

## TIME OUT

## LET'S TALK

### Baseball's expansion teams go to market

By Michael Scoggin

Dennis Burlingame and Jim Poole aren't household names, but to the Florida Marlins and the Colorado Rockies, they may spell future success. Burlingame and Poole are among the big league prospects expected to be selected during ESPN's exclusive six-and-a-half hour coverage of Major League Baseball's expansion draft, airing live Tuesday, Nov. 17, from New York.

"Nothing like this has ever been shown before on television," says Keith Olberman, who will anchor ESPN's coverage with assistance from Peter Gammons, Ray Knight and a host of floor and field reporters.

During the draft, owners of the two expansion teams will put their scouting ability to the test when they select 36 players each from the unprotected lists of the 26 existing major league teams, who are allowed to protect just 15 of their major and minor league players.

Simple? Hardly. Some of the rules behind the draft read like a superpower arms treaty. Existing teams have been preparing for this day since the rules were spelled out over a year ago, and the draft-day wheeling and dealing as teams scramble to protect their young prospects and established stars should be interesting, to say the least.

"There will be an element of the three-ring circus here, but I really think that will make for some great television," says Olberman.

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Bruce Willis and Bonnie Bedelia star in the action-drama *Die Hard*, Monday's Fox Night at the Movies.

### Three Gabors, dah-ling; Swayze not a dad

By Taylor Michaels

**Q:** We are really curious about the Gabor sisters. How many of them are there, and what are their ages and names? Also, is Eva the youngest and does she pronounce her name "A"-va? —Phil Richards, Portland, Ore.

**A:** There are three Gabor sisters, Zsa Zsa (born Sari), Eva (indeed pronounced with the long "a" sound) and Magda. Zsa Zsa, the eldest of the three Budapest, Hungary, natives, was born on Feb. 6, 1921 and married eight times. The star of films including *Moulin Rouge* and *Queen of Outer Space*, she was once convicted of slapping a policeman. Eva, the youngest sister, chirped "Ah-lee-vah!" on TV's *Green Acres*, was born on Feb. 11, 1924, and has had five husbands. Magda's birthday is not widely known, since she has not pursued a screen career.

**Q:** Will you please tell me what you know about an actress from the '30s and '40s named Beulah Bondi?

**A:** She was cast as the mother of the hero in many classic films. Two of my favorites were Bondi as Gary Cooper's mother in *Sergeant York* and as James Stewart's mother in *It's a Wonderful Life*. —Barbara Sudheimer, Kihel, Hawaii.

**A:** Will you please tell me what you know about an actress from the '30s and '40s named Beulah Bondi? She was born on May 3, 1892, in Chicago. She had appeared in small stage productions even before the turn of the century, and her acting talent would be relegated to stock theater for 25 more years before she won a major Broadway role in *One of the Family*. Five years later, she appeared in her first film, *Street Scene*, at age 39. The remainder of her career was spent in mature characterizations.

Topping the list of her long and illustrious film roles are her two Oscar-nominated performances, for 1936's *The Gorgeous Hussy* and 1938's *Of Human Hearts*.

Bondi also won an Emmy in 1977 for Outstanding Lead Actress for a Single Appearance in a Drama or Comedy Series for "The Pony Cart" episode of *The Waltons*, portraying a dying, reclusive Walton who touches the lives of the mountain family before she



Eva Gabor

passes away. Bondi never married; she died in 1981.

**Q:** Can you tell me if Patrick Swayze and his wife have any children? I say "yes" and my friend says "no." Who is right? —Sharon Gallagher, Portland, Ore.

**A:** Just saying "no" seems to pay off in many ways, and this is one of them. Sorry, Swayze and his wife, Lisa Niemi (see 'em both in *Steel Dawn*), have no children.

**Q:** Several years ago we saw a great movie on television and have never seen it again. The wife is an absent-minded person who can't get through a normal day without reminders and written notes from her husband. They relocate, and she must travel alone to the new city where they will be living in the family station wagon. She forgets to fill the tank, and she witnesses a robbery and murder when she finally stops for gas, and afterwards she is chased cross-country. What is the name of this movie, and is it available on video? —Carol Gerue, Stephenson, Mich.

**A:** The frightfully forgetful character was played by Valerie Harper, and the movie of which you write is *Night Terror*, a 1976 made-for-television effort co-starring Richard Romanus, Michael Tolan, Quinn Cummings and Nicholas Pryor. *Video Hound's* reference book says it's available on both VHS and Beta tapes.

Send questions to Let's Talk, Features Dept., P.O. Box 961009, Fort Worth, Texas, 76161-1009. Please send no return envelopes; questions will only be answered within this column.