

they're sorry

Seventeen

August 1994

U.S. \$2.50 Can. \$2.75

massive fashion issue

hundreds of ideas
to get you going

quiz: are you a good flirt?

sexy hair

curly *or* straight

“I hate
my sister!”

plus: Brendan Fraser,
Liv Tyler, Evan Dando,
Ace of Base

#BXBDGDT***** 5-DIGIT 1711D
#BCK33D72D92 D#644524 JJ
OCT 94
RENEE BUCK VDD5
33D7 N 2ND ST #C7D8
HARRISBURG PA 1711D-1402

[illegible]

schoolgirl cool

17
Questions


brendan fraser

Don't let *Encino Man* fool you.
Brendan Fraser

is no airhead.

Sure, he's adorable
and fun. But
he's also smart
and serious.

Let's just call
him the thinking
girl's hunk.

The first time I meet Brendan Fraser he starts quoting Shakespeare and telling me about some Rembrandt exhibit he's just seen. Hasn't anyone told him that school's out for summer? Where's the wacky guy from *Encino Man*? Luckily, the second time I meet him, Brendan has lightened up considerably. Actually, the second time I meet him, it's eight in the morning, and the 26-year-old superbrain is just too groggy to think. He's even a little goofy, which in his case is pretty darn charming. Even better, the slightly disheveled megababe with bed-

room eyes is serving me breakfast in his Chicago hotel room. So what's on the menu at chez Fraser? Seventeen appetizing topics.

1 Besides it being eight in the morning, why are you so tired?

I flew into Chicago late last night and had about six hours of sleep. I usually need eight or so to get going, so I might give some weird answers today.

2 Great! Can you tell us something really weird we don't already know about you? >

Hmmm. Okay, I'll tell you this. I have this glass heart. It's red and I keep it on my desk. It's from a friend. It was a gift she gave me after we did a movie together.

3 Not to be nosy, but who was the friend?
Perspiring minds want to know.

[After much hesitation] It's Moira Kelly. We did *With Honors* together. We're just friends. She's really fun. She wanted me to go out moshing with her the other night, but I said no. I don't mosh.

4 What did you get her?

It's stupid. When we finished *With Honors*, the production people held a big yard sale for the props. Anything that people wanted, they had to buy. Moira really liked this beautiful genie bottle made out of crystal that was in her character's room, but when she went to buy it, it was gone. She was a very depressed young lady. The next day we're driving together to the airport and I hand her this little wrapped package with the bottle in it.

5 Do you realize that every girl in America just let out a collective sigh? That's so sweet.
Not really. You see, this really isn't that nice a story. I stole the bottle from the set!

6 Bad boy. Do you have a girlfriend?

Right now, no. I did live with some girls once when I was going to school. I figured if I lived with guys it wouldn't work out . . . hair all over the place. Not that girls were much better. They were always taking my sweaters and saying, "We like your sweaters, Brendan, they're so big and comfy."

7 Kind of like you. Okay, tell us about your two movies coming out this month. In *Airheads* you play, what, a moron?

No! The movie is about three guys who have a demo tape and then take over a radio station to get their tape on the airwaves. I play the guy with the biggest rock 'n' roll hair.

8 Did you pattern your hairdo after anyone famous?

I was thinking Whitesnake, although I didn't make any band a role model. My hair is top-secret, generic rock-star hair.

9 Your other movie is *The Scout*. What

is this, a Fraser Film Festival?

[Laughs] Yeah, it's me and Albert Brooks. I'm this wacky baseball player who is brought to the U.S. from Mexico by Brooks, a scout. Along the way, I go see this weird psychiatrist played by Dianne Wiest. You see, my character has to be made sane to play ball. It's a comedy.

10 Do you wear your own hair in *The Scout*?

It's my own hair, but I wear a baseball cap, so you can't see it.

11 What were you like as a teenager? Geek? Popular guy? Jock?

"I get a lot of scripts that are basically, 'Hey dude, let's party!' stuff. I want to send them a letter saying, 'Please don't make this movie. Give America a break!'"

Loner. When I was growing up my father worked for Tourism Canada, so we moved every three or four years. I know what it's like to pick up stakes and start all over again.

12 Where did you live?

I was born in Indiana and lived in Cincinnati, Detroit, Ottawa, Holland, England, Switzerland, and now Los Angeles. So that's Brendan from DNA to present.

13 When did you get into acting?

In London, I was 12 or 13, and I would go off on my own and see plays. The stage just fascinated me. I couldn't get enough.

14 When was the hardest time for you?

Probably high school. I went to boarding school in Canada. It was the Harvard of high schools, a real academic place. I had a C average, except in theater. What was bad about this time period was all the pressure I put on myself. I was unbending from the path I set, which was to become an actor.

15 Your big film break was *Encino Man*. How did you get the part, and wasn't it

gross to be that dirty all the time?

Encino Man was a kick. I really wanted the role and auditioned like a madman. Then I got it and there were some bad points. I had to get to work an hour and a half before everyone else so they could smear this dirt over my entire body, which I had to wear 14 hours a day. I'd be sitting in my trailer totally hyper because I wanted a shower so bad.

16 Besides dirt, what else drives you nuts?

I get sent a lot of scripts that are basically "Hey dude, let's party!" stuff. I send them back and want to put a cover letter on them saying, "No, thank you. Thank you for considering me. And please, please, don't ever make this movie. Give America a break. Use this script for fuel. Burn it!"

17 What's your take on Generation X?

I really hate labels. No one wants to be told their generation is lost and empty. That really stinks. I guess the slogan for the '90s should be "Huh?" We don't know what to call this generation or how the people in it really feel. The next generation will probably be called Generation XYZ. —Cindy Pearlman

