

# NIGHT OWL LISTINGS

FROM 2:30 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

4:00 **NOVA** The succession of airborne speed records since 1908.  
**MOVIE: Spy in the Sky (Mystery Drama, 1958)** An intelligence agent finds himself embroiled with spies. *Steve Brodie, Sandra Francis*  
**WCW Main Event**  
**MOVIE: Marked for Death (Action, 1990)** A vengeful ex-government agent battles drug traffickers. *Steven Seagal, Keith David* R  
 4:15 **MOVIE: The Gods Must Be Crazy II**

(Comedy, 1990) An African bushman tries to rescue his children from poachers. *N'au, Hans Strydom* PG  
**MOVIE: The Lost Weekend (Drama, 1945)** A writer struggles with alcoholism. *Ray Milland, Jane Hymen*

4:30 **Judy, Liza, Barbra and Ethel** Judy Garland, Liza Minnelli, Barbra Streisand and Ethel Merman sing.

4:55 **MOVIE: The Cellar (Horror, 1989)** A man discovers something evil under his

parents' house. *Patrick Kipatnick, Chris Miller* PG13

5:00 **Sports LateNight**

5:05 **MOVIE: Bring on the Night (Musical Documentary, 1985)** The camera follows Sting as he assembles a band for his debut album. *Sting, Omar Hakim* PG13

5:35 **Mel Gibson's Unauthorized Video Diary** The making of *Lethal Weapon 2* is examined from Gibson's viewpoint.

## For Jeremy Brett, Holmes is the mystery

Actor plans to complete Conan Doyle's canon

By Suzanne Gill

"It's not possible to play him," insists actor Jeremy Brett of Sherlock Holmes, whom he has played in more than two dozen TV mysteries based on the stories of Arthur Conan Doyle. The saga continues Thursday, Nov. 14, on PBS' *Mystery* with the first of five new Holmes whodunits. "We've now decided to complete the canon (of over 50 Conan Doyle stories)," he adds, without hint of irony.

More than 100 actors have played Holmes in the 104 years since his creation, and Brett says he didn't want the role at first.

"I couldn't think what else I could

bring (to the part)." But he soon discovered that none of the famous portrayals — even Basil Rathbone's — stayed really true to Conan Doyle's stories, and many details had been lost: Holmes' habit of smoking a variety of pipes to match his many moods; or even the gentlemanly change of headgear (deerstalker in the country, top hat or bowler in town).

Still, "I couldn't find the center of him. It says in the book, 'Holmes is a mind without a heart.'

"I see him as a marble statue. And I don't see him breathing. I'm still trying to find a way of doing him without breathing."

However cold Holmes may be, Brett has developed a sense of kinship with the character. "I like him because he's a Bohemian, he has no class rubbish. He takes on cases not for money, but for the ones that he wants to do. And he can deduce. He can find one clue, and put an entire history together."

Until this role came along in 1982, he says, "I had been playing heroic parts, and romantic parts," including the lovestruck Freddie in *My Fair Lady*.

There is a gallant, if false, modesty in his repeated insistence that he is "miscast" as Holmes, as though no actor should have so much range. Critics disagree, calling him the best Holmes ever.

This time out, Brett concedes, "I think I'm a little better, and I'm not quite sure why. I'm not saying I'm more relaxed, but I'm not in such pain."



Olivia Burnette (left) and Connie Ray star in the comedy series *The Torkelsons*, Saturdays on NBC.

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