

# OUTTHEOTHER

(continued from page 6)

Universal Pictures, Universal City, CA 91608. Don't send them to us. We want to be surprised.

REMEMBER SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE's spoof of bad movies with Dan Aykroyd playing Leonard Pith Gannell, a man who relished introducing bad cinema? By the end of this year you can go to your local movie house and pay to see *It Came from Hollywood*, a compilation of film clips from some of the worst "old, bad movies" ever. Just for some marquee value, Paramount has tabbed Richard Pryor, Gilda Radner and Cheech and Chong as narrators.

## Where Are the Brains?

STEVE MARTIN has just completed filming *The Man with Two Brains*, a comedy that takes him away from the "heady" work he did on *Pennies from Heaven* and *Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid* and puts him back into the "wild and crazy humor" of his first film, *The Jerk*.

This time Martin plays a world

famous brain surgeon who has just developed the "cranial screwtop" method of surgery. While being interviewed by an intrepid reporter he spies beautiful Kathleen Turner (*Body Heat*), who is conveniently hit by his car so Steve can perform the operation that will save her life. Naturally, he falls in love, marries her and the two speed off to Vienna to combine their honeymoon with his lecture at the Institute of Craniology.

Unfortunately, Turner proves to be a tacky tart and Steve takes refuge with a brain floating all alone in a lab tank (it's true). The dilemma—does he find a body for his new true love or just join her in cerebral bliss? The world will find out next summer when Warner Bros. releases the picture.

## Who Stole My Last Three Pages?

WITH EVERY STUDIO IN HOLLYWOOD hot on the sequel bandwagon (e.g., *Rocky III*, *Star Trek II*, *Grease 2*, ...), it was not exactly a revelation when Universal Pictures announced a follow up to the classic Hitchcock

thriller *Psycho*. What was surprising to Universal-MCA president Sid Sheinberg was the ending (or lack of one) to his copy of the script.

It seems that the prez was thoroughly engrossed in the misadventures of nasty Norman Bates, who in this version is undergoing a sanity hearing 22 years after his grisly murder spree and is declared mentally competent and put on the streets to presumably wreak havoc again. Well, just as Sheinberg was getting to the end—there was no ending. The last three pages of his script were missing. He called the producer to complain, but was told, "You're right, no one gets to read the last three pages."

Though not the usual way in the movie biz, Sheinberg saw the light. The picture still went on to film around L.A. with Tony Perkins and Vera Miles reprising their roles. The ending? You can bet it leaves the door open for *Psycho III*.

## Working

AFTER SPENDING MOST OF LAST YEAR on his Santa Barbara ranch and flying himself to see friends in Europe, John Travolta is going back to work again. He hopes to start filming in the spring on *Staying Alive*,



The Bus Boys in 48 Hrs. (left to right): Kevin O'Neal, Gus Lounderman, Brian O'Neal, Victor Johnson and Mike Jones. Drummer Steve Felix is hidden in the background.

## Substitutions:

DIRECTOR WALTER HILL first wanted L.A. rockabilly faveraves The Blasters to supply music for his currently filming *48 Hrs.* pic, starring Nick Nolte and Eddie Murphy. But the finicky, leather-clad lads were worried about what said appearance might do to their "image." (How much "image" can someone from Downey, CA have?) Anyway, after weeks of fretting they nixed the offer, much to the pleasure of the Bus Boys—an eager, ambitious, rockin' assemblage of black and chicano musicians (okay, just one chicano). The Bus Boys were in line for fame a couple of seasons ago, with an *Ampersand* cover, a *Rolling Stone* feature and a last-minute-cancelled *Time* feature, plus a budding friendship with Messrs. Jagger and Richards. According to on-the-set observers, they've jumped on this new opportunity with all twelve feet.

billed as a kind of sequel to *Saturday Night Fever* in which we pick up super cool Tony Manero five years later as a would-be actor-chorus kid in N.Y. *Fever* costar Karen Lynn Gorney is again expected to play opposite him.

Actually, Travolta had wanted to do the biopic of the late Jim Morrison, but both the Doors and Paramount (to whom Travolta owed his next picture) resisted. Nevertheless, he still plans to make *Fire*, a script written by Brian DePalma, that is to Morrison what *The Rose* was to Janis Joplin. Also on tap is a romance, *About a Week*, that will reunite him with *Grease* costar Olivia Newton-John and director Randall Kleiser. He'll portray a deejay on a whirlwind romance with ONJ.

## Mixing Music & Movies

DUDLEY MOORE AND ROBERT DUVAL have both turned to music in their upcoming pictures. Moore composed the score for his new Christmas film, *Six Weeks*, in which he stars as a politician opposite Mary Tyler Moore, a cosmetics mogul whose daughter is dying. *Tender Mercies* features Duvall as a raspy country warbler trying to make a comeback from alcoholism. He wrote one of the four tunes he sings in the picture, which is directed by Australia's Bruce Beresford.

AFTER MORE THAN A YEAR AS A Broadway and (soon-to-be) film star in *Pirates of Penzance*, Linda Ronstadt has recorded an album of mostly new material. She is also contemplating an album of standards arranged by one of Frank Sinatra's favorite conductors, Nelson Riddle (who scored one song on the aforementioned album). Elektra/Asylum says it will release the new disc by the end of this year. As for the standards, says one insider, "it depends if the first one stiffs."

GARY U.S. BONDS, whose career was rejuvenated with, among other things, the hit single "Out of Work," is segueing into movie work. He sings the original title song on *Na-*

tional Lampoon's *Class Reunion*, a spoof of horror films that is just one of four projects in the works at various studios. *Animal House 2* is in development (?) at Universal; *Vacation*, starring Chevy Chase, is filming at WB; and Paramount's Lampoon treatment of *Joy of Sex* is slated to get underway this year with the possibility of *Laverne And Shirley's* Penny Marshall (uh, huh) making her directing debut.

## Computers Still Live

ALTHOUGH DISNEY STUDIOS failed to produce a blockbuster with its computer epic, *Tron*, United Artists is going ahead with plans for *War Games*, a thriller centering on a boy computer genius who taps into a national defense program. Unlike the Disney effort, it will be more of a drama "where no one can tell what is real and what is being acted." Mathew Broderick, who appears in Neil Simon's upcoming *Max Dugan Returns*, stars with Martin Brest (*Going in Style*) directing.

## On Location

OSCAR WINNER TIMOTHY HUTTON can be seen tooting around the streets of N.Y. these days sporting a new grungy beard and squiring Amanda Plummer, his costar in director Sidney Lumet's upcoming film version of E.L. Doctorow's *The Book of Daniel*. Hutton grew the whiskers to show that he could look like something other than the all-American boy for his role in the fictionalized account of a Jewish family caught in the House Committee on Un-American Activities hearings of the late Sen. Joe McCarthy. No such sacrifice was needed by Plummer, daughter of Christopher Plummer and Tammy Grimes and recent Tony Award winner for *Agnes of God*.

Steve Ginsberg attended Queen's College in New York and Northwestern near Chicago before migrating to Los Angeles three years ago. He now toils for Variety and claims "show business is my life."

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