

LET'S TALK

FAMILY FARE

Mom's fame casts sons into Hollywood spotlight

By Polly Vonties

Q: Could you please tell us the names of Sophia Loren and Carlo Ponti's two sons? They are very handsome, and my friends and I cannot agree on their names. —Laura Denny, Knoxville, Tenn.

A: Carlo Jr. is 22 years old and studies music at Pepperdine University in California. Eduardo, 18, is currently studying at the University of Southern California.

Q: I would like Kathy Crosby's mailing address. We went to the same high school and I would like to correspond with her. She was Bing Crosby's wife. —Max Ender, Gilmer, Texas

A: I will send you an address I have listed for her, but I can't guarantee she will receive the letter. Write to her at: 400 S. Burnside Ave., No. 1211, Los Angeles, CA 90036.

Q: Very little has been written about Vivian Vance, Lucy's sidekick on I Love Lucy. Please give us some information on her. —C.W. Wells, Knoxville, Tenn.

A: You are right. Vivian Vance's comedic talents are often overlooked. She was born in Cherryvale, Kan., on July 26, 1907.

The public remembers her mainly as Ethel, Lucy's cheery, lovable, muddling-through sidekick. Her career apart from Lucy was minor. The folks in her hometown had taken up a collection to send her to study drama in New York. She appeared in various stage productions in the '30s and '40s, but suffered a nervous breakdown in the late '40s. During her recovery, while appearing in a West Coast play, she was spotted by the producers of I Love Lucy and offered the role of Ethel. It was Desi Arnaz who finally talked her into accepting the role, a decision she never regretted.

In 1959, after Lucy went off the air, she married a wealthy publishing executive and retired happily to Connecticut. She made occasional appearances on television until her death in 1979.

Q: Please tell me everything you can about Josh Brolin, including age and



Sophia Loren

marital status. I was told Emilio Estevez and Charlie Sheen are brothers. Is this true? —K. Marie, Knoxville, Tenn.

A: Josh Brolin of The Young Riders is a native Californian, born Feb. 12, 1968. While in high school, he began appearing in theater productions and decided to work at becoming an actor. At age 16 he got his big acting break as the older brother in the film The Goonies. He went on to appear in other theatrical films and made-for-television movies. He is the son of actor James Brolin and is married to actress Alice "Deborah" Adair. They are the parents of a son, Trevor Mansur, and reside in Los Angeles.

Yes, Charlie Sheen and Emilio Estevez are brothers. Martin Sheen was born Ramon Estevez on Aug. 3, 1940, to a Spanish immigrant father and Irish mother. He changed his name to Martin Sheen in 1959 to avoid ethnic typecasting in films. Martin is the proud father of actors Charlie Sheen and Emilio Estevez. Charlie, the eldest, chose his dad's adopted name, while Emilio, not wanting to follow in his brother Charlie's footsteps, opted to keep the family name of Estevez.

Rounding out the clan are younger siblings Ramon Estevez, a screenwriter, and Renee Estevez, an actress.

Send your questions about the world of entertainment to: Features Dept., Let's Talk, P.O. Box 961009, Fort Worth, Texas 76161-1009. Because of the volume of mail, only questions of general interest can be answered.

Comics come alive in 'Dick Tracy'

By Sherry Jones

Chester Gould's comic-strip hero Dick Tracy comes to Showtime and The Movie Channel in July, and with him comes a band of mobsters with nothing but the worst in mind. Warren Beatty, returning to the Hollywood mainstream after years of a self-imposed hiatus, takes on the title role in Touchstone Pictures' Dick Tracy.

But unlike the comic strip, where Tracy got to take on one terror at a time, the detective's got his hands full here as an all-star cast of mobsters conspires to make his life miserable.

Al Pacino plays Big Boy Caprice, the crime boss who was jailed by Tracy on his first case, so when he shows up in town, it is apparent that he is out for revenge. William Forsythe plays Flat-top Jones, who is imported from Cookson Hills to get rid of Tracy once and for all. Dustin Hoffman is Mumbles, the singer-turned-con man-turned-murderer.

When Tracy's not dodging Big Boy's henchmen, he's busy fending off saloon singer Breathless Mahoney (Madonna), who tries to steal him away from his beloved Tess Truheart (Glenn Headly).

As if all of this weren't enough, a mysterious new phantom called The Blank makes an appearance.

With Oscar-winning makeup and wonderful show tunes by Stephen Sondheim, Dick Tracy is bound to cause excitement for everyone.

By Sherry Jones



Sarah Jessica Parker plays a young lawyer in a big-city district attorney's office in Equal Justice, Wednesdays on ABC.