Fort Worth Star-Telegram - August 20, 1974 - page 12

## **JERRY COFFEY**

# 12-A FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM 'Little House on Prairie' Likely to Succeed

The way "The Little House knocked around, you'd think it was occupied by the least resourceful of the Three Little member of the "Bonanza"

forced a change of location.

publicized flap over the film- "Little House" books of work figured it had a pi-ing site, when complaints Laura Ingalls Wilder, favor- oneer-days "Waltons" in the Then co-executive producer Pigs instead of a stalwart Ed Friendly quit the project, charging the series concept

But with all its preseason

from prospective neighbors ites of generations of young works, and when the pilot And that is especially imporscreening earlier this year produced very high ratings and a positive critical reacproblems, "Prairie" remains tion, NBC immediately asone of NBC's likeliest prosclan. was getting too far away pects for series success this First there was a much- from the source material, the fall. From the first the netsigned the program a 1974-75 series slot.

> p.m. hour Wednesdays starting Sept. 11 on Channel 5. Its competition will be two other new series - "Sons and Daughters" on CBS and "That's My Mama" on ABC.

IN A LOS Angeles interview earlier in the summer, series star and co-executive producer Michael Landon acknowledged the hardest part of the audience to please probably would be special fans of the "Little House" books. "Obviously, we'll have to

embellish upon the books, Landon said. "We're not dramatizing all the "Little House" books. The series is intended to cover only a small part of the Ingalls family sto-ry, and there simply isn't enough material from that period to supply the demands of a weekly television series. "We'll have to bring in things that could have hap-

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have been learning with

a variety of partners.

This is where the fun be-

pened. The important thing is who befriended the Ingallses Joe" Cartwright. He contribbeing true to the characters. in the pilot film. tant in this case because these people really lived and

"There may not always be factual authenticity but there "Little House on the Praiwill be emotional authenticirie" will occupy the 7 to 8

tain way.

"M Y CHARACTERIZA-TION will be as close to the real Charles Ingalls as I can make it," Landon said. "The one obvious departure will be in physical detail. The real Mr. Ingalls had a very long, bushy beard. He looked like a wild man. I won't try to look like that. In the first place, I couldn't grow that much hair. And if I did, it would scare viewers away."

family was forced by the government to leave the land they had homesteaded in Kansas, so the series starts with their arrival at Walnut Grove, Minn., in 1876," the actor noted. In addition to the family- Karen Grassle as Charles' wife Caroline; Melissa Gilbert as Laura; Melissa Sue Anderson as older daughter Mary, and twins Lindsey and Sidney Green Bush alternating as baby Carrie— there will be several other recurring characters, including Victor French, who made

### Castro to Take Role in Special

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Cu-ban Prime Minister Fidel Castro has volunteered to participate in an upcoming special on Ernest Hemingway to be filmed on location in Cuba by an American production company, it was announced Monday.

The Hollywood-based com-pany of Bob Banner Asso-ciates said it received approv-al for the project after a telephone conversation with Cas-

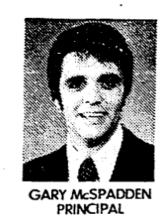
Hemingway's widow, Mary, will narrate part of the show and be a consultant to the

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he working on movement, timing, and continuity.

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"BUT THE emphasis will be on the family—the total thus must progress in a cerfamily. It will be a simple show about people caring about each other."

some of the episodes and will mean literally no script. It be involved in the writing, was just poor planning. So I anza" went off.

too. The latter two specialties wrote one during the weekend have absorbed much of his and we started shooting it on creative energy since "Bon- Wednesday. It wasn't the Mike's interest in writing but it wasn't the worst, eiand directing developed dur- ther. It made sense, it moved, ing his 14 seasons as "Little it had action."

uted 30 scripts to the popular western series during the years and directed many oth-

"I started writing out of sheer desperation," he recalled. "One time we were In addition to his acting facing a week of production chores, Landon will direct and there was no script. I greatest show we ever had,



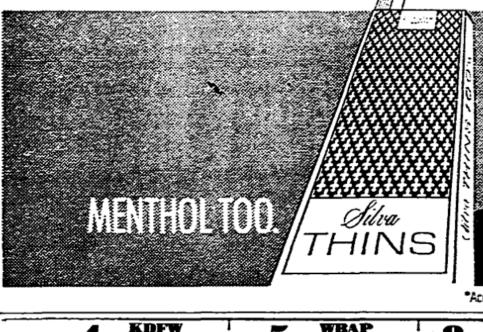
MICHAEL LANDON ... in new series

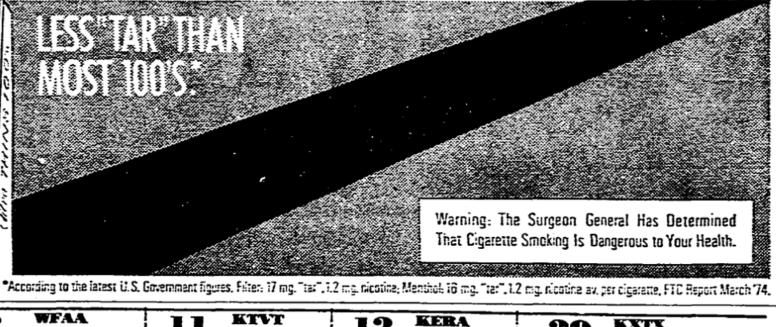


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6:00	30SummerSemester	:30 Good Morning	:15 Cox; :30 D. Reed	:40 Med.: News	1	-92 I ask II X
	forning News	Today	The A.M. Show	Slam Bang Theatre	<u> </u>	25 Look-Up; News
	Captain Kangaroo	Local News, Weather	:30 The Mike	Z. Revue: Funhouse	:30 Misterogers (R)	B. Bunny; M. Mouse
	he Joker's Wild	Name That Tune	Douglas Show	Fury	Sesame Street (R)	Bozo; Little Rascals
9:30		Winning Streak	Douglas Silow	My Favorite Martian	Sesame Street (R)	Lone Ranger Flipper
	Now You See It	High Rollers	\$10,000 Pyramid	The Saint	Electric Company (R)	Eddie's Father
	ove of Life	Hollywood Squares	Brady Bunch	With Roger Moore	Misterogers (R)	Lucy Show
	oung and Restless	Jackpot!	Password	Run for Your Life	Sesame Street (R)	Mayberry R.F.D.
	earch for Tomorrow		Split Second			Quick Draw McGraw
	Eyewitness News	News; :20 Dateline	News 8 at Noon	Metroplex Noon News	Hathayoga	700 Club
	s the World Turns	Jeopardy	Let's Make a Deal	Cartoon Carnival	Newsroom (R)	Pat Robertson
1:00 (	Suiding Light	Days of Our Lives	Newlywed Game	Movie	Firing Line	host
	Edge of Night New Price Is Right	The Doctors Another World	Girl in My Life	"The Best of	l	
	Match Game '74	To Survive Marriage	General Hospital One Life to Live	Enemies." David Niven, Michael Wilding	Evening at Pops	A New Day
	Tattletales	Somerset	All of My Children	Comedy Capers	(R)	Bugs Bunny
	Mery Griffin	Star Time	Movie	Contacty Capers	Who's Afraid of Opera? Day at Night	Little Rascals Lost in Space
4:00	-		"The Prince and	Batman	Misterogers	Lust III Space
4:30		Sale of the Century	the Showgirl."	Addams Family	Electric Company	Star Trek
			TUESDA	Y AFTER 5		η
5:00	Eyewitness News	Inside Area 5	Movie (Continued)	Leave It to Beaver	Sesame Street	Stor Tools (C
	CBS News	NBC Nightly News	ABC News	I Love Lucy	Sesaine Street	Star Trek (Continued) Gomer Pyle
	Eyewitness News	Area 5 Texas News	News 8	Petticoat Junction	Electric Company (R)	Hogan's Heroes
6:30	Thrillseekers	Treasure Hunt		Beverly Hillbillies	Newsroom	Andy Griffith
		•		"Pygmalion & Elly."	Local news, news	Comedy series
7200					analysis	conkut series
	Maude	Adam-12	Happy Days	Wild, Wild West	Special of the Week	700 Club
	Comedy starring	"KRASH."	"Breaking Up Is	Agents West and Gor-	"Parole." This docu-	A talk-variety
7.76	Beatrice Arthur Hawaii Five-O	(R)	Hard to Do." (R)	don use courage and	mentary examination of	and counseling
	'A Bullet for	Mystery Movie	Movie	technology to thwart	America's parole sys-	program with
	El Diablo."	"The Devil Made	"Scream, Pretty	the evil plans of	tem shows the cases	Pat Robertson
8:00		Me Do It."	Peggy."	arch criminals	of two inmates	host
(	AL)	Starring Helen Hayes and Mildred	Bette Davis,	Perry Mason	Special of the Week	
		Natwick as the	Ted Bessell,	The dueling scene in	"Myshkin."	
8:30 \$	Shaft	Snoop Sisters	Sian Barbara	a production of Romeo		-
	'Murder Machine."	(R)	Allen (R)	and Juliet becomes	-	-
	Starring Richard	177		more than just an		
9:00	Roundtree. A profes-	Police Story	A Time Of	Movie		
S	ional gunman is hired	Kurt Russell stars	Man	"The Young Rebel."	Firing Line	A New Day
t	o kill a grand jury	as a country boy who	ATACAME	Horst Buchholz,	William F. Buckley,	
<b>9:30</b> v	vitness. Clu Gulager,	finds the police		Gina Lollobrigida	Jr. host	
J	udie Stein	academy not quite		oma Donobi igida	(R)	Kathryn Kuhlman
	R)	what he expected(R)				Sto
10:00 I	yewitness News	Area 5 Texas News	News 8	Metroplex News	Hathavora (P.	
10:30 7	wilight Zone	Tonight Show		:15 Movie (Continued)	Hathayoga (R) Newsroom (R)	The Bold Ones
11:00 A	lovie: "The		"In Concert."	:30 Movie	ABC Captioned News	Bonanza
11:3U 1	iger Makes Out."	guest host	12:30 Que Pasa?	"Dorian Grey."	Day at Night (R)	Western Adventure
12:00	li Wallach	Tomorrow	1:00 FBI; Interfaith	1:20 News; Meditations	Sign Off	Look-Up
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