



Few principles, more intrigue

"The Domino Principle" (R) has nothing to do with dominoes and little to do with principles. Near the end of this movie, Richard Widmark explains the situation by saying that if the big guy pokes, the dominoes fall. It's not much to build a movie on, but movies have been built on less.

This film belongs to a popular mongrel species that cross-breeds themes of terrorism, assassination, super secret organizations and people with "special talents" recruited from prison for hush-hush missions. Indeed, judging from Hollywood, I think one of the reasons for high unemployment must be the number of recruiters who bypass the usual agencies and want ads and hunt the jails in their search for competent help.

Gene Hackman is the lucky fellow who the nameless but powerful organization springs from the slammer. They reunite him with his beautiful wife (Candice Bergen) and supply him with a new identity, a fat bank account and a villa in Spain. Richard Widmark, Edward Albert (son of Eddie Albert) and Eli Wallach represent the organization. Widmark is cool and smooth. Albert is smug and officious and Wallach is soft-spoken but fanatical.

Hackman's in prison for killing his wife's lover. He may or may not have killed him. And the man may have been his husband (first or second?)—it's confusing.

IN ANY CASE, Hackman's prison job consists of nailing up shelves. Before that he soldiered in Nam and distinguished himself as a marksman. You'd think he would figure out that the organization wants him for his marksmanship, not his shelf building, but he's always a step behind the audience in figuring things out. Eventually, he balks.

Can you guess Oscar winners?

There's still time to enter the Observer & Eccentric's contest for movie buffs. Guess the Academy Award winner from each category and win two movie tickets to an area theater.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| BEST PICTURE
All the President's Men
Bound for Glory
Network
Rocky
Taxi Driver | BEST ACTRESS
Marie Christine Barrault ("Cousin, Cousine")
Faye Dunaway ("Network")
Talia Shire ("Rocky")
Sissy Spacek ("Carrie")
Liv Ullmann ("Face to Face") | BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS
Jane Alexander ("All the President's Men")
Jodi Foster ("Taxi Driver")
Lee Grant ("Voyage of the Damned")
Beatrice Straight ("Network")
Piper Laurie ("Carrie") |
| BEST ACTOR
Robert De Niro ("Taxi Driver")
Peter Finch ("Network")
Gianni ("Seven Beauties")
William Holden ("Network")
Sylvester Stallone ("Rocky") | BEST DIRECTION
John Avildsen ("Rocky")
Ingmar Bergman ("Face to Face")
Sidney Lumet ("Network")
Alan K. Pakula ("All the President's Men")
Lina Wertmüller ("Seven Beauties") | BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM
Black and White in Color (Italy)
Cousin, Cousine (France)
Jacob the Liar (Germany) |

Only one entry per person. In case of a tie, entry with earliest postmark will prevail. All entries must be postmarked no later than March 25, 1977.

Mail to: Movie Contest
Observer & Eccentric newspapers
1225 Bowers
Birmingham, 48012

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____

GLIMPSES

NEW RELEASES

THE CASSANDRA CROSSING (R). A ridiculous melodrama about a plague-ridden train, a shaky bridge and a staunch colonel who has to make "tough decisions." Big names in this big turkey.

THE FARMER (R). Gary Conway produced and stars in this violent movie. An ex-GI with a mortgaged farm and no cash becomes a hit man for money and revenge.

FREAKY FRIDAY (G). Disney movie about a mother and her teenage daughter who changes roles (and bodies) for a day. Lots of fun and a little insight as each learns about the other's problems.

FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG). Jane Fonda and George Segal in a snappy social satire about an unemployed engineer and his wife who turn to crime when he can't find a job and they flunk welfare.

NETWORK (R). Fierce satire attacking the television industry and mass media generally. Top performances by Peter Finch, Faye Dunaway and William Holden in fast-paced, grimly humorous film.

ROCKY (PG). Human warmth and exciting drama combine in this stirring film about a no-name boxer who gets a chance at a title bout. Acting accolades to entire cast and especially Stallone as Rocky.

SILVER STREAK (PG). Gene Wilder, Richard Pryor, Patrick McGowan and Jill Clayburgh make tracks in this comedy-thriller about murder and mayhem on a train, and sometimes off.

A STAR IS BORN (R). Long-awaited and unnecessary remake with Barbra Streisand and Kris Kristofferson as rock stars (rather than movie stars) whose careers head in different directions. Ego trip for Streisand.

THIEVES (PG). Mario Thomas and Charles Grodin in a comedy-drama about a disintegrating marriage that might be saved. Background of urban problems and social types.

VOYAGE OF THE DAMNED (PG). Moving story of an historic incident about a ship filled with Jews expelled from Hitler's Germany who are denied haven in free countries.

WIZARDS (PG). A full-length animated feature about two brothers—one good, one bad—fighting for control of the world after an atomic war.

BACK AGAIN

COUSIN, COUSINE (R). A delightful romantic comedy enacted by a relatively unknown but sparkling cast. The mature lovers conduct their romance against a lively background of family action. In French with English subtitles.

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST (R). Former Academy Award winner Jack Nicholson in confrontation with authority in a mental hospital.

MOVIE RATING GUIDE

G General audiences admitted.
PG Parental guidance suggested. All ages admitted.
R Restricted. Adult must accompany person under 18.
X No one under 18 admitted.

Shakespeare for children

"Macbeth," especially designed for youth ages 10-15, will be presented by Henry K. Martin Productions of Lathrup Village Tuesday-Saturday at the Michigan State Fairgrounds in Detroit. Shakespeare himself will guide his new young audience through the presentation. Performances are scheduled for 9:30 and 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and at noon Saturday in the Community Arts Building.

Reservations are available by calling 424-8865.

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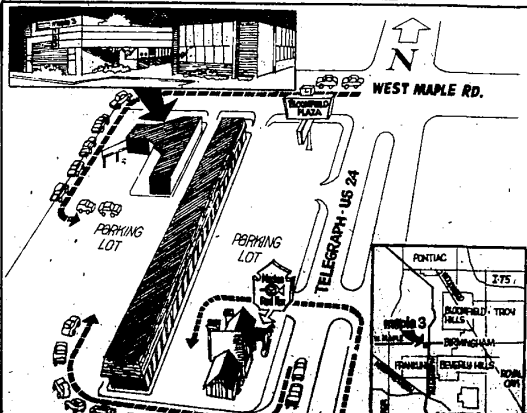
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