

(Meyr)

Magnum, P.I. (TCL)

Having signed already for the 1987-88 season, Tom Selleck is certainly having what amounts to the last laugh. All but consigned to the tv series graveyard a year or so back, Selleck's "Magnum, P.I.," a thoroughly simple-minded show featuring some very endearing leads, has roared back to become a pretty solid fixture this season.

And, as the song says, "That's What Friends Are For." For example, on Feb. 25, when Frank Sinatra made an appearance as a retired New York detective tracking down the killers of a little girl a year or so earlier. That rated the cover of TV Guide for S&S, which couldn't hurt.

FACE 102
The episode itself is fairly predictable, as one finds the killers had raped and slaughtered the detective's granddaughter. In bringing them to justice, Sinatra plays an aging Tony Rome, his character in a couple of feature films of the '60s, and makes it work at least as well as he did then. Which is fine.

This show will never rate a Pulitzer, but it's usually a lot of fun. And most viewers don't really ask for a lot more.—*Meyr.*

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