

MR POPHistory

Week of May 15, 1979

President? - Senator Robert J. Dole of Kansas officially declares his candidacy for the top spot on the GOP ticket.

President Carter, saying he hoped the worst of the gasoline shortage is nearly over, announces a series of measures specifically aimed at relieving problems in places in rapid growth areas such as California. The state has been making headlines lately with long gasoline lines and rising tempers.

In Moscow - President Tito of Yugoslavia gets a bear hug from Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev during a quiet arrival ceremony, initiating four days of informal talks about the two countries' strained relations.



Up and coming comedian **David Letterman** recently appeared in an NBC movie "Fast Friends," playing a stand-up comedian who takes over a talk show from an aging host. Last year he hosted a talk-show pilot for NBC which was not picked-up, but which was seen by Fred de Cordova who offered the nightclub comedian six guest spots. Could Letterman become the next Johnny Carson? What does Letterman think of fellow night club comic Jay Leno? "Jay is the best of observational stuff. He has an amazing ability to take stuff to the stage and make it

work nine times out of ten."

A federal jury orders energy conglomerate Kerr-McGee Corp. to pay \$10.505 million to the children of its late employee, Karen Silkwood for its negligence in her 1974 plutonium contamination.

TV preacher authority William C. Martin says that currently, there are around 2,000 electronic preachers. Names you'll see spreading the word are Billy Graham, Robert Shuller, Bob Harrington, James Robison, Oral Roberts, Hal Lindsey, David Terrell, Herbert W. Armstrong and his father, Garner Ted Armstong; **Ernest Angley**, Morris Cerullo, Leroy Jenkins and Thea Jones. Others include Rev. Ike, Carl McIntire, and Billy James Hargis. Look for his book "Electric Preacher" to be published next year.



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NBC terminates an agreement with former President Gerald Ford to appear in a number of news specials for a report \$1 million. A similar contract with wife Betty also was ended. Both sides say the termination was amicable.

Playing in Las Vegas –

Burt Bacharach/Raquel Welch – Caesars Palace
Tony Bennett and David Brenner – Desert Inn
Sergio Franchi, Dana Valery and Nipsey Russell – Frontier
Paul Anka – Hilton
Shirley MacLaine, Fred Travalena – Riviera
Don Rickles and Glenn Smith – Sahara
Shecky Green and Mills Brothers – Sands



Television news –

Mork is hot – Look for a Mork bubble gum coming from Wrigley's soon. Look for a Robin "Mork" album on Casablanca Records while you're at it.

Tony Danza who appears in "Taxi" is also a boxer. This week in Phoenix, he defeats Johnny Heard in the third round.



At an affiliate meeting – **Fred Silverman** who was called-in last June to help ailing NBC, predicts the network will have bounced back to full health by Christmas next year. NBC finished last in prime time ratings this season for the fourth year in a row.

Friday night television –

CBS – Leif Garrett Special, Dukes of Hazzard, Dallas
NBC – Diff'rent Stokes, Hello Larry, Rockford Files, The Duke
ABC – The Mackenzies of Paradise Cove, TV Movie

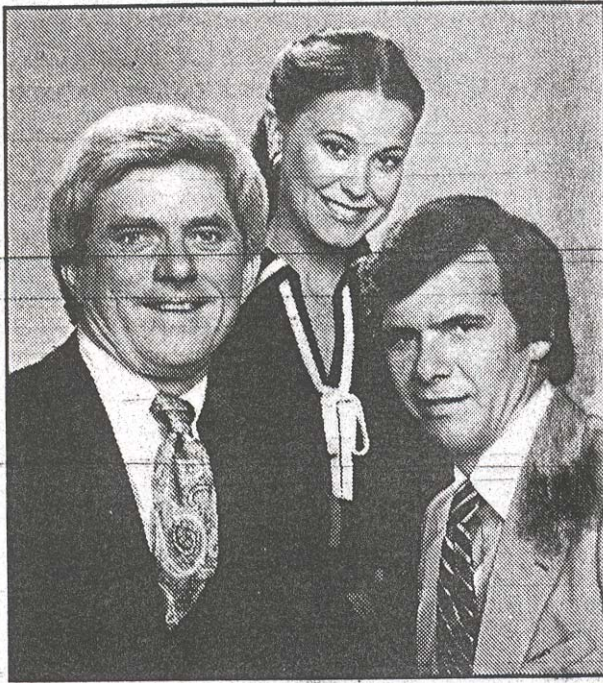
Leif Garrett Special – Leif sings and does comedy bits with guests Brooke Shields, Bob Hope, Marie Osmond and Flip Wilson.

Hello Larry – Larry's divorce becomes final – now off to the single's bar.

MR POPHistory

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Phil Donahue now on "Today"



Phil Donahue joins the "Today" team—
Tom Brokaw, Jane Pauley and
Gene Shalit—in bringing you some of
the most interesting and colorful
reporting on television. Phil's special
segments will be broadcast on Mondays,
Wednesdays and Fridays. His guests this
week include Caroline Bird, author of *The
Two-Paycheck Marriage*, discussing
the changing role of the family;
Nancy Hunt, Chicago Tribune reporter
discussing her transexuality; and
Jane Byrne, recently elected
Mayor of Chicago.

Rockford Files – Valuable paintings are stolen from the police commissioner, who's Angel's in-law.

ABC TV Movie – "Return of the Mod Squad" – Michael Cole, Peggy Lipton, Clarence Williams III, Tige Andrews.

MR POPHistory

Week of May 15, 1979

Radio news -



Psychic **Uri Geller** and an independent network of radio stations are banding together for an experiment in telekinesis – to bring about a nationwide surge of energy designed to pull the space station back into orbit. A broadcast will feature a countdown with Uri Geller with the idea of getting enough people to put their heads together to get the space station back in orbit.

Drake Chenault announces two more Special Features to be released this year – The Top 100 of the '70's and a multi-hour Christmas show. Scheduled to begin this summer is "The Weekly Top Thirty."

Rick Dees joins KHJ Los Angeles for mornings... Dusty Street is doing mornings at crosstown KROQ.

M.G. Kelly departs top-40 KTNQ (Ten-Q Los Angeles at 1020 on the AM dial) and says he's leaving radio to concentrate on television. He has a new 30-minute "The M.G. Kelly TV Show," now in production. "I'm leaving radio because I feel my acting is all-encompassing and time consuming. It's time to move forward to the next stage of my performing."



Disco radio – a different animal - Speaking at an advertising seminar; **Rick Sklar** argues that disco played on a contemporary station doesn't make that station a disco station. Sklar pointed to "unheard of skews of demographics" among disco stations. Not letting on that he was talking about (WKTU-FM) – a station that's beating his WABC, Sklar went on to say that the station has a 21 share among single listeners and a 17 share among divorced listeners. "Rhythm is a great companion for lonely people," said Sklar.

He pointed out that disco stations "build their market shares by very slow repetition of material" – a few four-hour turnovers, a great many eight, 12 or 24 hours between play and that disco stations have some of the characteristics of beautiful music stations.

Steve Marshall leaves KNX-FM (Los Angeles) as program director to join "WKRP In Cincinnati" as writer and story editor.

MR POPHistory

Week of May 15, 1979



New video show? – Matrix Communications signs DJ **Charlie Tuna** to voice something called “The Radio Picture Show” – six 90-minute TV music specials. The show will feature video performances by leading pop-rock-disco artists in a top-40 rotation. A series of jingles and mini-features with visual accompaniment have been produced to be interspaced throughout the musical countdown.

Music news – Pink Floyd finally goes back into the recording studio to cut a long-awaited album. Floyd’s “Dark Side of the Moon” has been on the album charts some 250+ weeks!

Lou Reed is arrested in Germany and charged with assaulting a female fan during a concert. He was jailed overnight.

Top Disco hits –

Ring My Bell – **Anita Ward**

Hot Stuff – Donna Summer

Bad, Bad Boy – Theo Vaness

Dance to Dance/Dancer – Gino Soccio

Dance With You – Carrie Lucas

We Are Family/He’s the Great Dancer – Sister Sledge

Work That Body – Taana Gardner

My Baby’s Baby – Liquid Gold

Forbidden Love Madleen Kane

One More Minute/Fill My Life With Love/Belle de Jour – St. Tropez

I Who Have Nothing/Stars/Body Strong – Sylvester

Take Me Home – Cher

In The Navy/Manhattan Woman – Village People

Let Me Be Your Woman – Linda Clifford



Top albums this week in 1979 –

Minute by Minute – Doobie Brothers

Breakfast In America – Supertramp

2-Hot – Peaches & Herb

Desolation Angels – Bad Company

We Are Family – Sister Sledge



MR POPHistory

Week of May 15, 1979

Van Halen II – Van Halen
Spirits having Flown – Bee Gees
Parallel Lines – Blondie
Bad Girls – Donna Summer
Cheap Trick At The Buddokan
Enlightened Rogues – Allman Brothers Band
Salsoul – Instant Funk
Disco Nights – G.Q.
Rickie Lee Jones
Go West – Village People
Livin' Inside Your Love – George Benson
Destiny – The Jacksons
Blondes Have More Fun – Rod Stewart



Top Country –

Lying In Love With You – Jim Ed Brown & Helen Cornelius
If I Said You Had A Beautiful Body Would You Hold It Against Me – Bellamy Brothers
Don't Take It Away – Conway Twitty
Lay Down Beside Me – Don Williams
Sail Away – Oak Ridge Boys
When I Dream – Crystal Gayle
How To Be A Country Star – Statler Brothers
She Believes In Me – Kenny Rogers

Top hits in Britain-

Pop Muzik – M
Bright Eyes – Art Garfunkel
Some Girls – Racey
Does Your Mother Know – Abba
Hooray, Hooray It's A Holi Holiday – Boney M
One Way Ticket – Eruption
The Logical Song – Supertramp
Knock On Wood – Ami Stewart
Reunited – Peaches & Herb
Banana Splits – Dickles
One Way Ticket - Eruption



MR POPHistory

Week of May 15, 1979

Top movies this week in 1979 –



Manhattan
Dawn of the Dead
Love At First Bite
Deer Hunter
Phantasm
Silent Partner
China Syndrome
The Champ
Blazing Saddles
Norma Rae
Coming Home