NIGHT OWL LISTINGS

FROM 2:30 am to 6:00 am

1990) A New York man struggles to break away from his squalid former life. *Brooke Shields, Jason O'Malley.* R

4:00 (D) $6 Have A look at why U.S. currency is so easy to counterfeit.
(D) MOVIE: Last of the Badmen (*Western*, 1957) Two Chicago detectives are sent to the West to track down a killer. *George Montgomery, James Best*
(D) WCW Main Event

4:05 (D) Whoopi Goldberg: Chez Whoopi Jedda Jones, Chris Thomas and Rockapella perform with Whoopi Goldberg.
(D) MOVIE: Singin' in the Rain (*Musical Comedy*, 1952) A film hero has problems during the transition to movies with sound. *Gene Kelly, Debbie Reynolds.* G

4:10 (D) MOVIE: Stella (*Drama*, 1989) A woman sacrifices her own happiness for her daughter. *Bette Midler, Trini Alvarado.* PG13
(D) MOVIE: Way for a Sailor (*Drama*, 1930) A woman leaves her seafaring husband after he lies to her. *John Gilbert, Wallace Beery*

4:30 (D) MOVIE: Sky Giant (*Adventure*, 1938) Two daredevil aviators nearly lose their lives. *Richard Dix, Chester Morris*

5:00 (D) Sports LateNight
(D) Fishin' Hole

5:05 (D) MOVIE: Enemies, a Love Story (*Comedy Drama*, 1989) A hapless man becomes caught between his mistress and his two wives. *Ron Silver, Anjelica Huston.* R

5:15 (D) MOVIE: Payback (*Action*, 1990) An escaped convict and a sheriff team up to battle a drug lord. *Corey Michael Eubanks, Michael Ironside.* R

LET'S TALK!

Brace yourself for a little orthodontia on the prairie

By Taylor Michaels

Q: *When I was younger, I used to watch* Little House on the Prairie *and I still enjoy it today. One thing I've always wondered, though, is how Melissa Gilbert managed to correct her overbite. Since the show is supposed to take place in the 1800s, she couldn't very well have had braces on the show. Could you find the answer to my question? —Don Walker, Menominee, Wis.*

A: I called the library on this one. As a matter of fact, the idea of orthodontia was first introduced in the early 1700s by a man named Fauchard who tied an "arch bar" or band to anchor teeth and applied pressure in the desired direction. The technique was documented in a 1728 book called *The Story of Dentistry*. The specialty of orthodontics was given its formal name around 1841 when a book dealing exclusively with crooked teeth was published.

So, Laura Ingalls could have worn braces, but it's unlikely that a prairie dentist would have had the training to do the job. Since we never see Gilbert in braces on screen, it's probable that she wore them during "hiatus" periods — those five or six months series actors get between finishing one TV season and beginning another. Also, it would be possible to use makeup to cover the braces, but this seems a short-term solution at best. I tried to find the agency representing Gilbert to learn more, but no luck.

Melissa Gilbert

Q: *Could you tell me what the relationship is between John and Ellen Travolta? My friend says Ellen is his mother. I say they are brother and sister. Who is right? Also, could you tell me where to write actor Mel Gibson? —Sue Harrington, Godwin, N.C.*

A: You are correct. Ellen is an actress and has worked with her famous brother on the 1978 film *Grease* and episodes of *Welcome Back, Kotter*. She played the mother of Scott Baio in three TV series: *Happy Days, Joanie Loves Chachi* and, most recently, *Charles in Charge*.

Write to Gibson care of ICM, 8899 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif., 90048.

Q: *Could you kindly give me the address of Regis Philbin's show in New York? I would like to send a card. —Lorrain Behnke, Peshtigo, Wis.*

A: The address is *Live With Regis and Kathie Lee*, 7 Lincoln Square, 5th Floor, New York, N.Y., 10023.

Q: Please help me settle an argument. A group of us recently watched the movie *Dick Tracy* and several of us were in dispute as to who played the part of Warren Beatty's wife and/or girlfriend. Can you tell us who this woman was? —Brenda Ellzey, Natchitoches, La.

A: The actress who played the part of Tess Trueheart, Dick Tracy's girlfriend, was Glenne Headly.

Q: *Can you please tell me how to contact comedian Jerry Seinfeld? —C.B. Lilly, Elkland, Mo.*

A: Write in care of his series, *Seinfeld*, NBC Television, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y., 10112.

Q: *Years ago, I saw a movie starring Jan-Michael Vincent called* Buster and Billie. *Is it available on home video? It is never shown on television. —Brenda Higgins, New Concord, Ohio.*

A: *Buster and Billie* is available on video. Check your local video store, or call the Video Library of Philadelphia at 800-669-7157.

Q: *I'd like to know if there is a new* Six Million Dollar Man/Bionic Woman *series or television movie in the works, starring Lee Majors and Lindsay Wagner? —Gary R., Thomasville, N.C.*

A: I have not heard of any plans for a new series or movie.

Send your questions about the world of entertainment to Let's Talk, Features Dept., P.O. Box 961009, Fort Worth, Texas, 76161-1009.

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