

FOX Thursday Night Line-Up

Entertainment Briefs



The cast of "Living Single"

Living Single, the fresh half-hour comedy starring Queen Latifah, Kim Coles, Kim Fields-Freeman, Erika Alexander, John Henton and T.C. Carson, enters its third season this year and opens FOX Thursday night line-up. The series follows six upwardly mobile African American friends living in New York City and trying to make sense of their lives, their loves and their careers.

Three of them share a brownstone: Kadijah James (Queen Latifah), Synclaire James (Kim Coles), her adorable and often naive cousin; and Kadijah's childhood friend, Regine Hunter (Fields-Freeman).

Kadijah's best friend Maxine "Max" Shaw (Alexander), a tough, quick-witted public defender, spends so much time at the apartment that she should pay rent.

Living upstairs from the girls are Kyle Barker (Carson), a self-proclaimed ladies' man who has a love/hate relationship with Max, and his roommate, Overton Wakefield Jones (Henton), the building's lovable and wise handyman, who is also Synclaire's boyfriend.

Living Single airs at 8 p.m.

★★★★★

New to FOX this season is **The Crew**, a hard-edged, half-hour comedy that focuses on the lives of four young friends who work together as flight attendants and live in South Beach — the very hub of Miami. Coming from unique and diverse perspectives, they find common ground as they help each other navigate through life in their turbulent 20s.

Jess Jameson (Rose Jackson), born and raised in Philadelphia, will someday run the airline — if she isn't fired first for insubordination and her tell-it-like-it-is attitude.



Dondre T. Whitfield and Rose Jackson of the new FOX series "The Crew"

When not flying the friendly skies, the crew hangs out at Mambo Mambo, the local hot spot, where good-looking, quick-witted owner MacArthur "Mac" Edwards (Dondre T. Whitfield) tends bar — and to a budding romance with Jess.

The Crew airs at 8:30 p.m.

★★★★★

Rounding out FOX Thursday night is **New York Undercover** is a one-hour drama about a squad of young New York City police detectives struggling to clean the streets of criminals while attempting to make sense of their own lives. Set to a contemporary musical beat and filmed in a driving visual style, the series offers a close-up look at the lives of many of America's urban youth, (See FOX Lineup, Page 21)



The cast of "New York Undercover"

HOLLYWOOD - Nia Peeples has joined the cast of the new CBS drama "Courthouse," which has undergone considerable changes from the original pilot episode.

Peeples — whose credits include the series "Fame," the movie "I Don't Buy Kisses Anymore" and Paramount's latenight syndicated entry "The Party Machine With Nia Peeples" — will now portray the show's public defender, a part originally played by Robin Givens, who assumes a new role as a criminal investigator.

The Columbia Pictures TV series has lined up San Antonio Spurs bad-boy Dennis Rodman for a guest shot in the first regular episode. Rodman will play a famous athlete accused of murdering his agent.

In confirming the moves, exec producer Deborah Joy LeVine reiterated the show will push the envelope in terms of content "as much as if not more than" the ABC series "NYPD Blue," including a love scene involving Givens and Jeffrey D. Sams — who plays a prosecutor on the series — that will be added to the pilot. The pilot is scheduled to premiere Sept. 13.

★★★★★

HOLLYWOOD - Hot on the heels of Howie Long co-starring in Fox's "Broken Arrow" and Shaquille O'Neal playing a genie in Interscope's "Kazaam," International Creative Management has signed another sports star with crossover potential, Ken Griffey Jr.

ICM will represent the Seattle Mariners

outfielder in all areas outside of his baseball career, including potential film and TV work, endorsements and any book deals.

Griffey was been on the American League All-Star team for five years, 1990-94. In 1989, he and former All-Star great Ken Griffey Sr. became the first father-son combination to play in the major leagues at the same time, hitting back-to-back home runs in the same game.

The Mariner superstar can currently be seen in TV spots for Nike and Chevrolet. Other sports stars on the ICM roster include George Foreman and Deion Sanders.

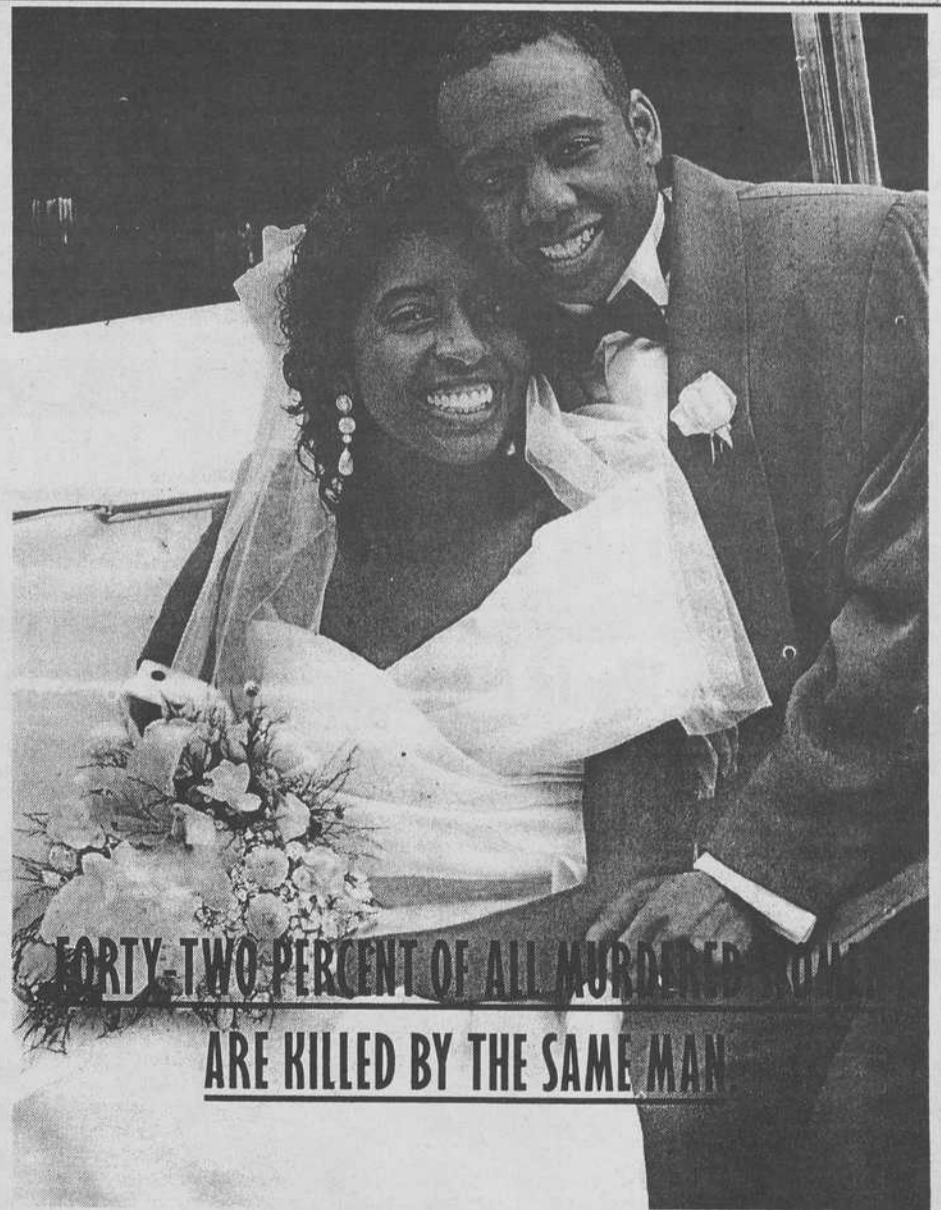
★★★★★

HOLLYWOOD - Charles S. Dutton has joined Samuel L. Jackson and Sandra Bullock in Warner Bros.' "A Time to Kill," directed by Joel Schumacher. Dutton is in production in Vancouver on the NBC movie of the week "Jack Reed IV" with Brian Dennehy. He also appears in Paramount Pictures' upcoming actioner "Nick of Time" with Johnny Depp.

★★★★★

HOLLYWOOD (Variety) - Robert De Niro has officially signed on to play a crazed sports nut who stalks a baseball player in "The Fan" for TriStar Pictures, the studio confirmed Friday.

TriStar is still in talks with Wesley Snipes to play the ballplayer. De Niro's deal closed this week after a month of negotiations. Wendy Finerman is producing the pic for TriStar. Phoebe Sutton scripted and Tony Scott is directing.



FORTY-TWO PERCENT OF ALL MURDERED WOMEN ARE KILLED BY THE SAME MAN

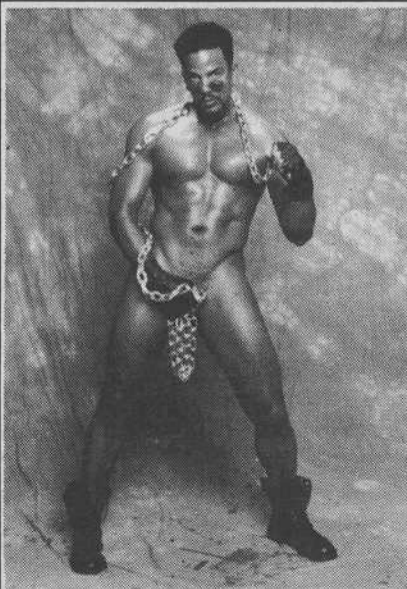
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