

# Entertainment Outlook

## Corcoran kids left acting

### ASK DICK KLEINER



DICK KLEINER

Q. My questions concern the boy in the tear-jerker "Old Yeller." What has happened to the Cochran boy and his sister, Noreen. Are they still alive? Are they still acting? And are they related to the TV journalist, John Cochran? — A.V., Kirby, Ariz.

Q. My question has haunted me for years. When I was real young, I saw a Disney film, "Toby Tyler" and a Disney TV show, "Johnny Shiloh." The star of both was a boy, but I can't remember his name. Who was he, and what has happened to him? — J.C.W., Pine Bluff, Ariz.

A. Both those questions relate to the same boy — Kevin Corcoran. (Not Cochran, so obviously there is no relationship to John Cochran.) Both Kevin and his sister, Noreen, who also acted as a child, quit acting. He now works in the production side of the film business, and Noreen, the last I heard, was working as a secretary.

Q. I'd like to know about Margaret O'Brien. How many movies did she make? Is she still living and, if so, what is her age? Also, is Arthur Godfrey still around? — H.T., Negaunee, Mich.

A. Margaret O'Brien, probably the finest of the little girl actresses, is still living and is 52 years old. As a



Peter Deuel Arthur Godfrey

child, she made 18 movies, then several as an awkward-ager and a few as an adult. Godfrey passed away in '83.

Q. Back in the late '60s or early '70s, my family enjoyed watching a western series called "Alias Smith and Jones." Whatever became of its two stars? — B.C., Moncton, N.B., Canada.

A. Actually, there were three stars. The originals were Peter Deuel, as Joshua Smith, and Ben Murphy, as Thaddeus Jones. Deuel committed suicide and was followed by Roger

Davis. Both Murphy and Davis are still acting — the latter was in the recent "The Innocent and the Damned" and the former has had several series since. And don't forget Sally Field was in "Alias Smith and Jones," as Clementine.

Q. Can you tell me what Bobby Bear's (or Bobby Bair) real name is? He sang such hits as "You and Me and Bobby McGee." — W.W.P., Plainfield, Ind.

A. Bobby Bear is the name he was born with back in Ironton, Ohio.

Q. Please tell me if Alan Autry of "In the Heat of the Night" is Gene Autry's son. — F.M.D., Lawrence, Mass.

A. So far, that is the most popular question of the '90s. One more time — no, he's not.



James Stacy Constance Ford

Q. I think I remember a movie from the '60s, possibly named "Sole Survivor," in which an Army plane crash landed in the desert. The men thought they were alive until a rescue mission found the plane, and all the bodies were recovered except one. What was that movie, and is it on a cassette? — L.G., Clarks Summit, Pa.

A. You have the title right. That was a TV movie from '69, with Vince Edwards and William Shatner in the leads. It is not out on cassette.

Q. Please settle an argument. My sister says actor James Stacy quit the business after his motorcycle accident. I'm sure I've seen him in TV guest appearances. Please tell us if he's still acting or not. — K.D., Mattawan, Mich.

A. Yes, James Stacy is still acting — when he can. There are, unfortunately, not too many parts written for a man who is missing an arm and a leg. So, he doesn't act as often as he would like.

Q. I would like to know about the girl who plays Connie on "Just the Ten Of Us." I hear she is much older than the character she plays. — J.H., Grand Rapids, Mich.

A. JoAnn Willette is the actress you are referring to. She is somewhat older than Connie, who is in her teens. Willette is in her early 20s. She says she is able to play a teen-ager because she "keeps fit by running." It probably has something to do with genes, too.

Q. My father and I would like to know if the movie "Convicted," starring Lindsay Wagner and John Larroquette is a true story. — C.P., Mayflower, Ariz.

A. Yes, that 1986 TV movie was based on a true story. It depicted a wife's five-year struggle to exonerate her husband, who was falsely convicted of rape.

Q. I saw a movie with Lucille Ball, before her comedy days. She had dark brown hair, but not curly — it was beautiful and so was she. She played the head of a cosmetic firm. I tuned in after it started, so I never did hear the name of the movie. Can you tell me the name of that movie? — Mrs. H.W.L., Coshocton, Ohio.

A. That was a 1939 release called "Beauty for the Asking." Lucy was always a beauty.

Q. A friend told me Michael Keaton is the son of Mister Rogers of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." I can't believe that is true. — P.G.S., Akron, Ohio.

A. Good for you. Keaton's father was a Pittsburgh civil engineer.

Q. Recently, I saw an old movie, "Show Business," with a lady named Constance Ford. Is it possible that this is the same lady who plays Aida in "Another World"? — N.J., Amarillo, Texas.

A. Yes. Constance Ford, a fine dramatic actress, did some marvelous things on stage and screen earlier in her career, before she opted for a steady job on a soap opera.

## Rock music survey yields surprises

### ROCK ON



ETHLIE ANN VARE

Who's got the best local music scene in the United States?

Lots of towns claim the honor, but Guitar for the Practicing Musician magazine decided to find out.

It rated cities on the number, variety and quality of radio stations, nightclubs and music stores; plus such factors as how many local bands have made it big, and what the residents themselves think of the place.

The two likeliest winners, New York and Los Angeles, came in only 10th and 19th, respectively.

Here are the leaders: 1. San Francisco; 2. Boston; 3. Philadelphia; 4. Atlanta; 5. Dallas; 6. Pittsburgh; 7. Chicago; 8. Austin, Texas; 9. Minneapolis; and 10. New York.

Pittsburgh? With all this talk about restricting retailers from selling "objectionable" albums to teen-agers (and, by the way, the first record store owner prosecuted for doing so was recently acquitted on appeal), it seemed like a good idea to find out who was objecting to what.

So, the Macey Lipman Marketing firm surveyed 2,000 record stores to see which artists received the most complaints.

Fact is, parents do come into record stores complaining about the music being sold to their kids. Verbally unabashed rap groups garnered the most flack: 2 Live Crew, Ice-T, NWA and Eazy-E topped the list for parental complaints.

Other names mentioned by angry parents were such obvious candidates as W.A.S.P., Megadeth, Guns N' Roses,

Andrew Dice Clay, Suicidal Tendencies, Slayer, Poison — and still, after all these years, the Dead Kennedys.

"And then there was one mother who dragged her 15-year-old in by the ear," says an MLM spokesperson, "demanding to know how the record store could have sold him a copy of 'Led Zeppelin IV!'"

It should be noted that not all parents hate hard rock. In fact, a group of heavy metal fans who happen to be parents are starting to organize themselves along the lines of — and in opposition to — pro-censorship forces.

Based in St. Paul, Minn., and with members from West Virginia to Oregon, the Metal Mothers will be hitting the talk show circuit to support freedom of expression for themselves and their children.

• Virgin Music Video seems to get the tastiest artists for its home viewing roster. The catalog includes Peter Gabriel, Eurythmics, Paula Abdul, Ziggy Marley ... and now Bryan Ferry. "New Town: Bryan Ferry in Europe" is a 90-minute concert video (list price \$19.98) featuring the silky singer's work in Roxy Music and as a solo artist.

• Add a 21st nation to MTV's list of worldwide music video customers: Israel, which couldn't receive the station before now due to technical difficulties with the satellite.

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