

August 26-September 1

Suburban Cable Weekly

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## FAMILY FARE

## CABLE NEWS

### Mister Rogers puts on his top hat

By Suzanne Gill

In this week's series of five new episodes of *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, host Fred Rogers explores the magic of dressing up and playing make-believe. The fun begins when cast member Maggie Stewart dresses up as Mr. McFeely to invite Mister Rogers to the neighborhood costume party.

Rogers, who tells his young viewers "It's you I like... Not the things that hide you," will make and wear masks, try on hats and crowns and swap clothes with his friends in his neighborhood and the Land of Make-Believe to help children have a clearer understanding of who's who and why.

"All children, when they're young, need help in learning what makes them who they are as individuals," says Rogers. "It's not easy for any of us to understand just what it is that makes us lovable. We may confuse who we are with what we have or what others see in us."

Also included in the week's activities are two new "factory films" dealing with the making of two of Mister Rogers' sartorial musts: the making of sweaters and the making of sneakers.

Also on the schedule is a visit to a rehearsal of the Boys Choir of Harlem, with musical director Dr. Walter Turnbull as guide.

### Rockers pay tribute to John Lennon

By Dan Rice

Imagine there's no murder. Musical luminaries come together for *A Tribute to John Lennon*, premiering Sunday, Aug. 25, on The Disney Channel. Paying their respects to the great "peacenik" are Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, Elton John, Michael Jackson and Billy Joel, with son Sean and the widow Lennon. Where's George?

Music resounds evermore. For a cool jazz blast from the past, join A&E on Tuesday, Aug. 27, for *Jazz on a Summer's Day*, filmed by Bert Stern at the 1958 Newport Jazz Festival. Not only will you groove to performances by Louis Armstrong, Thelonius Monk, Anita O'Day and Mahalia Jackson, you'll also get a look at the swingin' hepcats and be-boppers of the day bewildering the Newport socialites.

## TIME OUT

### Cable's ESPN earns laurels and respect

By Steve Paschal

For over a decade, hard-core sports fanatics have turned to ESPN for the latest in highlights, updates and late-breaking stories. Beginning in September, the cable network starts its 13th season by adding an additional half-hour program to its already unsurpassed Sunday-morning block of award-winning sports coverage.

Sunday's lineup begins with an hour-long recap of the week's events on *Sports Weekly*, followed by a lively and sometimes heated discussion of the top stories in sports on *The Sports Reporters*. *SportsCenter*, the network's flagship news and information program, is next, followed by a preview of the day's football games on *NFL GamelDay*.

ESPN earned numerous awards in 1990, including Emmys for studio programming, sports journalism and special reports, the National Headliner Award for its spot coverage of the death of Loyola-Marymount basketball player Hank Gathers and two New York Festival Awards for the coverage of Pete Rose's banishment from baseball.

In addition, the network took home three ACE and three *Cable Guide* Reader's Poll awards, as well as the Women's Sports Journalism Award for Scholastic Sports America.

Leap back another generation with The Discovery Channel's *The American Documents: The Age of Ballyhoo*, also beginning Tuesday. Narrated by Gloria Swanson, this outline of American lifestyles in the Roaring '20s stretches from the old folks down on the farm to the flappers in the big-city speakeasies. Twenty-three skidoo.

Returning from simpler times to the perilous present, we journey into the Amazon rain forest in *The Kayapo: Out of the Forest*, airing Monday, Aug. 26, on The Discovery Channel. *Kayapo* follows one Indian community's sophisticated efforts to protest the proposed construction of a hydroelectric dam.



John Goodman discusses his role in *Barton Fink* on Tuesday's *Entertainment Tonight*.

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Romantic tumult equals stress in this week's episode of *Doogie Howser, M.D.*, Wednesday on ABC.