

Spreadin' it Thicke

He's bold,
he's beautiful
and he's
playing an
over-the-top
talk-show host

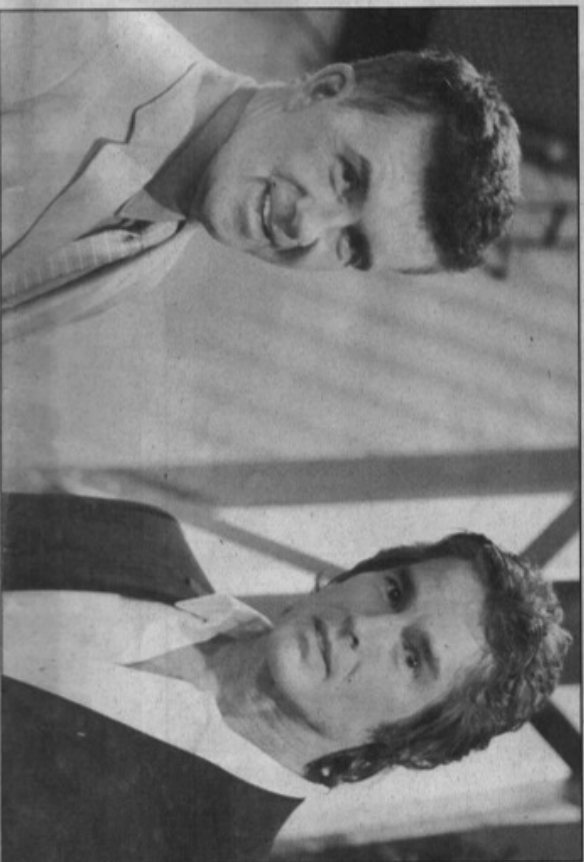
ELAINE LOHING
Special to the Sun

Alan Thicke didn't know his experience as a talk-show host would one day pay off in the world of soaps.

Today and tomorrow, the actor/writer/producer will spoof his former glibest self on the CBS soap *The Bold And The Beautiful*. He plays down and dirty TV interviewer Rich Ginger, who aggressively questions Donna Logan (Jennifer Gareis), Forrester Creations' sexy lead model and new face of the Brooke's Bedroom lingerie line.

"He pushes to make something happen on the show," says Thicke about his character, "and doesn't back off easily. It's fun to play a role that's close to something I've done in the past."

Thicke is referring to his two vastly different talk-show experiences. In the early '80s, he gained great popularity



Alan Thicke poses with soap superstar Ronn Moss, who plays Ridge Forrester on CBS's *The Bold And The Beautiful*.

na about her growing personal relationship with designer Ridge Forrester (Ronn Moss).

"I'm a soap virgin," Thicke says, "and there are hardly any virgins left on the soaps anymore. But I know Ronn

even the morning of. Anybody accustomed to film or series TV is not used to that style. It's guerrilla television."

Thicke's most successful show was the sitcom *Growing Pains* (1985-'92) on which he starred as psychiatrist and all-around good dad, Jason

came from."

Despite their best efforts, Thicke says all parents will face the wrath of their children at some point.

"Even if it's just a moment," he says, "they'll hate you when you're saying no and their hormones are saying

next month."

Fatherhood is different with Carter than with Thicke's grandchildren. "I'm spending the same amount of time with him as I did with the other two, but this time, we're on his agenda instead of mine. I used to drag my