



Stanfield and Tydings came on stage in bowler hats, black tuxedo jackets and not much else.

Above: Hudson Leick tries a sweet, innocent pose.

Below left: Ebonie Smith is stunned by the convention audience.

Below centre: Adrienne Wilkinson is caught on camera during the autograph signings.

Below right: Darien Takle has a whale of a time in the cabaret.

like it," she said mischievously. "It was too quick for me!"

Outrageous acts included a spontaneous auctioning of the red rubber dress she was wearing on stage at the time. "I don't come with it," she said at one point during the bidding. "I don't think you could handle that." The dress eventually sold for \$7,000, with the money to be donated to charity after the convention.

A cheer went up when Leick invited her parents up on stage. She then moved into the audience, throwing around handfuls of Hershey's Kisses, apparently something of a trademark of her convention appearances.

After an hour of wonderful entertainment, Leick was still smiling as she threw out the last of her store of chocolate. "You just love me because I'm feeding you sugar," she teased.

Next up on stage were Second Unit director Paul Grinder and *Xena* stunt double Zoe Bell, who revealed their tricks of the trade and how those high-flying stunts are really done (Grinder and Bell will be revealing all this and more in the next issue of *Xena Magazine*).

Further guests that afternoon were Karl Urban, who revealed some of his favourite moments as Cupid and Caesar, and talked about his recent film *The Price of Milk*, and Bruce (Autolykus) Campbell, a fan favourite who told some typically amusing anecdotes about his time in *Xena* and *Hercules*.

Other smaller events took place in the afternoon, such as fanfiction writers' meetings and group sessions with some of the people running *Xena*-oriented web sites.

Friday evening saw the first of the convention's 'Night Music In Pasadena' cabarets, showcasing the talents of a number of *Xena* actors and hosted by fan

favourite Hudson Leick, who, having auctioned her red rubber dress, came on stage in a dazzling white, sequined number.

The first half of the programme starred Bruce Campbell and Ted (Joxer) Raimi, who showed off their legendary comedic abilities with Raimi as the 'Great Sven Garlic', who hypnotised Campbell. Highlights of the act included Raimi telling a hypnotised Campbell, "You are now a bad actor," to which Campbell predictably replied, "I am now Ted Raimi..."

The second half of the programme presented the singing talents of Ebonie (M'lila) Smith, Adrienne (Eve) Wilkinson and Darien (Cyrene) Takle. The talented ladies performed such classic hits as 'Black Velvet', 'Cabaret', and a *Xena*-style version of the torch song 'Fever'.

Leick made a number of appearances during the programme, working the room just as outrageously as she had earlier in the afternoon, and obsessing hilariously about a pair of handcuffs used in Raimi and Campbell's act. And, by the end of the evening, her latest attire had also been auctioned off - this time for \$1,300.

Saturday's events kicked off at 1.30pm with another set of video montages set to music. The first of these was a salute to *Hercules* put to the song 'Now And Forever', which ended with the parting shot of Hercules and Iolaus walking off into the sunset together. The second montage of the day, set to Bonnie Tyler's 'Holding Out For A Hero', featured the female action heroes Supergirl, Wonder Woman and, of course, *Xena*.

The afternoon included talks from season six guest stars Adrienne (Eve) Wilkinson and William (Virgil) Gregory Lee, as well as the ever-popular Tim (Eli) Omundson, who, amongst other things,

