

A Mark of Excellence

Volume 1, Issue 4

25 June 1998

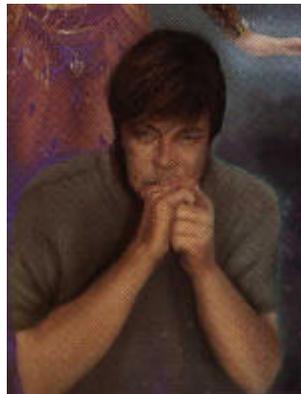
'It's True', 'Lost Heroes', and more

No, we're not about to get into the rumour-mongering business. <G> 'It's True' is the title of a new series for CBS-TV. Directed by Danny Bilson, written by Paul DeMeo, the premise is based on a comic book about a TV show investigating reports of paranormal incidences. The pilot was filmed in Vancouver, Canada from 4-24 March. Mark had 3 roles in it, playing 2 twins and a grandmother. At this time, it is not scheduled to be part of the fall line-up, and there is no information as to when the pilot (or the rest of the series) will be aired. We'll keep you posted!

A few months ago, a photographer, Matt Baker, and a writer/artist, Rob Prior, spent a day at Mark's house shooting a total of 6 rolls of film. Just shots of Mark in various poses and just going about everyday living. Bill Mummy and Walter Koenig, among others, were also subjected to this scrutiny. Rob then took the photos and has based the characters in his comic book series on them.

Mark's is the fallen hero, Matthew Hammond.

I had the pleasure of meeting and talking a bit with Rob Prior last month at Motor City Comic Con. One of the comments that stuck in my mind was Rob mentioning how easy it was to work with Mark, and how much he had enjoyed the time.



Now on issue #2, issue #0 was released in April, and has a wonderful air-brush painting of Mark on the cover.

The end of March, I was in the Washington, DC area, getting together with a group of friends, including a member of the IMHFC who

lives in Texas. She does volunteer work for Ben Stevens when he holds one of his Toy Shows and Sci-Fi Cons and has worked with several of the Star Wars actors, including John Morton, Dak/Dack, Luke's gunner in the Hoth



snowspeeder. She invited him to join our get-together, and we spent a fair amount of time talking. He, too, has fond memories of working with and hanging around with Mark while shooting ESB, and graciously accompanied our group to the Smithsonian exhibit, posing next to the snowspeeder on display.

And for anyone needing an excuse to watch another cartoon, here it is! Mark will be doing a voice on the new Woody Woodpecker

(Continued on page 2)

Notes From the Editors ...

Wow! It hardly seems like enough time has gone by for us to be sending out the fourth issue of the IMHFC's newsletter. It's been an interesting and fun time, in most respects, and a lot of frustration in others. Most of the frustration is at not being able to resolve the following completely:

For those of you who were members of the former fan club, if you still have not received either the March/June 1997 newsletter or the T-shirt or both, please let us know. As the former fan club head, Sally Sparkman requested, we are sending the information

on to her. She has said she mailed the items in question out back in March 1998.

E-mail HdShroom@aol.com,
subject: T-shirt/newsletter.
By mail:



IMHFC- T-shirt/
newsletter
PO Box 287

Grand Blanc, MI 48439
USA

For a short time, the website was totally down; it is now up and running on an interim server. (More on this below.)

And congratulations to Nathan, graduating from

High School, and Griffin, graduating from Middle School.



'It's True', 'Lost Heroes'

(Continued from page 1)

Show, scheduled to air on FOX Kids network in November. Forty new episodes are scheduled with each episode being comprised of three 7-minute shorts, These will be the first new



Woody Woodpecker cartoons to be made since 1979.

HdShroom@aol.com

As many of you know, the website has been temporarily moved to a new server while we look for a new server and clear up a few administrative details. For now, you can access the site at www.tir.com/~rond/ As this is not the permanent new server, and it cannot handle heavy traffic, please do not post this address to any newsgroups or in any folders. That's the bad news.

The good news is the server we intend to move the domain to will give us a



much larger site to work with, and allows more options, including an expanded 'Photo Album'. We should be able to have a fan-club members-only area which would include back issues of the IMHFC newsletter, and other club-first items. There is also the possibility of adding a chat room.

At this time, we do not have an exact date as to when the move will be complete; we're hoping it will be

within the next two or three months. The waiting time is being put to good use. The current pages are being redesigned and updated, and some of the features mentioned earlier are being worked on.

See you online!

Trivia....

Answer to last issue's question: they were both titled 'Mind Over Matter'.

New question: What is Mark's middle name?

Blast From the Past

OWEN MARSHALL

1971: "Smiles From Yesterday"



After taking time off from her career, Jenny Rush begins her comeback with the hit song 'Smiles From Yesterday'. Soon she has to consult with Owen Marshall because former member of her band, Boyd Davies, said she'd stolen the song from him.

At first she is undecided whether or not to fight the accusation. After her son Peter Hamilton (Mark) who now lives with her former husband, Alan, comes to her asking about the song (he felt that part of the songs are about her feeling for him), she decides to fight. A

very close friend, Uncle Walter, goes to Las Vegas and discovers that Alan Hamilton is behind all the trouble. He ends up in hospital, and is visited there by Marshall who is told all the information. Pete should not witness the trial, but he does.

That evening, while talking with his father, Boyd Davies rushes into the apartment, surprising Pete. He has one question- WHY? His father said because Jenny Rush had destroyed his life, he now wanted to destroy hers. He felt if he made her son hate her, Pete would love only him.

By the way - you can find out very quickly if that's the right episode. Just take a closer look at one photo standing on a shelf atop the fireplace - yes, it shows a very young Pete/Mark.



1972: "The Pool House"

Steve Knight (Mark Hamill), 18 years old, lost his father in an car accident, and had to stay long months in hospital himself. Once released, he went back to school and fell in love with Jeannie Holden, a 16 year old girl who lived in the small pool house next to her parents house. Steve is not the only one who loves her; her teacher, Mr. Conner, and Kent Warren, friend of his brother Fred, feel the same way about her. Steve has a job as a paper boy, was also tutored by Jeannie after school. During one tutoring session at her place, she told him that her brother was coming over that weekend to stay with

a few friends. The morning after they arrived, Warren found Jeannie in her house - dead. Owen Marshall heard Steve had been arrested. He doesn't believe it and decides to help Steve. Not until Marshall showed him a letter the police found in his locker would Steve break his silence.

Later, acting on hints from his secretary Frieda, Owen and his partner go to the high school to talk with the guard there. He told them that the night she died, he saw a red car with a white wave on its side. Owen's partner knew that car belonged to Kent Warren. After talking with Warren's college roommate in the courtroom, Warren looked desperately at Fred, and then he, too, broke his silence. He said that he hated Steve because his sister loved him which is why he had to suffer. Jeannie's death was an accident. Fred slapped her and she fell down - hit her head. It was over. Steve, he didn't know whether to go to school again, and still believed that Jeannie's parents still hated him. Owen told him that they were lonely - and wanted talk to somebody who knew their daughter very well.

There are some very emotional scenes in this epi-

sode - and it is the one episode where Mark plays a main character.

"**Liebe im Kreuzverhoer**"

Jane Luca and her boyfriend want to run away after another argument with her mother. Her mother didn't like her daughter's relationship. Instead, after her mother was discovered murdered, the police arrested the couple. Fortunately, her grandmother trusts Jane and asks Owen Marshall for help.

The trial begins with both youths being tried together. One of the witnesses, Freddy Simon (Mark), a friend of Tharan. He talked about what happened one night in the Lucas' garden. Tharan, very angry about Mrs Lucas, destroyed some sculptures with a baseball bat. As a result of Freddy's testimony, the trial is split, which makes Jane look like the murderer. It later turns out that the gardener had killed Mrs Lucas - he needed money to pay gambling debts. After Jane and her grandmother move to San Francisco, Freddy and Marshall come for an Italian dinner.

This was the smallest part Mark played in the series.

Rod Serling's The Night Gallery:

'There Aren't Any More MacBanes'

16 February 1972

Night Gallery was one of the most interesting series, not only for the unusual story lines and plot twists, but also for the talents that were showcased. Steven Spielberg, in his industry debut, directed the pilot episode, starring Joan Crawford. Originally an hour long, and consisting of 2-3 episodes per show, there was an occasional diversion with 2 episodes and a vignette. Each show began with "Good evening and welcome to a private showing of three paintings, displayed here for the first time."



'There Aren't Any More MacBanes' featured a student of sorcery who tries to get rid of his uncle, played by Joel Grey. Mark played the part of Francis, the messenger boy, appearing on-screen for approximately 20 seconds.

'Mark's Done What?!?!'

Suzanne Askey/MHArchives@aol.com

Unfortunately it has become more and more difficult for me to obtain any reliable information on Mark's current work, I have contacted most the production companies of these various projects and have been able to find out very little... but this much I do know:



"Wing Commander: Prophecy" is still available, look for it at a lower price than the original \$50. The

Origin website at www.store.ea.com has more information and some game demos available for download.

"Hamilton", the Swedish action drama, continues to do well in the European box office. Capella films optioned worldwide rights, hopefully this will lead to a theatrical and/or video release in the United States. Mark's role is 'Hawkins', a vicious smuggler of nuclear weapons, who is trying to obtain them from the former Soviet Union.

".Com" continues to air on CNBC and BRAVO sporadically. New programs that were slated to air starting in April of 1998 were not shown as of this writing. Information on the series and on "My Kids" also produced by the Fort Lauderdale based TV Interactive, and hosted by Mark, is on their very informative website at www.tviweb.com.

"My Kids" was to have aired a one time special on keeping kids off drugs this past May, it also did not air.



The Batman/Superman Adventures are airing on both Cartoon Network and WB. Mark provides the voice of the Joker.

The comic series "Lost Heroes", to which Mark has lent his likeness, is now available in comic shops.

TLC has been re-running the 'Hunt For Amazing Treasure' series Mark narrated, as well as the 'Superstructures' series.

And, how many of you late-night television viewers caught Mark on 'Politically Incorrect' 25 June? Or at the "X-Files" movie premiere aired on E!? It's up on their website, www.eonline.com. To view it, you need to have RealVideo, or RealPlayer Plus.

Future Watch

Future works to be looking for include:

“The Book of Virtues” episode “Selflessness” was to



have aired March 15th 1998 on Public Broadcasting. Unfortunately it did not air. According to my local PBS station no plans to air it are in the works.



March was also the date slated for the release of Wildstorm Productions “Gen 13” an original animated video. Voicing the character of Threshold, Mark completed voice-over work during the summer of 1996. This too was not released; but it is scheduled to be shown at Chicago Comic Con this summer.

“Watchers 4”, part of the Roger Corman presents



series on ShowTime is in finally out of post-production. No air-date is available at present. Mark takes the role of a detective as well as co-produced the film.

The animated “Sinbad: Beyond the Veil of Mists” is now in post-production, at present there is no scheduled release date.

Voice-over work on a feature Disney film that Mark worked on is also in post-production.

The CBS pilot “It’s True” based on a comic book about a television show that reports on the paranormal completed filming in March. Mark played the role of a set of twins and a grandmother.

No information as to it being picked up to be shown is available at this time.



The motion picture “Laserhawk” is also awaiting a release date. Postproduction work was to be completed early this year, with a tentative opening in the spring.

Also in the works is a joint project with Bill Mummy of “Babylon 5”. The script and concept, with a working title of “Outpost Omega”, has been pitched and interest in the project is high. No further information is available.



“The Black Pearl”, with it’s rights optioned by Rehme last October, is also in the process of being offered to prospective producers. Available in Trade Paperback (ISBN # 1-56971-274-3) through Dark Horse publishers. Contact them at 1-800-862-0052 or at their website at www.dhorse.com.

Swap Corner

If you have something Mark-related you would like to swap, **mail** a brief description of it and state what you would like to swap it for. Sorry, **no** e-mail requests will be accepted. Send your description + a SASE with 2 first class stamps (or SAE + IRC) to:

IMHFC-Swap

PO Box 287

Grand Blanc MI 48439 USA

The return envelope will be used to send you any replies to your 'ad'. All further arrangements are between you and the other members responding.

If you are responding to an 'ad', send your response to the above address + add the person's name after 'Swap'.

Donna K: is willing to trade any part of her Mark Hamill collection for any pictures of Nathan, Griffin, or Chelsea. Her collection includes vid-

eos, 5 scrapbooks of magazine pictures of Mark from before to after SW, and 3 photo albums of tv pictures + 1 of actual pictures of Mark.

Lisa C: would like to swap candid colour photos of Mark for the same. She has about 20 different candid available for swapping, ranging from 1976 to 1997. She would also swap magazine and newspaper articles on Mark for the same.

Meet a Member...



Renee recently sent us the artwork featured at left.



Sylvia is a Dutch member of the IMHFC. She's been a Mark fan since she first saw SW, and despite difficulties in finding it, collects photos and videotapes of Mark's other work, too.

Kim Wood



Penny F is a Mark fan who has a talent for 'writing very sweet stories' and runs the 'Mark Hamill Estrogen Brigade', a sort of unofficial fc, on her web-site.

International Mark Hamill Fan Club
PO Box 287
Grand Blanc MI 48439
USA

Email: HdShroom@aol.com
MHArchives@aol.com

The Last Word:

A Mark of Excellence is the quarterly newsletter of the **International Mark Hamill Fan Club**. Yearly dues are \$15 US, and include 4 consecutive issues of the newsletter, a membership card, and special mailings as appropriate. For more information, please send a SASE to:

International Mark Hamill Fan Club

PO Box 416

E Amherst NY 14051

Submissions, including photos or original artwork, are

welcomed; final editing is the discretion of the editors. If you wish your photo or artwork returned, please enclose a sase, and attach your name/address on the back of your submission.

Archivist:

Suzanne Askey
MHArchives@aol.com

Webmaster:

Sue Depping
HdShroom@aol.com

Staff Writer:

Tina Lebelt- Germany

Shhhh!!

With the September newsletter, we want to include birthday greetings to Mark, from fan club members. If you would like to participate, please send your short message to:

HdShroom@aol.com,

subject heading: **Birthday**

or mail it to:

IMHFC- Birthday

PO Box 287

Grand Blanc MI 48439

Deadline is 15 August 1998.

Member of:

