

Entertainment Weekly is available on AMERICA ONLINE (keyword: EW). A limited edition is also available on the PATHFINDER website (<http://pathfinder.com/ew/>).

◆ **The missing links:** For a handy collection of entertainment-related websites, look no further than the new and improved EW Hot List on PATHFINDER.

AGENCY: EDGE; STYLING: JACQUELINE ALLOCCA; HAIR: DIANNE WIEDENMANN/RED; MAKEUP: B. J. GILLIN/VIAGES; STYLE: PROPS AND LOCATION: PARR STUDIOS, NYC; CLOTHING: DOLCE & GABBANA



40

**CAREY-ED AWAY:** As smart, sexy assistant DA Jamie Ross, Carey Lowell makes a new case for *Law & Order*

NEWS & NOTES

**10/Picks of the Leaders** Bob Dole's entertainment choices (but where are Bill's?) ... Unrest on the set of *Cybill* ... Stars turn out for high-profile parties ... HOT SHEET ... MONITOR ... and more.

**17/Trends** Opera is striking a chord in Hollywood.

**18/Documents** How *Hard Copy* made George Clooney skip *ET*.

FEATURES

**20/COVER Ransom Notes** BY REBECCA ASCHER-WALSH Big money, brutal weather, a bushel of rewrites—no wonder Mel Gibson got appendicitis on the set of the fall's biggest thriller.

**30/'Face Jam** BY DANA KENNEDY Writer-producer Babyface Edmonds has mined gold for Whitney Houston, Madonna, and Eric Clapton, but there's no exhaling on the eve of his own stardom.

**34/Diane's Prime Time** BY JESS CAGLE In her first in-depth interview in five years, Diane Sawyer finally talks about Michael Jackson, Richard Nixon, and her rumored move to Dan Rather's job.

**40/Carey On** BY KEN TUCKER Former Bond girl Carey Lowell gives *Law & Order* its best assist in seven years.

REVIEWS

**46/MOVIES** OWEN GLEIBERMAN on *Romeo & Juliet*; also *Set It Off* and *Stephen King's Thinner*. **PLUS:** *Romeo and Juliet* the play versus *Pulp Fiction*; Michael Jackson's short film *Ghosts*.

**53/TELEVISION** KEN TUCKER on *ER*; also *Millennium* and *Early Edition*. **PLUS:** Gloria Reuben's positive HIV story line.

**59/BOOKS** LISA SCHWARZBAUM on current movies based on classic and popular novels. **PLUS:** Tammy Faye (Bakker) Messner.

**65/MUSIC** DAVID BROWNE on choosing CDs along party lines. **PLUS:** Some propositions for the music industry.

**71/MULTIMEDIA** BOB STRAUSS on the American Cybercast and First-TV websites; a Marx Brothers CD-ROM. **PLUS:** Cybertalk.

**77/VIDEO** BRUCE FRETTS on both versions of *The Nutty Professor*; George Burns and Gracie Allen. **PLUS:** Death row movies.

DEPARTMENTS

**8/Mail** *Michael Collins*, *Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon*, Van Halen.  
**84/Encore** Nov. 6, 1967: Phil Donahue's talk show debuts.

**Cover** RUSSO AND GIBSON PHOTOGRAPHED FOR EW BY ALBERT WATSON; STYLING: BASIA ZAMORSKA/MAREK NYC; HAIR: JOHN SAHAG; MAKEUP: LESLIE LOPEZ, ELIZABETH WATSON; GIBSON'S JACKET: JOOP! COLLECTION AT BARNEYS NYC; SHIRTS: PAUL SMITH

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY (ISSN 10490434) is published weekly, except biweekly the last issues of February, June, August, and December, by Entertainment Weekly Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Time Inc. Principal office: 1675 Broadway, New York, NY 10019. Michael J. Klingensmith, President; George H. Velnath, Treasurer; Robert E. McCarthy, Secretary. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices. U.S. subscription: \$51.48 for 52 issues. (Canada Post International Publications Mail (Canadian Distribution) Sales Agreement No. 545651 GST 124806647RT) POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY, Post Office Box 30608, Tampa, FL 33630-0608. ©1996 ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED. ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY INC. ◆



# Entertainment Weekly

## RANSOM

MEL GIBSON AND  
RENE RUSSO

1 Appendectomy,  
5 Rewrites, and  
A \$20 Million  
Paycheck!  
Inside This  
Fall's Hot  
Thriller



**DIANE  
SAWYER**

Is She  
Ready To  
Make Her  
Move?  
Should Dan  
Rather Be  
Worried?

**PLUS: ER  
Babyface  
Romeo &  
Juliet**

#BXBCDGB\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 56001  
#56001SMM99009M99#4 E5 MN01R\*\*\* JAN98 0006  
MINNEOPA SAWMILL #05335 P00154

RT 9 BOX 202  
MANKATO MN 56001-0236

