

# Entertainment Outlook

## Could Harpo Marx actually talk?

By Dick Kleiner

### ASK DICK KLEINER



DICK KLEINER

Q. Could Harpo Marx talk in real life? — D.D., Erie, Pa.

A. Yes. Q. I have several photos of my late father with a very pretty blonde actress of the '40s — Mary Beth Hughes. Is this pretty lady still alive? She is as pretty as Marilyn Monroe was. Also in these photos is an actor named David Street. What movies was he in, and what is he doing now? — S.E.C., Hot Springs, Ark.

A. Mary Beth Hughes is still living. She mostly did second features. She is 69 and does a little acting and a little night-club singing. Street, who was once married to Mary Beth, is dead. He was primarily a singer, not an actor.

Q. When was Mandy Patinkin born? — S.C.K., Canton, Ohio.

A. His birthdate is Nov. 30, 1952. Q. In the movie "Old Yeller," what kind of a dog was he? My husband bet me \$500 that Old Yeller was a purebred Catahoula. I say he's not. — T.J., Rock Hill, S.C.

A. I think Mr. J. is having a bit of sport with you. I've never heard of a Catahoula, purebred or otherwise, and can't find the word in my dictionary. But, even if there is such a

expected to begin this month. The series has received a midseason commitment by NBC.

Q. My grandmother and I are having a huge argument about whether Dame Judith Anderson was once on the soap opera "Santa Barbara." I say she was Minx Lockridge, but she says she wasn't. — A.B., Santa Maria, Calif.

A. She definitely was Minx. One reason she was cast was because she happened to live in Santa Barbara at the time the show began. Originally, they were going to tape it all there.

Q. My brother and I have a trip to California riding on your answer. I say Robert Culp starred in a TV cowboy series in the '50s or '60s. My brother says I'm wrong and that his first series was "I Spy." Who is right? — Mrs. H.K.C., Lufkin, Texas.

A. Welcome to California, Mrs. C! Culp played Texas Ranger Hoby Gillman in "Trackdown," which ran from '57 to '59.

Q. I'm a young girl who loves the movie "Tommy." Can you tell me the ages of Ann-Margret, Roger Daltrey and Oliver Reed? And was Oliver related to Donna Reed? — L.F., Trenton, N.J.

A. Ann-M is 47, Daltrey is 44 and Oliver Reed is 50, even as we speak. Donna Reed's real name was Mullenger so, no, the two Reeds are unrelated.



Harpo Marx Susan Walters

breed, Old Yeller wasn't it. According to the folks at Disney, the animal was "a nondescript pound dog."

Q. Not long ago, NBC ran a movie called "Nightingales" with Susan Walters. I enjoyed it very much. Is it going to be a series? Or, at least, will there be a continuation? — S.T., Houston.

A. Production on "Nightingales" is

## MTV offers a rock 'n' roll talk show

### VIDEO BEAT



ETHLIE ANN VARE

By Ethlie Ann Vare

They've done the game-show format and the dance-show format and (thanks to British exports) the sitcom format. It was only a matter of time before MTV would start a rock 'n' roll talk show.

With little fanfare, MTV has premiered "Mouth to Mouth," the "Tonight Show" of the video generation. Johnny Carson is being portrayed by stand-up comedian Steve Skrovan; and Ed McMahon is being done by another comic, Colter Ruse.

Naturally, there are some differences between this MTV-style talk show and the garden variety. For one, a dash of Donahue is brought in, with an 800 number for live calls from the listeners. And the studio audience gets into the act: Each day, the audience is a cohesive group. On the opening show, it was a coven of witches. Future audiences will include anything from biker gangs to bowling teams.

Debut guests were Cher, Kenny Rogers and director John Carpenter; future attendees will include the Bangles, the Smithereens, DJ Jaxxy Jeff — pretty much whom you'd expect. Youth-oriented figures from film, TV and sports will join the rockers.

"Mouth to Mouth" runs for an hour on cable network, Monday through Thursday, at 8 p.m. Eastern Time. So far, the best thing it's got going for it is that it is live, so no one really knows what might happen.

Michael Jackson's elaborate "Smooth Criminal" video is only a portion of "Moonwalker," the full-length MJ movie that is being released to foreign markets. But even the short clip is a pretty major undertaking: It has more than 200 special-effects shots in it, equal to the number

in all of "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."



Michael Jackson

For the singer to turn into a robot, five Michael Jackson faces had to be sculpted, as well as a full-size Michael Jackson fiberglass body, which was later mechanized. Also involved are animation, matte paintings, miniatures and a computer-controlled composite camera. No one has mentioned what the piece cost, but let's say that only Jackson himself could afford it.

The London Daily Express recently reported that tapes of an early '60s BBC radio series featuring the Beatles have been discovered and compiled for broadcast. Included in the find is the only existing performance of the Lennon/McCartney tune "I'll Be on My Way," which was never recorded. Expect it to be recorded shortly.

By the way, "Yesterday" recently became the most performed song in history, with BMI (Broadcast Music Inc., the people who keep track of

such things) logging more than 5 million performances of the tune. "Yesterday" has also been recorded by artists other than the Beatles a total of 2,500 times. And, even though Paul McCartney owns one of the largest publishing catalogs in the world, the rights to "Yesterday" itself are owned by Michael Jackson.

Five thousand fans showed up at the Capitol Records parking lot in Los Angeles to hear a free set by Duran Duran after word leaked out that the event was going to occur. The label only announced the performance at 9 a.m. on the morning of the show, but Duran had been camping out since 2 a.m.

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