



Annette Funicello visits the set of the "New Mickey Mouse Club," which airs daily on the Disney Channel. Courtesy of Walt Disney Co.

New mouseketeers fit hip '80s image

By Gretchen Boehr
Senior Reporter

Mouseketeers have evolved with the times for the 1989 version of the "Mickey Mouse Club," which debuted April 24 on the Disney Channel.

But don't expect this show to be like the old black-and-white version with Annette and Cubby.

These kids are totally hip with the latest clothes and accessories. No mouse ears on these mouseketeers.

They have names like Tiffany, Lindsey and Damon, and perform music videos to the latest Top 40 hits.

On the set, a neon Mickey Mouse club sign hangs above what looks like a soda fountain counter. The pastel-colored set is movable and adapts for beach and city scenes.

Remember the club song at the end of the show when a mouseketeer solemnly said, "See you real soon?"

In the 1989 mouse club the kids rap their version of this golden oldie.

Jim Moroney, associate producer for the "Mickey Mouse Club," said, "As the 'Mickey Mouse Club' defined the 1950s, this show is aimed at defining the 1990s."

"We wanted to do an '80s version of the original," he said. "This show is very current and it's about the way kids think, dress and talk right now."

Fashion is more important to children in 1989 than it was 30 years ago, Moroney said.

"The kids on the show wear the same fashions any 11- or 15-year-old would wear at the mall," he said.

The clothes seen on the show aren't meant to be overly trendy, Moroney said.

The mouse club of the '50s was very different from other shows, he said.

"The original show was ground-breaking in that something different happened every day."

The new club features a daily theme, too. Monday is music day, Tuesday is guest day, Wednesday is anything-can-happen day, Thursday is party day and Friday is talent day.

The show is centered on the 11 mouseketeers, ages 11 to 14.

The mouseketeers were recruited from around the country. You won't find any Hollywood brats in this bunch -- they seem more like the kid next door.

Fred Newman and Mowava Pryor host the show. Newman has created voices for Steven Spielberg's "Amazing Stories" TV series and Pryor has appeared on "One Life To Live."

Newman and Pryor interact with the kids about first dates, sibling rivalry and other topics.

Moroney said the show tries to stay away from controversial subjects like drugs and teenage pregnancy.

"It's a fun show with things like the humorous side of dating or going out to eat," he said.

The "Mickey Mouse Club" airs daily on the Disney Channel from 4:30 to 5 p.m.

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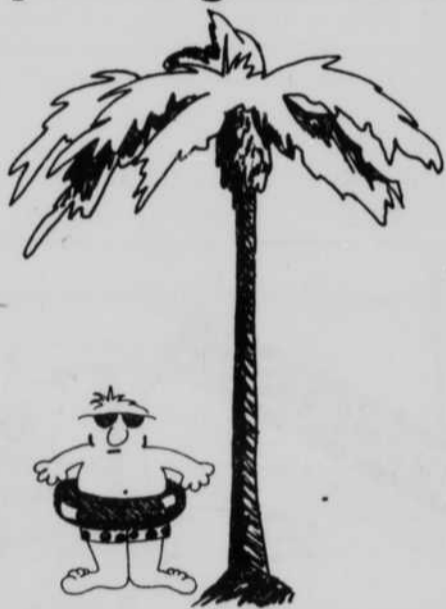
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No 'clear' winner tops Emmy's

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) - "War and Remembrance," which critics said took longer to show than the Second World War it chronicled, won outstanding miniseries and led a charge that stamped favorite "Lonesome Dove" out of town Sunday at the 41st Annual Primetime Emmy Awards.

No clear single winner emerged, with awards spread over several series and miniseries. "Lonesome Dove" led the nominees with 18, but took home best director for Simon Winser and six technical awards.

"A major shock," exclaimed producer Dan Curtis after his vast miniseries "War and Remembrance" took outstanding miniseries.

James Woods, who played the founder of Alcoholics Anonymous in "My Name Is Bill W." and Holly Hunter, as the Texas woman who won a pro-choice verdict from the U.S. Supreme Court in "Roe Vs. Wade" were named outstanding stars of a miniseries or special.

Woods, who won an Emmy two years ago for "Promise," told the Pasadena Civic Auditorium and Fox Broadcasting audience that he considered it "truly an honor to play the man I consider a saint."

In thanks, Miss Hunter, who was nominated for an Oscar as the frantic producer in "Network News," thanked the real Jane Roe, Norma McCorvey, "for continuing to keep women from being second-class citizens, and for refusing to give up her right for a reproductive choice."

"Roe vs. Wade" also was a co-winner as outstanding drama-comedy special, sharing the Emmy with "Day One," an account of the development of the first atomic bomb.

The award for "Day One" was the first one for its co-executive producer Aaron Spelling, producer of "Dynasty," "Charlie's Angels," "Love Boat" and other such shows.

An ecstatic Tracey Ullman came on stage with her eight co-producers to claim the award for outstanding variety, music or comedy program for "The Tracey Ullman Show" -- the first major Emmy for the fledgling Fox Network.

Colleen Dewhurst won her second Emmy in two nights for a supporting performance and British actor Derek Jacobi was selected out-

standing supporting actor in a miniseries or special.

Dewhurst, a distinguished Broadway performer, was named Saturday night for outstanding guest actress in a comedy series as Candice Bergen's mother in "Murphy Brown." She added another Emmy on Sunday as supporting actress in a miniseries or special for her role as Margaret Page in the NBC special "Those She Left Behind."

Jacobi was chosen for playing the impostor G.I. in Hallmark Hall of Fame's "The Tenth Man."

The television academy governor's special award went to the late Lucille Ball. Her frequent co-star Bob Hope entered to a standing ovation and introduced a string of film clips from Miss Ball's career, which included the television shows "I Love Lucy," "The Lucy Show" and "Here's Lucy."

"Lucy loved her work and loved the television industry," said the comedian's widower, Gary Morton, in accepting the award. "You made the Lucy I love very happy, and she would have been very touched by this symbol."

"Cheers" won best comedy series, and shy bartender Woody Harrelson and brassy barmaid Rhea Perlman, both laboring at the television tavern, won best supporting players in a comedy series.

Larry Drake, who portrays the mentally retarded office worker Benny Stulwicz of "L.A. Law," and Melanie Mayron, the unmarried man-hunter in "thirtysomething," won Emmys for best supporting actor and actress in a drama series.

"Lonesome Dove," the CBS miniseries that starred Robert Duvall and Tommy Lee Jones scored the highest number of Emmy nominations in non-technical categories -- 18, followed by NBC's frequent winner "L.A. Law" with 17, and ABC's miniseries "War and Remembrance" with 15.

"L.A. Law" won for best drama series.

"Lonesome Dove" was a big winner before Sunday night's event, taking six Emmys in technical categories in non-televized ceremonies Saturday night. The miniseries won prizes for costume design, makeup, music composition, sound editing, sound mixing and casting.