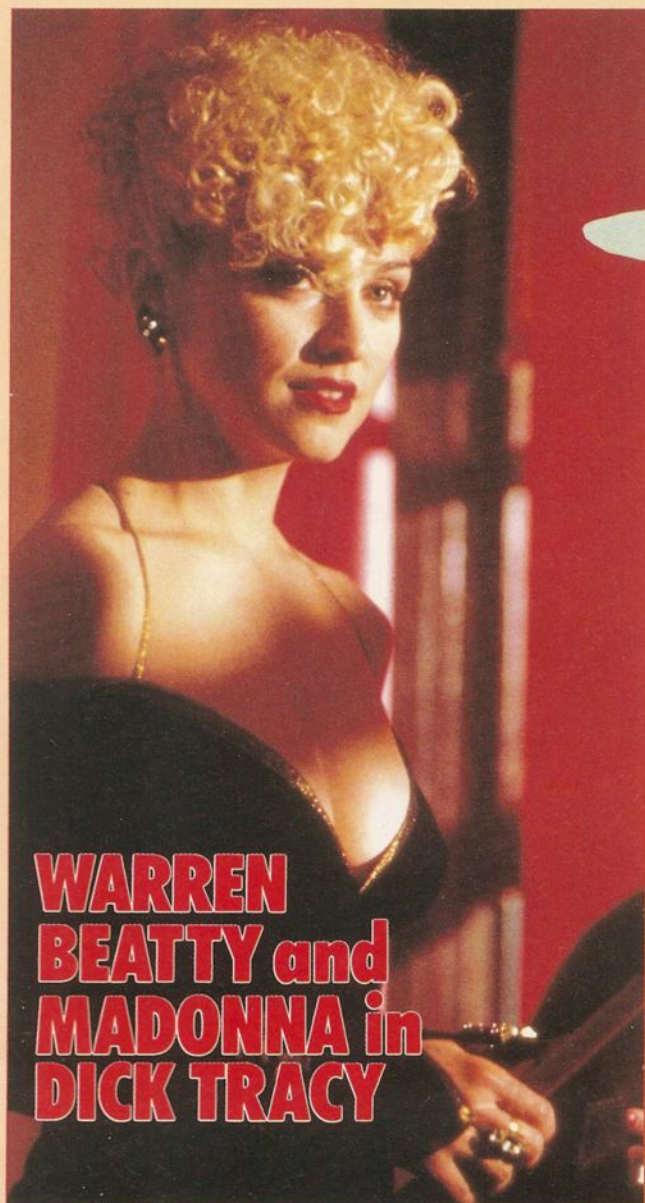


FILM **MONTHLY**

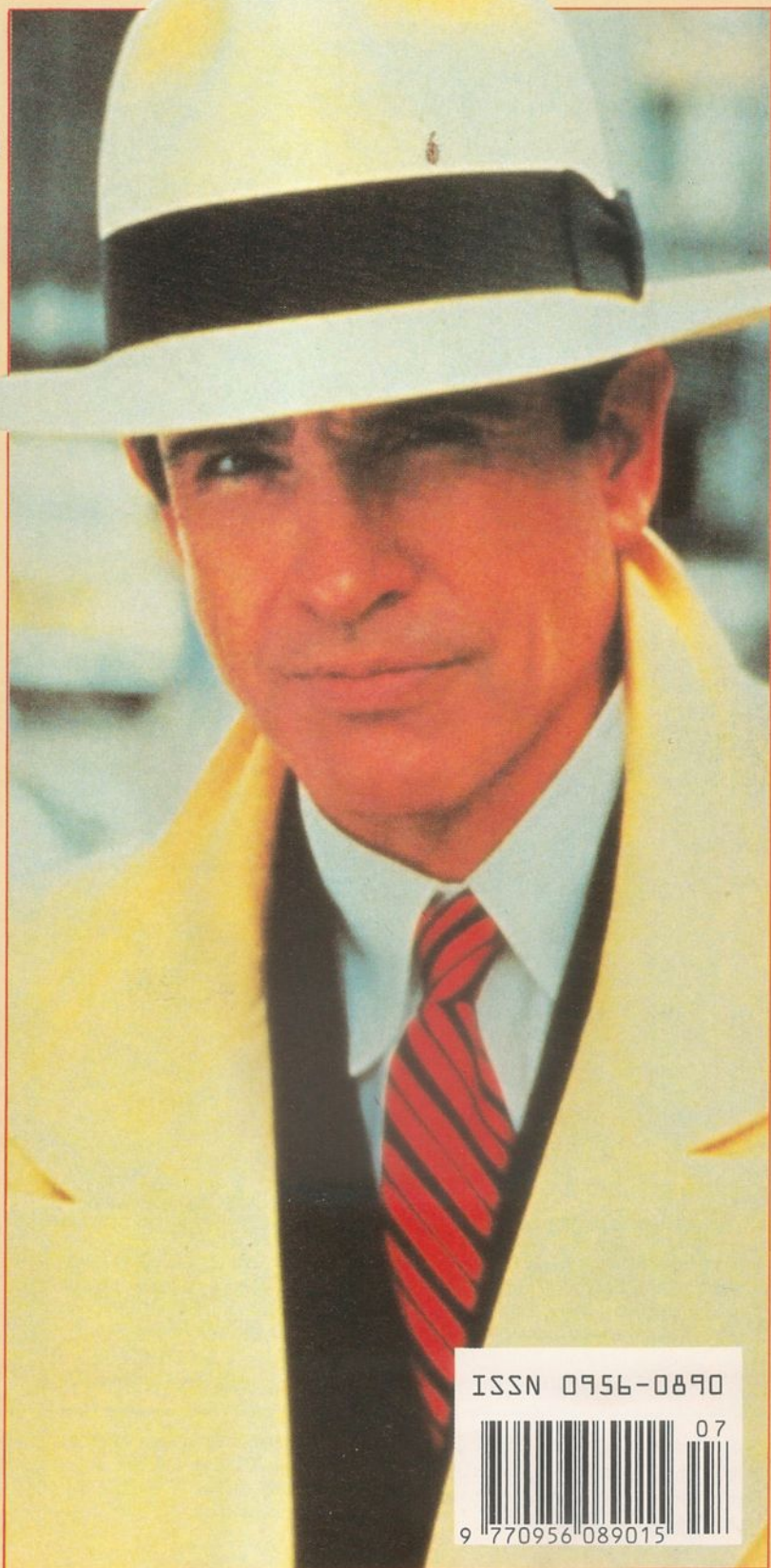
BACK TO THE FUTURE PART II
THE DELINQUENTS and
IN COUNTRY Videos To Be Won



**WARREN
BEATTY and
MADONNA in
DICK TRACY**

INTERVIEWED **MICHAEL J FOX**
GLENN CLOSE **DANNY DeVITO**

**REVIEWS OF THE NEW MOVIE
AND VIDEO RELEASES**



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NUMBER FOUR

JULY 1990

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AN **ARGUS**
SPECIALIST PUBLICATION

'I KNOW THAT THE BACK TO THE FUTURE MOVIES ARE MY BIGGEST HITS'

MICHAEL J FOX tells **BOZE HADLEIGH** in this special **FILM MONTHLY** interview



"PEOPLE said I was too short to ever become a star," says Michael J. Fox. "That made me want to succeed, all the more. But all I really wanted was to earn enough money to show those people that a short actor could make a decent living..."

Instead, Michael J. Fox became a superstar, and a very young one, too. First on TV and then in the movies.

Now, he says in this exclusive interview, he is trying to make the transition from juvenile actor to adult actor. At the moment he is again riding high with *Back To The Future Part II*, and *III* reprising his role as Marty McFly.

Is he afraid of repeating himself in

his *Back To The Future* movies?

"I would be, if I didn't do other movies," he replied. "But I do different things. I've tried a change of image, and I know that the *Back To The Future* movies are my biggest hits. But that's no different from Stallone — his biggest hits are as Rocky Balboa, and I think Sean Connery's biggest hits were as James Bond."

The recent Michael J. Fox movie, *Casualties Of War*, had a Vietnam theme and co-starred Sean Penn, yet it didn't do too well at the box office. Did he have any theories?

"I think most Vietnam movies are risky. No matter who stars in them. It's not an upbeat subject, unlike *Back To The Future*, which is light, escapist entertainment. Talk about the opposite! Vietnam is a sore subject for most Americans; it's anything but light

entertainment."

He made the two *Back To The Future* sequels, back to back, so had it been a gruelling time for him?

"It was damned tough, but our energy level was very high, because we knew these movies get a certain level of audience," he said. "That is, we know they're going to be financially successful. We don't know if they'll be hits or big hits or huge hits."

"In three years or so, I don't think I'll be believable as that character, who's just a kid, after all. So we did it, and now they're done. I like that feeling of a family of actors, of knowing the faces and names on both sides of the camera. I think audiences equate me with something light and funny, or light and fun. I'm not a comedian, but I can be funny. Or amusing. It's tougher to get them to accept me in drama. But I think that'll gradually change, as I grow older and as I get away from that whole TV image I had."

"Well, now you're married and a father. And still working as hard as ever. How do you manage?" I asked him.

"I just do, somehow," he replied. "Sometimes, I wonder, myself. I wish I could be in two places at once. But I have energy, and you have to, to work this hard. I still haven't slowed down, but I know guys in their mid-30s who say they take it easier now, because they have a lower energy level and they're not so keen to burn themselves out. I guess that'll happen to me, and I kind of fear that, so for now, I'm busting my buns!"

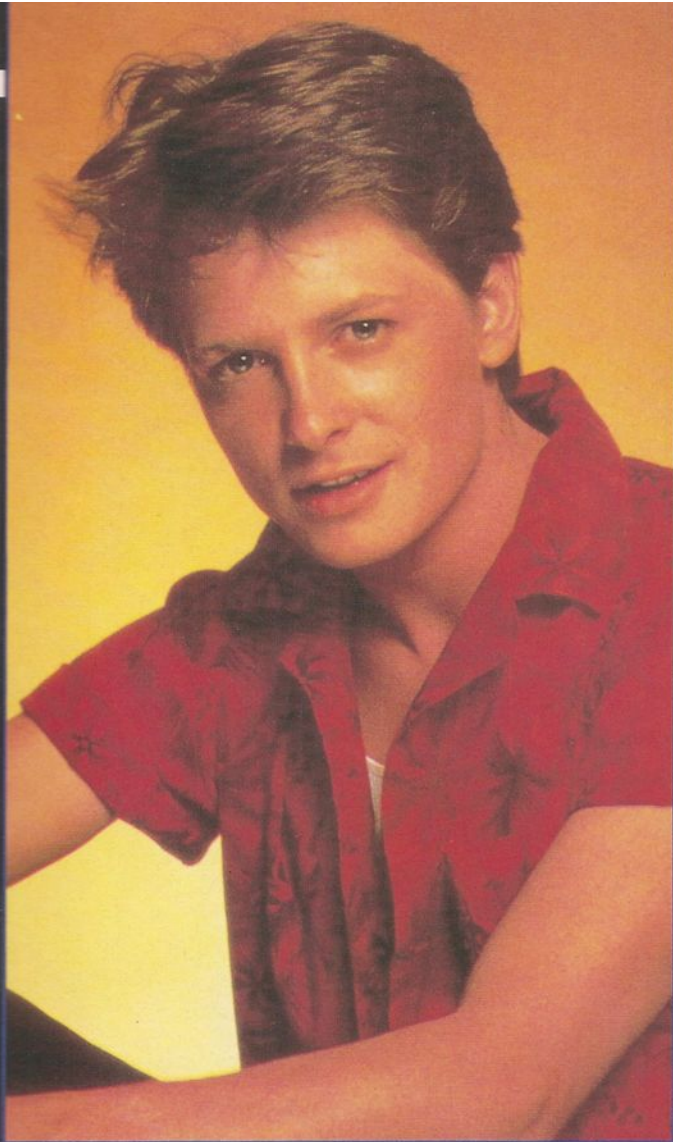
"I keep feeling like I'm not home enough, not seeing enough of my wife or kid. On the other hand, part of why I'm working so hard is for them, to provide for them. I like the idea that you can work hard for a few years and provide for your family the rest of their lives. It's nice to know you can create that sort of financial security for them."

"Do you want to have more kids?"

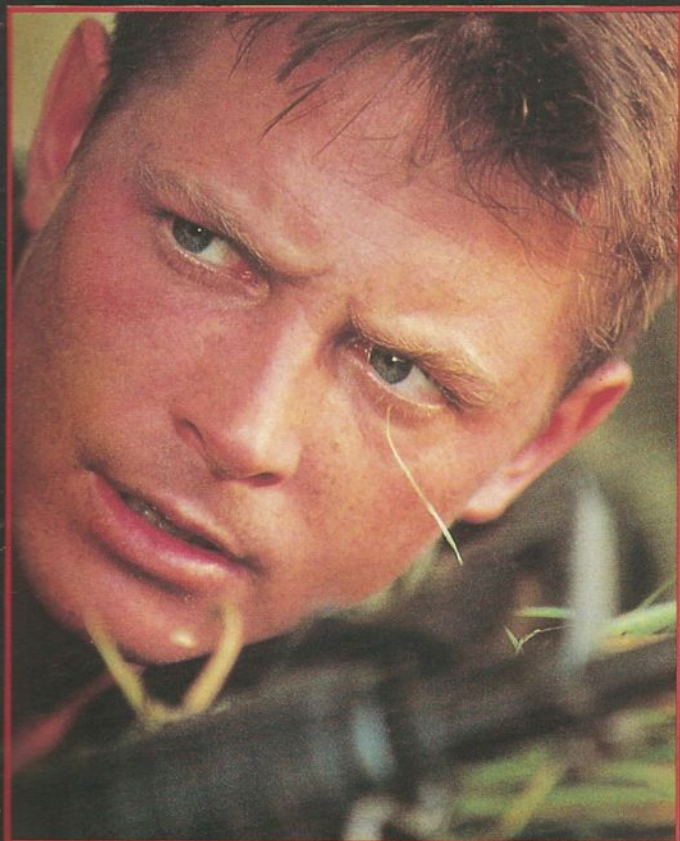
"Yes. But one or two. More than that, and I think no matter how rich you are, you can't give them the same kind of quality of attention."

Finally I asked him if there will be any more *Back To The Future* sequels?

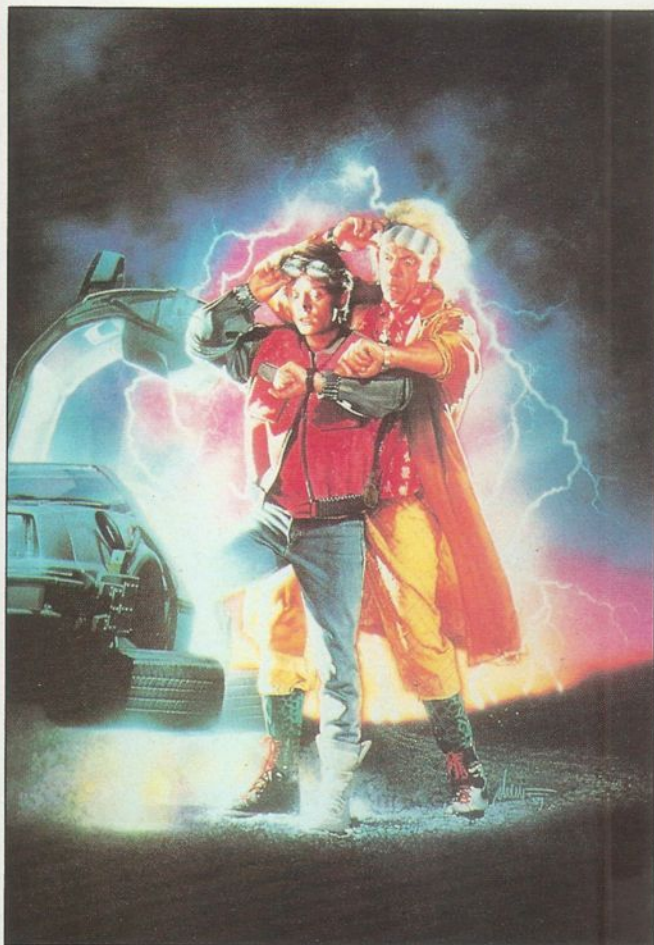
"At this point, I don't know. And if I do know, I'm not really supposed to say! But look, Marty could get into all kinds of situations, in all sorts of time warps and periods — he could become the movies' first time-commuter! And as long as audiences don't tire of him, why not? If they'll eventually accept him growing older, then there's really no limit to the future of this whole series."



The younger Fox (above) is now maturing into a fine actor as he showed in the drama, *Casualties Of War* (below)



VIDEO COMPETITION



BACK TO THE FUTURE PART II 10 COPIES TO BE WON

★ FILM MONTHLY and CIC VIDEO offer TEN tapes as prizes in this special competition to launch the video release of *Back To The Future Part II*, the continuing adventures of time traveller Marty McFly as played by Michael J Fox. Again starring Christopher Lloyd as his friend, Marty's journey takes him forward into the future, then back again into the past. With some wonderful special effects, here's a movie everyone will enjoy. For your chance of winning a copy answer the five questions correctly, then send your entry on a postcard with your name and address in BLOCK CAPITALS to BACK TO THE FUTURE PART II COMPETITION, FILM MONTHLY, Argus House, Boundary Way, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 7ST to arrive not later than July 26, 1990.

1. In which TV series did Michael J Fox make his name?
2. Name the film in which Michael J Fox starred with Kiefer Sutherland
3. Who is the director of the *Back To The Future* movies?
4. In which film was Fox turned into a Werewolf?
5. Who directed Michael J Fox in *Casualties Of War*?

RULES: Prizes will be awarded to the first TEN correct entries selected by the Editor in a random draw. The Editor's decision on all competition matters is final. No correspondence will be entered into and there is no cash alternative to the prizes. The competition is open to all readers of FILM MONTHLY except employees, families and agents of Argus Specialist Publications and CIC VIDEO. Winners will be announced in a future issue.



VIDEO VIEW

FILM MONTHLY'S GUIDE TO THE LATEST VIDEO RELEASES

Contributors: Ken Ferguson, Wendy Riley and Paul Wilson



SCENES FROM THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN BEVERLY HILLS

Jaqueline Bisset, Ray Sharkey, Ed Begley Jr
(MGM-UA)

● PAUL BARTEL'S movie leaves a rather disagreeable taste in its chaotic portrayal of American high life. A more scheming, devious, arrogant and destructive bunch you couldn't hope to meet. It centres on beautiful widow Clare (Bisset), haunted by her recently-dead husband Sidney (Paul Mazursky). Her home is invaded by a next-door neighbour Lisabeth (Mary Woronov) towing her assorted family behind her; and the main action revolves around two toy-boy servants (Sharkey and Robert Beltran), who embark on a bet that the one can seduce Lisabeth before the other can seduce Clare. Complicated and neurotic. W.R.

BACK TO THE FUTURE PART II

Michael J Fox, Christopher Lloyd, Lea Thompson
(CIC)

● A basic retread of the original, with some highly confusing and scarcely credible extras. The movie finds Marty (Fox) led into the future by eccentric Doc (Lloyd). And neither of them like the skateboards and *Jaws 19* they find in race-paced 2015. When Fox actually finds his

future son there, he ends up – crazily playing four different characters. When all this gets too much, Marty zips back to 1985, then 1885. W.R.

WORTH WINNING

Mark Harmon, Leslie Ann Warren, Madeleine Stowe
(CBS/Fox)

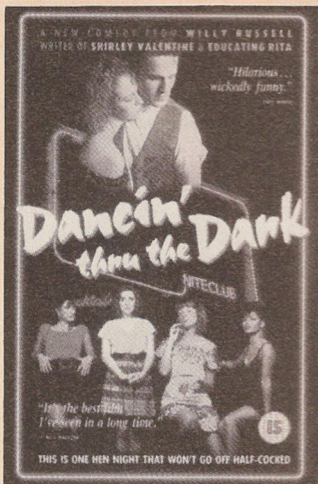
● A TV weather man (Mark Harmon) is a hit with the ladies, the envy of his married friends. But why should he have all the fun, so they challenge him to a bet, with high stakes. In three months he must get engaged to three women! Harmon as Taylor Worth thinks it'll be easy wooing the women his friends have chosen. He must produce the evidence of his successful proposals on video. But things eventually go wrong when he falls deeply in love with one of them. When all three discover they're victims of a bet, Worth is going to suffer. Madeleine Stowe (from *Stakeout*) is the concert pianist he falls in love with, and there's a delightful performance from Leslie Ann Warren as the married lady who can't get enough of him. An engaging romantic comedy giving Mark Harmon plenty of scope to live up to the title "The Sexiest Man Alive". Frothy fun fare. K.F.

DANCIN' THRU THE DARK

Con O'Neill, Claire Hackett, Simon O'Brien
(Palace)

● ANOTHER Liverpoolian saga from writer Willy Russell, *Dancin' Thru The Dark* is an oddly bitter and biting little cameo centred

on an interlinking bride's hen party and groom's stag night down the local disco. With drink flowing, and would-be bride Linda's ex-boyfriend turning up as lead singer of a pop group with a chart-topping hit, the would-be groom Dave finds himself with a bit of a plateful. As



tempers fray, and the disco's 'Ladies' and 'Gents' find themselves heaving with erupting fears, jealousies, resentment and excessive alcohol, *Dancin' Thru The Dark* very nearly makes it as a hot movie. Unfortunately it can't match the power of Willy Russell's *Educating Rita* or *Shirley Valentine*. W.R.

MYSTERY TRAIN

Youki Kudoh, Masotoshi Nagase, Screamin' Jay Hawkins
(Palace)

● TAKING a single night at a sleazy hotel in Elvis Presley's

home town of Memphis, Tennessee, Jim Jarmusch's 'Mystery Train' tracks the interlinking experience of people thrown together on the fateful morning a single gunshot rings out. Representing the death of Presley, the film builds up to the gunshot by examining the fortunes of four sets of hotel guests during the preceding night – a rock 'n' rolling Japanese couple, a newly-widowed woman waiting for her flight to Rome with her husband's remains; her room mate who's just split with her boyfriend and is planning to flee town; and the fleeing lass's boyfriend, who kills a store owner in a drunken rage. Elvis's ghost is mixed up in it too and, as the shot rings out, mystery trains roll by – intersecting both rails and lives. Heavy stuff but cleverly handled; and highly unusual. W.R.

HEART OF A CHAMPION

Doug McKeon, Robert Blake
(CBS/Fox)

● THIS drama tracing the rise of champion boxer Ray Mancini has been produced by Sylvester Stallone, but it's Doug McKeon who gets into the ring as Mancini, the lightweight champion of the world. Ray, the son of a Forties boxer Lenny 'Boom Boom' Mancini, gives up his studies to follow in his dad's footsteps. His father never had the chance to fight for the title because of World War II injuries, so Ray sets out to win the championship his father never had, and in the process is confronted by many hurdles and a family tragedy as well as his father's deteriorating health. With Stallone as executive producer it not unexpectedly has a *Rocky*-like flavour with some good fight sequences. P.W.

IN COUNTRY

Emily Lloyd, Bruce Willis, Peggy Rea
(Warner)

● THE tale of Kentucky teenager (Lloyd) piecing together the life and sudden death of her father in 'Nam', starts over-the-top, smooths into steadier drama,

