As I See It

Poor Script Dulls Emmy Show

By PAT COSTA

It's always a pleasant surprise to discover that an entertainer you've admired in character turns out to be just as admirable being himself.

Such was the case when actor comedian Harvey Korman of the Carol Burnett Show accepted a special Emmy award last Sunday night.

With charm, poise and no little wit he made his acceptance speech and in doing so turned out some of the better material of the evening.

Dialogue written for the emcees and presenters of the 21st Emmy Presentation Show was tasteless, irrelevant and without style.

Merv Griffin and Bill Cosby who shared host honors managed to overcome poor scripts as did presenter Joe Namath.

Sebastian Cabot, Barbara Feldon, Dan Blocker and others did not fare as well with the stirring stuff offered on the cue cards.

One memorable moment was the showing of clips from the news highlights of 1968 and a light interlude was provided by slow motion football set to waltz time music.

As a whole, the show stumbled and faltered throughout, particularly in the second hour which could have been deleted completely.

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The trend toward country music on national television has definitely been established with the appearance of Johnny Cash's weekly show Saturdays on Channel 13.

Cash, a long-time favorite of the Nashville crowd picked up popularity on a wider scale with the release of "Folsom Prison" some years ago. The song has again come to the fore in recent months spotlighting Cash to a national audience once again.

Cash, less commercial and definitely more melancholy than CBS country star Glen Campbell, selected for his first guests folk singer Bob Dylan, Canadian star Joni Mitchell, his wife June Carter of the famous country music Carter family, comedienne Fannie Flagg and composer-entertainer Doug Kershaw.

Kershaw whose vampirish looks seem more suitable for "Dark Shadows" sang "Louisiana Man", a song he wrote and made famous by Bobbie Gentry. His ruffled shirt, brooding facade and haunting melody combined for a rather stunning presentation.

Miss Flagg in a skit about contact lenses was not at her best. The impressionist who does Lady Bird Johnson with such verve can come on strong without resorting to politics as she has demonstrated before. But not on this show.

Cash, himself, dominated the show and did a pleasing job with "Folsom Prison", "Don't Take Your Guns to Town, Son" and teamed up with his wife and Bob Dylan for a couple of duets.

All in all a rather refreshing hour to look forward to for the summer if you're already not up to your ears in variety shows.

'Columbus' Sexually Frank, But . .

"Goodbye, Columbus" has a Motion Picture Association rating of R (under 16 not admitted) and is playing at the Cinema.

Catholic Press Features

New York—Should moralists simply look the other way if a film containing frank sexual scenes does an otherwise exceptional job of attacking materialism?

"Goodbye, Columbus" is a film that breaks new ground in dealing with the acquisitive nature of upper-middle-class America, but it also breaks new ground in sexually explicit treatment for a major motion picture from a major American company, Paramount.

But not only has the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures given 'Goodbye, Columbus" an A-4 rating (unobjectionable for adults, with reservations), and a laudatory review, but some Catholic critics are suggesting that sexual frankness need not always be objectionable.

In "Goodbye, Columbus," an alienated, college-dropout, Jewish boy from the lower-class Bronx falls in love with a Radcliffe student from a well-to-do Jewish family in Westchester County — their affair providing the backdrop for a searing look at the mores and manners of the *newly-rich*.

"In this context," declared critic Moira Walsh of "America" magazine, "its fashionable sexual frankness, which had better be acknowled, has some validity as a natural part of a larger picture and is not merely an exploitation of shock for commercial purposes."

The National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures disagreed with her somewhat, arguing that the "occasions of nudity" and the "needlessly frank" language constituted "a distracting bid for box-office," but while such a film would have earned a "morally objectionable" or "condemned" rating from NCOMP in the not too distant past, the film office nevertheless praised "Goodbye, Columbus" as "a human and humorous film."

"Neil (the boy, played by Richard Benjamin) is the Columbus of the title," decided NCOMP, "discovering the America of status-seeking suburbia, and is just as revolted as Christopher would have been."

The film office also said it is "a more honest look at the generation gap than was 'The Graduate,' which stacked the cards too much in favor of young people. In the present film there is something to be said for and against those on both sides of the gap."

Referring to the sexual affair between the boy and the girl (played by former model Ali MacGraw), the "America" critic commented:

"There is an element of ambivalence and opportunism in the bittersweet summer affair . . ., to which the girl contrives a rather shocking end. (She deliberately lets her mother discover a birth-control diaphragm she had been using.) Because the affair no longer suits her purposes? Or because, despite her professed sexual liberation, she feels guilt and a need to be punished for violating her parents' moral code?

"In short, though young people will undoubtedly identify with the rebellion of boy and girl against their parents' values, they cannot enjoy the luxury, as they could with 'The Graduate,' of visualizing themselves as innocent, infinitely well-disposed victims of older generation exploitation."

In fact, one of the more touching scenes in the film occurs at a Jewish wedding where the father of the girl (actor Jack Klugman), unaware that she has been having sexual relations in his own house with her boyfriend, tells her how proud he is that he has such a virtuous daughter.

In "The Catholic News" of the New York Archdiocese, critic John Fitzgerald attacked scenes at the Jewish wedding showing guests coarsely wolfing down food and a family dinner scene showing the same poor table manners. He said he thought both scenes were somewhat anti-Semitic.

"There is no more need for this than the excessive use of nudity," he wrote. "One seems an almost spiteful gesture, the other a play for extra boxoffice revenue. And both evidence a lack of either artistic control or esthetic taste."

Richard Benjamin and Ali MacGraw in "Goodbye, Columbus."

Parish to Note Patron's Day

Present and former parishioners of St. Anthony's Church, Rochester, have been invited to participate in special activities for Sunday, June 15, to mark the feast day of the parish patron.

Bishop James E. Kearney will celebrate Mass and preach at 12:15 p.m.

Other Masses at 7:15, 8:30, 9:45 and 11 a.m. will be celebrated by Father Charles A. Bennett, parish administrator, and Father James S. Russell, assistant. The High Mass at 11 a.m. will be an all-Latin Mass.

Father Bennett is serving as parish administrator during the convalescence of Father Nicholas P. Alletto, who is residing currently at St. Ann's Home.

GETS SCHOLARSHIP

Auburn — John Harding, 13 Steel St., a member of the Newman Club of Auburn Community College, last week was awarded a $50 scholarship presented annually by Auburn Assembly, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, for outstanding Newman Club and other campus activity.

Movies

Here is a list of motion pictures currently playing in Rochester area theaters and the ratings given them by the National Catholic Office of Motion Pictures.

With the Catholic Office ratings, we include the ratings of the Motion Picture Association: G, general; M, mature audiences; R, restricted (persons under 16 admitted only when accompanied by parents or adult guardian); X, persons under 16 not admitted.

Paramount—"Hard Contract" (Adults, with reservations). R.

Cinema — "Goodbye, Columbus" (Adults, with reservations). R.

Coronet—"Bullitt" (Adults); "Harper" (Adults).

Waring—"The Lion in Winter" (Adults). G.

Monroe — "Funny Girl" (Adults and Adolescents). G.

Riviera — "Slaves" (No rating). M.

Regent—"Once Upon a Time in the West" (Adults). M.

Studio 2 — "The Graduate" (Adults, with reservations). R.

Loew's—"The Killing of Sister George" (Condemned). X.

Stoneridge—"If It's Tuesday, This Must Be Belgium" (Adults). G.

Panorama — "Oliver!" (General). G.

Towne I — "The Love Bug" (General). G.

Towne II — "Where Eagles Dare" (Adults). M.

Stutson—"Support Your Local Sheriff" (General). G.

Fine Arts — "Shoes of The Fisherman" (General). G.

Little — "Romeo and Juliet" (Adults, with Reservations). G.

TELEVISION MASS

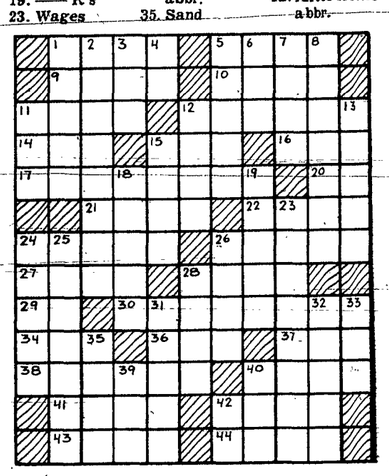
Father John Whitley, CSB, will be celebrant of Sunday's television Mass at 8:30 a.m. on WHEV-TV, Channel 10. Lay commentator will be Robert Edelman, Aquinas Class of 1938.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1. Saxhorn
5. Pleads
9. Soon
10. Shower
11. Mr. Vallee
12. Grief
14. Compass point
15. Cushion
16. Game at cards
17. Not crooked
20. Italian river
21. Moon-goddess
22. Pay attention
24. Flash
26. Nails
27. Mexican Indian
28. Prophet
29. —— Alamein
30. Unfastened
34. Wit
36. Astern
37. Anger
38. Layers
40. Small cut
41. Ireland
42. Messenger
43. Man's nickname
44. Muff

DOWN
1. Provoke
2. Situated beneath
3. Lad
4. Indefinite article
5. Thin soup
6. Audience
7. Coed, for instance
8. Prowled around
11. Legal matter
12. Medieval tale
13. Forest
15. Weasel-like animal
18. Of the ear
19. —— R's
23. Wages
24. Mergansers
25. Roofs of mouths
26. Finest
28. Couch
31. Farinaceous
32. American Indians
33. Railroad station: abbr.
35. Sand
39. Constellation
40. Cebine monkey
42. Afternoon: abbr.

Answer



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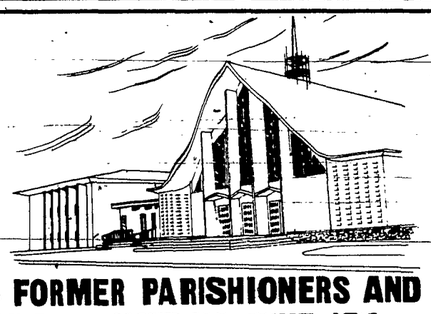

ALL PARISHIONERS - FORMER PARISHIONERS AND ALUMNI ARE INVITED — SUNDAY, JUNE 15th
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9:45 ..... Folk Mass
11:00 ..... High Mass and all Latin Mass
12:15 ..... Mass and Sermon by Bishop Kearney
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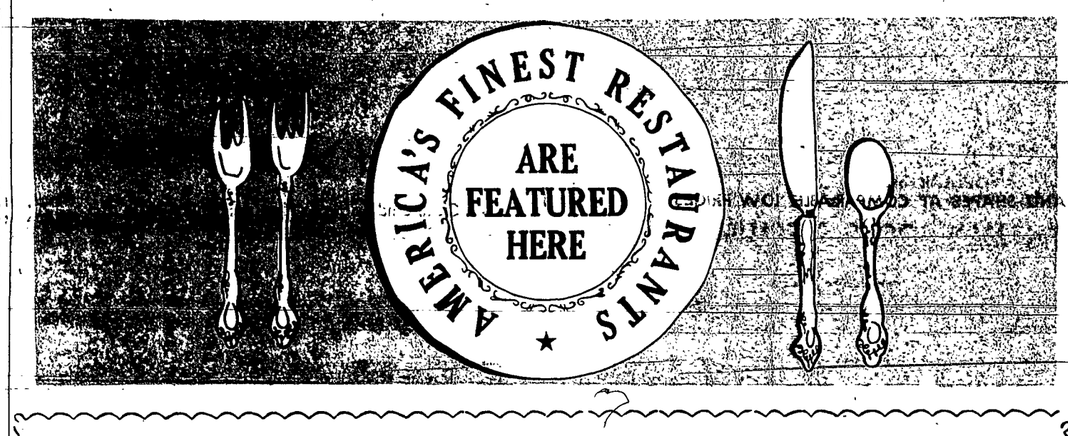

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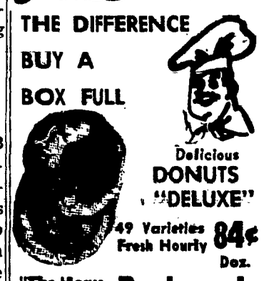

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