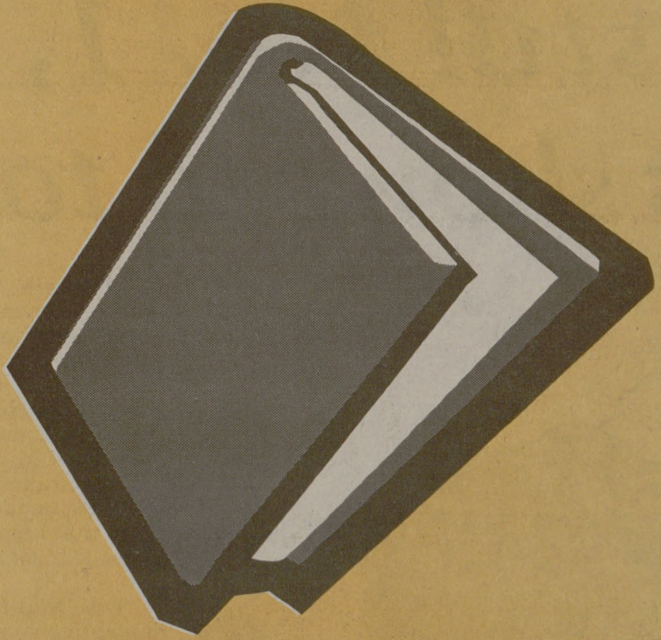


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TELEVISION

Continued from Page 3

numerous specials that dealt with ratings-grabbing subjects, from "When Cars Wreck" to "When Good Animals Go Bad." Although these programs might not be the cream of televisions crop, they were persistent and offered an alarming perception of where America has been and where it is going.

"Buffy the Vampire Slayer" —What started as a mid-season replacement has turned into something bigger than anyone expected. Buffy commands a cult following and her numbers are only going to grow. For all of the non-believers, watching one episode will have them hooked by the smart writing and clever plot lines. Buffy and her pals must not only combat vampires and demons, but they also must deal with real-life issues that plague every typical teenager and somehow they always manage to look so darn cute.

"Newsradio" —Following in NBC's long-standing tradition of comic greatness, "Newsradio"

has established itself as a great, comedic force. The show has a cast with a chemistry that is unrivaled since the days of "Cheers" and a team of writers that could make wood funny. The show suffered a tremendous loss with the untimely death of Phil Hartman but was able to bounce back with the addition of Jon Lovitz. "Newsradio" is a funny and smart show that will be around for a long time.

"Seinfeld" —All of the world tuned in for the final episode of "Seinfeld." Even if certain countries would rather have enough food to last a week, they watched. In the history of television, there has not been a comedy series as devoutly nor as compulsively viewed and marketed as "Seinfeld." The series has spawned dozens of books, numerous clothes lines and several lawsuits.

"South Park" —Not since "The Simpsons" has a cartoon caused such outrageous uproar and most of it rightly deserved. Trey Parker and Matt

Stone created a new cartoon when their cartoon were first introduced to Central, but they were storm. It seems Kenny Kyle and Stan are... This low-brow anime keeps its viewers entertained with off-color remarks that graders who have heard that would make some Making fun of the... isn't funny, but what weight, racist eighties it ...

"Monday Nitro/RAW" is a tie, which way, is rare... sional wrestling two shows... pull in more viewers... day Night Football... over Monday night... gramming. The fun... that few people will... watching it. Whether... ing the triumphant... return of The Ultimate... "Monday Nitro" or... the beer-chugging... Steve Austin on "RAW" professional wrestling... body hooked and... more.

'60 Minutes II' breaks into top...

NEW YORK (AP) — Television's second season is starting off far better than its first.

CBS's debut of "60 Minutes II" made it the second straight week that a brand new show made the Nielsen Media Research top 10. The newsmagazine teamed with its more famous father to help CBS beat NBC for the week.

"60 Minutes II" was the most-watched program last Wednesday night, and drew the highest ratings of any regularly-scheduled CBS program in its time slot since 1993.

NBC's drama "Providence" didn't quite match the ratings of its highly-rated premiere. But it still finished tied for 12th in the week's rankings and was the top-rated show on any network last Friday.

The new animated Fox comedy, "The PJ's," isn't quite in that lofty

company and was sharply criticized for its depiction of blacks this week by filmmaker Spike Lee. But Fox could be heartened that "The PJ's" drew more viewers than the show that immediately preceded it, "King of the Hill" on Tuesday's schedule.

The strong showings of January's new programs are a marked contrast to the fall season, when none of network TV's new shows established themselves as hits.

Season ratings leader CBS had a 10.4 rating and 17 share for the week, Nielsen said Tuesday. NBC had a 9.1 rating and 15 share, ABC had a 7.6 rating and 12 share and Fox was at 6.9 and 11.

Among the developing networks, the WB had a 3.4 rating and 5 share, nearly double UPN's 1.8 rating and 3 share. Pax TV had a

0.8 rating and 1 share.

The original "60 Minutes" was the week's most popular entertainment or news show, from the big audience that the NFL conference game immediately preceded.

NBC had alarmingly low ratings for some of its comedies, the once-strong "Mad About You" and "Working" snuck back into the NBC schedule only to be replaced by the '98-'99 show broadcast by NBC or Fox.

NBC's "Nightly News" evening news competitor. The 35th 10th straight week its "Fiddler on the Roof" and 17 share narrowly beat "Sammy Dala." "World News Tonight" had the same 9.1 rating and 17 share. "Evening News" had a 9.1 rating and 15 share.

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