

Second runs

Tom Panzenhagen

WHAT'S IT WORTH?
A ratings guide to the movies

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

"Shaft" (1971), 12:15 Sunday night on Ch. 7. Originally 100 minutes.

Films diversified in the late-1960s and early-1970s in hopes of reaching every potential moviegoer. There was nothing altruistic about the movement. Filmmakers simply realized that previously untapped market groups could be enticed to come and pay their \$2 or \$3 for a movie. It probably began with the appeal to youth of "The Graduate" in 1967 and intensified with the counter-culture-draw of "Easy Rider" two years later. At any rate, by the '70s, most films were aimed at some distinct target audience. There were more

youth and counter-culture films, films for and about unmarried women, senior-citizen films, gay films and, of course, black films. One of the first black films, and perhaps the best of a long line, was "Shaft." Richard Roundtree plays the slick private eye, and he brings to the role a believability missing from all the "Shaft" spinoffs and sequels. Isaac Hayes wrote the music.

Rating: \$2.85.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" (1966), 8 p.m. Wednesday on Ch. 50. Originally 99 minutes.

"Everybody ought to have a maid," seems to be the rallying cry of film fanatics who number this movie among their favorites. To be sure, that song from the film, as well as many others, recommend this Richard Lester picture with the Stephen Sondheim score. But both director and composer have difficulty maintaining that charm for the duration of the film. "Funny Thing" has as many low points as highs; still, it's a film worth seeing at least once.

Zero Mostel, Phil Silvers and Jack Gilford star.

Rating: \$2.75.

Bonstelle opening with drama 'Eden'

The Bonstelle Theatre at Wayne State University in Detroit opens its season Oct. 1 with "Eden," an award-winning drama by Horace E. (Steve) Carter, Jr. Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through Oct. 10.

Set in a mid-Manhattan apartment building in the 1920s, "Eden" explores the intra-racial conflicts between the blacks of America and those transplanted from the West Indian islands.

Dwelling across the hall from one another are a West Indian family of six — mother, father, two sons and two

daughters — and a middle-aged widow and her nephew. When a romance develops between the nephew and the younger of the West Indian daughters, her father, an ardent follower of Marcus Garvey (the first influential Black Nationalist), refuses to condone their relationship.

Although he does not appear as a character in "Eden," Garvey figures significantly in the action of the play. His philosophy is represented by the character of Joseph Barton, the autocratic patriarch of the West Indian family.



Tiger trainer

Gunther Gebel-Williams commands a cageful of Bengal tigers in the 11th edition of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, coming Oct. 12-17 for 12 performances at the Joe Louis Arena in Detroit. Tickets are on sale at the arena or at all CTC outlets.



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