

A STAR FOR A STAR -- Dean Stockwell On The Walk of Fame

As the sun camp up on February 29, 1992, Leap Day, people gathered around a blocked off section of sidewalk on Hollywood Boulevard. These were Dean Stockwell fans who traveled across the country for the unveiling of his Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. The majority had obtained little sleep the night before in anticipation, and many were settled in before those first rays. By mid-morning a contingent had formed in the Cinegrill room of the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel for celebrity interviews, including Roddy McDowell who covered the event with his mini-steady-cam. The media could be found on every corner of Hollywood Boulevard and in the hotel. Fans, who listened to piped in *Leap* music while being packed on all four sides of the red carpeted place of honor and on the second floor of the adjacent parking lot, were thrilled at the chance to meet other Leapers. At exactly 11:30, Johnny Grant, Honorary Mayor of Hollywood, took the stand.



Man of the hour, Dean Stockwell, migs for the press cameras.

"Hello, Ladies and Gentlemen and all you Leapers out there! Welcome to this morning's Walk of Fame ceremonies sponsored by the Hollywood Historic Trust and its administrators, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. Today is a very unique day for the Walk of Fame. I'm usually asleep at this time on Saturday morning and only for Dean Stockwell and you fans would we do this on Saturday. We're making history today with the one and only Saturday Walk of Fame ceremony, because as you all know, today is Leap Day and a very special day for Dean Stockwell. Dean's fans are holding a national convention in Hollywood this weekend, and they have raised funds for today's ceremony through their recycling efforts. We, here in Hollywood, congratulate you on that.

Dean, who earned an Academy Award nomination for his role in the hit film, *Married to the Mob*, both popular and critical plaudits for his starring role in *Tucker*, is enjoying what many are calling the comeback of the decade. He's currently starring in the award-winning NBC series *Quantum Leap*, portraying the wise-cracking scientist Albert

for which he has received a Golden Globe as Best Supporting Actor. The former child star starred in such classics as *Anchors Away*, *The Boy with the Green Hair*, *Kim*, and as a young man in films such as *Compulsion*, for which he won a Golden Globe and the prestigious Cannes Film Festival award as Best Actor. His pivotal role in *Long Day's Journey into Night* stands side by side with his memorable



Scott Bakula and Johnny Grant, Honorary Mayor of Hollywood, are on hand to share Dean's big day with the star.

performances in such films as *Paris, Texas*, *To Live and Die in L.A.*, *Blue Velvet*, *Gardens of Stone*, *Beverly Hills Cop 2*, and many others. While maintaining a hectic career schedule, Dean is still able to devote a great deal to an environmental program with particular emphasis on the perils inherent in the ongoing depletion of the ozone layer."

Applause escalated as one by one, family, friends and fans spoke in tribute: Dean's brother Guy Stockwell, Chairman of *The Committee for a Dean Stockwell Star* Christina Mavroudis, actor Dennis Hopper and, finally, Scott Bakula.

"I just want you all to realize how difficult it is to work 3 1/2 years with a man when you never know what he's doing behind your back. He's probably doing something behind my back right now, and I'd never know it."

Reminiscent of Martin & Lewis, Stockwell flapped his hands about, but immediately stopped when Bakula turned around to confirm his theory. Turning serious, Bakula continued, "I wish you all would have the experience of knowing this man the way I do. He's one of the gentlest spirits that I've ever met, and I just feel so privileged that I've had a few moments to share with him in front of a camera, and in life."

Johnny Grant then took the podium to make the proclamation, "The Los Angeles City Council got together and were unanimous on this, which is something that happens very seldom in this town. This is signed by the Mayor, Councilman Wu of this district. Therefore, be it resolved that by adoption of this resolution, the Mayor and the City

council of the City of Los Angeles congratulate Dean Stockwell on his well-deserved star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame, Dean, as the Mayor of Hollywood, I proclaim this Dean Stockwell Day!"

Finally, Stockwell got to speak. "I want to thank the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. This is truly a unique and wonderful honor. As you heard, this came about largely because of you guys, the fans of *Quantum Leap*, who got together and united to raise the money for this Star through recycling efforts. That to me is most important." He went on to thank his brother Guy Stockwell, mother Betty, wife Joy and friends McDowell, Hopper (who had flown in from Thailand for the event) and Bakula. Stockwell concluded, "I hope that in times to come, when people see my name on a star here (and I'm very lucky to be between two very beautiful women, Liza Minelli and Donna Summers) that they'll remember what I tried to do in my life and my work, but also remember that I was concerned about what's happening with this planet. This is the number one important thing facing the world today. There are a lot of problems in the world, a lot of tragic things that have to be addressed - economic, medical, political, all kinds of things - but, to my way of thinking, they pale in comparison to the overall problem of the environmental deadline. So I'm going to go on and work at preserving the ozone layer, encouraging everyone to recycle. I just feel extra motivated and reinforced by the efforts on the part of the *Quantum Leap* fans that have helped give me this Star. Thank you very much!"

Dean and company uncovered the new Star and, after some photo opportunities, retired inside the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel for lunch and recognition of top contributors. Those contributors for Stockwell's Star were Lyndell Netherton, Candyce Goldstein, Nancy Rapaglia, Sue Skarin, Laura Osgood, Karen Hurst, Steve Spence, Kitty Woldow, Cheri Annau and Crystal Arnold. An Honorable Mention went to four-year-old Aletha Brooks.

After a beautiful speech from Candyce Goldstein, Lyndell Netherton presented Dean with a very unique gift. "On this special day, now directors aren't the only ones who can walk all over you. It's a great pleasure to see you get the recognition you so richly deserve. I wanted to get you something the entire universe would see, so I got you a star."

Ms. Netherton bestowed Stockwell's name on a "real" star from the International Star Registry. It floored the Guest of Honor. Next, Christina Mavroudis read a special letter from Stockwell's co-star, Scott Bakula.

"Dear Happy: Sorry I couldn't be at the luncheon but you more than anyone understand family commitments. I remember the first time I heard your name associated with the project

Quantum Leap. I was then, as I am still today, in shock that you would be considering this unknown quantity with this unknown actor. I'm still pinching myself. What you have brought - and wrought - to this huge, 3 1/2 year old effort is immeasurable. Your passion for the work, your wacky sense of humor, and your love of humanity have made this leap a highlight of my comparably short professional life. I'm still trying to figure out how, out of all of our journeys, the one time we switched places, you get the girl and get laid! I only hope someday Don will leap me home at the same time you're there so that I can give you a real hug in person. I feel privileged to be a part of your special day, and I feel privileged to start every workday with a guy who enters the makeup trailer and announces 'Good mornin', everybody. The fun starts now!' Your leaping buddy, the Hunk-in-a-Dress, the -Prime-Time-Slime, Dr. Sam Beckett!"



Actor/Director Dennis Hopper flew all the way from Taiwan to celebrate his friend Dean's moment in the sun. His flight over was made most enjoyable by his choice of in-flight reading material!

After several moments for the audience to compose themselves, Stockwell was presented with a marvelous music video compilation of his career by Jill Richards, Miriam Ferziger and many other *Committee* members. He was absolutely thrilled.

Though Stockwell had to leave then, the fans and many guest celebrities continued with lunch and more videos. By 4:00 pm, almost everyone had said their good-byes until the morrow. The ending to a beautiful day was a message left at the *Committee's* room by some of the *Quantum Leap* crew - Tony Bowers and Mike Besch. In two words, they told the whole story. "Classy. Perfect." An apt description of the event which brought Dean Stockwell his honored and deserved spot on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Christina Mavroudis

FIRST QUANTUM LEAP CONVENTION A LEAPIN' GOOD TIME!

Even though I arrived at the Universal Hilton in Universal City, California three hours early on Sunday morning March 1, 1992, it was not quite early enough. Two lines were already forming around the hallway. Folks in *Quantum Leap* T-shirts talked with people they didn't even know, bound by the simple tie of *Leap* appreciation. A contingent from Australia discussed the last episodes with newly made friends, and others reminisced about the Star Ceremony the day before. The din drew as dealers began to arrive and set up their wares. After talking with those Innovation guys for months, I finally caught sight of their posters being displayed and dashed over to introduce myself.

"You look younger than I imagined," I blurted out to *QUANTUM LEAP* editor George Broderick, as we shook hands. George, not knowing how to take that, I had to explain that all the comic-types I knew were either teenagers or older men from the "golden years." Nice guy that he is, George introduced me to cover artist Winston Taylor and then let me look over their latest addition — a *QUANTUM LEAP* portfolio of cover art. As I drooled over each pic, like kids we chatted about the excitement of the day. So many surprises were in store, and none of us wanted to miss a second.

When the doors finally opened, fans were greeted to a spectacular setting. The entire stage was constructed by the *Leap* crew to look like Project Quantum Leap with entrances labeled "Accelerator" and "Imaging Chamber," a gorgeous sign proclaiming the event, and center stage, a fully-functional Ziggy. Clutching their one-page program and autographed photo of Scott Bakula and Dean Stockwell, Leapers staked out their seats, then went out to investigate the rest of the delights. Just outside the entrance, an editing machine was in use with *Leap* crew working on an episode. I found Harriet Margulies (Creator Don Bellisario's secretary) and Producer/Writer Chris Ruppenthal and we headed upstairs to check out the props,



The writer's panel (led by Co-executive Producer, Deborah Pratt, seated in the lotus position) was lively and informative.

scripts, and schematics on display in the *Quantum Leap* Museum. It was a thrill to see items like the hand-link (dubbed "Ziggy Under Glass") close-up. Soon it was time to head back to the main auditorium.

Deborah Pratt, Co-Executive Producer/Writer and Actress, opened the First Annual *Quantum Leap* Convention with words of thanks to *Quantum Leap* fans. "You're the ones that have kept *Quantum Leap* going. Please know that our work is a reflection of your support. Two years ago, when we first started to realize what we had here, we got very excited. I think it's very rare a show has the opportunity to give back to its fans." Chris Ruppenthal concurred, "I think this is an exceptional event because, unlike *Star Trek*, we didn't have to die first to get a convention! So I've gotta tell you that it's really exciting to be recognized in your own time while you're alive and still working."



Special Effects magic and technique was discussed in front of the life-size, fully-functional "Ziggy" set.

The first panel on Special Effects, hosted by Roger Corney, Denny Kelly and Eric Kuehnappel, treated us to a behind-the-scenes look at how leap effects are created. Major "oohs" went to a fast clip of Sam metamorphosized into Al. Little did we know that how prophetic this way — in the final season episode Sam really did leap into Al!

After a Leapers Trivia Competition, a forum on the evolution of an episode was hosted by Pratt, Director Joe Napolitano, Ruppenthal (who, according to Napolitano, has been dubbed "Ruppenboogie" by the cast and crew after writing a Halloween episode bearing the same inflection), Producer/Writer Tommy Thompson, Technical Advisor/Actor Rich Whiteside, Writer Beverly Bridges, and Set Designer Cameron Birnie. When each were asked to tell of a favorite part cut from the final episode, to the crowd's mirth, Birnie deadpanned, "I've had many sets cut." He continued to

explain that, while beautiful sets may be created, much is lost with just a small piece shown around the actor's head. "I guess that's why actors get their credits up front."

Most of the crowd would agree, however, that it was Mr. Thompson who stole the show on that panel. Some of his patter included the different way he does research for episodes compared to other writers. "Paul Brown, Producer/Writer/ Twin Brother to MTV's Julie Brown, flies to other countries to research things. He literally flew to Washington at his own expense for the chimp episode. I wrote one about a wrestler and all I did was put a picture of a wrestler on my wall as I was writing and I would look at it occasionally. Paul would come in and go, 'This is your research?'"



A complimentary breakfast was presented! Wait...wait! Shown is a prop used in the filming of the QL episode "Blind Faith". The Quantum Leap museum hosted many such props from the series' first three seasons run.

When questioned whether Bakula ever said "no" to something they wrote, Thompson told of how Bakula gave him a stern warning. "During the beauty pageant show I walked out and saw Scott in that bathing suit with the high heels. He said, 'I don't know where or when, but I'll get you for this.'" Since Thompson's still around, we surmise that, to date, Bakula has not carried out his threat.

In answer to another question on how strict the Universal Legal Dept. is about submitting scripts and ideas, Thompson told a story about how one eager writer tried to circumvent the rules. "I got a balloon-o-gram one day in my office. It was this beautiful thing that said 'Oh, Boy! It's a Boy! Congratulations!' I said, 'My wife isn't pregnant; this can't be for me.'" But it was the right address and had this gift attached to it. So I opened it and it was a script about Sam being pregnant. Deborah had already written the episode. Things like that go on fire when I touch it. So I threw it on the floor and yelled for somebody to come in and take it away, because if they found out that I had read that script, as a producer, we're dead. It's a real tough situation."

On a lighter note, Thompson also told of how an episode was supposed to end. "In the original draft of 'Future Boy,' I killed Captain Galaxy. He

died of a heart attack." When the audience boo'd, Thompson quickly finished, "But right before he died, he saw Sam as who he really was and knew that time travel was possible. So he went out on kind of an up note."

After a costume contest featuring audience participants, fans were treated to the real thing by costume designer, Jean-Pierre Dorleac. It was an incredible hour of music, costumes and even actors who recreated their roles. Among them, Liz Torres, whose episode "What A Wonderful Leap" had yet to air, brought the house down with her rendition of the Charleston; the band from "Glitter Rock" rocked the place apart; Rita Taggart from "Love For Sale" and Marjorie Manahan of "One Stroke Over The Line" were convincingly seductive; a dapper Milan Nicksic gave us a controlled mirror image of the butler in "A Little Miracle"; Tammy Townsend and T'Keyah Keymah of "A Song For The Soul," dressed in hot pink, danced a la Supremes; and Richard Herd, a.k.a. Captain Galaxy, performed secret hand maneuvers with a "Sam" stand-in. It was this same model who gave us the highlight of the show when he appeared in the Carman Miranda outfit, complete with fruit hat, from "Miss Deep South." It must have tried this poor man's professionalism, as he was slightly pink from either heat or embarrassment. All the models were fabulous, including the "AI" model who must have been versed on the amorous personality of his character - his eyes rarely left his voluptuous partners.



Fans waited all day for the appearances of the three men they most wanted to see, and they weren't disappointed! The star attractions of the day (from left to right): Dean (AI), Stockwell, Donald Bellisario, and Scott (Sam Beckett) Bakula joke with their legion of fans.

Still trying to come down after the enthusiasm of the spectacular fashion show, items from *Quantum Leap* were auctioned off with monies going to special charities. One of the items, a stringless prop guitar from the episode "Glitter Rock," went home with its writer Chris Ruppenthal.

Two more panels followed. One, hosted by *Quantum Leap* fans, gave suggestions on how to get more involved with the show like writing to NBC to save, change, or thank. I was thrilled to be asked to join this panel -- then quickly became nerve-wracked when I looked out into the audience. It seemed to stretch on for blocks! Realizing we all loved the same show gave me a bond to hold on to and I quickly became comfortable with not only the mike, but the audience and fellow participants Darlene Lewis, Kitty Woldow, Karen Funk-Blocher, and Barbara Story.

Another panel had the hilarity of *Quantum Leap* Guest Stars. Dennis "Gooshie" Wolfberg told



Scott, Don, and Dean pose for a series of publicity photos for the media.



Fans gather around the Innovation booth as C. Winston Taylor waxes poetic about his work on the *Quantum Leap* comic book series' covers.



From left: Managing Editor, David Campiti, talks to fans while QL Editor/Writer, George Broderick and Artist, C. Winston Taylor sign books for fans.

us, when his wife questioned "Why can't you look more like Scott Bakula?", he offered Bakula a donut.

I missed this last panel when I was pulled over by a USA cable director who was interviewing people for a *Leap* documentary to air this summer when *Quantum Leap* moves into syndication on their network. And I thought appearing in front of over a thousand people was scary! Imagine my nerves when they asked me to name my favorite episode knowing this would be transmitted to millions!

Finally, it was time. The lights dimmed as a video montage briefly covered the illustrious career of Donald P. Bellisario. Applause when the *Magnum, P.I.* theme played was only eclipsed when Mike Post's now familiar *Quantum Leap* theme took over. Within moments Bellisario himself was on stage with sincere words for the fans, "I just want to thank you all for the past four years. You're the people who kept us on the air. They were gonna cancel us at the end of the first year, but you've kept us there for four seasons and now it looks like we're going on to the fifth." A few minutes more brought a standing ovation as Dean Stockwell and Scott Bakula joined him. From the audience, Brad Silverman who portrayed the title character in "Jimmy", leaped onto the stage. Caught up in the moment, he hugged Bakula and later spoke in grateful appreciation for all the kindness the *Leap* people showed him. Silverman's sentiments were echoed by virtually all guest stars.

Some of the highlights of the Q&A period included a question from *Quantum Leap* fan Joyce Hatcher who, like an Olympic Torch Bearer, raced from one end of the auditorium to the other with the microphone so questions could be heard by everyone. "Dean, I know how hard it is to rap. How hard was it for you?" Bakula laughed as Stockwell explained his particular problem with the rap song he had to do for last year's season finale, "Shock Theatre."

"It wasn't easy. I happen to be blessed with a

certain kind of memory configuration and it works very well for me in the business I'm in. I can remember dialogue like big long speeches, whole plays, very quickly. So can Scott. But when I was doing that song, I was supposed to listen to the music in my ear. We did eight takes, because I kept forgetting the alphabet!"

Other questions were about a *Quantum Leap* movie ("they" are having meetings about it), a last episode (Bellisario: "There will be no last episode"), razzing between the two actors (Stockwell: "I coined the phrase 'hunk in a dress'"), and Bakula getting back at Stockwell for playing a practical joke on him (Bakula: "I wanted to steal his star yesterday."). Everyone joined together in singing "Happy Birthday" to Stockwell, congratulated Bellisario on getting nominated by the Writer's Guild, and Bakula for winning a Golden Globe. Someone also had the gumption to ask Bakula to remove his jacket to appease the female populace.

However, two moments are especially worth retelling. A man, with his very pregnant wife next to him, had a special request. "We're here against doctor's orders. We're having a baby any minute." After a gasp from the audience, in slight panic, Bakula had to remind him, "I'm not a real doctor." The young man continued, "Since this is our first child, and she's nine months pregnant, could you rub her tummy for luck?" With their wish granted, the two promptly left, hopefully to the nearest hospital to have a baby Leaper.

One woman had words of gratitude for the

far reaching hand of the show's influence. "I wanted to thank you guys very much for making the show, especially for my Special Education classes. We really got into when he leaped into that young man, Jimmy. When you did that episode, we had a lot of discussions on that. The way you handled it was beautiful. Your episodes have taught my kids so much. Thank you." From the audience, Pratt put it in perspective. "I think that in a way, we do change history. From the letters that we've gotten from people, just like this woman was saying, to teach and share. Many people have gotten in touch with things from the program that we've been able to put on. So, through Don's creation of this show, and Scott and Dean's performance of it, I think we've had the opportunity to change history for people. And I'm proud to say that I hope we keep doing it." Her views certainly reflected everyone's own in the auditorium that day. Fortunately, plans for another convention in Orlando, Florida next year, and a fifth season renewal should keep the *Quantum Leap* vision alive.

Leaving the auditorium was difficult. Many jumped the stage to have their photo taken with Ziggy, some made last minute purchases of Leap mementos, and others gathered to exchange phone numbers and hugs. You can bet next year's convention will be on my agenda - a Leaper's dream...continues.

Christina Mavroulis
June, 1992



Leapin' into comics! QL Co-Executive Producers, Deborah Pratt (center) visits with the Innovation guys at their booth. From left: Steven Dorfman, Writer; David Campiti, Managing Editor; George Broderick, Editor/Writer; and C. Winston Taylor, Cover Artist.

PHOTO GALLERY FROM LEAP WEEKEND



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2.



3.



4.



5.

RANDOMLY SELECTED FOR YOUR VIEWING PLEASURE:

- 1) Dean Stockwell's Mom and brother, Guy.
- 2) Scott Bakula and the future Edward Sinjin, Roddy MacDowell.
- 3) A proud Dean Stockwell, his star, and his friends and fans.
- 4) A friendly hug from Dennis Hopper.
- 5) Scott, Dean, and Johnny Grant (with Christina Mavroudis).

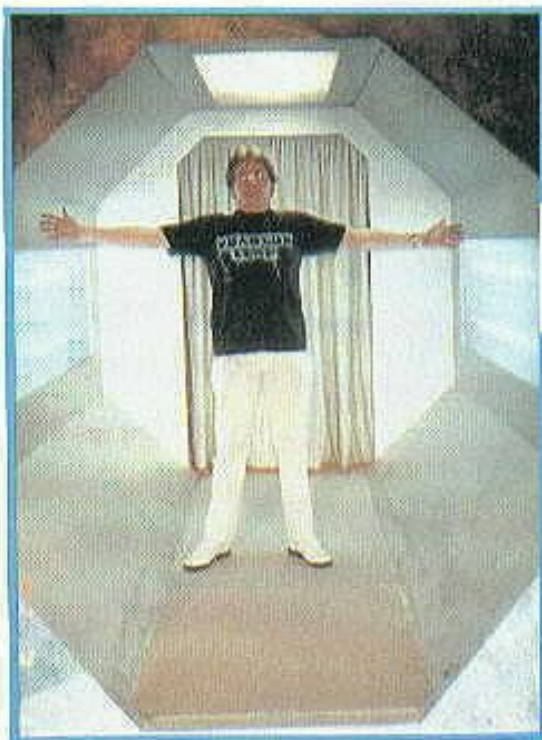
A QUANTUM LEAP

FABLE.

Theorizing that one could produce a high-quality comic-book based on an award-winning TV show, **Editor George Broderick** led an elite group of writers and artists to Wheeling to work on the project called **QUANTUM LEAP**.



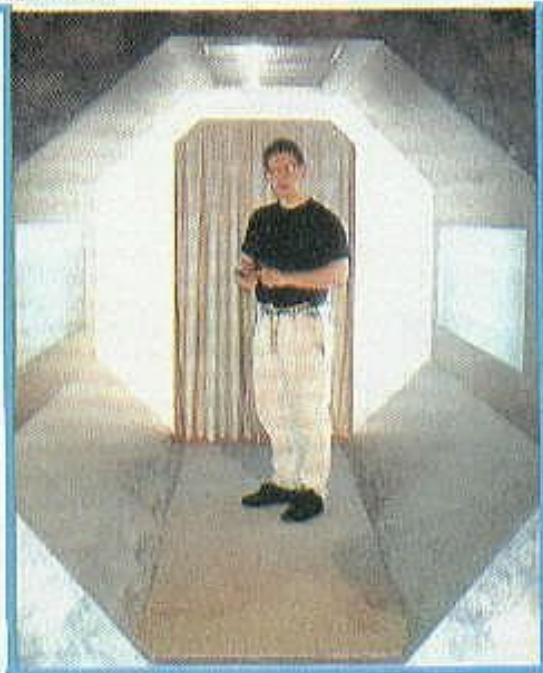
Pressured to prove his theories or lose gainful employment, Editor Broderick stepped into the Quantum Leap Accelerator... and *vanished!*



He awoke to find himself in the publishing world, suffering from job-stress burnout and facing licensing hassles that were *not* his own.



His only guide on this journey is **David**, a comics professional from his own time, who appears in the form of a **Managing Editor** that only George can share office space and hotel rooms with.

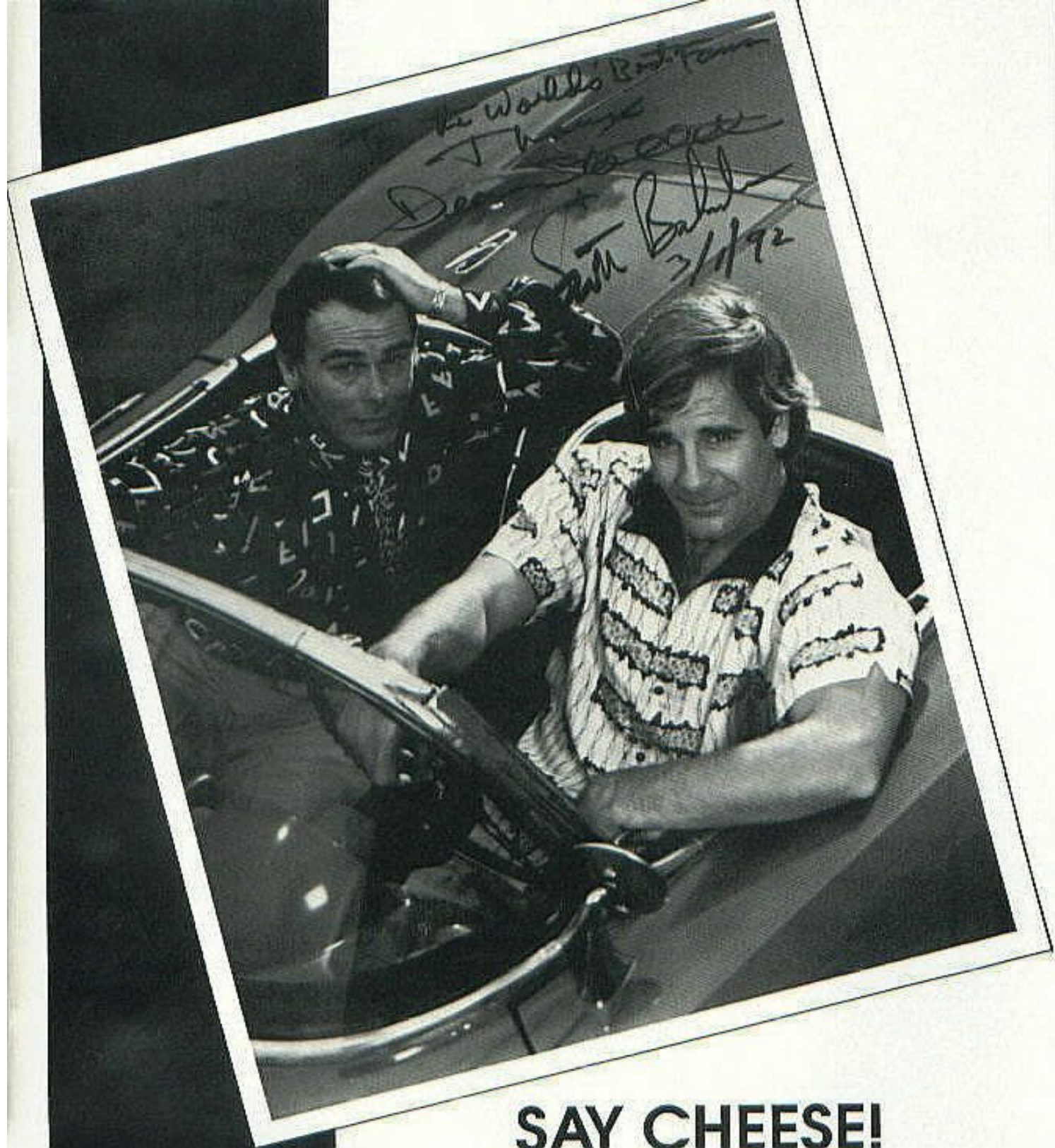


And so, Editor Broderick finds himself leaping from issue to issue, striving to put together a dynamite series, within deadline, and hoping each time that his *next* leap... will win an **Eisner Award!**



The Will
Eisner
Comic
Industry
Awards





SAY CHEESE!

FANS ATTENDING THE FIRST
QUANTUM LEAP CONVENTION WERE
TREATED TO AN 8 X 10 GLOSSY
SIGNED BY BOTH SCOTT BAKULA AND
DEAN STOCKWELL (REPRODUCED
HERE FOR ALL OF YOU WHO
COULDN'T ATTEND).