Religion is a common theme on eight fall-season network TV shows inspired by the success of CBS's "Touched by an Angel" starring Roma Downey, Della Reese and John Dye. New programs include ABC's "Nothing

Sacred" and "Teen Angel."

Titanic is a huge critical and box-office success. The movie event of the year, this \$200 million picture is the most costly in history. After 45 days in the theaters, Titanic had earned \$308 million.



Star Wars captures a new generation of fans when George Lucas re-releases the film trilogy 20 years after the first film was shown. In Washington, D.C., the National Air and Space Museum mounts a huge exhibition of now-historic Star Wars artifacts.



Michael Flatley's pulsating show "Lord of the Dance" fuels the extraordinary popularity of Irish dance. The show tours 15 cities in the U.S. through October.

In the fall, Fox debuts "Ally McBeal," a comedy/drama starring Calista Flockhart as a young Boston attorney. The show captures a Golden Globe Award in January 1998 for best series/musical or comedy.



flash

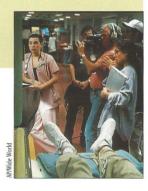


Matt Damon stars as an attorney in The Rainmaker, a movie based on the John Grisham novel. Damon's successes also include the film Good Will Hunting.



The Wonderful World of Disney presents its adaptation of "Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella" on ABC, starring **Brandy as Cinderella and Whitney** Houston as the Fairy Godmother.

Tomorrow Never Dies, starring Pierce Brosnan as 007, is a holiday box-office hit and confirms the enduring popularity of James Bond movies.



The 1997 season premiere episode of "ER" is broadcast live and draws 42.7 million viewers for NBC, including those who watch it on a giant screen in Times Square.



Entertainment