TELLY TIME

Richard Thomas, star of CBS's The Waltons, can be seen in your neighborhood movies in a fascinating thriller called You'll Like My Mother. Co-starred with Richard is pretty Patty Duke-remember her from ABC's The Patty Duke Show? Hope ya' caught Patty's stellar performance as a vindictive unwed mother on ABC's Owen Marshall early in October; David Soul - remember him from Here Come The Brides?-played the young father. David also turned up on a Streets Of San Francisco "Hall Of Mirrors" segment, along with A Martinez (remember him from the movie Cowboys?) . . . Magnificent Mark Spitz is headed into show biz in a great big way. One of the first deals he's signed is one which will permit a Mark Spitz animated cartoon to join ABC's Saturday morning cartoon lineup. The main character of Mark's series will be a champion swimmer named "Mark Spitz." Natch! And, of course, you caught marvelous Mark's guest appearance early in December on The New Bill Cosby Show.

At press time the two regular telly shows most likely to be dropped are CBS's Anna And The King (which will probably be replaced by the Jackson 5's new half-hour variety show in January -oh, goody!); and ABC's Alias Smith & Jones - but don't worry, I'm sure that Roger Davis and Ben Murphy will each turn up in a series of their own faster'n you can switch channels!

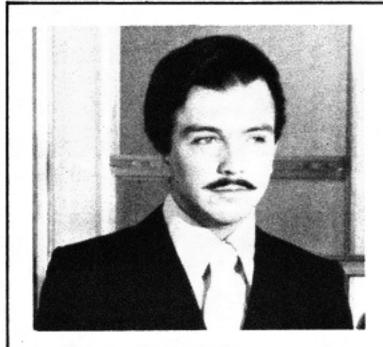
Super-talented Ron Dante back on the scene again with his groovy Thanksgiving guest appearance on ABC's threehour special The Jerry Lucas Super Kids Magic Jamboree on which he sang and did magic tricks. More of Ron's magical powers will be coming your way any minute with the release of his first MGM single and LP - both destined to be super hits...Vince Van Patten-who knocked you out three Sundays in a row on NBC's Wonderful World Of Disney—"High Flying Spy" three-parter—will be featured in the forthcoming full-length Disney movie Charlie And The Angel—which incidentally co-stars Kurt Russell, Kathleen Cody (remember her from Dark Shadows?), and Scott Kolden. Oh, yes -you can catch Scott and adorable Johnny Whitaker on January 7 and 14 in Wonderful World Of Disney's .two-parter "The Mystery In Dracula's Castle!!'

One of Robert Young's "daughters" in his ABC MOW "All My Darling Daughters" was none other than pretty Judy Strangis, semi-regular on Room 222 and David Cassidy's former steady. Young's "sonsin-law" included two of our regular favorites, Darrell Larson and Bruce Kirby, Jr.... Michael-James Wixted popped up in a really super-spectacular performance - on an NBC Ghost Story segment called "Alter Ego" in which Michael demonstrated his talents as "quite a little devil!"... For those of you who came to

know and love talented Scott Jacoby after watching his brilliant performance in ABC's MOW "That Certain Summer"here's good news! You can catch Scott on an upcoming Medical Center episode called "No Way Out" plus which you can see him nearly every day on TV, for he's a regular on CBS's daily afternoon soap opera Love Is A Many Splendored Thing on which he plays "Eddie Samuels." . . . Look for super-star Neil Diamond to show up in a series of specials on the NBC section of your telly tube sometime early this spring.

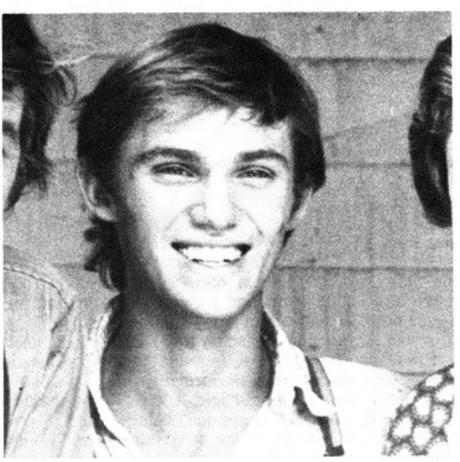
It took six years for handsome Gary Collins to develop his show Sixth Sense. When times were tough and he thought he wouldn't make it - he just held on cos he truly believed in the extra-sensoryperception-mystical-theme of his show. Of course, it's turned out that he's right. Thank you, Gary! . . . Hot Tip Dept.: Don'tcha dare miss Simon "Young Winston" Ward in the title role of ABC's January 3 special William (as in Shakespeare) at 4:30 P.M. (ET).

Sweet and wonderful Michael Cole turned up as a surprise stunt man-entertainer. at a fund-raising outing for the Los Angeles Braille Institute For The Blind . . . Not-To-Be-Missed: Starting in mid-Jan-uary on your local PBS affiliate, the fivepart British TV import, Tom Brown's Schooldays. A sensation in England, this series features gorgeous young U.K. Records singing star Simon Turner in the role of "Ned," plus a brand-new bundle of British beauties for your happy new year!... Sean Kelly not only popped up on a Little People episode and a Brady Bunch episode, you'll soon be seeing him in an Owen Marshall segment and on NBC's Sunday Mystery Movie "Hec Ramsey" (for a pretty pic of Sean see page 67).



MYSTERY STAR:

He's your absolute fav-rave telly star — and here he is as you've never seen him before. Can you guess who he is? Hint: His favorite attire in real life is bell-bottom jeans and casual T-shirts. A full year's subscription to both 16 and SPEC—and a surprise gift -go to the first five readers who send the Mystery Star's correct identity to Telly Time, Mystery Picture, 16 Magazine, 745 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.









Vincent Van Patten



Simon Tarner