

Television

FOX 1992-93 SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8-10 <i>FOX Night at the Movies</i>	8-9 <i>Class of '96*</i> 9-10 <i>Key West*</i>	8-9 <i>The Heights*</i> 9-10 <i>Melrose Place*</i>	8-8:30 <i>The Simpsons</i> 8:30-9 <i>Martin*</i> 9-10 <i>Beverly Hills, 90210</i>	8-9 <i>America's Most Wanted</i> 9-9:30 <i>Sightings</i> 9:30-10 <i>Likely Suspects*</i>	8-8:30 <i>Cops</i> 8:30-9 <i>Cops</i> 9-9:30 <i>Code 3</i> 9:30-10 <i>The Edge*</i>	7-7:30 <i>Great Scott*</i> 7:30-8 <i>The Ben Stiller Show*</i> 8-8:30 <i>In Living Color</i> 8:30-9 <i>ROC</i> 9-9:30 <i>Married... With Children</i> 9:30-10 <i>Herman's Head</i> 10-10:30 <i>Flying Blind*</i> 10:30-11 <i>Whoops!*</i>

* New program

FOX FILLS IN THE BLANKS

Goes to seven nights of programing beginning in fall

By Steve McClellan

Laying out a seven-night-a-week schedule for the 1992-93 season, to include seven new half-hour series and four new hour-long shows, Fox declared itself a "full-service network" last week. Earlier this year, Fox officials said the network would go from five to seven nights of prime time programing by the end of 1992.

"That's right, we'd actually prefer you don't call us a weblet anymore," quipped Fox Entertainment President Peter Chernin, at the network's new schedule presentation last week. "The fledgling, almost, not-quite-a-wannabe network will become a full-service, seven-night source" of programing, Chernin said.

"What you're about to see is a moment of passage for Fox," said Jamie Kellner, president of Fox Broadcasting Co. "Like when a steady hand let go of the bike and you realized that you could ride. Well, that's how the people of Fox feel today."

Kellner estimated that by going to seven nights, the network would expand its weekly audience reach by about 25%.

Technically, Fox won't be up to a full seven nights a week, every week, until the end of next season. The plan is to expand the current monthly Monday night movie to a weekly event by then.

The network, as Chernin acknowledged last week, has struggled in its efforts to develop consistent product for its Monday movie night. "We've done a bad job" on the movie night, he said. The network recently hired Rick Bieber from HBO Pictures to oversee movie development.

Fox's current rollout plan, adding two new hours (8-10 p.m.) on both Tuesday and Wednesday, coupled with a weekly Monday movie, would put Fox at 16 hours of prime time, one hour over the FCC-prescribed fin-syn limit.

Six months after Fox reaches that point, said Kellner, the network would eliminate the Sunday 10-11 p.m. hour, where two new comedies are scheduled—*Flying Blind* and *Whoops!*

As Fox is wont to do, the network's new season launch will straddle summer and fall. Its sixth night of programing, Wednesdays (8-10 p.m.) will kick off with two Spelling Pro-

ductions dramas: *The Heights*, about the working class members of a rock band, and *Melrose Place*.

The 90-minute pilot for *Melrose* will premiere July 8, behind a one-time-only original airing of *The Simpsons*. To help establish the spinoff, original episodes of *Beverly Hills, 90210* will air on Wednesdays throughout the summer at 8 p.m., leading into *Melrose* at 9 p.m. In September, *90210* shifts back to its Thursday 9 p.m. time period.

The Simpsons will return to its Thursday 8 p.m. spot. Leading out of that show will be a new comedy, *Martin*, starring comedian Martin Lawrence as a Detroit DJ (not to be confused with NBC's new sitcom about a Detroit DJ, *Rhythm and Blues*).

On Friday, *America's Most Wanted* and *Sightings* return at 8 p.m. and 9 p.m., respectively. They'll be joined by the new 9:30 p.m. comedy-who-dunit *Likely Suspects*, an "audience participation mystery show."

Cops returns to lead off Saturdays from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by