

# TELEVISION

## PBS: Television's intelligent alternative

With all the hoopla surrounding the debuts on the major networks this season, the great movies on cable and the latest videos on MTV, we seem to forget there is an alternative right in our back yard.

Chapel Hill is home to television station WUNC (channel 4), part of PBS, a network that is an alternative for those who want to be educated instead of insulted. WUNC has several new offerings this season as well as new subjects for many of its returning series. There's more to PBS than just *Sesame Street*.

The new shows on public TV feature as many subjects as the UNC football team has losses. *Travels* takes

**BILLY STOCKARD**

*the tube*

viewers to different locales around the world and, according to host and executive producer John Hemingway, "is a happy combination of journeys, destinations, peoples and great ideas." He hopes his new series, which airs on Mondays, will prove fresh experiences haven't yet been exhausted.

For western civilization students, there's *Art of the Western World*, hosted by Michael Wood. This show examines the factors that have influenced the art of the West from an-

cient Greece to the Andy Warhol days.

PBS thrives on specials, and this year will be no exception. Bill Moyers will have a shot at some specials outside his usual series and other presentations will deal with the Supreme Court, AIDS and the greenhouse effect. A special produced by UNC institutions is titled *Search*. The show, scheduled to debut Oct. 17, is produced in cooperation with N.C. State, N.C. A&T and UNC-Wilmington. The show will deal with global ecological problems and how they affect us.

There's a whole slew of "oldies-but-goodies" this year. On Sundays, there's *Nature*, the series dealing with wildlife from Antarctica to the Americas. There's also *Masterpiece Theatre*, returning for a 19th season. Among the plays on tap for this year is Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*.

On Tuesdays, *Nova* will begin its 17th season; it's another series that throws in everything but the kitchen sink. The show will cover events in New York and Britain and will feature the tobacco industry's Public Enemy No. 1, former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop. Also, *The American Experience* studies the events that have made the United States

what it is today. This certainly isn't boob tube material.

Wednesdays are opera nights, as *Live from Lincoln Center* starts off the evening with regular musical extravaganzas. *Discover: The World of Science* also returns this year with shows on killer bees, penguins and super-intelligent robots.

Thursdays offer some changes to old shows. *This Old House* has gotten a facelift. The most highly rated half-hour series on PBS ousted Bob Vila as host and brought in Steve Thomas to take his place. *Mystery!* has lost host Vincent Price to retirement but found classy Diana Rigg from the *Avengers* to fill his shoes. Two-year-old *Trying Times*, PBS' comedy anthology, features Carrie Fisher (*When Harry Met Sally*), Griffin Dunne (*After Hours*), and Peter Scolari (*Newhart*) in some of its episodes.

Of course, there will be plenty of *Dr. Who* this season for its tried-and-true fans, and PBS wouldn't be the same without the usual weekday afternoon fare that we all grew up on.

Public TV is once again offering an alternative to the networks both on a local and national level this season. For those who never get sick of being cultured and those who want a change from sitcoms and soap operas, there's just no substitute.

## Nielsen Ratings

1. (1) **Roseanne**, ABC  
27.8 rating, 25.1 million homes.
2. (2) **The Cosby Show**, NBC  
23.5, 21.5 million homes.
3. (6) **Wonder Years**, ABC  
22.5, 20.3 million homes.
4. (17) **Monday Night at the Movies**, NBC  
21.5, 19.4 million homes.
5. (11) **Who's the Boss?**, ABC  
20.2, 18.3 million homes.
6. (17) **Monday Night Football**, ABC  
20.0, 18.1 million homes.
7. (10) **Chicken Soup**, ABC  
19.1, 17.3 million homes.
8. (14) **Growing Pains**, ABC  
18.0, 16.3 million homes.
9. (15) **Head of the Class**, ABC  
17.9, 16.2 million homes.
10. (9) **Murder, She Wrote**, CBS  
17.8, 16.1 million homes.
11. (12) **60 Minutes**, CBS  
17.2, 15.5 million homes.
12. (X) **National League Championship Game 2**, NBC  
16.7, 15.1 million homes.
12. (X) **National League Championship Game 4**, NBC  
16.7, 15.1 million homes.
14. (23) **Doogie Howser, MD**, ABC  
16.5, 15.0 million homes.
15. (34) **20/20**, ABC  
15.9, 14.4 million homes.

Listings include the week's ranking, with full season-to-date ranking in parentheses, rating for the week, and total homes. An "X" in parentheses denotes one-time-only presentation. A rating measures the percentage of the nation's 90.4 million TV homes.

## Gossip and (gasp!) death

Well, lots o' big happenings in Chapel Hill this week — at least in *General College*'s version of Chapel Hill. Just to keep you up to date, here's this week's summary of funerals, secrets and evil plots galore.

Well, Priscilla and Trisha have been just the busiest little song birds spreading the word about Alex's split identity around campus. OK, malicious gossip is one thing, but now someone is calling Alex and asking for Raven: "Hello, Raven is that you? . . . Are you Raven Kelly? . . ." Well, it's just about enough to drive someone mad, especially if she has a past of mental imbalances . . . Poor little Raven, I mean Alex.

Charlie started to tell Tara they were drifting apart, but she blew him off, trying to keep her cool. Feeling depressed, Tara spilled her problems to big sister Trisha. Wanting to help, Trisha cheered her up with a little story about a girl named Raven.

Kyle also had a rough week. Out of the hospital and wheeling around, he stumbled across a field where kids were playing soccer. (Talk about rubbing it in.) This reminded him of the great days when he was the soccer stud and how it all ended in a drunken fall from the balcony. He's pretty depressed, but I'm betting Meg can help him out.

Violet has also been under a bit of pressure. Two girls who have figured out exactly how she makes such good tips at the Double D are giving her a rough time. Not only are they giving her the attitude, they're demanding \$100 to keep Ken from finding out about her night life.

But good things can happen too. Billy told Charlie he's planning to ask Paige to marry him. He's just cross-eyed with love, but will Paige accept?

Lucky Anne Burns has done it again. Last week, she stumbled across Trevor's comatose body. Now she clumsily deduces that Mark knows

**BRYAN BURNS**

*STV*

where Courtney and Jason are. She's just dying to talk to her old chums. Mark denies knowing where they are, but he did accept a note from Anne, explaining that they'll be cleared by the cops, just in case he bumps into them.

When Mark delivered the note to Jason and Courtney, they had already decided to return to Chapel Hill and face the charges against them — love just makes you so damn optimistic. But when they got the note, they were ecstatic to be going home. I don't know — farm life didn't look so bad.

On a sadder note, Simone and her sister Margot buried good old Dad, who gave away the babies 18 years ago. But Simone isn't bitter; she "buried her anger with him." Anyway, they hope to find some information about the babies in his documents.

Sage also set his grandfather to rest this week, or maybe not. At the funeral, he learned that "Grandy" died in the middle of a nightmare — identical to the one he had that night! But now, he's had the same dream again: lots of wind and water, a woman drowning and the whisper of a name, *Rebecca*.

So it looks like everyone in Chapel Hill is out to get Alex and Violet. It's a shame, but face it, girls — that's what you get for keeping secrets. And don't forget, Tessa has a little secret (you know, she shot Trevor) that's about to bust loose.

But what about Simone's father and Sage's Grandy? Could two funerals in one week be coincidence? Or might they be some how related? Gee, I'll be in suspense till next week.

*General College* can be seen at 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday on STV, Carolina Cable Channel 11. Look for it and the rest of this week's STV lineup including *Campus Profile*, *Off the Cuff* and *Mid Day Tonight*.



## TIRED of WAITING

**Days or Weeks for your Eyeglasses?  
Come to us and get your Glasses in  
ONLY ONE HOUR!**

Plastic Single Vision  
*Most of the Time — One Hour!*

<p><b>Budget Frames</b> <b>\$25.00</b> May be used with Sale Lenses <i>expires 10/31/89</i></p>	<p><b>Plastic Sola VIP Progressive No Line Bifocal</b> <b>\$89.95</b> with frame purchase <i>expires 10/31/89</i> <i>This includes 45-day lens adaptability guarantee</i></p>	<p><b>Plastic Lenses SINGLE VISION</b> <b>\$19.95</b> with frame purchase <i>expires 10/31/89</i></p>
<p><b>THE EXAM</b> <i>We can make arrangements to have your eyes examined by an eye doctor. Note: We will fill any eye doctor's prescription</i></p>		
<p><b>20% OFF SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT</b> Not Valid with other Discounts <i>expires 10/31/89</i></p>	 <p><b>University OPTICIANS</b> COMPANY</p>	<p><b>Plastic St. 25/28 Line Bifocals</b> <b>\$44.95</b> with frame purchase <i>expires 10/31/89</i></p>
<p><b>University Square</b> 143 W. Franklin St. Downtown Chapel Hill</p>		



**942-8711**  
Some Prescription  
Limitations Apply