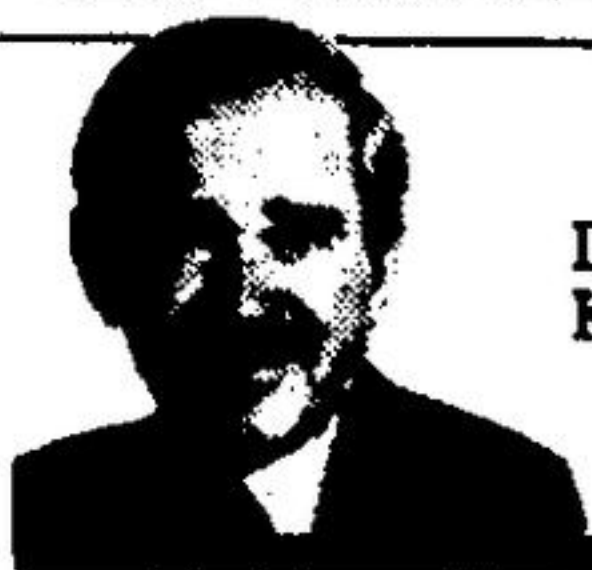


When did Johnny and Ed begin?

ASK DICK KLEINER



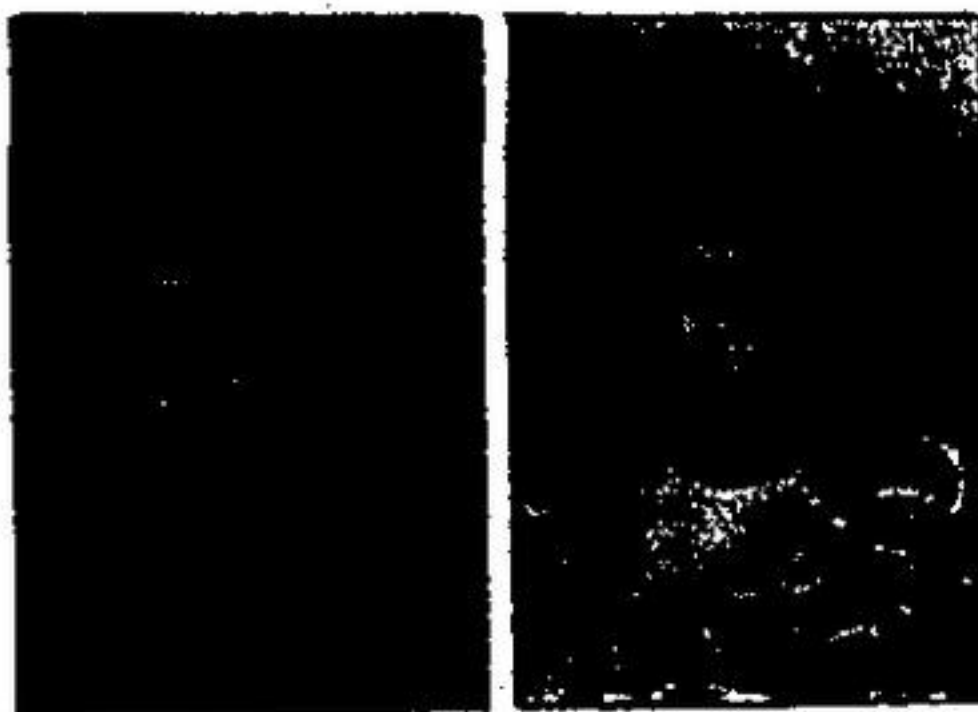
DICK KLEINER

Q. Could you tell me who Johnny Carson had with him before Ed McMahon? — Unsigned, Kalamazoo, Mich.

A. Nobody. Johnny and Ed have worked together since 1958 when they teamed up in New York to do a TV quiz show called "Who Do You Trust?" The moved together to "The Tonight Show" in 1962.

Q. Elvin and Sondra (Geoffrey Owens and Sabrina LeBeauf) on "The Cosby Show," have twins named Nelson and Winnie. Are they purposely named for Nelson and Winnie Mandela? — M.S., Spring, Texas.

A. Yes.



Geoffrey Owens Oprah Winfrey

Q. I am 13 years old. My mom and I are having a little disagreement on the movie "Freaky Friday." The little boy who is the brother of the girl who changes places with her mother — was he Jeremy Miller of "Growing Pains" or Bruce Beckham of "Mr. Belvedere"? — K.R., Payson, Utah.

A. Nobody wins or loses. That part was played by Sparky Marcus.

Q. Does ABC have any plans to release the "North and South" series on videocassette? — J.M., Houston.

A. ABC tells me that the videocassette rights to that series are the property of Warner Bros., and Warner Bros. tells me they have no plans for releasing "North and South" on VCR yet. Eventually, probably — but not for a while.

Q. My friend and I saw "North and South" on TV and we have both read the book. In the book, Orry Main (Patrick Swayze) had an arm injury, but on TV he had a leg injury. Why the change? — B. and A., Millville, N.J.

A. The producer explains that simply by saying, "We took some dramatic license."

Q. A friend and I have been arguing over Oprah Winfrey's show and the movie "The Color Purple." Which came first? He says the show came first, I say the movie came first. Your answer will determine a great deal of \$\$\$\$\$\$. — Unsigned, Houston.

A. This is a ticklish question, because the answer is open to discussion. Actually, Oprah had a show two years before "The Color Purple" — but it was a local show in Chicago. Her show went national in September 1986. The movie was given a showing in Los Angeles, to qualify for Oscar consideration, in December 1985. But it was not released nationally until the spring of 1986.

Q. I'm from Arkansas and I'm writing because I am very upset with one of the characters on "Empty Nest." She plays Harry's nurse and she's supposed to be from Arkansas. I think her name is Park Overall. I didn't like it when she said: "I'm from Arkansas. I don't know what the opry is." And when she said: "We marry our cousins and have ugly babies." That's not true. Why do they do this? Who can I write to to complain? — W.S., North Little Rock, Ark.

A. TV, as well as the movies, books and most everything else, kids around. We Americans are great kidders. We kid Brooklynites, New Englanders, Texans, Californians — and now, I supposed, it's the turn of you Arkansans. Don't take it seriously.

Q. Who narrates the show "The Wonder Years"? — T.C., Miramar, Fla.

A. Daniel Stern is the gentleman who narrates the show.

Q. What is Robert Shaw doing now? He starred in a pirate movie with Genevieve Bujold named "Swash-

buckler" and in "Jaws." I heard he was dead. I hope I heard wrong. He is great. — N.S., Killeen, Texas.

A. Unfortunately, you heard right. He died in 1978.

Q. I am very curious about the actor on "Hogan's Family." His name is Taylor. Is he the son of Rod Taylor? He resembles him and has the same accent. — A.K., Hallandale, Fla.

Q. I was wondering if Deborah Harmon on "Just the Ten of Us" is in any way related to Mark Harmon? — B.H., Kalamazoo, Mich.

Q. Could you tell me if the woman who plays Anna Lavery and the little girl who plays Robin, her daughter, on "General Hospital," are related? — T.J., Americus, Ga.

A. Nobody is related to anybody in the above three questions. Josh is not related to Rod. Deborah is not related to Mark. And Finola Hughes (Anna Lavery) is not related to the girl who plays her daughter.

Q. What was the name of the TV program that aired back in the '70s with William Conrad? He had this guy working for him called Archie and he also grew orchids. — G.C., Clintwood, Va.

A. That was "Nero Wolfe" but it was in 1981, not the '70s. Archie was played by Lee Horsley, incidentally. © 1989 NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

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