

# CON but not forgotten

**“Did I have any feelings about impregnating Xena and becoming her child? No, I didn’t like it,” Leick said mischievously. “It was too quick for me!”**

The end of *Xena: Warrior Princess* may be a sad occasion, but Creation Entertainment gave fans in the US cause to celebrate back in May at a gigantic convention attended by every major star of the show and a number of the behind-the-scenes crew members. Her work in New Zealand done, our set reporter **KATE BARKER** touched down in Pasadena for the experience of a lifetime...

There have been conventions ever since the world was introduced to the Warrior Princess, but Creation’s *Xena* wrap convention at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium in California

over the first weekend of May 2001 was billed to be an event of Herculean proportions.

The convention featured no less than 14 *Xena* actors, as well as behind-the-scenes personnel, including stunt doubles, directors and producers, and was the first ever to feature both Lucy Lawless and Renee O’Connor on stage together.

Official events kicked off on the Friday afternoon with a welcome address from Sharon

Delaney, editor of Creation’s official *Xena* fan club, followed by a video montage of Xena and Gabrielle kicking butt, set appropriately to the music of the Eurythmics’ ‘Sisters Are Doin’ It For Themselves’.

It was then time for the first guest to take to the stage: Robert (Salmoneus) Trebor, who, as expected, was typically comedic. The crowd reacted with cheers when Trebor spoke of his role in the upcoming series *Tropical Storm*. The series is being developed from an ‘uber-novel’ by fanfiction (and *Xena* episode) writer Missy Good, who was also at the convention running a few events of her own.

Delaney soon returned to the stage to introduce the next guest, revealing that, “Even when this actor is not on the screen, you still feel her presence.” The tribute montage was put to the song ‘Maniac’, and the crowd began to go wild even before the video had finished. There was cheering and a standing ovation as Hudson (Callisto) Leick took the stage and, when the roar of the crowd finally died down, she had only to say, “Hi!” for the cheers to begin again.

Leick certainly knew how to play up to the crowd. At one point, she brought a fan named Laura up onto the stage and gave her a hug for her 72nd birthday. When other members of the audience cried out for hugs as well, Hudson smiled in mock innocence, “Oh, is it your birthday too?”

Leick went on to talk about how much fun – and how challenging – it was to portray Xena in Callisto’s body, and that the hardest thing to do was “ride a horse and try to chase Lucy.”

Responding to the question of Callisto’s role in Xena’s pregnancy, Leick showed no fear in adding to the subtext. “Did I have any feelings about impregnating Xena and becoming her child? No, I didn’t



**Left (clockwise from top):** Hudson Leick shows off her little red number, now a proud fans’ possession; Bruce Campbell can’t persuade anyone to buy his attire; and William Gregory Lee and Adrienne Wilkinson smile for the camera.

**Right:** Ted Raimi rather fancies the idea of being a cowboy...