

PAT COSTA
**As I
See It**



We are neck deep in the middle of the rerun season, yet if you look carefully through the television listings it is possible to come up with an informative or entertaining hour now and then.

On a recent Sunday night we turned on Channel 21 to catch an episode of "The First Churchills" that we had missed when it was first screened here last winter.

It followed an absolute delight of an hour with the Boston Pops, conductor Arthur Fiedler and guest artists pianist Dave Brubeck, and saxophonists Gerry Mulligan and Paul Desmond, playing compositions of their own.

Missed cooking star Julia Child narrating "Tubby the Tuba" with the Pops a week earlier but you can be sure the hour will be a must on our calendar the rest of the summer.

Sampled a different kind of musical hour later in the week when we tuned in "Make Your Own Kind of Music" a summer replacement for Don Knotts.

The voices of brother and sister Richard and Karen Carpenter seem pleasant enough. They had the added advantage of Al Hirt and Jack Jones helping the program along.

There was a long sequence from "Lovers and Other Strangers" the hit movie from which the Carpenters took a

song, recorded it and pushed it high on the charts.

A sing-along proved to be fun and the hour passed pleasantly.

Tried CBS' special on "The Mystery of Pain" with reporter George Herman and discovered the scientists don't know much about this trauma of life.

They're working at it, however, and Dr. Janet Travell, former White House physician to John F. Kennedy, showed how she can treat one of life's most common pains, the backache, with a chemical coolant.

Two other common pains, the one felt in the dentist chair, and the headache were explored.

We learned that thanks to the pioneer work of Dr. Nils Jorgensen, dentists now know the value of ridding patients of anxiety and fear as well as of pain. We also learned unfortunately that some dentists think a little pain is a good thing for the patient.

Most headaches are treatable in a doctor's office even though too many patients have not found relief there, we were told.

So little has been done in the area of combatting pain, Herman pointed out, that we can liken the progress to what the field of medicine was before the discovery of antibiotics.

Once Over Briefly

Ratings from the Catholic Office for Motion Pictures on the moral suitability of current movies:—

ANDROMEDA STRAIN—Adults and adolescents—Chilling science thriller from a best-seller about a killer microbe.

BANANAS—Condemned—Woody Allen comedy, "tasteful insult and irreverence" offensive because it deals with lowest moral and artistic ideas.

BAREFOOT EXECUTIVE—Family—A TV executive discovers a chimp who's a champ at promoting video shows.

BEQUILED—Adults, with reservations—Lust and violence in Civil War setting; called a comedy, if you consider nymphomania and murder funny.

BIG JAKE—Adults only—Routine but very bloody Western in which a mean and tough John Wayne invades a bandit's lair to rescue his kidnapped grandson.

BLUE WATER, WHITE DEATH—Adults and adolescents—A terrifying and fascinating documentary about hunting sharks. Great photography, slim plot.

CARNAL KNOWLEDGE—Objectious for everyone—A satiric reduction of human characters to sex-obsessed caricatures; crude language, explicit visuals.

CAT O' NINE TAILS—Objectious for everyone—Gruesome murders in a story about a behavioral-research lab.

CLAIRE'S KNEE—Adults—A Frenchman romances mentally with a girl's knee; amusing but not sexual theme. Highly praised by Catholic film office and critics for "wit and intellectual stimulation."

DERBY—Adults—A story of roller-derbies and the people who share them; their moralities, aspirations and thrills.

DESERTER, THE—Adults—A foreign-made, rough-tough Western.

ESCAPE FROM THE PLANET OF THE APES—Family—Latest adventure of super-apes Roddy McDowell and Kim Hunter has them coming to the present-day earth. Plot details amazement of U.S.; to learn that apes know what will happen 2,000 years from now.

EVEL KNEIVEL—Adults only—Fictionalized biography of modern

stuntman on motorcycles. Shallow characterization does not solve question of what makes a man want to cycle-jump over 10 cars or how he faces constant injury for money and limited fame.

FIVE EASY PIECES—Adults, with reservations—Excellent acting and pace in haunting story of a man running away from his roots and responsibilities.

GRIMM'S FAIRY TALES—Condemned—A bawdy paraphrase of the old stories.

GUN FIGHT—Adults—Violent and bloody, hard-boiled character study.

HOUSE THAT DRIPPED BLOOD—Adults and adolescents—Four British horror tales, non-gory, excellently acted.

IN COLD BLOOD—Adults—Retelling of true story of farm-family murders and how the killer was caught.

KLUTE—Adults with reservations—Jane Fonda acts well as a New York call-girl in murder mystery with psychological study. Harsh morals and tough language.

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA—Adults and adolescents—Return of David Lean classic of exciting desert warfare. Draastic cutting of original version makes plot somewhat disjointed. Great acting and photography.

LAW MAN—Adults only—Good actors, Burt Lancaster, Lee Cobb and Robert Ryan in a Western that's bloody with guns and clichés about law-and-justice.

LE MANS—For family—Cars and drivers provide the excitement at the 24-hour road race in France. Great sport scenes as Steve McQueen drives his own car.

LITTLE BIG MAN—Adults—Dustin Hoffman in autobiography of white boy raised by Indians, who becomes sole survivor of Custer's massacre.

LITTLE MURDERS—Adults, with reservations—Angry and funny commentary on human relationships and the bruises ("murders") which hit us everyday.

LOVE STORY—Adults—Many-Kleenex story of a Harvard-Radcliffe romance which never wins.

\$1 MILLION DUCK—For family—A duck who lays real gold eggs.

MCCABE AND MRS. MILLER—Objectious in part for all—Warren Beatty and Julie Christie in an unusual, moody Western; "an unmotivated and fragmentary story with excesses of crude language and scenes of nudity."

PINOCCHIO—For family—The classic children's story in lavish Disney style.

PLAZA SUITE—Adults—Three playlets set in the same suite in the Plaza Hotel; Walter Matthau shows three men with emotional problems. Humorous but tiring, unless you are a Neil Simon fan.

RYAN'S DAUGHTER—Adults—Beautiful to the eye, long and moving story of adultery in an Irish town.

SEVEN MINUTES—Condemned

SHAFT—Adults—Detective story in Harlem; intimate slice of Black America.

SONG OF NORWAY—For family—Music and scenery in soapy story.

SUMMER OF '42—Adults, with reservations—How a teenage boy in '42 discovers life and sex from an "older woman."

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL GUN-FIGHTER—Adults and adolescents—A spoof on westerns, with clever satire about cowboys who carry guns and need to use them.

SWEET SWEETBACK—Condemned

TAKING OFF—Adults with Reservations—Funny story about the generation gap, a fugitive child and suburbia.

20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA—Family—Exciting retelling of Jules Verne classic.

WILD ROVERS—Adults—A new-type Western starring William Holden and Ryan ("Love Story") O'Neal. The idealized comradeship of two bank-robbers; low comedy, adventure and myth.

WILLARD—Adults and adolescents—A horror film about a psychotic who trains pet rats to kill his family's enemy.

WILLY WONKA AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY—For family—A kids' film, but reviewers agree that adults will like the clever fantasy.

At Home With the Movies

POWDERKEG
Thursday, Aug. 5 (CBS)
This is a "made-for-TV" movie, which is actually a pilot for a new television series.

In this episode, a government agent (Rod Taylor) tries to rescue a train that has been hijacked by a Mexican "liberator" (Fernando Lamas) as ransom for the return of his imprisoned brother (Michael Ansara). Luciana Paluzzi provides the sex interest.

There are no Catholic film office ratings for made-for-TV movies.

TERM OF TRIAL (1963)
Friday, Aug. 6 (CBS)

Laurence Olivier portrays a meek, patient high-school teacher, who must put up with the slings and arrows fired his way by an unappreciative, carping wife (Simone Signoret), a student who has a crush on him (Sarah Miles, who became Ryan's Daughter), a young punk (Terence Stamp), and barren British surroundings.

The critics were generally cool toward it, despite the stellar cast and the direction of Peter Glenville, who also directed *Breaker*. But an International Catholic Film Office awards jury singled this out as a fine film filled with social values.

NCOMP rated it A-3, unobjectionable for adults.

SEBASTIAN (1968)
Saturday, Aug. 7 (NBC)

A rather sophisticated British spy drama, starring Dirk Bogarde, who is aided by computers in his derring-do, most of it involving cracking a secret code.

Critics fell in love with this film because—despite all the complex hardware—the hero comes off as a rather human character.

NCOMP rated this one A-3, unobjectionable for adults.

Seneca Field Day

The annual Seneca Family Field Day will be held Sunday, Aug. 8, at Tonawanda Indian Reserve, Basom, according to Chief Corbett Sundown, chairman.

Activities begin at 1 p.m.

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.

AFRICA — TEXAS STYLE (1967)
Sunday, Aug. 8 (ABC)

A pleasant, entertaining adventure film made by Ivan Flapper (Tora) about a cowboy (Hugh O'Brian) who rounds up zebras, gazelles and other African wildlife for a game-conservationist in Kenya (John Mills).

Tora is a master at filming wildlife, the camerawork is excellent and there is a strong point made about dignity and being humane.

NCOMP rated it A-1, unobjectionable for all, and the kids should enjoy it.

SERGEANT DEADHEAD (1965)
Monday, Aug. 9 (ABC)

This is a comedy starring Frankie Avalon, former teen singing idol, who plays a serviceman on duty at a missile base while pursuing redhead Deborah Walley. He's accidentally shot into space and a double impersonates him—at the base and with Miss Walley, all the way up to the altar.

There are some good character sketches, particularly by Fred Clark, Gale Gordon, Buster Keaton and Eve Arden.

NCOMP rated this one A-3, unobjectionable for adults.

AFTER THE FOX (1966)
Tuesday, Aug. 10 (NBC)

Peters Sellers stars as a notorious Italian criminal who escapes from prison, then masquerades as a film director in a seacoast town, all to smuggle a cargo of stolen gold into Italy.

It was Neil Simon's first screenplay, but was a good one, and the film suffers from over-acting on Seller's part.

The film is rescued, however, by a brilliant performance by Victor Mature playing Victor Mature, i.e. a fading epic star; and by Burt Bacharach's score. NCOMP gave it A-2, unobjectionable for adults and adolescents.

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