's called *Shadow House*. Clive and I did it with Francis Ford Coppola. We're writing it right now." Goyer added, "We're trying to see if we can put the HBO spin on it. So it is genre, but what I like about the HBO shows is that they take things in a more intelligent direction. There aren't any special effects in it. It's scary and psychological."

More Genre Casting

Neal McDonough, an actor becoming well known to genre fans, has joined the cast of the upcoming time-travel film *Timeline*, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*. The film, directed by Richard Donner and based on Michael Crichton's novel of the same name, begins shooting April 8, the trade paper reported.

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McDonough will play John Gordon, a retired Army general who travels back in time to 14th-century France with a group of archaeology students trying to rescue their professor. Paul Walker, Gerard Butler and Frances O'Connor also star.

McDonough next appears opposite Tom Cruise and Colin Farrell as a member of an elite police squad in Steven Spielberg's upcoming SF thriller *Minority Report*, based on a Philip K. Dick short story. McDonough also appeared in *Star Trek: First Contact* and in a recent episode of *The X-Files*.

StarTrek.net

Internet service provider EarthLink is offering a new *Star Trek*-themed Internet package through StarTrek.net. The new service offers users Internet access, a StarTrek.net e-mail address, a Trek-themed browser, a personal start page and a host of Trek-themed content. Current EarthLink subscribers can use StarTrek.net at no additional cost. New subscribers can sign up for the services for \$21.95 per month.

Michael...I've Got a Bad Feeling

David Hasselhoff is getting ready to make some Knight moves again. Revolution Studios is gearing up to revive *Knight Rider*—NBC's cult hit 1980's action series featuring Hasselhoff as the titular crimefighter aided by his trusty talking Trans Am K.I.T.T.—for a potential big-screen franchise.

Hasselhoff is on board to executive produce the flick with series creator Glen Larson. There's no word yet what kind of screen time, if any, Hasselhoff will have. Hasselhoff has been trying to jumpstart the project for a while. Last September, he told *E! Online*, "I'm really excited about it. We're working hard to get it off the ground."

When Hasselhoff first started shopping the new *Knight Rider* around, it was reported that his character, Michael Knight, would be a supporting player, acting as mentor to a new generation of younger (and presumably hotter) operatives. A Revolution spokesperson, however, says the story still needs to be hashed out and the stars need to be cast. "Right now we just bought the pitch, and no script has been written, so [Hasselhoff's] involvement or what he's gonna do is up in the air," said the spokeswoman. "But once we get the other cast down then we'll kind of work the script around him."

Larson is currently hammering out a script that will update *Knight Rider* to appeal to *The Fast and the Furious* set. "It's going to be a big action film," says the Revolution rep. "[Larson] is going to write the script but obviously it's not a remake of the TV show."

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To that end, the studio plans to overhaul the black Trans Am (originally voiced by *St. Elsewhere* star William Daniels) and refurbish the story to appeal to a more high-octane, teen-male market. "There will be a lot of gadgets and a lot of toys [in K.I.T.T.]," the studio spokesperson adds.

The original *Knight Rider* featured Hasselhoff as a young undercover cop who, after getting shot in the face, is recruited by a dying billionaire's secret Foundation for Law and Government to battle the baddies. He gets a new identity via plastic surgery, a new name and a new ride. In the original series, the souped-up sports car was equipped with enough options to make a car salesman drool and James Bond jealous. The Trans Am could travel upwards of 300 miles per hour and used its turbo boost to jump through the air. It also had infrared X-ray, audio-video recording capabilities, microwave jamming, chemical and blood analyzers, ejection seats, oil jets, a smokescreen, flame thrower and a grappling hook. Hasselhoff and his garrulous car entertained audiences for four seasons before NBC axed the show in 1986.

It wasn't exactly the end of the line for Hasselhoff, who not only became a hit singer in Germany but also produced and starred in *Baywatch*, for a time the most popular TV show on the planet. While there's no *Baywatch* feature in sight (gasp!), a TV reunion featuring Hasselhoff's hunky lifeguard Mitch and other *Baywatch* hardbodies is in the works.

As for *Knight Rider*, Revolution will coproduce the movie with Mark Ciardi and Gordon Gray of Mayhem Pictures, the partners behind Disney's current Dennis Quaid baseball drama, *The Rookie*, and Sony's spring teen flick *The New Guy*. Hasselhoff & Co. hope to get the new *Knight Rider* up and running on the big screen by 2004.

Berman Renews at Paramount

Veteran *Star Trek* writer/producer Rick Berman has signed an eight-figure deal that will keep him at Paramount Pictures through the end of 2006. The exclusive pact calls for Berman to create, develop and produce features for Paramount's film units as well as TV movies and series programming for the studio's TV units. He'll also remain as scribe/exec producer on the latest *Star Trek* series, UPN's top-rated *Enterprise*, while continuing as a consultant on projects for Paramount's theme parks unit.

While Berman intends to continue to focus on *Enterprise* and the upcoming Paramount picture *Star Trek: Nemesis* for at least the next year, he's expected to begin developing non-"Trek" properties at some point during the new deal.

Berman noted that between launching *Enterprise* and filming *Nemesis*, he's had

"more fun writing and producing this season" than any year since he began working on the *Star Trek* franchise in 1987. Nonetheless, Berman is prepping to move beyond deep space. "There's nothing that dictates you giving your all (more) than the first season of a new TV series," Berman told *Daily Variety*. "And I'm going to be very committed to *Enterprise*; it needs a lot of nurturing for at least a couple more years."

"(But) during the course of this next five-year deal, I'm going to force myself to find the time to start branching out," he added. "I want to work on the kind of projects where people drive cars and wear sneakers — something a little more earthbound."

Since coming into the "Trek" universe as co-creator (with Gene Roddenberry) of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, Berman has been responsible for more than 600 hours of "Trek"-related programming. In addition to *Next Generation* follow-ups *Deep Space Nine*, *Voyager* and *Enterprise*, Berman produced and had co-story credit on the "Trek" features *Generations*, *First Contact*, *Insurrection* and the upcoming *Nemesis*.

E.T. From Orbit

The crew of the international space station joined Steven Spielberg and Universal Studios Florida on Tuesday in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the film *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial*. One of the 28 school children gathered at Universal Studios Florida's E.T. Adventure attraction in Orlando asked the astronauts how long it would take to get to E.T.'s home.

"As far as we understand it, the green planet is 3 million light years away," astronaut Daniel Bursch replied. "Using the engines, technology, that we have today, it will only take about 75 billion years to get there. But hopefully, we'll be going a little bit faster soon." Spielberg, joining them in a phone call from Los Angeles, said there will never be a sequel to *E.T.* But the director noted that allowing movie fans to ride the E.T. Adventure and to talk with orbiting astronauts "is absolutely an incredible sequel or follow-up to any film."

"Take care of yourselves up there," Spielberg told the three men aboard the space station. "And thanks for helping E.T. phone home again and for providing celestial guidance to his home planet." *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial* was released on June 11, 1982. It was rereleased Friday, March 22nd, with never-before-seen footage and computer enhancements.

Whistle While We Don't Work

Walt Disney Feature Animation will lay off 250 people, or 18.5% of the division work force, over the next 12 months, the studio confirmed Tuesday. The move is part of an ongoing effort to shift Disney anima-

tion from having a large number of animators on staff to hiring on a per film basis, a spokeswoman said.

Thomas Schumacher, president of Walt Disney Animation, informed his staff of the cuts in meetings in March. No one will lose his or her job immediately, the studio said. Instead, contracts tied to specific projects will not be renewed once those projects are finished. The cuts will mostly affect people working in Burbank. After the cuts are made, the animation division will have about 1,100 employees, down from a peak of 2,200 in 1999.

The studio's next animated film, *Lilo & Stitch*, is completed and is scheduled to be released in June. The studio is working on films that are scheduled to be released through 2006, according to spokeswoman Andrea Marozas. The cuts come days after another Disney unit, Miramax, cut 75 jobs, or about 16 percent of its work force. Disney has shed more than 4,000 jobs since it announced cost-cutting efforts last year. Last October, Disney laid off 350 people when it closed its Secret Lab, a unit intended to produce computer-generated images for live action films.

The animation cuts reflect a shift from traditional hand-drawn films that Disney pioneered to computer-generated films, such as *Ice Age*, released last week by 20th Century Fox. Even Disney's latest hand-drawn efforts are hybrids, using some computer-generated effects. Many studios, including DreamWorks SKG, Warner Bros. and Disney, hired a large number of animators in the 1990s, driving up wages and starting a bidding war for talent. Those jobs began to disappear several years ago as public tastes changed to favor the kind of computer-generated films made by Disney partner Pixar Animation.

New Format for Old Favorites

In a potentially watershed announcement portending major benefits to all involved, executives from Universal Pictures, producer Imagine Entertainment and Imax held a glitzy press event in March to announce the summer 2002 re-release of *Apollo 13* in Imax's large-screen format. A similar venture involving Universal/Imagine's upcoming *Cat in the Hat* is also anticipated. An exact date for the Imax-format *Apollo* re-release wasn't immediately available, but signs point to a late-summer bow.

The companies have been working on the Imax project for months, and executives were recently blown away by a screening of a new process for converting films to Imax specs, insiders said. The process represents a first-time ability to convert a conventional live-action print to Imax's large format.

Previously, films including Warner Bros.'

The Matrix, Universal's *Jurassic Park III* and DreamWorks' *Gladiator* have been shown in a few Imax theaters. But those limited large-screen runs involved simply blowing up images projected from a conventional 35 mm negative.

The new process is said to yield much more compelling results by converting conventional negatives to a 70mm Imax format, which offers vastly enhanced resolution. An Imax negative is both twice as wide and almost four times as long as a conventional one. There are also anticipated dramatic benefits for the bottom lines of those involved. For Universal and Imagine, the ability to distribute conventionally shot pictures on Imax screens represents a welcome opportunity to repurpose older films like *Apollo* at a time when re-releases are something of a Hollywood trend. *The Exorcist* grossed more than \$100 million worldwide re-release for Warner Bros. a couple years ago, and Universal hopes to do similar biz with its currently-playing 20th anniversary edition of *E.T.*

The new Imax-conversion process also presents a new way of adding to the aggregate number of screens on new releases and simultaneously broadening both appeal and revenue.

For large-screen pioneer Imax, the benefits could be even greater. The Toronto-based company has struggled in recent years to follow through on a pledge to Imax exhibitors that more dramatically appealing films would soon be available in the large-screen format. But to date that's mostly meant adding only Disney toons to the usual nature studies and scientific subjects, as technical aspects of the conversion process for animation are less daunting than for live-action films. The announcement of a major live actioner unspooling in the format would underscore the appeal of the conversion process, as well as restore exhibitors' hopes of eventually seeing a regular flow of mainstream movies. And that could help Imax's long languishing stock price.

"There's been talk of a new conversion process (and) that would be very significant," said Kevin Skislock, an analyst with Irvine-based Laguna Research Partners who follows Imax. "There's been a question about how you can ask exhibitors to put up more Imax screens when there's an inadequate flow of product. Now, they may be able to tap into some instant product flow, and you could see a resurgence of new Imax theaters." It's believed the large-screen conversion process will cost studios about \$2 million-\$3 million per picture plus additional print costs. The process is proprietary to Imax, so though the technology could be used to convert conventional negatives to any of a number of large-screen

formats, it won't be. Imax likely would authorize its use only for distribution to the 225 Imax-format theaters located in 30 countries worldwide. Those include about 100 U.S. installations.

This...is Holonet News

Sharp-eyed viewers of the new trailer for the upcoming *Star Wars: Episode II—Attack of the Clones* noticed an unusual link at the end of the credits. The link takes users to a mock news site, Holonet News, that is set in the universe of the prequel films.

The site features news stories about developments in the galaxy at the time of *Episode II*, including Senator Palpatine's efforts to create a clone army, a central plot point in the new movie. *Episode II* opens May 16.

Sneak Attack of the Clones

Two months before its release, the online buzz machine has kicked into high gear for *Star Wars: Episode II — Attack of the Clones*.

In late March, the George Lucas-directed picture was privately screened at the South by Southwest music and media confab in Austin, Texas, for Internet film geek Harry Knowles, who immediately posted a gushing review of the sci-fi sequel on his *Ain't It Cool News* Web site. Knowles declined to disclose the identity of the individuals who gave him the opportunity to view the unfinished picture in a hotel room. But he heaped praise on what he saw, highlighting the lead characters, action sequences, plot and music.

"After the film was finished playing, I was just beside myself with glee," Knowles wrote. "I love this film desperately. I want to continually watch it for about a week with my best friends. I want to see it digitally projected with sternum-shaking sound. ... This movie is the real deal. It is smart, beautiful ... thrilling and electrical. Line up now. This 'Star Wars' is for real."

Lucasfilm has always been known for being highly guarded over the "Star Wars" franchise, not letting anyone — not even distribution partner 20th Century Fox — view a picture in the series until just before its release. Lucasfilm spokeswoman Lynn Hale said, "We don't know how he could have gotten a copy of it, but we're glad he liked the film." Fox declined to comment. It is surprising that *Clones* would be leaked in such a calculated way to anyone. Then again, Knowles, never the shy critic, has been credited in the past for influencing Internet masses to flock to pics through positive reviews. And with *Clones* trailers being overpowered by campaigns for

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Spider-Man and even *Scooby-Doo* as well as continuing buzz for *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Rings*, Lucasfilm is trying to steal back some of the thunder for its franchise.

"The sources that showed it to me were tired of all the rhetoric about Tolkien, all the focus I had on *Lord of the Rings*," Knowles wrote. "They wanted someone outside of the ranch, outside of the 'circle,' someone that seemed to be straying from the fold to see what it was that Lucas had done." The tactic seems to have paid off. Knowles is in the middle of a book tour, during which, he said, he'll share his views of *Clones* with his fans. The story of the leak is also expected to make the press rounds.

"What Lucas has done," said Knowles, "is to make a film that is so relentlessly entertaining and thrilling that there will be no movie this summer that can stand against it. This is it." You can't buy buzz better than that.

Goldsmith — Nemesis

Jerry Goldsmith has been officially announced as the composer of the upcoming feature *Star Trek: Nemesis*, due from Paramount at the end of the year. This will be his fifth score for the series, not counting his Emmy winning theme for *Star Trek: Voyager*. Goldsmith was pretty much a shoo-in for the *Nemesis* gig, since he composed not only the last two *Trek* features but the two other films directed by *Nemesis* helmer Stuart Baird, *Executive Decision* and *U.S. Marshals*.

But on the other hand, one would have thought James Horner was a shoo-in to score *The Sum of All Fears*, as he scored the previous two Jack Ryan movies as well as the last three (including the TV movie "Freedom Song") films from *Fears* director Phil Alden Robinson. But that job went to — Jerry Goldsmith. Coincidence?

Asimov Followup

Prolific SF author Isaac Asimov died of AIDS in 1992, according to a revelation in *It's Been a Good Life*, Janet Jeppson's upcoming condensation of the writer's three-volume autobiography, the New York Post reported. Asimov contracted the illness through a blood transfusion while undergoing bypass surgery in 1983 and died from the disease at age 72, the book reported. Jeppson, Asimov's wife, compiled *It's Been a Good Life*, which is due later this month, from her late husband's notes and essays.

Following an erroneous report in *Locus* that Jeppson requested that Asimov keep his condition secret from the press — it was actually his doctor's recommendation — Jeppson has been asserting that she did no such thing, and wishes to correct the false

information in as many official and unofficial news sources as possible.

N'Sync in Orbit

Lance Bass left Russia on Monday 3-25 after undergoing a series of health tests in a bid to blast into space onboard a Russian rocket. The member of 'N Sync, a popular U.S. boy band, said in May that he always dreamed of traveling into space. He hoped to be ready in time for a fall trip. Bass arrived in Moscow on Friday 3-22 to submit to an initial medical examination. Further examinations would be required, as would approval from the Russian space agency, which told Interfax news agency on Monday that it has not yet received an official application from Bass.

In 2001, Dennis Tito became the first space tourist, blasting off on an eight-day trip to the 16-nation international space station for which he reportedly paid the Russian space agency \$20 million.

The next tourist to go into space will be South African Internet tycoon Mark Shuttleworth, who is scheduled to fly to the space station in April. Russian officials have not released the contract sum, but Shuttleworth said he would pay roughly the same amount as Tito plus some extra for conducting scientific experiments.

Russian space officials have said they are mulling over several tourist candidates to visit the station in October.

2002 Golden Razzies

Give Tom Green points for knowing when to laugh at himself. The Canadian goofball and star of the box-office stinker *Freddy Got Fingered* became the first person to personally accept an award for Worst Film Saturday March 23rd at the 22nd Annual Razzie Awards, honoring Hollywood's most gawdawful flicks of 2001. Not only did Green show up and score the day's top dis-honor, but the former MTV host's disastrous big-screen debut also scored him Worst Actor, Worst Screen Couple (Green and any animal he abuses), Worst Director and Worst Screenplay (cowritten with Derek Harvie). "I'd just like to say to all the other nominees in the audience, I don't think that I deserved it any more than the rest of you," said Green, who dressed in a tuxedo for the event. "I'd like to say that. I don't think that it would be true, though."

A tad less surprisingly, diva-turned-actress Mariah Carey was a no-show despite being named Worst Actress for her much-maligned big-screen debut, *Glitter*.

Following *Freddy* for overall Razzie wins was Tim Burton's remake of *Planet of the Apes*. While both Burton and star Mark Wahlberg were absolved of any wrongdoing, the film was named Worst Remake or Sequel, and it swept the supporting

categories: Model-turned-actress Estella Warren nabbed Worst Supporting Actress for *Apes* and the race-car dud *Driven*, while Charlton Heston scored a triple razz for his work on *Apes*, *Cats & Dogs* and *Town & Country*.

The Razzies are voted on by more than 520 members of the Golden Raspberry Foundation, including critics and moviegoers, and honor the year's biggest stinkers with a gold-spray-painted plastic raspberry trophy (estimated street value: \$4.29). In honor of Green's attendance, this year's Razzies were staged at The Abracadabra Theater at Magicopolis in Santa Monica, featuring an opening number ("Hooray for What's No Good!") and clips from the nominated films.

Reworking "Rama"

Director David Fincher told *Cinescape Online* that he's thinking of reinventing Arthur C. Clarke's classic SF novel *Rendezvous With Rama* for the big screen. "We're still working on the script," Fincher told the site. "It's probably one of the most pilfered books of the last 30 years." Fincher added, "There are so many science fiction films that owe at least a narrative twist or a notion to *Rendezvous With Rama*. I mean, *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*, *Alien*, *Armageddon*, *Independence Day*—all of these movies have plot devices and elements that are taken from it, so I don't feel you can just do the book. I think you have to reinvent it."

Fincher added that his film version of the book would require heavy digital effects. "It's basically a motion-capture movie," Fincher said. "The environment is completely synthetic. The actors are performing in real time, but you're editing the real-time component so you can introduce the weightlessness and get the performance that you want."

We Will Rock You

Hollywood superstar Robert De Niro and British rock legends Queen pledged London that "We Will Rock You" with a futuristic new musical packed with the supergroup's greatest hits. "I think it is going to be terrific," De Niro said after flying in from New York for a run-through of the show that opens in London in May. And the survivors of Queen were convinced that the ghost of Freddie Mercury would be smiling benevolently down on the production. Queen's flamboyant lead singer died of AIDS in 1991.

The \$10.7 million musical *We Will Rock You* has taken six years to bring to the stage. It all started at the 1996 Venice film festival where a series of short films about Queen were screened before De Niro's movie *Sleepers*. Band members Brian May and Roger Taylor met De Niro at the party afterwards and the idea was born. "That's

how long things take," De Niro told reporters at a London press conference." The star, who is backing the musical with his Tribeca Productions company, said: "I knew it would be a great idea once it was gotten right for a musical." And would De Niro ever appear in a musical himself? "If the right thing came along, anything is possible," he said.

May and Taylor said the original plan was to write a biographical musical. But they abandoned that idea and turned the script over to British comedian Ben Elton. Elton had just finished collaborating with Andrew Lloyd Webber on the musical *The Beautiful Game* about soccer in the Northern Ireland conflict. Then he jumped at the Queen project. He came up with a futuristic musical about a world where globalization rules — everyone watches the same movies, wears the same clothes and listens to computerized music. Musical instruments are banned — but resistance is growing. And that's where some of rock's most memorable anthems kick in.

"Queen's music is uniquely theatrical," Elton said. "I had this vision where *The Matrix* meets the Arthurian legend meets *Terminator 2*." They auditioned more than 6,000 hopefuls for the show, which opens in London on May 14 and then hopefully it will be staged in North America, Australia, Scandinavia, Italy and Japan.

But would Freddie Mercury have approved? "Freddie would have loved it. He was a very theatrical character," Taylor said.

Daredevil Starts Filming

Principal photography commenced March 25 in Los Angeles on the live-action *Daredevil* movie, Regency Enterprises and 20th Century Fox announced. Written and directed by Mark Steven Johnson, *Daredevil* is slated for a Jan. 17, 2003, release, the studios said.

Based on the Marvel Comics series of the same name, *Daredevil* stars Ben Affleck as blind lawyer Matt Murdock, who leads a secret life as a masked vigilante. The film also stars Jennifer Garner (*Alias*), Michael Clarke Duncan (*The Green Mile*), Colin Farrell, Jon Favreau, Joe Pantoliano (*The Matrix*), David Keith and newcomer Scott Terra (the upcoming *Eight Legged Freaks*).

Harry Potter and the DVD Sales Record

Harry Potter might be crowned king of the video realm this spring.

Anticipation is mounting that *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, coming to VHS and DVD May 28, could become the top-selling video of all time, surpassing the 30-million-unit mark and nudging *The Lion King*, current record holder, from the top

spot it has held for seven years.

- At Amazon.com, the title has held the No. 1 spot on the sales charts since its release was announced in early February, with the exception of Oscar week, when *Training Day* briefly vaulted to the top. That's remarkable, says Amazon's Stefan Pepe, given that copies won't be available for almost two months.

- At Movie Gallery, the nation's No. 3 video chain with 1,000 stores, advance orders are so strong that senior vice president Bo Lloyd says, "We believe it will sell more units than *Lion King*."

- The title also is the biggest presell video at Tower Records and Video, a 98-store chain.

- Wal-Mart.com is anticipating *Harry* will be "the biggest title we've ever had," says mediamanager Cynthia Lin. The video is already No. 1 in sales this year, ahead of *Training Day* and *Moulin Rouge*. (Wal-Mart.com hopes to entice more advance buyers by offering the DVD for \$19.95 — \$7 off the suggested retail — with free shipping and delivery promised on May 28 or 29.)

The soaring success of DVD is certainly expected to help *Harry*. *The Lion King*, which, according to Adams Media Research, shipped 28.8 million units for its March 1995 debut, was released in the VHS-only days. The sole title to challenge it since was *Titanic*, the top-grossing movie of all time, in 1997. Its total came just below *Lion King*'s tally, according to most industry estimates, and the DVD came out a year later, when few households had DVD players. Now that DVD players are in nearly 25 million homes, the simultaneous release on both platforms gives *Harry* an edge. But the DVD factor could come back to haunt the film.

"With the rapid growth of the DVD market, it is very hard to imagine than any title will stay at No. 1 for very long," says Zane Plsek, director of video for Warehouse Music, a chain of more than 400 home entertainment stores. He says that *Harry* faces formidable competition, starting with *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, which has a two-tiered strategy. The fantasy blockbuster is due in August in the original theatrical version and in November in an extended version. [See next article]

Retailers already are gearing up for *Harry* mania, though. "A number of our stores will open at midnight the day *Harry* is released," says Plsek. "Fans are known to line up at midnight to get the latest book, and we are sure it will happen for the video." *Harry Potter* toys may be sitting on discount shelves, but that doesn't mean the obsession is over. In fact, a new *Potter* push is about to begin. To support the May 28

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone video and DVD release, Warner Home Video is mounting the most expensive marketing campaign in its history. "Consumers can expect great things from the video," says Thomas Lesinski, executive vice president and general manager of Warner's U.S. home video unit. Elements of the campaign, valued at \$25 million, include a cross-promotional partnership with Coca-Cola, a sweeping media blitz and a display contest for retailers.

And the studio is packing the two-disc DVD with special features.

Highlights include:

- New scenes created especially for the DVD.
 - An interactive "virtual tour" that lets users navigate through Hogwarts' Great Hall, Gryffindor Common Room and other locations.
 - Interviews with producer David Heyman and director Chris Columbus.
 - A game that lets viewers learn Quidditch and catch a "Snitch" with their remotes.
 - A visit to the Hogwarts library, where viewers can open a screaming book, meet the ghosts who roam Hogwarts and watch video biographies of the film's characters, among other things.
- The DVD also has several DVD-ROM features that can be accessed via computer, including downloadable screen savers, electronic trading cards and a "One Voice" option that lets viewers navigate by speaking into the computer's microphone. "We look at the video as one part of the Potter experience," Lesinski says. "It allows the consumer to have an interactive experience and bridges the movie experience with the book experience."

Lord of the DVDs

For *The Lord of the Rings*, it's one DVD to rule them a... Wait, what's that? Six DVDs???

In a digital overload befitting Peter Jackson's super-sized Tolkien epic, New Line Home Entertainment has announced plans to release two separate DVD editions of *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* later this year—which, all told, will feature six separate discs of Hobbit goodies.

The theatrical DVD version of the Oscar-winning film will hit stores August 6, in a two-DVD set featuring two hours of bonus material and a sneak preview of Jackson's sequel *The Two Towers*, which opens in theaters December 18. Then on November 12, New Line will release a "Special Extended Edition" of *The Lord of the Rings* that adds about 30 minutes of footage to the already three-hour movie. Studio officials

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predict that, because of explicit footage, the new version may even carry an R rating. (The theatrical version was PG-13.)

"I didn't want to call this a director's cut, because, essentially, both are director's cuts," Jackson told reporters Tuesday via satellite from New Zealand, where he's editing the next installment, **The Two Towers**. "That's why we're calling [the second release] a 'Special Extended Edition'... [The new footage] was always supposed to be in the film. There will be more character moments and more visual-effects shots."

The four-disc special-edition set also will include six hours of additional material, including a behind-the-scenes documentary and director's commentary. Additionally, there will be a limited-edition gift set also available in November containing the Special Extended Edition, a *National Geographic* "Beyond the Movie" DVD, artwork by Tolkein illustrator Alan Lee and special bookends custom made by Side-show Weta, the group responsible for **LOTR**'s special effects.

It might all seem a bit much, but "a mammoth movie requires a mammoth DVD," notes Peter Bracke, editor of DVDfile.com. Bracke is already predicting the discs will break sales records. (**Shrek** is the current recordholder, with nearly \$450 million in disc sales, and **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone** could also challenge the mark when it comes out on DVD in May.)

"Unlike **Pearl Harbor**, it seems this is the kind of movie that warrants this treatment," he says. "But I don't even want to know what New Line is spending on this." Now that you asked: The studio is forking over \$65 million for the marketing alone. As for the extended edition, Jackson once again enlisted his effects team and composer Howard Shore to work on the 30 minutes of new footage. Here's a rundown of the extra scenes:

- Bilbo's journal, "Concerning Hobbits": A brief introduction to the history of Hobbits, which comes after the introductory prologue about the creation of the ring.

- The introduction of Samwise Gamgee (Sean Astin)—a scene that had showed him doing his gardening work.

- More footage from the Green Dragon Inn, with Merry and Pippin singing Hobbit songs.

- Sam and Frodo (Elijah Wood) on the road to Bree, during which they see an exodus of elves.

- Aragon song: Viggo Mortensen singing an Elvish song foreshadowing his relationship with Arwen (Liv Tyler).

- Aragon in Rivendell at the site of his mother's grave.

- An extended scene in which the

Fellowship leave Rivendell.

- New scenes, pre-battle, from the Mines of Moria, which explain the history of the mines.

- Cate Blanchett's character giving a special gift to each member of the Fellowship before they depart.

- Thirty more seconds of footage from the film's climactic battle scene.

The two-disc set will be available in wide-screen or full-screen for \$29.95. No word on the price of the other versions. New Line will also release VHS versions of both the theatrical and extended cuts at the same time as the respective DVDs. So far, **Fellowship** has grossed nearly \$300 million at the domestic box office and \$800 million worldwide, putting it in the top 10 all-time moneymakers. The film also picked up four Oscars in March.

So Help Us Bruce

Jim Carrey is set to star in **Bruce Almighty**, a Universal Pictures comedy that reteams him with **Ace Ventura**, **Pet Detective** director Tom Shadyac. Shooting will start in July. Carrey, Shadyac and scribe Steve Oedekerck began working together on the film in earnest in February, when Carrey became available after the Gary Ross-directed comedy often called **Dog Years** screeched to a halt. At that time, Universal executives were eager to get Carrey into another film following their success with **How the Grinch Stole Christmas** and **Liar Liar**. Carrey and Oedekerck wrote together on **In Living Color**, and Oedekerck also directed the **Ace Ventura** sequel.

Bruce Almighty is a whiny guy who questions once too often why God gives him so much grief. He is suddenly given almighty power for 24 hours to teach him how difficult it is to run the world. Comedy ensues as the guy misuses, then tries to harness his awesome power. Universal originally bought the project as a spec script by Steve Koren and Mark O'Keefe. Carrey and Shadyac have been working with Oedekerck to rewrite the script, a three-man formula they employed during **Ace**. Carrey will follow up by starring in **Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind**, the USA Films picture reteaming **Human Nature** writer Charlie Kaufman and helmer Michel Gondry. Carrey was last in theaters with 2001's disappointing **The Majestic**.

Bradbury Shines in L.A.

Ray Bradbury, the author of **The Martian Chronicles** and other classic science fiction novels, received the 2,193rd star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on Monday, April 1st.

Mayor Jim Hahn, actor Charlton Heston and other officials attended the ceremony. The ceremony is the start of a month-long

reading campaign called "**One Book, One City — L.A.**" Residents will be encouraged to read Bradbury's **Fahrenheit 451**, the anti-censorship classic about a futuristic firefighter whose job is to burn books. Opportunities will then be presented at bookstores and libraries to join reading groups to discuss the novel.

Bradbury, 81, has been a Los Angeles resident since he was a teen-ager. He sold newspapers on street corners while developing his writing career. Some of his most famous short stories, including **The Wonderful Ice Cream Suit**, are set in the city.

Star Wars vs. Starballz

According to the producer of a **Star Wars** porn parody, the real evil Empire is George Lucas' marketing department. After successfully parrying an attempt by Lucasfilm to block the release of their X-rated cartoon, the makers of **Starballz** are going on the offensive and suing the filmmaker for \$140 million for slander. Media Market Group has filed suit in New York State Supreme Court in Manhattan accusing a Lucas publicist of libel for stating that **Starballz** specifically targeted children.

At issue is a statement from Lucasfilm rep Lynne Hale, who implied that the folks at MMG were looking to entice young Jedis to the dark side. "This is a pornographic cartoon utilizing **Star Wars** intellectual property. We feel strongly that the law does not allow for parody to be a defense to a pornographic use of someone else's intellectual property, especially when that use is directed to children," Hale said in a January statement.

The makers of **Starballz** on the other hand counter that their X-rated animé is a parody intended strictly for grown-ups, noting that the videocassette packaging includes the proper warning labels. "[MMG] has never directed pornography to children; the cover of **Starballz** states 'Adult Only' in three places," the company says in court papers.

While MMG says it is suing Lucasfilm for slander, it's a safe bet the lawsuit is payback after the unsuccessful attempt by the ever-vigilant Lucasfilm to block distribution of **Starballz**. Last November, Lucasfilm lawyers asked a judge for a cease-and-desist order against MMG to stop manufacturing and distributing **Starballz**. Lucasfilm claimed MMG shamelessly borrowed the filmmaker's intellectual property for its own commercial ends and potentially damaged the sales of **Star Wars**-related merchandise, costing Lucas millions of dollars in revenue.

Lucas was granted the restraining order in December. However, an Oakland-based federal judge ruled the following month that MMG did not rip off **Star Wars**, essentially siding with MMG's argument that the animated flick was a parody

Top Grossing Movies

The following is a list of the top 20 all-time money-making films, at least domestically. Both *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* and *The Fellowship of the Ring* are creeping up the list, with FOTR set to enter the elite Top 10 within the next 2-3 weeks. Worldwide Gross is listed at the far right, which clearly show some differences from just the U.S. figures. Most prominent — Harry Potter is the #2 all-time grossing film, worldwide, and FOTR is #6!

#	FILM	YEAR	U.S. \$	WORLD \$
1	Titanic	1997	\$600,787,052	\$1,835,100,000
2	Star Wars	1977	\$460,935,665	\$783,600,000
3	Star Wars: Phantom Menace	1999	\$431,065,444	\$922,600,000
4	E.T. the Extraterrestrial	1982	\$424,098,904	\$725,100,000
5	Jurassic Park	1993	\$356,839,725	\$920,100,000
6	Forrest Gump	1994	\$329,690,974	\$679,700,000
7	Harry Potter...Sor. Stone	2001	\$316,440,684	\$951,100,000
8	The Lion King	1994	\$312,855,561	\$766,900,000
9	Return of the Jedi	1983	\$309,125,409	\$572,800,000
10	Independence Day	1996	\$306,052,958	\$813,100,000
11	Fellowship of the Ring	2001	\$301,308,405	\$803,300,000
12	The Sixth Sense	1999	\$293,476,912	\$660,700,000
13	The Empire Strikes Back	1980	\$290,158,751	\$512,900,000
14	Home Alone	1990	\$285,016,000	\$533,800,000
15	Shrek	2001	\$267,652,016	\$469,700,000
16	How the Grinch Stole Xmas	2000	\$260,031,035	\$340,400,000
17	Jaws	1975	\$260,000,000	\$470,600,000
18	Monsters, Inc.	2001	\$252,813,234	\$453,000,000
19	Batman	1989	\$251,188,924	\$413,200,000
20	Men in Black	1997	\$250,147,615	\$586,100,000

protected under the First Amendment. U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken said there was "little likelihood of confusion" between the titillating 'toon and Lucas' famous space opera and lifted the temporary restraining order, allowing MMG to continue distributing *Starballz*, which follows the adventures of "Wank Solo," who travels across the galaxy with sidekick "Chewhowie" on a mission to get some booty and rescue a very horny princess held hostage by the evil Ass Star. The video is distributed online at starballz.com.

But while the *Starballz* rebels got away in their last court fight, they might not be so lucky the next time. Though Lucasfilm hasn't decided whether or not to appeal the January ruling, company lawyers are still proceeding with a copyright-infringement suit.

Digital Cinema Standards

The seven major movie studios are forming a joint venture to establish technical standards for the development of digital cinema. The goal of the new company will be to decide on a set of open technical standards so that competing digital projectors, software and distribution systems can operate using the same

language.

The unstated goal of the venture is to avoid the mistakes made when digital sound was introduced to movie theaters in the 1990s. Without common standards, theaters spent millions of dollars equipping auditoriums to show films using each of the three major sound technologies. "Digital sound was a problem," said Rick King, a spokesman for AMC Entertainment Inc., one of the largest theater chains. "It took some time and money to get all those problems resolved. The differences in time and money on digital projection will be exponential, compared to that."

To avoid those problems, the new joint venture hopes to establish minimum standards for picture quality as well as decide the thorny issue of protecting the studios' films from piracy. When digital cinema becomes widely available, studios will replace bulky and expensive prints of movies with digital copies that can be beamed by satellite or over high-speed Internet lines directly to theaters or delivered on computer disks. One of the main stumbling blocks to the studios embracing digital projection, other than the enormous cost, is the fear of pirates breaking the security systems and distributing perfect

digital copies of first-run films.

"In the same way that 35 mm film now works in all the projectors, we'd like to make sure the same content, authored once, can play on all the equipment, no matter who the vendor is," said Robert Lambert, senior vice president for new technology and development at The Walt Disney Co., one of the investors in the new joint venture.

The new venture will not decide who will pay for the digital projectors, which, along with computer hardware and software, can cost as much as \$200,000 for each movie screen. Theater chains, many of which are just emerging from bankruptcy protection after years of overbuilding, are reluctant to finance the shift to digital, which is seen as mainly benefitting the studios by cutting the cost of making and distributing prints.

Only about 50 theaters worldwide are equipped with digital projectors.

Witch Mountain Redux

Longtime *X-Files* director David Nutter will helm Disney's remake of its 1975 movie *Escape to Witch Mountain*, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*. Disney said it intended for the film to have an *X-Files* and *Roswell* feel to it, and Nutter has directed episodes of both series, the trade paper reported. The movie tells the story of two teenagers with telekinetic powers. The original film was based on the novel of the same name by Alexander Key.

Spider-Man 2 Set to Film

Call it the ultimate spoiler. One month before the much-anticipated, big-screen *Spider-Man* hits theaters, we already know one sure thing: Everybody lives. Well, maybe not everybody, but certainly the key players. Stars Tobey Maguire and Kirsten Dunst and director Sam Raimi, as well as producers Laura Ziskin, Avi Arad and Ian Bryce, have all reupped for a Spidey sequel, to start production early next year.

"All of this because of our complete belief in the movie," said Columbia executive vice president Matt Tolmach, in a sentiment reflected by Columbia production chief Peter Schlessel, who called director Raimi "a responsive partner" with the studio. The news from Sony's Columbia Pictures—really more of a formality, than a stunner—is notable nonetheless in its timing. Usually, you wait for your much-anticipated, franchise-friendly flick to break a weekend box office record, then you confirm the inevitable sequel. Columbia, clearly, was in no mood to wait. "It was always our hope [to do a sequel], but it was our belief in the movie and what a great job Sam and the actors did that made us feel very strongly

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about doing a sequel," Columbia executive Matt Tolmach says in the *Hollywood Reporter*.

Columbia chairman Amy Pascal has made the franchise one of her top priorities, and she and other executives were impressed with the approach of writing team of Alfred Gough and Miles Millar, who will pen the sequel, picking up where David Koepp (*Panic Room*) left off.

Having first achieved success with the creation of the *Shanghai Noon* franchise for Disney (*Shanghai Knights* opens this year), Gough and Millar are currently busy with their own successful take on another young, superhero icon, having created and executive produced the WB television series *Smallville*. That show follows a young Clark Kent as he discovers his super powers in a rural town. The duo also penned the recent Eddie Murphy-Robert De Niro comedy *Showtime*.

Marvel is luxuriating in Hollywood's loving gaze. New Line Cinema's *Blade II* just opened, Fox and New Regency will release *Daredevil*, and both *X-Men II* and *The Incredible Hulk* are due out in 2003.

The first *Spider-Man* is unencumbered by gross participants of any kind, making it extremely attractive; the sequel gives Maguire an eight-figure salary and gross participation. Even still, *Spider-Man 2* looks free of the obstreperous infighting that has occurred between producers, directors and stars over gross participation. That battle long-stymied the development of Columbia's *Men in Black 2*, due out this summer. Insiders familiar with the *Spider-Man 2* deals said the gross participation barely reaches 15 percent, compared with 30 percent on *MiB2*.

As is standard of star contracts, Maguire and Dunst were committed to return for a sequel the minute they signed to make the first movie. Raimi, the cult god of the *Evil Dead* flicks whose forays into the studio system (*A Simple Plan*, *For Love of the Game*) have yielded mixed-to-bad results at the box office, was the guy on the bubble. But no more. "We are so proud of [*Spider-Man*]," Tolmach tells the *Reporter*. "There's no better endorsement than going back to Sam." In a recent interview with the Australian Website Moviehole.net, Raimi confirmed his *Spider-Man 2* signing, but had little to offer in the way of sequel teasers. "We haven't yet got a story so I haven't actually thought about what actors I'll use though," he said.

One actor Raimi does know he'll be using—not counting Maguire and Dunst, of course—is his *Evil Dead* compatriot, Bruce Campbell. Campbell cameos as a wrestling coach in *Spider-Man*, and will be back in "a role" in the new movie, the director said.

Spider-Man (the first one) opens on May 3rd.

Familiar Voices

Neil Patrick Harris (*Doogie Howser, M.D.*) and singer Lisa Loeb will voice Peter Parker and Mary Jane in MTV's upcoming animated *Spider-Man* series, the *Comics Continuum* reported. "They nailed the roles, and it really was stiff competition," *Spider-Man* executive producer Brian Michael Bendis told the site. "We picked our cast from tons of auditions. And I am happy to say that my personal first choices made it for the leads."

Spider-Man producer Audu Paden told the *Continuum* that, because of MTV's involvement, it's likely that more performers who are prominent in the music business will be involved as guest stars, possibly as villains. "There are some people who came in from the music business who did surprisingly good work as voice actors," Paden told the site. Recording of the voice parts will begin in Los Angeles this week. The show is targeted for an October debut.

Thompson Moves On...Again

Andrea Thompson, a former actress on both *Babylon 5* and *NYPD Blue* who left acting for a career in broadcast journalism, resigned from CNN Headline News in early March after nine months with the network. Thompson, 42, joined CNN Headline News in June after working for nearly a year at KRQE-TV in Albuquerque, N.M. She was an integral part of the network's August relaunch of its Headline News brand.

"I decided to leave my position as anchor of CNN Headline News after several weeks of careful consideration," Thompson said in a statement CNN released. "I have enjoyed anchoring at Headline News but have decided that it is time for me to make a change in my daily professional life."

Thompson's work days often stretched to 14 hours, severely limiting the time she spent with her 9-year-old son, Alec, a CNN source said on condition of anonymity. Thompson declined interview requests Thursday, CNN officials said.

CNN officials said Thompson's decision was her own. "We're grateful for her hard work and her contributions to Headline News. We wish her the very best," said Rolando Santos, executive vice president and general manager of CNN Headline News.

Thompson's hiring stirred controversy among some CNN insiders after nude photos of her circulated on the Internet. The photos were still shots of Thompson taken from a 1986 Italian film *Manhattan Gigolo* and other photos from *Black and White* magazine.

Thompson, who played Talia Winters on the first season of *Babylon 5*, and Detective

Jill Kirkendall on the ABC police drama until 1999, defended the pictures as an irrelevant part of her former modeling career.

More Small Screen Witchery

Kelly Rutherford (*The Adventures of Brisco County Jr.*, *Kindred: The Embraced*) will play a witch in *Eastwick*, a Fox drama pilot based on the movie *The Witches of Eastwick*, *Variety* reported. Chris Evans and Jonathan Bennett have also been cast as sons-of-witches in the show, the trade paper added.

In other Fox casting news, Rebecca Gayheart, who was previously cast in *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* creator Joss Whedon's upcoming SF series *Firefly*, has dropped out of the two-hour pilot. Newcomer Morena Baccarin takes over her role, *Variety* reported. Baccarin, a recent graduate of Juilliard, makes her TV debut in the part. *Firefly* is expected to take over *The X-Files*' Sunday timeslot this fall.

Ultimate Adventure Co.

Longtime film producer Gale Anne Hurd (*The Terminator*) announced that she's entering the TV business with *Ultimate Adventure Company*, an upcoming syndicated supernatural series that she described as "kind of a *Raiders of the Lost Ark* meets *Mission: Impossible*." The syndicated series, for Tribune Entertainment and Fireworks, has received a 22-episode order and begins production in June in Toronto; Marseilles, France; and the United Kingdom, Hurd said while promoting her upcoming teen SF movie *Clockstoppers*.

"It's actually inspired by a friend of mine, who's a treasure hunter, and he's the kind of person who can find anything," Hurd said. "Because treasure hunting is one of those things where you raise a lot of money, and sometimes you find the treasure, and sometimes you don't, you actually have to take paying gigs in between. It's that kind of thing." The series will also flirt with the supernatural, she added. "Of course! It's got my name on it. There has to be a supernatural element. It's kind of a *Twilight Zone* supernatural [element]."

Return of The Muppets

Jim Henson Television has partnered with producers Team Todd and the Fox network to develop a new Muppet series that will feature a new crop of characters in addition to Kermit, Miss Piggy and other long-standing members of Henson's fuzzy troupe, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*. The proposed series is still in the early stages of development, but the plan is to take a new approach to the Muppet franchise—it will not be a remake of the successful *Muppet Show* comedy-variety show that aired in syndication from 1976-

'81, or the mid-1990s series *Muppets Tonight*, the trade paper reported.

Henson TV vice president Ruth Caruso will oversee the project for the studio, along with Team Todd vice president for television J.J. Klein.

The Revenge of Irwin Allen

Producers Kevin Burns and Jon Jashni have struck a deal with 20th Century Fox TV and Fox Television Studios to resurrect four classic Irwin Allen SF television series as movies or shows, including *Lost in Space*, *The Time Tunnel*, *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea* and *Land of the Giants*, Variety reported. Burns and Jashni run Synthesis Entertainment, which manages the interests of the Allen estate, the trade paper reported.

A new *Time Tunnel* series is in the works for the Fox network, as is a two-hour NBC backdoor pilot based on a new generation of *Lost in Space*. The deal also calls for a renewal of 20th Television's rights to distribute the original 83 episodes of *Lost in Space*; a production agreement to revive *Time Tunnel*, *Voyage* and *Land of the Giants*; and a new production agreement to revive *Lost in Space*, Variety reported.

Enter the Dead Zone

Michael Piller, executive producer of USA Networks' upcoming supernatural series *The Dead Zone*, told fans on the show's official web site that he'll be making use of former *Star Trek* colleagues. The cast includes Nicole de Boer, who played Dax on the last season of *Deep Space Nine*, as Sarah.

In addition, Joe Menosky, who wrote for *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, has signed on as executive consultant, Piller said. Piller told SCI FI Wire that he thinks the Stephen King book and its 1983 feature-film interpretation will adapt well to television. "I read the book, watched the movie and said, 'This would be a really interesting television show, because [it's] a man who suddenly re-emerges having lost everything in his life and has to figure out how to fit into life with these extraordinary powers. How the world treats him and how he adjusts to all that, I thought was a fascinating thing to look at."

Piller—who worked as a writer/producer on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, *Deep Space Nine* and *Voyager*—added that it was no easy task finding an actor to play Johnny Smith, the role originated by Christopher Walken. "If you know the movie, Christopher Walken did a remarkable job," Piller said. "I thought the ultimate way we would succeed with the fans was to find someone who could really fill [his] shoes. I think Anthony Michael Hall is just going to blow you out of your chair, because you've never seen him like this. Whatever you remember Hall as, it's going to change your total

opinion when you see him in this role."

Piller also hinted that the villain of the book and movie—politician Greg Stillson—may show up in the first season. "It's been our plan from the beginning to bring Stillson into the story somewhere towards the end of the first season, introduced through the Purdy character [Michael Moriarty], who is a political activist in his church work," Piller said. "It's a question of when. It will obviously be a special episode. It might end the season, I don't know." *The Dead Zone* premieres on USA June 16.

Syndicated Realms

Fireworks Television has bought the TV rights to the *Forgotten Realms* series of fantasy novels, Variety reported. Genre author R.A. Salvatore (the *Star Wars* novelizations) will write the live-action TV pilot, which will also be titled *Forgotten Realms*, the trade paper reported. The series is being aimed at the syndication market.

Forgotten Realms will tell the story of a land filled with wizards and sorcerers. *Wizards of the Coast*, which owns the *Dungeons & Dragons* game property, will help Fireworks develop *Forgotten Realms* storylines, the trade paper reported.

Submitted for Your Approval

Jeremy Piven will star in UPN's pilot for an updated *Twilight Zone* anthology series, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*. In the pilot, Piven will play an electrician who acquires the power to hear and see people's thoughts after getting struck by lightning, the trade paper reported.

Hide Your Cats

NBC will revive *ALF*, the furry star of its 1980s alien sitcom, as part of a 75th anniversary special this spring, *TV Guide Online* reported. The *New York Daily News*, meanwhile, reported that ALF may also host his own talk show, according to TV Guide. The furry alien has already popped up in recent ads for one of the "calling plan" services.

From X-Files to Enterprise

Longtime *X-Files* writer John Shiban will join the staff of UPN's *Enterprise* when *X-Files* ends its nine-year run, Variety reported. Shiban will join *Enterprise* next season as a writer and co-executive producer, the trade paper reported. Shiban started his *X-Files* career in 1995 as a writer and was made a producer in 1997. He later worked with *X-Files* creator Chris Carter to create and produce Fox's ill-fated spinoff *The Lone Gunmen*, the trade paper reported.

Chris Black, who's been a writer and supervising producer of *Enterprise* during its first season, will be promoted to co-executive producer.

Children of Dune

Oscar winner Susan Sarandon has joined the ensemble cast of *Children of Dune*, Sci Fi Channel's six-hour mini-series follow-up to the cable network's Emmy-winning *Frank Herbert's Dune*. Sarandon will portray Wensicia, a ruthless princess eager to restore her deposed royal family in the story that continues the saga of the Atreides family dynasty. Also joining the cast is actress Daniela Lunkewitz, as Alia, a member of the Atreides family, with whom Sarandon's character competes.

Production is set to begin in Prague on Wednesday, with the creative team behind *Frank Herbert's Dune* returning. Richard Rubinstein is back as executive producer, while writer John Harrison is adapting Herbert's work for the screen.

The second and third novels in Herbert's six-volume "Dune Chronicles" will serve as the basis for

Children of Dune. The project is slated to debut on Sci Fi in the first quarter of next year. Sarandon won an Academy Award for her leading role in the death row drama *Dead Man Walking*.

Frank Herbert's Dune, which starred Oscar winner William Hurt, marked Sci Fi's first mini-series event. When it premiered in December 2000, it broke all previous viewer records for Sci Fi, registering a 4.4 cable rating. At that time, a 4.4 meant more than 2.9 million households were tuned to the program.

X-Files, Roswell Repeats on SciFi

The SCI FI Channel announced that it has acquired the rights to air reruns of all nine seasons of *The X-Files* and all three seasons of *Roswell*. In an eight-year deal, SCI FI will share *The X-Files* with TNT and will air all 202 episodes exclusively during weekdays from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. ET/PT, starting in the fall.

SCI FI also purchased the rights to *Roswell* in an exclusive five-year deal. *Roswell* will debut on SCI FI this fall.

The X-Files, which currently airs original episodes on Fox, wraps its nine-year run in May. *Roswell*, which airs original episodes on UPN, is in its third season; its prospects for renewal for a fourth year are dim.

Channel Surfing

All times listed are Central Time Zone
All channels listed are for Time Warner Cable

Genre TV Series Upcoming Schedule – April 2002

Information for this section comes from several different sources, of varying accuracy. Information on syndicated shows is usually available for about a month in advance. Information on network shows is usually not available very far in advance, with a few exceptions. Schedule info comes primarily from the www.sftv.org website. Check it out! Plot descriptions come primarily from the *TV Guide* or official websites for the shows themselves.

Updated Spring TV Line-Up – Network/Syndication

This viewing schedule lists *all* genre series and the day- and time-slots they currently hold as the new Spring season begins...insofar as we can determine. Some of these day- and time-slots are susceptible to extreme change, especially those on WGN (14). All stations and channels listed are for the Lincoln cable market, and on Lincoln's Time Warner Digital Cable system. As always, check your local listings each week. The chart below lists only "new" episode airings, and does not include any repeat schedules, such as the FX airings of *The X-Files* or syndicated airings of *Buffy* reruns.

MONDAY

1:00 am	KETV	7	Beastmaster
1:00 am	WGN*	14	Beastmaster
1:35 am	WOWT	6	The Invisible Man
2:00 am	WGN*	14	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Lost World
2:35 am	WOWT	6	Secret Adventurs of Jules Verne
8:00 pm	WB	15	Angel [pre-empted in March 2002]
8:00 pm	WB	15	Glory Days [March 2002 only]
8:00 pm	TNT	31	Witchblade [repeats of season 1]

TUESDAY

7:00 pm	UPN	**	Buffy, the Vampire Slayer
7:00 pm	PAX	49	Mysterious Ways
8:00 pm	UPN	**	Roswell
8:00 pm	WB	15	Smallville

WEDNESDAY

7:00 pm	UPN	**	Enterprise
8:00 pm	UPN	**	Wolf Lake
8:30 pm	FOX	9	Greg the Bunny

THURSDAY

8:00 pm	WB	15	Charmed
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FRIDAY

4:00 pm	SciFi	62	The Invisible Man
7:00 pm	WB	15	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch
7:00 pm	SciFi	62	Strange World (repeats at 10:00)
8:00 pm	FOX	9	Dark Angel
8:00 pm	SciFi	62	The Chronicle (thru 3-22)(repeats at 11:00)
8:00 pm	SciFi	62	Farscape (returns March 29th)
9:00 pm	SciFi	62	Lexx (repeats at 12:00 p.m.)
9:00 pm	SHOW	441	Stargate SG-1 [Season 5]
9:45 pm	SHOW	441	Jeremiah (starting in March)

SATURDAY

11:30 am	KXVO	15	Relic Hunter
2:00 pm	WGN*	14	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Lost World
3:00 pm	WGN*	14	Gene Roddenberry's Earth: Final Conflict
4:00 pm	WGN*	14	Mutant X
5:00 pm	WGN*	14	Gene Roddenberry's Andromeda
6:00 pm	KXVO	15	Star Trek: Voyager (repeats of season 7)
7:00 pm	CBS	3/11	Touched By an Angel
7:00 pm	KXVO	15	Gene Roddenberry's Earth: Final Conflict
8:00 pm	KXVO	15	Stargate: SG-1 [Season 4]

9:00 pm	PAX	49	Mysterious Ways (occasional repeats)
9:00 pm	KXVO	15	Gene Roddenberry's Andromeda
10:30 pm	KETV	7	Mutant X
10:30 pm	KMTV	3	Creature Feature with Son of Sanguinary
10:35 pm	KOLN	11	Gene Roddenberry's Earth: Final Conflict
11:00 pm	KXVO	15	Relic Hunter
11:35 pm	KOLN	11	Gene Roddenberry's Andromeda

SUNDAY

12:00 am	KLKN	8	Mutant X
12:30 am	KETV	7	Sheena
3:00 am	KPTM	9	Tracker
3:30 am	WOWT	6	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Lost World
11:00 am	WGN*	14	Beastmaster
6:00 pm	ABC	7/8	The Wonderful World of Disney
6:00 pm	FOX	9	Futurama
7:00 pm	FOX	9	The Simpsons
7:00 pm	WGN*	14	Gene Roddenberry's Andromeda
8:00 pm	FOX	9	The X-Files
9:00 pm	PAX	49	Mysterious Ways (repeats)
9:00 pm	WGN*	14	Gene Roddenberry's Earth: Final Conflict
10:00 pm			Enterprise**
11:00 pm			Buffy the Vampire Slayer**
11:00 pm	KXVO	15	The Outer Limits (syndi)
11:00 pm	KLKN	8	Sheena

VARIABLE***

WGN*	14	Beastmaster
WGN*	14	Gene Roddenberry's Andromeda
WGN*	14	Gene Roddenberry's Earth: Final Conflict
WGN*	14	Mutant X
WGN*	14	Relic Hunter

* – Superstation WGN is carrying all of these syndicated series this season, and will plug any or all of them into random holes in the network's schedule, primarily Saturday or Sunday during the afternoon or late-night timeslots. WGN airs its syndicated fare one week after other syndicated stations, due to exclusivity requirements..

** – UPN series *Buffy*, *Enterprise*, *Wolf Lake* and *Roswell* do not air in the Lincoln market on cable. The timeslots are listed here for the benefit of SBA members outside the Lincoln TV market. *Enterprise* and *Buffy* are carried on UHF station KSNB (Superior) Sunday nights.

Andromeda [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

- Mar 4 Una Salas Victus (re)
- Mar 11 Home Fires (re)
- Mar 18 The Prince (re)
- Mar 25 Bunker Hill (re)
- Apr 1 Ouroboros (re)
- Apr 8 The Things We Cannot Change
- Apr 15 The Fair Unknown
- Apr 22 Belly of the Beast
- Apr 29 The Knight, Death and the Devil
- [unk] Immaculate Perception
- [unk] The Tunnel at the End of the Light

Andromeda airs on KXVO [15] on Saturdays at 9:00 p.m., KOLN/KGIN [11] Saturdays at 11:35 p.m., and WGN [14] Sundays at 7:00 p.m. Most stations carrying **Andromeda** around the country have committed to two additional seasons beyond the current one. **"The Things We Cannot Change"** – In an alternate reality, Dylan wavers near death. Clip-show. **"The Fair Unknown"** – The Andromeda crew encounters the Vedrans, the long-lost founders of the original Commonwealth. **"Immaculate Perception"** – Tyr learns that he is a father. **"The Knight, Death and the Devil"** – The crew encounters a POW camp full of captured High Guard starships and their AI avatars. Guest starring Michael Hurst (Iolus from **Hercules**) and Christopher Judge (Teal'c from **Stargate SG-1**). **"The Belly of the Beast"** – The Andromeda is swallowed by a gigantic space creature. **"Tunnel at the End of the Light"** – The crew of the Andromeda meet an alien race they were destined to face. It is rumored that this episode will conclude the **"rebuilding of the Commonwealth to prepare for the Magog worldship invasion"** storyline arc, and beginning in season three (with an all-new production team), the series will focus more on stand-alone episodes in which Dylan and the crew of the Andromeda assist others in need.

Angel [WB]

Schedule Listing

- Mar 4 Sleep Tight
- Mar 11 [temporary hiatus]
- Apr 15 Forgiving
- Apr 22 Double or Nothing
- Apr 29 The Price
- May 6 [unknown title - new]
- May 13 [unknown title - new]
- May 20 [unknown title - new - season finale]

Angel airs on WB [15] Monday nights at 8:00 p.m., although it is pre-empted for most of March 2002 to allow the WB to burn off the remaining episodes of **Glory Days**. **"Sleep Tight"** – Angel begins to crave human blood because he's been unknowingly sampling the blood of his own son, courtesy of Wolfram and Hart who've been tainting the vamp's usual supply with some of Connor's blood sample from the hospital. Angel's angry behavior and sudden

cravings for human blood frighten Wesley enough for him to kidnap the baby to keep him safe. Unfortunately, Wesley's plan to protect Connor falls apart when Holtz takes the child for revenge against Angel.

Beastmaster [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

- Mar 4 Slayer's Return (re)
- Mar 11 Destiny (re)
- Mar 18 Serpent's Kiss (re)
- Mar 25 Dispossessed (re)
- Apr 1 Turning Point (re)
- Apr 8 The Trial
- Apr 15 The Devil You Know
- Apr 22 Double Edged
- [unk] Rites of Passage
- [unk] End Game
- [unk] A New Dawn

Beastmaster airs on KETV [7] Sunday night's at 1:00 a.m., and on WGN Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. and Sunday nights at 1:00 a.m.

Buffy the Vampire Slayer [UPN]

Schedule Listing

- Mar 5 Hell's Bells
- Mar 12 Normal Again
- Mar 19 Tabula Rasa (re)
- Mar 26 Smashed (re)
- Apr 2 Wrecked (re)
- Apr 9 Gone (re)
- Apr 16 Doublemeat Palace (re)
- Dead Things (re)
- Apr 23 Entropy
- Apr 30 Seeing Red
- May 7 Villains
- May 14 Two to Go [1 of 2]
- May 21 Grave [2 of 2] [Season Finale]

Buffy airs on Tuesday nights at 7:00 on the UPN network...which is not currently carried on Lincoln's Time-Warner Cable system. Those with strong antennas can still pull **Buffy** in at 11:00 p.m. Sunday nights on UHF channels 18 or 22. Repeats of seasons 1-5 of **Buffy the Vampire Slayer** are also airing on both the FX cable network and in general syndication on various stations this season. **"Hell's Bells"** – The date of the wedding is set and Xander and Anya are preparing for the hoards of "guests" to arrive. While Xander's screwed up human family go head to head with Anya's mostly non-human friends, a special guest comes to Xander to warn him that his life with Anya may not turn out to be the married bliss he has hoped for. **"Normal Again"** – Buffy is sent into a wild fluctuation between alternative realities - in one world she's a vampire slayer, in the other she's been institutionalized for severe delusional schizophrenia. Deciding she prefers the reality in which she's never been the Slayer and her parents are still together...and alive...Buffy tries to destroy the things that tie her to her Slayerhood — namely, The

Scobies. *Note: The remainder of these plot descriptions are likely, but unconfirmed:* **"Entropy"** – While Anya mulls an offer to return to her existence as a vengeance demon, Buffy tries to make amends with Dawn (for her actions the previous episode), Willow and Tara try to reunite, some of the Troika's hidden cameras (chronicling Buffy's movements) are discovered, and more of the Scoobies learn of Buffy and Spike's odd relationship. **"Seeing Red"** – The Troika of nerds begins their biggest plan yet, but Buffy and the gang crash the party, leading to an epic battle. Andrew and Jonathan are both captured, but Warren escapes, and proves that he's evil enough on his own to make up for his partners. **"Villains"** – Warren's actions in the previous episode's cliffhanger lead to the (rumored) death of a Scoobie — and push some of the remaining good guys over the edge.

Charmed [WB]

Schedule Listing

- Mar 7 Lost and Bound (re) [7pm]
- Enter the Demon (re)
- Mar 14 Marry-Go-Round
- Mar 21 The Fifth Halliwheel
- Mar 28 Saving Private Leo
- Apr 4 Size Matters (re)
- Apr 11 Charmed and Dangerous (re)
- Apr 18 Bite Me
- Apr 25 We're Off to See the Wizards
- May 2 Long Live the Queen
- May 9 Womb Raider
- May 16 Witch Way Now? [Season Finale]

Charmed airs at 8:00 p.m. Thursdays on the WB network [15]. Repeats of the first three seasons were airing regularly on the cable network TNT, however they currently appear to have been taken off TNT's schedule. **"Marry-Go-Round"** – Cole tries to sabotage his wedding day so he can marry Phoebe in another ceremony that would guarantee that his progeny would succeed him as The Source. **"The Fifth Halliwheel"** – Paige feels like an outcast as Phoebe and Piper go on about the joys of marriage, while planning romantic outings with their husbands. **"Saving Private Leo"** – When two ghosts from Leo's past return to seek revenge, Piper's life is put in jeopardy and Phoebe and Paige are left to deal with the aftermath.

continued on page 20

The Chronicle [SciFi]

Schedule Listing

- Mar 1 The Mists of Avalon Parkway
Mar 8 The King is (Un)Dead
Mar 15 Hell Mall
Mar 22 A Snitch in Time [Season/Series Finale]

The Chronicle aired Fridays at 8:00 p.m. (with repeats at 11:00 p.m.). In January, the SCI FI Channel announced that it was canceling **The Chronicle**. The final episode, "Snitch in Time," aired on March 22. "**The Chronicle** was a good show with a talented cast and creative production team that unfortunately didn't find the audience it deserved," SCI FI president Bonnie Hammer said in a statement. **The Chronicle**, about a tabloid newspaper that covers real paranormal phenomena, stars Chad Willett, Rena Sofer, Reno Wilson, Curtis Armstrong and John Polito. The first of the series' 22 episodes debuted July 14, 2001. "**The Mists of Avalon Parkway**" – The staff stalk a Long Island swamp monster. "**The King is (Un)Dead**" – The reporters run afoul of Elvis-loving vampires. "**Hell Mall**" – A series of mysterious deaths lead the reporters to investigate a haunted shopping mall. "**A Snitch in Time**" – After suspecting him of being a serial killer, Grace's new beau turns out to be a time-traveler in a witness protection program. Meanwhile, Tucker's girlfriend reluctantly agrees to work with the police investigator trying to nail Donald Stern for a series of unexplained crimes.

Dark Angel [Fox]

Schedule Listing

- Mar 1 [pre-empted]
Mar 8 Love in Vein
Mar 15 Fuhgeddaboutit
Mar 22 Exposure
Mar 29 Harbor Lights (re)
Apr 5 Hello, Goodbye
Apr 12 Dawg Day Afternoon
[unk] She Ain't Heavy
May 3 Love Among the Runes [1 of 2] [7pm]
Freak Nation [2 of 2] [8pm]
[unk] Shush
[unk] Prepare Yourself
[unk] Human Perfection
[unk] Unleash a Whole New Animal

Dark Angel airs Friday nights at 7:00 p.m. on the Fox network (9). "**Love in Vein**" – Max takes on a cult of superhuman-blood addicts, led by a Manticore mutant intent on rebuilding an X-5 army. "**Shush**" – Max and the gang are taken for a ride when a hypnotically persuasive transgenic uses an Eyes Only case for her own self-serving agenda. "**Fuhgeddaboutit**" – A telekinetic transgenic messes with Max's mind to keep her from coercing a meek mob bookie into selling out his boss to Eyes Only. "**Exposure**" – Max and Logan track Ames'

kidnapped son to a small town where the breeding cult is readying Manticore's youngest creations for a mysterious ceremony. "**Hello, Goodbye**" – After nearly infecting Logan, Max decides to end their affair for good; Alec is haunted by the sins of his Manticore twin; and White triggers a witch hunt by leaking info about the transgenics. "**Dawg Day Afternoon**" – Max must break her vow to avoid Logan after Joshua becomes a target of a transgenic manhunt in the sewers; White leaks news of the human-looking X-5s to the media.

Titanic director James Cameron will make his TV helming debut on the second season finale of **Dark Angel**, the sci-fi drama he co-created. The episode is scheduled to air Friday, May 3, at 9 p.m. The eight-day shoot will begin later this month; the script is still being written. The series, which stars Jessica Alba as a genetically altered superhuman, has not yet been renewed for a third season and has earned mixed results this season on Friday nights. "I believe in our show, and think it is one of the coolest things on network television," Cameron said. "I have wanted to direct an episode for some time, so when our director for the season finale dropped out just as I was completing photography on another project, I seized the moment." The budget for the **Dark Angel** season finale is expected to be the same as for any other episode — a little less than \$3 million. That's a big change for Cameron, whose **Titanic** went famously over-budget, but more than redeemed itself at the box office and at the Academy Awards. "It will be good discipline for me to direct one hour on a TV-size budget when my last project was three hours for \$200 million," Cameron said. "Wish me luck. This should be interesting."

Earth: Final Conflict [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

- Mar 4 Subterra (re)
Mar 11 Guilty Conscience (re)
Mar 18 Legacy (re)
Mar 25 Death Suite (re)
Apr 1 Atavus High (re)
[unk] Honor and Duty
[unk] Bad Genes
[unk] Submersion
[unk] Street Wise
[unk] The Journey
[unk] Final Conflict [Series finale?]

Earth Final Conflict airs on KXVO [15] on Saturdays at 7:00 p.m., KOLN/KGIN [11] Saturdays at 10:35 p.m. and WGN [14] Sundays at 9:00p.m. "**Honor and Duty**" – Renee and boyfriend Capt. Michaels "do the right thing" as they risk their own personal integrity in an attempt to secure plans to the military weapon that can kill the Atavus. "**Bad Genes**" – Renee's personal image of her greatest enemy is forever changed when she becomes emotionally involved with a

young Atavus child, Yulyn, who reveals he has a very human-like soul. Renee must now protect Yulyn, also a royal, from Howlyn's evil clutches. "**Submersion**" – [unknown plot]. "**Street Wise**" – [unknown plot]. "**The Journey**" – Renee and Capt. Michaels investigate a pharmaceutical plant manufacturing an Atavus Hybrid vaccine. Ra'jel returns to take Renee on a trip down memory lane. When things go bad at the lab, Michaels is injured and Renee must make a fateful decision. "**Final Conflict**" – **SERIES FINALE** – As Renee begins to lose hope that humanity will survive, an old friend reappears to give guidance and solace Yulyn and Ra'jel join forces to bring the Atavus to final defeat. And Ronald Sandoval comes to terms with his past. Possibly guest-starring Liam Kincaid and William Boone.

Enterprise [UPN]

Schedule Listing

- Mar 6 Civilization (re)
Mar 13 Silent Enemy (re)
Mar 20 Rogue Planet
Unexpected (re) [8pm]
Mar 27 Acquisition
Apr 3 Oasis
Apr 10 Dear Doctor (re)
Apr 17 Sleeping Dogs (re)
Apr 24 Detained
May 1 Vox Solis
May 8 Fallen Hero [7pm]
Desert Crossings [8pm]
May 15 Two Days and Two Nights
Shadows of P'Jem (re) [8pm]
May 22 Shockwave [Season Finale]
Fusion (re) [8pm]

Enterprise airs Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. on the UPN network...which is not currently available on Lincoln's Time-Warner Cable system. If you don't have a satellite dish and subscription service, you may still be able to pick up **Enterprise** with a good antenna on your tv — it airs Sundays at 10:00 p.m. on UHF channels 18 and 22. Crew members of the U.S.S. Enterprise—the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier, not the starship—will appear in an upcoming episode of UPN's **Enterprise**. Aviation Electronic Technician First Class Robert Pickering, Aviation Electrician's Mate Second Class Timothy Whittington and Personnelman Third Class Sara Elizabeth Pizzo will play starship crewmembers in an episode titled "Desert Crossings," scheduled to air May 8. Executive producers Rick Berman and Brannon Braga extended the invitation to the three crew members, who were selected as "sailors of the year" by a Navy committee. Their scenes were shot on March 7. During a break in shooting, the sailors presented Berman and Braga with a specially designed plaque in gratitude for all the support and encouragement the cast, crew and actors of **Enterprise** have given the crew of the U.S.S. Enterprise, which was

one of the first vessels deployed in the Afghanistan war. **“Rogue Planet”** – The crew explores a jungle world turned into a hunting preserve by a people known as the Eska. There, a shadowy woman makes contact with Archer. **“Acquisition”** – The Enterprise encounters Ferengi pirates who use gas to knock out the crew and look for treasures on the Enterprise. But they haven’t counted on Tucker, who happens to be in the decon chamber and avoids the gas, and attempts to win back the ship from the pirates. Guest Starring Ethan Phillips (Neelix on **Voyager**), Jeffrey Combs (Brunt and Weyoun on **DS9**) and Clint Howard (Balok on **Classic Trek**), all as Ferengi. **“Oasis”** – While exploring a crashed vessel on a desolate planet, the Enterprise crew is haunted by some ghostly figures, and they encounter an alien race that has survived despite insurmountable odds. Trip helps repair their derelict vessel and is befriended by Liana, an attractive humanoid alien who develops feelings for him. [Guest starring Rene “Odo” Auberjonois]. **“Detained”** – Archer and Mayweather are trapped in Gantoris, a detention center set up by a race known as the Mazarites and populated by Suliban. Archer learns that only a small number of Suliban are part of the hostile genetically-engineered group known as the Cabal, but all other Suliban are still being held responsible for the Cabal’s actions and locked up. Together with a Suliban father who Archer and Mayweather befriend, they begin to devise a plan to escape from Gantoris. Guest starring Scott Bakula’s old **Quantum Leap** partner, Dean Stockwell, as a Mazarite leader. **“Vox Solis”** – An alien squid monster traps Archer and Trip in the cargo bay. **“Fallen Hero”** – The Enterprise is sent to the planet Mazar to pick up a Vulcan ambassador expelled for misconduct. **“Desert Crossings”** – [unknown plot]. **“Two Days and Two Nights”** – The Enterprise arrives at the pleasure planet Risa, and half the crew going down for a short holiday, including many of the senior officers. Archer spends his holiday in a luxurious villa, but soon meets an alien woman named Keyla. Reed and Trip get in trouble when they try to pick up what they think are two beautiful alien women. Hoshi Sato meets Ravis, a young alien man who shares her interest in languages. And Mayweather manages to get himself critically wounded and into a Risan hospital. Directed by Jonathan Frakes. **“Shockwave”** – [unknown plot – season finale].

Farscape [SciFi]

Schedule Listing

- Mar 29 **Fractures (re)**
- Apr 5 **Farscape: Undressed [7:00 pm]**
- Apr 5 **I - Yensch, You - Yensch [8:00 pm]**
- Apr 12 **Into the Lion’s Den: Lambs to the Slaughter**
- Apr 19 **Into the Lion’s Den: Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing**
- Apr 26 **Dog With Two Bones [season 3 finale]**

Farscape returns with the final 4 new episodes of season three in April 2002, followed immediately by the premiere of season four in June. The series returns to its traditional timeslot of 8:00 p.m. (repeated at 11:00 p.m.) Friday nights on the Sci Fi Channel (62). **“Fractures”** – The reunion of Moya and Talyn’s crews isn’t the joyous occasion John #2 expected, especially his reunion with the now emotionally-distant Aeryn, but there isn’t much time to dwell on it, thanks to a shuttle of escaped prisoners fleeing the Peacekeepers – one of whom is a traitor. **“I - Yensch, You - Yensch”** – Talyn turns psychotic in a gripping story that kick-starts a season-ending four-episode cycle. After detecting a medical vessel on their scanners, Crichton and the Moya crew — with Talyn in tow — decide to drop off the wounded Naj Gil for treatment. But the plan goes awry when Talyn inexplicably attacks the medical vessel. The only way to treat Talyn, says his captain, is to shut him down — over Moya’s objections. Also, Scorpius barter with Rygel and D’Argo for vital wormhole technology, but aliens disrupt the negotiations. **“Into the Lion’s Den: Lambs to the Slaughter”** – The crew ventures aboard the Command Carrier, where John has pledged to share his wormhole knowledge with Scorpius. While Aeryn and Crais find their old crewmates less than pleased with their return, more disturbing is the Peacekeeper crew’s growing animosity for their current commander...animosity which a visitor from High Command is only too happy to employ for her own purposes. **“Into the Lion’s Den: Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing”** – Scorpius, growing more desperate by the minute, hopes to force John’s hand by threatening Earth. Unable to lead the Peacekeeper scientists’ research astray, John rallies the crew to help him destroy the Carrier itself – and discovers that Crais’ allegiances are not at all what he expected. **“Dog With Two Bones”** – With the battle (for now) won, the crewmates prepare to go their separate ways. But while the rest of Moya’s complement seems to have specific destinations in mind, John struggles to reconcile his love for Aeryn with his love for Earth. The presence of a strange old woman on Moya isn’t helping matters, either. And before any of them can leave, they need to lay Talyn to rest...if another

Leviathan, mad with grief, doesn’t kill them first.

Futurama [Fox]

Schedule Listing

- Mar 3 **Where the Buggalo Roam**
- Mar 7 **The Problem With Popters (re) [Thur]**
- Mar 10 **A Pharaoh to Remember**
- Mar 14 **The Honking (re) [Thur]**
- Mar 17 **Godfellas**
- Mar 21 **The Birdbot of Ice-catraz (re) [Thur]**
- Mar 24 **[pre-empted]**
- Mar 31 **Futurestock**
- Apr 7 **A Leela of Her Own**
- Apr 14 **30% Iron Chef**
- Apr 21 **Where No Fan Has Gone Before [season finale]**

Yet to Air Episodes:

Season 3

44. **The Route of All Evil**

Season 4

55. **Kif Gets Knocked Up a Notch**

58. **Less Than Hero**

59. **A Taste of Freedom**

60. **Bender Should Not Be Allowed on TV**

61. **Jurassic Bark**

62. **Crimes of the Hot**

63. **Futurama Babies**

64. **The Why of Fry**

66. **The Sting**

67. **Bend Her**

68. **Obsoletely Fabulous**

69. **The Farnsworth Parabox**

70. **Three Hundred Big Boys**

71. **Spanish Fry**

72. **Idle Hands Are the Devil’s Playthings**

Repeats of this animated sci-fi comedy series have aired sporadically in its regular slot, Sundays at 6:00 p.m. on Fox [9] this season. FOX executives have announced that they are not ordering a fifth season of **Futurama**, although they are not giving up their rights to the property and could order more episodes in the future. In the meantime, because of FOX’s policy of not scheduling new episodes of **Futurama** during the football season, the network has a huge backstock of unaired episodes — see title list above. Even with a stop in production, the series should continue for the current and next tv seasons with “new” episodes. **“Where the Buggalo Roam”** – Amy’s boyfriend Kif tries to impress her parents by going after those who rustled away their livestock (“buggalo”) on Mars. **“A Pharaoh to Remember”** – A planet with an ancient-Egypt influence makes slave labor of Leela, Fry and Bender, who turns on his pals when he gains some power. **“Godfellas”** – After getting separated from the ship during a pirate attack, Bender becomes a god to a microcivilization, while Fry mounts an effort to find him. **“Futurestock”** – Fry blindly supports Planet Express’s new CEO, a slick talker from Fry’s time who emphasizes image as

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he takes on their biggest rival. **"A Leela of Her Own"** – Leela sees herself as a female pioneers when she's signed as a major-league pitcher, but she's really a novelty act.

Glory Days [WB]

Schedule Listing [week of]

Mar 6 **Death, Lies and Videotape (re)**

Mar 11 **There Goes the Neighborhood** [moves to Mondays at 8pm]

Mar 18 **No Guts, No Glory**

Mar 25 **Crowning Glory [final episode]**

In March, the WB [15] moved this original series from Wednesdays to Mondays at 8:00 p.m. It follows a young up-and-coming horror writer who returns to his hometown to investigate bizarre goings-on. Eddie Cahill plays Mike Dolan, a one-hit-wonder novelist who returns to his Pacific Northwest home town to do some sleuthing into the community's strange goings-on. **"There Goes the Neighborhood"** – [unknown plot]. **"No Guts, No Glory"** – When a killer strikes during the annual Seafarer's Festival, Mike, Sheriff Rudy and Ellie investigate links victims have to a town hero. **"Crowning Glory"** – An attempt by the Glory Chamber of Commerce to cheer up the town by bringing in a clown troupe backfires when an unidentified harlequin commits a series of grisly murders.

Greg the Bunny [Fox]

Schedule Listing

Mar 27 **Welcome to Sweetknuckle Junction**

Mar 31 **SK-2.0**

Apr 3 **Jewel Heist**

Apr 4 **Welcome to Sweetknuckle Junction (re)** [Thu 7:30pm]

Apr 10 **Greg Gets Puppish**

Apr 11 **SK-2.0 (re)** [Thu 7:30pm]

This new mid-season entry airs on the Fox network (9) Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. A catchy theme song declaring that puppets (a.k.a. "fabricated Americans") are "just like you" opens this rollicking sitcom, a blend of puppetry and live action, about a children's TV-show. **"Welcome to Sweetknuckle Junction"** – In the opener, puppet Greg the Bunny is unemployed until his human roommate Jimmy (Seth Green), gets him an interview with his father Gil (Eugene Levy), who's the producer-director of the kids' series *Sweetknuckle Junction*. After impressing Gil and network exec Alison with his comedic skills and natural charisma, Greg gets the gig. Then Gil discovers that the furry find has no acting experience. **"SK-2.0"** – Alison puts Jimmy in charge of making the show more hip, and she's the only one who likes any of his ideas **"Jewel Heist"** – Greg and Jimmy's friendship is strained when with Jimmy falls for a girl—the owner of a puppet-hungry canine whose eyes and mouth are aimed directly

on Greg. Meanwhile, Gil finds himself under the gun when Alison challenges him to a paint ball war. **"Greg Gets Puppish"** – Greg demands more puppet influence on the show after a puppet-rights leader declares him to be the savior of puppish culture.

The Invisible Man [SciFi]

Schedule Listing

Mar 1 **Exposed (re)**

Mar 8 **Legends (re)**

Mar 15 **The Camp (re)**

Mar 22 **The Importance of Being Eberts (re)**

Mar 29 **Johnny Apocalypse (re)**

Apr 5 **The Value of Secrets (re)**

Apr 12 **Ghost of a Chance (re)**

Repeat airings of the final season of **The Invisible Man** continue at 6:00 p.m. Fridays on the Sci Fi Channel (62). **"The Enemy of My Enemy"** – Darien discovers that Arnauld has teamed up with Chrysalis. But Arnauld now wants out of the arrangement, since Chrysalis has been milking him of Quicksilver for weeks without any benefit to him. He offers Claire the opportunity to cure Darien of Quicksilver madness before he escapes from the Agency's headquarters. [1 of 2]. **"The New Stuff"** – Against the Official's instructions, Claire gives Darien the treatment that frees him of Quicksilver madness for good and Darien leaves the Agency in favor of the FBI. However, the FBI won't believe his stories of Chrysalis' mad schemes, so he returns to assist Hobbes and company in a final showdown with the bio-engineered technology cult. [2 of 2].

The Invisible Man [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

Mar 4 **Flash to Bang (re)**

Mar 11 **Germ Theory (re)**

Mar 18 **The Choice (re)**

Mar 25 **Immaterial Girl (re)**

Apr 1 **Father Figure (re)**

Apr 8 **A Sense of Community (re)**

Apr 15 **The Three Phases of Claire (re)**

Apr 22 **Exposed (re)**

Apr 29 **The Invisible Woman (Re)**

The syndicated airings of **The Invisible Man** air on WOWT [6] Monday mornings at 1:35 a.m.

Jeremiah [Showtime]

Schedule Listing

Mar 3 **The Long Road [Sun 7pm - 1 hr 35 min]**

Mar 8 **The Long Road (re) [Fri 9:45pm - 1 hr 35 min]**

Mar 9 **The Long Road (re) [Sat 9pm - 1 hr 35 min]**

Mar 10 **The Long Road (re) [SB Sun 9:45pm - 1 hr 35 min]**

Mar 15 **Man of Iron, Woman Under Glass**

Mar 17 **To Sail Beyond the Stars [SB Sun 9:45pm]**

Mar 22 **And the Ground...Sown With Salt**

Mar 24 **And the Ground...Sown With Salt (re) [SB 9:45pm]**

Mar 29 **To Sail Beyond the Stars (re) [9:45pm]**

Mar 31 **Man of Iron, Woman Under Glass (re) [SB 9:45pm]**

Apr 5 **The Bag**

Apr 12 **City of Roses**

Apr 19 **Firewall**

[unk] **The Red Kiss**

[unk] **The Touch**

[unk] **Journeys End in Lovers Meeting**

[unk] **Thieves' Honor**

[unk] **Tripwire**

[unk] **Mother of Invention**

[unk] **Ring of Truth**

[unk] **Moon in Gemini**

[unk] **Things Left Unsaid [1]**

[unk] **Things Left Unsaid [2] [season finale]**

This new genre series, created and executive-produced by **Babylon 5's** J. Michael Straczynski, premieres in March on the Showtime pay-cable network. Initial airings are scheduled to premiere on the basic Showtime channel on Fridays at 9:45 p.m., with repeat airings on the Showtime Beyond channel. The third new episode will actually air *first* on Showtime Beyond. **"The Long Road"** – Luke Perry goes the taciturn tough-guy route in the title role of a futuristic cable series. A survivor of a super-virus that, 15 years earlier, killed everyone past puberty, Jeremiah roams a blighted countryside rampant with raiding parties, racist wolf packs and armed gangs. In the opener, he seeks the "Valhalla Sector", a safe zone that his daying father described. on the way, he meets opportunistic Kurdy, who makes off with Jeremiah's freshly caught fish. But when their paths cross again, Kurdy saves him from a brutal gang leader, and the two men, mutually suspicious, hit the highway together. [2 hours]. **"Man of Iron, Woman Under Glass"** – Jeremiah and Kurdy's first trip comes to an abrupt end as they're forced to crash the car to avoid running down a young man in a strange costume. Introducing himself as "Captain Iron", he assures them that the crash was unnecessary, as he's invulnerable, and was only trying to warn them about the bandits in the area. Meanwhile, Marcus has trouble with Erin, his second in command, who's determined to find out what he's hiding in a restricted part of the Thunder Mountain complex. **"To Sail Beyond the Stars"** – Jeremiah is captured by a power-mad leader. *OR* A young woman has been stealing whatever gas can be found here and there because she intends to be the first one to sail (with backup gas engines) beyond the horizon since the Big D to find out what happened on the other side of the world. **"And the Ground...Sown With Salt"** – What happens when, after the Big D, a group moved into an abandoned Air Force base and decided to use those resources for their own destructive aims. **"The Bag"** – The

son of a medical doctor has set up what may turn out to be a dubious medical practice of his own, traveling with his brother from town to town and exploiting people...and finds that his past catches up with him. **"City of Roses"** – Jeremiah and Kurdy travel in search of more information on the Big Death and Valhalla Sector, and along the way discover some potentially dark secrets about the fate of Kurdy's parents in the last days of the Big D.

"Firewall" – A mid-season turning point for our characters as we learn something of vital importance about Valhalla Sector, and Markus has to make a decision that could lead to any number of deaths.

Lexx [SciFi]

Schedule Listing

Mar 1 Moss
 Mar 8 Dutch Treat
 Mar 15 The Game
 Mar 22 Haley's Comet
 Mar 29 Apocalex Now
 Apr 5 Viva Lexx Vegas
 Apr 12 Trip
 Apr 19 Lyekka Vs. Japan
 Apr 26 Yo Way Yo [Season/Series Finale]

This quirky sci fi series airs Fridays at 9:00 p.m. (repeats at midnight) on the Sci Fi Channel [62]. **"Moss"** – Xev, Kai and Stan are nabbed by an FBI agent. **"Dutch Treat"** – The crew scrambles to find food for the ship. **"The Game"** – Kai plays chess against Prince for the lives of Xev and Stan. **"Haley's Comet"** – A radical group of kids plans to steal the Lexx. **"Apocalex Now"** – Kai and Xev search for Stan in Vietnam. **"Viva Lexx Vegas"** – The Lexx gang clashes with a killer mummy. **"Trip"** – The crew experiences hallucinations.

The Lost World [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

Mar 4 The Knife (re)
 Mar 11 Fire in the Sky (re)
 Mar 18 Dead Man's Hill (re)
 Mar 25 Hollow Victory (re)
 Apr 1 A Witch's Calling (re)
 Apr 8 The Imposters
 Apr 15 The Elixir
 Apr 22 Tapestry
 Apr 29 Legacy
 May 6 Trapped
 May 13 Heart of the Storm [Season Finale]

The current season of new episodes of **The Lost World** airs on WOWT [6] Sundays at 3:30 a.m., Saturdays on WGN at 2:00 p.m. Repeats of earlier episodes air most Mondays through Fridays at 6:00 a.m. on TNT [31]. **"Phantoms"** – Veronica falls in love with a 19th century musician, unaware of his tragic past. **"The Secret"** – A mysterious assassin linked to Marguerite's secret past drives her apart from Roxton and threatens the explorers' lives. **"Finn"** – Using a machine constructed by Challenger

to tap into the plateau's unique energy field and send them back to London, Roxton, Marguerite and Challenger instead find themselves thrown forward in time to the year 2033 — when an apocalyptic war has devastated every place on Earth but the plateau. **"Suspicion"** – A lost archaeological team releases an ancient demon from a cursed urn, which proceeds to destroy that team and then move on to Challenger's party.

Mutant X [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

Mar 4 Lit Fuse (re)
 Mar 11 In the Presence of Mine Enemies (re)
 Mar 18 Dark Star Rising (re)
 Mar 25 Double Vision (re)
 Apr 1 [unknown] (re)
 Apr 8 Presumed Guilty
 Apr 15 Ex Marks the Spot
 Apr 22 Nothing to Fear
 Apr 29 Deadly Desire
 May 6 Dancing on the Floor
 May 13 A Breed Apart [Season Finale]
 [unk] Where the Wild Things Are

Mutant X airs on WGN [14] on Saturday afternoons (times vary), KETV [7] Saturdays at 10:30 p.m., and KLKN [8] Saturdays at 11:30 p.m. **"Interface"** – Emma is led into a GSA trap by an old friend — but there may be more to this New Mutant than meets the eye. **"Presumed Guilty"** – Adam is framed for murder. **"Ex Marks the Spot"** – An ex-boyfriend of Shalimar shows up and involves the team in a 'caper' that will get them all in trouble.

The syndicated TV series **Mutant X** will get bigger and badder in its upcoming second season, the **Comics Continuum** reported. Writing has already commenced on the new season. "The fans can expect to see more of the stuff they like and stuff they haven't seen before," **Mutant X** executive consultant Howard Chaykin told the Continuum. "The world gets bigger, the stakes are higher and the jeopardy deeper. We're going to put them through more hell in the second season." Production for season two will likely start in late May, the site reported. Season two will also bring about some casting changes, as Tom McCamus, who plays evil villain Eckhart, takes some time off from the series, and a new big bad takes on the good guys. McManus, currently appearing on stage in Richard III, will return to the series in season 2 as a regular recurring guest star. Michael Easton (**Two, Port Charles** – two lengthy "vampire" storylines) will guest star in the season finale as new bad guy Gabriel Ashlocke, "the first child of Genomex." Easton will become a regular recurring guest star next season, and he has been signed for several episodes.

"Gabriel is going to be an antagonist to the Mutant X team," a production spokes-

woman said. He is Patient Zero, the very first new mutant, and as a child he was captured and neutralized by Genomex because he was so powerful. "His new mutant abilities were in flux, so Genomex put him in a pod. He has this following called The Strand, and The Strand is sort of an alternative to Mutant X. He's sprung from his pod by one of these followers. He has super mutant powers, and he could be the most dangerous new mutant ever." In fact, Gabriel has all the new mutant powers, and "his new mutant gifts are off the meter."

Mysterious Ways [PAX/NBC]

Schedule Listing

Mar 3 Child of Wonder (re)
 Mar 5 [pre-empted]
 Mar 10 [pre-empted]
 Mar 12 Love is Divine (re)
 Mar 17 29 (re)
 Mar 19 Friends in Need
 Mar 24 Love is Divine (re)
 Mar 26 A Man of God
 Mar 31 Logan Miller (re)
 Apr 2 Last Dance (re)
 Apr 5 Friends in Need (re)
 Apr 9 Big Picture (re)
 Apr 12 Big Picture (re)
 [unk] Listen
 [unk] Muti
 [unk] Something Fishy

Mysterious Ways airs on PAX [49] on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., as well as Sundays at 9:00 p.m., and occasionally on Saturdays as well. Oddly enough, **MW** also airs in general syndication, and is carried on KPTM [9] on Wednesday mornings at 2:00 a.m. - that schedule is not listed here. **"Friends in Need"** – After repeatedly seeing visions of his old friend Mike, Declan pays him a long over-due visit. When these mysterious apparitions continue, and Mike's past is further revealed, Declan realizes that he must put aside old grudges in order to help his friend at a critical moment in his life. **"A Man of God"** – Declan's investigation of a fraudulent televangelist is turned upside down when the televangelist is suddenly able to perform a genuine healing. Instead of setting out to prove the man guilty of fraud, Declan is prompted to help the televangelist discover the true reason behind his new-found power to heal. **"Listen"** – On a bet, a loud and loquacious man commits to silence for one year, and suddenly starts hearing the unvoiced thoughts of others. But when he begins to hear the voice of a teenaged girl about to commit suicide, Declan struggles to uncover her identity before it's too late. **"MUTI"** – When Peggy's friend, Johanna, miraculously survives a motorcycle accident in Uganda, she is

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accused of being a witch. Peggy, Declan and Miranda must go to Africa and help prove Johanna's innocence in time to save her from execution. **"Something Fishy"** – When a torrent of fish falls from the sky onto the former mining town of Kerwin's Landing, Declan can't resist investigating. What he discovers is a town in decline, facing tough economic times. To everyone's amazement, the falling fish are only the beginning of a strange series of downpours that help pave the way to a brighter future.

The Outer Limits [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

- Mar 4 Replica (re)
- Mar 11 Think Like a Dinosaur (re)
- Mar 18 A New Life (re)
- Mar 25 Worlds Within (re)
- Apr 1 In the Blood (re)
- Apr 8 Alienshow (re)

The episodes currently airing in syndication are from the current season of new episodes on the Sci Fi Channel, although delayed by several weeks from the original SFC air dates. The syndicated airings can be seen Sundays at 11:00 p.m. on KXVO [15]. **"Dark Child"** – An alien abductee from 17 years ago copes with a teenage daughter.

Relic Hunter [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

- Mar 4 Devil Doll (re)
- Mar 11 The Warlock of Nu Theta Phi (re)
- Mar 18 Women Want to Know (re)
- Mar 25 Fire in the Sky (re)
- Apr 1 Hunting With the Enemy (re)
- [unk] Arthur's Cross
- [unk] Faux Fox
- [unk] Pandora's Box
- [unk] The Warlord
- [unk] Fountain of Youth
- [unk] So Shall it Be [Season Finale]

Relic Hunter airs on KXVO [15] at 11:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Roswell [UPN]

Schedule Listing

- [on hiatus]
- Apr 30 Who Died
- May 7 [unknown title - new]
- May 14 Four Aliens and a Baby
- May 21 Graduation [Season/Series finale?]

Roswell airs Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. on the UPN network...which is not currently carried by Lincoln's Time-Warner cable system. Because of this, and the fact that the UPN secondary affiliate to our west (which some of us can pull in with antennas on a UHF channel) does not seem to be carrying **Roswell**, only those SBA members with satellite dishes can currently watch this series. For the benefit of those with dishes, we include the descriptions of the new

season's episodes. Note: following relatively poor ratings, the UPN network reduced their season-long order from 22 to 20 episodes, and plans to pre-empt **Roswell** during the entire month of March. Although executive producer Jonathan Frakes is shopping **Roswell** to other networks (including the Sci Fi Channel), the sets have been struck and the actors are looking for other work — it strongly appears as if **Roswell** will end this season. In a possible sign that UPN won't be picking up its teen-alien series for a fourth season, regular cast member Adam Rodriguez (Jesse) has joined the cast of CBS' new fall series **C.S.I. Miami**, *Variety* reported. UPN has said it won't make an official announcement about **Roswell**'s fate until later in the spring.

Secret Adventures of Jules Verne [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

- Mar 4 The Ballad of Sleepy Joe (re)
- Mar 11 Crusader in the Crypt (re)
- Mar 18 Rocket to the Moon (re)
- Mar 25 The Black Glove of Melchizedek (re)
- Apr 1 The Golem (re)
- Apr 8 Dust to Dust (re)
- Apr 15 The Cardinal's Design [1 of 2] (re)
- Apr 22 The Cardinal's Revenge [2 of 2] (re)
- Apr 29 The Inquisitor
- May 6 Royalty
- May 13 Secret of the Realm
- May 20 The Victorian Candidate
- May 27 The Book of Knowledge [last new episode]

The syndicated airings of **The Secret Life of Jules Verne** currently airs Monday mornings at 2:35 on WOWT [6]. **"The Inquisitor"** – When a college friend from Japan comes to visit Rebecca, the team goes into action after her grandfather is kidnapped. **"Royalty"** – To save an important peace treaty, Passepartout must masquerade as King Carl V of Montravia while Rebecas helps the real king. **"Secret of the Realm"** – Investigating the apparent disappearance of a Spanish Ambassador, Phileas and Rebecas pass into an alternate realm (created by the League of Darkness). In the real world, simulacrum of the Foggs (and the Ambassador) work towards the assassination of Queen Victoria. **"The Victorian Candidate"** – The League of Darkness executes an elaborate plan to kidnap Phileas and brainwash him into assassinating Queen Victoria. **"The Book of Knowledge"** – When Verne comes down with yellow fever, he has visions of his mentor's attempts to open a forbidden "book of knowledge". This episode is essentially a flashback show, with clips from many previous episodes and a limited framing story.

Sheena [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

- Mar 4 Prey (re)
- Mar 11 Return of the Native (re)
- Mar 18 The Maltaka Files (re)
- Mar 25 Stranded in the Jungle (re)
- Apr 1 The World According to Mendehlson (re)
- Apr 8 Rendezvous (re)

Sheena airs on KETV [7] Saturday nights at 12:30 a.m. and Sunday nights at 11:00 on KLKN [8]. Due to a shortened production order, Sheena has completed airing its 13 new original episodes as of February.

Smallville [WB]

Schedule Listing

- Mar 5 Jitters (re)
- Mar 12 Zero
- Mar 19 Nicodemus
- Mar 26 Metamorphosis (re)
- Apr 2 X-Ray (re)
- Apr 9 Shimmer (re)
- Apr 16 Stray
- Apr 23 Reaper
- Apr 30 Drone
- May 7 Crush
- May 14 Obscura
- May 21 [unknown title - Season Finale]

The WB [15] network's **Smallville** airs Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. **Smallville** has already been renewed for a full 22-episode second season! **"Zero"** – The series moves away from the villain-of-the-week format with a revealing glimpse into Lex's shady past. The trouble stems from an incident in Metropolis three years before, when Lex escorted a woman to a club to make sure she caught her fiancée in the act of cheating. The furious groom-to-be attacked Lex, and the encounter ended with a purportedly fatal gunshot. Now, the supposed corpse reappears at the café Lex is renovating and leaves him a disturbing warning: the recently amputated hand of a security guard who assisted Lex that night at the club. Meanwhile, Clark is troubled by a school assignment that has Chloe digging into his past. **"Nicodemus"** – A mysterious flower that comes from the reopened "level three" of Luthor's fertilizer plant infects Smallville's citizens and removes their inhibitions. **"Stray"** – A young runaway has the ability to read minds, and the Kents let him stay with them. Meanwhile, Lana gets a challenge at her new job. **"Reaper"** – Someone has the power to give and take life, and Lionel Luthor sends one of his lackeys in to check on Lex. **"Drone"** – Clark gets into a class election with an opponent who has the ability to control bees, while a reporter from Metropolis visits to do a story on Lex. **"Crush"** – Clark gets into a class election with an opponent who has the ability to control bees, while a reporter from Metropolis visits to do a story on Lex.

"Obscura" – Lex and Roger contact a man who was a cropduster back in the day. He was working during the meteor shower and apparently he saw some sort of craft crashing down.

Stargate SG-1 [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

Mar 4 **Watergate (re)**
 Mar 11 **Scorched Earth (re)**
 Mar 18 **The Other Side (re)**
 Mar 25 **Point of No Return (re)**
 Apr 1 **Tangent (re)**
 Apr 8 **The Curse (re)**
 Apr 15 **Serpent's Venom (re)**
 Apr 22 **Prodigy**
 Apr 29 **Entity**
 May 6 **Double Jeopardy**
 May 13 **Exodus [Season 4 finale, repeats follow]**

Season four of *Stargate SG-1* airs Saturday nights at 8:00 p.m. on KXVO [15]. **"Prodigy"** – Carter takes a young Air Force Academy prodigy through the Stargate on a routine mission...that turns deadly. **"Entity"** – An alien probe infects the base computer system, then the MALP computers, and ultimately takes over Carter's body. **"Double Jeopardy"** – Returning to a planet previously freed from Heru'ur's control, the SG-1 team finds that although the inhabitants have buried their Stargate, Chronos has arrived in full force aboard his spaceships. The locals aren't as willing to fight back against their second wave of oppressors. **"Exodus"** – The Stargate officials agree to loan the Tok'ra their captured Goa'uld mothership, to enable their allies to relocate their forces to another planet. Although Tanith is revealed as a Goa'uld spy, he still manages to alert Apophis to the location of the Tok'ra. With time running out, the Tok'ra must be gated to a new safe haven, and a trap must be set that could lead to the final destruction of Apophis. Cliffhanger season finale.

Stargate SG-1 [Showtime]

Schedule Listing

Mar 1 **Desperate Measures (re)**
 Mar 2 **Desperate Measures (re) [Sat 6pm]**
 Mar 8 **Proving Ground**
 Mar 15 **48 Hours [Teal'C Interrupted]**
 Mar 22 **The Summit [1 of 2]**
 Mar 29 **Last Stand [2 of 2]**
 Apr 5 **Fail Safe**
 Apr 12 **The Warrior**
 Apr 19 **[pre-empted]**
 Apr 26 **Fragile Balance**
 [unk] **Menace**
 [unk] **The Sentinel**
 [unk] **Meridian**
 [unk] **Revelations**

Season Five, the final season on Showtime, generally airs Friday nights at 9:00 p.m. on the main Showtime channel [441]. **"Proving Ground"** – The SGC embarks on a cadet training program. **"48**

Hours" – A Stargate mishap leaves Teal'c trapped inside the Stargate network, forcing the SGC to turn to the Russians for help.

"The Summit" – Osiris ("The Curse") goes to war with the System Lords, leading to a massive peace summit on a heavily armed space station. [1 of 2]. **"Last Stand"** – plot. [2 of 2]. **"Fail Safe"** – Earth finds itself threatened when the team learns that an asteroid is on a collision course with the planet. **"Warrior"** – A charismatic Jaffa leader tries to rally his people against the Goa'uld, and seeks to forge an alliance with Earth to create a new Jaffa homeworld. His army is made from the armies of killed System Lords. **"Menace"** – SG1 finds a Replicator controlled world, and explores their origins. **"The Sentinel"** – SG1 finds a world under siege by Anubis' forces because the "Shades of Grey" NID team disabled the planet's defenses. SG1 must work with the captured team members to restore them. **"Meridian"** – An alien world is threatened with destruction when they attempt to build a weapon of mass destruction. An accident threatens thousands and Daniel sacrifices himself to save them, exposing himself to massive radiation. Introduces Corin Nemec as Jonas Quinn, who will replace Michael Shanks as Daniel Jackson next season. **"Revelations"** – Osiris and Anubis attack the Asgard bringing Earth into the line of fire.

Stargate SG-1 [SciFi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

Jun 6 **Redemption [1]**
 Jun 13 **Redemption [2]**
 Jun 20 **Decent**
 Jun 27 **Abyss**
 Jul 4 **Nightwalkers**
 Jul 11 **Fragile Balance**

The Sci Fi Channel will be taking over production on the sixth season of *Stargate SG-1*, which will premiere on that network in June of 2002. Michael Shanks has announced that he will not continue as a series regular (as Daniel Jackson) in the sixth season, although he is already scheduled for one of possibly several guest appearances. He also would remain available to appear in the *SG-1* feature film, which is planned for production following the conclusion of the sixth (and likely final) season of the series. Corin Nemec (**Parker Lewis Can't Lose**) appears in the final Showtime episode and becomes a new ongoing cast member in the sixth season on SFC. Repeats of season 1-5 episodes will begin on SFC in the fall. **"Redemption"** – The SGC has come under attack from Anubis, who has a device that can use one Stargate to destroy another. With a wormhole dialed in to Earth's stargate, the SGC can not contact its off-world allies for help. Carter works furiously to find a solution.

Meanwhile Teal'c is of world attending his wife's funeral, his son believes she would not have been killed if Teal'c had not joined the fight against the Goa'uld. Wanting proof that the Goa'uld are not gods and can be stopped, he insists that Teal'c allow him to join him in battle so he can see for himself what the war is all about. They search for the planet Anubis is attacking Earth from and prepare to go into battle against him. **"Decent"** – O'Neill, Carter, Quinn and Jacob are trapped in a Goa'uld ship that is submerged underwater. **"Abyss"** – Jack is blended with a Tok'Ra who gets him captured by the Gou'ald. The Tok'Ra commits suicide to prevent its knowledge from falling into enemy hands and Jack is tortured for the information, being killed repeatedly then resurrected by a Sarcophagus. Guest starring Michael Shanks, as Daniel Jackson visits Jack in his head to keep him sane. **"Nightwalkers"** – Carter, Teal'c and Jonas investigate the death of a scientist with connections to the Goa'uld, and find a small town whose inhabitants are part of a secret experiment. **"Fragile Balance"** – The SGC discovers that human clones are being used for slavery.

Strange World [SciFi]

Air Schedule

Mar 1 **Spirit Falls**
 Mar 8 **The Devil Still Holds My Hand**
 Mar 15 **Skin**
 Mar 22 **Man Plus**
 Mar 29 **Rage**
 Apr 5 **[pre-empted]**
 [unk] **Aerobe**
 [unk] **Food**
 [unk] **Eliza**
 [unk] **Down Came the Rain**
 [unk] **Age of Reason**

Strange World airs on the Sci Fi Channel [62] Fridays at 7:00 (repeats at 10:00). **"Spirit Falls"** – Turner believes an outside influence was involved in the apparent mass suicide inside a cult town cut off from the world — and tests the loyalty of the Japanese Woman at the same time. **"The Devil Still Holds My Hand"** – Turner's investigation of a possible viral outbreak leads him to a reunion with a former mentor whose antagonism of the Army matches Turner's own. **"Skin"** – When Sydney is blamed for the death of a patient, she takes it upon herself to discover the real cause of his death, and winds up stumbling onto a secret experiment instead. **"Man Plus"** – Turner tracks a list of patients who may have received mysterious implants as part of an unauthorized government experiment on enhancing human potential. **"Rage"** – A series of unmotivated road rage incidents convinces Turner that some

continued on page 26

external force is causing the seemingly irrational violence. **"Aerobe"** – When a Gulf War vet asks Turner's help in clearing his name, Turner flexes USAMRIID's muscle to stop an insidious cover-up at a nuclear plant. **"Food"** – Turner's vacation turns into work when a man's death is linked to his genetically engineered crop. **"Eliza"** – A series of apparent I-War attacks hits Washington, DC, prompting Turner to join a Department of Defense team in tracking down the source of the attacks. **"Down Came the Rain"** – An ancient Native American ritual, a rare blood disease and an undiscovered species all come into play when Turner investigates a series of deaths in a Seattle high rise. **"Age of Reason"** – [unknown plot].

Tracker [syndi]

Schedule Listing [week of]

Mar 4 Roswell (re)
 Mar 11 The Beast (re)
 Mar 18 Breach (re)
 Mar 25 [unknown repeat]
 Apr 3 Love, Cirronian Style
 Apr 10 Eye of the Storm
 Apr 17 Dark Road Home
 Apr 24 A Made Guy
 May 1 Fever Part 1 [or Fever of the Hunt]
 May 8 Fever Part 2
 May 15 Into the Breach
 May 22 What Lies Beneath
 May 29 Remember When [clip show]

Tracker airs Sunday mornings at 3:00 a.m. on KPTM [9]. **"To Catch a Desserian"** – One of the aliens uses a human gang to try to steal an ancient Egyptian artifact (enscribed with a critical map) from a museum. **"The Miracle"** – Cole finds himself reluctant to take the life force of a former friend who became a political prisoner and was suckered into becoming one of Zin's tools.

Fans of the SF syndicated TV show **Tracker** have created a *Give Tracker a Chance* online petition to save the series, which is in danger of cancellation. More than 220 fans have signed the petition, which is directed to cable and broadcast networks. "We have signed this petition in hopes that our voices will not go unheard when we ask for another season of this delightful TV series," the petition reads. **Tracker** stars former **Highlander** star Adrian Paul as an alien bounty hunter on Earth.

Witchblade [TNT]

Schedule Listing [week of]

Mar 4 Maelstrom (re)
 Mar 11 Periculum (re)
 Mar 18 Thanatopsis (re)
 Mar 25 Apprehension (re)
 Apr 1 Convergence (re)
 Apr 8 Transcendence [Season Finale] (re)

The first season of this made-for-cable series is rerunning, starting Mondays at 8:00

p.m. on TNT [31] in January 2002. The second season is currently filming, for airing later in 2002.

The *Comics Continuum* Web site reported that the second season of TNT's **Witchblade** will air Mondays at 8 p.m., starting June 10. Reruns of the supernatural series' first season are currently airing in the same timeslot. **Witchblade** executive producer Ralph Hemecker told the Continuum that the renegade cops of the White Bulls will not play a large role in the second season. Meanwhile, an "as-yet-to-be-named Irish singer/songwriter" is recording an original song for the second season, the site reported.

Wolf Lake [UPN]

Schedule Listing [week of]

Apr 3 Meet the Parents (re)
 Apr 10 Four Feet Under
 Apr 17 Leader of the Pack
 Apr 24 Legend of Lost Lenore
 May 1 If These Wolves Could Talk
 [Final produced episode]

Wolf Lake originally aired on CBS on Wednesday nights at the beginning of the 2001-2002 season. Following rapidly decreasing ratings, **Wolf Lake** was put on production hiatus and then cancelled by CBS after airing only five episodes. CBS recently purchased the UPN network, and arranged to air the remaining new episodes of **Wolf Lake** on Wednesdays following Enterprise on UPN...which is not currently available on Lincoln's Time-Warner Cable system. Whether it will air on the secondary UPN affiliate which has been showing **Enterprise** and **Buffy** on Sunday nights is currently unknown.

X-Files [Fox]

Schedule Listing

Mar 3 Provenance [1 of 2]
 Mar 10 Providence [2 of 2]
 Mar 17 Audrey Pauley
 Mar 24 [pre-empted]
 Mar 31 Underneath
 Apr 7 Scary Monsters
 Apr 14 Improbable
 Apr 21 Jump the Shark
 Apr 28 William
 May 5 Release
 May 12 Sunshine Days
 May 19 The Truth - SERIES 2-HOUR FINALE

The X-Files airs in its traditional Sunday at 8:00 p.m. timeslot on Fox [9].

"Provenance" – The spacecraft Scully once investigated in Africa figures prominently in this two-part story, which opens with an apparent fatality in a border-crossing from Canada into Idaho. **"Providence"** – Conclusion. Distrustful of both Skinner and Follmer, Scully circumvents the FBI investigation into the kidnapping of her son, and begins one of her own, assisted by

Reyes and the Lone Gunmen. **"Audrey Pauley"** – After a car accident, Reyes finds herself in a mysterious limbo, while Doggett desperately denies doctors' diagnoses about his brain-dead partner — and they both encounter a mysterious woman who can travel between their separate realities.

"Underneath" – Doggett is determined to find a flaw in the DNA evidence that freed a convicted murderer he caught in the act as a cop 13 years earlier. **"Scary Monsters"** – Agent Harrison talks Doggett and Reyes into investigating a boy's claim that monsters killed his mother, who was officially determined to have stabbed herself repeatedly. **"Improbable"** – Burt Reynolds plays an enigmatic may acquainted with a serial killer Reyes suspects is driven by numerology. **"Jump the Shark"**

– Doggett and Reyes are called in to investigate when Professor Houghton, a prominent immunologist is attacked. His research into using shark cartilage to combat cancer and other diseases hardly seems that controversial to them, however the plot thickens when their investigation leads them straight to the Lone Gunman. Guest-starring Michael McKean as Morris Fletcher, and all five cast members from last season's short-lived **Lone Gunmen** spin-off series. **"William"** – Scully's fears for the safety of her son are elevated when he is injected with an unknown substance. With the mystery surrounding William becoming even more darker, Scully must allow herself to send him away for his own safety.

Directed, and co-written by David Duchovny. **"Release"** – When an FBI cadet with amazing profiling skills approaches Doggett, Reyes and Scully with a lead on a suspect in a series of recent murders, he claims the same killer is responsible for Doggett's sons death. The agents find themselves wondering if his good knowledge of the deaths is because of his obsession with the cases he has studied at Quantico or if he is in some way involved in the murders. **"Sunshine Days"** – Doggett and Reyes investigate a murder outside the house that the original "Brady Bunch" was taped at. It is owned by a man named Oliver. He has rigged the house into a series of traps and changing appearances to look like the Brady house.

Witchblade — Season One Episode Guide



artwork ©2001 by SBA member Diane Taurins

Witchblade: The Movie

Witchblade is the story of a New York detective, Sara Pezzini (Yancy Butler), whose search for justice brings her into contact with an ancient, intelligent, living weapon so powerful it can battle Earth's darkest evil forces. David Chokachi portrays fellow detective Jake McCarty, a laid back surfer who has transferred from California, Anthony Cistaro stars as Kenneth Irons, a billionaire obsessed with possessing the Witchblade and Eric Etebari stars as Ian Nottingham, Iron's enigmatic henchman.

Parallax

Sara and Jake pursue a deadly assassin who is a member of a covert military unit called the Black Dragons. As Sara struggles to understand the powers of the Witchblade, can she use the mysterious weapon to find the killer?

Conundrum

The macabre murder of a model leads Sara and Jake to fashion maven Dominique Boucher, where Sara discovers a startling connection between a top model and the Witchblade. When the model is abducted, Sara must use the Witchblade's powers to stop the killer before it's too late.

Diplopia

When a Manhattan art collector is murdered, a witness to the crime fingers handsome young artist, Isaac Sullivan. Sara seeks help from Internet artifacts dealer, Gabriel Bowman, and Dominique Boucher, who feeds her clues that the Witchblade's blinking eye deciphers.

Sacrifice

While investigating a ritual killing, Sara is strangely drawn to her prime suspect, sexy Irish folk singer, Conchobar. Can Sara put aside her feelings and use the Witchblade to unravel the case before the killer strikes again?

Legion

When a beloved parish priest is murdered, the investigation reveals a conspiracy that puts Sara face to face with the most powerful force of evil she has yet to encounter.

Maelstrom

When Conchobar is abducted by Irish militants, Sara will do anything to save him — even if it means compromising the powers of the Witchblade.

Periculum

Sara is put to the ultimate Witchblade trial. Meanwhile, Captain Dante recruits Jake into a secret brotherhood of vigilante officers who use their own methods to exact justice.

Thanatopsis

Jake and Sara tail an arms dealer, but a sniper's bullet ends their chase. The case gets weirder when Sara finds a dossier among the victim's effects containing shocking details on Irons, Nottingham ...and herself!

Apprehension

Sara is immersed in an investigation surrounding the murder of a pimp when a mysterious package is delivered to her. Her world begins to unravel when clues suggest the enemy may not be who she thought. The only thing she can trust now is the knowing eye of the Witchblade.

Convergence

Pez is investigating a crime surrounding the missing daughter of a congressman and is thrown for a loop when she finds herself in the middle of a deal being brokered by a band of crooked cops who know she is on to them. Pez is astonished when the Witchblade reveals clues that suggest Jake may be on the dark side. Keir Dullea guest stars as Dr. Immo.

Transcendence

Sara's unlikely protector surfaces with a life-threatening passion to watch over her that leads to irrevocable consequences. Sara has no choice but to accept the destiny that comes with wielding the gauntlet and use it to regain what she has lost. But every gain has its price. True to the words of the Witchblade's past wielders, "Nothing is as it seems." A startling discovery about Dante and his team of corrupt cops lead to a suspenseful showdown between the rising warrior and a band of enemies that she must conquer before her father's killer is revealed.

Season Two Begins June 16th

Literary News

Recent announcements and awards from the field of book and magazine publishing

BSFA Award Winners

Alastair Reynolds' Chasm City won the British Science Fiction Association Award for best novel of 2001 in ceremonies at the 2002 Eastercon, in St. Helier, United Kingdom, on March 31. The BSFA Awards, based on a vote of BSFA members and members of the British national SF convention (Eastercon), honor the year's best SF. A list of other winners follows.

Best Short Story

- "The Children of Winter" by Eric Brown

Best Non-Fiction

- Omegatropic by Stephen Baxter

Best Artwork

- Cover of Omegatropic by Colin Odell.

Philip K. Dick Award Winner

Richard Paul Russo's Ship of Fools (Ace) won this year's Philip K. Dick Award on Friday, March 29, at Norwescon 25 in SeaTac, Washington. A special citation was given to Ken Wharton's Divine Intervention (Ace).

The Philip K. Dick Award is given annually for the distinguished original science fiction paperback published for the first time during the previous year in the US. Russo previously won the award in 1990 for Subterranean Gallery.

The award is sponsored by the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society. Judges for this award were Constance Ash, Greg Beatty (chair), Jan Lars Jensen, Louise Marley, and Scott Westerfeld. Judges for next year are Shelley Rodrigo Blanchard, Michael Blumlein, Nalo Hopkinson, Donna McMahon, and Lois Tilton.

Crawford Award Winner

Jasper Fforde's The Eyre Affair has won the William L. Crawford IAFA Fantasy Award, given to the best first fantasy novel published over the previous 18 months. The award was announced at last week's International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Other awards presented included the Distinguished Scholarship award to the conference's guest scholar Roderick McGillis, the Isaac Asimov Award for Undergraduate Excellence in Science Fiction and Fantasy Writing to Lena DeTar, and the Robert A. Collins Service Award to both Bill Senior and Chip Sullivan.

Upcoming Novels

April 2002 to June 2002

The following possibly noteworthy books were listed on "Forthcoming Books" lists in *Locus*, *Science Fiction Chronicle*, *Publisher's Weekly*, and several on-line sources for April, May and June. As usual, publishers' plans may change at any moment.

[Codes: H – Hardcover; P – Mass Market Paperback; T – Trade Paperback; NF – Non-Fiction]

April 2002

Aaron Allston — *Star Wars: The New Jedi Order: Enemy Lines I: Rebel Dreams* (P)
Ben Bova — *The Rock Rats* (H)
Ray Bradbury — *One More for the Road* (H)
Jacqueline Carey — *Kushiel's Chosen* (H)
Glen Cook — *Angry Lead Skies* (P)
Greg Cox — *Star Trek: The Eugenics Wars: The Rise and Fall of Khan Noonien Singh, Vol. 2* (H)
Cecilia Dart-Thornton — *The Lady of Sorrows* (H)
Debra Douglas & James D. Macdonald — *A Working of Stars* (H)
Eric Flint & David Drake — *The Tyrant* (H)
Sharon Green — *Destiny* (P)
Martin H. Greenberg & John Helfers — *Knight Fantastic* (P)
Laurell K. Hamilton — *A Caress of Twilight* (H)
Charmaine Harris — *Living Dead in Dallas* (H)
James Herbert — *Once* (H)
Paul Kearney — *The Second Empire* (P)
Susan Kearney & Charlotte Douglas — *STNG: The Battle of Betazed* (P)
Stephen King — *From a Buick 8* (H)
Mercedes Lackey — *The Gates of Sleep* (H)
Jeff Long — *Year Zero* (H)
Scott Mackay — *Orbis* (P)
Andre Norton & Lyn McConchie — *Beast Master's Ark* (H)
Alastair Reynolds — *Chasm City* (H)
John Ringo — *When the Devil Dances* (H)
Kim Stanley Robinson [ed.] — *Nebula Awards Showcase* (T)
R.A. Salvatore — *Star Wars: Episode 2: Attack of the Clones* (H)
Sharon Shinn — *Jenna Starborn* (T)
Glen R. Sixbury — *Earth Final Conflict: Legacy* (P)
Melanie Tem — *Slain in the Spirit* (H)
Sheri S. Tepper — *The Visitor* (H)
Harry Turtledove — *Rulers of the Darkness* (H)
Liz Williams — *Empire of Bones* (H)
Jack Williamson — *Spider Island: The Collected Stories of Jack Williamson, Volume Four* (H)
George Zebrowski — *Swift Thoughts* (H)
Sarah Zettel — *A Sorcerer's Treason* (H)

May 2002

Poul Anderson — Going for Infinity (H)
Jean Auel — The Shelters of Stone (H)
Lois McMaster Bujold — Diplomatic Immunity (H)
Sara Douglas — Starman (H)
Rosemary Edghill — The Warslayer (P)
Greg Egan — Schild's Ladder (H)
Michael Jan Friedman — STNG: The Stargazer Duology Books 1 & 2 (P)
Phyllis Gotlieb — Mindworlds (H)
Holly Lisle — The Memory of Fire (P)
Maxine McArthur — Time Past (H)
Paul McAuley — Whole Wide World (H)
Anne McCaffrey — Freedom's Ransom (H)
John Pelan [ed.] — The Darker Side (H)
John Maddox Roberts — Hannibal's Children (H)
Armin Shimerman & Michael Scott — The Merchant Prince, Book 2 (H)
Theodore Sturgeon — Bright Segment: The Complete Short Stories of Theodore Sturgeon, Volume VIII (H)
Ian Watson — The Great Escape (H)
Betsy Wollheim [ed.] — DAW 30th Anniversary Fantasy Anthology (H)
Betsy Wollheim [ed.] — DAW 30th Anniversary Science Fiction Anthology (H)
Douglas Adams — A Salmon of Doubt: Hitchhiking the Galaxy One Last Time (H)

June 2002

Lynn Abbey — Sanctuary (H)
Stephen Barnes — Charisma (H)
Peter Crowther, ed. — Mars Probes (P)
Jeffrey Ford — The Fantasy Writer's Assistant and Other Stories (H)
Maggie Furey — The Spirit of the Stone (P)
David Gerrold — The Martian Child (H)
Kathleen Ann Goonan — Light Music (H)
Barbara Hambly — Dragonstar (H)
David Hartwell, ed. — Year's Best SF 7 (P)
David Herter — Evening's Empire (H)
Mindy L. Klasky — The Glasswright's Journeyman (P)
Katherine Kurtz — Deryni Tales (P)
Anne McCaffrey — Freedom's Ransom (H)
Rudy Rucker — Spaceland (H)
Robert J. Sawyer — Hominids (H)
Charles Sheffield — The Amazing Dr. Darwin (H)

Local Fannish Activities

continued from page 1...

Tuesday, April 23rd at 7:00 at Anderson Branch (Fremont & Touzalin) is science fiction author Orson Scott Card's *Ender's Game*. A flyer was sent to Star Base Andromeda to encourage our members to join them for this activity.

This general Book Group will continue to meet on a regular basis, and future science fiction selections may be made. If and when the selections for discussion are fantasy or science fiction, we will list the meeting times in The Andromedan Log.

LFSF

The **Lincoln Science Fiction & Fantasy club**, founded in the early 1990s as a UNL-sponsored activity group, continues to meet during the school year. Their meetings are traditionally held Wednesday nights on the UNL campus, either in the Student Union (14th & "R") or in Ferguson Hall. Members of the group also gather for Gaming on Sundays at Noon. LFSF hosts an occasional Movie Night, and group members also regularly hold book discussions.

Check out their website, <<http://www.unl.edu/lfsf/>> for full details.

Lincoln Northeast High School Sci Fi Club

We were informed this month by the former sponsor of the LNE SF Club that there is no organized club at LNE this year.

If you know of other local organizations of interest to *Star Base Andromeda* members, or of local events with a genre-slant, please send as much information as possible about these to the Editor at the mail or e-mail addresses on page 2. We will continue to list all known SF organizations in this area in future issues, depending on space needs.

Recent New Genre at the Lincoln City Libraries

Kevin J. Anderson	Hopscotch
Robert Asprin	Myth-ion Improbable
Stephen Baxter	Manifold: Origin
Cecelia Dart-Thornton	The Ill-Made Mute
Doranna Durgin	Heritage
Jasper Fforde	The Eyre Affair
Alan Dean Foster	Diuturnity's Dawn
Ed Greenwood	A Dragon's Ascension
Peter F. Hamilton	Fallen Dragon
Mercedes Lackey	The Shadow of the Lion
Ursula Leguin	The Birthday of the World and Other Stories
Juliet Marillier	Child of the Prophecy
L.E. Modesitt	Shadowsinger
Walter Mosley	Futureland
Andre Norton	The Mark of the Cat [and] Year of the Rat
Kim Stanley Robinson	The Year of Rice and Salt
Charles Sheffield	Dark as Day
Mitchell Smith	Snowfall
Michael Swanwick	Bones of the Earth
Harry Turtledove	Rulers of the Darkness

809.388 Man
813 LacYh

The Mammoth Encyclopedia of SF
The Valdemar Companion

Reviews

★★★★★ — Excellent
★★★★ — Very Good

★★★ — Good
★★ — Fair
★ — Poor

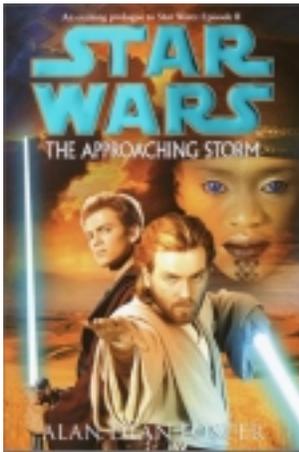
Opinions expressed within these reviews are the opinions of the individual reviewer, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the members of Star Base Andromeda, the staff of The Andromedan Log, or the other reviewers represented in these pages.

Star Wars: The Approaching Storm

by Alan Dean Foster
Del Rey Hardback 2002, \$26.00

Star Wars: New Jedi Order: Conquest

by Greg Keyes
Del Rey Paperback 2001, \$6.99



The Two Anakins

Star Wars: The Approaching Storm is a prologue to the next movie. This novel is set a few years after *Star Wars: Rogue Planet*, which was a few years after *Episode I*. Trust me, it gets worse.

That's where the second Anakin comes in. After finishing the first book I decided to catch up on the spattering of other *Star Wars* books I've picked up over the years. Now I'm not saying these other books are bad. It's just when you look at the book timeline with 20 different time areas, only five of which don't have at least three books, it's a little daunting.

Star Wars: Conquest is set 25 years after the original movie. Written by Greg Keyes (aka J.Gregory Keyes), this 2001 paperback has 291 pages. It focuses on Anakin Solo, the third child of Han and Leia. Remember how in *The Phantom Menace* every Jedi kept recoiling in horror at the very thought of a child having been raised by his mother. It surprised me how well they maintained the contrast between "then" and "now".

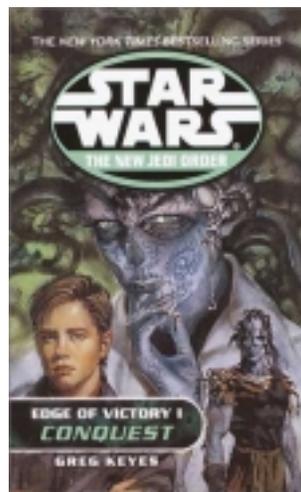
In *The Approaching Storm*, Anakin Skywalker is Padawan to Obi Wan. While

Obi Wan has matured into a teacher there are still many doubts about his student. The boy enjoys combat. He misses his mother. His mind isn't always on where he is, what he is doing.

Told to make peace between city-dwellers and nomads on a little known planet, in order to save the republic from falling apart, we see technology-loving Anakin and his companions forced to go camping in the middle of nowhere. This treaty is so important that the council sends two Jedi and their Padawans. Being Jedi of course they not only run into trouble but have trouble following them. Neither side trusts them, and a number of off-world interests would pay well to see them fail.

My favorite scene has all four Jedi being asked to prove that they have a soul. The performances of the two women Jedi would take a good portion of the special effects budget for a movie. Anakin sings.

The story is told mostly from the viewpoint of the two Padawans but the Jedi occasionally chime in. There is concern for how distracted Anakin can be. His mother is a part of that but there is something else that they don't really explain in what I think is a poor attempt to bridge into the next movie. I've seen better but the book isn't too bad. I give *The Approaching Storm* ★★★.



Now for the second Anakin. In *Conquest*, the whole galaxy is in chaos. What little peace that was gained after the *Star Wars* movies is pretty much gone. The Jedi are seen as selfish and dangerous, few more so than Anakin Solo. Luke Skywalker has been forced to play bureaucratic games and is now seen as weak and indecisive. The galaxy is under attack by the Yuuzhan Vong. Picture nature loving Borg.

The Yuuzhan Vong say they'll leave the rest of the planets alone, if everyone turns over the Jedi. It seems the Jedi prevented the Vong from a few conquests at some point.

While Luke tries to pull strings and not get everyone killed, many of the younger Jedi, who have not learned control or patience, go on the attack. Anakin, who has the patience of his namesake, is one of these. He's had dreams that his friends back at the Jedi Academy are in trouble. Being strong in the force, he felt these dreams to be truth and rushed off with only a droid to save them.

Anakin faces his own dilemmas of 'when does actively defending become attacking,' and 'is there a difference between killing someone and doing something that will get someone killed.' For his age Anakin carries the guilt of many deaths. While the characters are set for a slightly younger audience the book does not lack sophistication. I give *Conquest* ★★★.

Having read the books so closely together, I was struck by the contrast of the differing Jedi. The Jedi council of *The Phantom Menace* would be horrified by the carelessness and (sometimes) lack of training of this new generation. Having read a few of the other books, I can see why the Jedi have reached this point. Unlike the older generation, they have never really seen peace. I just wonder if there will even be an attempt to return to the Padawan system or not.

— Terri Dreier

ALIEN VOICES AUDIOTAPE SERIES

Spock vs. Q

Simon & Schuster Audio, 1999, \$12.00

Spock vs. Q: The Sequel

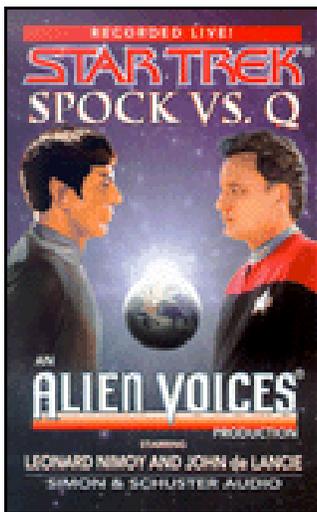
Simon & Schuster Audio, 2000, \$12.00

[one tape each]

written by Cecelia Fannon

performed by Leonard Nimoy & John DeLancie

This pair of quirky releases in the Audiotope (and now CD) area of *Star Trek* collecting were done as live recordings featuring Leonard Nimoy and John DeLancie in 1999 and 2000, respectively. The duo have apparently been performing each production at conventions where they've been scheduled to appear together. Officially credited to writer Cecelia Fannon,



each production is presented as a dialogue between Spock and Q, who each also spend some time addressing the audience.

In *Spock vs. Q*, the legendary Vulcan — it is impossible to pinpoint what “era” the character is speaking from, although the cover art to this first tape shows him in his ST:TMP uniform — has come forward to talk to an audience of 1999 humans to warn them of an impending catastrophe facing their planet. Q shows up and chides the Vulcan for attempting to break the Prime Directive by interfering in the natural course of events, and a verbal sparring match ensues. Ultimately, Q blurts out that an asteroid is heading for Earth, saving Spock from breaking the Directive, but offering Spock the opportunity to challenge the powerful being to stop the disaster from occurring. The rest of the 60-minute dialogue features the two characters debating whether humanity is worth saving.

Spock vs. Q: The Sequel is set a few hours after the original, after Q has made a nuisance of himself by joining Spock and his old crew for dinner. Both men have returned to address the audience again, but suddenly find themselves flung across space and time to “somewhere else.” Not only that, but they each rapidly begin to take on the other’s personal traits — Q becomes erudite, stodgy and philosophical, while Spock grows downright giddy and irresponsible. Faced with a return to their original quandry of saving the Earth, the two must now also discover a way to return their personalities back to their original settings as well.

Both tapes are witty and entertaining, and both actors inhabit their roles with an accuracy that comes from long association with the characters. I think that both productions probably come across much more successfully in person than they do on tape — the expressiveness of both Nimoy and DeLancie must add to the performances. The writing is crisp, but filled with perhaps too much contemporary colloquialisms. In

the end, the first of the two productions is the more successful of them. When the actors are forced to take on the roles of their opponent in “The Sequel”, both the story and the characterizations become noticeably strained...although it is fun to hear Nimoy laugh as Spock. The original show also makes somewhat more trenchant and pointed observations about contemporary society, while the sequel relies on its personality exchange gimmick for the majority of its drama. All in all, both *Spock vs. Q* and *Spock vs. Q: The Sequel* are engaging and entertaining entries in the Star Trek saga, and unusual both for crossing characters from two generations of *Star Trek* as well as for their live-performance origins. I give *Spock vs. Q* the higher score, with ★★★★★, while the sequel earns only ★★.

— Scott Clark



The Night Stalker and Other Classic Thrillers

composed & conducted by Robert Cobert
Varese Sarabande 2000

This CD is a lovely little gem of a collection which I stumbled across a little over a year ago and mistakenly purchased thinking it was primarily music from the *Kolchak the Night Stalker* tv series. As it turns out, the disc has absolutely no music from that short-lived series, but does include 10 “suites” of music from a variety of horror movies or tv-movies...including the two tv-movies that inspired the *Kolchak* series.

All the music in this collection was originally composed by Robert Cobert, for movies or tv-movies produced or directed by Dan Curtis, creator of *Dark Shadows*. Track 1 includes six pieces totalling 11:40 from *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, a 1968 TVM starring Jack Palance. Track 2 has 3:00 from a failed 1969 pilot episode called *Dead of Night*. Tracks 3 (3:59) and 4 (5:32) feature suites from both *The Night Stalker* (1972) and *The Night Strangler* (1973). Track 5 has 8:10 in five

sections from 1974’s *Dracula*, also starring Jack Palance. Track 6 is a suite from the infamous *Trilogy of Terror* (1975), lasting 6:10. Track 7 has 8:40 in six pieces from 1976’s *Burnt Offerings*. Track 8 features a suite of five pieces totalling 13:32 from a 1977 TVM also called *Dead of Night*. Track 9 is four selections from 1977’s *Curse of the Black Widow*, adding up to 7:10. And track 10 is 8:43 in four pieces from the updated 1991 version of *Dark Shadows* starring Ben Cross.

The highlights of the disc for me were the two *Night Stalker* tracks, featuring a funky jazz theme mixed with a warbling electronicized tremolo — perfect for the films involved. I also particularly enjoyed the *Dracula* track, with the “Love Theme” and “Death of Dracula” sections featuring lush, romantic strings and full orchestra. For the most part, the majority of the music in this collection can easily be dated from the 1970s, with its heavy use of electronic keyboards and minimal orchestration. However, Cobert manages to infuse each production with some unique originality, and some of the most unusual pieces truly do stand apart from the rest. “The Night Stalker Theme”, the “Zuni Doll Rampage” from *Trilogy of Terror*, the entire set of *Dracula* pieces, the eeriness of the *Burnt Offerings* background music and most of the second *Dead of Night* set are also noteworthy. One of my criteria for judging a soundtrack as completely successful is the music’s ability to be enjoyed separate from the movie. Considering that I haven’t even seen half of the movies or tv-movies featured on this disk, I’d have to say it successfully entertained me apart from the movies themselves. In fact, the music alone makes me want to see Palance’s *Dracula*, considered a cult favorite!

I very much enjoyed the best parts of this disc, and even at its weakest, it remains a perfectly fine example of late 1970s film and tv scoring. This one is a little more obscure and harder to find, but I consider it an essential addition to my genre soundtrack collection. It certainly isn’t perfect, but for putting together an eclectic and well-packaged group of cultural oddities, I’d give it ★★★★★.

— Scott Clark

STAR TREK BOOK REVIEWS

The following 5-part review by Terri Dreier was turned in for publication in *The Log* during the lengthy hiatus between issues #61 and #62. Although the books were released a couple of years ago now, the reviews are published here for the interest of Star Trek fans who may not have had the chance to read them yet.

Star Trek's latest four part series is titled *Day of Honor*. Billed as the story of a Klingon tradition started during Kirk's time, it unfolds into a variety of situations questioning the honor of everyone involved. This series also contains a fifth book based on a Voyager television episode that made use of the same concept.

Book 1 ST:TNG *Ancient Blood*

by Diane Carey

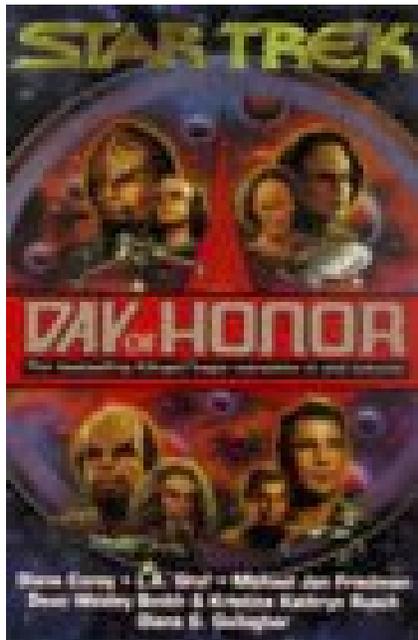
As most of you probably can guess this book focuses on Worf and Alexander. However in this particular holiday's tradition, it relies on humans showing true honor in desperate times to get the point across. The Federation is concerned about a planet of colonists wishing to secede and form their own government. Honorless Klingons and a rather nasty politician have plans to take over the planet if this is accomplished. This forces Picard into a choice of removing the politician and thereby voiding the planet's election and secession vote, or allowing the people to be tricked into electing a corrupt individual. Once the main plot starts to unfold, it really doesn't focus much on the politics but the individuals behind this scheme. At first everyone involved seems to be scum with no questions needed. It's the secondary storyline that starts bringing shades of grey into the plot. With Worf away, Picard leads Alexander through a lesson in honor while in a holodeck simulation of the Revolutionary War. Connections between the two plots are left mostly to the reader, allowing either to stand on it's own only to be enhanced by the presence of the other. The main characters are well developed and a liberal scattering of humor throughout the book keeps the novel moving but it wasn't until about the last fifty pages that it turned into the story I'd give ★★★★★. Alexander and Worf both come face to face with the bloody reality of war, and the part honor plays in its day to day battles.

Book 2 ST:DS9 *Armageddon Sky*

by L. A. Graf

Sisko and company find themselves involved in a planetary dispute between the Klingons and the Cardassians. At stake is a thickly forested area with a variety of native

creatures, a couple groups of Klingon outcasts, and one downed Federation science vessel. Just to make things interesting the planet is currently being bombarded by cometary fragments. Despite the quantity of Klingons involved, much of the story focuses on other types of characters. The Klingons do still hold their own with a variety of cultures and codes of honor. The story itself was well planned out in fighting techniques, sympathetic characters on all sides, plus very good details. I'll give it ★★★★★ even though the only memorable part for me was the running gag with an original series crew member.



Book 3 ST:VOY *Her Klingon Soul*

by Michael Jan Friedman

During another attempt by the Kazon to benefit at Voyager's expense, they actually succeed. That is until the Kazon are attacked by someone else. What's left is a good opportunity for B'Elanna and Kim to meet people and learn new customs as they slowly die of radiation poisoning as slaves on a mining ship. With only a half Klingon in the entire Gamma quadrant it is a little harder to use that as a culture base. Instead we are told of two individuals that have their own definition of honor. One is a leader in a warrior race similar to the Klingons. The other is a dying women from an oppressed culture. Told in the common

on-ship / off-ship split storyline, these two never meet except in passing. In fact there is hardly anything they have in common except that both are very precise in their version of what is right for no other reason than that is what they believe. Some parts of the book are admittedly better written than others, but the main ideas are followed through from start to finish and provide a solid base for the rest of it. I give it ★★★★★.

Book 4 ST:TOS *Treaty's Law*

by Dean Wesley Smith & Kristine Kathryn Rusch

Billed as "The true story behind the Day of Honor" it does sound a little corny. The story behind the cover is true to classic Trek style with the return of Commander Kor and the almost family-like atmosphere of the crew. It all starts with Kerdoch, a Klingon farmer on the planet Signi Beta. The planet has come under attack by a group of unfamiliar ships using unfamiliar technology. A leader in his own right, Kerdoch takes center stage when Kor and Kirk answer his distress call. The federation gets one of it's first good looks at Klingon society. Not the High Council by any means, but the neighbor helping neighbor in times of need. When the Klingons receive friendly assistance from the Enterprise crew they are impressed. When Kirk offers the same honorable treatment to their now mutual enemy, the Klingons are stunned. Imagine thinking your enemy obeys a code of honor. Hence the holiday so all Klingons remember the day they were that enemy. Humorously written with situations only the original crew could get themselves into, or out of, I give it ★★★★★.

STVOY "Day of Honor" – The Television Episode

by Michael Jan Friedman

B'Elanna Torres does not like the Day of Honor. Considering the fact she has almost been killed on more than one occurrence of the holiday you can see why. One thing that sets this book apart from the others is the inclusion of other holidays. It also includes the Borg. The characters are forced to accept maybe not honor, but futile resistance on the part of people that did not

Passings

Noted individuals of genre significance whom we've recently lost

News and information for this feature comes from *Variety*, the *Hollywood Reporter*, the *Internet Movie Database*, *People*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *TV Guide*, *Locus*, *Science Fiction Chronicle*, *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction* and various websites, newspapers and other print sources. If you have additional names to contribute to future entries in **Passings**... please send them to your editor at the addresses on page 2. If you have any reasonably trustworthy websites or print sources that you can recommend that track the deaths of authors or comic-book personnel, please also let the editor know of these.

New Zealand actor **KEVIN SMITH**, best known for his role as Ares in *Xena: Warrior Princess* and *Hercules*, died from injuries sustained in a fall on Feb. 6 in Beijing, the *New Zealand Herald* reported. He was 38. Smith, who also worked on the SCI FI Channel's upcoming original television film *Riverworld*, was injured the day after he finished work on *Warriors of Virtue II*, a joint U.S.-Chinese film production, the newspaper reported. Smith was to have headed next to a movie boot camp to prepare for a career-making role in *Man of War*, a Hollywood film starring Bruce Willis. Acting sources told the Herald that Smith was injured when he fell from a great height, possibly six stories. The actor was then taken to a hospital, where he was placed on life support before ultimately succumbing to his injuries nearly a week later, the newspaper reported.

Smith's wife, Suzanne, and his parents, Geoff and Yvonne, were reportedly at his side at the time of his death. In addition to his wife, Smith leaves his three children, Oscar, 11, Tyrone, 9, and Willard, 3, the newspaper reported.

Contemporary character actor **DENIS FORREST**, a frequent face in genre tv series of the past decade, died unexpectedly in L.A. on March 19th at the age of 42. With his lean, aquiline face, Forrest was perhaps best known for playing villains and other menacing types. He appeared in feature films, tv series and tv-movies, many of which were filmed in his native Canada. He had distinctive guest roles in *The Adventures of Brisco County Jr.* (as Will Swill, one of the villainous Swill brothers), and as Kirk Freeman in the 1999 mini-series *Storm of the Century*. His one regular series role was in the ill-fated 2nd season of the syndicated *War of the Worlds*, in which he played Malzor, the humanoid leader of the alien invasion of Earth.

RAY PATTERSON, an animator-director-producer who had been active in filmmaking since the 1920s, died December 30th, 2001. Patterson first entered the field of animation as a teenager in 1929, working at the Charles Mintz studio. By the late 1930s, he had achieved the status of "full animator" and had moved to the Disney studios, where he worked on Pluto shorts and the features *Fantasia* and *Dumbo*. In

the 1940s, he moved to MGM, serving as one of the primary animators on the *Tom & Jerry* shorts. During this period, he was responsible for animating Jerry in the classic dance sequence with Gene Kelly in *Anchors Aweigh*. In the 1950s, his work included the original stick-figure animation sequence for TV's *I Love Lucy*. From 1954 until 1968, Patterson worked for his self-founded Grantray-Lawrence Animation, doing original features and contract work. Two of that studio's most noteworthy animation productions were *Marvel Superheroes* and *Spider-Man*, the latter of which Patterson produced and directed. After a series of other positions, Patterson returned to Hanna Barbera, where he eventually made his way to the position of Vice President in charge of the Animation Division. During his career, he earned 12 Emmy nominations, two Humanitas Awards, a Dove Award, an Angel Award and a Mentor Award. Following his 1993 retirement, Patterson continued to earn awards, including a Golden Award from the Motion Picture Screen Cartoonists, and the Winsor McCay Award for Lifetime Achievement in the field of animation from the Intl. Animated Film society.



Actor and comedian, **AVERY SCHREIBER**, half of the popular comedy team Burns & Schreiber in the 1960s, died on January 7th in L.A. at the age of 66. Schreiber, whose ethnic humor landed him appearances on such entertainment mainstays as the *Ed Sullivan Show* and *Hollywood Palace*, became best known to current audiences as the "Doritos Chip" guy. In a series of outrageous commercials throughout the 1970s and early 1980s, Schreiber would appear as a variety of high-strung characters (chefs, judges, pilots, etc.) who would get rattled in the performance of their jobs by nearby people crunching loudly on their Doritos corn ships.

Burns and Schreiber were featured in their own summer comedy-variety series in 1973, and Schreiber remained active as a

guest character actor even up until the current tv season. Genre fans may remember him in roles from the movies *Dracula: Dead and Loving It*, and *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*, or as Edgar Benedek's wild editor in several appearances on the late 80's tv series *Shadow Chasers*.

Actress-musician-writer **CARRIE HAMILTON**, daughter of comedian Carol Burnett, died January 20th of cancer in L.A. at the age of 38. She had appeared in the tv series *Fame*, and had guest-star appearances on numerous other popular tv series of the 1990s, as well as a string of low-budget below-the-radar movies. She and her mother had collaborated on a stage version of Burnett's best-selling memoir *One More Time*. The collaborative play which came of their work will have its premiere in Chicago in April of this year. Genre fans will remember Hamilton for her impressive dramatic turn in the *X-Files* episode "Monday", in which she played the only person who's aware of being caught in a repetitive time-loop which ends in Mulder and Scully being blown up in a foiled bank robbery.

Swedish author **ASTRID LINDGREN**, creator of the popular children's literary character Pippi Longstocking, died in Stockholm, January 28th at the age of 94. Although she is the author of more than 100 books, which have been translated into dozens of languages and which have sold more than 130 million copies worldwide, it will always be Pippi Longstocking for whom Lindgren is likely remembered. Lindgren's works, both realistic and fantasy, captured an idealized view of Swedish countryside life, and earned her a beloved place in Sweden's literature landscape. The importance and popularity of Lindgren's works to the Swedes is often compared to the importance and popularity of Tolkien's works for Great Britain. Oddly enough, Lindgren credited her daughter Karin for the initial creation of Pippi. Before she had truly launched her writing career, Lindgren was caring for an ill Karin, who asked her to tell the story of Pippi Longstocking. Having never heard that name before, Lindgren created a verbal story for her daughter on the spot. When

continued on next page 35

Amusements

News, reviews, commentary and strategy hints about science fiction or fantasy-based games

STAR TREK COLLECTIBLE CARD GAME — CARD STRATEGY



For those of us who play the *Star Trek Customizable Card Game*, one of the most important elements of game strategy is creating the perfect combos of killer dilemmas — something that in the first blow will knock out (or at least weaken) your opponent's greatest strengths, and then in the second blow will force him to call upon those strengths which are now

gone. There's nothing quite like a good "Female's Love Interest" and "Matriarchal Society" combo to bring your foe's rush towards victory to a screeching halt.

However, the tactic I'd like to cover in this first STCCG Strategy column is actually one of the tactics to counter the traditional "lethal pile of dilemmas": The **Q Dilemma**. This dilemma has only two conditions to get past: You must have two Leadership and a combined integrity for your Away Team of greater than 60. Now, while this could be hard to come by for your opponent, who is unlikely to have a team with 60 integrity, the point of the Q dilemma is not to place it under one of your opponent's missions, but rather to place it under one of your own. Provided that you are playing a deck which includes characters with Leadership skills and high integrity, the Q dilemma gives you the chance to earn a mission quickly, without risking your personnel on the dilemmas seeded by your opponent. For, you see, the prize for meeting the Q dilemma's requirements is that you can discard all remaining dilemmas at that spaceline location! You must be careful, however, and seed the Q dilemma

as one of your very last seed cards.

The strategies here are obvious: Seed one or more valuable artifacts where you plan to place the Q dilemma. One great combination is to place the Cryosatellite (which can contain up to three AU personnel and/or another artifact) containing the Betazoid Gift Box at this space location. When you solve the Q dilemma, you earn the BGB and can immediately pull three cards from your draw deck. Place this all at your Outpost location, and you don't even have to leave the spaceline location that you are reporting cards to initially.

There are two drawbacks to this strategy: First, that Integrity>60 means you've got to have enough personnel present to meet that requirement, and that could take several rounds; Secondly, there is a simple counter-measure your opponent can employ to completely neutralize your entire strategy: A Q2 Interrupt card in their hand will nullify the Q dilemma, forcing you to commit your away team to attempt to solve the mission's legitimate dilemmas since you did try to solve the Q dilemma in the first place.

WORDSEARCH — CLASSIC STAR TREK CHARACTERS

Word List

Solution Appears Next Issue

g a r y m i t c h e l l m d b e l a o x m y x a
a r i e u l u s t l k n i o e n t e r p r i s e
m l t d a m a t o z e f r a m c o c h r a n e j
n u g m c a r o l y n p a l a m a s e r t a n v
l m a r y t n a o r a n m j l k a b a n a j o r
o s r p r t n c k n v o a n m t n l e r y k j d
e e y d t d y h n i r g n a g e t c r o e e o d
s e s a r e a n i v a k e i d y y e c h c k n u
m t e u k c c c a r h c e d m o c c c a a a a m
y p v d e k k y t a c h o i b e m n a r r y r y
e e e t m e m h p d r r r r c r g m a e t n y r
a t n b o r o k a e e i d a d i k r c t d u c r
m e i n a f r i c n d s p k s c u i o a l m r a
i r m y i e e j e r n t y n o h n c r k a b i h
n k h z j f o g c a a o e o u a s t e r n e e n
a i a e e h n o v i m p o t j r y a l e o r a k
r r m e n o t e n l m h l n e d a e e a r o a s
d k r g g g e k b d o e r a i d n e e d l n e a
d e i r t i i t d m c r k n n a l l k r s e y i
y l a v l r e s k c o p s r m y n c h m l j s n
l s l r k r e a t l n i c o k s l s t b r a k l
v n a o e l i l a g i k r t n t a i i e n c s n
m h s i m o n v a n g e l d e r m a d n a m a o
c e m s c m d a n n a y l e b o r n g e g r e e
c h n l t a l a t u e b v d t m o a l a k h d r

amanda peter kirk
anton karidian richard daystrom
arne darvin rojan
ayleborne ronald tracey
bela oxmyx sarek
ben finney sargon
captain kirk scotty
captain koloth simon van gelder
carolyn palamas t'pol
charlie evans trelane
christopher pike vina
commander charvanek zefram cochrane
cyrano jones
dr boyce
dr mbenga
dr McCoy
edith keeler
ensign Chekov
Enterprise
Galileo
Garth of IZAR
Gary Mitchell
Gary Seven
Gene Roddenberry
Harry Mudd
Janice Rand
John Gill
Khan Noonian Singh
Korob
Landru
Lt Damato
Lt Kyle
Lt Sulu
Lt Uhura
Marlena Moreau
Matt Decker
Miramane
Miri
Mr Hengist
Mr Spock
Number One

asked later to repeat the story, she realized it might be worth getting down on paper.

GEORGE NADER, a popular leading man in films of the 1950s, 60s and early 70s, and a past science fiction writer, died in California on February 4th at the age of 80. Following his service in WWII, Nader parlayed his rugged good looks, sex appeal and easy-going charm into a string of moderately popular films. Genre fans may remember him for the monster movie **Robot Monster** (1953), which has become a cult favorite. In the late 1950s and 60s, he also made numerous appearances on television. Following his retirement from acting in 1973, Nader turned to another career — novelist. In 1978, his first science fiction novel, **Chrome** (now in its 6th printing), was released and was considered groundbreaking for its portrayal of a homosexual romance. Nader, gay himself, was among the beneficiaries of actor Rock Hudson's will, and was involved in a life-long relationship with Hudson's personal secretary, Mark Miller. In addition to Miller, Nader is survived by several relatives, including soap opera actor Michael Nader.

Longtime character actress **MEG WYLIE**, who holds a place in **Star Trek** history, died in Glendale, CA on January 1st at the age of 84. Wylie, an actress who was primarily seen on television, was active in Hollywood from the late 1950s until the late 1990s. She appeared on nearly every popular series in the 1950s and 1960s, and remained active with guest appearances on 70's, 80's and even 90's shows like **Kojak**, **Barney Miller**, **Golden Girls**, **Night Court** and **Mad About You**. Genre fans will remember her as Sister Florence in the classic **Twilight Zone** episode "Night of the Meek" (starring Art Carney). Her claim to **Star Trek** fame? She played the very first alien menace on **Star Trek**. Under heavy makeup, she was one of the two Talosian "Keepers", who imprison Jeffrey Hunter's Captain Pike in the original **Star Trek** pilot, "The Cage" (although the voice of The Keeper is Malachi Throne).



Actor **GUY STOCKWELL**, older brother of Dean Stockwell (**Quantum Leap**), died February 7th in Prescott, AZ at the age of 69. A prolific character actor, Guy had appeared in 30 movies and over 250 TV series episodes, in a career that stretched

The Andromedan Challenge

Apr 02

- *Mulder steps out of Scully's shower...it was all a dream!*
- *Everything after the giant fungus has been a hallucination!*
- *Karl Kolchak wakes up in Chicago after a bender -- tells Tony Vincenzo his dreams about an FBI paranormal division.*

Your Challenge is to come up with either serious or humorous versions of how you think *The X-Files* is going to sign off after nine years on the air! Deadline for contributions: May 14th, 2002

Rules for The Challenge: Entries must be typewritten or legible if handwritten. Each club member or reader of *The Log* is limited to entering The Challenge once each month, however they may submit up to 3 answers with each entry. Entries should be clearly identified as **Andromedan Challenge** submissions and mailed to the editor's surface or e-mail address (page 2). At least three different entries must be received in order to select a winner. Winning entry receives one free month on their existing membership, or one free issue of *The Log* if not currently an SBA member.

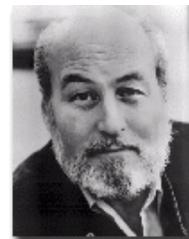
Reminder of the last Challenge: Invent futuristic or genre-themed Olympic sports -- either Summer or Winter. Deadline for contributions: April 23rd, 2002.

from the 1960s to post-2000. Stockwell's television appearances included roles on **Simon & Simon**, **Knight Rider**, **Magnum P.I.**, **Murder She Wrote**, **Quantum Leap** and such genre fare as **Men Into Space**, **Land of the Giants** and **Voyagers**. In addition to his on-screen work, Stockwell helped create the Los Angeles Art Theater, starred in several stage plays, and also taught at UCLA for two years in the masters program for acting.

Popular actor **MEL STEWART**, perhaps best known for his supporting role as Lee and Amanda's boss, Billy Melrose on **Scarecrow & Mrs King**, died February 26th in Pacifica, CA of Alzheimers at the age of 72. In a career that stretched from 1959 to the early 1990s, Stewart appeared in approximately 25 films, and made dozens of guest appearances on television. He also starred in no fewer than eight television series, of which **S&MK** was the last. In addition to his acting, Stewart was an accomplished musician. He played sax in the 1950s and 60s with such notable artists as John Coltrane and Charles Mingus.

Actress **IRISH MCCALLA**, fondly remembered for her title role in the **Sheena, Queen of the Jungle** TV series (1955), died February 1st in Tucson, AZ at the age of 72. Born and raised in Pawnee City, Nebraska, McCalla went on to become a blonde bombshell in Hollywood by her early twenties. In addition to her starring role in **Sheena**, McCalla appeared in several 1950s movies, and guest starred in numerous television shows. She overcame a brain tumor in 1969 and again in 1981 (although it was another brain tumor that ultimately took her life). After retiring from acting, she became a successful painter, specializing in Old West subjects. And, unlike many actors

who prefer to leave the trappings of their roles behind them, McCalla was proud to don her old leopard skin costume (which still fit her!) in her 70s while appearing at autograph shows.



Actor **BYRNE PIVEN**, who appeared in nearly 20 films and had numerous guest-starring appearances on television, died February 18th in Evanston, IL at the age of 72. Piven, who had been active in the theater community around Chicago for many years, had made a number of tv and movie appearances in a film career stretching back to the 1960s. Among his genre fare were guest appearances on **Quantum Leap**, **X-Files** and **Cupid** (where he co-starred with his son, Jeremy Piven), and film or tv-movie roles in **Creator**, **Being John Malkovich** and **Shadow of the Blair Witch**.

Star Trek Book Reviews Continued from page 32...

choose to become Borg. I was very impressed with the concepts presented throughout the book. Friedman has written a variety of good books across all four series of Trek but this one stands out. I give it ★★★★★ and the recommendation that if you only read one Voyager novel, this is the one I suggest.

— Terri Dreier

Mark Your Schedules...

Upcoming events in the Lincoln area of interest to SBA members and other local genre fans

April 2002

2	6:30-9:00 pm	Star Base Andromeda club meeting ¹
5-7		WillyCon 4 [Wayne, NE]
7	2:00-5:15 pm	SBA club meeting ¹
9	6:30-9:00 pm	SBA club meeting
13	7:00 pm	SBA monthly potluck
11-14		World Horror Con [Chicago, IL]
14	2:00-5:15 pm	SBA club meeting – “ Game Week ” ²
16	6:30-9:00 pm	SBA club meeting
19		premiere of The Scorpion King
21	2:00-5:15 pm	SBA club meeting
23	6:30-9:00 pm	SBA club meeting
	7:00-8:00 pm	Ender's Game Discussion – Anderson Branch
25-28		Nebula Awards Weekend [Kansas City]
26		premiere of Jason X
28	2:00-5:15 pm	SBA club meeting – “ Video Week ”
30	6:30-9:00 pm	SBA club meeting

May 2002

3		premiere of Spiderman
3-5		Demicon XIII [Des Moines, IA]
5	2:00-5:15 pm	SBA club meeting
7	6:30-9:00 pm	SBA club meeting – “ Writers Group ” [pt 1] ³
12	2:00-5:15 pm	SBA club meeting – “ Game Week ”
14	6:30-9:00 pm	SBA club meeting – “ Writers Group ” [pt 2] ³
16		premiere of Star Wars II: Attack of the Clones
19	2:00-5:15 pm	SBA club meeting – “ Video Week ”
21	6:30-9:00 pm	SBA club meeting – “ Book Discussion ” ⁴
24-26		ConQuest [Kansas City, MO]
24-27		MediaWest*Con 22 [Lansing, MI]
26	2:00-5:15 pm	No SBA club meeting – library closed
28	6:30-9:00 pm	SBA club meeting

¹ — **Star Base Andromeda** meetings are held twice weekly. From April 9th through May 7th, Tuesday night meetings will begin at 6:30 in the downtown UNL Student Union (14th & “R” Sts.), in the seating area north of the Subway restaurant on the main level. Sunday afternoons, SBA meets from 2:00 until approximately 5:15, at the downtown Bennett Martin Public Library (14th & “N” Sts.) on the fourth floor. Traditionally, the final Sunday meeting of the month is scheduled as a “Video Week”, indicating video selections will be shown.

² — **Star Base Andromeda** returned in February to dedicating one Sunday meeting per month (traditionally the 2nd Sunday) to games and trivia. Members in attendance at this meeting are encouraged to bring to the meeting a board game or trivia game that would appeal to fellow SF/Fantasy fans.

³ — Aspiring genre writers, both members of the club and guests, are encouraged to take part in our revived

Writers Group meetings, held quarterly, beginning in January 2002. These meetings are held on back-to-back Tuesdays. During the first week, participants are asked to bring copies of their recent work — a short story, chapter of a novel or novella, or Non-fiction article — to share with other attendees. During the second week, everyone is encouraged to contribute constructive criticism of the works already distributed.

⁴ — The members of **SBA** began a series of book discussions in the fall of '99. We continue this on a semi-regular basis. The selection for May 2002 is Joan Vinge's **Tangled Up in Blue**. A selection for the July discussion will be made during April or May meetings.

* — The tradition of “First Friday” gatherings for **Star Base Andromeda** involves a once-a-month potluck (not only on the “first Friday” of the month), open only to club members and associates. Check with the Presidio for updates.

STAR BASE ANDROMEDA

7210 Francis St.

Lincoln, NE 68505-1545

Membership Status

The expiration date of your membership follows your name on the label above.

If this issue has a BLACK sticker on it, you have only one more month/issue on your membership.

If this issue has an RED sticker on it, then this is your last issue unless you renew your membership.

POSTMASTER — DATED MATERIAL