

Theatrical releases set for the 1990-91 season include "Beetlejuice," "Planes, Trains and Automobiles," "Moonstruck," "Beverly Hills Cop II," "The Untouchables" and "Fatal Attraction."

Fox

In announcing Fox's development slate, FBC President Jamie Kellner said his network needs to maintain the "unique Fox character," which he said was the primary development criteria. In addition, he said, it will try to retain its stronghold on young demographics, while expanding the viewer base from 18-35 to 18-49.

Fox's development slate consists of eight comedies and nine dramas.

The comedies

■ *Good and Evil*, created by Susan Harris, is about twin brothers who are decidedly different. Harris, Tony Thomas and Paul Junger Witt are executive producers.

■ *I'm Home* (MGM Television) features a wealthy woman whose daughter drops out of college and announces she's pregnant by the son of her mother's maid.

■ *Parker Lewis Can't Lose* is about the coolest kid in high school life. Columbia Pictures Television is producing.

■ *Babes*, a holdover project from last year's slate, features three sisters who are attractive, self-confident and overweight. The project is from Twentieth Television Corp. with Sandollar Productions.

■ *Life In Desire* (Paramount Television) is about a wealthy New York divorcee who buys a rural town in Louisiana.

■ *True Colors* is about an interracial family. Twentieth Television Corp. is producing.

■ *The World According to Straw* is about the maintenance department in a high-powered corporation. The project was created by Eddie Milkis and Jordan Moffet; Lorimar Television is producing.

■ *The Bobby & Larry Show* focuses on the relationship of two college friends who become roommates. Warner Bros. Television is producing.

The dramas

■ *Glory Days* (formerly titled *The Kids Are All Right*) is about four friends who go in different directions after high school. Patrick Hasburgh, creator of *21 Jump Street*, is executive producer with Orion Television in association with Patrick Hasburgh Productions.

■ *D.E.A.* blends real-life action footage with dramatization of the Drug Enforcement Agency. Richard Dilello, creator of *Midnight Caller*, is the creator and executive producer, for Lorimar Television.

■ *Class of Beverly Hills* is about two teenagers from Milwaukee adjusting to life in California. Aaron Spelling is executive producer for Aaron Spelling Productions in association with Propaganda Films.

■ *Against the Law* is about an unpredictable attorney. MGM Television is produc-

ing; David Manson is executive producer.

■ *Legacy* is from Esther and Richard Shapiro, creators of *Dynasty*. The saga takes place in a close-knit community with a dark, supernatural secret to protect. Shapiro Entertainment is producing.

■ *Two-Fisted Tales* is a half-hour action/adventure anthology from Silver Pictures (Joel Silver, Richard Donner, Robert Zemeckis and Walter Hill).

■ *Real Life*, from filmmaker David Lynch, is a reality show with Lynch covering "Americana-type events." It is a Lynch/Frost/World Vision production.

■ *Sheridan Square*, from David Seltzer, the writer/director of "Punchline," is an offbeat look at apartment living. World Vision/Propaganda Films is producing.

■ *The Last Hurrah* is a documentary from the producers of *The Body Human*,



Fox President Jamie Kellner in Los Angeles last week

about the senior year of high school for a group of students in New Jersey. New Screen Concepts is producing.

Mini's and made-fors

Larry Jones, president, movies for television and mini-series, of the newly-created F.N.M. Co., established to produce movies for Fox's Wednesday night *Fox Night at the Movies*, said he expects Fox will spend about \$75 million for the first year of the weekly movie night. He outlined not only the made-for projects, but a theatrical lineup as well, which included "Big," "Wall Street," "Die Hard," "Broadcast News" and "Working Girl."

Of the projects being produced by his division, Jones said nine made-fors were in development for the movie night.

Fox is also planning to beef up its specials, with 10 in development. Three mentioned were *Live: The Greatest Stunts on Earth*; a May 30 presentation of the final U.S. stop of the Rolling Stones' Steel Wheels tour, with part of the concert in 3-D, and the 42nd annual Emmy Awards, which Fox's Peter Chernin said would be Fox's largest promotional effort of the year. "We expect to launch our fall schedule with it," he said.

NBC

NBC has been atop the network ratings race for 89 of the last 90 weeks, but NBC Entertainment President Brandon Tartikoff is not resting on his laurels. Tartikoff presented the network's development slate of 29 regular series projects last Thursday, looking to improve sagging Sunday and Friday evening ratings.

In his presentation to 300-plus advertising executives at NBC's Burbank, Calif., production headquarters, Tartikoff addressed the "perceptions" in the trade press about erosion of NBC's prime time series strength (BROADCASTING, Jan. 19).

He acknowledged the erosion, while emphasizing that 11 shows with more than four years on the prime time schedule are still tops in their time periods. In fact, Tartikoff announced that five programs on the prime time schedule have already been renewed for 1990-91 (see box, page 30).

In terms of major series development announcements, Tartikoff revealed a deal with The Jay Tarses Co. for a multi-series, multiyear exclusive production arrangement. Tartikoff also has closed a development deal with record and television producer Quincy Jones (see below). A development deal has been signed with *Saturday Night Live* comedian Dennis Miller (a one-year exclusive deal), in addition to a firming up relationship with producer Michael Manheim to jointly produce *NBC Theater* with NBC Productions.

The comedies

Two movie adaptations led NBC's comedy development slate: *Parenthood*, from Imagine Film Entertainment's Ron Howard and Brian Grazer, and John Hughes's Paramount Network Television translation of "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

■ KLOS-FM Los Angeles air personalities Mark Thompson and Brian Phelps will appear in *The Mark and Brian Show*, a New World Television/Dector-Strauss production about "guerrilla" TV hosts.

■ *The Jane Curtin Show* (20th Century Fox) features the *Kate & Allie* star as a divorced woman in the '90s. Bill Persky is executive producer and director.

■ Nell Carter is slated for an as-yet untitled project (from Columbia Television) about a strong-willed public school teacher. David Nichols is executive producer.

■ Carol Kane and Robert Ulrich star in a Gary David Goldberg-produced pilot, *American Dreamer* (Paramount), with Ulrich playing a human-interest newspaper columnist and Kane a reporter.

■ 227 co-star Jackée gets her own spin-off, *The Jackée Show* (Touchstone Television). Paul Witt and Tony Thomas (Witt-Thomas Productions) are co-executive producers.

■ *Poochinski*, from 20th Century Fox, is about a Chicago detective reincarnated as a talking bulldog. Brian Levant and Robert Myman are executive producers.

■ *Red Pepper* (Brillstein/Grey Productions) features a wooden marionette talk show host who manipulates his human TV