Scientists at the linear accelerator have put their spectacular machine to new use. The device, which had previously been a key component in particle physics experiments, is now on the threshold of revolutionizing the entertainment industry: The geniuses at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory have come up with a way to accelerate the delivery of famous lines from motion pictures. So, for example, “Frankly, my dear, I don’t give a damn” is “my I give damn” when reduced by a factor of 2, i.e., having only every second word appear. If it loses something in clarity, it gains it right back in efficiency.

This could accelerate the pace at which great movies could be enjoyed. SLAC scientists have gone as high as factors of 6, reducing even epic films to sitcom length. Isn’t progress wonderful?

The following are the results of their experiments. Each represents a line from a film reduced by a factor from 2 to 6. Can you identify the actor or actress who delivered each line? To help, I have provided the year of the film and the enumeration of the actor’s name.

Serious puzzlers, there is once again a deeper challenge. Find the quote clued below that comes from a film with a prominent Stanford connection; name the movie and the person. (For the answer, you’ll have to wait until the next issue, unless you solve it yourself. If you do, send your answer to tom859@hotmail.com for a chance to be recognized on a future puzzle page.)

The Critics Say

16-18 ---- You’re ready for your close-up.
13-15 ---- You won the supporting role.
10-12 ---- We have a job for you in the crew.
  7-9 ---- You’d make an outstanding extra.
  4-6 ---- You’ve still got a place in the industry, albeit as an usher.
  0-3 ---- You might be one of those paper bags from Fandango.

Quick Flicks

1. “Maximus of the the loyal true.” 2000 (7,5)
2. “once me liver beans Chianti.” 1991 (7,7)
3. “name Inigo You my prepare die.” 1987 (5,8)
4. “you forgot this this Magnum handgun and head gotta question lucky punk.” 1971 (5,8)
5. “as as and not to this” 1976 (5,5)
6. “you’re seduce you?” 1967 (6,7)
7. “life box never gonna” 1994 (3,5)
8. “know to don’t Steve just your together blow.” 1944 (6,6)
9. “had contender of I was” 1954 (6,6)
10. “dingo my” 1988 (5,6)
11. “soul, small, hanging, Scotch, Sontag’s believe” 1988 (5,7)
12. “I elephant pajamas got pajamas know.” 1930 (7,4)
13. “good noble doesn’t to the three don’t a beans crazy” 1942 (8,6)
14. “turns me says so comes me the ‘why serious?’” 2008 (5,6)
15. “seize, boys, lives.” 1987 (5,8)
16. “I myself luckiest on face the” 1942 (4,6)
17. “lack better good.” 1987 (7,7)
18. “shag shall later?” 1997 (4,5)