

# AS I SEE IT

Pat Costa

When the season first opened I happened on "Chico and the Man," watched five minutes of it and turned the dial in search of better fare among the new entries.

After reading that the show which stars Freddie Prinze and Jack Albertson in the title roles made the Top Ten list, I realized I must have missed something and went back to take a better look.

I should have been satisfied with that initial five minutes.

"Chico and the Man" exploits the twin attractions of bigotry and cynicism à la Bunker and Sanford. This time it is Chicano versus WASP. (Someday soon the latter specie is going to revolt.)

Albertson as Ed Brown owns a garage. Young Chico worms his way into his existence if not his heart.

The dialogue is downright horrible, to wit: Albertson to a young mail woman: "You ought to be home delivering babies instead of delivering the mail."

This sally brings the kind of response from the studio audience before which this vehicle is ostensibly filmed that would do credit to Will Rogers, Abbot and Costello and David Frye all rolled into one.

To get the bad taste out of the mouth, we switched from comedy to cops and robbers in the form of "The Rockford File" and later "Police Woman."

These gumshoe shows were the

third and fourth of our viewing week.

On Tuesday it was one of the new "Police Story" episodes and Wednesday we tried "Get Christie Love."

On a scale of 1 to 5, "Christie" rates 1, "Rockford File" about a 2-1/2, "Police Woman" 3, and "Police Story" 5.

The last, now in its second year, put it all together beautifully in a story revolving around the robbery division. Starring Jackie Cooper and Joe Santos, "Police Story" presented a tight script, a bit of humor, excellent characterization and credible dialogue.

"Police Woman" a spinoff of "Police Story" has the pulchritude of Angie Dickinson and the very competent acting of Earl Holliman as her boss. Because she is not made out to be a super woman, Miss Dickinson's role of Sgt. Pepper Anderson is believable.

The best thing about "Get Christie Love" is its gorgeous star, Theresa Graves. But Christie comes on pretty heavy with the strong-arm tactics, a technique we find hard to swallow even when the muscular male counterparts indulge.

James Garner as Rockford is an ex-con who spent five years in the clink on a bum rap. This bit of information has surfaced in both the shows I've seen so far and will obviously serve as his shtick since Garner is neither blind, bald, black nor busty.

## At Home With the Movies

**THE GOOD GUYS AND THE BAD GUYS [1969]**  
Thursday, Oct. 10

This entertaining, energetic Western spoof pokes fun at the new and inept breed of bad men and at the complacency and greed of politicians and the newly prosperous citizenry.

An aging, long-time marshal (Robert Mitchum), retired against his will because he is an uncomfortable reminder of the town's disorderly old days, and an aging outlaw (George Kennedy), also forcibly retired, join forces to thwart a train robbery which the town, in its newly found respectability, cannot believe is threatening. Though the pair's athletic prowess has deteriorated with the years with the result that their heroics are more slapstick than swashbuckling, their eventual triumph is a deserved tongue-in-cheek tribute to the senior side of the generation gap.

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**YOURS, MINE AND OURS [1968]**  
Monday, Oct. 14

Director Melville Shavelson tells the fact-founded story of a Navy officer widower (Henry Fonda) and a Navy widow (Lucille Ball) who meet, fall in love, and get married. The hitch?

He already has ten children, she has eight.

The comedy that results (predictable but genuinely funny complications such as interrupted honeymoon, identity crises, bathroom lineups, troop-movement planning and buying) keeps in touch with human reality.

Underneath it all is a gently moving story of love the way it really is. Admittedly directed toward popular appeal, it is humorous enough for sophisticated tastes as well. Truly a family picture.

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