

tracts when a network agrees to buy a series—the same as the producer of a show. A hitch develops, however, when a star—Robin Williams of ABC's *Mork and Mindy*, for example—realizes that he or she may have the power to make or break a prime-time hit. Williams, whose weekly salary has been reported to be as high as \$75,000, can look like a bargain to ABC when it can make \$700,000 or more on an episode of his program. Williams, most agree, is probably the exception since the show was designed around him and would not exist otherwise. Few other stars are as secure—the case of Farah Fawcett-Majors and *Charlie's Angels* is often cited as what can happen when a star's demands exceed what producers and networks are willing to give.

Listed by production company, network prime-time shows slated for airing in September and currently being shot are (new shows are marked with an asterisk):

- Blinn/Thorpe Productions: *The Lazarus Syndrome** (ABC, Tuesday, 10-11 NYT). William Blinn and Jerry Thorpe, executive producers.

- CBS: *Hawaii Five-0* (CBS, Thursday, 9-10). Fred Baum, supervisor of production.

- Columbia Pictures Television: *Fantasy Island* (ABC, Friday, 8-9) in association with Spelling-Goldberg Productions, Aaron Spelling and Leonard Goldberg, executive producers; *From Here to Eternity: The War Years** (NBC, Wednesday, 10-11) in association with Bennett/Katleman Productions, Harve Bennett and Harris Katleman, executive producers, and *Eisched** (NBC, Friday, 10-11) in association with David Gerber Productions, David Gerber, executive producer.

- Walt Disney Productions: *Disney's Wonderful World* (NBC, Sunday, 7-8), Ron Miller, executive producer.

- Filmways TV Productions: *240-Robert** (ABC, Monday, 8-9) in association with Rosner TV, Rick Rosner, executive producer.

- Gordon/Eisner Productions: *A New Kind of Family** (ABC, Sunday, 7:30-8), Jane Eisner and Marge Gordon, executive producers.

- Four D Productions: *Barney Miller* (ABC, Thursday, 9-9:30), Danny Arnold, executive producer.

- Lorimar Productions: *Eight is Enough* (ABC, Wednesday, 8-9), Lee Rich and Philip Capice, executive producers; *Dallas* (CBS, Friday, 10-11), Lee Rich and Philip Capice, executive producers; *The Waltons* (CBS, Thursday, 8-9), Lee Rich and Earl Hamner, executive producers, and *Big Shamus, Little Shamus** (CBS, Saturday, 9-10), Lee Rich and Sam H. Rolfe, executive producers.

- MGM Television: *CHiPs* (NBC, Saturday, 8-9), Cy Chermak, producer.

- MTM: *The Lou Grant Show* (CBS, Monday, 10-11), Gene Reynolds, executive producer; *The White Shadow* (CBS, Monday, 8-9), Bruce Paltrow, executive producer; *Paris** (CBS, Saturday, 10-11), Steven Bocho, executive producer; *The Last Resort** (CBS, Wednesday, 8:30-9),

Monitors

In the ring. Twenty-eight professional football players will compete with helmets off and gloves on in *Heavyweight Championship of Professional Football*, series of 16 half-hours being distributed for fall by American International Television, New York. Production of elimination tournament, with Miami Dolphins' Larry Csonka as host and with \$127,000 over-all purse, is by Pyramid Enterprises Ltd.

Go for broke. *Play the Percentages*, new offering by Barry & Enright Productions will go into taping in October. Executives in charge of production are Jack Barry and Dan Enright. Ron Greenberg is executive producer. Colbert Television Sales is handling syndication for show slated to begin airing in January.

First features. Trident Television Associates, new distribution company led by former Viacom veterans Arthur Zeiger and Elliott Abrams, with major financial backing from British Trident Television Ltd., has made first acquisitions: domestic rights to 23 made-for-TV movies from CBS with titles including "Crime Club," "Horror at 37,000 Feet," "Mongo's Back in Town," "Death of Innocence" and "Coffee, Tea or Me."

Mind-stretching. New game show, *Mindreaders*, with Dick Martin as host, will begin on NBC-TV on Aug. 13 (Mon., noon-12:30 p.m.). Produced by Goodson-Todman Productions, series will center on two teams with celebrity captain and three additional players each trying to figure out responses to questions involving various situations.

Wider possibilities. Hiring of Chet Collier, former Metromedia Television programming vice president, at newly formed BBI Communications (BROADCASTING, July 9), signals move of production firm into areas beyond conventional TV. He's said to be working on programming also for cable, home educational and industrial use. He'll be joined in effort by Howard Finkelstein, formerly with CBS's Columbia House, as assistant for corporate development.

Abe Lincoln keynoter. Wilson C. Wearn, president and chief executive officer of Multimedia Inc., Greenville, S.C., will be keynote speaker at 11th annual Abe Lincoln Awards banquet of Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. Ceremony will be held Feb. 28, 1980, in ballroom of Green Oaks Inn, Fort Worth.

Running even. NBC reports that its Sunday afternoon *Sportsworld* programming has caught up with CBS-TV's *Sports Spectacular* and series now are even on season-to-date basis, both with 5.7 rating and 16 share, based on Nielsen figures. For past four weeks, NBC said, *Sportsworld* has outpaced *Sports Spectacular* each week in Nielsen sweepstakes.

Overseas honors. Two American programs have received Certificates of Merit at second annual International Television Festival, held in London. Noncommercial WNET-TV New York was cited for "Georgia O'Keefe" episode of *The Originals: Women in Art* series. Also chosen was "The Boat People," edition of *CBS Reports*. Shows were among 37 entries from 26 countries. Main award went to *Elegies for the Deaths of Three Spanish Poets* from German network, ZDF. Festival is sponsored by British Academy of Film and Television Arts.

Orange blossom co-op. Four major Florida TV stations will cooperate in *Florida!*, weekly half-hour electronic magazine program for which each outlet will produce features of statewide interest from its area. Participating in venture, to start in September, will be WFTV Orlando, WJXT Jacksonville, WPLG Miami and WTVT Tampa. Each area will have local *Florida!* host and every three months one of four stations will have over-all responsibility for coordinating program.

Wheels. Can roller skating do for Erik Estrada what disco did for Travolta? NBC-TV's *CHiPs* (MGM Television) is shooting special two-hour "Roller Disco" episode, featuring motorcycling stars Estrada and Larry Wilcox "pursuing roller-skating muggers in a seaside community." Show will also feature Estrada in roller-disco dance number with more than 100 Screen Extras Guild skaters. Directed by Don Weis, segment will be shot in Los Angeles neighborhood of Venice—center of California's skating craze.

Primary purpose. Noncommercial WYYY-TV Wilmington, Del., has received grants totaling \$500,000 from Sun Co. and Corporation for Public Broadcasting for production of three-part series on presidency. One-hour presentations, scheduled as lead-in to New Hampshire primary in January 1980, will inaugurate Public Broadcasting Service's election coverage.

Hear no evil. Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini last week banned music on state-owned radio and television system. He said music "stupefies persons listening to it and makes their brains inactive and frivolous." Ayatollah also declared music "no different from opium."