

## As I See It

### 'Front Page' Lacked Subtlety

By PAT COSTA

The differences between the Broadway stage and the television screen were aptly demonstrated last Saturday night as the 1920 play "Front Page" by Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur was presented as a video adaptation.

What has been praised as a classic farce of broad humor and "gutsy," "earthy" nature when it ran recently on Broadway came over as a somewhat heavy-handed 90 minutes.

Sponsored by Xerox, the comedic drama starred Robert Ryan and George Grizzard with Vivian Vance, Susan Watson and Estelle Parsons in lesser roles.

Subtlety, the one ingredient which television must utilize if it wants to create any sense of credibility, was missing.

On the plus side was the fact that

the story set in a press room in Chicago in the 1920s dealt with an upcoming mayoral election and a pending execution—a situation whose dialogue could have been written about present day crises, particularly since there was an important Negro vote at stake.

Helen Hayes, whose late husband Charles MacArthur co-authored the play after experiences as a newspaperman, introduced the entertainment.

those ill-written sketches which TV variety show producers delight in.

Buddy Hackett and Jack Benny were among those who made brief appearances, adding such much needed diversion.

And Marjorie Lord and Angela Cartwright were on hand to re-create another segment of the "Make Room for Daddy" series.

Definitely the most entertaining moments of the hour came when Miss Warwick and Thomas engaged in a contest to decide whether songs of the past or present are best.

It was a toss-up with each of them giving out with one goodie after another. Would have been even better had Thomas had more of a Sinatra quality to his voice. It was a good segment, one which other variety shows could pick up for really inducing nostalgia.

An hour-long CBS special last week that starred Danny Thomas and a cast of characters with names equally as big if not bigger proved again that there is more to putting together a show than merely garnering luminaries.

Bob Hope, Carol Channing, Dionne Warwick, Juliet Prowse were the guests who starred in some more of

## NCOMP Finds 'Dolly' a Perfect Match

### Catholic Press Features

New York — Concerned about the diminishing number of family films, the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures has given a strong endorsement to "Hello Dolly!" as "squarely a film for the great masses of moviegoers," in giving it an "A-1" family rating.

Apprehensive that film critics might put a damper on the film's box-office success, NCOMP noted that "despite whatever sour grapes the critics may crush in its wake, this 'Hello, Dolly!' will, if possible, please more audiences than all the previous versions together."

NCOMP's concern about the critics' reaction has proved to be largely unfounded, since "Hello, Dolly!" has been well received, generally, by the critics.

For example, James Arnold, a "tough" critic writing for about 20 Catholic diocesan newspapers, concluded:

"Dolly" is not a perfect show, but it is a good show in that as a film it is practically perfectly produced. It is a little something for people who go to the movies to forget their miseries. That may not be the highest purpose of art, but these days, baby, it will do."

The Catholic film office, noting that "Hello, Dolly!" was originally a 19th Century one-act play, then a Broadway play, TV drama and film titled "The Matchmaker," described the new musical film as "the play's definitive production."



Barbra Streisand and waiters in title-song and dance sequence from "Hello, Dolly!"

In the film, directed by Gene Kelly, Barbra Streisand plays the matchmaker, Dolly Levi, who makes a series of love matches before making her own with a rich feed-and-grain merchant named Horace Vandergelder (Walter Matthau).

NCOMP went along with most critics in expressing the opinion that Streisand is not fully believable as Dolly, but also went along with most critics in expressing the opinion that no one would care.

"Gene Kelly, whose name has been felicitously associated with Hollywood musicals for decades—as actor, singer, dancer and director—has

chosen by either pressure or design to construct this 'Dolly' totally around superstar Streisand." NCOMP explained in its "Catholic Film Newsletter" lead review of the film.

"This focus is less a question of her towering above the performances of the supporting characters; it is simply that the film's staging and emphasis is directed solely toward her, and, indeed, when she is off camera the film has a lush limppness that not even the downbeat talents of a Walter Matthau can dispel.

"Happily, however, the production values are rich and colorful enough to distract the most jaundiced detractor of big musicals. . . . As an entertainment in that old, (one fears) soon to be lost, style of Hollywood extravaganzas, it is a bright, bouncy, beautiful remembrance of the past which audiences are sure to relish."

## Movie Men

### Restyle Ratings

New York — (NC) — The motion picture industry's year-old voluntary film-rating system has been called "a gratifying success" by its three sponsoring organizations.

In an announcement by Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, and officials of the National Association of Theatre Owners and of the International Film Importers and Distributors of America, the results of a national survey on the rating system and statistics from over 3,000 theaters were released.

"We keep the system constantly under review and made a re-examination at the end of a year's trial period," the statement said.

The "re-examination" prompted two principal revisions. The "M" (Mature) rating has been changed to "GP" meaning "All ages admitted. Parental Guidance Suggested." This change was made, the statement said, because a national survey, conducted by Opinion Research Corporation, "found that fewer than one in 13 persons had accurate knowledge of the specific admissions policy for 'M' films. Public confusion and misunderstanding over the word 'mature' tended to result."

The second change is that the age limit of those theaters admitted to "R" (Restricted) movies unless accompanied by parent or guardian has been raised from 16 to 17. Consequently, the age limit for the "X" rating, (which formerly meant "No one under 16 admitted" under any circumstances) was also raised to 17, though age limits may vary in certain areas.

In addition to "GP," "R," and "X," the film rating system also includes "G" for films considered suitable for general audiences.

In addition, the Opinion Research Corporation survey indicated that 58 per cent of the 2,600 people questioned found the rating system "very useful" to "fairly useful" in helping them decide the proper movies for children to view. And 70 per cent of the teenage moviegoers polled found the system useful.

## TV Movie Ratings

Ratings are those given by the former Legion of Decency, now the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures, when films were originally shown. A-1: morally unobjectionable for general patronage; A-2: morally unobjectionable for adults and adolescents; A-3: morally unobjectionable for adults; A-4: morally unobjectionable for adults, with reservations; B: morally objectionable in part for all; C: condemned. No Rating: film has not been reviewed by the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures (formerly the Legion of Decency). N.B. Before A-3 classification was established, A-2 indicated morally unobjectionable for adults.

Movie listings supplied through the courtesy of TV Guide Magazine

Week of Fri., Feb. 6 thru Thurs., Feb. 12

Time	Channel	Movie	Rating
<b>Friday, February 6</b>			
10:30 a.m.	13	The Lion, Part 2	A2
8:30 p.m.	10	Cutter's Trail	No Rating
11:30 p.m.	13	The Movie Maker	No Rating
<b>Saturday, February 7</b>			
1:30 p.m.	13	Pony Soldier	A1
8:30 p.m.	21	Tales of Hoffman	A2
9:00 p.m.	8	The Train	A1
11:30 p.m.	10	Conspiracy of Hearts	A1
11:45 p.m.	8	King of the Khyber Rifles	A1
<b>Sunday, February 8</b>			
5:00 p.m.	13	Kisses For My President	A3
8:00 p.m.	13	The Night of the Grizzly	A1
11:15 p.m.	13	The Male Animal	A1
11:30 p.m.	10	The Americano	B
<b>Monday, February 9</b>			
10:30 a.m.	13	John Paul Jones, Part 1	A1
8:30 p.m.	13	The Oscar	B
9:00 p.m.	8	The Hustler	A3
11:30 p.m.	13	King and Country	A3
<b>Tuesday, February 10</b>			
10:30 a.m.	13	John Paul Jones, Part 2	A1
8:30 p.m.	13	The Challenge	No Rating
9:00 p.m.	8	Bills	A1
11:30 p.m.	13	Les Miserables	A2
<b>Wednesday, February 11</b>			
10:30 a.m.	13	John Paul Jones, Part 3	A1
11:30 p.m.	13	Asylum For a Spy	No Rating
<b>Thursday, February 12</b>			
10:30 a.m.	13	The Movie Maker, Part 1	No Rating
9:00 p.m.	10	Hatari, Part 1	No Rating
11:30 p.m.	13	Esther and the King	B

## 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; GP, general audience with parental discretion advised; R, persons under 17 admitted only when accompanied by parent or guardian; X, persons under 18 not admitted.

Stoneridge — "On Her Majesty's Secret Service" (Adults). GP.

Studio 2 — "I Am Curious (Yellow)" (Condemned). X.

Stutson — "The Reivers" (Adults). GP.

Towne I — "The Magic Christian" (Not Rated). GP.

Towne II — "Cactus Flower" (Adults). GP.

Waring — "101 Dalmatians" (General). G.

Cinema — "Midnight Cowboy" (Adults, with reservations). X.

Coronet — "Battle of Britain" (General). G.

Fine Arts — "Easy Rider" (Adults, with reservations). R.

Little — "The Sterile Cuckoo" (Adults, with reservations). GP.

Loew's — "Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice" (Objectionable). R.

Monroe — "Hello Dolly" (General). G.

Panorama — "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" (General). G.

Paramount — "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" (Adults). GP.

Regent — "Generation" (Adults). X.

Riviera — "John and Mary" (Objectionable). R.

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## Southern Tier Unit to Meet

Elmira — Members of the Southern Tier Association of Catholics (STAC) will meet at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, in St. Mary Our Mother School, Horseheads, to discuss "priorities." Topics will be outlined in preparation for an area "listen in" meeting scheduled by Bishop Hogan and the Priests' Society of Elmira on March 3.

Ken Rehm of Apalachin is STAC chairman and Irene Nava of Elmira is secretary.

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<p><b>Royal Scot Steak House</b> 657 Ridge Road East, Corner Hudson Route 104 Rochester's newest, most distinctive dining spot featuring Scottish atmosphere, delicious food. Luncheon served Tues. thru Fri., 11:30-2 P.M. Dinners served Tues. thru Thurs. 5 to 10 P.M. Fri. &amp; Sat. 'til 11 P.M. Sundays 4:30 to 9. Closed Monday. Reservations: 342-4220. Ken Purcell entertaining in Scottish Pub.</p>	<p><b>THE MAPLEWOOD INN</b> 3500 EAST AVE. Just a few minutes from downtown Rochester, the Maplewood is one of your favorite family dining spots. Luncheon and dinner specials every week. Orchestra Friday and Saturday evenings 586-9977.</p>
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## School B

### '100' for As Moore

By DAVE ROBINSON

The 99th and 100th career wins were gained for Coach Ed Nietowski last weekend as the Mooney basketball team took care of rival Bishop Kearney 54-41 and then downed East the only team to defeat the Cardinals last year, 43-29, on Saturday night.

Against Kearney, the Card played a rough game in which the teams had a combined total of 44 fouls.

Mike Green was high scorer with 19 and the first quarter scoring surge by Pete Mahar with 10 and Dick Polnar 15, allowed the Cards to win.

The team sang "For He's Jolly Good Fellow," and awar

## Knights S

McQuaid was six seconds away from his best basket weekend of the season last Saturday night. But those five minutes produced a game-winning jump shot by Edisor Freddy Collins, singing to Knights with a 47-46 loss at obscuring much of the satisfaction of the previous night's 74 romp over Aquinas.

The Knights now show an overall record and remain tied with West at 7-3 in C-C standings. This Friday night they play host to winless Jeffers

Collins' soft 15-footer wip out a dramatic McQuaid effort which had just sent the Knights ahead with 2 buckets in seconds. Edisor had taken a 42 lead with 45 seconds left a jumper by Dave Everett, or to have McQuaid fight back on a corner jumper by T. Combs and a steal-layup John McLane to edge ahead 46-45 with 20 seconds to Edisor's first offensive throw saw a near interception on ball deflected out-of-bounds, the inventors retained position and set Collins up smoothly for his decisive shot.

## Kings Dc

By TOM DOMALSKI

Last Saturday, King shot found their range, and 1 Goman ripped the boards nineteen rebounds as Keat thrashed Monroe, 58-49.

After a shaky first half which Monroe was ahead one at the first period Kearney up by three at the end, the Kings' Highway galloped to a sixteen point 23 third quarter lead. J. Maurer's clutch outside shot and Paul Riesberger's curacy from the charity's led to the victory. 56"

## Spring Near, Ask Red Win

If water is leaking thru your roof can Spring be behind?

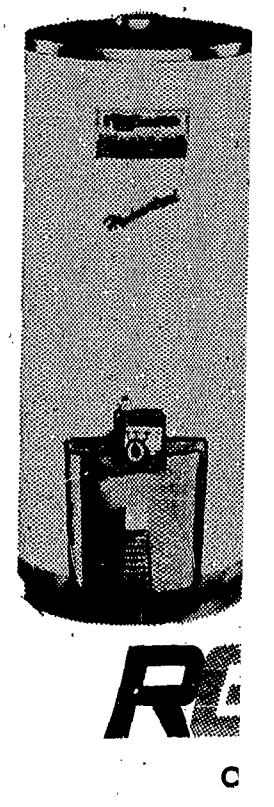
Not for the Rochester Wings who are heading Spring practice once again Daytona Beach, Fla. They also announced a 19-gam hibition schedule, starting Louisville, March 23, at ton.

The first game of the ular season will be April Columbia and the home o against the same team Ap at Silver Stadium.

### CHARITY BALL SET FOR ELMIRA

Elmira—St. Joseph's H and Arnot-Ogden Hospita will benefit from proce an annual charity ball sc ed at 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb 7. Sponsored by the Lad Charity, the dance will b in the Mark Twain Hotel

## Water



**R**