

Sattalites help Pilot Vancouver program

by Jeff Jorgensen

Finally, there is a Canadian show for the 'eighties generation'. No more yuppies, no more 60's, just one hour of eighties youth perspectives, music and yes, optimism too! What am I talking about? *PILOT I*, a new CBC variety show on every Friday evening at 11:30pm. I caught the show for the first time on January 27th.

A cast of five hosts, with one acting as the main host, guide us

through a political /social /cultural hash, with a live, youth audience to boot. The focus of this particular show was the U.S. debt, estimated at a modest 2.7 trillion dollars — a little over 100,000 dollars per Canadian. The main host reasoned that with free trade between Canada and the U.S., we Canadians had to ensure that the U.S. economy was healthy enough to purchase our expensive Canadian exports. Therefore, we had to hold a 'Deficitathon' to help our American

cousins out of their debt crisis. The number to call was 1-800-USOS.

The next segment which followed attempted to answer the question, what is heaven? People on the street interview clips were mixed in with music video bits from Prince, the Psychedelic Furs, and The Cure.

Toronto's pop-reggae band The Satallites performed next, live on the set.

'Mouth-Off on National TV' followed. It was a chance to say anything from the silly to the profound. Again, people on the street interview clips were used.

K.D. Lang appeared next to introduce a band she had discovered in Nashville, Tennessee. A happ'nin' female duet called Mrs. Fun played two songs. The band

is really quite indescribable, but they were great!

A short comment on recent political campaign advertising in the last U.S. presidential election followed. The host concluded that "they just plain sucked", and proceeded to play, just for Eisenhower's sake, a 50's Ike Eisenhower political ad. It was a cartoon sing-a-long urging people to vote for Ike.

Audience participation is also a part of *PILOT I*. One guy did a belly roll, attempting to inspire people to pledge to the Deficitathon, while one girl calculated that the U.S. debt was equal to 2.7 trillion hamburgers.

Comedian Drake Sathers made a witty appearance. Musical news briefs and a movie review came under the banner of 'Just Dirt'.

'Sex with Sue' was up next, a frank talk, with diagrams and people on the street interview clips and all, on penis size and its stimulation effects upon the vagina.

The show wrapped up with the audience dancing along to a tune from the Satallites.

Some of us have been waiting for a show as bizarre and off-the-wall, as honest and sincere, and as entertaining and informative as *PILOT I* to come along for some time. And this show is not for young kids. The target audience seems to be between the ages of 16 to 26. But will the show be able to sustain itself? The January 27th airing was jam-packed!

PILOT I is out of Vancouver; Toronto is too good for a show like this! and this part of the country is too backward. If you haven't caught the show yet, check it out. And by-the-way, the Deficitathon raised \$7.13.

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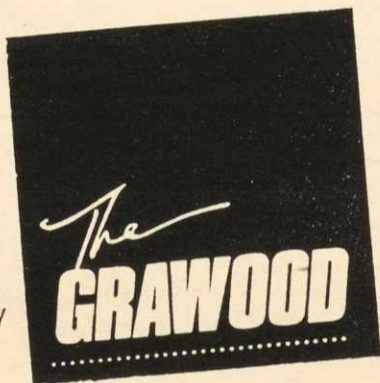
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Movies

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most competitive in years. Front runners include Glenn Close (*Dangerous Liaisons*), Sigourney Weaver (*Gorillas in the Mist*) and, as a dark horse, Jodie Foster from *The Accused*.

Unfortunately, the Academy Awards have a long history of slighting comic performances, of which there were an unusual number this year. Michelle Pfeiffer was excellent in *Married to the Mob* as was Tom Hanks (*Big*), Bette Midler (*Big Business*) and Bob Hoskins in *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*. *Bull Durham* was also a fine movie which will be largely overlooked come nomination day.

Like the acting categories, the director nominations tend to mirror best picture nominees. A major exception could be Clint Eastwood for *Bird*, his biographical film about jazz great Charlie Parker. An additional dark horse may be the film's star, Forest Whitaker.

A prominent source of speculation this year is whether Martin Scorsese's controversial film, *The Last Temptation of Christ*, will make the grade with Oscar to the same degree it made headlines over the last few months.

Its star, Willem Dafoe, is also prominent in *Mississippi Burning*. Barbara Hershey, who plays Mary Magdalene in *Last Temptation*, won this year's Cannes film festival prize as best actress for her role in *A World Apart*. (She might be in the running for an Oscar as well.)

It's a tricky business, predicting nominees for Academy Awards. The Academy has been known to be erratic at times regarding their choices for nominations and no one knows for sure until they're actually announced. We will have to wait and see.