

court room, where most of the action takes place, as well as some offices. I also ran into Betty White, who plays Catherine Piper on the series. She is such a sweet and classy lady. I introduced myself to her and called her "Miss White" and she interrupted me by saying "Please, call me Betty." I told her that I am a new member of the *Screen Smart Set* and that I attended the *Celebrity Fashion Show and Auction* that she modeled in last year. She was very pleased to hear that the organization was growing with new recruits.

The other cast members were returning to the set after a lunch break and I was able to say hello to Candice Bergen (Shirley Schmidt) and Mark Valley (Brad Chase), as well as chat with the show's executive producer, Bill D'Elia and co-executive producer, Mike Listo. Seems it was the first day of shooting the episode *Death Be Not Proud*, which Phil will edit. I also had the opportunity to view a scene that was being directed by Matt Shakman. It involved Lori

Colson (Monica Potter) complaining to Shirley and Paul Lewiston (Rene Auberjonois) about Denny Crane's conduct (William Shatner). In the background, you can see Denny, Brad and Tara (Rhona Mitra) in the conference room and after each take, William would do some antic that had the other two actors crack up when "cut" was yelled. The mood on the set was loose and fun, even though a flu epidemic had struck it and it was now dubbed *Boston Lethal*. The only cast member I didn't see that day was James Spader and that was because it was his day off (or did he catch the dreaded *Boston Lethal*?).

Well, as much as I wanted to stay and watch all day, it was time that I let Phil get back to work so off I went to visit Neil next door on the *Medium*



Pam and Joy hold up our interview featured in USA Today.

set. I knew exactly where to find him as I visited him back in October 2004. He gave me a big hug and we talked about how great that *Medium* was a hit and that NBC ordered the series through 2006. We also talked about the pending DVD release of the first two seasons of *Moonlighting* and that he wanted to get together with Phil to do commentary (most likely when seasons 3-5 are released). He was in the middle of an editing session so I didn't stay very long, but it was great to see him, even for a short time. Besides, I had to meet with Mrs. Willis so I didn't want to be late. Mrs. Willis is the President of the *Screen Smart Set* and I recently became a voting member. We met to discuss some fundraising ideas to benefit the *Motion Picture and Television Fund*, which the *Screen Smart Set* raises money for. You can read more about this organization in our *Spreading the Good News* feature on page 12.

Wednesday, February 16, 2005: Sitting in on Jeff Reno and Ron Osborn's *Moonlighting* DVD on-camera interview.



Our meeting with Jeff Reno & Ron Osborn (not pictured) at Starbucks.

Since interviewing Jeff and Ron back in February 2003, we kept in touch on a regular basis so I was thrilled when I had the opportunity to sit in on their on-camera interview session. I met them at the studio and sat in with them while their make-up was applied (Ha, like they needed any). As they went before the camera, I sat in the soundroom and listened to them discuss their experience on *Moonlighting* as they shared insight on some of the great episodes they wrote in seasons 1 and 2 (*Knowing Her*, *The Bride of Tupperman*, *Witness for the Execution*), even touching on their instant classic *Atomic Shakespeare* in Season 3. While in the soundroom, I spoke to the two young sound technicians presiding over the session. It was very gratifying to hear them say that they have never seen *Moonlighting* before but they were really enjoying it while working on the episode commentary sessions. Their admission to me proved that after 20 years, the writing and acting on *Moonlighting* stands the test of time and it is still better than what passes for entertainment on television today. The on-camera session lasted only about an hour, but any time I spend with Jeff and Ron is always a pleasure.

When I flew back to New York on Friday the 18th, I brought back with me memories of an experience I will never forget as well as the anticipation of all the work our crack staff had ahead of us to get this issue ready by May 31st. But I wasn't too concerned because we all knew that this issue was going to be an extra special one.



Two views of the *Die Hard* Building

