

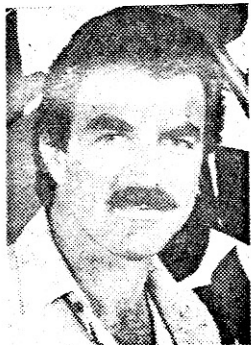
Coast to Coast

Excerpt By MARILYN BECK

'Magnum' to Die: Show to Live On

Thomas Magnum dies next week. That's the word from **Tom Selleck**, who isn't saying how the hero will meet his demise in the season finale of "Magnum, P.I." He's also not saying how Magnum will rise from the dead in the fall. However, he promises, "We won't rip off the audience and write off the seventh season as a dream."

Selleck notes that CBS brass ^(TLC) "weren't too thrilled" when they learned about the story line for next Wednesday's show, but "the script was written when I thought I wouldn't be doing another season of 'Magnum.' When the network complained, I said, 'Look, there's no time to write another script—this is it.'"



Tom Selleck

The way it is, Selleck's doing post-

production on the segment in Toronto—between rehearsals for "Three Men and a Baby" (a Touchstone movie assignment he accepted when he thought he would not return to "Magnum").

Selleck, who served as "Magnum" producer during its rebirth of popularity this past year, has agreed to fill that post again, but only after assurance from Universal that "I'll get more help. I can't continue to push myself so hard. I would work nights on organizational work for three or four hours—after 13-to-14-hour shooting days. I am exhausted, really worn down."

He adds, "The movie wraps the end of June, I'll work with the 'Magnum' writers until the beginning of August when another season of the series starts. This rehearsal period for the film is the closest thing I'm getting to a vacation."

That "vacation" ends Monday—when shooting on "Three Men and a Baby" starts.