

THE MISSOURI FILM COMMISSION WEEKLY WRAP-UP

August 2, 2006



Promoting Missouri to the Film Industry

MISSOURI NEWS

Welcome to the return of the Weekly Wrap-Up, the weekly e-newsletter produced by the Missouri Film Office. Here you'll get the latest updates on film and video production in Missouri.



There have been quite a few changes since the last Wrap-Up went out in April 2005. The location has changed: the Missouri Film Office has moved from the Department of Economic Development in Jefferson City to the University of Missouri in Columbia. The staff has changed: Jerry Jones remains as director, and Andrea Sporcic formerly with Cinema St. Louis, is the new assistant director. The Film Office moved to Columbia in September 2005; Andrea joined the office in October. (Pictured: Andrea and Jerry slog through Mississippi River mud during the January filming of "Killshot" in Cape Girardeau.)

The Missouri Film Commission, a nine-member advisory board to the Missouri Film Office, met last month in Jefferson City. The commission explored ways to improve the Missouri Film Tax Credit Program, particularly in light of strong incentive packages recently enacted by other states, including Illinois and Wisconsin. The meeting included several new board members: **Mark Biggs** (Springfield), **Morley Swingle** (Cape Girardeau), and **Rep. Mike Sutherland** (Warrenton). Mark is the new Chairman of the Missouri Film Commission, replacing Alan Liebert, who stepped down last November.

Despite the upheaval of transition, production continued to take place in Missouri at perhaps a record level. In the past 13 months, eight feature films have been made in the Show-Me State. The latest of these:

"The Final Frontier," aka "**Alien vs. Alien**," wrapped in early May after three weeks of filming in St. Louis and St. Charles. The Sci Fi channel movie, which starred Jason London, is the third movie for the cable channel to shoot in Missouri. A fourth, "Headless," is slated to begin principal photography in September. (Pictured: crew prep for a shot as London faces the camera on location in St. Charles.)



"**Even More Than Puppy Love**," a sequel to "Puppy Love," went before the cameras in KC on in May and June. A Waldo West production, the five week shoot was directed by Dennis Fallon. The production utilized locations in Kansas City, North KC, Weston and Lee's Summit. (Pictured: Director Fallon and casting director Heather Laird on the set in North Kansas City.)

"**Branson Jubilee**," a 22-part series for PBS, began airing last week on over 60 affiliates nationwide. Eleven episodes were taped in May and the production will return in October and December to tape the remaining eleven. Many well-known performers - including Andy Williams, Fabian and Glen Campbell - will be featured in the series. (Pictured: Jerry Jones, series host Jimmy Osmond, Andrea Sporcic and series producer Bob Williams, outside the Mickey Gilley Theatre in Branson.)

"**Bill**," a feature film from Greenstreet productions, wraps seven weeks of filming in the St. Louis metro area on July 22. The comedy stars Aaron Eckart and Jessica Alba. The producers hope for a premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in January. (Pictured: Aaron Eckart's chair will provide comfort for the actor when he's done with his scene on this 100-degree day last month in O'Fallon.)

Actor **Blair Underwood** has his producer cap on when he visited Missouri last week for a reality-TV project about lottery winners. He and Rep. Connie Johnson visited lottery official Gary Gonder in Jefferson City and lottery winners in St. Louis. Missouri Film Office's Andrea Sporcic, always on hand to assist handsome actors, took Blair to dinner and let him know that the Film Office was ready to assist his project. Stay tuned as this project develops. (Pictured: Blair Underwood, Rep. Connie Johnson and personal assistant Bobby Grosser strike a pose at the Missouri Lottery headquarters in Jefferson City.)

Do you have production news or photos from set to share?
E-mail us at mofilm@missouri.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **September 8-14**
Filmfest Kansas City
- **October 25-30**
Cineposium, Pasadena, CA
- **November 9-19**
St. Louis International Film Festival

SCOUTING REPORT

We are currently in search of the following locations for projects. Email your photos to mofilm@missouri.edu

- Archived film or photos that show 1950's St. Louis Cosmopolitan Club, Blueberry Hill, Fox Theatre, etc.
- Riverboat within a day's drive of St. Louis

WEEKLY WEB REPORT

- Website Hits: 3121

PROJECT REPORT

- Crew requests: 2
- Location requests: 1
- Resource Requests: 4
- Production guides: 1

