

FAMILY CARE

Alaskey feathers nest with 'Plucky Duck'

By Chris Carpenter

With compatible companions at a premium these days, Joe Alaskey believes in keeping a few of them in his head just for safe measure. One feathered friend is Buster and Babs Bunny's sputtering sidekick, Plucky Duck, who was recently granted the Hollywood equivalent of a gold star — his own show.

Steven Spielberg Presents *The Plucky Duck Show*, a spin-off of Spielberg's *Tiny Toons*, is currently airing Saturday mornings on Fox.

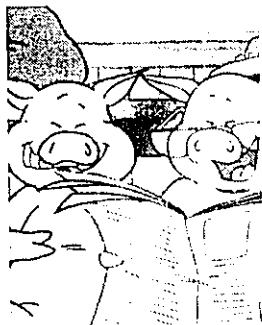
Mouthy Plucky's egotistical and comically contemptuous opinions on what makes good entertainment is an amusing catharsis for Alaskey. Happy to have several years of experience on the stage and in television (*Out of This World*) and film (*Lucky Stiff*), Alaskey still feels his most fulfilling roles are ahead of him.

"I'm very happy to be nearing the final edit on what is not just a one-man (stage) show, and also a darn good play. These shows never go out of style," he says, adding that he hopes to hone the show to completion in early 1993.

But in the meantime, Alaskey terms himself "very lucky" to have landed *The Plucky Duck Show*, especially considering the latest trend in voice-over acting.

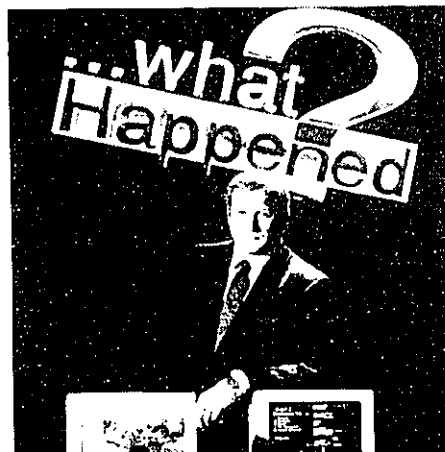
"Now it's a constant process of auditioning, and many of the roles are going to star performers, making the competition even tougher."

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Showtime's animated children's series *A Bunch of Munsch* presents "Pigs" on Wednesday.

FRIDAY



Emmy winner Ken Howard serves as host for *What Happened?* a series using high-tech methods in order to explain various accidents and disasters. The series airs Fridays on NBC.

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