

TIME OUT

'Gilligan' sets sail again



Gilligan (Grant Rosen) finds it difficult to resist The Movie Star — Ginger Grant (Shea Alexander).

By Mark Wyckoff
Time Out editor

Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale, a tale of a ... *social microcosm?!?* Believe it or not, "Gilligan's Island" wasn't merely a goofy tale of a "fateful trip" that stranded seven folks on an uncharted desert isle. No, the classic '60s sitcom had far more serious intentions.

"I thought of the show as a social microcosm with a definite philosophical base," said Sherwood Schwartz, the 84-year-old creator of both "Gilligan" and "The Brady Bunch." "I wanted to take the most unlikely kind of people — the kind of people who would never choose to interact — and force them to coexist. I used the device of an island in order to prove that, if they're alone and have to depend on each other, they will."

GETTING THERE

"GILLIGAN'S ISLAND: THE MUSICAL"

The castaways are still stuck on the island — only this time they're singing. The musical, featuring Lee Meriwether as Mrs. Howell, runs Aug. 8-26 at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, 2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks. Shows at 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Fridays, 2:30 and 8:30 Saturdays and 2:30 and 7:30 Sundays. Tickets, \$17.50-\$25.50, available through Ticketmaster, 583-8700. Call 449-ARTS for more information.

THE PROFESSOR AND MARY ANN

Why do guys prefer Mary Ann over Ginger? Dawn Wells, who played the Kansas woman in CBS' "Gilligan's Island," gives the reason in Sunday's TV Star. And later this month in TV Star, Wells and Russell Johnson, who played the Professor, talk more about "Gilligan's Island" and a behind-the-scenes movie airing this November on CBS.

Depend on each other they did, through four seasons on CBS, four two-hour TV movies, two animated series and a never-ending stream of syndicated reruns. And

beginning next week in Thousand Oaks, Gilligan and his pals will set sail yet again in "Gilligan's Island: The Musical"

Please see 'GILLIGAN' on Page 13