

May 3, 2003

DAILY RI

# Saturday

**a fair cop**

sey Coulson  
murder in mind

**ying game**

West comes  
m the cold

**w clever  
you?**

Quiz to Test  
Nation



# Life sentence



Pictures: ScopeFeatures.com



Nicole gets a pass  
TIM RAY  
why she  
playing  
girls at  
she de  
Snow

**WHEN Nicole** sashays into a restaurant, confident and back behind her blondish hair, she takes their

She's got a wicked grin on her face. With a vampish ease to see why being cast as the

She was two weeks later. Heather Lincoln in week returns to the her name - the per murderer/drug d Merriman in the Bad Girls.

"I don't know why all these naughty whispers, leaning in as she tucks into rooms. "I'm not li must have a glint i directors take to m adds, with a cackle

For the last series saw Snowball quite up G-Wing in her b ing various inmates new run, the acti weeks later.

The former glaz been beaten bla top-dog Yvonne thought she'd learn

But no, she's s hatching another p this time it's Gove (Claire King) who

Snowball is easi ter most untroubled Footballer's Wives Nicole still has a re psycho alter ego.

"Even though sh to bits," says Nicole, fond of her and I t are fond of the cha If someone on set i I'm like, "Hang on

"I feel like she I'm standing up a weird feeling of yourself in

"Obvious stabbed any drug-fueled uncertain life and h - to get a stuffing a

"I'm prison. think



# She's mad, bad and back inside



**Watchful eye:** Linda Henry with Nicole at a *Bad Girls*' funeral

**Hostage taker:** Nicole with Governor Claire King

She has nothing to lose trying to escape so she's trying."

around the plan involves hidden in the chapel, aren't Betts and more on her last failed bid to get into the outfit, something a bit inconspicuous may be her next attempt.

With a gun at the prison, it's not the wisest move. Snowball doesn't care. She really wants to be with her boyfriend and will do anything to get there.

She's got Ritchie to live with, that's the key for Nicole, 27. "She thinks she and Clyde, destined to be together, and that's why she's so desperate."

With her boyfriend in leafy South London, she's asked for a better life – every episode another Snowball escape attempt, with a giggle. She claps eyes on her, she's looking her best.

The huge scar on her face is beaten up by Yvonne. She's trying any make-up and anything in her hair to make herself look like she's glad to be there. After I was quite worried I'd be thought they might be another prison, rather

nobody really takes the sensible option there, do they?"

Over the top as ever, there are plenty of entertaining storylines to come during the fifth outing of the megahit jailbird drama.

The big question is, who survived and who perished following the blaze that raged through G-wing at the end of the last series?

It's pretty obvious that Shaz is a goner and – as the final credits rolled – The Three Julies, Al, Bukki and Barbara all looked as though they were about to be burnt to cinders.

And there's a shock in store for Jim Fenner (Jack Ellis) during a lads' weekend in Amsterdam. In a seedy lap-dancing club he's very taken with dominatrix Naughty Nikki, until he realises her face is horribly familiar.

Yes, prepare yourself for the return of a heavily-pregnant Shell Dockley (Debra Stephenson).

Plus, later in the series, TV veterans Amanda Barrie (Corrie) and Stephanie Beacham (The Clobys) join the cast as upmarket con-artists. And prison officer Di Grayling (Tracey Wilkinson) gets herself pregnant in what has to be *Bad Girls*' grossest storyline ever.

This one has to be seen to be believed. Meanwhile, Snowball is very much isolated and on her own.

"In a way it was sad for me filming. Because of what she did with the bomb, Snowball is really hated by the other characters and so I had a lot of

No Mates. But from an acting point of view it has been great because she has lots of emotional ups and downs.

In between acting jobs, Nicole has worked as a waitress, sales assistant and leaflet distributor.

After six years of minor roles in the likes of *Time Gentlemen, Please* and Johnny Vaughan's 'Orrible, winning the traffic-stopping part of *Snowball* half-way through the last series was her big TV break. That was quickly followed by a 10-episode stint as the not very nice Dr Heather Lincoln in *Casualty*.

Music is the *Bad Girls* star's other great passion. She spent a year travelling the world as Agnetha in an ABBA tribute band, she would have loved to have been on *Celebrity Fame Academy* and she's involved in the upcoming *Bad Girls* musical.

"I want to concentrate on my singing for a while now," she says. "I've been working on tracks with some friends and I'm hoping to get a single out later this year."

"My voice is more of a Norah Jones or Eva Cassidy type than anything else. If I'm honest, I've always thought I'd rather be a pop star than an actress really. I do feel fulfilled in acting, but there's still a real yearning for me to sing."

Performing has always been Nicole's dream, ever since she appeared in her local church pantomime in Dorset when she was five. She trained at The Guild-

ford School of Drama in Surrey, but was kicked out for skipping classes.

Maybe she has really got a Snowball-style naughty streak inside her after all.

She says: "My mum found my old school report the other day and the headmistress had written on it: 'Nicole is an intelligent girl, but she needs to be kept busy to steer her out of mischief'."

"That says it all really," she laughs.

● *Bad Girls*, ITV, Thursday, 9pm

## Who's w HMP La

### Karen Betts

The G-wing Governor Claire King, is disillusioned with the system. Just to keep her toes, Snowball plans haven't been a just yet.

### Neil Grayling

The ambitious G-wing Governor, played by Gaddas, is keen to keep his sexuality a secret. He's of convenience to a prison officer is far from a bed-



**Behind bars:** Those

### Shell Dockley

The blonde psychopath played by Debra Stephenson pregnant and back in prison after a spell on the run.

### Yvonne Atkins

This hard-litten gangster played by Linda Henry behind bars. Inmates fear her pent.

### Denny Blood

Street kid, played by Denny, is shattered by the death of his partner Shaz. Watch Snowball, she's looking for

### Beverley Tull

This ex-pat con artist Amanda Barrie, has a long prison record and works in t

