



## FREEZE FRAMES

Season one of "Arrested Development" on DVD (season two comes out Oct. 11) is full of rewards for the patient viewer armed with a remote control and knowledge of the show. There are tons of "did you notice" moments in every episode (check out [www.the-op.com](http://www.the-op.com) for just about all of them), but here are several things to look for in season one.

### PILOT EPISODE

- » Look for the guy on the gay protesters boat holding the "Freedom" sign. He reappears in several episodes later in the season.
- » After George Sr. fails to name him head of the company, Michael interviews with rival housing company Sitwell, which features prominently in season two but is never mentioned again in season one.

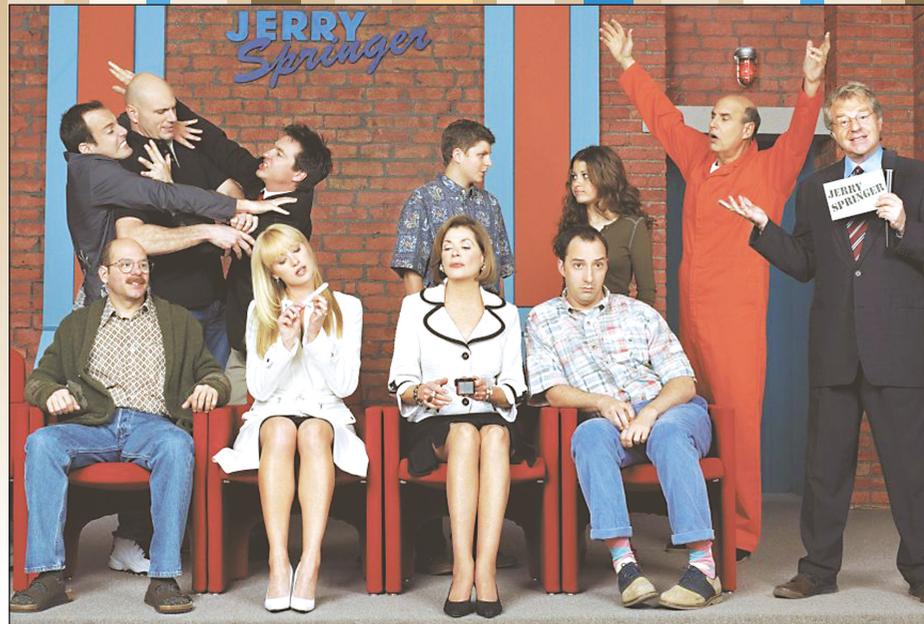
### "KEY DECISIONS"

- » Nature activist Johnny Bark is played by Clint Howard, a B-movie actor who appeared in "Rock and Roll High School" and "Seinfeld" and is the brother of AD producer and narrator Ron Howard.

### "VISITING OURS"

- » Freeze and zoom in on the newspaper article with the headline "Warden Decries: Not So Great Escape" and you can read part of a nearby story about a man with the last name of Bluth who murdered his wife in a "rage killing" after she told him she wanted a divorce. It's never been revealed how Michael's wife died - could this be the answer? It seems a little grisly for AD, but it's a strange thing to throw in on a show where nothing is by accident.
- » Bob Odenkirk, David "Tobias Funke" Cross' partner in the hilarious HBO sketch program "Mr. Show," plays Dr. Gunty, the therapist who counsels Tobias and Lindsay. Pay special attention to their David Schwimmer/Lisa Kudrow conversation.

—GREG GLASGOW, FOR DIRT



## THERE'S MORE...

If you're obsessed with "Arrested Development," check out [boulderdirt.com](http://boulderdirt.com) for more freeze-frame moments from the first season.



ing Liza Minnelli?

**TH:** You hear things. I remember during the first season I heard that my hand was going to be eaten off by a killer seal. Then I heard a few rumors about Liza Minnelli.

**d:** How was working with Minnelli?

**TH:** She was so cool; it was my first year on the show, and I was pretty dumbfounded.

**d:** What's it like to kiss Liza Minnelli?

**TH:** It's great.

**d:** I love that Buster thinks that he's rebelling by dating a next-door neighbor with the same name as Lucille, his mother. (Minnelli's character is named "Lucille 2").

Do you have anything in common with this character?

**TH:** I think the only thing we have in common is that we both have allergies.

**d:** Did you think the show would be as much of a critical success as it is?

**TH:** Well, keep in mind this was my first show. I would have done anything. I wasn't too choosy. I did read it and was like, "Wow, this whole show is really thinking outside the box."

**d:** The show gets a lot of credit for the style in which it's shot — which seems almost reality television-esque.

**TH:** In the breakdown of the audition, Ron Howard said this would be shot guerrilla-style — it's something that hadn't been done before. Jason Bateman describes it as " 'The Royal Tennenbaums' if it were shot like 'Cops.' "

**d:** The show is still gaining viewers — do you think it will find a more mainstream audience?

**TH:** I think one of the biggest things we have going for us is the DVD sales. It takes people time to get into the story — you've gotta watch two or three shows in succession to understand the background.

**d:** Do you think the move from Sunday nights to Monday nights is a good one?

**TH:** Monday nights will help. That Sunday night lineup was not easy. I think trying a different night means we'll get a new audience.

**d:** Do you feel like you have the support of Fox?

**TH:** I think Fox really does believe in the show. It's a risk, and they've really been behind it. We also have Imagine behind us and Twentieth Century behind us. Also, the press and the critics really kept us alive when the ratings weren't very good.

**d:** Is it true that Charlize Theron is joining the cast this season?

**TH:** She's doing five episodes. She's a fan of the show and agreed to do it. That's what's so great about being a part of it, the writing is so solid that talent is really drawn to it. Henry Winkler was fantastic, and Julia Louis-Dreyfus was a really great guest.

**d:** The inside jokes that call to previous episodes and foreshadow are incredible. How do you guys manage such a great non-linear plot?

**TH:** Everyone is on the same page and has that same vision. We'll be in a scene and I'll look at the refrigerator and there will be a Post-It note that's a call back to a previous episode. And those aren't the writers planting the joke, those are the props people.

**d:** Give us a teaser as to what will happen to you in the next season.

**TH:** I still don't have a hand. I think something crazy might be happening with that.

**d:** According to IMDB you're doing a movie called "RV" with Robin Williams and "Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector" with Will Ferrell. Tell me about those films.

**TH:** Yeah, I have a small role in "RV," and Will

Arnett plays my boss. It's being directed by Marc Forster, who did "Finding Neverland." In "Larry the Cable Guy," I'm playing a handicapped guy. I think I'll always play different variations of a sidekick or quirky best friend.

**d:** Do you want to kick that role sometime?

**TH:** Hopefully one day I'll be more serious. I don't know if I'll ever be a leading man, but I'd love to do work in a thriller or drama.

**d:** You started a Christian group called The Haven in New York — tell us more about that.

**TH:** It was an artist fellowship that was really faith-based. A lot of times artists coming from the church don't feel supported by the church. It encouraged artists whose faith is really important to them to continue being artists.

**d:** That's great — are you doing anything like that in LA?

**TH:** My wife and I just try to be careful — in this town where you have to promote yourself all the time, we try to remember to get your eyes off yourself sometimes. Actually, this Saturday the whole cast is doing Habitat for Humanity.

**d:** So you're doing "Jimmy Kimmel" tonight — is it tough doing talk shows?

**TH:** I get kind of nervous doing talk shows. Hopefully I don't make a complete ass of myself; it's intimidating. But my wife is coming and doing my makeup, and I think it'll be fun. I think every actor deals with this. It's fine being a character, but being yourself is very nerve-wracking and vulnerable.

**d:** What am I not asking that you want to tell people?

**TH:** My wife's name is Martel, and she's the best. And we're four months pregnant.

