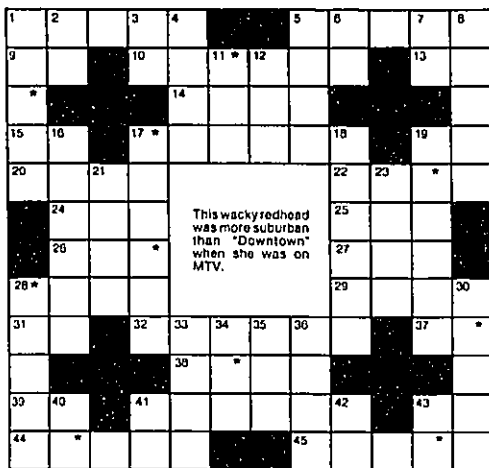


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

SOAP TALK



'Santa Barbara' under dark cloud

By Candace Havens

He's back and none too soon. Stephen Nichols, who played Patch Johnson on *Days of Our Lives*, can now be seen as Dr. Skyler Gates on *Santa Barbara*. For almost two years, fans have written in to find out when Nichols was returning to *Days*. Many were also disappointed when Mary Beth Evans was let go from the show, as it seemed they might never see Patch and Kayla again.

Evans is pregnant with her third child (due in March), so it is doubtful we will see her working with Nichols any time soon. Consequently, the rumors that they might turn up as *General Hospital's* newest super couple were exactly that: rumors.

In what could be its final days, *SB* has pulled out all the stops. The show now boasts two of daytime's most popular stars, Nichols and Jack Wagner (ex-Frisco Jones, *GH*) as Warren. The writing on the show, at present, is some of the most creative and innovative in daytime history.

Unfortunately, things really don't look promising for the show, as the audience continues to diminish. Susan Lee, NBC's daytime vice president, says the network is waging a battle to save the soap, but NBC affiliates continue to drop it from their lineups. At press time the decision as to whether the show will go or stay had not yet been made.

There are some other faces from the past turning up on daytime. Margaret Klenck, who played Edwina Lewis on *One Life to Live*, is now portraying Kitty Fielding on *As the World Turns*. Her favorite bad boy from the past, Gerald Anthony, who was Marco Dane on *OLTL*, has taken the character to Port Charles for a short-term role on *GH*. Marco, Edwina and Karen (Judith Light) were a popular trio on *OLTL* in the early '80s.

If Connor McCabe on *SB* looks familiar, it's because Charles Grant, best known for his roles as John Emerson on *The Edge of Night* and Evan Bates on *Another World*, is playing the role. Grant's latest character is a far cry from the sleazy guys he played in the past, and he equates the new role with a Clint Eastwood-type of character.

It was an interesting summer on daytime, and things are shaping up to make the fall season stimulating.

The answer to the Crossword Quiz is found within the answers in the puzzle. To find the answer, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

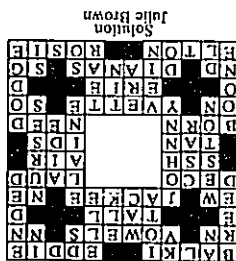
ACROSS

1. Perfect Strangers role
5. Eva's co-star on *Green Acres*
9. Dr.'s assistant
10. Letters preceding B, F, J, P and V
13. Nick's monogram
14. The ____ Men, 1955 Clark Gable film
15. Wynn's insignia
17. Actress on *The Royal Family*
19. Wind direction: abbr.
20. Art ____; style based on geometric shapes
22. Praise
24. "Bo quett"
25. Broadcast
26. Skin color
27. Dog legs, for short
28. in *East L. A.*
- 1987 Cheech Marin film
29. Have to have
31. Word in the title of Laura Ingalls' series
32. Actress Mimioux
37. With 42 Down, mediocre: hypn. wd.
38. Lake
39. Lawrence Welk's state of birth: abbr.
41. Ross & Muddaur
43. Goldwyn's initials
44. Mr. John
45. Sharon Glass role

DOWN

1. Animal class
2. Article
3. Valentine's initials
4. Greek letter
5. Magazine title
6. Monogram for Shore
7. Words in the title of both of O'Connor's series
8. Finished
11. Mid. woman during WWII

12. Big game
16. Harry, Barbara or Carol
17. Jay's predecessor
18. Rose on *Seinfeld*
19. Sonnet set in a hospital
21. Title for former rulers
23. Teacher's helper
25. Debby or Daniel
30. City setting for *Gunslinger*
33. Blood carrier
34. Time period
35. Man, role in *The Wizard of Oz*
36. Sign of sorrow or joy
40. Hat of MC
41. The connection
42. See 37 Across
43. "Yes, Russia!"



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