JUST FOR VARIETY

COTT BAKULA WILL "QUANTUM LEAP" into Lee Harvey Osward—on the day before the assassination—in an early "Quantum" seg next season. Don Bellisario encountered Oswald in '55-'56 when both were Marines stationed at Camp Pendleton ... Kenny Rogers stars in a two-hour pilot/one-hour series for NBC in which he'll play a contemporary papa with four sons—a la Lorne Greene of "Bonanza." Ken Kragen, who exec produces with Kelly Junkerman ("The Gambler"), said he was inspired after seeing a story in Daily Variety noting there were no shows like "Bonanza" anymore. Iim Parriott will script and produce for TriStar TV, and the series shoots in Georgia so Rogers can 'copter from his nearby Athens home ... Kenny and wife Marianne were at Paul Newman and team partner Carl Haas' Spago party for Long Beach Grand Prix drivers including their driver, Michael Andretti, and winner Danny Sullivan ... "90210's" Ian Ziering placed third in the celeb division—and was placed outta future competish by his TV pact ... Danny Gans plays Dean Martin in WB-CBS' "Sinatra" five-hour mini. He'll also voice Martin and Sammy Davis duetting! ... On the "Sinatra" set today, Rod Steiger (Sam Giancana) celebrates his 67th birthday and Jay Robinson (Major Bowes) his 62nd. Robinson next guests in Dan Aykroyd's Fox-TV series "C.C.P.D." pilot playing half of a gay couple ... Kelly Preston and John Travolta welcomed their first, son Jett, yesterday in Daytona Beach ... Nancy Reagan accepts a \$260,000 check today from U Studios Hollywood prexy Steve Lew for Reagan's "Just Say No" campaign, collected from the U Hollywood and Florida '91 sales of student-designed calendars ... Elaine Young and husband (No. 7) Jonathan Besdine are divorcing. Elaine, lunching at Kate Mantilini's, admitted, "We're not speaking - but we're faxing to each other" ... A tribute to Sam Kinison is planned for family and close friends by Mitzi Shore at the Comedy Store's Main Room, Sunday (19). A bigscreen will show clips of classic Kinison routines.