

TRIVIA, ETC.**BITS AND PIECES****'Tonight' Anniversary: Heere's Trivia!**

By Steven Alan McGaw

Questions:

This week marks the 29th anniversary of Johnny Carson taking the reins of *The Tonight Show*. Next year, of course, will be his last, and that can serve to remind us the show existed before Johnny, just as it will continue to do after his departure.

1. Who was the original host of the show?

2. This orchestra leader preceded Doc Severinsen, appearing on the original version and serving for the first four years of Carson's reign.

3. *The Tonight Show* attracted its largest audience ever with the Dec. 17, 1971, broadcast. What happened?

4. True or False: The show moved permanently from New York to Burbank, Calif., in December 1975.

5. Feb. 11, 1960, was a memorable date during Jack Paar's tenure behind the desk. Why?

6. Who was Paar's orchestra leader?

Answers:

1. Steve Allen

2. Skitch Henderson

3. Tiny Tim married Miss Vicki.

4. False. It was May 1972. (Yeah, yeah, it's trivia... but a real fan would know.)

5. Paar walked off the stage in protest of NBC's censoring a joke the previous evening.

6. Joe Melis

CBS head hopes for more 'Murphys,' signs contract for four new series

CBS is so pleased with its ratings-reaper *Murphy Brown*, Entertainment head Jeff Sagansky has recruited producers Diane English and Joel Shukovsky to produce no less than four more as-yet-undeveloped series for the network.

"Besides a dozen Emmys and all the critical acclaim," says Sagansky, "Joel and Diane have helped to give the CBS prime-time schedule a new sensibility. Needless to say, we can't wait for their next show, which we're hoping can do for another night of the week what *Murphy Brown* has done for Mondays."

Murphy Brown, starring Candice Bergen, was the most-honored series at the 1991 Emmy ceremonies, receiving five statuettes.

23-year-old stock clerk James Campbell, adopting the stage name "King A.J.," is the winner of Pepsi Cola's "Rap Up the Summer" rap-music contest after being selected from a field of over 10,000 hopefuls. M.C. Hammer and Dee Barnes (Fox's *Pump It Up*) served as hosts.

Performing on the *Star Trek* soundstage at Universal Studios in Hollywood, King A.J. rapped to his anti-drug song "Stand Up for Life."

He'll receive \$25,000, a demo-record



Jeff Sagansky

contract and a contract to perform on a Pepsi Cola Commercial.

Shining Time Station, a PBS series for kids, has a new conductor aboard — versatile comedian George Carlin.

"We know children will love George Carlin's inventiveness, playfulness and imagination, which are the primary ingredients of the magical Mr. Conductor character," say creator-producers Britt Allcroft and Rick Sigelkow.

Comments Carlin, "Of course, it represents a great departure from my usual work, and I expect I will enjoy that."

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Roy Maraden stars in *Devices and Desires*, a new *Mystery!* series starting Thursday on PBS.