

MARCH 27, 1994

# SUNDAY MIRROR

MAGAZINE



**Behr  
necessities**

Your next seven days from Britain's No 1 astrologer

**ARIES**

Mar 21 - April 20

Your emotions are aroused and your need for love is more desperate than ever **today**. Look into your relationships, for if you are not being fulfilled then make decisions that ensure your satisfaction in the future. Career confusion could be due to a partnership problem and **Tuesday** may well highlight where things are going wrong in all your one-to-one associations.

**Have you reached a turning point in an affair with someone close?**  
Phone 0891 332 451

**TAURUS**

April 21 - May 21

There's something not quite right with your romantic world and **today** and **Tuesday** pinpoints any problems that are stopping you from leading a healthy love life. Perhaps you need someone who will act out your fantasies, or is a lack of kissing, sexual foreplay or tenderness coming between you? From Good Friday a truly, madly, deeply loving spell starts.

**Are you at the beginning of a most amorous and affectionate period?**  
Phone 0891 332 452

**LEO**

July 24 - Aug 23

You're not sure that the stage you have reached in your life is good or bad, what you are sure of is that mentally you feel stale and you want to see more of the world and experience something new. **Today's** Full Moon is undoubtedly stirring you up, so make plans to progress your life through travel or by doing something useful for the community.

**Are you about to hear news that will change your everyday existence?**  
Phone 0891 332 455

**VIRGO**

Aug 24 - Sept 23

Money makes the world go round and that's a phrase you hear frequently, but it will become your motto over the next fortnight when financial matters are very important to your future security and welfare. In fact, **Tuesday** you could do worse than contact someone who is an economic expert as you need to be sure of where you stand materially.

**Are you embarking on a journey that will bring you happiness?**  
Phone 0891 332 456

**SAGITTARIUS**

Nov 23 - Dec 21

Neglect **today's** Full Moon and you neglect your future, as her power is directed at your long term aspirations. If you think you're content with your life then think again. You have missed the obvious and the route you should be taking for a better world is staring you in the face. **Tuesday** presents you with the opportunity to change course to success.

**Are you about to experience a great awakening in your life?**  
Phone 0891 332 459

**CAPRICORN**

Dec 22 - Jan 20

Achievement means different things to different people, but what is the same the world over is our natural fear of failure and it is this that goads you ever onwards.

**Today's** Full Moon stirs your ambitions and makes you more hungry for prestige, so use **today** and **Tuesday** in particular to sort out the roots of your life and lay strong foundations to support your future.

**Will the next fortnight prove crucial in your quest for success?**  
Phone 0891 332 460

**Phillip Schofield**

BORN APRIL 1, 1962 - ARIES  
There are big decisions for Phillip to make in the next year as he finalises the transition from children's presenter into the more adult scene. His main problem is finding a format to suit his talents for it's important that what he does brings out the best in him.



**Russell Grant**

TELEPHONE ME ON YOUR STAR-SIGN LINE FOR SEVEN DAYS IN DETAIL OR CALL THE NUMBERS BELOW FOR AN IN-DEPTH READING . . .

LOVESCOPE 0891 332 402 - What do love and romance have in store for you?

FUTURESCOPE 0891 332 403 - What's your fate on any day you choose up to 1999?

Domestic calls cost 36p a minute cheap rate, 48p a minute at all other times. From March 31 calls will cost 39p a minute cheap rate, 49p a minute at all other times



**IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS THIS WEEK HERE'S YOUR FORECAST FOR THE YEAR AHEAD**

**TODAY** An extremely sensitive and emotional year when you must not let your feeling get the better of you. As one door shuts so another will open

**TOMORROW** A wee bit of a topsy-turvy year when you might not know whether you're coming or going, so pin yourself down or you might end up losing out.

**TUESDAY** There's a lot of excitement and a great deal of movement this once-in-a-lifetime year, when you will be kept on your toes with plenty of surprises!

**WEDNESDAY** Passionate, romantic and sexy, surely one of those three words will fit you over the next 12 months? Probably the whole tootin' trio!

**THURSDAY** If the first part of your annum is hard going then you'll have earned the happy days that come immediately after. You've lots to look forward to.

**FRIDAY** Don't be foolish enough to believe everything you hear and equally don't act in haste or you'll repent at leisure this truly ardent annum.

**SATURDAY** Loving and caring - that's your stars this coming year so make sure you are sensible enough to recognise amour when it hits you right in the face.

**GEMINI**

May 22 - June 21

The Full Moon has such a creative tinge you will find the next couple of weeks potentially the best for drawing a line under past events and preparing for the new and exciting times to come. Whether it's a love affair, expressing your talents or enjoying yourself in a heartfelt way, from **today** on you can prepare to make the most of the positive times to come.

**Will you hear from someone about a health or business proposal?**  
Phone 0891 332 453

**CANCER**

June 22 - July 23

You're on edge **today**, so what is it that has you like a Cancerian on hot bricks? Emotionally you are very tense - perhaps a childhood problem is rearing its ugly head, or current family affairs are making you feel insecure. Whatever it is, sort out how you feel towards others as between now and **Tuesday** you'd be advised to get doubts out into the open.

**Is it possible you'll be moving house before the year is out?**  
Phone 0891 332 454

**LIBRA**

Sept 24 - Oct 23

The Full Moon in your sign **today** will make you realise you are at a crossroads. Your life overall is not helped by the fact that Venus crosses swords with Neptune **Sunday** and Uranus **Tuesday**, highlighting any difficulties. The worse thing you can do is assume everything is OK when you know any unhappiness you feel needs dealing with at its very roots.

**Is it time to chuck out the old and usher in the new to your world?**  
Phone 0891 332 457

**SCORPIO**

Oct 24 - Nov 22

You're in a spiritual quandary **today** as you battle with a guilty secret or an overloaded conscience that something you've recently done is right by you, but not by everyone else. It is an emotional time when you must come to terms with inner hurts. On **Tuesday** you have very logical stars to help express your feelings, apologise or make amends.

**Will you soon travel to a place that is bound to be a source of joy?**  
Phone 0891 332 458

**AQUARIUS**

Jan 21 - Feb 19

This is it, the end of the road of your life as you know it. It's time to get out of old routines and move on to a new level leaving the unevolved behind you. You have so much foresight but you have to deal with folk who lack vision. **Today** and **Tuesday** you must repulse further restrictions being placed upon you and refuse to be anyone's emotional lackey.

**Will you soon start a new life in a different place or country?**  
Phone 0891 332 461

**PISCES**

Feb 20 - Mar 20

Monetary muddles and mistakes will come back to haunt you now, with **today** marking the start of revelations. Gear yourself to sorting out your life on **Tuesday**, and that includes your personal budgets, for unlike current trends you are much more reasonable and logical midweek, whereas the Sabbath seems to bewitch your commonsense.

**Are you more lucky in foreign parts than your own native country now?**  
Phone 0891 332 462

**TAROT CARD OF THE WEEK** **WORLD (Reversed)** Even when it is reversed this card does no real harm, although being upside-down the World card suggests that before we can find a sense of completeness in our lives there are still some things that need to be sorted out. Of course, nothing is over that perfect, but we can at least make our path to success and happiness easier by being less self-centred and more worldly wise.



# SUNDAY MIRROR

MAGAZINE

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**WIN  
£100!**

Can you figure out this funny face – top TV Chef and Comic Relief compare – distorted by computer? Phone **0891 666 655** before midnight on Friday, April 1, 1994. Leave your answer with your name and address. The first correct answer selected at random by computer wins £100 cash. Usual Sunday Mirror rules apply. Calls cost 36p per min cheap rate, 48p per min all other times.

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Jean-Claude revealing his muscular charms, p 10

COVER PICTURE: PAUL MASSEY

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**Konica**  
FILM & CAMERAS

Now, Sunday Mirror Magazine, Floor 22, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5AP, with your name, address and daytime telephone number written clearly on the back. This week's winners are Raymond Hayley of Horsmonden

in Kent who suddenly becomes the invisible man when it's time to get outside and do the gardening, and Heather Barren of Lisburn, Co Antrim whose two young boys, Stuart and Andrew, made an ass out of this donkey when their dad, Ian, asked them to smile for the camera.



PICTURES: ALL-ACTION; REX/LUX; KATZ; PSP; CAPITAL; PICTURES



**STAR IN STRIPES** Cybil Shepherd has never been accused of being a stilted actor in her lengthy career - it's just the way I walk, she says.

**MIRROR  
MIRROR**  
Off the wa



**BRANSON PICKLE** If Virgin boss Richard Branson can get himself out of this tricky number he might end up running the National Lottery.



**SIT TIGHT** Liz Taylor's not cut out to be a country singer - the boots help, but there's no DIVORCE on the cards.



**I'M STILL STANDING** Wearing Tommy boots helps Elton John grow flowers up his legs as he cuts a rug.



**HARRY SUCCUMB** whirl for this valley keeping his chins up



**HELENA ON EARTH**

Helena Christensen above, wants to be a pop star, so she makes sure she pops out in all the right places.

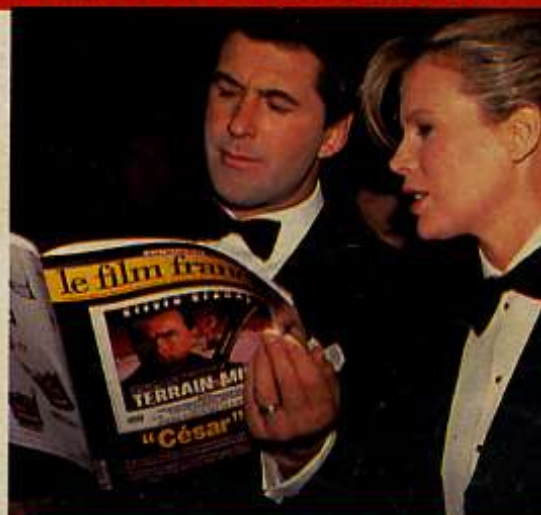
While wannabe supermodel Vendola, right, gives stardom the elbow.



**BET THEY DIDN'T** Su Pollard and Oprah Winfrey are seen leaving a London Cas... at the same time. It seems that Su lost her shirt, while Oprah only lost a few pounds.



**LICENCE TO GRILL** Intimate interrogator Gina Lollobrigida is used to stimulating special agents. You only live twice, she says, but this ex-007 looks so stiff it could third time around. She'd better watch out that Roger Moore-tis doesn't set in.



**CLEVER DICKIES** Alec Baldwin and Kim Basinger prove they don't just read scripts, they look at the pictures too.

# Frankly Claude, I do VAN DAMME



**Bottom-baring  
action man  
Jean-Claude Van  
Damme has an  
ego the size of his  
box-office takings.  
Paula Yates meets  
the muscles from  
Brussels PICTURES  
RANDEE ST NICHOLAS**

Jean-Claude Van Damme set out to make his mark on the world with his action-packed bottom-baring, teeth-gritting movies. And since his first big film *Bloodsport* made a staggering \$50,000,000 it's been onward and upward ever since. Not only do his films make mega dollars but his bottom is seen in so many scenes that soon it'll probably get separate billing and maybe some dialogue of its own too. His latest blockbuster called *Time Cop*, about a time-travelling policeman, is in production.

Van Damme is now probably Belgium's most famous export alongside Hercule Poirot and Herge's *TinTin*. He's compact and immensely strong, and his chest, peeping through his floral shirt, appears to have been French polished recently. His feet are encased in dapper winkle-toed cowboy ankle boots, on which one leg of his trousers keeps getting stuck. He also has the sleeves of his leather jacket rolled up to the elbow - useful in case he decided to wash up or *Kung Fu* someone later on.

What is a testament to Jean-Claude's star quality is that I noticed any of these sartorial details at all as he was over-shadowed by his glamorous wife Darcy La Pier. Just like Texas, everything about Darcy is big - big nails, big hair and she seemed to be lacquered toffee colour all over. I was mesmerised. Darcy's lips are a symphony with more gloss on them than our cat-flap. Everyone else in the room shrunk to the size of *The Borrowers*, apart from Jean-Claude's shirt which was that size anyway. At 32, he's been married three times and eight days ago he took the plunge into the blue waters of marital bliss again.

"Yes, on March 19. It was the first time I

married in a church. Before I was a married in Las Vegas - I love to get married. This time it's like a real marriage. Before it was too fast to make my decision. This time I've known my lady for three years and it's wonderful."

When I met up with Jean-Claude and the luscious pouting Darcy it had not been a great day for them as the papers were filled with a lawsuit alleging he sexually assaulted a girl in a hotel room. Foolish someone had pushed one of the clips at them, but he merely tapped his pointer boot. "You look very beautiful in this photo," he crooned to Darcy, then flicked it into the bin while Darcy re-applied her lip gloss. "Last month I was sued for three times. When you make money you pay your agent 10 per cent, your lawyers 10 per cent, another five per cent for ex-wife and then you have to have a special amount for lawsuits. Often it's in the papers I'm being sued but it's all a mess. Nothing, there have been no papers served."

"But I would never foss myself on a woman," he insists.

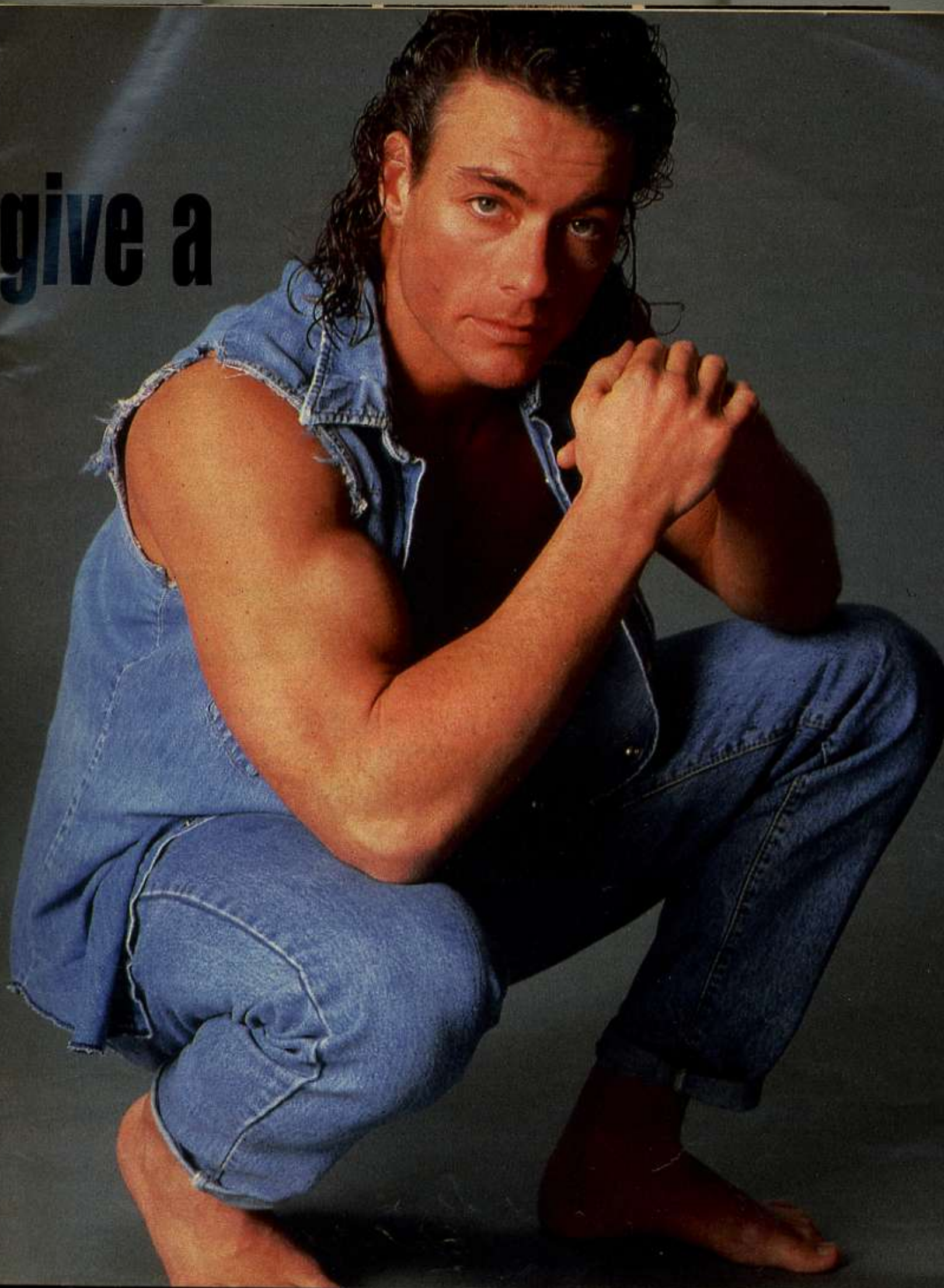
"Foss myself?" I asked, bewildered.

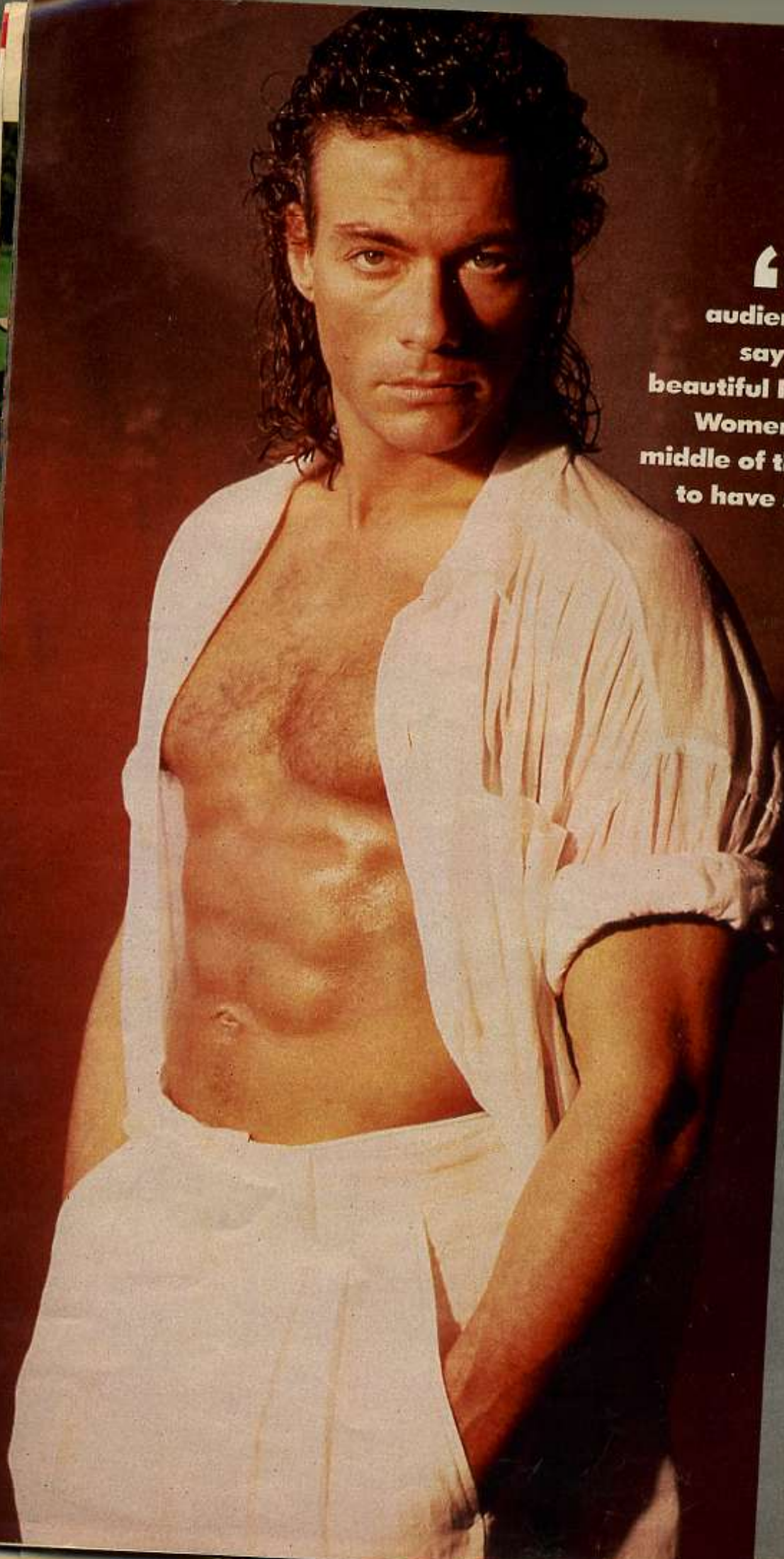
"Yup Paula, I would never foss myself on a woman, but I will kiss you now."

By the time I realised he's saying for himself, I've been soundly kissed on the cheek by the muscles from Brussels and Darcy has taken a sabre-toothed nail file from her handbag and appears to be filing one of her front teeth ready for me later.

But as Jean-Claude often says, "It's easier for an audience to watch me say 'I love you' to a beautiful leading lady than Arnie or Dolph Lundgren, they don't really do those scenes but I do. Women ring me in ▶"

**give a**





**It's easier for an audience to watch me say 'I love you' to a beautiful leading lady... Women ring me in the middle of the night asking to have sex with me**

the middle night asking sex with me."

Hollywood has it that he covered when persuaded his way top studio boss stripped off his printed with begonias and boxed his way with such fero

was promptly signed up, and the rest

tory as his films make trillions of dolla

"It was difficult at first, Brussels like a village compared to Hollywood.

I arrived in LA, it was like landing a set of Blade Runner, it was so big

surprising to me, a great challenge. I think I'd do well but I pushed hard

guess I was lucky. I was big in Brussels I own a gymnasium. I was making

money but I always loved the movie wanted to do something special."

But saying that you were big in Brussels a bit like saying massive in Claeto

steaming in Oldham isn't it? "No, no, it's dull in Brussels. No, if you are big in Bel

and Los Angeles you are big everywhere In the past you've said that you're bigger than Arnie - did you mean in LA or s

other bit of the anatomy? Jean-Claude looked crest-fallen: "I

run faster than him but I would never s was as big as him. I wish I could be."

Feeling the need to comfort Jean-Claude he's only about the same size as me

mention that Arnie is wide but a bit shorter "Ah," he noted happily. "That is no g

at all if you get caught in the wind. I actually started karate because my fat

brought me to it, I was a very small k very thin, but I became strong because

trained in karate and weights. I a danced and did some ballet."

In the new film Time Cop, the famous multi-flexing buttocks once again threat

to upstage even the greatest special effects of which there are many.

"Yes yes yes Paula, we all know about my bottom, and it's in Time Cop as well, w

have a great love scene in the movie, o course I can still also do the splits although not now because I might crack my pants."

Darcy re-applied her lip gloss and tossed her shimmering mane. It was time for Jean-Claude to crack his pants home. ■





# CHECK OUT Keith Chegwin

## KEITH'S SHOPPING LIST

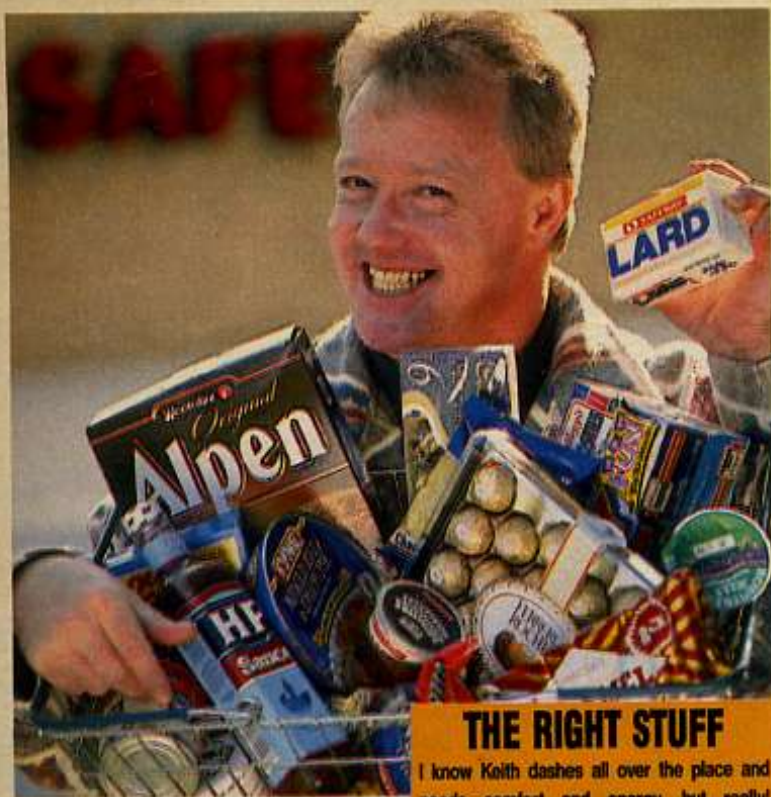
- 3 family packs Tunnock caramel wafers
- Bottle Coca-Cola
- Bottle Perrier
- Safeway's chicken in white sauce
- 7 Haagen-Dazs ice-creams
- 2 packs cheese-and-onion crisps
- Heinz vegetable-and-cROUTON soup
- Kellogg's variety pack
- Kellogg's cornflakes
- 3 Safeway's pasta twists
- Safeway's chicken tikka
- Safeway's pasteurised milk
- Nescafe coffee
- Nescafe decaf coffee
- 8 crouton Cup-a-Soup
- Safeway's quarter pounders
- McCain straight southern fries
- Cadbury's Roses
- Ferrero Rocher
- Safeway's pork pie
- Safeway's pure orange juice
- Frozen duckling
- St Ivel Gold spread
- 3 Rowntree's jelly pots
- Alpen, Weotabix
- 3 roll dog food
- Lamsip drink
- Safeway's set yoghurt
- Safeway's toilet tissue
- Mr Kipling cherry bakewells
- 2 Safeway's chocolate surprise desserts
- 3 Fray Bentos minced beef pies
- Cadbury's mini rolls
- Palmolive shaving stick
- Uncle Ben's long grain rice
- Ambrosia rice pudding
- Safeway's lard

"Where are you KEITH?" If Mr Chegwin had a pot of Haagen-Dazs for every time this phrase is shouted at him in the street he would be a very happy man indeed. Faced with stacks of mineral water at Safeway's in Wapping, Keith reflects on another side-effect from his outside broadcaster job for *The Big Breakfast* - standing on street corners in Wales at 6am and needing a pee. "You've always got a lady producer with you so you can't just ask, 'Scuse me, just go and stand round the back of me, could

**The telly star proves that there is more than just a Big Breakfast to his lifestyle**

BY SOPHIE WALKER  
PICTURES BY  
INDIRA FLACK

you?" So it's a small bottle of Perrier for me." Keith is a man with a mission. He's going to concoct the ultimate boys' own shopping trolley while doing an average speed of 90mph around the shelves. Just like on TV, his energy, enthusiasm and sense of urgency is infectious. "Oh my God, brilliant a box of Roses chocolates. Bottle of Coke. Ooh, Walker's cheese-and-onion crisps. I don't like Smith's 'cause they're too salty, but Walker's crisps are just right mixed with a bag of cashew nuts. Brilliant." ▶



## THE RIGHT STUFF

I know Keith dashes all over the place and needs comfort and energy, but really! Vegetables and fruit are desperately needed. Dried fruit is sweet, easy and comforting to eat. The cereals, although some are loaded with sugar, at least contain fibre. Substitute frozen yoghurt for ice-cream and chicken and lean mince for the meats.

BY BEST-SELLING NUTRITIONIST  
SUE KREITZMAN

Keith flies past every household cleaning product known to man, oblivious to their existence, and takes a sharp left turn up the cereal aisle. "Brilliant. Variety packs. They're brilliant. Except the Cocoa Pops. But the Nutty Crunch mixed with the Frosties. Brilliant.

"Sugar Puffs I don't like because

they just float all over the sodding place unless you put hot milk with them. Alpen is great because it's got sugar already in it. Yeah, cornflakes and that mixed together. In some high-class hotels we stay in they have all this mixed up themselves and that's boring."

Now you can see why Keith is perfect for *The Big Breakfast*; he's shopping, running, being enthusiastic, grinning maniacally and making small talk with customers.

"Have you tried Gold? It's addictive. Butter's a pain because you get it out, get some nice bread and it goes all over the place. But Gold is absolutely brilliant because it just spreads. Yeah, man, in a hurry." Denying rumours that he is sponsored by St Ivel, Keith continues his shopping.

"Now Cup-a-Soup. When I'm in panto you can't beat it. Now where are the crunchy crouton ones? Ideal for the hotel bedroom."

When Keith's not dashing around the country, barging into people's houses at eight in the morning and waving mikes in their faces, he relaxes . . . well, even he

must sometimes, in his Berkshire home with girlfriend Maria.

"I have my Mum and Dad down loads and my brother and my sister are always popping in. My brother is always on a diet so we always have rice. Go for your Uncle Ben's. The three-minute rice in a tin. This is the best ever. Forget all that 20 minute stuff because it sticks to the bottom of the pan. The only problem is it's expensive.

"Chicken in white sauce - that's good. I had a cat and I took it to the vet one day because it wasn't well and the vet said try and get it to eat anything. So it liked chicken in white sauce and it also liked cod in butter sauce and that got it through its early life. So chicken in white sauce saved my cat."

Holly the border collie is just as bad. "I used to give her chews but she's lost all her teeth so I have to find things for her to suck.

"She likes these things - dog sausage, and I get her this value mix. What I do is boil a kettle, let it all soften then as a treat, mix in some dog sausage so she can slurp it up. It's like soup for the dog." ■

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## BOYS' OWN

The Bloke has replaced the New Man. This year's model is more laddish and knows how to treat a girl

BY CHRISSY ILEY



# GOOD BLOKES bite the heads off jelly babies

Suddenly men have realised that trying to reach the impossible heights of New Man is a hiding to nothing. Instead, any man worth his pint and train set is now aiming for the status of Good Bloke. A good bloke is the latest, most sensible thing a real man wants to be.

A bloke has a sense of reliability, but is a close relation of a complete bastard. Women are drawn more to brute charisma, ego and force than a man with a Delia Smith cookbook under his arm.

Blokes cook – they can do a fry-up and nappy change with one hand while dealing a hand of poker. They're quite good with their children, playing rough but never hard. They watch Oliver Stone movies, go to football or the pub where they meet other blokes and talk about anything except an impending emotional crisis. They are nostalgic, can be sentimental, but not sensitive. They're neither wildly imaginative nor ambitious. Blokes can be successful, but only to a point. They're not casualties and don't go out of control. They are not dope-fiends, alcoholics or bird bandits. They have a quiet desperation which they control.

So who are these good blokes? Danny Baker, Harvey Keitel, Denzel Washington, Jack Dee,



### LAZY BLOKE

Slobby John Goodman, top left, epitomises the bloke who only does sit-ups to change TV channels.

### BITTER BLOKE

We all know about Jack Dee's penchant for a blokey kind of beer. And he likes football!

### BLOKE'S BLOKE

Phil Collins, left, is the ultimate bloke. He plays snooker, collects train sets, nips down the pub and can even cook. Not only that, he looks like a regular pop superstar.

John Goodman, David Caruso and Phil Collins are. Kenneth Branagh could never be because he's too introspective and neurotic. Blokism has nothing to do with class. Prince Andrew and Viscount Linley are blokes, Prince Charles and Edward are not.

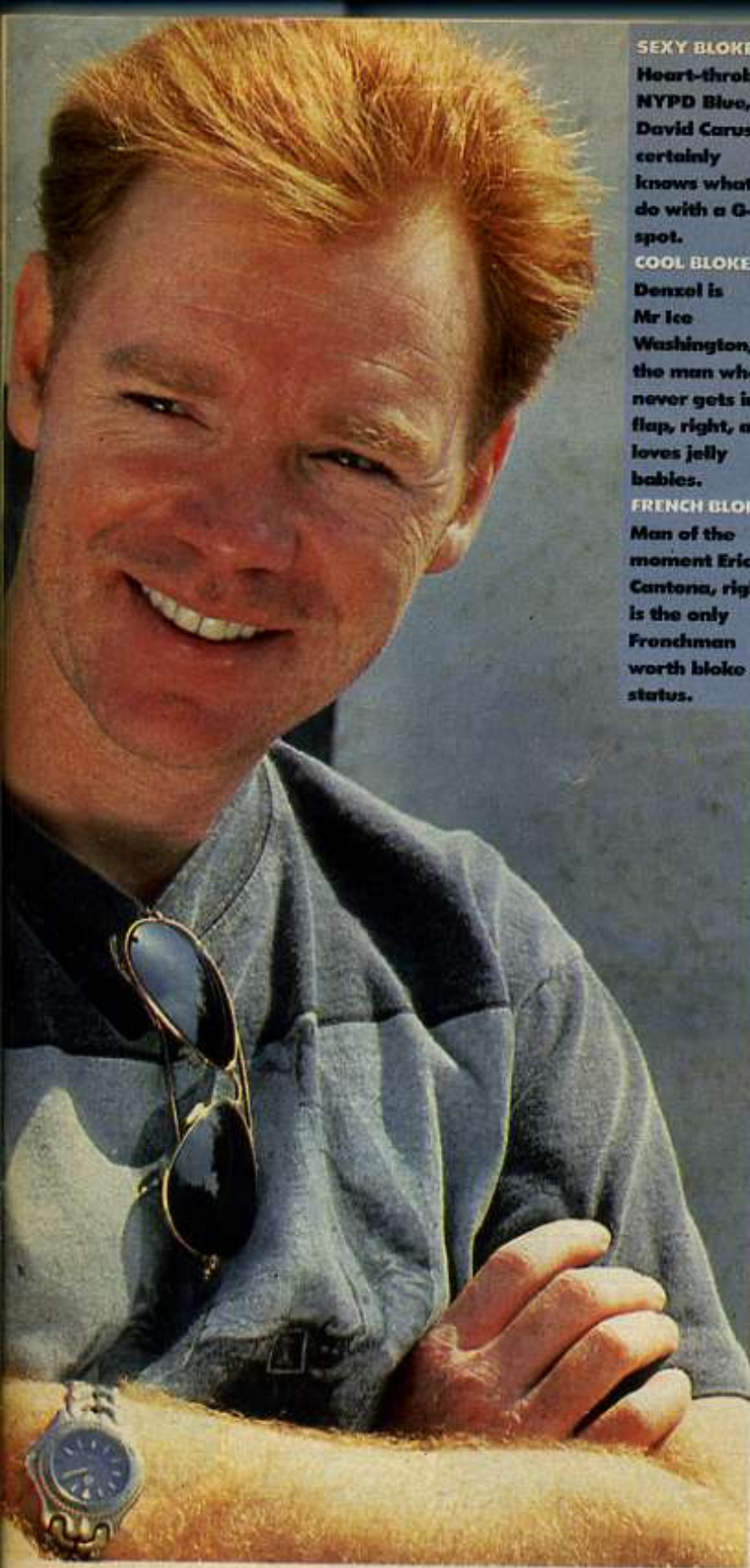
Blokes never go to the gym – sit-ups belong in the life's-too-short department. They like to watch

sport and love collecting things – Phil Collins still has his train set.

Blokes like other blokes. An executive bloke I know said, "If someone comes recommended as a good bloke it's shorthand for a lot more. It's a commendation much greater than an impressive CV."

Blokes work hard, have no ambition, but won't settle for failure. They are quietly relentless.

Good blokes are a return to basic or boyhood. They eat mashed potatoes, make spaghetti, go out for curry and like a nice Sunday roast. If a good bloke goes shopping, he remembers peanuts, pickles and bread, but probably forgets milk. A good bloke always keeps a bag of jelly babies in the glove compartment of his car – and he'll always bite their heads off first.



**SEXY BLOKE**

Heart-throb of NYPD Blue, David Caruso certainly knows what to do with a G-spot.

**COOL BLOKE**

Denzel is Mr Ice Washington, the man who never gets in a flap, right, and loves jelly babies.

**FRENCH BLOKE**

Man of the moment Eric Cantona, right, is the only Frenchman worth bloke status.



can recognise a true bloke by the contents of his fridge – a few beers, Cracker Barrel and something else that used to be cheese.

Blokes never put themselves out. Or if they do, they make it look like they haven't. If they make you a meal they'll say it came from Marks & Spencer. They do not fuss. There is something about their maleness that can make a woman feel especially female.

Paul Ross, who likes to think of himself as a good bloke, sums up blokism: "You realise you are never going to change your life. You accept cowardice, lust, hunger, and loss of ambition. You measure your life in potential freedom. You sit in the pub at six and believe you are a footloose man and can stay there all night until it's eight o'clock, and then with a quiet desperation you go home to what you've settled for." His brother Jonathan could never be a bloke because he wears coloured Mugler and is far too ambitious. Blokism is not glamorous. ■

A good bloke can do well domestically. He can fix the washing machine, but can't work out why he's turned the underwear grey. He can paint, put up shelves and owns a Black & Decker, but is not often persuaded to use it. The only household object of which he is possessive, is the remote control.

Unlike the bastard, a good bloke is slightly in awe of women. He

likes *all* women and although he probably couldn't draw a map of the clitoris, he knows what to do with it when he gets there. He's likely to buy you underwear for your birthday, but it may be the wrong size and involve black lace. Good blokes are a bit of a cliché and like to shop at chain-stores.

Blokes are never single after 40. If they do live on their own you

**HOW MUCH OF A GOOD BLOKE IS YOUR MAN?**

Tick his blokey qualities and then let him tick off his own to see if he agrees. When the fake-fur starts to fly, don't blame us!

HER HIM

1 A good bloke will feed the children, but only with HIS favourite take-away.

2 When a good bloke gets drunk he never feels guilty the next day, but just wishes that he didn't have a hangover.

3 A good bloke doesn't know who Baddiel and Newman are.

4 A good bloke may not know exactly what your G-spot is but will know what to do with it when he finds it.

5 A good bloke doesn't mind wearing condoms – in fact he usually buys them in bulk.

6 A good bloke always keeps a bag of jelly babies in the glove compartment and bites their heads off first.

7 A good bloke would rather die than listen to Michael Bolton.

8 A good bloke talks about nothing, nothing and football.

9 A good bloke never rings when he's going to be late in the pub with the lads.

10 A good bloke likes women – problem is, he likes ALL women.

**WIN HIM £50**

If you think your good bloke is the BEST good bloke in town you could win him a £50 INDEX voucher. On a postcard complete this sentence: "My good bloke is the best good bloke in town because . . ." (in no more than 25 words). Add your name, address and send to: Good Bloke Competition, Sunday Mirror Magazine, Floor 22, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5AP, to arrive by April 6, 1994. The FIVE best good blokes, in the opinion of our judges, will receive a £50 voucher each to spend at INDEX, the catalogue shop, who have such a wide range of merchandise he's bound to find a super gift. Usual MGN rules apply. The Editor's decision is final.

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## BEHR NECESSITIES

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Life's a bed of roses for the teenager who adds a touch of glamour to the chaos of *The Word*. But cool, calm Dani Behr knows it's her stunning looks that keep her on top

BY ANNA MAXTED

FASHION BY OLLIE PICTON-JONES

PICTURES BY PAUL MASSEY

**N**ever meet your heroes – because you will be disappointed," warns Dani Behr. This may be true of Hollywood stars – Dani should know, she's met most of them. But what of *The Word*'s lovely teenage presenter herself? Concerned fans should relax. She of the husky purr and sharp tongue is even more breathtaking in the flesh than she is on screen. Her trademark brashness, however, is absent.

The real Dani is softer and more likeable than her television persona. "Presenting is like an acting job," she explains. "The *Word* wants you to be outspoken and flamboyant. They like you to ask people outrageous questions, to be funny and – this doesn't even need mentioning – totally sarcastic. They love glamour. Some of the clothes I wear on *The Word* I wouldn't dare walk out in."

This blonde Amazon is a smart and sassy young woman who doesn't mince her words. ▶



# Dani laid bare



**HIGH STEPPING** Dani's showbiz career kicked off at 14 with an all-girl rock group. Now, at just 19, she is

The Word's touch of glamour, but this raunchy teenager has her feet firmly on the ground.

Skirts, £275 each, from Jenny Packham, 071-722 1415. Bra, £8.99, from Marks & Spencer. Flowers from Paula Pryke, 071-837 7336.

Hair and make-up: Penny Attwood. Fashion assistant: Jackie Holland.

"Mark was hired because he's funny and quick," she says. "Terry can ask outrageous questions, be very charming and get away with it. Huffty is there to shock people because she's a lesbian and has no hair. I'm there because they want someone glamorous and because men come on to me."

Conceit or honesty? "I'm not going to beat about the bush here," says Dani. "It's obvious. They send me to interview all the guys. They get Terry to interview these cute Hollywood girls to see if he fancies them or they fancy him, and they get me to interview the men to see them come on to me or me come on to them. But part of my interview technique is to make people feel comfortable. I'm very friendly and I do flirt - like most girls."

Sylvester Stallone was one of those who misconstrued Dani's interview technique. His amorous advances received short shrift. "I was very good friends with Sly," she says. "But we're not friends now because he wanted more than friendship and I wasn't interested. I don't care who he is, what he does, or how much he earns. I either fancy someone or I don't."

This 19-year-old from north-west London remains unfazed by all the glitz The Word throws in her path. "Stars are just human beings hyped to humungous proportions," she says tartly. "Most movie stars are much shorter than everyone thinks. The number of actors who are five foot two, but who look six foot is quite amazing. Christian Slater's tiny, Jason Priestley's tiny. Even Arnold Schwarzenegger wasn't

as big as I thought. And Sly's only five foot nine."

Several of these vertically-challenged heart-throbs also lack in the personality department, according to Dani. "I interviewed Johnny Depp recently and he seemed a really nice guy, quite shy, quite humble, and then he had this psychopathic fit. Whether the death of River Phoenix has screwed him up - cos they were really good friends - or whether it was drugs, or work, I don't know, but it was not normal. He started shouting insults at us, and threatening to hit my producer, and just - weird man."

**T**he only celebrity who managed to wow out the ice-cool Dani was the high priestess of hype herself. "Madonna was the most exciting one for me," says Dani, "because she lives it up to the fullest. She has an entourage of 20 people. She lives the superstar - the way she walks, talks and dresses."

These days Dani has little time to hang out. When she's in Britain she's either catching up on sleep or friends. Otherwise, she sees her model boyfriend Jairo. They met two years ago at Notting Hill Carnival and have been going out since. Dani is not the cooeey sort, but her voice acquires an extra rasp of huskiness. "He's six foot two. I love dark exotic-looking men. He's South American. I love that sexy accent."

Dani is precise about her taste in men. "As far as physical attraction goes, eyes and smile and height are important to me," she says. "Essential personality traits are honesty and trustworthiness. The extras are sense of humour, fun to be with. And faithful, most definitely. I don't give second chances. And I always find out!"

Doomed to failure are: "Men who, number one, talk about their ex-girlfriends; number two, don't talk about their ex-girlfriends in that when you ask them about their past they refuse to answer. I hate that. I

like to know everything. Boring men. I hate vain men, I cannot bear them. They walk in and look in the mirror before looking at you. Oh, and men who have worse PMT than women."

As Dani raps off this rigorous checklist she is smiling. She knows that envy drives people to write her off as a humptious bitch. She toys with that image and is amused if they are small-minded enough to take her seriously. "If you can't laugh at yourself it's not worth it," she says. Experience has taught her to be tough: "If I don't want to do something I won't do it."

Being pig-headed is essential for Dani's job. Her patience is tested to its limits. "The Word wanted to run a Get Married to Dani Competition. I said 'forget it.' Besides, my father went doolally. They wanted to fly us to Las Vegas, get us married in a drive-thru wedding chapel, and divorce us eight weeks later. Number one, I don't want to be a divorcee, and number two, as far as the legalities go, my father wasn't up for it."

Dani's father is not The Word's greatest fan. "My dad will be reading his paper, and my mum will say, 'OK, your daughter's on now,' and he'll say, 'Do I have to watch this rubbish?' He's so funny."

Dani comes from a close family who have kept cool about their daughter's fame. She was already consorting with stars at 14 after leaving stage school to join an all-girl band Faith, Hope and Charity. Despite great hype, and a £500,000 record deal, the group flopped. But she regrets nothing. "I'm too young."

Dani is happy to yak about puffed-up showbiz egos, but on the subject of her co-presenters she clams up. "I don't have a favourite," she says stiffly. "They're all nice people in their own way. That bullshit about Huffty fancying me and me banning her from the studio - I mean, please! Some newspaper decided it would make a good story." Poor old Huffty has had a hard time, but the white swan speaks up for the ugly duckling: "She's a lovely girl." Dani Behr, speak for yourself. ■

**'The Word gets me to interview the men to see them come on to me or me come on to them. I'm very friendly and I do flirt - like most girls'**