

# HOT-LINE FROM HOLLYWOOD!

## DANNY CALLING

**DANNY:** Hi there, Pat! I just thought I'd call to remind you that we're all still around.

**ME:** *Did you think I was having doubts, then?*

**DANNY:** Well, I knew no-one had called for a week or so, and I reckoned it must be about my turn . . . So I decided to get in fast, before somebody else beat me to it!

**ME:** *It's certainly great to hear you, Danny. How are things going? Any special news?*

**DANNY:** The big news at the moment is that we should be back at the studio in something like three weeks — well around the middle of August some time. I guess you've heard that the scriptwriters' strike was finally settled back in June, but it's taken them that long to get everything rolling again. Still, I figure there's not much point in all of us rolling up at Columbia Ranch, just to find that we haven't got a script to work on!

**ME:** *No, I can quite see that. But you'll be glad to be back, will you?*

**DANNY:** You bet! I'd be happy to go in and get started tomorrow, and I think we're all feeling that way now. You know, it was all a great goof at the start, and it's meant some extra vacation — even for us poor, overworked schoolkids! But I've missed the show and it'll feel good to be back.

**ME:** *Still, I gather you've had quite a few other things on to keep you busy . . .*

**DANNY:** Not too much really. There were a few promotional engagements for the records, a couple of TV shows and the voice overs for the cartoon series — but that was all.

**ME:** *It sounds enough to me, on top of school and everything!*

**DANNY:** You know, that's one thing that was good about the strike . . . We kept in school right through the term, which was nice 'cos it meant that we didn't have to say goodbye to all our friends almost as soon as we'd made them!

**ME:** *How's school going, Danny? Or is that something you'd rather not talk about?*

**DANNY:** Aw, no . . . It's not that bad! I know I'm not one of the world's brightest, but I've gotten all my grades okay, so I'm not worrying any right now. It's Shawn — you know, Shawn Cassidy — who's had something of a rough ride this year. He's had grade problems all right! So he's gone off to summer school to make it up, which is tough. I mean, it's not so rough in itself, but Pat and Ryan

went off around the same time — on a camping vacation! Now, if I'd have been Shawn, that would have been the real finish!

**ME:** *Have you taken a vacation at all yourself, Danny?*

**DANNY:** Not what you'd call a vacation . . . No. I moved around the country a fair bit on those promotional trips, but, apart from those, I guess I've hardly been out of town.

Just about everyone else on the show's been disappearing from time to time, though. Shirley went off to New York for a spell. Susan took a trip to Arizona . . . I think she stayed with some relatives out there, but I'm not too sure on that. I remember her talking about plans to go stay with relatives, but that could've been before her Mount Kisco trip, and I'm getting confused in my old age!

And, of course, everybody — but everybody! — has been making for Hawaii . . . Well, David and Brian have anyhow, and I guess one or two other folks from L.A. have been out that way recently too!

**ME:** *Don't you fancy Hawaii, then, Danny? I know I'd be out there like a shot if I got the chance!*

**DANNY:** Oh, sure I fancy it — I've got nothing against Hawaii. It's just that it takes such a lot to get our family together for a vacation, that we only seem to get them once a year! And, or course, my Pop was involved in the scriptwriters' strike, so he couldn't really up and walk out of town. He wanted to stay right handy, so's he could keep track of what was going on!

**ME:** *Well, before you vanish off the face of my telephone line again, Danny, I've got something I want to say to you . . .*

**DANNY:** Gee, what's that? Nothing too important, I hope.

**ME:** *Well, yes, it is rather important — but not the way you seem to think . . . It's "Happy Birthday in advance!"*

**DANNY:** Wow! Thanks . . . You had me worried for a minute. I thought maybe you'd found out about my dim and distant past!

**ME:** *What I'd like to find out right now is what you want for your Birthday!*

**DANNY:** Hey! That's something I've not given too much thought to. But I'll call you back on it — okay?

**ME:** *Okay . . . But make it soon!*

**DANNY:** Sure thing. So long till then!