



Pat Costa

If you stayed up past your regular bedtime to see the entire Oscar telecast you may well at the end have asked yourself the same old question. Why?

And part of the answer might have been that you tolerated the lists of graceless, if grateful, thank yous, the ethnic jokes and the misreadings of the cue cards in hopes of getting a glimpse of a real movie star (not just an overnight sensation) being natural.

And that's just what viewers were treated to when Ingrid Bergman graciously deferred to competitor Valentina Cortesa in accepting the best supporting actress award. (She was justified — her part in "Murder on the Orient Express" was a nothing.)

No it did not make the whole 2 1/2 hours worthwhile but it did enhance the tone of the proceedings somewhat. Also appreciated this year was the absence of the coy exchanges traditionally written for the presenters to divert us idiot buffs of the idiot box.

Of the four emcees, Shirley MacLaine seemed most at home in the situation although at times it appeared as if she'd been imbibing bubble bath so frothy was she.

Last week we were treated to the experience of watching Hal Holbrook assume the identity of Abraham Lincoln in "Prairie Lawyer."

Later in the evening the dial was turned to "Caribe." It was somewhat like a visit to Niagara Falls where, after gazing in awe at the magnificence of the natural torrent, you turn your back on it just in time to observe somebody spit.

There were things wrong with this edition of the Lincoln mini series, probably the most conspicuous that of Holbrook's voice. He tends to squeak and that timbre always comes through whether he is playing Mark Twain, a married homosexual as he did sometime ago in a TV drama, or the young Lincoln engaged in a courtroom fight with prosecuting attorney Stephen Douglas.

Another fault with the production was that much of the script was fiction since actual fact as to this period in Lincoln's life was comparatively scarce.

Yet in contrast with the run of the mill fare available to viewers on a daily basis, "Prairie Lawyer" was indeed something special.

The makeup alone should have won a prize, particularly when remembering that in his portrayal of Samuel Clemens, one was inclined to think that this was Holbrook's definitive role, the leonine appearance and bearing a second nature.

As the young Lincoln, Holbrook was gangling and awkward, the face as if it had been brought to life, as indeed it had, from one of the pictures in a history book.

The script showed little enough of the man's depth, concentrating instead on his engaging qualities: storyteller, simplicity, homespun sparseness and quick wit.

It seemed more than enough.

At Home With The Movies

DOUBLE FEATURE Saturday, April 19

Yawn. Here come the pilot films again. Delancy Street: The Crisis Within stars Walter McGinn in a drama describing the harsh world of drug rehabilitation. The only relief here is in the fact that the story is set in the beautiful locale of San Francisco and that's cheating. Last Hours Before Morning, is a lurid detective melodrama starring Ed Lauter as a detective in pursuit of stolen gems.

Unrated

NORWOOD [1970] Saturday, April 19

This is a corny, entertaining movie clearly made as a vehicle for singer Glen Campbell to promote him as the Pat Boone of the '70s. Campbell and Joe Namath have just gotten out of the army. Namath goes home and we follow Campbell through a series of adventures and misadventures as he innocently chauffeurs some stolen cars to New York, has a one night stand with a pretty hippie in Greenwich Village, meets Kim Darby on a bus and brings her back home along with a midget and a performing rooster!

Glen gets to sing a few songs. Joe passes the football around. Carol Lynley puts in a terrific stint as a Southern brassy blonde, and even the rooster gets to do his thing. Some of the vignettes of Southern culture captured in the film, though admittedly of a stock nature, are pure delight.

Campbell's fans will enjoy the romp, though some may be put off by the salty dialogue and tasteless but brief situations. Don't expect anything too serious.

and you will enjoy it.

A-III

THIS IS THE WEST THAT WAS Tuesday, April 22

But don't bet on the accuracy of the title:

Ben Murphy stars in this rebroadcast of a generally rousing but always routine "big" Western based on the fictionalized feats of Wild Bill Hickok. The story is a light-hearted romp having to do with a vengeful but bumbling band pursuing Wild Bill in order to settle an old score.

But the overall production, despite moments of frantic, even funny, action, looks as if the producers collected everyone in television land on their day off and said, "Hey, let's make a big, funny Western!" Your choice.

QB VII, PART I Tuesday, April 22

This starts the repeat, in triplicate, of the mammoth, enormously boring Leon Uris opus that runs for some six-plus hours in the TV format. (Part II will air on Wednesday, April 23; Part III on Thursday, April 24, 9 p.m. both nights.)

The sweeping drama unfolds in present-day courtroom scenes and international flashbacks, as a confrontation develops between an American writer and the doctor he has accused in his book of Nazi concentration camp torture-experimentation.

There is a lot to the drama, including some solid acting by Ben Gazzara as the writer (who intentionally comes across as Uris), Anthony Hopkins as the

doctor, Leslie Caron as the doc's wife, and Lee Remick as the scribe's wife.

If you think you can go the distance over three nights, watch. The title QB VII, by the way, stands for "Queen's Bench Number Seven," the courtroom where the libel trial takes place.

Dr. J.K. Graby Joins Fisher Administration

Dr. James K. Graby, a college teacher whose specialty is theology, has been hired to direct continuing education and summer sessions at St. John Fisher College. He also will be an associate dean and associate professor of religious studies, Father Charles J. Lavery, Fisher president, announced last week.

Dr. Graby has been an associate professor of philosophy and religion at Keuka College since 1970 and currently is an administrative intern with Rochester Area Colleges. He will join the Fisher staff July 1.

He is a native of Cleona, Pa., and was educated at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pa.; United Theological Society, Dayton, Ohio, and Drew University, Madison, N.J. He has been associated with Keuka since 1966, when he received a Ph.D. degree in systematic theology from Drew, and he has served the college administration in many committee assignments.

Father Lavery said Dr. Graby "brings both academic excellence and administrative experience to the college at a time when all private institutions must seek new ways to serve the community at large."

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