

Bacic's appearance in *Earth: Final Conflict* paved the way for his part in *Andromeda*



In early May, Bacic was back on the *Andromeda* set to guest-star in the Season Two story *Home Fires*. This time, he not only played Gaheris Rhade, but also a descendent of his. "They initially wrote this 'other Rhade' to be a little warmer than Gaheris," he says, "but that warmth is just a different Nietzschean way of getting what he wants. What's fascinating is this character seems to have more of a human conscience. He's still very much a Nietzschean, but he might invite you over for tea, sort of feel you out, throw a few things your way and see where you stand. Gaheris would never have that much tact," laughs Bacic. "So even though they're related, their approach to survival and procreation slightly differs. At least I hope that's how it comes across."

Flashbacks

"There's a wonderful flashback Dylan has in this episode involving him and Gaheris Rhade," adds the actor. "In it, we discover that it must have deeply hurt Rhade to have betrayed Dylan. He'd been involved in planning the downfall of the Commonwealth for years. Part of the plan involved him getting closer and closer to Dylan without ever revealing his hand. Rhade saved his life once, and even agreed to be best man at his wedding. He did all this and did it willingly, but with the knowledge that he

would one day probably have to destroy Dylan and all that he held dear. Again, a very Human struggle within a Sci-Fi story."

Prior to *Home Fires*, Bacic travelled to Australia to play the title role in the *BeastMaster* episode *Tao's Brother*. "I've always wanted to do a stylized period piece and *BeastMaster* is very similar because it's a fantasy," notes the actor. "I loved the sets, the costumes and the whole concept of the Xincia civilization. The character [Kim] was great fun to play. I only wish he'd had more time with Tao [Jackson Raine] at the end instead of that quick death. I was supposed to do another two episodes of the series but, sadly, the timing didn't work out. It's a shame as I would have loved to have continued to explore the character."

On first starting out in the business, Bacic had a very definite idea of what success meant to him. Today, that vision has changed. "I don't think I'll ever accomplish everything I want because even when I'm working I'm worried about the next job," he says. "I've got responsibilities and a family to support. I'm much more of a realist now. I've learnt to guard against the intense highs and lows of acting. For me, what's important is to have a sense of balance and feel good about the work I'm doing at the time. That along with my family is what keeps me happy."

Steven Eramo

Bacic recently flew to Australia to play Tao's brother in *BeastMaster*

