

At Home with the Movies



Drama Scheduled

Jim Passantino and Ann Toney are pictured in "The Diary of Anne Frank," a heralded drama scheduled on Our Lady of Mercy High School stage on Friday and Saturday evenings, Feb. 26-27.

Based on actual experiences recorded in the diary of Anne Frank, a young Jewess, the play depicts events during her family's hiding from the Nazis in Holland during World War II. It records emotions and conflicts among the Frank family

and others who came into hiding with them.

Anne Frank is played by Ann Toney, a freshman. Other Mercy students in the cast are Reenie Burke, Sheila McGee, Mary Rodbeffer and Julie Wintner.

Male parts are taken by Jim Passantino and Mark Blair from McQuaid High School and Dave Manno, John Michael and Peter Tracy of Penfield. The play is directed by Paul Cirre.

As I See It

Andy Griffith Folksy Again

By Pat Costa



When Andy Griffith found viewers didn't like him as an easy-going, slightly sophisticated "Headmaster" he simply did what many another performer wishes he could do with an ailing series.

He substituted another for it.

Now as the mayor of a small North Carolina town in "The New Andy Griffith Show," the former resident of mythical Mayberry is back to his former style of characterization.

The new show seen at 8:30 Friday nights over CBS hasn't much going for it other than Andy and his folksy townspeople. Maybe it doesn't need much more.

That's what viewers are used to and that's what Andy is giving them.

With Lee Meriwether as his wife and Ann Morgan Guilbert (Millie on the old Dick Van Dyke show) as his sister-in-law, plus Lori Rutherford and Marty McCall as his children, Andy is up to his neck in down-to-earth people who care.

I found the one show I've watched so far a bit disappointing from several standpoints.

Number one is the failure to use Miss Guilbert's rather formidable comedic talents.

In the script, she lives with Andy and his wife—her sister. She is beloved by them and their children but in this particular episode she was given the notion by a buttinsky friend that she should marry a clod (played by Jackie Coogan) in order to gain her own home and give Andy's family the privacy she thinks they deserve.

It took one of the children to straighten out the misunder-

standing but in the meantime Miss Guilbert poked along with a very gloomy face and depression pervaded every corner of the old-fashioned house.

I kept waiting for Frances Bavier (Aunt Bee of the old Andy Griffith show) to walk out and cheer everybody up.

Andy's staunchest fans are apparently not so hard to please. His ratings have already shot up from the 40s or so to the top 20 most popular programs.

I missed half of the Time-Life program on photography due to an error on the schedule I was following, but I did see the story of the 10-year-old paraplegic being returned to his home and family in South Vietnam after a 2½-year stay in the United States.

Photographer Larry Burrows who covered the story showed us the power in simple pictures and even simpler narrative. The tragedy of the crippled youngster, now more American than Vietnamese being returned to his family who could do little for his war-broken body was as strong an argument against the war as could be offered.

SHRINE CIRCUS

Fess Parker, television star of "Davey Crockett" and "Daniel Boone" will be the star of this year's annual Shrine Circus at the Rochester War Memorial, Feb. 17-20. Forty-eight circus acts in three giant rings will be presented.

Performances are scheduled for afternoons and evenings and Saturday morning.

BATTLE OF THE BULGE (1966)

Thursday, Feb. 1 (CBS)

Another epic World War II film, starring Henry Fonda, Robert Ryan and Dana Andrews, with British actor Robert Shaw stealing the show as a German tank commander.

Critics found it poorly done, with cliché dialogue and situations, and minimal attention to historical accuracy.

The film is being telecast in two parts: tonight and Friday night, Feb. 19.

The national Catholic film office rated this A-1, unobjectionable for all.

BATTLE OF THE BULGE (Part 2)

Friday, Feb. 19 (CBS)

THE PRESIDENT'S ANALYST (1967)

Saturday, Feb. 20 (NBC)

James Coburn stars in a frenetic satire that takes aim at dozens of targets: the FBI, the CIA, conservatives, liberals, psychiatry, hippies and—the arch-villain of the piece—the automated phone company.

Coburn plays a psychiatrist who somehow gets hired to give the U.S. President psychiatric counseling, becomes party to top-secret stuff and spends the rest of the film dodging agents from Russia and the U.S. government, who know he knows too much.

Most critics found the first half of this film extremely well-done satire, with the end-

This is a summary and evaluation of prime-time films offered by the network to its affiliate stations. Check your local listings to ascertain if your channel is scheduling the network offering.

scenes will likely be toned down a bit for TV, but not omitted entirely, since the love plot is essential to the storyline.

THE BLUE MAX (Part 2)

Monday, Feb. 22 (ABC)

THE EYE OF THE CAT (1969)

Tuesday, Feb. 23 (NBC)

A shock-suspense film, with undertones of an aunt-nephew unnatural relationship, this is not for kids—or for lovers of cats, which take on ominous meanings in this rather complex story.

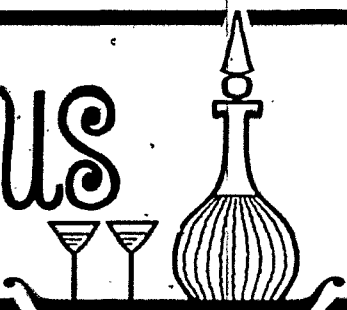
The hero (Michael Sarrazini) has been talked into returning to the mansion of his wealthy aunt (Eleanor Parker) by her hairdresser (Gayle Hunnicut) so the aunt may be induced to put Sarrazini back into her will, after which the old bag can be done in. But there are all those cats with all those suspicious eyes who roam around the mansion causing trouble. After you see this, if you do, be sure to put the cat out before you retire. Judith Crist was one of the very few critics who liked this film, but most were intrigued by the interesting opening credits.

NCOMP rated this A-3, unobjectionable for adults.

THE CONCEPT

The Concept, a play acted by nine young drug addicts, all in varying stages of rehabilitation, from Daytop Village, will be produced at the Xerox Auditorium, March 3-6. The play is being sponsored locally by Blackfriars Acting Company.

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