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U.S. celebrates Fourth with $77.6 million 'War'

International skirmishes bring in $102 [illegible] See page 3.

By [illegible]son

[illegible] big summer tent- [illegible] the Worlds," star- [illegible]se and directed by [illegible]rg, vaporized an [illegible] million during [illegible]rth of July holi- [illegible] roughly $113.3 [illegible]nvasion started [illegible] 908 theaters. [illegible] international [illegible]ough Sunday [illegible] for the sci-fi [illegible] 8 million.

[illegible]h Dream- [illegible]r the most [illegible]ion of the [illegible] proved to [illegible]t for the [illegible]hind the "Spider- [illegible]l-largest opening for Spielberg as well, after the $90.2 million racked up by Universal's "The Lost World: Jurassic Park" during the fo[illegible] Memorial Day week[illegible]

But for C[illegible] the o[illegible] best, respecti[illegible] $70.8 [illegible] passing the [illegible]nt's "Mis- [illegible]ned dur- [illegible]orial Day

See BOXOFFICE on page 53

Boxoffice fireworks

The Fourth of July weekend's biggest openers

Film (Distributor)	Opening	Theaters	Released
1. **Spider-Man 2** (Sony)	$115.8*	4,152	2004
2. **War of the Worlds** (Par)	$77.6*	3,908	2005
3. **Men in Black II** (Sony)	$52.1	3,557	2002
4. **Men in Black** (Sony)	$51.1	3,020	1997
5. **Independence Day** (Fox)	$50.2	2,882	1996

"War of the Worlds"

* Four-day weekend
$ in millions
All weekends are three-day grosses (Friday-Sunday) unless noted.

Ocko signs 2-year deal with Par TV

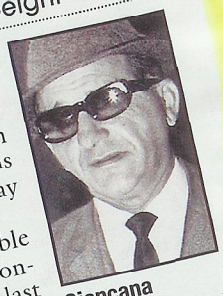
By Nellie Andreeva

Hot off cre- [illegible]ting and exec- [illegible]tive produ[illegible] [illegible]g. [illegible]ait [illegible]bs" [illegible]rogy [illegible]Ocko [illegible] two [illegible]n-fig [illegible]ll dea [illegible]ilot's [illegible]ork T [illegible] "3 L[illegible] [illegible]he Lev[illegible] [illegible]ne of t[illegible] [illegible]ilots this [illegible]on, boast [illegible]McDermo[illegible] [illegible]nd with [illegible]evinson as [illegible]ive produce [illegible]ng partner [illegible]nedical dram [illegible]geons in Los A[illegible] [illegible]f the Cindere[illegible] [illegible]eason, having [illegible]Ocko as a spec sc[illegible]

See OCKO on page 8

TNT mobs up with six-hour Giancana tale

By Kimberly Speight


Giancana

A six-hour limited series about Chicago mob boss Sam Giancana has found its way to TNT.

The cable network confirmed last week that it is in development on the untitled project, from Mark Wolper and

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Giancana

Continued from page 1—

Warner Bros. Television, that tells the story behind the powerful mob leader and his role in high-level politics and Hollywood as well as his struggle to raise a family at the same time.

As the top syndicate boss in Chicago in the 1950s and '60s, Giancana was known for his ties to John F. Kennedy — he's reputed to have played a key role in helping Kennedy take the White House in 1960 — and his friendships with celebrities like Frank Sinatra.

After Giancana's wife died as a result of a rheumatic heart, he was left to raise three daughters while carrying out his role as a mob leader. Giancana died in 1975.

Wolper — who is president of the Wolper Organization, which [illegible]ed at Warners — revealed last year that he had optioned rights to the life story of Giancana and his family with plans to develop a six-hour miniseries for Warners and shop it to various networks (HR 7/29).

Wolper is executive producing the project. Ron Samuels also is on board as co-executive producer, while Dimitri Logothetis and Nick Celozzi are writing and co-executive producing. Warners is the co-producer.

The rights were optioned from Logothetis and Celozzi, who had acquired them from Giancana's daughter Francine, who is Celozzi's cousin.

Multiple Emmy nominee Wolper's credits as executive producer include CBS' upcoming movie "Just Like the Ones," starring Mary Tyler Moore and Jennifer Esposito, as well as the miniseries "Salem's Lot" and Showtime series "Penn & Bullshit!"

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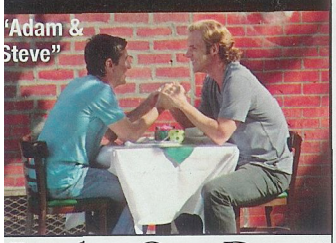
"Adam & Steve"

In the Out Door

Gay audiences are demonstrating that it's not just serious art house fare that will drive them to theaters.

Todd Longwell reports.

See page 18.