

Second runs

Tom Panzenhagen

"The Cowboys" (1972), 11:45 p.m.
Saturday on Ch. 7. Originally 128 minutes.

It's unfortunate that John Wayne made only one good film after "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance" in 1942, and that turned out to be his last film, "The Shootist" (1976). But in among the "Branigans," "McQ," and "The Green Berets," at least, are a couple of interesting films, "True Grit" (1969) and "The Cowboys" included.

Mark "On Golden Pond" Rydell directed "The Cowboys," which is interesting because it effectively casts Wayne as the aging, mythic, Western hero, while "Branigan" and "McQ" simply thrust the past-retirement-age star into middle-age-man roles. Rydell's West was aging, too.

In "The Cowboys," Wayne is confronted not by his former, mythic counterpart, the gunslinger, but by a psychotic gun nut, played by Bruce Dern, who's more a product of the turbulent, terroristic 1960s than of the manifest destiny 1870s. It's a world in which Wayne really cannot function for long and, fittingly, this is one of the few films in which he bites the bullet at the end. Colleen Dewhurst and Slim Pickens also star. Rating: B+.

"Love Happy" (1950), 11:35 p.m.
Tuesday on Ch. 9. Originally 91 minutes.

For Groucho, 59, Harpo, 61, and Chico, 62, "Love Happy" would be the last film in which the Marx Brothers appeared together. But it's painful to think of this awful film as the Marx Brothers' last picture and, in a sense, it isn't. "A Night in Casablanca" (1946)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT?

A ratings guide to the movies

Bad.....	\$1
Fair.....	\$2
Good.....	\$3
Excellent.....	\$4

was the last film written and produced for the brothers as a team.

"Love Happy" is Harpo's baby, with occasional, poorly conceived appearances by Chico and Groucho. Harpo has his moments, but the film is a disaster. And it could have been an unfinished disaster had not too-resourceful producer Lester Cowan salvaged the film when it ran out of money by selling advertising space within the picture. At the end of the film, Harpo does not scurry across Kool, Bulova and Mobil Oil signs by chance. Of course nothing really could have saved this film, not even a 23-year-old Marilyn Monroe's stroll through one of its scenes. Rating: F.

second-rate

"X, Y and Zee" (1972), 2 a.m. Monday night on Ch. 4. Originally 110 minutes.

"Love-hate relationship between a husband and wife explodes when he discovers that the young widow he has been sleeping with is also having a lesbian relationship with his wife." Elizabeth Taylor and Michael Caine and Susannah York star. Rating: Zzzzzz.

Tasters compare 1974 Cabernets

The 1974 vintage in Northern California was an extremely fine one for Cabernet Sauvignon, the best since 1970 and perhaps not equalled until 1980. As such, it is now an increasing sport to monitor the development of these wines.

To do exactly this, 49 people recently gathered under the auspices of the Winetasters to sample 10 of them. Because you may be holding some of these, and because many of them are currently still available on local wine shelves, I decided to report the findings of that tasting:

	score	price
1 Chateau Montelena 6.72	\$40	
2 Fetzer (Mendocino) 6.22	NA	
3 Simi Spec Vintage 6.20	\$20	
4 Chappellet 5.87	\$18	
5.5 Mayacamas 5.81	NA	
6.5 Trinity Vine 5.81	\$9	
7 Gemello 5.54	\$11	
8 Martini Pvt Res 5.50	\$11	

9.5 Joseph Phelps 5.39 NA
9.5 Concannon Ltd. 5.39 \$11

Curiously, the clear preference of the evening, Chateau Montelena, won in spite of potentially defective corkage. Two of the three were weakened and did not seem secure as sealers of the wine within. Perhaps the slight air seepage had helped the wine to more fully mature; it was a lovely, graceful, balanced thing, worthy of its name. It is now ready to drink.

The Fetzer was full of the Mendocino character, and clearly we have come to expect, still holding tannin in abundance.

The Semi Special Vintage was an incredible wine, tasting much younger than its age. Full of berry-like fruit and possessing great aromas, it was almost overwhelming in its intensity.

Also ready to drink now, the Chappellet was perhaps the most elegant wine of the group.



wine
Richard Watson

WITH ITS ALMOST legendary history and overwhelming price tag, the Mayacamas was a bit of a disappointment. It was a bit flat and simple, perhaps going through a dumb stage in its development as big Cabernets are prone to do. Not so the Trinity Vine, a negotiant wine made by Souverain. Very drinkable; relatively direct and full of good Cabernet flavor. This one has peaked now.

The Gemello was the brute of the evening, massive and intense and potent. This kind of wine can destroy the

palate for any wine tasted near it. But if you like them this way, as some do, this was quite a bottle.

The Martini was the other elegant wine of the evening but a bit too lacking in complexity and depth. It needs no further aging.

The Phelps was his first effort with this grape and was one of the few times one of his wines failed to impress. Not flawed, it seemed to be out of focus. The Concannon Ltd., usually light and direct wines, was neither. This had muddy, earthen tones about it, along with some browning in taste. One to be avoided.

Stage Right to open new musical revue

"Who's That Woman?" a musical cabaret will open June 25 at the Grand Pit Theatre at Doug's Body Shop, 22061 Woodward, between Eight and Nine Mile roads, Ferndale.

Presented by State Right Productions, the show is at 9 p.m. Friday-Saturdays through Sept. 18. Tickets are \$6. For reservations call 399-1040.

Drinks and appetizers, as well as desserts, are available throughout the performance.

Starring in "Who's That Woman?" are Christine Deveau of Ann Arbor, Barbara Early of Detroit (who is also choreographer) and Julie Sanford of Concord, Mich. Sara Sieland-Bucy is pianist and Damien McCann is percussionist.

The show features 24 hit songs, each about women but all written by men, also wrote and directed the revues "Blue Moon," which played at three theaters for six months, "Black Coffee/

Walt Kozicki wrote and directed the new revue. In the last 18 months he wrote "White Coffee," "Le Brel Carousell" and "According to John/Paul," a seven-month sell-out.

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