

NEW YORK'S MOST COMPLETE TV COVERAGE

INNER TUBE

Talking With Rev. Jim

Former (and perhaps future) PTL leader **Jim Bakker** will be the sole guest (without his missus, **Tammy**) on Tuesday's telecast of "Nightline" (ABC, 11:30). A network spokeswoman said no conditions have been set for the interview, which will be conducted by "Nightline" anchor **Ted Koppel**. "We've been following the Bakkers around and have been in touch with them for some time," she said. "Jim has something to say and we're going to let him say it." Jim and Tammy Bakker appeared on "Nightline" on May 27, at the height of the controversy, and attracted the largest audience ever for the series, gathering 41% of all those watching at the time. —George Maksian

Kids Patrol

The Federal Communications Commission yesterday confirmed that as reported a couple of weeks ago it will open an inquiry into commercial policies for children's programming, specifically whether limits should be placed on commercials and whether programs based solely on toy products (which many see as show-length ads) should be banned. Also, in a meeting earlier this week, the commission voted 4-to-0 to ask for public comments on whether it should limit time devoted to children's advertising. Previous limits were abandoned as part of a general deregulation of TV advertising in 1984. The Boston-based watchdog group Action for Children's Television has been fighting ever since to have limits reinstated. ACT claims there have been more ads since the rules were dropped. The FCC also is expected to take up the issue of so-called "interactive toys," in which kids are able to shoot back at pictures on the screen. FCC action, if any, won't be forthcoming for several months. —G.M.

Will She Wear Pastels?

Sorry ladies, but Sonny Crockett (the **Don Johnson** half of the "Miami Vice" duo) is getting married! **Lorraine Bracco**, who plays the tough-talking grieving wife in the movie "Someone to Watch Over Me," will be appearing as the woman who steals Sonny's heart in a series of episodes beginning Nov. 20. She'll play a rock star who falls in love with Crockett and winds up marrying him. Bracco was chosen for the role over a slew of contenders, including super-model **Carol Alt**. Don't expect this one to last too long. Bracco has been signed for only four episodes. And then, so the scuttlebutt goes, Mrs. Crockett will take off after she realizes her life style is too different from her hubby's for the two to stay together. Such is TV life. —G.M.

Howard Lands a Home

Howard Cosell's in-the-works syndicated TV series "Speaking of Everything" has landed a New York home. Starting in January, the show will be televised in these parts by Ch. 4 on Sunday evenings, following the late local news. The program will also be carried by the four other NBC-owned stations around the country, in Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington and Cleveland. The series is patterned after Cosell's highly successful radio show on the ABC Radio Network. It will feature the controversial broadcaster (who writes a column twice a week for the Daily News) and one or more prominent guests expressing their opinions on the issues of the day. **Don Ohlmeyer**, whose last major TV production was this year's Emmy telecast, is the show's executive producer. —G.M.

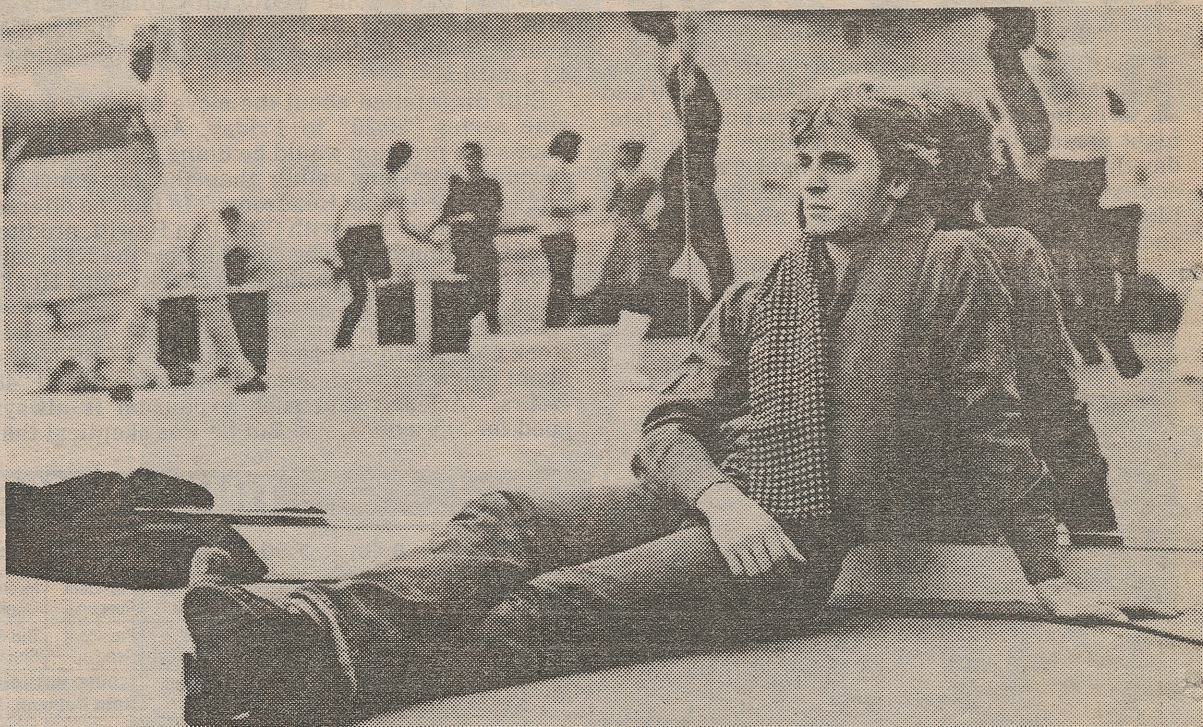
FINE TUNING

- ☑ 8:30 p.m. (2) "Mysteries of the Rock-Dwelling Predators." A look at prey and predators in Africa's stone sanctuaries known as kopjes.
- ☑ 8:30 (4) "The Cosby Show." Roscoe Lee Brown and Christopher Plummer guest star.
- ☑ 8:30 (7) "World Series." Twins-Cardinals, game 5.
- ☑ 10:00 (13) "Too Little, Too Late." A look at how AIDS patients and their loved ones deal with the disease.

PREZ CONFERENCE

President Reagan will hold a press conference at 8 tonight. ABC, CBS, NBC and cable's CNN will broadcast the q-and-a session live. The three commercial networks will begin their regularly-scheduled programming when the press conference ends. It's expected to run a half hour.

New steps for Baryshnikov



LOOKING AHEAD: Ballet star Mikhail Baryshnikov is pondering ways to insure a creative future.

IT'S NOT JUST ANOTHER performance of "Giselle" or "Swan Lake" that interests him. "I've done them and still can do them well," says Mikhail Baryshnikov, nearing 40. Instead, he's looking for "new creations, new projects," new ways to creatively use his skills as a dancer.

Such an occasion is tomorrow night's "Great Performances" presentation of "David Gordon's Made in U.S.A." (Ch. 13 at 9), a unique presentation by members of the American Ballet Theater, the company which Baryshnikov directs. It co-stars lovely Valda Setterfield. Called "talking ballets," — "already it's a term," comments an amused Baryshnikov—the three off-beat works in the hour are designed specifically for television and, so it appears, to make the artists and dancer more accessible to the audience.

The famed ballet star, currently appearing in the film "Dancers," is seen in all three interwoven works. The first is called "Valda and Misha," which gently blends relaxed, easy dancing with conversation between the two principals and a twist of cartoon-like video art techniques. The piece captures the joy two immigrants—she from England, he from the Soviet Union—felt when they came to America for the same purpose, to dance.

The two are seen in a studio where the windows and radiator appear as pencil drawings. As we get to know them, we are then lead into an entertaining and witty tribute to America's pioneer spirit as Baryshnikov heads West in a salute to the American cowboy—as well as another American classic, the vaudevillian—in Gordon's second work, "TV Nine Lives." Featuring some loud suits and wild costumes, the dance routines are accompanied by some fine familiar Western music.

The third, and funniest, piece, "Murder," is truly

bizarre, as it spoofs famous murders, and even choreographs a funeral. The costumes by Edward Gorey are especially inventive, capturing the ghoulish, tongue-in-cheek feel of the piece, which seems a bit too long.

The use of the word "piece," too, amuses Baryshnikov, who, since he left the cocoon of the classical dance world, has been introduced to a new language. "It's never ballet," he says, smiling. "It's piece, work or stuff. I made a mistake once of saying 'modern ballet' to Martha Graham and she corrected me. 'It doesn't exist,' she said. 'It's contemporary ballet.'"

Although one reads that he's dropping the curtain on his career as a classical performer, when I asked Baryshnikov what he now considers out of his range as a dancer, he replies adamantly: "Nothing," adding, "but because of time limitations I'm going to concentrate on new projects like this. It's a matter of priorities."

He says what he likes most is the "creative process." He explains, "I like to be part of an idea and bring it to its realization. That's the most exciting time for me. After that comes the performance."

ASKED HOW TV has changed the face of ballet, he replies: "Not very well. It's an awfully young form from my point of view in terms of the presentation of the dance. There's have been good tries, and good intentions, but a lot of disasters. What does interest me is, there are a lot of unexplored possibilities in television. But there are no aesthetics yet."

"Made in U.S.A.," produced by Rhoda Grauer and directed by Don Mischer, coupled with tonight's Arts & Entertainment special on cable, "Baryshnikov: The Dancer and the Dance," (9 p.m.), gives you a two-sided portrait of the famed dancer. The cable profile, narrated by Shirley MacLaine, is truly special, combining an intimate interview with scenes of Baryshnikov rehearsing and performing, plus clips of films he has made. This well-rounded documentary on the star will be repeated on A & E Sunday at 2:30 p.m., and is well worth a look.

KAY GARDELLA



Absorbing focus on Africa's rocky wildlife

SOME NATURALISTS have a knack of drawing the audience into their experience. Wildlife cinematographer Alan Root, who has spent 30 years in the African bush, is one who does just that. He doesn't talk at you. He quietly explains what he's doing as he sets up his camera, and in a sparse, direct style describes the story unfolding before his camera and our eyes.

Such is the case tonight in

CBS' absorbing special, "Mysteries of the Rock Dwelling Predators" (8-9 p.m.), which captures the animals who find sanctuary in odd rock formations on the Serengeti Plain of East Africa. Some, in this bizarre life system, are rarely seen in such wildlife specials.

For instance, there's the roly-poly, furry creatures known as hyraxes, members of the rat family. And you'll see lizards hunting flies on lions sunning

themselves on the rocks, and black eagles hunting the hyraxes, who signal with a strange sound when they're in danger.

This and more can be found tonight in this recommended hour. It's not the usual same old nature special, but one bearing the mark of excellence associated with Root, who's given us such superb hours as "The Great Migration: Year of the Wildebeeste" and "Lights! Action! Africa!" —Kay Gardella