

House on the Prairie at 8, one of the hit shows of the season.

The Waltons, on CBS, the only regularly scheduled noncomedy series on the air that consistently pulls down 40-plus shares, is not likely to be threatened in its 8 o'clock berth by the new competition. ABC is counterprogramming *Barney Miller*, a new 30-minute comedy about a New York detective, and *The Odd Couple*, which has had a solid five-year run on the network but may be wearing out. NBC is bringing back *The Mac Davis Show* on Dec. 19 for a limited three-month run, but since it didn't make much headway against reruns of *The Waltons* last summer it's not likely to have an impact on *Waltons* original episodes. But NBC's new show at 9, a private-eye series called *Archer*, starring Brian Keith in the title role, may benefit from the thinning out of theatrical-movie titles on *The CBS Thursday Movies* from 9 to 11. The winner at 9, though, will probably continue to be ABC's *The Streets of San Francisco*, which, week-in and week-out, gathers in bigger Nielsens than any other show on the network.

Friday figures to continue as NBC's strongest night, particularly with *Sanford and Son*, the network's highest-rated show, at 8 and *Chico and the Man*, the highest-rated of all the new shows that premiered last September, at 8:30. ABC is moving *The Night Stalker* to 8 o'clock (it's currently running on Fridays at 10), which may be a slight improvement over *Kung Fu*. CBS at 8 is asking the question: Is the nation ready for a 1970's version of Charlie Chan? Called *Khan!*, the show features a private detective who operates out of San Francisco's Chinatown and is assisted not only by a number-one son but also by a number-one daughter. That show replaces *Planet of the Apes* on Feb 7.

ABC sources say the network hopes that NBC's 8-to-9 o'clock situation-comedy audience will turn to *The Hot I Baltimore*, the new Norman Lear comedy on ABC at 9, instead of sticking to James Garner as a private investigator in *The Rockford Files*, NBC's 9 o'clock

show, which has so far this season inherited most of the *Chico and the Man* lead-in. *Baltimore* is a tongue-in-cheek look at a bunch of life's losers gathered together in a run-down rooming house, and it will be followed on ABC at 9:30 by *Karen*, another contemporary new comedy starring Karen Valentine. At 10, ABC's *Baretta*, which is a newly refurbished version of *Toma* (with Robert Blake as the new leading man, replacing Tony Musante), may survive at 10, particularly as the *CBS Friday Movies*, from 9 to 11, begins running out of big audience-attracting theatrical pictures. *Baretta* premieres Jan. 17.

CBS is relying on Norman Lear to plug up its one Saturday-night leak: On Jan. 18, *The Jeffersons* (which is being spun off from *All in the Family*) replaces *Paul Sand's Friends and Lovers* at 8:30, a move that's expected to keep the network's huge audience flowing from *All in the Family* at 8 to *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* at 9, *The Bob Newhart Show* at 9:30 and *The Carol Burnett Show* at 10. ABC is sacrificing *Kung Fu*, a fad show that had petered out in its third season, to CBS's *All in the Family* at 8, but ABC may be more competitive at 9 with a new series of theatrical movies to go up against *NBC Saturday Night at the Movies*.

Sunday is unique in that a few weeks after Sonny Bono bows out of his regular 8 to 9 variety-show berth on ABC, a series that fell victim to feeble ratings, his ex-wife Cher will be bowing in with a new variety series on CBS, from 7:30 to 8:30. CBS is hoping *Cher* will be able to make more of a dent in *The Wonderful World of Disney* (NBC) than did *Apple's Way* (the show she replaces on Feb. 9). ABC is weighing in with *The Six Million Dollar Man* on Sunday at 7:30, hoping to snare the "male-oriented action audience" that may be turned off by Disney and Cher.

Industry observers, however, are still giving the night to NBC, with the proved Disney lead-off show followed by the still strong *Sunday Mystery Movie*, with its four rotating miniseries.

Cavett jumps to CBS. CBS-TV announced last week that it has signed Dick Cavett to an exclusive contract to cover the period Jan. 1, 1975, to May 1, 1976.

Mr. Cavett may start his CBS duties as a guest on some of the network's regularly scheduled comedy series, such as *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, according to a spokesman for Daphne Productions, Mr. Cavett's own company. Daphne will also work on a 60-minute entertainment special, which, according to the spokesman, "won't be the standard type of variety show with Cavett in a black tie introducing various acts." This special will go into production next summer for airing early in 1976 and will serve as a pilot for a potential CBS series, the spokesman added.

Mr. Cavett had announced the termination of his contract with ABC during the Nov. 22 taping of one of his late-night shows for that network.

Saturday

	ABC	CBS	NBC
7:30	Local	Local	Local
8:00			
8:30	Kung Fu (Warner Bros.)	All in the Family (Tandem) The Jeffersons (Norman Lear)	Emergency! (Universal)
9:00			
9:30		Mary Tyler Moore Show (MTM)	
10:00	ABC Saturday Night Movie (Various)	Bob Newhart Show (MTM)	NBC Saturday Night at the Movies (Various)
10:30		The Carol Burnett Show (CBS)	
11:00			

Wednesday

	ABC	CBS	NBC
7:30	Local	Local	Local
8:00	That's My Mama (Scr'n Gems)	Tony Orlando and Dawn (CBS; Ilson-Chambers)	Little House on the Prairie (NBC)
8:30			
9:00	Wednesday Movie of the Week (Various)	Cannon (CBS; Quinn Martin)	Lucas Tanner (Universal)
9:30			
10:00	Get Christie Love (Wolper Productions)	Manhunter (CBS; Quinn Martin)	Petrocelli (Paramount)
10:30			
11:00			

Thursday

	ABC	CBS	NBC
7:30	Local	Local	Local
8:00	Barney Miller (ABC; Four D Productions)	The Waltons (Lorimar Productions)	The Mac Davis Show (NBC)
8:30	The Odd Couple (Paramount)		
9:00	Streets of San Francisco (Warner Bros.)	CBS Thursday Night Movies (Various)	Archer (Paramount)
9:30			
10:00	Harry O (Warner Bros.)		Movin' On (D'Antoni-Weitz)
10:30			
11:00			

Friday

	ABC	CBS	NBC
7:30	Local	Local	Local
8:00			
8:30	Kolchak: The Night Stalker (Universal)	Khan! (CBS)	Sanford and Son (Tandem) Chico and the Man (Wolper)
9:00	Hot I Baltimore (Norman Lear)		
9:30	Karen (20th Century-Fox)	CBS Friday Night Movies (Various)	The Rockford Files (Universal)
10:00	Baretta (Universal)		Police Woman (Screen Gems)
10:30			
11:00			