

AS I SEE IT



Pat Costa

Barbara Eden was visiting Dinah Shore recently and talking about how silly the problems now seemed relating to whether she could or couldn't allow her navel to be seen in the old "I Dream of Jeannie" shows (she couldn't). With the advent of Cher and her scanty costumes, an uncovered midriff seems small cause for alarm among the censors.

But, Miss Eden's remark does point up how times change. Remember when "shucks" was the strongest epithet heard on TV? Now an occasional "hell" and "damn" breaks loose and no one seems unduly concerned.

Ditto for situations dealing with divorce. Believe it or not "The Odd Couple," which recently had Felix remarry his former wife in the last show of the series, was the first situation comedy in which the stars had dissolved marriages.

There have been other changes in TV morality, some not quite so innocuous. Abortion, increased sexuality, deviant behavior of various kinds, violence. People who 10 years ago were com-

plaining that their kids were breaking limbs trying to emulate Superman now have much more serious problems to deal with in the Pandora's box of TV troubles. Sometimes it is difficult to differentiate between those which are truly offensive and immoral. In the words of an educator who pointed out that while it has never been easy for a parent to raise a responsible child in this world "how much more difficult the task is now that the world comes to us — in our own homes via the tube."

Just when you think you've seen everything when it comes to commercials the Carvel people astound us anew. The latest entry from the ice cream company has the nerve to use the bad takes as well as having us listen to a store owner in Queens who cannot speak English.

A recent story in the Sunday TV section of the Times predicts that violence-oriented shows such as "Hawaii Five O" may be on the way out.

The reason — economics. Seems that when TV series finish their original run and are then sold for syndication purposes, distributors and station owners have to worry about the new family viewing time slot which says no rough stuff. Since syndicated series are used in most areas mornings, late afternoons and early evenings that rules out the tough shows. In demand, according to the story are shows like "Mary Tyler Moore." Whatever the reason, the disappearance of violence can only be a cause for rejoicing.

Greece to Have Summer Theater

The Greece Performing Arts Society has scheduled a popular mystery thriller and two musical comedies for its third season of summer theater.

Wait Until Dark will open Tuesday, July 29, in the air-conditioned Forum Room of Athena High School, 800 Long Pond Road. The last Sweet Days of Isaac starts on Aug. 5, and Little Mary Sunshine, Aug. 12. Each will have a five-night run, with curtain time at 8 p.m.

The July 29 premiere will be preceded at 7 p.m. by an outdoor concert by the Greece Community Summer Band. Throughout the theater season, an invitation art show and sale will take place in the lobby and corridors near the Forum Room.

Theater tickets may be ordered through 621-1000, ext. 17, or 663-4693.

CURBSTONE ART

The 11th annual Curbstone Art Festival will open tomorrow in downtown Rochester and run through the week. More than 100 artists have reserved places in the outdoor gallery, which will extend along Main Street from East Avenue to Minerva Place.

The Downtown Promotion Council of the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce will award more than \$1,000 in prizes, at a ceremony at 4 p.m. Friday on the Security Trust Mall.



55th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel F. Ciaccio celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on Sunday, July 20, with a Mass said by Father Charles Connell at St. Philip Neri Church. A reception followed for family and friends at the Buccaneer Restaurant on Empire Blvd.

National Hotel

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At Home with the Movies

UNWED FATHER
Wednesday, July 23

Television movie tries to grapple with a teen-age boy's manly attempts to shoulder responsibility for his girl-friend's pregnancy. Trouble is, in this day and age, the cards are stacked against him—he's the only one who wants to have the child, much less care for it.

Topical, explosive theme—and who knows how well done?

Approach cautiously.

WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF? [1966]
Thursday, July 24

Controversial (then, at least) film based on the Edward Albee play amounting to a high-then-low-level encounter group session involving two college-faculty couples who thrash out their bitterness and frustrations during a semi-drunken evening.

The couples are Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor, George Segal and Sandy Dennis, with the main focus on Burton and Taylor as George and Martha, the empty couple of the year.

As the two (and then four) go at each other's throats, verbally, the air turns rather blue. It is difficult to imagine what kind of language problems will carry over to the TV presentation, but the very nature of the film — presenting as it does an unsavory slice of married life and human relationships — is one that need's an adult's perception for full understanding and appreciation.

Even then, this Woolf bites, and it's not for the casual viewer.

A-IV

THE GREATEST GIFT
Thursday, July 24

Made-for-TV film stars Glenn Ford as the Rev. Holvak, a rural parson trying to inspire his poor country parish during the early '40's in the Deep South.

His gentle methods of preaching and living the gospel are not up to the fire-and-brimstone style favored by the church elders, a problem compounded by his ongoing moral battle with the heavy-handed local sheriff (Harris Yulin).

The preacher's inner strengths are bolstered by those of his wife, played by Julie Harris. Nice show, based on an original script by Abby Mann.

TRAPPED BENEATH THE SEA
Friday, July 25

Made-for-television adventure entry, with Lee J. Cobb and Martin Balsam. This one is a fictionalized account of a true-life incident during which four undersea explorers were trapped in their mini-sub.

Watch that oxygen level.

FER-DE-LANCE
Friday, July 25

This wild and wooly adventure takes place aboard another stricken submarine, whose command has been taken over by David Janssen. The sub is wedged between sea-floor rocks, and its captain and crew have been killed by some systerious force—which turns out to be poison administered by a bagfull (a broken bagfull, that is) of deadly snakes brought aboard by an enterprising crewman.

The race with death runs two ways, as Janssen and fellow scientist Hope Lange struggle to free the sub and avoid the creepy crawlers.

DOUBLE FEATURE
Saturday, July 26

First comes a vehicle for Lorne (Bonanza) Greene, entitled Nevada Smith—an action-melodrama set in the west and based very loosely on characters from the Harold Robbins trash novel, The Carpetbaggers. Greene plays rugged old Nevada Smith, a steel-tough cowpoke-turned-adventurer, who gets himself involved in escorting a highly

explosive cargo across the Utah territory; Cliff Potts plays an old (actually much younger) friend—or is he????

Second part of the evening is They Only Come Out at Night, starring Jack Warden as, you should be surprised, a Los Angeles police detective.

There are more L.A. cops on TV than in that city's streets—and we're not sure we want to see another one.

This segment is particularly noxious, focusing on Warden's investigation of a series of robbery-murders in which the victims have been elderly women.

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