

All Washed Up

BOLD presents a long list of celebs who aren't basking in the sunlight this summer. By Rick Cipes



PHOTO © NEAL PRESTON/CORBIS

Baywatch finally sinks — and falls right into syndication.

Summertime signals the good life. The beach, bikinis, brew and barbecues. On the other hand, if you happen to be one of Hollywood's darlings hit by a tumultuous wave that pummeled your relationships, careers and/or endeavors, then read our lips: You're all washed up. We can't spare you a towel, but *BOLD* will give you a few words of advice: Have no fear, it's only showbiz, and there's always a chance that the tide will turn in your favor once again. But until you catch that next awesome wave, feel the burn.

BAYWATCH: S.O.S. (SAVE OUR SILICONE)

Yes, *Baywatch* has finally drowned, but don't shed any salty tears for all that silicone — it will continue to surface in syndication. We only worry about what will become of all the fine actors who donned those skimpy red uniforms. Will they ever have the opportunity to win a Golden Globe or Emmy? Maybe the method-acting



PHOTO COURTESY UPI

Has addict Robert Downey Jr. said goodbye to his career in Hollywood?

folk of *V.I.P.* will throw them a few life-jackets so *Baywatch's* former brawn and breasts never have to suffer the same fate as David Hasselhoff: Performing in an off-off-Broadway production of *Jekyll and Hyde*.

BOLD's advice: Dig large hole in sand, bury head and pray they still love you in China.

ROBERT BLAKE: LOSES CONDOM, THEN GUN

O.K., it's true Robert Blake (born Michael James Vijencio Gubitosi) has been washed up for years and his biggest credit to date was the title

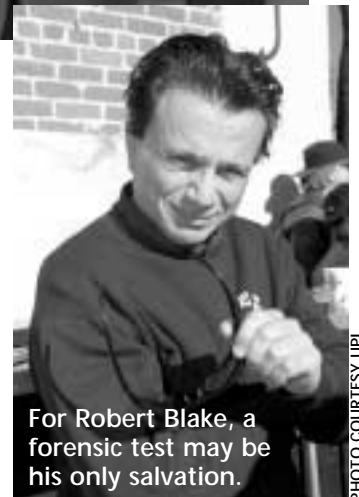


PHOTO COURTESY UPI

For Robert Blake, a forensic test may be his only salvation.

role in the '70s TV detective series *Baretta*. But this year, Blake is back in the limelight starring as a suspected killer in his own real life miniseries, *Murder of a Deranged Star****er*. His role in the suspicious homicide of his wife isn't exactly the thing from which comebacks are made. But when O.J. Simpson laments your troubles, you know that quick fame and representation by Johnnie Cochran may be a forensic test away, especially after your defense attorney, Barry Levin, blows his brains out at the Los Angeles National Cemetery. Besides suffering from Gaucher's disease, an inherited enzyme-deficiency disorder, we assume Levin also knew the odds of getting his client off once the L.A. Keystone Cops finally find enough evidence to press charges.

BOLD's advice: Turn in your Screen Actors Guild card, do not pass go and head directly to the nearest tropical island where you can live in infamy with a pet cockatoo.

HOLLYWOOD COUPLES: LOVE ON THE ROCKS



PHOTO COURTESY UPI

Benjamin Bratt and Julia Roberts wave goodbye to couplehood.

Benjamin Bratt gave pretty woman Julia Roberts her walking papers after three-and-a-half years of dating. A variety of reasons for their demise have been speculated, from Bratt's reluctance to bask in Roberts' glowing shadow to Roberts' unwillingness to tie the knot. (And who can blame her after marrying that odd-looking Lyle Lovett?) It was also rumored that Roberts got too close to co-star George Clooney in the forthcoming *Ocean's Eleven* remake. **BOLD's hypothesis:** Bratt bailed after it was clear his association with the neurotic Roberts wasn't going to make him a bankable movie star.

PHOTO COURTESY UPI

Melissa Etheridge and Julie Cypher have parted ways, but have no fear: Etheridge divulges all the details in her autobiography, *The Truth is...My Life in Love and Music*. Wasting David Crosby's housewarming gift of drugged-out sperm, the couple previously brought two "happy" children into this world. Do you think it's fair for 4-year-old daughter Bailey Jean and 2-year-old son Beckett to grow up in a one-lesbian-parent home? Perhaps Crosby will come over at Christmas dressed as Santa and shovel artificial snow off their lawn.

Meg Ryan and Dennis Quaid split after it was rumored that the button-nosed cutie had an affair with macho man Russell Crowe on the set of *Proof of Life*. The film proved to be a massive disaster, costing Warner Bros. big bucks and causing distress for Ryan and Quaid's 9-year-old son, Jack. Shouldn't there be a support group for children of Hollywood's mega mess-ups?

Kim Basinger left Alec Baldwin, no longer able to tolerate the actor's frequent, and sometimes public, tirades. The final straw came when Baldwin berated Basinger last December outside a New York restaurant. (Can you imagine the behavior of the Baldwin brothers who don't have careers?) Basinger has been rumored to also have struggled with many forms of neurosis throughout her life, including a fear of going outside, which kept her indoors for nearly six months. Good thing she finally toughened up with Baldwin.

BOLD's advice: It's called "real life." Put your selfish, approval-seeking and deluded showbiz thoughts aside for a second and ask someone about it.

SHANNEN DOHERTY: BOILED IN THE CAULDRON



Shannen Doherty has now graduated to wicked witch of The WB.

Bad witch Shannen Doherty has been ousted from her role on The WB series *Charmed* allegedly because the wicked wench had problems with superfox Alyssa Milano. Given the choice, schlock-wizard Aaron Spelling decided to drop the house on the dysfunctional Doherty, confirming that Spelling Productions is definitely no place like home. This marks the second time that Spelling has banished Doherty — the two parted ways on *Beverly Hills 90210* after cast and crew had to endure the slings and arrows from four years of outrageous temper tantrums. And her PMS problems haven't been limited

to on-set excesses: In 1997, she was ordered to undergo anger management counseling after smashing a car window with a beer bottle, and earlier this year she pleaded no contest (which is equivalent to a guilty plea in California) to a drunk-driving charge.

BOLD's advice: Seek strong, dominant master who can whip your prima-donna ass into submission.

ROBERT DOWNEY JR.: A CAREER WHIFFS BY

Hopefully, we've heard all we're going to hear about this druggie — at least until he gets released from his current rehab center. After winning a Golden Globe for his performance on *Ally McBeal*, the drugstore cowboy was busted under the influence in a Culver City alleyway. Tests revealed that (surprise!) Downey had cocaine in his system. And last month, Downey received good and bad news: He's been nominated for an Emmy award for his role on *McBeal* but was sentenced to three years' probation and one year at a live-in drug rehab facility stemming from his arrest last year in Palm Springs. What — not overcome by shock that another rich and famous addict has found his way out of jail and into the slippery slopes of probation? Hopefully, Downey's rehab time will give him some well-deserved rest, as he sips O'Dhoul's, eats nachos and watches videotapes of his former career roll by. The next director who hires him can only be sure of one thing: a good connection.

BOLD's advice: The next straw you raise should be for a super-sized 7-Eleven slurpee.

AL GORE: TIMBER!

"Hi, I'm Al Gore, and I used to be your next president of the United States," is how this looooooser should begin every community development class he plans to teach this fall at UCLA. He should also add, "Because I'm as stiff as a tree and couldn't even win my own state, I was chopped down by the U.S. Supreme Court. I now have plans to live my life in a Redwood forest where I can be among true constituents who appreciate me for who I am: An incompetent politician whose



Al Gore proves to be a walking stiff.

PHOTO COURTESY UPI

ass squeaks like the Tin Man when he walks."

BOLD's advice: If you campaign for anything in 2004, it should be to replace Bob Dole as the E.D. (erectile dysfunction) spokesperson.

REV. JESSE JACKSON: HANGING WITH THE WRONG CROWD

Rev. Jesse Jackson fathers a child and forfeits his chances of ever being taken seriously again.



PHOTO COURTESY UPI

Perhaps the righteous reverend spent too much time counseling former President Bill Clinton on his liaison with Monica Lewinsky because the "I-can't-control-my-pecker" disease has spread. It was revealed that Jackson fathered a daughter with Karin Stanford, a 39-year-old former head of his Rainbow/PUSH Washington bureau, and has been covertly paying her large sums of money since the baby's birth two years ago. Thank God he's pillaging from his lackeys instead of someone else's happy home, setting a fine example for deadbeat dads everywhere.

Meanwhile, stand-by-your-man Mrs. Jackson has landed herself in jail. Jacqueline Jackson was arrested in June for protesting the U.S. Navy's presence on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques.

During her detention, Jackson was reportedly subjected to a body cavity search and placed in solitary confinement. Checking out Ricky Martin's bon bons is surely a more pleasant way to experience the lure of the islands.

BOLD's advice: Your chances of ever being taken seriously again are nil. It's time to turn in the collar. You *are* the weakest link. G'bye.

PAULA POUNDSTONE: GRABBING MORE THAN THE COMEDY SPOTLIGHT

Standup comedienne Paula Poundstone, 41, was charged with three counts of committing a lewd act with a girl under the age of 14, as well as with endangering her four foster and adopted children. The comedienne apparently suffers from an alcohol problem. Poundstone checked herself into a Santa Monica facility for alcoholics mid-June, just three days after authorities informed her she was under investigation. Now, her lawyers are saying that Poundstone's drinking problem "clearly had a bearing" on the allegations for which she was arraigned last month. The single mother of three adopted children and two foster children pleaded not guilty to the charges, but could face a maximum of 13 years in prison if convicted on all counts. Rumor has it the charges didn't include the lousy

Comedienne Paula Poundstone's latest activities are no laughing matter.



PHOTO COURTESY UPI

Comedienne Paula Poundstone's latest activities are no laughing matter.

comedy act she sprang on the children to get them "in the mood." Maybe she'll continue her comedy gig from inside a minimum-security prison near you.

BOLD's advice: Trade in your dated political material for the more appropriate jailhouse spiel, watch *Deliverance* repeatedly and be prepared to squeal like a pig.

DR. LAURA SCHLESSINGER: SOURPUSS PLUCKED



PHOTO COURTESY UPI

Dr. Laura Schlessinger doesn't have what it takes to survive on TV.

Apparently 18 million weekly listeners doesn't guarantee quite that many TV viewers. The radio queen's TV show was cancelled after only seven months on air — not much of a surprise after station executives across the nation pushed it into the wee hours of the morning. It was rumored that when people actually had to look at the good doctor, they thought Schlessinger (and not the homosexual community, as she claimed) to be a "biological error" and came down with severe cases of dysentery. Pass the Pepto Bismol, please.

BOLD's advice: Get laid! Get off! And get over it!

XFL: WE HARDLY KNEW YE



PHOTO COURTESY UPI

Vince McMahon, former chairperson of the XFL, proves violence doesn't always win big in America.

All the hoopla surrounding the overhyped XFL couldn't disguise one thing: The teams sucked and couldn't play football if the players' illegitimate children's lives depended on it. One sure sign of failure was choosing Jesse "an actual governor" Ventura to take time off from his grueling political career (read: bringing everyone Krispy Kreme doughnuts in the morning) to lend his adroit announcing skills to the show. We only weep for those poor strippers, er, cheerleaders, who have nowhere to turn but a Spearmint Rhino near you.

BOLD's advice: Vince McMahon, you can take the sport away from the morons, but

you can't take the morons away from the sport. In other words, nothing you create will ever appeal to anyone but an idiot, so stop peddling your hype on those of us who actually use our brains for something more than flipping the channels between *The Jerry Springer Show* and the WWF.

RICK CIPES is a writer and former surfer who likes to keep away from the lineup, lest he is washed up or catches something. More of his antics can be viewed at www.comedyave.com.