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TESTING GOD: Drawing inspiration from "The Twilight Zone" and the whimsical fiction of Kurt Vonnegut, playwright Rich Orloff has created a philosophical comedy to explain how the planet Earth came to be.

In "The Whole Shebang," premiering at 8 tonight on cable's Arts & Entertainment channel, the supreme be'ng is a graduate student in another dimension, seeking his M.U. (master of the universe) degree.

The production in the "Playwrights Theater" series stars unassuming Mark Linn-Baker from "Perfect Strangers" as the modest idealist who designed heaven and Earth for his final thesis project.

To support the value of his six-day effort, he summons two typical humans (Teri Garr and Martin Mull) as evidence of his grand aesthetic plan.

Orloff uses a panel of three professors to pose nagging questions about the absurd, illogical contradictions surrounding the mysteries of existence. Mull, Garr and Linn-Baker rise to our defense with compassion, pointed humor and indignation.

What grade would you give to our universe?

A&E will repeat "The Whole Shebang" at midnight tonight and 9 a.m. Sunday. Lauren Bacall hosts the program.

'MOB' INSIDERS: Three federal informers tell producers Marc **Levin**, Nicholas Gage and Al **Levin** why they broke their vows of silence to testify against organized-crime figures in "**Mob Stories**."

Premiering at 9 tonight on the **HBO** cable channel, the "America Undercover" documentary contends that mobsters who have made

deals to enter the federal witness-protection program and the evidence they provide have caused "the twilight of the dons" among the surviving Mafia families.

A fourth "wiseguy," Giacomo "Fat Jackie" DiNorscio, says he would rather spend 30 years in prison than "rat" on his mob associates. And "Brother Frank" Minucci says love inspired him to buy his way out of the Gambino family and become a street preacher. Using blunt, vulgar language, Dominick "Big Dom" Lofaro describes his first murder as a "favor." He says: "I killed for nothin' in Korea. Why should it be any different over here? . . .

"Money is power. It will bring you anything you want in life: broads, cars, respect." Lofaro wore a wire for the FBI because he was facing murder and heroin-dealing charges.

Joseph "Joe Dogs" Iannuzzi, a Gambino loan shark and bookmaker, says he wanted revenge against Tommy Agro, a mob enforcer who tried to kill him. And Thomas "Tommy Del" DelGiorno went to the feds to save his life.

HBO will repeat its gruesome "**Mob Stories**" at 5 and 11:30 p.m. Thursday, 8:30 p.m. Monday, 12:30 p.m. March 20 and 11:45 p.m. March 24.

GRAPHIC: In the "America Undercover" documentary "**Mob Stories**," premiering at 9 tonight on **HBO**, a federal informer explains how he got revenge on enforcer Tommy Agro (above, left).

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