

As I See It

A Move For Movies

By Pat Costa



Snowbound weekends will do it to you. You sit there in front of the unblinking eye of the television set, and revise the stations' schedules and programs to suit you.

At our house, we are movie nuts. Old movies, new movies, it doesn't matter as long as they can keep our attention for at least a 10-minute span occasionally.

Trouble is that few of them do. That's when we begin dreaming about how marvelous it would be if Channel 8 or Channel 10 or Channel 13 or Channel 21 decided that while every other station was concerning itself with golf or basketball or bowling, the one station would devote Sunday afternoons to a Clark Gable film festival.

Can't get a package of Clark Gable? Then how about a series of James Stewart or Jean Arthur or anybody else who took part in that marvelous comedy era of the Forties?

Think of a package of all the great films made from classics—"Wuthering Heights," "Little Women," "Jane Eyre," "Oliver Twist," "Prince and the Pauper," "Rebecca" et al.

Channel 21's Saturday Night series, underwritten by Marine Midland, has been a delight at times but unfortunately it coincides with other respectable fare on the commercial stations prime time lineup.

The point is—how about a series when the rest of the stations are screening old Perry Mason reruns or similar stuff, when sports programs beleaguer the non-sports viewer, in short when nobody expects a caliber movie series.

Ten to one the movie (if the viewer could count on the quality and the time in advance) would clobber the rest of the stuff.

It's enough to make you cry. Seems the information we got last week regarding the Police Department's "Lock It or Lose It" campaign was faulty.

It wasn't the work of Darcy Associates—indeed Darcy Associates no longer exists; the name is Darcy Communications. But the credit goes more directly to the firm's subsidiary, Darcy-Roberts, whose employees deserve the credit for the marvelous work in the campaign.

At Home with the Movies

NONE BUT THE BRAVE
(1965)
Thursday, March 4 (CBS)

This is a World War II drama, set on a remote Pacific island, with an anti-war brotherhood theme. A small American force (including director Frank Sinatra) meets a small Japanese force. They fight at first, but soon learn they need each other to survive: i.e., the Japanese have water and supplies the Americans need, the Americans have medical know-how the wounded Japanese need. A truce is declared and survives until a rescuing U.S. Navy ship is spotted and bloody hostilities break out again, annihilating almost everyone.

The critics generally lauded the idea, but severely attacked its execution, putting the blame on clichés, a predictable outcome and generally poor acting on the part of the Americans. What praise the film did receive was limited to special effects and the Japanese performers.

The national Catholic film office rated this A-2, unobjectionable for adults and adolescents.

THE BIGGEST BUNDLE OF THEM ALL (1968)
Friday, March 5 (CBS)

Intended as a comedy, this is a "big heist" film, starring Robert Wagner as the leader of an inept crew of criminals who can't do wrong right. They kidnap a retired Chicago mobster while he is attending a Mafia funeral in Italy, only to discover no one wants to pay any ransom for him. The gangster (Vittoria De Sica) "pays" his own ransom by helping the gang to steal a trainload of

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.

platinum with the help of a professional "mastermind" (Edward G. Robinson).

The robbery comes off, but most critics thought the humor did not. They also thought the casting of Wagner as a gang leader was a mistake. The one plus: fine Italian scenery.

NCOMP gave this film a rating of B, morally objectionable in part for all, for "suggestive costuming and situations," most of it involving Raquel Welch.

THE GLASS-BOTTOM BOAT (1966)
Saturday, March 6 (NBC)

A Doris Day comedy with a lot of slapstick. She is falsely suspected of being a spy for the Russians because every day she places a phone call—from her job in an electronics firm, where she is a guide—to a party named "Vladimir," who turns out to be her pet dog at home, who needs the exercise he gets when the phone rings.

Rod Taylor plays the love interest in one of the last films in which Doris plays her "professional virgin" role—namely, being able to fend off male advances in all manner of sensual circumstances. One of the highlights of the film is a zany slapstick bit by Dom DeLuise.

NCOMP rated it A-2, unobjectionable for adults and adolescents.

MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY (1962)
Sunday, March 7 (ABC)

This is the Marlon Brando version, the one that took forever to complete, and no one attempted to compare it favorably with the original that starred Clark Gable and Charles Laughton.

But the scenery is beautiful; filmed on Tahiti, and the acting is not all that bad. Trevor Howard is Captain Bligh and he is one of the best non-star actors around; Richard Harris gives a fine performance as a seaman, and Brando gives an interesting portrayal of Fletcher Christian as a dandified eccentric who suddenly decides to become heroic.

It will be telecast in two parts, tonight and Monday, March 8.

NCOMP rated this A-2, unobjectionable for adults and adolescents.

MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY (Part 2)
Monday, March 8 (ABC)

See pre-view for Sunday, March 7.

VANISHED
Monday, March 8 (NBC)

This is a new made-for-TV movie, based on Fletcher Kneble's best-selling novel on the disappearance of the top adviser to the president of the United States, which sets off national and international intrigue. Richard Widmark portrays the President.

The film will be shown in two parts, tonight and Tuesday, March 9.



The cast of Cinderella includes (l-r) Elaine Krizan, Doris Karnesky, Mary Jo Viavattene, Diane Lazeski.

Academy Choir In Cinderella

Nazareth Academy's Perosian Choir will present the Rodgers and Hammerstein "Cinderella" in the school auditorium on Lake Avenue Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:15 and Sunday afternoon at 3, March 5, 6 and 7.

The choir will be assisted by a male cast and by members

of Nazareth's drama and art departments. Adults, and students from Nazareth and Eastridge High School will furnish the orchestral accompaniment, under the direction of Alfred Castle.

Valerie Anselm will play the title role, John Smale, a junior at Brockport, will play the role of prince.

College Actors In Brecht Play

Bertolt Brecht's play, The Caucasian Chalk Circle, will be presented by the Nazareth-St. John Fisher Drama Club March 4, 5 and 6 in the Nazareth Arts Center.

The student-acted, student-designed production is the second theatrical offering in Nazareth's "Focus on a Culture—German Year." After a prologue set in a war-ravaged Caucasian village in 1945, the action of the play takes place in a Caucasian city of 1000 years ago. Joana Popolizio and Jerry

Arena will perform the leading roles.

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