

TUNING IN

Raquel Welch In Fine Film Flick

by Selb Groves

Raquel Welch turns in the performance of her career in "Right to Die," on NBC's Monday Night at the Movies, October 12. The film is based on a true story of a woman who chooses to die with dignity as her bodily functions are steadily eroded by the ravages of Lou Gehrig's disease (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or ALS). Welch plays Emily Bauer, a psychology professor and mother of two children who is unable to breathe or swallow without help. After tapping out a message "I want to die" — she sets in motion emotional and legal battles involving her husband, played by "Family Ties" Michael Gross, and her nurse, "S.E. Elsewhere" Bonnie Bartlett.

"St. Elsworth's" David Morse (Dr. Morrison) just finished directing an episode of the Emmy Award-winning series. Morse, who has a feature film coming out, can be seen in "The Little Prince" at Los Angeles' East Theater.

"Gunsmoke," "Father Knows Best," "Eight is Enough" — and now "Knots Landing" will be among the growing list of old TV series heading for a TV reunion. Dennis Weaver expects to start the show for CBS after he winds his first season taping of his ABC series, "Buck James."

CBS has a winner in "Frank's Place," an intelligent, well-written, well-played comedy series starring Tim Reid and his wife, Daphne Maxwell Reid. We won't use a laugh track, "Tim says, "because we don't think an audience needs to be told when to laugh." Says Daphne: "The laughter comes out of the situations." She noted some people are a bit incredulous about her character being an embalmer. "Actually, she's based on a woman, Sherry Orleans who really is an undertaker, a profession that women in the south have followed for generations." The Reids are pleased to hear CBS employees were watching the show "because," Tim said, "they wanted to, not because they had to."

DIAL TONES: Teresa Wright, who stars in the CBS production "The Pig Tree" October 10 on PBS, made an apt comment about quality programming for children: "Anything that is as well done as this can be appreciated by people of all ages." She cited "Gulliver's Travels" and "Alice in Wonderland" as examples of fine literature that both adults and children can enjoy. Anthony Quinn's son, Francesco Quinn, who was in the film "Pittsburgh," guest stars in an upcoming "Miami Vice" segment. Glenda Rader, recovering from cancer surgery, is expected to be back on TV, soon. "Ryan's Hope" star John Stenderford (Frank Ryan) plays Pete Goff in Herman Wouk's "War and Remembrance," a 30-hour drama scheduled for airing on ABC during the 1988-89 season.

TV Test



1. What was Sergeant Bilko's first name on "The Phil Silvers Show. You'll Never Get Rich?"
2. What was Carl Betz's full name on "The Donna Reed Show?"
3. What was Uncle Charley's last name on "My Three Sons?"
4. What was Hazel's last name on "Hazel?"
5. What was McHale's first name on "McHale's Navy?"
6. What was Bill Bixby's full name on "My Favorite Martian?"
7. What was Uncle Joe's last name on "Peterson Junction?"
8. What was Sergeant Carter's first name on "Gomer Pyle, USMC?"

Answers: 1. Bilko; 2. Charles; 3. Charley; 4. Bilko; 5. McHale; 6. Bixby; 7. Peterson; 8. Gomer.

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TV CONVERSATION Preview

HERE'S WHAT'S GOOD THIS WEEK ON T.V.

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10:00 PM - CBS: KNOTS LANDING (CC) Abby and Olivia become prime suspects in the Hollister murder; Mack learns about Al Bunker's (Red Buttons) private life. (60 min.)
10:00 PM - SHOWTIME: MOVIE: "Summer Rental" (CC) A harried air-traffic controller takes his family on a Florida vacation and winds up in a suit-belt competition with his landlord, John Candy, Richard Crenna, Rip Torn. 1985. Rated PG-13.

FRIDAY

8:00 PM - CBS: BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Catherine falls in love with a rich and powerful man. (60 min.)

SATURDAY

8:00 PM - ABC: ONCE A HERO (CC) The Captain Justice comic book publishers try to prevent an actor who plays the TV character from wearing the costume during public appearances. (60 min.)
8:00 PM - CBS: MY SISTER SAM (CC) Sam's stunned when she receives a phone message from Steve announcing his impending marriage to another girl. (60 min.)
8:00 PM - PBS: WONDERWORKS: THE FIG TREE Season Premiere (CC) The fourth season of family-oriented drama begins with an adaptation of a Katherine Anne Porter short story about a young girl's efforts to learn about death. (60 min.)
8:00 PM - SHOWTIME: MOVIE: "F/X" (CC) A special effects expert becomes the fall guy for government agents when he arranges a mobster's fake assassination. Bryan Brown, Brian Dennehy, Diane Venora. 1986. Rated R. (In Stereo)
9:00 PM - CBS: LEG WORK (CC) Claire defends a cab-driver manager accused of planting a bomb in an abusive customer's automobile. (60 min.)
10:00 PM - ABC: HOTEL (CC) David is offered a job in San Diego and Megan learns that she's pregnant; Peter gets involved with a friend's wife. (60 min.)
11:30 PM - NBC: SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE: BEST OF SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE: '86-'87 Includes appearances by Sigourney Weaver, William Shatner, Chevy Chase, Paul Simon, the Pretenders and Rosanna Arquette. (90 min.) (In Stereo)

SUNDAY

8:00 PM - PBS: MASTERPIECE THEATRE: THE BRETTS (CC) The exploits of a 1920s London theatrical family are chronicled. Patricia Charles Brett (Norma Rodway) accepts a journey role, hires a young secretary which upsets his wife Lydia (Barbara Murray) and attempts to purchase the Princess Theatre. (90 min.) Part 1 of 7.

MONDAY

8:00 PM - ABC: FUNNY, YOU DON'T LOOK 200 (CC) Host Richard Dreyfuss presents this birthday salute to the American Constitution which includes appearances by Richard Belzer, Emilio Estevez, Barbara Streisand and Whoopi Goldberg. (60 min.)
8:00 PM - CBS: NEWHART (CC) Michael starts a program idea from a student in his television production class.
9:00 PM - NBC: MOVIE: "Right to Die" (CC) When a woman contracts a progressive degenerative illness, can she no longer breathe without assistance, her ex-husband's nurse fight for her right to end her life. Raquel Welch, Michael Gross. (In Stereo)
9:00 PM - CBS: COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION AWARDS Live from the Grand Ole Opry House, the 21st annual awards ceremony honors the best in country music. Among those nominated: The Judds, Randy Travis and Hank Williams Jr. (90 min.) (In Stereo)
9:00 PM - CBS: JAKE AND THE FATMAN A courtroom attorney defends his ex-wife who is accused of murdering her boyfriend. Guest star: Robert Culp. (60 min.)
9:00 PM - NBC: J.J. STARBURCK / BASEBALL PLAYOFF (May be preempted for sixth NFL Playoff game, if necessary). (60 min.) (In Stereo)
10:00 PM - NBC: CRIME