

Tour

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daughter to Paris to watch the final stage of the 2003 Tour.

Lance sent me an email. He liked my story. His agent, Bill Stapleton, also called and several other of Armstrong's associates. I framed the email. My daughter and I flew to Paris and stood on the Champs Elysees and watched Lance win.

I got on with my life but every July, for three weeks, I watched the Tour.

Last year, I lost my faith in Armstrong - a lying, cheating, self-absorbed prima donna who doped his way to the podium in Paris.

My anger at Armstrong's deception turned to sorrow for Armstrong's oldest son, Luke - the toddler whom I watched on the podium with his father. The boy is now a teen, forever saddled with the legacy of a father known as the greatest cheater in the history of sports.

And my heart broke for the second-place finishers, whose names no one recalls, who would have won the Tour if Armstrong had not robbed them of the glory, wealth and prestige that comes with winning the world's most grueling athletic event.

Despite my loss and disappointment, one thing remains unchanged: I love the Tour de France, the epic, three-week-long, 2,000-plus mile race through some of the most stunning and challenging terrain on the planet.

I watch the tour now because I love the tour. I have no ulterior motives. I am not looking for the tour to fulfill some deep emotional need. It is a bike race.

I might have learned to love the tour despite Lance and my parents' cancers because to me, the bicycle is a divine machine. What other human invention do we all have in common? Not the automobile. Not the phone. Not the Internet.

But nearly every human being will at some point ride a bike. Whether it is a hedge-fund manager on a custom-made Pinarello or a crack dealer on a Schwinn, we all ride. Likewise, anyone can get a front-row seat at the tour. It costs nothing. There are no tickets. You simply walk to the curb.

I am going back to the Champs Elysees to watch the final stage of the tour again this year. I am going as a spectator, not a daughter mourning her parents' deaths. I'm not in search of a miracle. I'm going because I love the tour - an amazing, beautiful race that celebrates unfathomable human will, breathtaking landscapes and one of the rare memories we all share: riding a bike.

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WATCH IT

Bo Derek in path of 'Sharknado'

She's back in front of camera; filming in Rome next.

By Susan King
Los Angeles Times



Bo Derek

revealing one-piece bathing suit toward Dudley's besotted George on the beach is one of modern cinema's more vividly remembered moments.

Derek, then married to writer-director-actor John Derek, 30 years her senior, wasn't prepared for the sudden fame.

"It was overwhelming. I didn't have an agent. I didn't have PR people." As Bo Derek, 58, walked out of a Studio City restaurant to have her picture taken, a waiter remarked, "She looks fabulous!"

Derek smiled when told about the waiter's observation. "I'm always surprised people still know who I am," she said with a smile. "It has been such a long time."

She's back in front of the camera playing the mother of April (Tara Reid) in the Syfy Channel's "Sharknado 3: Oh Hell No!," which pre-

'SHARKNADO 3: OH HELL NO!'
9 p.m. Wednesday on Syfy Channel

mieres on the cable network Wednesday.

In addition to Reid, Ian Ziering returns as the heroic Fin and David Hasselhoff is on hand as his father. Rick Fox, Mark Cuban, Penn and Teller, Frankie Muniz and Jerry Springer are among the eclectic cast members who pop up in the third installment of the media sensation.

"Sharknado" auteur Anthony C. Ferrante said Derek was at the top of the list to play April's mom.

"She's an icon," he said, adding his favorite Derek film is the 1995 Chris Farley-David Spade comedy "Tommy Boy," in which she plays a con woman who marries Farley's character's father (Brian Dennehy).

"That was kind of the linchpin for me," said Ferrante.

HEALTH NEWS

Diabetes support group meeting

Tuesday: 10 a.m., Weisman Community Center (7091 West Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach); call 561-731-4321.

Ongoing support groups

Regents Park Boca Raton (6363 Verde Trail, Boca Raton) offers the following free support groups: **Mondays**, 7 to 9 p.m.: Co-Dependency Anonymous 12-Step Program; 7:30 to 9 p.m.: Overeaters Anonymous; **Tuesdays**, 8 to 9 p.m.: Co-Dependency Anonymous 12-Step Program; **Wednesdays**, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and 7:30 to 9 p.m.: Overeaters Anonymous; **Thursdays**, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Overeaters Andalusian horses. Derek also is a photographer - she shot the cover and inside spread on "Sharknado" for TV Guide. Next month she's heading to Rome to appear in four episodes of an Italian TV series.

"No complaints," she said about shooting in Rome for a month. "The business has been good to me."

'Love Letters'

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though. He's asked me not to," confides O'Neal. "It's nothing much. I'm a host of a party that the main character comes to."

O'Neal recalls fondly a brief foray into stage acting early in his career, playing a young stranger in Edward Albee's one-act play, "The American Dream." He describes it now as "rowing upstream without a paddle." Marriage has also not been his strong suit. Twice wed and divorced, his longest relationship was with the late Farrah Fawcett, whom he never married.

MacGraw, 76, had a similar meteoric start to her career, featured in 1969's "Goodbye, Columbus." Married to studio executive and producer Robert Evans, she was showcased in a few of his films, including "The Getaway" starring Steve McQueen, whom she subsequently wed and later divorced. MacGraw also appeared in the TV mini-series of "The Winds of War," as well as a few other minor theatrical movies, but none since 1997.

For the past two decades, she has been content to live in Santa Fe, far from the show business spotlight. Of her semi-retirement from acting, MacGraw says, "There's a ton of really gifted women in my age group and very few parts. I get it. I'm not an idiot."

She is a natural beauty the camera loves, but the feeling is hardly mutual. "To be perfectly honest with you, I loved the reading and the rehearsals for



Unlike Ali MacGraw, who performed "Love Letters" 20 years ago, Ryan O'Neal was unfamiliar with the play, but the appeal for him was reconnecting with his leading lady in "Love Story." CONTRIBUTED

the movies. The minute I saw that camera, I almost had a heart attack," she concedes. "And certainly I have no stage experience except that one time. So I feel so comfortable knowing that Ryan - who's really brilliant in this, and somebody I love - is right there."

More so than O'Neal, MacGraw sounds nervous about appearing in "Love Letters," aware of the many veteran actors who have done the play before her.

"More than anything, I would give anything if we really pull it off," she says. "It will feel so wonderful if we do it credit."

No attempt to soothe her nerves by remind-

ing her she is an accomplished actress will help, it seems.

"No, I'm not an accomplished actress," she scoffs. "I'm a pop star. There's a big difference. I've done my share of really awful stuff and I've done a couple of things that weren't. So obviously, it would feel wonderful if people said, 'God, that really touched me.' That would thrill me, that's all I can say."

In fact, MacGraw has a history with "Love Letters." "I did do it 20 years ago with a wonderful actor named Robert Foxworth. And also once as a favor in Maine with an actor friend at a summer theater," she says. "I just

like the play. I think it is incredibly touching and real. And I know those two people, Ryan's character and my character. I went to school with some of them. And I was shocked all these years later to read it and be as moved as I was by it. So, I thought, as it's a reading and as it's Ryan playing the other part, it was just a fantastic opportunity."

O'Neal admits he was unfamiliar with the play when the offer came. For him, the appeal was reconnecting with MacGraw.

"Well, we have this prior that went pretty well," he says, referring coyly to "Love Story." "In fact, I fell in love with her. And

when you fall in love with someone, it's hard to fall out of it. I've been there so many years, and I thought this was a gift from God handed to me. Here was a chance to see her again in nine different cities."

"Through tornadoes, lizards and probably hurricanes in Florida," quips MacGraw. "We're going to have fun."

Fresh from a test run-through of the play, O'Neal says, "With one rehearsal, we were ready. We're film actors, so we're not used to rehearsing. So after one day, it was 'When do we start, where do we go? And when do we get paid?'"

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Dorfman

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- Dimpleplasty
 - Chin reshaping
 - Jaw contouring
 - Upper lip enhancement
 - Tracheal shave (Adam's apple reduction)
- Mardirossian spent several years in Boston training with Dr. Jeffrey Spiegel, one of the world's

foremost facial plastic surgeons.

Spiegel, Mardirossian explains, has been conducting studies that focus on the perception of human beauty and gender.

Among the noteworthy findings, says Mardirossian: "Feminine features increase the attractiveness of the face - regardless of gender."

Spiegel's studies,

says Mardirossian, have enabled those in the FFS community to develop "a new philosophy of how to perceive the face in its harmony and balance between light and shadow, feminine and masculine, youthfulness and natural aging."

Of course, not all - or even most - transitioning transgender women have the resources or desire to undergo a comprehensive

protocol of FFS procedures, as Jenner has.

Nevertheless, the myriad issues facing those in the transgender community are in the national dialogue - and here to stay.

In addition to Jenner's show, two other docu-series - "I Am Jazz" (Wednesdays/10 p.m., TLC) and "Becoming Us" (Mondays/10 p.m., ABC Family) - feature insight-

ful, well-spoken teens dealing with the topic as it affects them in their everyday lives.

"I Am Jazz" should be of particular interest to South Florida's transgender community. The show features 14-year-old Jazz Jennings, a South Florida who was born a biological male, but has known since the age of 3 that she identified female.

Since then, the artic-

ulate youngster has been interviewed by the likes of Barbara Walters and Oprah Winfrey and become one of the transgender world's most ardent and eloquent voices for acceptance and understanding.

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