



jeff hunter



people



ALMOST four years ago, a handsome fellow with an All-American look, whose name was Henry McKinnies, Jr., took his diploma from Northwestern University. He traveled west to the University of California to study drama, and eventually became Jeff Hunter, movie star. It was only a couple of months ago that he managed to get back to his parents' home near Milwaukee. Lots of wonderful things had happened to Jeff during that long span. Not the least exciting was his marriage to pretty Barbara Rush, who took the sentimental journey with Jeff to meet his folks. "Every time I was ready to go home, I got a new job—and you've got to keep on working in show business," he explained to the family. One assignment kept him in England for three months—his first starring role, in 20th Century-Fox's *Sailor Of The King*. Even though it was reported that some Britons let out hoots of protest when an American was named for the role of the Canadian seaman, Jeff says he got only the finest treatment in London. It must have been his sincere modesty and unvarnished charm that made the deal go so well. At least, those are the qualities that carried Jeff from Milwaukee radio-station chores, a hitch in the Navy, and West Coast little-theater activities to the attention of Fox talent scouts. Studio executives took one long look at his screen test, and Jeff was promptly cast in his first picture, *Fourteen Hours*. He's made nine movies since then, including his latest, *Three Young Texans*. All solid steps up for Jeff, each job proving that he's as talented an actor as he is a heart-throb for countless fans. He's learning to cope with all the adulation bestowed upon him now, but when he first started as an actor, he couldn't take the way people stopped and stared. And then there's Barbara, a coming star in her own right and the mother of Christopher, the Hunters' bouncing baby boy. Yes, Jeff had lots to talk about when he visited his family, more good news than he ever dreamed he'd be able to come up with. The next four years will be even more crowded with happy returns. Jeff's really arrived as a star, his studio has important roles lined up for him, he's madly in love with his wife and there isn't a prouder papa anywhere. That's star billing—no matter how you look at it.

MOVIE PIX