

Good news for adult viewers

By *NAN MUSGROVE*

HUCK'S BACK!

● TV's big news is the return of that fabulous character Huckleberry Hound to Channel 9 in a brand-new set of adventures, and the introduction of another cartoon character, Rocky, with his friends.

CHANNEL 9 had more trouble than enough over "Huckleberry Hound" when the first series finished some time ago.

ago.

They received only token abuse from the children for whom it was specially shown, but copped the lot from the parents.

The elders wanted to know: Where was Huck? When they

Where was Huck? When they heard the series would be off for some considerable time, they behaved generally like spoiled children deprived of their favorite treat.

If you missed the first series, make sure you see this one.

Huck is a hound based on the character of Tennessee Ernie Ford, and he has some fascinating friends.

My two favorites were Yogi Bear, who was supposed to be "Honeymooner" Jackie Gleason's mate, Art Carney, and spoke with his voice; and the Method-acting cat Mr. Jinx, said to be none other than Marlon Brando.

They'll all be back on your screens Wednesdays at 6 p.m. from March 15, so don't say I don't spread good news.

New cartoon

More good news for adult cartoon fans is the introduction of "Rocky and His Friends," Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. from March 14.

Rocky will be pretty stiff competition for Huck, once you get to know him.

Unfortunately for my work, I was given a comic book full of Rocky episodes (they last for half an hour). Dipping

for half an hour). Dipping into it here and there, I met some intriguing people.

Rocky is a flying squirrel. His friend and henchman is Bullwinkle, a magnetic moose.

They start off their half-hour with the first part of a two-part serial — a suspense job in which they battle largely with two Russian spies, Natasha and Boris, moon men and girls, and peak-headed unidentified flying objects called Cloyd and Gidney.

The second part of the serial is shown in the last 10 minutes of the episode, so there is no waiting round from week to week.

The middle of the show concerns a dog called Mr. Peabody and a fractured fairytale, told by that dear old funnyman and master of the

double-take (or did he invent it?) Edward Everett Horton.

If this comic book is an average example of Rocky and his friends, I can recommend the series.

Huck and Rocky make their bow in the first week of what Channel 9 calls "strip programming."

"Strip programming" is an American expression that doesn't mean what it sounds

doesn't mean what it sounds like. It simply means that from March 13, Mondays to Fridays, you'll see an episode of a programme at the same time each day.

For instance, you'll see "Wheel of Fortune" every day, Monday to Friday, at 3.30; Desmond Tester and the Channel Ninepins every day at 4.30; cartoons or comedies every day at 6 p.m.

It's an excellent idea. There should be more of it.

★ ★ ★

"Route 66" is one to watch

I'VE just caught up with "Route 66," A.B.C.-TV's new one-hour show. Having caught up with it, I'm staying with it. It is outstanding and excels in all the departments that make a TV show good.

The continuing characters are Tod and Buzz, two young men who are driving on Route 66 looking for a place to settle.

Tod (Martin Milner) is the son of a wealthy family who went bankrupt. He drives an expensive sports car, a graduation present before the crash of the family finances and his

of the family finances and his sole major possession.

His mate is Buzz Murdoch

(George Maharis), a boy from the slums. He's a tough character, but has tons of practical experience and commonsense, which saves many difficult situations.

Todd and Buzz are in their early twenties. They are both likeable young men, good-looking enough, and they have a blend of sophistication and naivete that makes them seem real.

The story and dialogue in "The Strengthening Angels,"

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the only one I've seen, was really superior TV.

I find that I watch some TV shows simply because there's nothing better on at the time. "Route 66" is not one of these. It is undoubtedly one that you watch even if you are reluctant to miss others on at the same time.

★ ★ ★

Jimmy'll be

Jimmy'll be **at the Show**

AUSTRALIANS will first meet famous English comedian Jimmy Edwards as a horseman and farmer, for Jimmy has heard about the Royal Easter Show.

As soon as he did he sent a cable to his agents asking that all his TV commitments be rearranged so that he could go to the Show every day, and, if possible, at night when the polo is on. \

Jimmy arrives on March 18 and is booked out from April 21, when the equestrian events start in Sydney's Centennial Park, three days before the Show opens on March 24.

So far, Jimmy's programme for his Australian season sounds very unlike a world-famous TV artist's programme.

From what I could see and hear, most of the entries were things like dressage events, grand parade, best ladies' hack, hunting, polo, with various notations about planes to Melbourne and back when necessary for TV.

Jimmy is a famous polo

Jimmy is a famous polo player, and often plays at Windsor Great Park with or against the Duke of Edinburgh. He hunts regularly and has a 500-acre farm in Surrey. He says he's determined to see every minute of the Show if he can. Happily, his TV commitments fit in with his wishes.



JIMMY EDWARDS

Well, stone
the crows!

AS a sheila who works on The Australian Women's Weekly, I couldn't help saying "stone the crows" when I saw a recent episode of "Adventures in Paradise."

ventures in Paradise.”

Gorgeous Gardner Mackay, who plays Adam Troy, skipper of the Tiki, was in Port Adelaide delivering a prize bull to a squatter.

The inhabitants of Port Adelaide (population more than 40,000) mostly wore bowler hats and a variety of flowered waistcoats, and looked as if they lived in the 1850s. They were found by Troy playing two-up in the banking chamber of the local bank, closed for Bank Holiday.

Troy found his squatter there, too. She was blond and shapely, and wore very 1960 riding clothes.

Adam remarked that he thought Port Adelaide was a fine place, especially when you found a sheila in the two-up school. But the squatter put him straight about that word. She wouldn't be called a sheila, she said, it meant a floozie.

And so it went. It was an uproar—surprisingly authentic in its background shots of the outback, but Twentieth Century-Fox, who make “Adventures in Paradise,” just don't know about Australian slang.

There's one thing they do know. The Digger hat is worn by Australians. The squatter, who took Adam to her 60,000-acre station, added a hat to her riding ensemble when they went out to muster some cattle.

It was a Digger hat, turned up at the side and worn well back behind the front rolls and waves of the squatter's high-fashion hairdo, and looked extra grouse.

It was really funny to listen to the dialogue, so funny that I'm sure that if the Australian episodes of “Adventures in Paradise,” of which I hear there are quite a number, continue the show's rating will rise considerably.

Last week, in a live telecast, the A.B.C. showed some very interesting paintings. Some were paintings by Australian children of what they thought England was like; others were what English children thought Australia looked like.

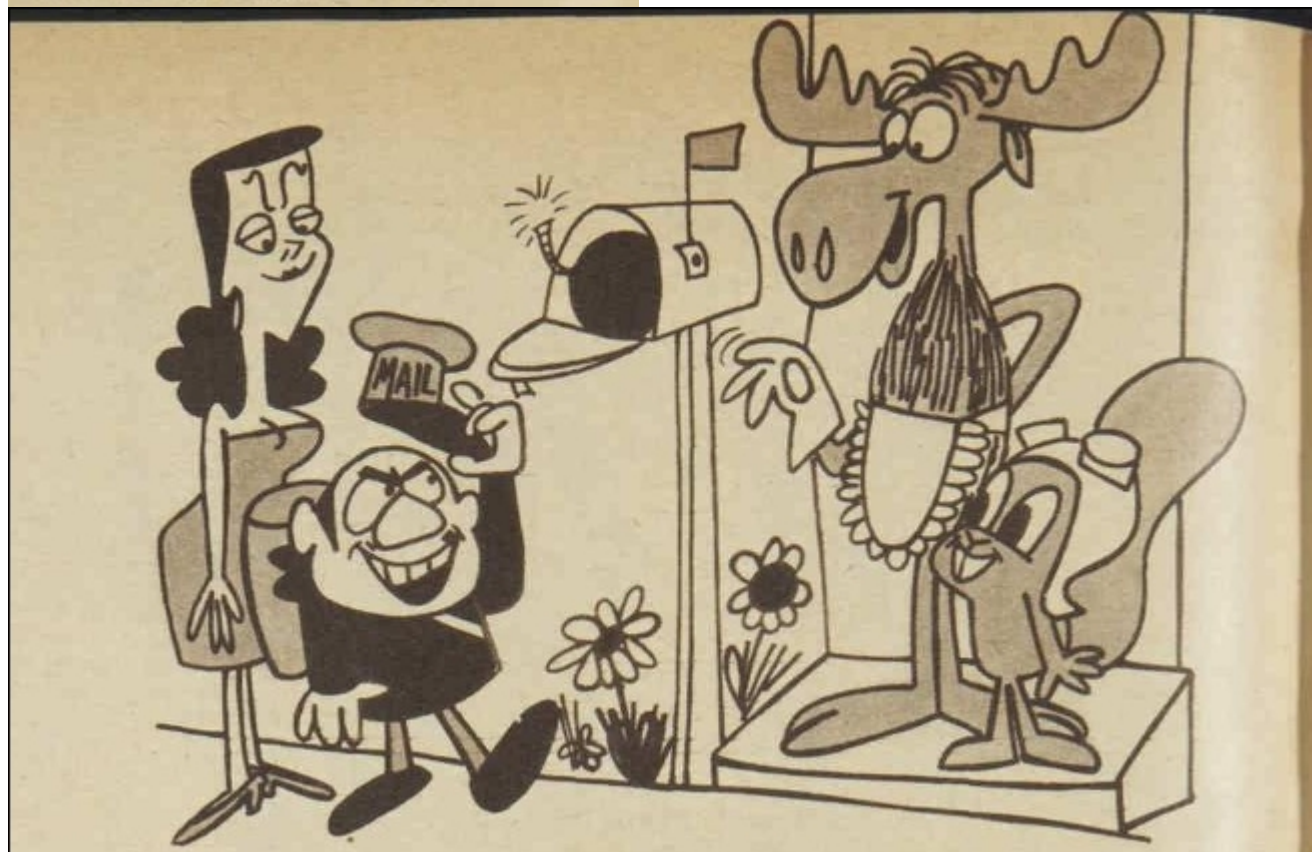
It was arranged through the A.B.C.-TV Children's Club in Australia and through the B.B.C. in England.

The pictures showed that Australian children have a bet-

Australian children have a better idea of what England is like than English kids have of us.

It was a good idea, and interesting TV curiosity. (Incidentally, Miss Tanya Halesworth was the commentator, and she did very well.)

What I am waiting for now is a competition for American TV producers. It could be pictures, or word pictures, of what they think Australia and Australians are like. That would be comic TV.



"ROCKY AND HIS FRIENDS" is a new "adult" cartoon (no relation to an "adult Western") starting on Channel 9 on March 14 at 6 p.m. Above are the four continuing characters in part of the show. From left, Natasha and Boris, who pit their wits against the magnetic moose, Bullwinkle, and his friend Rocky, the flying squirrel.



GEORGE MAHARIS (left) and Martin Milner, co-stars of Channel 2's new series "Route 66."