

FAMILY FARE

'For Better, Worse' makes mediocre trip

By Chris Carpenter

If comic-strip characters could venture beyond the page, where would they go? Well, *Datman* went Burton—black and bleak—and *The Addams*

Family went ballistic. But what about Lynn Johnston's characters from *For Better or For Worse*? Where would they go?

They'd pack up the wagon and go camping, naturally, taking a trip only slightly askew of their traditional path down the middle of the road. The Disney Channel premieres their out-of-suburbia shenanigans in a special titled *For Better or For Worse: The Last Camping Trip* on Friday, Aug. 28.

School's out, and son David, who's having a "major hormone attack," is primed for a weekend with the "babes" at a nearby lake. But David's best-laid plans crater when Mom insists that he accompany the family on a camping trip to the seashore. He's "bummed," but perhaps it is for the best. Any "babe" at the lake within earshot of his pseudo-surfer lingo would surely make waves to avoid his "major hormone attack."

The Last Camping Trip plays like a home movie from comic-strip land. It has it all—burned burgers, moody kids and goofy parents. Everything, in retrospect, that makes for a pretty forgettable family outing.



Wednesday's edition of *MTV Unplugged* showcases the talents of former Eurythmics Annie Lennox.

TRIVIA, ETC.

What was Herbie's debut?

By Steven Alan McGaw

Questions:

1. In what 1969 film did Herbie, the mischievous Volkswagen, make his first appearance? (Bonus: Name the film's two sequels.)
2. Identify the film star whose autobiography was titled *Changing*.
3. Kirk Alyn was the first actor to play this character in the movies.
4. Sally Field and Kurt Russell have portrayed members of the same profession in the same city. Name the job, the city and the films. (Bonus: Identify each performer's primary co-star in their respective movies.)
5. In 1956, this actress returned to movies after a seven-year absence and won the Academy Award for Best Actress. Name the performer and the film.
6. Identify the Hitchcock character who said, "We all go a little mad sometimes."

Answers:

1. Herbie's resume includes *The Love Bug*, *Herbie Goes Bananas* and *Herbie Goes to Monte Carlo*.
2. Liv Ullmann.
3. Superman.
4. Both played reporters for fictitious newspapers in Miami, Fla. Field's film was *Absence of Malice*, co-starring Paul Newman, while Russell played opposite Marlon Brando in *The African Queen*.
5. Ingrid Bergman made her movie comeback in *Anastasia*.
6. Norman Bates in *Psycho*.



Cheryl Pollak plays Rita in Fox's music-oriented series *The Heights*, premiering Thursday.

THURSDAY



Jeremy Brett returns as Sherlock Holmes, Conan Doyle's master sleuth, in "The Disappearance of Lady Frances Carfax," Thursday's installment of *Mystery!*, on PBS.