

BITS AND PIECES

Jean Smart to become 'Girl in the Song Title'

Jean Smart (*Designing Women*) will star in *The Girl in the Song Title*, a new NBC movie that began production last week. In the film, Smart plays a small-town schoolteacher whose life changes drastically when a rock 'n' roll superstar, her former classmate, writes about her in his latest hit. The problem is his lyrics aren't true. *The Girl in the Song Title* will air this season.



Jean Smart

Fans of NBC's daytime dramas *Another World*, *Days of Our Lives* and *Santa Barbara* can now see their favorite stars on the pages of a new magazine titled *Daydreams: The Inside Story on NBC Soaps*.

The publication will be made available to viewers who call a special "Soap Scoop" 900 phone number. It will also feature a contest in which readers can win a trip to the 1992 Daytime Emmy Awards ceremony in New York City.

CNN has been awarded a \$3.5 million grant to develop innovative programs covering the 1992 election process. The Markel Foundation provided the grant that will be used to create awareness-increasing "Demo-

cracy in American" programming to augment CNN's regular coverage. Free curriculum-support materials will also be provided to schools.

Two CBS dramas received Nancy Susan Reynolds Awards from the Center of Population Options, which recognizes outstanding portrayals of family planning, sexuality and reproductive health. *Abby, My Love*, a CBS Schoolbreak Special dealing with incest in a suburban family, was cited in the category of children's programs. It was originally broadcast April 12. *Absolute Strangers*, based on the true story of a husband's decision to abort his unborn child in order to save the life of his comatose wife, won an award in the entertainment special category. It first aired April 14.

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