Entertainment Outlook

Who returned in 'Gunsmoke'?

ASK DICK KLEINER



-Q. In the movie "Gunsmoke: Return to Dodge" - dld James Arness and Amanda Blake actually play in that movie? Has Arness aged that much in 13 years? - P.J.L., Marco Island, Fla.

Q. I recently saw the movie "Gunsmoke: Return to Dodge," with James Arness. I was surprised to see Amanda Blake in it. I understood she had cancer and that was why she left "Gunsmoke." — G.B., Muskegon, Mich.

A. Time marches on, and Arness is now 65. He has a craggy face that shows its age. Both he and Amanda Blake - whose cancer is currently in remission - were definitely in that movie.

Q. Who played Edith Bunker in "All in the Family"? Did she also play in one of the Liberace movies as his mother? Also who was the splendid actress who played the lead in the TV movie about the Rose ballroom? --V.L., Santa Maria, Calif.

A. Like so many people, you are confused by an abundance of Stapletons. Jean Stapleton was Edith Bumker, but it was Maureen Stapleton (and the two are not related) who played Liberace's mother in the TV movie. Maureen was also in "Queen of the Stardust Ballroom," which is the movie I think you mean. For the record, Liberace's mother on the other film about him was played by Rue McClanahan.

Q. Are all the actors on "DeGrassi Junior High" Canadians? I must know, and you are my last hope! -M.A., Moncton, N.B., Canada.

A. Yes, all the youngsters on that series are from Toronto, to be precise.

Q. What was the name of a movie starring James Garner and Doris Day about a wife who was gone long enough to be declared dead, but she comes back just in time to see her husband about to get married again?

- N.P., Sidney, Neb. A. That was called "Move Over, Darling," and it was released in '63. It was a remake of "My Favorite Wife."

Q. I am a real fan of Sir Laurence Olivier and was wondering why I never hear anything about hlm. - L.T., Houston, Texas.

A. Sir Laurence is very ill, and has not done any acting for some time, and his friends doubt that he will ever act again.

Q. Many years ago, I saw a memorable movie called "Over the Hills to the Poor House." I believe it was in black and white and it's possible it was a silent picture. Can you tell me if it is ever going to be shown again? -Mrs. M.C., Racine, Wisc.

A. No picture by that name is on any list of pictures I have. It may be so old that it is no longer included in the listings.

Q. Our family has been trying to recall when "The Dukes of Hazzard" aired, and how long it ran. Please help! - T.Y., Reinholds, Pa.

A. That series ran from '79 to '85. Q. How old was actress Patty Duke when she played both Patty Lane and her cousin, Cathy Lane, on "The Patty

show run? - J.H., Bristol, Va. A. Patty was born in '46 and the series ran from '63 to '66, so, if my arithmetic is any good, she was 17 when the show began and 20 when it ended.

Duke Show"? Also, how long did that

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Tim Finn makes a 'grown-up' video

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VIDEO BEAT



Thanks to the success of grown-up artists like Steve Winwood and Peter Gabriel, there's actually a market these days for adult rock 'n' roll - a term that was once considered oxymoronic.

Add to the list of intelligent rockers a 36-year-old New Zealander named Tim Finn, founder of '70s pop hopefuls Split Enz and big brother of Crowded House's Neil Finn. The new Capitol LP "Tim Finn" promises to revitalize a career that stalled when Split Enz split in '84, and introduce a new audience to this thoughtful, poetic performer.

The record-buying public seems to be matching my age, says Finn, brushing gray-flecked hair from his face. "The people who buy compact discs, especially, are more in their 30s than their 20s. I may not have much to say to kids of 16 and 17 anymore, but I can say something to a lot of people."

Making the new album was a ven-DENTURE

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ture that lasted almost two years, what with demands for Finn to write two film sound tracks and demands for producer Mitchell Froom to do alburns for Crowded House and Richard Thompson. Making the video for the premier single "How'm I' Gonna Sleep" was equally problematic.

"We were going to shoot in Auckland with a New Zealand filmmaker named Gregor Nicholas. And at the last minute he got the green light for a feature film, so he couldn't do it.

"Capitol said, 'Why don't you do it yourself?' I thought about that forfive minutes and said, 'Sure."

Now, Finn has never worked as a

director or producer, although he's done the music for five films. But he figured that experience - plus the background of his girlfriend, actress Greta Scacchi (they met when he did the music for her movie "The Coca-Cola Kid") - was a good enough start

"It was certainly a learning experience," smiles Finn. "The main thing I learned was how specific you must be. If you want a close-up, you have to state exactly how close. You have to learn all the technical language. Because if you don't say precisely what you want, you'll only get an approximation of it."



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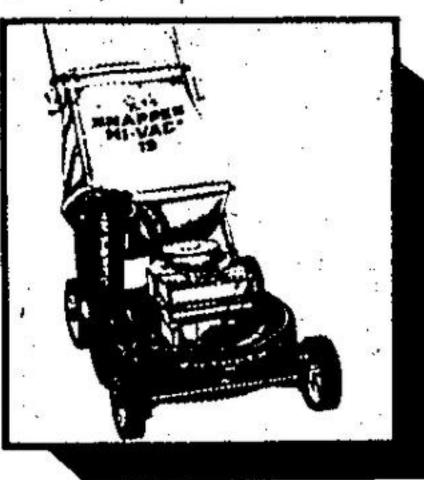
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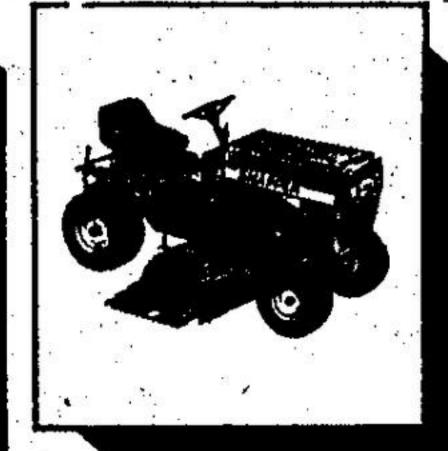
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