



North to freedom

DeLores Eva Rander and Allen T. Sheffield are two young slaves who flee a South Carolina plantation and run north to freedom in Aundre Harris' "Steel Away Home," opening Thursday, March 3, at Wayne State University Theatre in Detroit. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, March 3-6, and 10-13. Matinees are at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 5 and 12, at General Lectures Hall, 5045 Anthony Wayne Drive. For ticket information call 577-2960.

Ford Museum Theater offers season's tickets

The Henry Ford Museum Theater is offering subscription tickets for its 1983 season at Greenfield Village in Dearborn. Both theater-only and dinner-theater subscription programs are available. The theater-only program, at \$19, offers five plays for the price of four, first choice of seats and ticket exchange service. The dinner-theater program, at \$77.75, includes everything in the theater program, plus a candlelit dinner prior to each production and an optional cocktail reception. Ticket orders are available by calling 271-1820.

ON THE TOWN

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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Second runs

Tom Panzenhagen

"The Producers" (1968), 7:30 p.m. Friday in Room 144 of Madonna College's Science Lecture Hall, phone 591-5000, \$1. Running time 98 minutes.

Mel Brooks needs limitations. His best films — "The Producers" and "Twelve Chairs" — are his first films, pictures in which the novice director is restrained by plot and comedy-genre stylings. When Brooks cuts loose, as he does, for instance, in "Blazing Saddles" or the more recent "History of the World, Part One," his films lose focus, reach too far for cheap laughs and generally disappoint. The pairing of Gene Wilder and Zero Mostel in "The Producers" helps further that film's comic value, as well.

Rating: \$2.85.

"American Gigolo" (1980), 9 p.m. Monday on Ch. 7. Originally 117 minutes.

Director/screenwriter Paul Schrader's "American Gigolo" is at its best early on, when rock group Blondie pounds out the music that accompanies playboy Richard Gere as he prepares for, and goes about, his Rodeo Drive mating rituals. One loses interest, however, when the plot gets twisted around a murder rap, court case and miscarriage of justice. Lauren Hutton, Hector Elizondo and a terribly miscast Nina Van Pallandt co-star.

Rating: \$2.

"Taxi Driver" (1976), 8 p.m. Tuesday on Ch. 50. Originally 113 minutes.

WHAT'S IT WORTH?	
A ratings guide to the movies	
Bad	\$1
Fair	\$2
Good	\$3
Excellent	\$4

Paul Schrader also wrote "Taxi Driver," which makes for an interesting comparison. What do Beverly Hills Rodeo Drive and New York's 42nd Street have in common? In Schrader's eyes it's an artificially — a personality-altering force that drives inhabitants to become pimps, prostitutes and beautiful people, but never themselves. The neon signs of Broadway are as superficial as the haute couture stylings of Beverly Hills. Robert DeNiro, Jodie Foster and Sybil Shepherd star; the film is directed by Martin Scorsese.

Rating: \$3.25.

"Footprints in the Dark" (1941), 1 Tuesday night on Ch. 50. Originally 96 minutes.

Errol Flynn as a gentlemanly amateur sleuth in the casting twist that gets this comedy-mystery off the ground. Flynn has rarely appeared so urbane — boyishly disillusioned and worldly wise yes, but rarely so schooled and mature. Brenda Marshall, Ralph Bellamy and Alan Hale also star in this fast-paced, Lloyd Bacon film.

Rating: \$2.85.



Rovers arriving

The Rovers will give Pre-St. Patrick's Day performances at 8 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday at Macomb Community College's Center for the Performing Arts at Hall and Garfield roads in Clinton Township. The Rovers' record of "The Unicorn" was a triple platinum single, and "Wasn't That a Party" was the LP that marked the return of the group to Top 40 radio charts. Tickets are \$12, \$10 for students and senior citizens. For reservations, call 288-2222. Box office hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-Fridays.

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