

McQueen 'wanted' this TV role

ASK DICK KLEINER



DICK KLEINER

Q. Please settle a question for us. In the '50s or '60s, there was a TV show called "Wanted: Dead or Alive." I say Steve McQueen played the lead. My husband says, no, McQueen refused to do any TV. Could you answer this for us? — J.T., Canyon Country, Calif.

A. You are victorious. Yes, that was McQueen. And he also did a lot of TV guest starring roles before that series. It was that series, however, that catapulted him to movie fame, and he did no TV after that.

Q. A friend and I have an argument going about the Coppertone ad/billboard. I say the little girl whose bathing suit bottom is being tugged down by a little black puppy is Brooke Shields, and it is one of her first modeling jobs. My friend disagrees. Please settle this. — P.C., Naples, Fla.

A. No, that wasn't Brooke. Her first modeling assignment was for Ivory soap.

Q. When I was a young girl, I saw a movie with James Shigeta and Dorothy Malone. It was set during World War II and the word "Sun" was in the title. Can you tell me the full name, and if it is out on videocassette? —

J.C., York Beach, Maine.

A. That was the '61 epic, "Bride to the Sun," but it was Carroll Baker, not Dorothy Malone, and, no, it is not available on cassette.

Q. I am wondering if any of the stars of the classic movie "Romeo and Juliet," are still alive. — E.G., Houston.

A. There have been three movie versions of the tragic Shakespeare love story. The '36 one starred Norma Shearer and Leslie Howard (both dead); the '54 one starred Susan Shentall (alive) and Laurence Harvey (dead); and the '68 one starred Olivia Hussey and Leonard Whiting (both alive).

Q. My mother has been trying, without success, to think of the title of a movie she once saw. The movie starred Lana Turner, Sandra Dee and the late Natalie Wood. Wood's character was half black, and her mother was employed as Turner's maid. — Mrs. T.E., Mentone, Ind.

A. That was "Imitation of Life," but it wasn't Natalie Wood as the girl who

tries to pass as white, it was Susan Kohner.

Q. Please tell me about Dana Delany of "China Beach." She's the best new actress on TV in a long, long time. — B.M., Leesburg, Ind.

A. Dana thanks you. She is a New Yorker, who began her career on soap operas — "Love of Life" and "As the World Turns." She did that for seven years before coming to California. She's done many TV movies and a few on the big screen — "Moon Over Parador" and "Masquerade" — as well as many guest spots on various TV dramatic shows. But "China Beach" is her first big starring role.

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