

## LET'S TALK

## FAMILY FAIR

## Cop glued on Shue

By Taylor Michaels

Q: If possible, I would like Elisabeth Shue's fan-mail address. I've seen all her movies: *Cocktail*, *Adventures in Babysitting*, etc. I would like to get a picture of her. Thank you for any help you can give.

P.S. Maybe she has seen me on TV. I've been on *American Detective* twice with the narco division. —Detective William Kallert, West Patterson, N.J.

A: After her breakthrough starring role in *Adventures in Babysitting* in 1987, Shue landed girlfriend roles in both *Back to the Future* sequels and in *The Marrying Man*, as well as a supporting bit in *Soapdish*.

You may write to Shue in care of Creative Artists Agency, 9830 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif., 90212.

P.S. Maybe she could play your girlfriend in an episode of *American Detective*.

Q: How can colorization of old films be so precise? It fascinates me how it's done, right down to the color of the garments, automobiles, etc. that were in fashion at the time. —Anita Cavillio, Casa Grande, Ariz.

A: Whenever possible, the colorization companies research the original costumes, sets, etc. used in the film. Major studios keep a great deal of these (in storage) or consult color photographs, sketches and/or written descriptions of the same. If there is nothing to go by, a computer program matches the varying shades of gray in each black-and-white frame with a



Elisabeth Shue

corresponding shade from a color chart. Each frame is tinted individually, again by computer programs.

Colorization is a touchy subject in Hollywood, and some films, such as *Citizen Kane*, have anti-colorization protection under written contracts. A movie is under way to label all "altered" films as such upon their release.

Q: How can I write Boomer Esiason of the Cincinnati Bengals? —Tye Butler, Big Spring, Texas.

A: Write the left-handed quarterback in care of The Cincinnati Bengals, 200 Riverfront Stadium, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202.

Send your questions to Let's Talk, Features Dept., P.O. Box 961009, Fort Worth, Texas, 76161-1009. Please do not send return envelopes; all questions will be answered within this column.

## 'Assignment' makes the grade

By Chris Carpenter

Ever since the first picture tube sparked to life, television has been trouncing schoolwork in an ongoing battle for kids' attention. Increasingly, instructors have given up trying to beat the system and decided to join it, adding video resources to the established curriculum.

The Discovery Channel has developed a program titled *Assignment: Discovery* that, according to the network's Lori McFarling, was the first educational joint venture of cable operators, teachers and network television. It provides a tapable, commercial-free hour of non-fiction programming to schools each weekday.

"We were literally flooded with calls from teachers saying 'Can we get (Discovery Channel programming) without the commercials?' Can we show it in class? Is this legal?" As corporate citizens, we had to respond to this and not only give them our programming, but present it in a format that works for them."

McFarling stresses that "none of the programming is meant to be a substitute teacher. Our program is really more of a snap-on tool for an already devised lesson plan," she says.

In the everyday war on illiteracy and indifference fought in the modern classroom, *Assignment: Discovery* can be a powerful weapon.

To learn more about *Assignment: Discovery*, call 1-800-321-1832.

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On Wednesday's *Entertainment Tonight*, Anthony Hopkins talks about his latest movie, *The Innocent*.