

F·R·I·E·N·D·S
final year



“FRIENDS” FINALE PRESS KIT

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LEGACY AND IMPACT OF 'FRIENDS' ON THE TELEVISION INDUSTRY

“Along with ‘Seinfeld,’ its Thursday-night sibling, ‘Friends’ redefined the television sitcom at the end of the century. Six attractive kids learning about life -- that was nothing new. But in ‘Friends,’ there was no father, no boss and no authority at all to teach them how to ride a bike or tell them how to get out of second gear. ‘Friends’ explored what might have happened on ‘The Brady Bunch’ if Mike and Carol had run out for a pack of smokes and never come back.

“Lots of comedies were influenced by ‘Friends’ -- including ‘Sex in the City’ -- and it may prove to be one of the most ‘re-runnable’ series of all time.”

--Robert Thompson, Professor and Director of the Center for the Study of Popular Television, Syracuse University

Over a decade, “Friends” has had a lasting impact on both NBC’s fortunes on “Must See TV” Thursdays as well as on the television landscape in general. Following are some comments regarding the contributions of the Emmy Award-winning comedy from entertainment industry leaders and reporters.

“The cast is exceptional but the brilliance of ‘Friends’ lies in its stories and character arcs. Audiences have unconditionally bonded with the choices and details of these characters lives. While always funny and entertaining, it's this connection that gives the show its potent ‘Must See’ punch.

“With its tremendous 18-49 success story, every network for the last 10 years has tried to find its own ‘young adult’ signature comedy. Nothing has been more highly sought after, but what they fail to find is the HEART that binds the ‘Friends’ together. Without the heart, there is no ‘Friends.’”

--Warren Littlefield, former President, NBC Entertainment

“While ‘The Mary Tyler Moore Show’ was the genesis of ‘Must See TV’... ‘Friends’ put six faces on it. What began as a group of friends over time became a group of best friends. A combination of great casting...committed actors...and a writing staff that somehow nailed virtually every single episode... ‘Friends’ became almost the perfect television sitcom. Smart, good-looking, hip – and get this, funny!!!

“It changed television forever because it was so good. And because it was so good...it raised the bar forever. Something else will come along...something else always does...but I guarantee you, it won't be this friendly.”

-- Pat O’Brien, Co-host “Access Hollywood”

“Just call ‘Friends’ the ‘dinosaur’ of sitcoms. Show producers and networks will forever be studying the skeleton of ‘Friends’...and skeletons can be re-created, but to get another dinosaur to come to life...a very hard feat! Ross would love this analogy, now wouldn’t he?”

“‘Friends’ is most definitely the ‘friendliest’ sitcom in television history. Others have tried to find the elusive treasure to which ‘Friends’ has the map. They have driven in circles when all they needed to do was to go straight to the heart. The enduring legacy of ‘Friends’ will be the way it perfected showcasing human relationships and caring for others. Considering what our country has gone through the past few years, ‘Friends’ has influenced sitcom creators to return to the basics what makes us feel good. We’ve seen this massive hunt for some complicated map when the treasure sat there simply in the title of the show itself.”

-- Nancy O’Dell, Co-host, “Access Hollywood”

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“FRIENDS”

Thursdays on NBC (8-8:30 p.m. ET)

Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox Arquette, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlanc, Matthew Perry and David Schwimmer star in this Emmy-winning comedy about six close-knit young friends living in New York City.

Ending its 10th season as the leadoff series on NBC’s enormously popular “Must See TV” Thursday-night lineup, “Friends” continues to garner critical acclaim and ratings success. The show reigns as the number-one comedy on television among adults 18-49 for six years in a row.

Since its debut season (1994-95), “Friends” has received 55 Emmy Award nominations, including six for Outstanding Comedy Series, which the show won this year. The cast won a Screen Actors Guild Award in 1996 for Outstanding Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Series and has been nominated five times (1996, 1997, 1998, 2002 and 2004) for a Golden Globe Award for Best Television Series, Musical or Comedy. “Friends” won the People’s Choice Award for Favorite New Comedy Series in its first season, and has since won three more times as Favorite Comedy Series including 2003.

The series focuses on the friendship of three men and three women who frequently gather at each other’s apartments and share sofa space at Greenwich Village’s “Central Perk” coffeehouse. Monica (Cox Arquette) is a chef with an obsession for neatness and order in her life. She is also married to Chandler (Perry), a dry wit who is never at a loss for words. Across the hall are Chandler’s longtime roommate Joey (LeBlanc), a womanizing actor currently on the soap opera “Days of Our Lives,” and Rachel (Aniston), Monica’s best friend from high school.

Across the alley from Monica and Chandler is Monica’s hapless brother Ross (Schwimmer), a paleontology professor who has been divorced three times, including once from Rachel. Although Rachel is no longer romantically involved with Ross, they share the responsibility of raising their newborn daughter, Emma. Rounding out the circle of friends is Monica’s ex-roommate, Phoebe Buffay (Kudrow), an offbeat, eternally optimistic folk singer and massage therapist who recently married her boyfriend, Mike (Paul Rudd, “The Cider House Rules”).

The series was created by the Emmy Award-winning writing team of Marta Kauffman & David Crane. Emmy and CableACE Award-winning producer Kevin S. Bright is executive producer with Kauffman and Crane. Scott Silveri, Shana Goldberg-Meehan, Andrew Reich and Ted Cohen also serve as executive producers. “Friends” is a Bright/Kauffman/Crane Production in association with Warner Bros. Television.

April 2004

JENNIFER ANISTON

Rachel Green on "Friends"



Emmy Award winner (and 2003 Emmy nominee for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series) Jennifer Aniston re-connected with her Greek roots by spending a year of her childhood living in Greece -- and no doubt the influence of noted Greek-American actor Telly Savalas as her godfather further augmented her cultural appreciation. Ultimately, however, she was raised in New York City when her father, actor John Aniston (NBC's "Days of Our Lives"), landed a featured role on the daytime drama "Love of Life."

Aniston -- who recently earned glowing reviews for her performance in the feature film "The Good Girl" -- had her first taste of acting at age 11 when she joined the Rudolf Steiner School's drama club. Her experience there also helped her develop a passion for art. When she was 11, one of her paintings was selected to be displayed in an exhibit at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Aniston began her professional training as a drama student at New York's High School of the Performing Arts. After her graduation in 1987, she won roles in such off-Broadway productions as "For Dear Life" at New York's Public Theatre and "Dancing on Checker's Grave." In 1989, she landed her first television role as a series regular on "Molloy." Her other television credits include regular roles on "The Edge" and "Ferris Bueller," a recurring part on "Herman's Head" and guest-starring roles on such series as "The Larry Sanders Show," "Partners," "Burke's Law" and "Quantum Leap."

In addition, Aniston has starred in a number of other films, including "The Object of My Affection," "Picture Perfect," "She's the One," "Til There Was You" and "Office Space." She also starred with Quentin Tarantino in the interactive tutorial CD-ROM directed by Steven Spielberg, "Movie Maker." She will next star opposite Ben Stiller and Debra Messing (NBC's "Will & Grace") in the as-yet-untitled John Hanburg project, which is set to be released January 2004. She appeared opposite Mark Wahlberg in "Rock Star" and last summer starred with Jim Carrey in the smash hit "Bruce Almighty." She also recently starred in "Along Came Polly."

In 2001, Aniston was nominated for an Emmy as Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series and Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series respectively for her "Friends" role (she won her Emmy in 2002). As three-time nominee for the People's Choice Award as Favorite Female Television Performer, she won the award in 2001 and 2002. She also received her first

Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild nominations in 2002 for Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role and Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Comedy Series, respectively.

Currently, Aniston resides in Los Angeles with her husband, actor Brad Pitt. She enjoys painting in her spare time, as well as hiking, camping -- and virtually anything that brings her closer to nature. Her birthday is February 11.

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COURTENEY COX ARQUETTE

Monica Geller Bing on “Friends”



Courteney Cox Arquette returns to television’s top-rated comedy “Friends” for the tenth season as the sensitive and meticulous Monica Geller Bing, who is married to fellow “Friend” Chandler Bing (series star Matthew Perry).

Cox Arquette’s talent for both dramatic and comedic acting has made her a favorite of fans. She co-starred opposite Kevin Costner and Kurt Russell in the film “3000 Miles to Graceland,” and as television reporter Gale Weathers in Wes Craven’s “Scream” trilogy, opposite Neve Campbell and Cox Arquette’s husband, David Arquette.

Cox Arquette’s other feature credits include “Ace Ventura: Pet Detective” (opposite Jim Carrey), “Commandments,” “Blue Desert,” “Cocoon: The Return,” “Mr. Destiny,” “The Rules of the Game,” and “Alien Love Triangle,” opposite Kenneth Branagh (and directed by Danny Boyle).

Cox Arquette, along with her husband David, are creators and executive producers of the new home-themed series, “Mix It Up,” which is inspired by their own decorating dilemmas. “Mix It Up” takes a close look at individuals moving in together, be it friends, lovers, husband and wives, mothers and daughters or roommates, who are often at odds stylistically. An interior design team assists these couples in their attempts to blend their personal living styles with complete room makeovers. The show premieres on the WE Network in October 2003.

Before “Friends,” Cox Arquette’s most memorable television roles included a recurring turn as Lauren, Alex P. Keaton’s (Michael J. Fox) girlfriend on “Family Ties,” and, as a teenager, playing a starstruck fan hauled on stage by Bruce Springsteen in his “Dancing in the Dark” video. Her other television credits include “The Trouble with Larry,” as well as guest-starring parts on “Murder, She Wrote,” “Seinfeld,” “Dream On,” “Hands That See” and “The Larry Sanders Show.”

Born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama, Cox Arquette moved to New York City after her graduation from high school and was subsequently signed by the Ford modeling agency. Soon, she was appearing in magazines, television commercials and music videos. In 1995, as a cast member of “Friends,” Cox Arquette was People magazine’s 1995 cover girl for the “50 Most Beautiful People” issue.

In her spare time, Cox Arquette, who wanted to be an architect while growing up, enjoys remodeling and decorating homes. She and Arquette currently live in Los Angeles. Her birthday is June 15.

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LISA KUDROW

Phoebe Buffay on “Friends”



Lisa Kudrow has been honored with five Emmy Award nominations for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series for her role as the spacey but lovable (and now married) folk singer/massage therapist Phoebe -- and she took home the statuette in 1998. She has also received a Screen Actors Guild Award (and three additional nominations) for Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Comedy Series, an American Comedy Award for Funniest Supporting Female Performer in a Television Series and a Golden Globe Award nomination for her performance on “Friends.”

In addition to her success on television, Kudrow has received rave reviews for her feature-film roles. She won the Best Supporting Actress Award from the New York Film Critics and an Independent Spirit Award nomination and a Chicago Film Critics Award nomination for her role in the Don Roos-directed film “The Opposite of Sex.” She also starred opposite Billy Crystal and Robert De Niro in the film “Analyze This,” for which she won a Blockbuster Award.

Kudrow’s recent film credits include starring roles in the “Analyze That” – the sequel to “Analyze This” -- “Hanging Up” (opposite Meg Ryan and Diane Keaton) and “Lucky Numbers” with John Travolta. In 1997, she shared top billing in the critically acclaimed hit comedy “Romy & Michele’s High School Reunion” with Mira Sorvino, and co-starred in Albert Brooks’ comedy “Mother.” She also starred in “Clockwatchers” opposite Toni Collette and Parker Posey.

In 2003, Kudrow starred in “Wonderland” with Val Kilmer, as Sharon Holmes, wife of porn star John Holmes, in a film based on the infamous Wonderland Avenue murders in Los Angeles.

While Kudrow has always been passionate about acting, she never thought of it as a career until after college. While growing up, she performed and reenacted many of her favorite movie scenes for family and friends.

Kudrow graduated from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York with a bachelor of science degree in biology. She returned to Los Angeles intending to pursue a career in research, but her passion to act and perform resurfaced when her brother’s good friend, actor/comedian Jon Lovitz, inspired her to pursue her dream. She began studying with improvisational instructor Cynthia Szigeti and acting teacher Ian Tucker. In 1989, Kudrow was accepted as a member of the famed Los Angeles improv group, the Groundlings.

In addition, Kudrow maintains the distinction of having been in two outstanding television series simultaneously. Along with her role on “Friends,” she portrayed the ditzzy waitress Ursula on the comedy “Mad About You.” Playing the twin sisters Ursula and Phoebe, Kudrow had the opportunity to concurrently appear in what were at the time two of the most popular series on television.

A native of California, Kudrow currently resides in Los Angeles with her husband and son. Her birthday is July 30.

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MATT LEBLANC

Joey Tribbiani on "Friends"



Matt LeBlanc stars in the Emmy-winning comedy, "Friends," as Joey, a womanizing actor currently on the soap opera "Days of Our Lives" living across the hall from Chandler (Mathew Perry) and Monica (Courteney Cox Arquette).

LeBlanc most recently appeared on the big screen in "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle," reprising his role from the 2000 blockbuster "Charlie's Angels." He has also starred in "Lost in Space" and "All the Queen's Men."

LeBlanc received his second Emmy nomination this year for his work on "Friends." He has been nominated for two People's Choice Awards and three Golden Globe Awards as well.

Next season, LeBlanc will star in the NBC comedy "Joey."

LeBlanc currently resides in Los Angeles. His birthday is July 25.

April 2004



MATTHEW PERRY

Chandler Bing on “Friends”



Born in Williamstown, Massachusetts, Emmy Award nominee Matthew Perry was raised in Ottawa, Ontario, where he became a top-ranked junior tennis player in Canada. However, after moving to Los Angeles at the age of 15 to live with his father (actor John Bennett Perry), he became more interested in acting. In addition to performing in several high school stage productions, he remained an avid tennis player--and was even ranked 17th nationally in the junior singles category and third in the doubles category.

Upon graduating from high school, Perry intended to enroll at the University of Southern California. However, when he was offered a leading role on the television series “Boys Will Be Boys,” he seized the opportunity to begin his

acting career.

Perry recently starred with Elizabeth Hurley in the comedy film “Serving Sara.” He also co-starred in the hit comedy film “The Whole Nine Yards,” as the neighbor of a hit man played by Bruce Willis. Perry’s other film credits include “Fools Rush In,” “A Night in the Life of Jimmy Reardon,” “She’s Out of Control” and “Parallel Lives.” Perry also co-starred with Chris Farley in the buddy comedy “Almost Heroes” and in the romantic comedy “Three to Tango,” opposite Neve Campbell.

Nominated for an Emmy for his guest appearance on NBC’s “The West Wing,” Perry can now be seen alongside Willis in the film sequel “The Whole Ten Yards,” which was released Easter weekend. Perry is soon set to produce and star in “The Beginning of Wisdom” opposite his father, John Bennett Perry. He also has a two-picture deal with Paramount Studios.

On the stage, Perry finished a run in London’s West End in David Mamet’s “Sexual Perversity in Chicago.” He co-starred alongside Minnie Driver, Hank Azaria and Kelly Reilly, and the play took the largest ever box-office advance for a West End show.

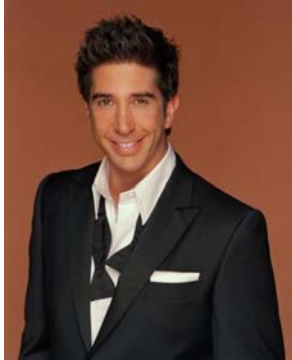
Perry currently resides in Los Angeles. He enjoys playing ice hockey and softball in his spare time. His birthday is August 19.

April 2004



DAVID SCHWIMMER

Ross Geller on “Friends”



David Schwimmer's performance as Ross, a sensitive, hopeless romantic, has earned him an Emmy Award nomination as Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series as well as popular and critical acclaim for his versatility on stage, in film and television in a wide variety of roles.

Born in New York and raised in Los Angeles, Schwimmer was encouraged by a high school instructor to attend a summer program in acting at Northwestern University. Inspired by that experience, he returned to Northwestern where he received a bachelor's degree in speech/theater. In 1988, along with seven other Northwestern graduates, he co-founded Chicago's Lookingglass Theatre

Company -- an ensemble of actors, writers, directors and designers (now 20-members strong) dedicated to creating vibrant new works for the American stage.

Schwimmer most recently adapted Studs Terkel's book “Race: How Blacks and Whites Think and Feel About The American Obsession” for the stage, which he directed as the premiere production for the company's new theater on Michigan Avenue in Chicago.

Schwimmer has acted in or directed numerous productions with Lookingglass including “Of One Blood,” “West,” “The Odyssey,” “The Jungle,” “In the Eye of the Beholder,” “The Master and Margarita,” “The Arabian Nights” and “The Idiot.” In addition, he starred in the premieres of Roger Kumble's “D Girl” and “Turnaround in Los Angeles” and Warren Leight's “Glimmer Brothers” in Williamstown, Massachusetts.

Among Schwimmer's feature credits include “Hotel,” “It's the Rage,” “Picking Up the Pieces,” “Six Days, Seven Nights,” “Apt Pupil,” “Kissing a Fool,” “The Pallbearer,” “Crossing the Bridge,” “Since You've Been Gone” -- which he also directed--and the critically acclaimed HBO films “Band of Brothers” and “Breast Men.” His television credits include “Friends,” which he continues to direct; Jon Avnet's miniseries “Uprising,” and recurring roles on such series as “NYPD Blue,” “L.A. Law” and “The Wonder Years.”

Schwimmer is on the board of directors of the Rape Foundation for the Rape Treatment Center of Santa Monica and has residences in Los Angeles and Chicago. His birthday is in November 2.

April 2004



KEVIN S. BRIGHT

Executive Producer, "Friends"

As one of the three original executive producers behind the highest-rated comedy on television -- NBC's "Friends" -- Kevin S. Bright (along with creators and fellow executive producers Marta Kauffman and David Crane) has gained recognition as one of TV's most talented producers.

Since its debut season (1994-95), "Friends" has received 44 Emmy Award nominations (including five for Outstanding Comedy Series), a Screen Actors Guild Award in 1996 for Outstanding Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Series, and has been nominated four times (1996, 1997, 1998 and 2002) for a Golden Globe Award for Best Television Series, Musical or Comedy. "Friends" also won the People's Choice Award as Favorite New Comedy Series in its first season, and has since won three more times as Favorite Comedy Series.

Bright, a native New Yorker, has been exposed to show business all his life. His father, Jackie Bright, was a vaudeville comedian and later became president of the American Guild of Variety Artists. After completing two years in college as a history and philosophy major, Bright decided to pursue a career in television and transferred to Emerson College in Boston. Graduating magna cum laude in 1976, he began his career at the Joseph Cates Company where he later produced the first six David Copperfield magic specials.

After moving to Los Angeles, Bright produced the CableACE Award -winning series, "The History of White People in America," as well as comedy specials starring Robin Williams, Martin Mull, Harry Shearer, Paul Shaffer and Merrill Markoe. In 1989, he received an Emmy for Outstanding Comedy Series as supervising producer on the hit show "In Living Color." In that same year, Bright began his relationship with Kauffman and Crane as executive producer on the popular cable series "Dream On," which won a 1992 CableACE Award for Best Comedy Series. In 1990, he also served as executive producer of the "Ron Reagan Show."

In 1993, Bright entered a partnership with Kauffman and Crane to form Bright/Kauffman/Crane Productions and began a development deal with Warner Bros. Television, where the trio has produced the comedy series "Friends," "Veronica's Closet" and "Jesse."

In addition to his work as producer, Bright also directs numerous episodes of "Friends" each season. He has directed some of the most beloved episodes, including the season finale of each year. Other directing credits include numerous episodes of "Veronica's Closet," "Jesse" and "Dream On" (for which he received a CableACE nomination as Best Director).

Bright lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Claudia, and their twin sons, Justin and Zachary. His birthday is November 15.

April 2004



MARTA KAUFFMAN & DAVID CRANE

Creators/Executive Producers, "Friends"

As the creators and executive producers of the highest-rated show on television -- NBC's "Friends" -- Marta Kauffman and David Crane (along with fellow executive producer Kevin S. Bright) have gained recognition as some of TV's most talented producers.

Since its debut season (1994-95), "Friends" has received 44 Emmy Award nominations (including five for Outstanding Comedy Series), a Screen Actors Guild Award in 1996 for Outstanding Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Series, and has been nominated four times (1996, 1997, 1998, 2002) for a Golden Globe Award for Best Television Series, Musical or Comedy. "Friends" also won the People's Choice Award as Favorite New Comedy Series in its first season, and has since won three more times as Favorite Comedy Series.

Kauffman and Crane met while attending Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, and have worked together for 25 years. They have become so familiar with one another that they "tend to finish each other's sentences," says Kauffman. Both Philadelphia natives, Kauffman and Crane became writing partners at Brandeis and spent their spare time penning musicals. They continued their working relationship in New York, where they teamed with composer Michael Skloff to write several musicals, including the stage version of the movie "Arthur." They also contributed sketch and musical materials to the off-Broadway shows "Upstairs at O'Neal's" and "A... My Name is Alice," and co-wrote the book and lyrics for the widely acclaimed musical "Personals," for which they received an Outer Critics Circle Award and a Drama Desk nomination.

In 1989, Kauffman and Crane created and served as co-executive producers on the critically acclaimed comedy series "Dream On," for which they received an Emmy nomination and a CableACE Award for writing the episode "For Peter's Sake." "Dream On" also marked the beginning of their relationship with executive producer Kevin S. Bright, with whom they formed Bright/Kauffman/Crane Productions in 1993.

In addition to NBC's "Friends," and "Dream On," Kauffman and Crane also created and served as executive producers on "Veronica's Closet," "Family Album" and "Jesse" (starring Christina Applegate), and also created the 1992-93 comedy series "The Powers That Be" for Norman Lear, starring John Forsythe, David Hyde Pierce and Holland Taylor.

Kauffman lives in Los Angeles with her husband, composer Michael Skloff; their three children, Hannah, Sam and Rose; six horses, two dogs and two cats. She has been named one of the 25 Most Influential Mothers by Working Mother magazine.

Crane lives in Los Angeles with his companion, television writer and producer Jeffrey Klarik, creator of the UPN series "Half & Half." Crane and Larry Coen co-wrote the play "Epic Proportions," which was recently produced on Broadway.

May 2004



“FRIENDS”

CREDITS

Day & time: Thursdays on NBC (8-8:30 p.m. ET)

Premiere date: September 22, 1994

Finale Date: May 6, 2004

Starring: Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox Arquette, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlanc, Matthew Perry, David Schwimmer

Executive producers: Kevin S. Bright; Marta Kauffman and David Crane; Shana Goldberg-Meehan, Scott Silveri, Andrew Reich, Ted Cohen

Created by: Marta Kauffman and David Crane

Co-executive producers: Todd Stevens, Sherry Bilsing, Ellen Plummer, Brian Buckner, Sebastian Jones

Supervising producers: Mark Kunerth, Dana Klein

Producers: Wendy Knoller, Robert Carlock

Associate producers: Noel Bright, Mary Rodriguez

Directors: Kevin S. Bright; Various

Art director: John Shaffner & Joe Stewart

Casting director: Mary Buck, Leslie Litt

Costume designer: Debra McGuire

Director of photography: Nick McLean

Music: Michael Skloff

Origination: Burbank, California

Produced by: Bright/Kauffman/Crane Productions in association with Warner Bros. Television

NBC Media Contact: Barbara Tranchito, 818/487-2929

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◆ = win
(unbolded = nomination only)

'FRIENDS' LIST OF AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

1995

WRITERS GUILD OF AMERICA AWARDS

Episodic Comedy: "The One Where Underdog Gets Away", Writer-Jeff Greenstein & Jeff Strauss

21ST ANNUAL PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

◆ **Favorite New Television Comedy Series (tied with "Ellen")**

Favorite Female Television Performer in a New Series: Courteney Cox

11TH ANNUAL TELEVISION CRITICS ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Outstanding Comedy

GLAAD AWARDS

◆ **Outstanding Television Series**

VIEWERS FOR QUALITY TELEVISION AWARDS

Best Quality Comedy

Best Supporting Actor in a Quality Comedy: David Schwimmer

INTERNATIONAL MONITOR AWARDS

◆ **Outstanding Director: James Burrows**

47th ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS

Outstanding Comedy Series

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series: Lisa Kudrow

Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series: David Schwimmer

Outstanding Individual Achievement in Directing a Comedy Series: James Burrows, "The One with the Blackout"

Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series: Christina Pickles

Outstanding Individual Achievement in Art Direction for a Comedy Series: "The One Where Rachel Finds Out", John Shaffner, Art Director; Greg Grande, Set Decorator

Outstanding Individual Achievement in Main Title Theme Music: Michael Skloff, Composer; Allee Willis Lyricist

Outstanding Individual Achievement in Editing for a Series - Multi Camera: "The One With Two Parts", Andy Zall, Editor

Outstanding Individual Achievement in Writing for a Comedy Series: Jeff Greenstein, Jeff Strauss, Writers "The One Where Underdog Gets Away"

ARTIOS AWARDS (Casting Society of America)

Outstanding Casting in a Comedy Series - Ellie Kanner

(more)

Awards - 2

1996

10TH ANNUAL AMERICAN COMEDY AWARDS

Supporting Female Performer in a TV Series: Jennifer Aniston

Supporting Female Performer in a TV Series: Lisa Kudrow

Supporting Male Performer in a TV Series: Matthew Perry

Supporting Male Performer in a TV Series: David Schwimmer

22ND ANNUAL PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS (March 1996)

Favorite Television Comedy Series

GLAAD AWARDS

Outstanding Television Series

DIRECTOR'S GUILD AWARDS

Outstanding Comedy Series: "The One with the Birth", James Burrows-Director, Steven Pomeroy-1st

Assistant Director, Joel M. Wang-2nd Assistant Director, Jeffrey A. Wheat-Technical Director.

55TH ANNUAL HOLLYWOOD WOMEN'S PRESS CLUB'S GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS

◆ **Discovery of the Year: Courteney Cox**

2nd ANNUAL SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS (2/24/96)

◆ **Outstanding TV or Cable Ensemble, Comedy: Matthew Perry, Matt LeBlanc, David Schwimmer, Jennifer Aniston, Lisa Kudrow, Courteney Cox**

Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series: Lisa Kudrow

GOLDEN GLOBES

Best Television Series, Musical or Comedy

Best Actress in a Supporting Role for a Series, Miniseries, or Motion Picture Made For TV: Lisa Kudrow

PRODUCERS GUILD AWARDS

Best Television Series

NICKELODEON KID'S CHOICE AWARDS

Favorite Animal Star: "Marcel" the Monkey

GRAMMY AWARDS

Rembrandts: "I'll Be There For You"; New Song of The Year

PUBLICISTS GUILD OF AMERICA AWARDS

◆ **Showmanship Award for Television: NBC Friends; Phil Gonzales**

VIEWERS FOR QUALITY TELEVISION

◆ **Honored: "Fully Endorsed"**

VIEWERS FOR QUALITY TELEVISION

Best Quality Comedy

Best Supporting Actress in a Quality Comedy: Lisa Kudrow

48TH ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS

◆ **Outstanding Individual Achievement in Directing in a Comedy Series - Michael Lembeck, Director "The One After The Super Bowl"**

Outstanding Comedy Series - Kevin S. Bright, Marta Kauffman, David Crane, Executive Producers; Michael Borkow, Supervising Producer; Todd Stevens, Betsy Borns, Producers

Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series - Marlo Thomas as Sandra Green "The One With The Lesbian Wedding"

NANCY SUSAN REYNOLDS AWARDS

Primetime Comedy: "The One Where Dr. Ramoray Dies"

Awards - 3

1997

23rd ANNUAL PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS (1/12/97)

Favorite Television Comedy Series

8th ANNUAL GLAAD MEDIA AWARDS (3/16/97)

Outstanding Comedy Series

GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS

Best Comedy

49th ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS (9/14/97)

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series - Lisa Kudrow

55th ANNUAL GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS (1/18/98)

Best Television Series - Musical or Comedy

BRITISH ACADEMY OF FILM & TELEVISION ARTS TELEVISION AWARDS (5/18/98)

◆ **International Television Program**

50th ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS (9/13/98)

◆ **Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series - Lisa Kudrow**

25th ANNUAL PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS (1/10/99)

Favorite Television Comedy Series

1999 TV GUIDE AWARDS (2/01/99)

Favorite Comedy Series

13th ANNUAL AMERICAN COMEDY AWARDS (2/07/99)

Funniest Supporting Female Performer in a Television Series - Jennifer Aniston

Funniest Supporting Female Performer in a Television Series - Courteney Cox

Funniest Supporting Female Performer in a Television Series - Lisa Kudrow

5th ANNUAL SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS (3/7/99)

Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Comedy Series - Lisa Kudrow

Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Comedy Series

1999 NICKELODEON KIDS' CHOICE AWARDS (5/01/99)

TV Actress – Jennifer Aniston

ASCAP'S 14th ANNUAL FILM & TV MUSIC AWARDS (4/27/99)

◆ **Top TV Series – Michael Skloff (one of many)**

Awards - 4

15th ANNUAL TELEVISION CRITICS ASSOCIATION AWARDS (7/23/99)

Outstanding Achievement in Comedy

51ST ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS (9/12/99)

Outstanding Comedy Series

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series – Lisa Kudrow

Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series – Alexa Junge – “The One Where Everybody Finds Out”

Outstanding Directing for a Comedy Series – Michael Lembeck – “The One Where Everybody Finds Out”

Outstanding Sound Mixing for a Comedy Series or Special – Dana Mark McClure, C.A.S., Production Mixer; Charlie McDaniel III, Kathy Oldham, John Bickelhaupt, Re-recording Mixers – “The One With All the Thanksgivings”

Outstanding Costume Design – Debra McGuire – “The One With All the Thanksgivings”

26TH ANNUAL PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARDS (1/9/00)

◆ **Favorite Television Comedy Series**

Favorite Female Television Performer – Jennifer Aniston

4TH ANNUAL GOLDEN SATELLITE AWARDS (1/16/00) (IPA)

Best Performance by an Actress in a Series, Comedy or Musical – Jennifer Aniston

14th ANNUAL AMERICAN COMEDY AWARDS (taped 2/06/00)

◆ **Funniest Supporting Female Performer in a Television Series – Lisa Kudrow**

52nd ANNUAL WRITERS GUILD AWARDS (3/05/00)

Episodic Comedy – “The One Where Everybody Finds Out,” written by Alexa Junge

2nd ANNUAL TV GUIDE AWARDS (3/05/00)

◆ **Editor’s Choice Award**

Favorite Comedy Series

Favorite Actress in a Comedy Series – Lisa Kudrow

6th ANNUAL S.A.G. AWARDS (3/12/00)

◆ **Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Comedy Series – Lisa Kudrow**

Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Comedy Series

PRISM AWARDS 2000 (3/21/00)

◆ **Commendation – TV Comedy Series Episode - “The One Where Rachel Smokes”**

16th ANNUAL QUALITY (“Q”) AWARDS (Viewers For Quality Television) (8/07/00)

Best Quality Comedy

Awards - 5**52nd ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS (9/10/00)****◆ Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series – Bruce Willis, as Paul Stevens**

Outstanding Comedy Series – Kevin S. Bright, Marta Kauffman, David Crane, Adam Chase, Greg Malins, Executive Producers; Seth Kurland, Shana Goldberg-Meehan, Scott Silveri, Co-Executive Producers; Todd Stevens, Andrew Reich, Ted Cohen, Supervising Producers; Wendy Knoller, Producer

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series – Jennifer Aniston, as Rachel Green

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series – Lisa Kudrow, as Phoebe Buffay

Outstanding Directing for a Comedy Series – Michael Lembeck, Director – “The One That Could Have Been, Parts 1 & 2”

Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series – Tom Selleck, as Dr. Richard Burke

Outstanding Multi-Camera Picture Editing For a Series – Stephen Prime, Editor – “The One With the Proposal, Parts 1 & 2”

Outstanding Sound Mixing For a Comedy Series or a Special – Dana Mark McClure, Production Mixer; Charles McDaniel, III, John Bickelhaupt, Kathleen C. Oldham, Re-Recording Mixers - “The One After Vegas”

27th ANNUAL PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARDS (1/07/01)**◆ Favorite Female Television Performer – Jennifer Aniston****◆ Favorite Television Comedy Series****5th ANNUAL GOLDEN SATELLITE AWARDS (International Press Academy) (1/14/01)****◆ Best Performance by an Actress in a Series, *Comedy or Musical* – Lisa Kudrow**

Best Television Series, *Comedy or Musical*

3rd ANNUAL TV GUIDE AWARDS (2/24/01)

Comedy Series of the Year

12th ANNUAL GOLDEN LAUREL AWARDS (Producers Guild of America) (3/03/01)

Producer of the Year Award in Episodic Television (Comedy) – Kevin S. Bright, Marta Kauffman, David Crane, Wil Calhoun, Todd Stevens

7th ANNUAL SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS (3/11/01)

Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Comedy Series – Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox Arquette, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlanc, Matthew Perry, David Schwimmer

2nd ANNUAL HOLLYWOOD MAKEUP ARTIST & HAIR STYLIST GUILD AWARDS (3/17/01)

Best Contemporary Makeup – Television (for a single episode of a regular series – sitcom, drama or daytime) - Robin Siegel, Beth Katz, Anne Sweeting, Kevin Haney, “The One That Could Have Been”

15th ANNUAL AMERICAN COMEDY AWARDS (4/22/01)

Funniest Supporting Female Performer in a Television Series – Lisa Kudrow

Funniest Supporting Female Performer in a Television Series – Jennifer Aniston

Awards - 6

2001 ANNUAL BANFF ROCKIE AWARDS (6/11/01)

Comedy Series

53rd ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS (9/16/01)

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series – Jennifer Aniston

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series – Lisa Kudrow

Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series – Gary Oldman

Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series – Susan Sarandon

Outstanding Art Direction for a Multi-Camera Series – John Shaffner, Greg Grande -- “The One with Monica and Chandler’s Wedding”

17th ANNUAL SHINE AWARDS (10/24/01)

Scene Stealer – “The One with the Truth About London”

28th ANNUAL PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARDS (1/13/02)

◆ **Favorite Television Comedy Series**

◆ **Favorite Female Television Performer – Jennifer Aniston**

6th ANNUAL GOLDEN SATELLITE AWARDS (1/19/02)

Best Television Series, Comedy or Musical

Best Performance by an Actress in a Series, Comedy or Musical – Lisa Kudrow

59th ANNUAL GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS (1/20/02)

Best Television Series – Musical or Comedy

Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Series, Mini-series or a Motion Picture

Made for Television – Jennifer Aniston

3rd ANNUAL HOLLYWOOD MAKEUP ARTIST AND HAIR STYLIST GUILD AWARDS (2/17/02)

Best Contemporary Makeup for a Television Series – “The One with the Halloween Party” – Robin Siegel, Beth Katz, Sheree Morgan

13th ANNUAL PRODUCERS GUILD AWARDS (3/03/02)

Danny Thomas Producer of the Year Award in Episodic Television (Comedy) – Kevin S. Bright, Marta Kauffman, David Crane, Shana Goldberg-Meehan, Scott Silveri, Andrew Reich, Ted Cohen, Todd Stevens

8th ANNUAL SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS (3/10/02)

For Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Comedy Series – Jennifer Aniston

For Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Comedy Series – cast: Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox Arquette, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlanc, Matthew Perry, David Schwimmer

18th ANNUAL TELEVISION CRITICS ASSOCIATION AWARDS (7/20/02)

Outstanding Achievement in Comedy

Individual Achievement in Comedy – Matt LeBlanc

2002 TEEN CHOICE AWARDS (taped 8/05/02; aired 8/19/02)

Awards - 7

◆ **Choice TV Comedy**

(Note: "Friends" award for Choice TV Comedy was its fourth consecutive win. The series is the only four-time winner in any category in the history of the Teen Choice Awards).

◆ **Choice Actor, Comedy – Matt LeBlanc**

◆ **Choice Actress, Comedy – Jennifer Aniston**

54th ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS (9/22/02)

◆ **Outstanding Comedy Series – Kevin S. Bright, Marta Kauffman, David Crane, Scott Silveri, Shana Goldberg-Meehan, Andrew Reich, Ted Cohen, Todd Stevens, Sherry Bilsing-Graham, Ellen Plummer, Brian Buckner, Sebastian Jones, Wendy Knoller**

◆ **Outstanding Lead Actress In A Comedy Series – Jennifer Aniston**

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series – Matt LeBlanc

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series – Matthew Perry

Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series – Brad Pitt

Outstanding Casting for a Comedy Series – Leslie Litt, Barbara Miller

Outstanding Art Direction for a Multi-Camera Series – John Shaffner, Joe Stewart, Greg Grande -- “The One Where Rachel Has a Baby”

Outstanding Cinematography For A Multi-Camera Series – Nick McLean -- “The One with the Rumor”

Outstanding Multi-Camera Picture Editing For A Series – Stephen Prime -- “The One with the Rumor”

Outstanding Multi-Camera Picture Editing For A Series – Kenny Tintorri -- “The One with the Halloween Party”

Outstanding Multi-Camera Sound Mixing For A Series or Special – Dana Mark McClure, Charles McDaniel III, Kathleen C. Oldham, John Bickelhaupt -- “The One Where Rachel Has a Baby (Parts 1 & 2)”

18th ANNUAL ARTIOS AWARDS (10/17/02)

Episodic – Comedy: Leslie Litt, Barbara Miller

29th ANNUAL PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARDS (1/12/03)

Favorite Male Television Performer – Matt LeBlanc

◆ **Favorite Female Television Performer – Jennifer Aniston**

◆ **Favorite Television Comedy Series**

7th ANNUAL GOLDEN SATELLITE AWARDS (1/12/03)

Television Series, Comedy or Musical

Actress in a Series, Comedy or Musical – Jennifer Aniston

Actor in a Series, Comedy or Musical – Matt LeBlanc

60TH ANNUAL GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS (1/19/03)

Best Television Series

◆ **Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series, Musical or Comedy – Jennifer Aniston**

Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series, Musical or Comedy – Matt LeBlanc

7th ANNUAL ART DIRECTORS GUILD AWARDS (2/22/03)

Awards - 8

Best Production Design – Multicamera Television Series: “The One Where Rachel Has the Baby, Parts 1 & 2” – John Shaffner, Joe Stewart

16th ANNUAL NICKELODEON’S KIDS’ CHOICE AWARDS (4/12/03)

Favorite Television Show
 Favorite Television Actress – Jennifer Aniston

2003 TEEN CHOICE AWARDS (8/2/03)

Matt LeBlanc – Choice TV Actor – Comedy
 Jennifer Aniston - Choice TV Actress – Comedy
 Courtney Cox Arquette – Choice TV Actress - Comedy
 Choice TV Show – Comedy
 Aisha Tyler – Choice Breakout Female TV Star

55TH ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS (9/21/03)

Outstanding Comedy Series
 Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series - Matt LeBlanc as Joey Tribbiani
 Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series - Hank Azaria as David
 Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series - Jennifer Aniston as Rachel Green
◆ Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series - Christina Applegate as Amy
 Outstanding Art Direction for a Multi-Camera Series - "The One in Barbados (Parts 1 &2)"
 John Shaffner, Production Designer, Joe Stewart, Art Director, Greg Grande, Set Decorator
 Outstanding Casting for a Comedy Series - Leslie Litt, C.S.A., Casting by, Barbara Miller, C.S.A., Casting by
 Outstanding Cinematography for a Multi-Camera Series - "The One in Barbados" -Nick McLean, Cinematographer
 Outstanding Multi-Camera Picture Editing for a Series - "The One in Barbados" -Stephen Prime, Editor
 Outstanding Multi-Camera Picture Editing for a Series - "The One with Ross's Inappropriate Song" Kenny Tintorri, Editor
 Outstanding Multi-Camera Sound Mixing for a Series or Special - "The One in Barbados (Parts 1 & 2)" - Charles McDaniel, Re-Recording Mixer, Dana Mark McClure, Production Sound Mixer, John Bickelhaupt, Re-Recording Mixer

3rd ANNUAL AOL TV VIEWER AWARDS (9/19/03)

◆ Best Television Couple – Joey & Rachel
◆ Best TiVo-Worthy Moment – Joey & Rachel Hook Up
◆ Best Fashion Style – Rachel

30th ANNUAL PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARDS (1/11/04)

◆ Favorite Female Television Performer - Jennifer Aniston
◆ Favorite Television Comedy Series

8th ANNUAL GOLDEN SATELLITE AWARDS (2/21/04)

F.R.I.E.N.D.S

Awards - 9

Actor in a Supporting Role in a Series, Comedy or Musical - Matt LeBlanc

2004 GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS (1/25/03)

Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series – Musical or Comedy – Matt LeBlanc

10TH ANNUAL SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS (2/22/04)

Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Comedy Series - Lisa Kudrow - Phoebe Buffay

Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Comedy Series

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‘FRIENDS’ CAST LOOKS BACK ON 10 YEARS OF ‘FRIENDS’-SHIP

Included below are various and sundry comments from the six cast members of NBC’s Emmy Award-winning “Friends” as they neared the comedy’s final episodes leading to the series finale for broadcast on May 6 (8-9 p.m. ET).

LISA KUDROW

Interviewer: Any emotional moments?

Lisa: Yeah, I think the time I got the most choked up was when we shot (how) Mike (Paul Rudd) proposes to Phoebe and she takes her rings off. I -- or we -- decided Phoebe wasn’t going to wear any of her rings after that, it will be just her engagement ring. So 10 years of rings on almost every finger were gone and done and that felt big to me -- that felt big.

Interviewer: How would you like to see the show end?

Lisa: Just to see everyone happy... you know, like no big tragedy, just everyone happy and moving on and we just get a sense that they will all be OK, that’s what I would like.

MATTHEW PERRY

Matthew: I think we knew; I mean, I personally was the one that knew that this was really great, like I knew, you know, I was the one that said, “Guys this is a real shot for us.” I had no idea of the level of phenomenal success it would have -- I mean how could you?

Interviewer: What’s the biggest thing you’re going to miss doing the show?

Matthew: I think the people for sure. You know, just the idea that hundreds and hundreds of people come every day to put on this show from craft service to the executive producers, it’s just a group of really nice warm-hearted people, all driven towards putting on the best show possible and with us all having that same kind of goal, which is the team effort.

Interviewer: How would you like to see the show end?

Matthew: Oh, I don’t know, just like a big hug, you know. Not like the “Mary Tyler Moore” big hug, but I don’t know, I’d like it to end with a nice big semblance of hope for all the characters and to know that everyone is going to be OK in their own kind of quirky way.

DAVID SCHWIMMER

(On first meeting the cast)

David: (I thought) I’m not sure how this character’s going to come off and then hearing the other five speak for the first time, I was really, I had a great feeling, I had a great feeling like we were six pieces of a puzzle it was great.

Interviewer: What will you miss most?

David: Show night, you know. I guess like the actual performing with these great actors and the process of doing it live feels like a wonderful one-act play that you get to do every week in front

of a great audience and working with the writers in that collaborative process. I guess what I will miss the most is the unpredictable aspect of what is going to happen when we're in performance energy on show night and magic just happens between the actors in a scene; it just it just becomes more alive, kind of expands.

MATT LEBLANC

Matt: Oh boy, I don't know what I will miss the most -- I'll miss the laughs, I'll miss the cast. You know, fortunately for me, I get to kind of continue on somewhat but I guess the cast I'll miss the most

Interviewer: Have you prepared yourself for the end?

Matt: No, I think everyone, it's just going to be a giant train wreck, everyone will be really sad, and probably (Jennifer) Aniston the most, she's the most emotional. She just cries at the drop of a hat.

Interviewer: How would you like to see the show end?

Matt: I'd like to see all the characters be OK and then we can leave them and close that chapter of our lives.

COURTENEY COX ARQUETTE

Courtney: The biggest thing I am going to miss is everyone here -- I mean, already it's painful just thinking about the end so these are my friends, this is my family.

JENNIFER ANISTON

Jennifer: We knew there was something special about it but we didn't ever in our wildest dreams think any of this would be happening or what has happened over the last 10 years. So we were just pretty psyched and honored to be in that company.

Interviewer: What can you take home from these guys?

Jennifer: Everything, I mean, my god, they've shaped me, they've formed me into the factor that I've become -- all of them. I learned something from all of them, I'm inspired by all of them. They're all perfect.

Interviewer: Name one thing -- or narrow it down to one thing -- that you're going to miss most about doing the show.

Jennifer: The consistency, the family, coming to work, coming to a place everyday where you know everybody and love everybody and I'm really going to miss that, a lot.

Interviewer: How would you like to see the show end?

Jennifer: (laughing) I don't -- I don't want it to end. It's kind of like an unnecessary evil though, isn't it? It has to happen. So I don't know, I don't know how I'd want it to end. I just want everyone to be happy.

April 2004



LEGACY AND IMPACT OF 'FRIENDS' ON THE TELEVISION INDUSTRY

“Along with ‘Seinfeld,’ its Thursday-night sibling, ‘Friends’ redefined the television sitcom at the end of the century. Six attractive kids learning about life -- that was nothing new. But in ‘Friends,’ there was no father, no boss and no authority at all to teach them how to ride a bike or tell them how to get out of second gear. ‘Friends’ explored what might have happened on ‘The Brady Bunch’ if Mike and Carol had run out for a pack of smokes and never come back.

“Lots of comedies were influenced by ‘Friends’ -- including ‘Sex in the City’ -- and it may prove to be one of the most ‘re-runnable’ series of all time.”

--Robert Thompson, Professor and Director of the Center for the Study of Popular Television, Syracuse University

Over a decade, “Friends” has had a lasting impact on both NBC’s fortunes on “Must See TV” Thursdays as well as on the television landscape in general. Following are some comments regarding the contributions of the Emmy Award-winning comedy from entertainment industry leaders and reporters.

“The cast is exceptional but the brilliance of ‘Friends’ lies in its stories and character arcs. Audiences have unconditionally bonded with the choices and details of these characters lives. While always funny and entertaining, it's this connection that gives the show its potent ‘Must See’ punch.

“With its tremendous 18-49 success story, every network for the last 10 years has tried to find its own ‘young adult’ signature comedy. Nothing has been more highly sought after, but what they fail to find is the HEART that binds the ‘Friends’ together. Without the heart, there is no ‘Friends.’”

--Warren Littlefield, former President, NBC Entertainment

“While ‘The Mary Tyler Moore Show’ was the genesis of ‘Must See TV’... ‘Friends’ put six faces on it. What began as a group of friends over time became a group of best friends. A combination of great casting...committed actors...and a writing staff that somehow nailed virtually every single episode... ‘Friends’ became almost the perfect television sitcom. Smart, good-looking, hip – and get this, funny!!!

“It changed television forever because it was so good. And because it was so good...it raised the bar forever. Something else will come along...something else always does...but I guarantee you, it won't be this friendly.”

-- Pat O’Brien, Co-host “Access Hollywood”

“Just call ‘Friends’ the ‘dinosaur’ of sitcoms. Show producers and networks will forever be studying the skeleton of ‘Friends’...and skeletons can be re-created, but to get another dinosaur to come to life...a very hard feat! Ross would love this analogy, now wouldn’t he?”

“‘Friends’ is most definitely the ‘friendliest’ sitcom in television history. Others have tried to find the elusive treasure to which ‘Friends’ has the map. They have driven in circles when all they needed to do was to go straight to the heart. The enduring legacy of ‘Friends’ will be the way it perfected showcasing human relationships and caring for others. Considering what our country has gone through the past few years, ‘Friends’ has influenced sitcom creators to return to the basics what makes us feel good. We’ve seen this massive hunt for some complicated map when the treasure sat there simply in the title of the show itself.”

-- Nancy O’Dell, Co-host, “Access Hollywood”

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THE ALL-STAR FRIENDS OF 'FRIENDS' HAVE LEFT THEIR MARKS AS MANY GUEST STARS MAKE FOR MEMORABLE EPISODES

BURBANK, Calif. -- April 9, 2004 -- Like any runaway hit series that maximized the medium of television, "Friends" attracted a lot of celebrity friends who wanted to be featured on the appointment television comedy over a decade.

The roster of guest stars ranges across the spectrum of on-camera talent and many feature-film stars that rarely appear on episodic television paid a visit to the series' Warner Bros. set. While some of the initial guest performers such as George Clooney and Noah Wyle simply had to stroll across the driveway from the neighboring studio of "ER," others such as big-screen stars Charlton Heston, Robin Williams, Bruce Willis, Sean Penn, Brad Pitt and Susan Sarandon also made the most of their showcase roles.

JEAN-CLAUDE VANDAMME'S:

- 1. Please describe your guest-starring experience on "Friends".....**"How can I forget the wonderful NBC for making me kiss 2 of the most beautiful women in television."
- 2. What were the motivating factors that prompted you to appear as a guest star on the series?** "It gave me the opportunity to do something very different from my usual action roles and be part of the most famous worldwide TV series."
- 3. How much did you enjoy your interaction with the cast and producers-and what kind of reaction did you get from friends and fans after the episode was broadcast?** "Both the cast and the producers were extraordinary welcoming. I have been inundated with compliments on my appearance on the program. I would like to thank you again for giving me the chance to be part of your cast."

AISHA TYLER:

I wasn't nervous at all when I started work on Friends -- I think I was so excited to be there I didn't really have time to be scared. I didn't get nervous until the moment I was standing outside of Central Perk, about to enter and do my first scene. I'm standing there thinking "*oh my god, I'm about to go into Central Perk and talk to Ross*" and my heart started pounding a mile a minute. I

made it through the scene fine, and afterward everyone complimented me on the fact that I didn't seem nervous at all. I thanked them graciously, turned and slammed face-first into the door! Then I turned back around and, trying to look cool, I walked back to the couch, where I immediately kicked Courtney's mug over, spraying coffee everywhere. Luckily, that broke the

Guest stars - 2

ice -- people laughing uproariously at you usually does -- and after that I was cool as a cucumber.

I think my favorite moment on Friends was when we taped "The One in Barbados -- Part II." David and I had a scene where Charlie tells Ross she's just broken up with Joey. We do the first take, and everyone comes running over to me. I think they're going to give me a note, or a line change, or tell me how great I was (one can dream) but what they all wanted to tell me was that my skirt had come down in back and I had been flashing my underwear to all four cameras and the studio audience during the entire scene! And everyone was coming up to me -- writers, camera people, wardrobe, pages, lighting guys -- everyone. It's a good thing I was wearing a nice pair of underwear that day. If I had been wearing my "laundry day" undies it would have really been a bummer. As it is, when you see the episode on television, you can see me adjust my skirt in the scene twice -- gotta keep those skivvies hidden!

(And of course, some, such as Matthew Perry, would return the favor by guest-starring on such series as NBC's "The West Wing").

Among the guest players who appeared on "Friends" are (in alphabetical order):

Jason Alexander	Kristin Davis	Elliott Gould
Christina Applegate	Danny DeVito	Charlton Heston (as himself)
David Arquette	Morgan Fairchild	Helen Hunt
Hank Azaria	Dakota Fanning	Chrissie Hynde
Bob Balaban	Anna Faris	Chris Isaak
Alec Baldwin	Jon Favreau	Penn Jillette
Helen Baxendale	Sherilyn Fenn	Leila Kenzle
Shelley Berman	Sarah Ferguson (Duchess of York, as herself)	Ralph Lauren (as himself)
Selma Blair	Beverly Garland	Ron Leibman
Richard Branson	Teri Garr	Jay Leno (as himself)
Dan Castellaneta	Melissa George	Jon Lovitz
George Clooney	Ron Glass	Elle MacPherson
Gary Collins	Jeff Goldblum	Dina Meyer
Tom Conti	Jill Goodacre (Connick)	Dermot Mulroney
Pat Crowley	Jennifer Grey	Laraine Newman
Billy Crystal (as himself)		

Guest stars - 3

Gary Oldman

Donny Osmond

Sean Penn

Christina Pickles

Brad Pitt

Freddie Prinze Jr.

Giovanni Ribisi

Julia Roberts

Rebecca Romijn-Stamos

Isabella Rossellini

Paul Rudd

Denise Richards

Winona Ryder

Susan Sarandon

Jennifer Saunders

Tom Selleck

Harry Shearer

Charlie Sheen

Brooke Shields

Jonathan Silverman

John Stamos

Ben Stiller

Trudie Styler (as herself)

Christine Taylor

Marlo Thomas

Lea Thompson

Kathleen Turner

Aisha Tyler

Gabrielle Union

Brenda Vaccaro

Jean-Claude Van Damme

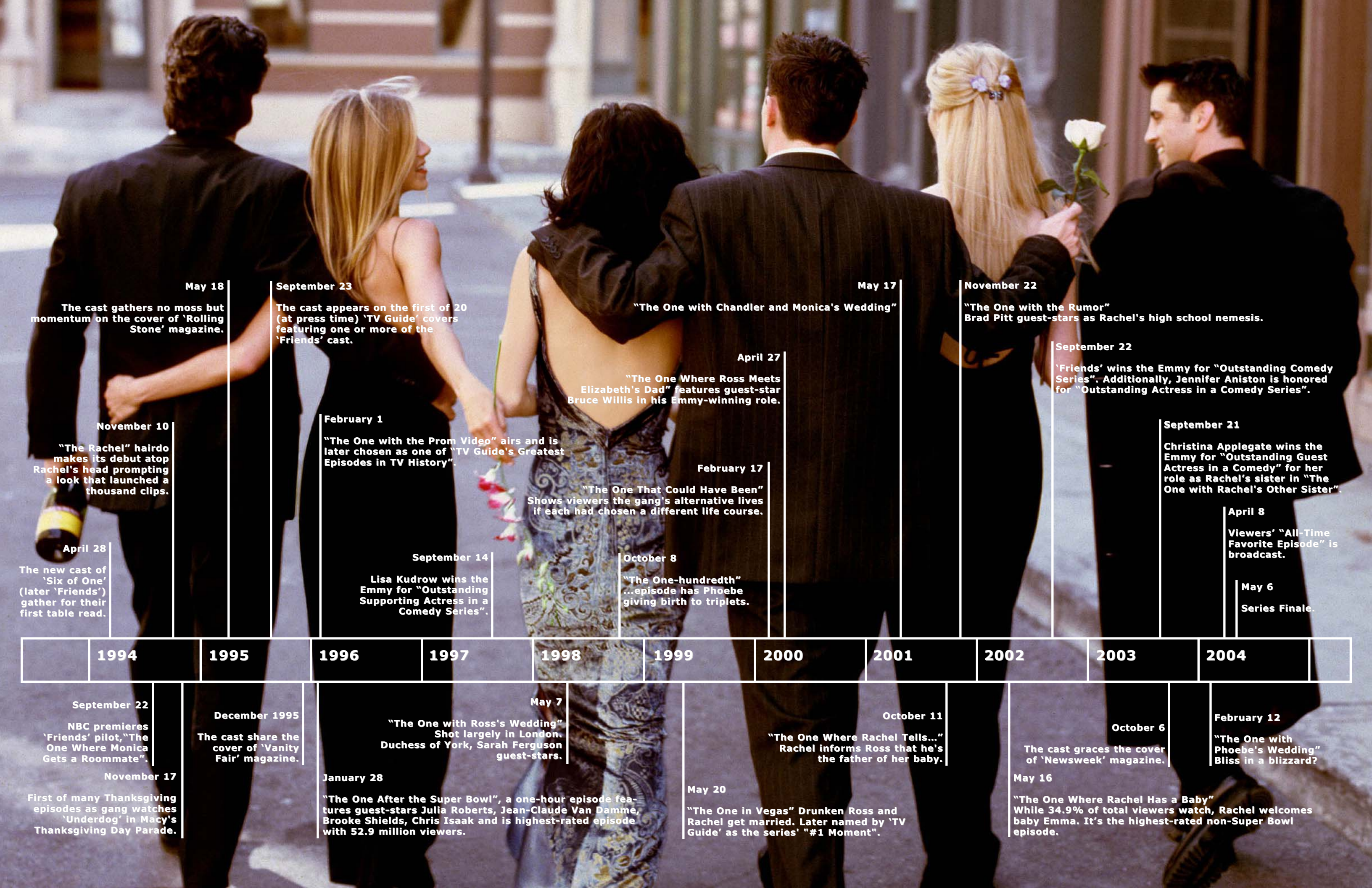
Olivia Williams

Robin Williams (as
himself)

Bruce Willis

Reese Witherspoon

Noah Wyle



May 18

The cast gathers no moss but momentum on the cover of 'Rolling Stone' magazine.

September 23

The cast appears on the first of 20 (at press time) 'TV Guide' covers featuring one or more of the 'Friends' cast.

May 17

"The One with Chandler and Monica's Wedding"

November 22

"The One with the Rumor" Brad Pitt guest-stars as Rachel's high school nemesis.

November 10

"The Rachel" hairdo makes its debut atop Rachel's head prompting a look that launched a thousand clips.

April 27

"The One Where Ross Meets Elizabeth's Dad" features guest-star Bruce Willis in his Emmy-winning role.

September 22

'Friends' wins the Emmy for "Outstanding Comedy Series". Additionally, Jennifer Aniston is honored for "Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series".

February 1

"The One with the Prom Video" airs and is later chosen as one of "TV Guide's Greatest Episodes in TV History".

September 21

Christina Applegate wins the Emmy for "Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy" for her role as Rachel's sister in "The One with Rachel's Other Sister".

February 17

"The One That Could Have Been" Shows viewers the gang's alternative lives if each had chosen a different life course.

April 8

Viewers' "All-Time Favorite Episode" is broadcast.

April 28

The new cast of 'Six of One' (later 'Friends') gather for their first table read.

September 14

Lisa Kudrow wins the Emmy for "Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series".

October 8

"The One-hundredth" ...episode has Phoebe giving birth to triplets.

May 6

Series Finale.

1994

1995

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

September 22

NBC premieres 'Friends' pilot, "The One Where Monica Gets a Roommate".

December 1995

The cast share the cover of 'Vanity Fair' magazine.

May 7

"The One with Ross's Wedding" Shot largely in London. Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson guest-stars.

October 11

"The One Where Rachel Tells..." Rachel informs Ross that he's the father of her baby.

November 17

First of many Thanksgiving episodes as gang watches 'Underdog' in Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

January 28

"The One After the Super Bowl", a one-hour episode features guest-stars Julia Roberts, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Brooke Shields, Chris Isaak and is highest-rated episode with 52.9 million viewers.

May 20

"The One in Vegas" Drunken Ross and Rachel get married. Later named by 'TV Guide' as the series' "#1 Moment".

October 6

The cast graces the cover of 'Newsweek' magazine.

May 16

"The One Where Rachel Has a Baby" While 34.9% of total viewers watch, Rachel welcomes baby Emma. It's the highest-rated non-Super Bowl episode.

February 12

"The One with Phoebe's Wedding" Bliss in a blizzard?



TRY THIS TRIVIA QUIZ TO SEE IF YOU'RE A 'FRIENDS' WHIZ!

Over 10 years, NBC's "Friends" has provided a treasure trove of trivial pursuits and significant others. Just sample this fan-friendly frappe for the "Friends" finale.

QUESTIONS:

- 1) Viewers got a new comedic peek at guest star Tom Selleck as Monica's boyfriend – what kind of doctor was he?
- 2) What was the name of Ross' monkey?
- 3) Name that trailblazing female star of the 1960s who played Rachel's mother Sandra.
- 4) What city-wise actress played Joey's girlfriend Erin?
- 5) Which character utters the first line in the pilot of "Friends"?
- 6) Rachel ponied up to work for which real-life clothing magnate?
- 7) In the first Thanksgiving Day episode, which cartoon character in the Macy's Parade proved to be more popular than Monica's cooking?
- 8) Which "Friend" spent one Thanksgiving in a box?
- 9) Whose cousin did guest star Denise Richards play?
- 10) What is Chandler's middle name?
- 11) Joey plays Dr. Drake Ramoray on what TV series?
- 12) What two "ER" stars guest-starred on "Friends"?
- 13) What animal costume did Ross don in a vain attempt to teach his son about Hannukah?
- 14) Who fell off a balcony while taking down Christmas lights in February?
- 15) Who offered a home for Rachel's \$1,000 cat?
- 16) Name one of the two guest stars who each won an Emmy for his/her performance on "Friends."
- 17) What "Elle" covergirl and supermodel once moved in with Joey?
- 18) If you want to butter up Joey, what favorite food would you serve him?
- 19) What body part did Phoebe hitch out of a can of soda?

Trivia-quiz - 2

- 20) Where did Ross and Rachel roll the dice and get married?
- 21) Which two "Friends" made fools of themselves dancing on Dick Clark's New Year's Eve show?
- 22) What animal did Phoebe immortalize with her pungent guitar ode?
- 23) How many divorces has Ross had?
- 24) In what city did Chandler find work – forcing him to commute to back New York?
- 25) What two former hosts of "Talk Soup" guest-starred in the same episode as ex-lovers?
- 26) What colorful name did Joey affectionately bestow on his chair?
- 27) What is the name of Monica's restaurant?
- 28) Which "Friend" is repulsed when a person touches their eye?
- 29) What is the name of Phoebe's twin sister?
- 30) Which "Friend" won a Vanilla Ice lookalike contest?
- 31) Ross took heat when he wore a pink shirt – what actual color did he claim it was?
- 32) What recent star of a film version of a 1970s series once guest-starred as Rachel's "Screaming Date"?
- 33) Which two blonde actresses played Rachel's sisters?
- 34) What is the name of the Grammy-winning group who sing the "Friends" theme song?
- 35) The mention of what seafaring feature film always causes Joey to tear up?
- 36) What was significant about the series' 100th episode?
- 37) What rock star teamed with Phoebe to sing a duet about an odiferous feline?
- 38) What "Scary Movie" star plays the mother-to-be of Monica and Chandler's expected baby?
- 39) What "M*A*S*H" film star plays Monica and Ross' dad?
- 40) What stuffed Warner Bros. cartoon character sits on Joey's couch?
- 41) What is the room number of Ross' apartment across the street from Monica's?
- 42) Who was the curmudgeon who once lived below Monica and Rachel?
- 43) What did Rachel wear when she was first seen in the pilot of "Friends"?
- 44) With what two words does every episode of "Friends" begin?
- 45) Where is Rachel's tattoo?

- 46) Which "Friend" practically glowed in the dark after a mega-teeth-whitening treatment?
- 47) Phoebe has a phobia about which domestic store chain?
- 48) Which "Friends" star once co-starred as Alex Keaton's (Michael J. Fox) girlfriend on "Family Ties"?
- 49) Name the friend who is rabidly afraid of dogs.
- 50) What member of royalty once guest-starred on "Friends"?

ANSWERS:

- 1) The ex-"Magnum" private eye was an ophthalmologist
- 2) Marcel
- 3) "That Mom" was Marlo Thomas
- 4) Kristin Davis of "Sex in the City"
- 5) Monica
- 6) Ralph Lauren
- 7) Underdog (after its balloon tether broke)
- 8) Chandler
- 9) Monica & Ross
- 10) Muriel
- 11) NBC's "Days of Our Lives"
- 12) George Clooney and Noah Wyle as Drs. Michael Mitchell and Jeffrey Rosen
- 13) "The Holiday Armadillo"
- 14) Rachel
- 15) Gunther from the Central Perk
- 16) Christina Applegate and Bruce Willis
- 17) Elle MacPherson
- 18) Sandwiches
- 19) A footloose thumb
- 20) Viva Las Vegas
- 21) Monica and Ross
- 22) A "Smelly" Cat
- 23) Three (so far)
- 24) Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 25) Aisha Tyler and Greg Kinnear
- 26) "Rosita"
- 27) Alessandro's
- 28) Rachel would hide her eyes
- 29) Ursula (first seen on NBC's "Mad About You" comedy two years before "Friends")
- 30) Chandler
- 31) Salmon!
- 32) Ben Stiller
- 33) Reese Witherspoon and Christina Applegate
- 34) The Rembrandts
- 35) "Titanic" opens Joey's floodgates
- 36) Phoebe gave birth to triplets
- 37) Chrissie Hynde
- 38) Anna Faris
- 39) Elliott Gould
- 40) Marvin the Martian
- 41) "3B"
- 42) Mr. Heckles

Trivia-quiz - 5

- 43) A wedding dress
- 44) "(The) One..."
- 45) On her hip
- 46) A toothy Ross lit up the room
- 47) Pottery Barn
- 48) Courteney Cox Arquette
- 49) Chandler
- 50) Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York

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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES ABOUT 'FRIENDS'

- During filming of the series' pilot in early May 1994, the series producers recall that a questionnaire regarding Monica's promiscuity was disseminated to the live audience as the network was supposedly concerned about her morals (no report on what the survey revealed!).
- In a two-part episode on February 23, 1995, NBC sensed that the freshman "Friends" was gaining audience momentum. Hence, it featured future Oscar winner Helen Hunt and Leila Kenzle from its current "Mad About You" hit comedy on the first half while George Clooney and Noah Wyle strolled over from the "ER" set next door to guest-star as characters Dr. Michael Mitchell and Dr. Jeffrey Rosen (to tend Rachel's sprained ankle).
- Speaking of "Mad About You," series regular Lisa Kudrow had a recurring role on the comedy as the ditzy Ursula the waitress for two years prior to "Friends." On the same 1995 "Friends" episode ("The One with Two Parts") showcasing Hunt, Kudrow reprised the role of Phoebe's identical twin sister Ursula as the producers took advantage of both characters for the first of many occasions.
- James Michael Tyler, who plays the long-suffering Gunther toiling behind the Central Perk counter, did not speak his first line until the series' 33rd episode. Originally hired as an extra with no dialogue, Tyler's role was enhanced since he was the only person on set who could operate the cappuccino machine.
- Jennifer Grey ("Dirty Dancing") first guest-starred in the role of Mindy – "The Evil Orthodontist" – but when her character re-appeared in May 1996, she was portrayed by JanaMarie Hupp (NBC's "Ed").
- Actor John Bennett Perry – Matthew Perry's father – guest-starred opposite Pat Crowley as Mr. and Mrs. Burgin in "The One with Rachel's New Dress" on April 2, 1998.
- After the sixth-season premiere on September 23, 1999, the episode's end credits concluded with "For Courtney and David, who did get married" as a tribute to Courtney Cox and former guest star David Arquette, who walked down the aisle during the previous hiatus.
- A few weeks later, another episode on November 18, 1999, concluded with a brief epitaph, "In loving memory of Gail Joseph," a former NBC publicist who had worked on the show following her death a few weeks earlier.
- In the sixth-season season finale -- "The One with the Proposal" on May 18, 2000 – David Schwimmer pre-filmed his scenes so that he could depart for England to shoot the epic "Band of Brothers" miniseries.
- After the tragic terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the episode "The One Where Rachel Tells..." -- for broadcast on October 11, 2001 – was re-written and re-shot since one subplot revealed how Chandler and Monica were prevented from boarding a plane after he mentioned the word "bomb" in the airport.

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