

Welcome to Mooseport

Welcome to Mooseport.

The sleepy Maine community has all the accoutrements of idyllic small town life: a little park and gazebo, quaint architecture, a moose that wanders through the streets, and lots of friendly townsfolk, including the proprietor of the local hardware store, Handy Harrison (Ray Romano) and his veterinarian girlfriend Sally (Maura Tierney).

Mooseport also just happens to be the vacation home for the leader of the free world: Monroe “Eagle” Cole, the President of the United States (Gene Hackman). Following two successful terms, the wildly popular President is ready to retire to his “Mooseport White House,” publish his memoirs and embark on a series of lucrative speaking engagements. “The Eagle Has Landed!” proclaim the Mooseport headlines when Cole arrives in the Maine town, along with his devoted executive secretary Grace Sutherland (Marcia Gay Harden) and young PR director Bullard (Fred Savage).

But Eagle’s retirement is delayed when the folks of Mooseport convince the former President to run for Mayor. At the same time, he sparks to Sally – unaware that she is Handy’s girlfriend. And Sally, frustrated by Handy’s inattentiveness, doesn’t resist Eagle’s flirtations.

When a jealous Handy announces HIS candidacy for mayor, Eagle is dumbfounded. “I’m running for mayor against the man who’s installing my

toilets!" he rails. And in the heat of his toughest campaign to date, Eagle's first date with Sally receives the kind of media scrutiny usually reserved for a summit meeting. ("Eagle Lays an Egg" say the pundits when she rejects his goodnight kiss. Ouch!) Handy, in turn, sees himself in a race for Mayor *and* boyfriend.

As the campaign kicks into high gear, things get even wilder in this once quiet town. Eagle and Handy's closely-watched debate seems to hang on a game of Rock/Paper/Scissors, the former president's Secret Service agents suggest that he have Handy "eliminated," and Eagle's ex-wife (Christine Baranski) is campaigning for Handy. Even Eagle's veteran campaign manager, Bert Langdon (Rip Torn), can't make sense of this "David and Goliath" battle.

But one thing both the Handy and Eagle camps can agree on: Mooseport isn't small enough for both of them!

America's favorite television comedy star – Ray Romano – and one of the most acclaimed actors in motion picture history – Gene Hackman – fight it out for love and small-town glory in WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT.

Renowned for his many dramatic performances in films such as "The French Connection" and "Unforgiven," two-time Academy Award® winner Gene Hackman has proven equally adept in comedies such as "The Birdcage" and "Get Shorty." The laughs in Oscar®-winner Tom Schulman's screenplay (based on a story by Doug Richardson) proved irresistible for the actor. "Comedy is hard, if not harder, than dramatic roles because comedy is not arbitrary," says Hackman. "It's either funny or it isn't. "WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT is a flat-out comedy and that appealed to me."

Hackman describes his character, President Monroe "Eagle" Cole as "a comedic view of what we think of as politicians. He's self-centered, arrogant and full of himself. He's a typical politician, or at least how we imagine a typical politician to be. We've seen so many shots of Presidents in the news that I

think we have a generalized sense of how a statesman *should* act. However, this character is *not* very statesman-like at times, and that, of course, is a lot of the fun in playing him.”

Director Donald Petrie, who helmed the comedies “Miss Congeniality” and “How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days,” says Hackman was perfect for the role. “You totally believe that Gene is the President of the United States,” says Petrie. “He has the command and authority, and he can be intimidating. On the other hand, Gene has a sense of comedy that is unparalleled. He can take himself so seriously that it’s funny, and he can stretch that point of reality but still always be completely real and in the moment. There’s never a false moment, it’s never comedy for comedy’s sake. It’s the reality of the moment and that’s what he plays so wonderfully.”

Eagle’s opponent isn’t a seasoned political operative – he’s friendly hardware store owner Harold “Handy” Harrison. The role was a natural fit for Ray Romano, so beloved for his work on “Everybody Loves Raymond.” “Ray was the standout first and only choice to play the role of Handy Harrison,” states Petrie. “He’s very much a what-you-see-is-what-you-get kind of guy, not unlike his character, and that’s what makes him so perfect for this role – he’s a likable, easy-going guy and it’s very easy for people to relate to him.”

Following his feature film debut as the voice of Manny in the animated box office smash “Ice Age,” Romano was searching for a live-action follow-up. He didn’t want a carbon copy of his television alter ego, “Ray Barone,” but he also didn’t want to stray too far from what he does best: comedy. “I didn’t want to play Ray,” he says, “and I didn’t want to play a psycho killer either. I was looking for a project where I could do something a little different, but at the same time, wouldn’t shock the audience – at least, not yet. The role of Handy Harrison was a comfortable fit.”

The differences between the film and television media made an impression on Romano. “When you do a television show you’re getting an immediate response from an audience, which you’re used to when you’re

doing stand-up. When you're doing a film, that immediate response isn't there; you've got to find it in different ways. Whenever our director, Donald Petrie, liked something, he rubbed his hands together. So after a take I looked to see if he was rubbing his hands. And with Gene he's always rubbing his hands. Me, once in a while he'd rub his hands. Donald's a tough audience."

Joining Hackman and Romano in the starring cast are Marcia Gay Harden, Maura Tierney, Christine Baranski, Fred Savage and Rip Torn. Harden, who won an Oscar for her performance as Lee Krasner in "Pollock," portrays Grace Sutherland, the President's beleaguered personal secretary.

Says Donald Petrie, "For Grace, we needed an actress who could handle the comedy and be somewhat chameleon-like, because the President doesn't always notice her. She's supremely efficient and always has the President's best interests in heart and mind – because she's in love with him – although he's clueless.

"Marcia Gay Harden really fit that bill. She can pull herself in and fade into the background when the role calls for it, yet come out into the light just wonderfully."

"Grace basically runs the President's life," says Harden. "She schedules everything. Any kind of picayune thing that one has to do in a day, he doesn't have to address this at all... she does it for him so his mind can ostensibly be free to run the world. She takes care of everything quietly and efficiently and the President just takes it for granted. But what she really wants is for the President to fall in love with her."

Grace's "rival" for the President's affection is Sally Mannis, Handy's frustrated girlfriend. The filmmakers turned to "E.R." star Maura Tierney to play the role. "We needed someone who was beautiful and sexy – and tough as nails, and who would be believable as a roll-up-your-sleeves, small town vet," says Petrie.

For Tierney, the role of Sally presented a chance to portray a character completely different from her "E.R." role, nurse/medical student Abby

Lockhart. Says Tierney, “I play a really serious character on ‘E.R.’ so it was nice to lighten it up a little bit. Sally is a very down-to earth, confident woman who is frustrated in her relationship with her boyfriend, Handy. They’ve been dating for six years and she’s ready to make the relationship a little more permanent, but he likes the status quo. So when the President asks her out, her saying ‘yes’ is more about making her boyfriend jealous than about getting into any kind of relationship with the President.”

Another woman in the President’s life is ex-wife Charlotte, whom he calls “The Wicked Witch of the West Wing.” “Charlotte’s a great deal of fun to play,” says Baranski. “She’s a witty and sophisticated woman with a twinkle in her eye and a great sense of humor – she’s *had* to develop a great sense of humor being married to that man.”

Another acting veteran, Rip Torn, takes on the key role of Bert Langdon – the President’s long-time campaign manager, Washington insider and self-described “total political animal.” Working on WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT gave Torn the chance to reunite with old friends. “Gene Hackman and I worked together about 20 years ago, in a film called ‘Misunderstood,’” recalls Torn. “And I had the great honor of casting him in his first professional role when I was the producer of an Off-Broadway show and he came in and did a scene. I always remember him mowing the grass, and there was no grass, but he was so real I turned around and said to my co-producer, ‘We gotta get that guy.’”

Another member of the President’s team is Bullard, an ambitious press attaché, played by Fred Savage, best known for his starring role in the television series “The Wonder Years.” The role of Bullard, originally conceived as an older, jaded and slick operative, was rewritten following Savage’s audition. “Fred’s got a kind of naïve eagerness that really works for his character and provides a wonderful counterpoint to Gene Hackman,” says Petrie.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT was filmed on location in and around Toronto, Canada. Approximately 30 different sets and locations were utilized, from a stately 13 acre lakeside heritage property (circa 1860s) which doubled as the President's Mooseport White House, to the charming and picturesque town of Port Perry, which proved the perfect setting for Mooseport itself.

“We did a lot of research on what little towns in Maine look like,” says production designer David Chapman. “We must have scouted over half a dozen towns and looked at photos of dozens more before settling on Port Perry, and it proved to be just perfect; it has a lake, beautiful streets and homes, and it's sweet enough without being too saccharine. It looks like real people live there.”

The art department used signage, paint and ingenuity to transform Port Perry's main street into a small East Coast American town. Bronze plaques, a bronze moose statue, and red, white and blue bunting changed the Port Perry Post Office into the Mooseport Town Hall; colorful banners were strung up and down the street heralding the arrival of the former President; and Mooseport's mascot, Bruce the Moose, took up residency in a small park beside the bank. “Port Perry has a charm and ambience that one rarely finds these days,” says Chapman. “It was clear from the moment we saw it that wherever the director pointed the camera, it was going to look terrific”

Costume designer Vicki Graef's work adds to the small-town, Americana feel. For inspiration, she turned to the work of Norman Rockwell. “I wanted an all-American look and thought what better place to begin than with Norman Rockwell paintings,” says Graef. “The jacket that Ray is wearing is an exact copy from a Norman Rockwell painting titled ‘Freedom of Speech.’ I also decided early on that I wanted the look to be timeless and classic, rather than getting trendy or urban. Mooseport is a small, rural town where practical clothing reigns.”

“I based the color palette for the wardrobe on the colors in Rockwell’s paintings and found that really helped to separate the two camps,” adds Graef. “For the most part, we used rich fall colors such as red, teal, hunter green and chocolate brown on the Mooseport townsfolk, and crisp, cool colors for everyone else. So when the people from Washington show up in Mooseport in their sleek, starched, blacks and light blues and sparkly whites they really stand out like sore thumbs in this warm, comfortable, rumped little town.”

ABOUT THE CAST

GENE HACKMAN (President Monroe “Eagle” Cole) has received two Academy Awards: Best Actor for “The French Connection” and Best Supporting Actor for “Unforgiven.” He also received Oscar nominations for “Bonnie and Clyde,” “I Never Sang For My Father,” and “Mississippi Burning.” His list of honors also includes two British Academy Awards, three Golden Globes®, two National Organization of Theatre Owners Awards, the Cannes Film Festival Best Actor Award, and a comprehensive collection of awards from leading critics’ groups. He has received retrospective tributes from the British Film Institute, the San Francisco Film Festival and the American Film Institute. He received the Cecile B. De Mille Award from the Hollywood Foreign Press Association at the 2003 Golden Globes ceremony.

One of the most remarkable aspects of Gene Hackman’s emergence as one of the major actors of his generation is that there is no such thing as “a Gene Hackman role.” Hackman’s recent roles include the scheming patriarch of a dysfunctional family in “The Royal Tenenbaums,” for which he won his third Golden Globe Award, a hard-nosed naval commander whose methods buck the system in “Behind Enemy Lines,” a lifelong con-man pulling off his final con in David Mamet’s “The Heist,” and a ruthless jury consultant in “Runaway Jury.”

Other recent film roles cast him as a sexually tormented businessman in “Under Suspicion,” a man dragged in over his head when drafted as a pro football coach during a strike in “The Replacements,” and a reprobate magnate targeted by two beautiful con-women in “Heartbreakers.”

Hackman’s feature credits also include starring roles in “Enemy of the State” opposite Will Smith; Robert Benton’s “Twilight,” with Paul Newman and Susan Sarandon; “Extreme Measures”; “The Birdcage,” also starring Robin Williams and Nathan Lane; and Clint Eastwood’s “Absolute Power,” in which Eastwood also starred. He has starred in three films based on John Grisham novels: Sydney Pollack’s “The Firm,” with Tom Cruise; “The Chamber,” with Chris O’Donnell; and the recent “Runaway Jury,” with co-stars John Cusack and Dustin Hoffman.

Hackman starred in “The Quick and the Dead,” opposite Sharon Stone; “Crimson Tide,” opposite Denzel Washington; “Get Shorty,” with John Travolta and Danny DeVito; and “Under Suspicion,” with Morgan Freeman.

Hackman began his career in the theatre and made his screen debut in the 1964 film “Lilith,” which starred Warren Beatty. Since then, Hackman has appeared in more than 70 films, ranging from comedies to action films to westerns to dramas. These include Francis Ford Coppola’s critically acclaimed “The Conversation,” the box office hit “The Poseidon Adventure,” Warren Beatty’s Academy Award-winning “Reds,” “Scarecrow,” “Hoosiers,” “Another Woman,” “Under Fire,” “All Night Long,” “Twice in a Lifetime,” “Night Moves,” directed by Arthur Penn, and three of the “Superman” films. in which he appeared as Lex Luthor.

Hackman was born in Riverside, California, and grew up in Danville, Illinois, where his father was a newspaper printer. He joined the Marines at 16 and became a radio operator. After his discharge from the service, Hackman moved from radio to television and worked at various small-town television stations. He eventually returned to the West Coast and enrolled at the Pasadena Playhouse where his classmates included Dustin Hoffman. There,

Hackman made his stage debut with Zazu Pitts in “The Curious Miss Caraway.”

After a period of summer stock, Hackman moved to New York where he studied with George Morrison and began getting small parts on television and in stage productions. He won the Clarence Derwent Award for his performance in Irwin Shaw’s “Children at Their Games,” and he had his first starring role on Broadway opposite Sandy Dennis in the hit comedy, “Any Wednesday.”

In addition to his work as an actor, Hackman is an author of the novel, *Wake of the Perdido Star*, which he wrote with Daniel Lenihan. Hackman also paints, flies an airplane and races automobiles. In addition, he is an avid film collector.

RAY ROMANO (Harold “Handy” Harrison) is best known to audiences as the star of the popular television series “Everybody Loves Raymond.”

Romano admits that he always knew he could make his friends laugh, but he never really gave stand-up comedy any serious thought until one fateful open-mic night at a New York comedy club in 1984. He did well, the bug bit hard, and Romano was smitten. After stints at odd jobs, including futon mattress delivery boy and bank teller by day, and journeyman comedian by night, he decided to leave the 9-5 ranks and pursue comedy full-time, eventually winning a stand-up comedy competition sponsored by a major New York radio station.

Following that success, he continued to regularly appear at comedy clubs throughout the country, leading to appearances on “The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson” and then with Jay Leno. He was eventually invited to appear on “Late Night with David Letterman.” That night, Letterman, recognizing something unique in Romano’s persona, offered him a

development deal with his production company, Worldwide Pants. Through that association, the CBS hit “Everybody Loves Raymond” was born.

Romano performed at the White House Correspondents Dinner for President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore and headlined the Toyota Comedy Festival at Carnegie Hall. He hosted “Saturday Night Live” and appeared on “Who Wants To Be A Millionaire,” winning \$125,000 for charity. Romano’s additional television credits include “HBO Comedy Half-Hour: Ray Romano,” “The HBO 15th Annual Young Comedians Special” and “Dr. Katz: Professional Therapist.”

Romano made his big screen debut as the voice of “Manny” the woolly mammoth in the Twentieth Century Fox smash hit “Ice Age.” He will next be seen in the independent feature “Eulogy” with Winona Ryder, Debra Winger, Hank Azaria and Rip Torn.

After being nominated for Emmy® Awards in 1999, 2000, and 2001, Romano won for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series in 2002. Romano has also been nominated for a Golden Globe for Best Performance by an Actor in a Comedy Series (2000 and 2001), a Screen Actor’s Guild Award™ for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Comedy Series (2000), a People’s Choice® Award for Favorite Male TV Performer (2000, 2001, 2003), and an AFI Actor of the Year Award for Male in a Series (2002).

Romano recently won People’s Choice Awards for Favorite Male TV Performer (2003 and 2002), a *TV Guide* Award for Actor of the Year in a Comedy Series (2001), Funniest Male Lead in a TV Series at the 14th Annual American Comedy Awards (2000), and the Television Critics Association Award For Outstanding Individual Achievement in Comedy (1999). His comedy album “Live at Carnegie Hall,” was nominated for Best Spoken Comedy Album at the 44th Annual Grammy® Awards (2002). He is the author of *The New York Times* best-selling book based on his comedy, *Everything and a Kite*.

When Romano is not in production on “Everybody Loves Raymond” or playing golf, he continues to tour the country doing stand-up comedy.

MARCIA GAY HARDEN (Grace Sutherland) won the Academy Award in 2001 for her stunning portrayal of Lee Krasner opposite Ed Harris in the feature film “Pollock,” about pioneer abstract expressionist painter Jackson Pollock and his artist wife. The film re-teamed her with Harris, with whom she had performed on stage in the New York Shakespeare Festival premiere production of Sam Shephard’s “Simpatico.” In addition to the Oscar, Harden won the New York Film Critics Award for Best Supporting Actress and was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award.

Most recently, Harden starred in director Clint Eastwood’s critically hailed “Mystic River.” A New England murder mystery written by Brian Helgeland and based on the novel by Dennis Lehane, Harden’s second feature with Eastwood features a stellar ensemble cast including Sean Penn, Tim Robbins, Kevin Bacon, Laurence Fishburne, and Laura Linney.

Another recent film is “Mona Lisa Smile,” directed by Mike Newell. In the film, Harden plays a teacher and a friend to Julia Roberts’ character. The film also stars Julia Stiles, Kirsten Dunst and Maggie Gyllenhaal.

Harden was part of a brilliant ensemble in “Casa de Los Babys,” the story of six American women who travel to Mexico to adopt babies. Written and directed by legendary filmmaker John Sayles, Harden co-stars along with Daryl Hannah, Lili Taylor, Mary Steenburgen, Rita Moreno and Maggie Gyllenhaal.

The Coen brothers first discovered Harden, giving her the female lead in their critically acclaimed feature “Miller’s Crossing,” opposite Albert Finney, Gabriel Byrne and John Turturro. She moved on to the leads in “Late for Dinner” and “Used People.” Other features include “Space Cowboys,” directed by Clint Eastwood and starring Eastwood, Tommy Lee Jones, Donald Sutherland and James Garner; “Meet Joe Black,” which

starred Brad Pitt and Anthony Hopkins; “Flubber” with Robin Williams; “Desperate Measures” with Andy Garcia and Michael Keaton; “Safe Passage” with Susan Sarandon, Sam Shepard and Robert Sean Leonard; the acclaimed independent feature “Crush,” which was a hit at the Cannes Film Festival; the blockbuster comedy “The First Wives Club”; and “Gaudi Afternoon,” directed by Susan Seidelman and starring Judy Davis, Juliette Lewis and Lili Taylor. Harden received the Spirit of Sundance Award for her richly layered work in “The Spitfire Grill,” which also won the festival’s Audience Award.

Harden starred in the television drama series “The Education of Max Bickford” opposite Richard Dreyfuss. Other television appearances include “King of Texas” and the highly rated A&E original movie “Small Vices” opposite Joe Mantegna. She recently re-teamed with Mantegna for A&E’s “Thin Air,” as well as the movie of the week “Guilty Hearts.” In 1992 Harden portrayed Ava Gardner in the mini-series “Sinatra.”

Harden was featured on Broadway in Tony Kushner’s Pulitzer Prize-winning play “Angels in America,” which earned her a Tony® nomination, a Drama Desk Award and a Theater World Award. She also starred in David Rabe’s “Those the River Keeps.” Harden portrayed “Masha” in the NY Public Theatre’s production of “The Seagull,” directed by Mike Nichols and starring Meryl Streep, Kevin Kline, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Natalie Portman.

MAURA TIERNEY (Sally Mannis) stars in the top-rated NBC series “E.R.” for which she received her first Emmy nomination.

Tierney has successfully juggled both television and film careers. She starred in the films “Instinct” opposite Sir Anthony Hopkins and Cuba Gooding Jr. and in “Forces of Nature” with Ben Affleck and Sandra Bullock. Additionally, she earned critical praise for her role in “Primary Colors” as well as for her work opposite Jim Carrey in the smash hit “Liar Liar.” Tierney co-starred in the

Christopher Nolan-directed film “Insomnia” opposite Al Pacino, Hilary Swank and Robin Williams.

Her additional film credits include “Primal Fear,” “The Temp,” “White Sands,” “Oxygen” and “Scotland PA.” Prior to joining the cast of “E.R.,” Tierney spent four years on the critically acclaimed series “NewsRadio.”

On stage, she has been in productions of “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead” and “The Bald Soprano” at the Boston Globe, as well as “Baby with Bathwater,” “Danny and the Deep Blue Sea,” “Talking With” and “Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean” at New York University.

RIP TORN (Bert Langdon) made his feature debut in 1956 in “Baby Doll” and went on to perform in such film classics as “Sweet Bird of Youth,” “The Cincinnati Kid,” “Pay Day,” “Heartland,” and “Cross Creek,” for which he received an Academy Award nomination. More recently, Torn appeared with Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith in the box office smashes “Men in Black” and its sequel, opposite Michael Douglas in “The Wonder Boys,” with Russell Crowe and Al Pacino in “The Insider,” as Zeus in Disney’s animated feature “Hercules,” and in Albert Brooks’ hit comedy “Defending Your Life.” Torn also paired with Ray Romano in the upcoming black comedy “Eulogy” and with Gene Hackman in “Misunderstood.”

His uproarious portrayal of “Artie,” the acerbic talk show producer on Garry Shandling’s hit series “The Larry Sanders Show,” garnered him an Emmy Award, six consecutive Emmy nominations, two CableACE Awards and the American Comedy Award. Other television credits include “Johnny Belinda” with Julie Harris, “Sophia” (as Carlo Ponti), “Blind Ambition” (as President Nixon), and the PBS production of “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.” Recent television appearances include such miniseries and telefilms as “Seasons of Love,” “Passing Glory,” “Balloon Farm,” “A Vision of Murder:

The Story of Donielle,” and an acclaimed recurring role on the hit comedy series “Will and Grace.”

Torn has also been a force of excellence and innovation in New York theatre for over three decades as an actor, director and producer. His numerous accolades date back to his portrayal of Brick in the Broadway adaptation of “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” as well as for Eugene O’Neill’s “Anna Christie.” He received the 1966-67 Obie® Award for his work in Norman Mailer’s “Deer Park” and again the following year for directing “The Beard.”

In the spring of 1969, Torn staged a double bill of “The Honest-To-God Schnozzola” and “The Leader,” which brought him his third Obie. His recent return to Broadway in Horton Foote’s “The Young Man from Atlanta” earned him rave reviews. Torn is also the founder of Sanctuary Theater, a New York-based production company, and recently directed his daughter Angelica and son John in John Paul Alexander’s “Strangers in the Land of Canaan” at the Actors Studio, an organization of which he is a career-long member.

CHRISTINE BARANSKI (Charlotte Cole) portrayed reporter Mary Sunshine in the Academy Award-winning film “Chicago.” Previously, she starred opposite Jim Carrey in the box-office hit “How the Grinch Stole Christmas,” and opposite Eddie Murphy and Steve Martin in “Bowfinger.” Other film credits include Warren Beatty’s “Bulworth”; “Cruel Intentions” with Sarah Michelle Gellar, Reese Witherspoon and Ryan Philippe; and “The Birdcage” with Nathan Lane, Robin Williams and Gene Hackman.

A native of Buffalo, New York, Baranski developed a passion for acting while performing in high school productions and went on to attend the prestigious Juilliard School’s acting program. After graduating from Juilliard, she had roles in off-Broadway and regional productions, receiving her big break when she was cast in Tom Stoppard’s hit Broadway Comedy “The Real Thing,” directed by Mike Nichols and starring Glenn Close and Jeremy

Irons. That same year, she was also married, gave birth to her first child and won a Tony Award and Drama Desk Award for her performance in “The Real Thing.”

Baranski went on to earn a second Tony Award and Drama Desk Award for her performance as a chain-smoking hyperkinetic in Neil Simon’s “Rumors,” and a Drama Desk Award for “Lips Together Teeth Apart” in a role written for her by Terrance McNally. Additional Broadway credits include “Hurlyburly” and “The House of Blue Leaves.” Baranski was last seen on stage in the Kennedy Center’s Sondheim Celebration production of “Sweeney Todd,” for which she won the Helen Hayes Award.

On television, Baranski is currently starring in “Happy Family” with John Larroquette. She also starred opposite Cybill Shepherd in the popular series “Cybill” as Shepherd’s best friend, Maryann Thorpe. That role earned her an Emmy Award, an American Comedy Award as Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy, a Screen Actors Guild Award as Outstanding Actress in a Comedy, and three additional Emmy and three Golden Globe nominations. Other television credits include the lead in the series “Welcome to New York,” the Hallmark Hall of Fame production of “Dance With the White Dog” starring Jessica Tandy and Hume Cronyn, and a guest appearance on “Frasier,” for which she received her fifth Emmy nomination. Baranski also appeared in the recent television movies “Eloise at the Plaza” and “Eloise at Christmas.”

FRED SAVAGE (Bullard) recently appeared in “Austin Powers: Goldmember” and the independent film “Rules of Attraction.”

Savage is a 20-year entertainment industry veteran. Beginning with commercials as a young child in Chicago, Savage expanded to television and feature films such as “Vice Versa” and “The Princess Bride.” In 1988, he began a six-year run as Kevin Arnold on “The Wonder Years,” a role that earned him many accolades and awards, including several Emmy

nominations for Best Actor in a Comedy Series. His second series, “Working,” ran for two seasons on NBC from 1998 to 2000 and gave him his first opportunity to direct.

A Stanford graduate, Savage is also pursuing a directing career, working in both television and film.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

DONALD PETRIE (Director), a graduate of the American Film Institute, landed his first career break when Steven Spielberg viewed his film “The Expert” and hired him to direct an episode of the popular television series “Amazing Stories.”

Petrie made his feature film directorial debut with the critically acclaimed “Mystic Pizza.” His other feature film credits include “Grumpy Old Men” starring Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau; “The Favor” starring Elizabeth McGovern, Brad Pitt, Harley Jane Kozak and Bill Pullman; “Miss Congeniality” starring Sandra Bullock; and most recently “How To Lose a Guy in 10 Days” starring Kate Hudson and Matthew McConaughey.

TOM SCHULMAN (Screenplay/Producer) wrote “Dead Poets Society,” for which he received an Academy Award. He also wrote “What About Bob?” “Honey, I Shrunk the Kids,” “Medicine Man” and “Holy Man.” Schulman wrote and directed the offbeat comedy “8 Heads in a Duffel Bag.” He was an Executive Producer on “Indecent Proposal” and “Me, Myself & Irene.”

Schulman graduated from Vanderbilt University with a B.A. in Philosophy and studied film at the USC Graduate School of Cinema and The Actors and Directors Lab, Los Angeles. He directed the Actors’ Studio, West production of Harold Pinter’s “The Caretaker.”

BASIL IWANYK (Producer) is President of Worldwide Production, Intermedia Films.

Iwanyk began his film industry career as an agent trainee at United Talent Agency and joined Warner Brothers in 1995 as a Creative Executive. In 1997 he was promoted to Vice President of Production.

In 1999, Iwanyk was named as an “executive to watch” by *The Hollywood Reporter* in their annual Next Generation issue.

In November 2000, he began his career at Intermedia Films as the President of Worldwide Production, overseeing the company’s production slate and the activities of the parent company’s producer alliances, focusing on commercially driven big-budget studio films. Since joining Intermedia, Iwanyk has co-produced “K-19: The Widowmaker” and served as Executive Producer on “Basic,” “Mindhunters,” “Laws of Attraction,” “If Only” and “Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines.”

Some of the films Iwanyk has been involved with include “Training Day,” “Wild Wild West,” “Ocean’s 11,” “Batman and Robin,” “U.S. Marshals,” “The Replacements,” “House on Haunted Hill,” “Thirteen Ghosts,” “Insomnia,” and the Intermedia films “Adaptation,” “Dark Blue,” “National Security” and “The Life Of David Gale.”

MORITZ BORMAN (Executive Producer) is Chairman and CEO of Intermedia, the largest independent production and financing company in the motion picture industry. He is Chairman of Intermedia’s parent company IM Internationalmedia AG, which is publicly traded on the Prime Standard Segment of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. Prior to joining Intermedia, Borman founded and ran Pacifica Film Development, Inc., an entertainment financing company backed by the German production fund IMF. Pacifica later merged with international sales firm Intermedia to form IM Internationalmedia AG.

Since joining Intermedia, Borman has executive produced “Basic,” “The Life of David Gale,” “Dark Blue,” “The Quiet American,” “K-19: The Widowmaker,” “Blow Dry” and “The Wedding Planner,” as well as “Mindhunters,” “Suspect Zero,” “Laws of Attraction,” “If Only,” “Joe’s Last Chance,” “Me Again,” “Alexander” and “Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines.”

While running Pacifica, Borman executive produced “Where the Money Is” starring Paul Newman; “Nurse Betty” starring Renée Zellweger, Morgan Freeman and Chris Rock; and “The Crow: Salvation” starring Kirsten Dunst.

Between 1984 and 1989 Borman produced the features “Under the Volcano,” directed by John Huston, which received two Academy Awards nominations; “The Lightship” starring Robert Duvall and Klaus-Maria Brandauer; “Homer and Edie,” starring Whoopi Goldberg and Jim Belushi, which won First Prize at the San Sebastian Film Festival; and “Seven Minutes,” starring Brian Dennehy and Klaus-Maria Brandauer, which was voted outstanding Film of the Year at the London Film Festival.

Borman began his career in German television production in the 1970s as a producer and director. In 1977 he moved to Los Angeles where he became a Directing Fellow at the American Film Institute and in the following years produced and directed numerous programs for European television as well as TV commercials for American and European ad agencies.

DOUG RICHARDSON (Story, Executive Producer) is a novelist/screenwriter. He co-wrote the screenplays for such high-profile films as “Die Hard 2: Die Harder,” “Bad Boys” and “Money Train.” He penned the highly-regarded novels *True Believer*, in which an imprisoned cult leader controls the lives of a Washington, D.C. power couple, and *Dark Horse*, about a political hopeful who commits murder in the middle of a race for a Congressional seat.

RORY ROSEGARTEN (Executive Producer) is the founder and president of The Conversation Company, Ltd., a personal talent management firm.

Rosegarten began his career as an intern at *Playboy* magazine, interviewing celebrities. It was during one of these interviews that he got his first big break, when he convinced Robert Klein to give him a shot at managing his career. Twenty-one years later, Rosegarten is still managing Klein; his other clients include Ray Romano, Michael Bolton, Marilu Henner, Alan Colmes, Lea Thompson, John Henson, and Clint Holmes.

Rosegarten is an Executive Producer on “Everybody Loves Raymond,” and has been an Executive Producer on numerous feature and television projects, including: “Eulogy” (Myriad Pictures), “Sketch Pad” (HBO), “Robert Klein: Child in his 50s” (HBO), “Robert Klein: It All Started Here” (HBO), “New Joke City” (Metro), “Brian Regan: Something’s Wrong With The Regan Boy” (Showtime), “Brian Regan And Dennis Regan: A Pair of Jokers” (Showtime), “Ray Romano: Live at Carnegie Hall” (comedy album), “Clint Holmes: A Night To Remember” (music DVD/CD), “Robert Klein: Let’s Not Make Love” (comedy album), and “Brian Regan Live” (comedy album). He also produced “Late Night Comic” on Broadway.

DAVID COATSWORTH (Executive Producer) recently served as Executive Producer on “The In-Laws,” starring Michael Douglas and Albert Brooks. His other recent credits include Associate Producer on “The Tuxedo” and Co-Producer on “My Big Fat Greek Wedding”; prior to that he was Executive Producer on “The Sixth Day” and “Dick.”

Coatsworth was Co-Producer/Production Manager on the features “A Cool Dry Place,” “Mighty Morphin Power Rangers: The Movie,” “Trapped in Paradise,” and Associate Producer/Production Manager on “If Looks Could Kill” and “Stella.” His television credits as Producer/Production

Manager include “Rebound: The Legend of Earl ‘The Goat’ Manigault,” “Gotti,” “Sugartime,” and “The Crossing.”

Additionally, Coatsworth was Production Manager on “PCU,” “Life With Mikey,” “Searching for Bobby Fisher,” “Used People,” “The Good Mother,” “Adventures in Babysitting,” “The Killing Fields” and “The Fly.”

VICTOR HAMMER’s (Director of Photography) feature film credits include “Down Periscope,” “Heavyweights,” “Billy Madison,” “Major League II,” “8 Seconds,” “The Program,” “House of Cards,” “Love Potion #9,” “Falling From Grace,” “Lean on Me,” and “Rocky V,” among others.

For television he shot the series “Malcolm in the Middle,” “Girls Club,” “Freaky Links,” “Maximum Bob,” “D.C.,” “Players,” and “Feds.” He is currently serving as Director of Photography on the new series “Wonderfalls,” for Fox TV.

DAVID CHAPMAN (Production Designer) has been designing for film since the late ’70s. His credits include “Dirty Dancing,” “The Seduction of Joe Tynan,” “Four Friends,” “Mystic Pizza,” “Last Exit To Brooklyn,” “Opportunity Knocks,” “The Favor,” “This Is My Life,” “Mad Dog and Glory,” “Lost In Yonkers,” “Grumpy Old Men,” “Simon Birch” and “Trial By Jury.” More recently, Chapman designed Stephen Frears’ “High Fidelity,” starring John Cusack, Tim Robbins and Catherine Zeta-Jones.

A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Chapman studied architecture at Georgia Tech and worked as an architect for three years after graduating. Coerced by a friend into building and designing sets for a local theater company, Chapman gradually became consumed by the theater and by the early ’70s had switched careers from architecture to design. Chapman has designed extensively for the theatre, including the Broadway productions of Hal Prince’s “Cabaret,” Zoe Caldwell’s “Othello,” Michael Cacoyannis and Joel Grey’s “Zorba,” and Martin Charnin’s “The First.”

DEBRA NEIL-FISHER, A.C.E. (Editor) began her film career editing commercials, trailers and electronic press kits, and she has gone on to work with many of Hollywood's leading filmmakers. Her extensive list of film credits includes the box office hits "How To Lose a Guy in 10 Days," "Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery," "Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me," "Up Close and Personal," "Fried Green Tomatoes" and the Academy Award-winning short film "Ray's Male Heterosexual Dance Hall." She has also cut the films "National Security," "Saving Silverman," "Beautiful," "Teaching Mrs. Tingle," "Black Dog," "Dear God" and "The War."

JOHN DEBNEY (Music) wrote the scores for two of 2003's biggest hits, "Bruce Almighty" and "Elf."

Debney's other credits include the Jim Carrey comedy smash "Liar, Liar," Robert Rodriguez's "Spy Kids" and "Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams," the animated feature "Jimmy Neutron" and "I Know What You Did Last Summer."

Debney recently completed the score for director Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ." He reunites with his "The Princess Diaries" director Gary Marshall for "Raising Helen" and next year's "Princess Diaries 2." Debney will also collaborate with director Joe Roth on "Skipping Christmas." Also upcoming is the Disney animated feature "Chicken Little."

VICKI GRAEF (Costume Designer) has been designing costumes for feature films and television for over 20 years. Most recently, she was costume designer on "Focus," starring William H. Macy and Laura Dern. Before that she designed the costumes for the features "Three to Tango," "Half-Baked," "Booty Call," and "Mariette In Ecstasy." Her additional feature credits include assisting legendary costume designer Milena Canonero on "Dick Tracy" and "The Godfather, Part III."

Graef's television credits include the films "We Were the Mulvaney's," "Thin Air," "Boss of Bosses," "Small Vices," "Love Letters," and the series "Witchblade."

Born and raised in San Francisco, Graef graduated from the San Francisco Art Institute with a degree in painting. She began her career in costume design with clothing for drag queens, and moved from the world of glitter and feathers to stage clothing for rock and roll before making the transition to film and television.

©2004 Twentieth Century Fox. All rights reserved. Property of Fox.

Permission is hereby granted to newspapers and periodicals to reproduce this text in articles publicizing the distribution of the Motion Picture.

All other use is strictly prohibited, including sale, duplication, or other transfers of this material.

This press kit, in whole or in part, must not be leased, sold, or given away.