



## Second runs Tom Panzenhagen

"A Touch of Class" (1973), 1 tonight on Ch. 7. Originally 105 minutes.  
"A Touch of Class" really has little class, but it passes for sophisticated comedy because it stars Oscar-winning actress Glenda Jackson and George Segal in a story of marital infidelity. Incredibly, Jackson won another best-actress Oscar for the film. Put Doris Day and Rock Hudson in the same picture, and you'd not only have a more enjoyable film but one that the critics would call classless. You pick.  
Rating: 2.

### WHAT'S IT WORTH?

A ratings guide to the movies

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

Tony LoBlanco and Fernando Rey co-star.

Rating: 3.  
"The Conversation" (1974), 4 p.m. Sunday on Ch. 50. Originally 113 minutes.

Gene Hackman stars as a professional eavesdropper in this Francis Ford Coppola film that brilliantly captures the paranoia of a man trapped in his own world of sophisticated surveillance techniques. But the film also takes on themes of responsibility and commitment as opposed to non-involvement, which was the starting point for the Clint Eastwood and Charles Bronson revenge films of the same period. Allen Garfield, Frederick Forrest, Harrison Ford, Teri Garr and Cindy Williams co-star.  
Rating: 3.40.

"There's a Girl in My Soup" (1970), 2 Wednesday night on Ch. 4. Originally 85 minutes.  
Goldie Hawn, the "Laugh-In" girl, made her film debut in this insipid John Boulting film that stars Peter Sellers as one of those thrill-seeking, middle-aged men who think life has passed them by. Sellers is Sellers, Hawn is quite good but the film is quite bad.  
Rating: 1.95.

Rating: 2.70.

Gene Hackman and Roy Scheider star in William Friedkin's "The French Connection," the story of tough cop Popeye Doyle, who's instrumental in the apprehension of international heroin smugglers. The film leaves behind the cynicism of a "Dirty Harry" and runs full tilt in the direction of action and intensity. Oscars went to Friedkin, Hackman, the film, script and editing.

## Attic Theatre presents chapter two of 'WARP'

"WARP II: Unleashed! Unchained!" second chapter of the science-fiction trilogy "WARP," runs through Aug. 27 at the Attic Theatre, 525 E. Lafayette at Beaubien in Detroit's Greektown.  
An additional performance will be held Sept. 8.  
Continuing the "WARP" saga, Lord Cumulus, bank teller turned Cosmic Avenger, engages in combat, defending the universe against formidable foes.

A Michigan premiere, "WARP II" features actors Roosevelt Johnson, Catrina Gancy, Donna Stone, Glen Pruett, Bill Cline, Wayne David Parker, Joey Golden, Loretta Higgins and Robert Williams.  
It is co-directed by Richard Buzinski, an Attic Theatre company member, and William J. Norris, who has drawn upon previous experience with "WARP" in Chicago, Minneapolis and on Broadway.

"WARP," an epic adventure, incorporates exotic costume and multi-media technology into a stage adaptation of comic-book style. Surreal visual projections, shafts of light and synthesized sound aid in the projection of the audience into another dimension.

"WARP I: My Battlefield, My Body" is being performed throughout the run of "WARP II" on Tuesdays-Wednesdays, July 26 through Aug. 24. Sunday matinees began July 17 and continue July 24, Aug. 7 and 21.

Performances of "WARP" are at 8 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 6 and 9 p.m. Saturdays and 2 and 6:30 p.m. Sundays. Special Tuesday and Wednesday performances of "WARP I" are being held at 8 p.m. July 26 through Aug. 24.  
Call 983-7789 to reserve tickets. Group rates, senior citizen and student discounts are available.

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# Tony Bennett: still the greatest

By James Windell  
special writer

So maybe he hasn't recorded a new album in years. And maybe he hasn't changed in repertoire much over the last decade. But Frank Sinatra may well have been right a few years back when he called Tony Bennett "the world's greatest singer."

You might have gotten no argument about that on Friday night at Meadow Brook Music Festival. Bennett, the former singing waiter from Astoria, Queens, N.Y., showed why he sings to capacity crowds everywhere he goes.

Bennett has a knack for singing songs people love, touching them with his velvety voice and his always graceful stage presence — all of which has been honed by 30 years in the entertainment business.

Despite those three decades in a tough business, Bennett knows how to treat a responsive audience and in a slightly longer than two-hour show gave every indication that he gets a big kick out of performing.

## SINGING A Beatles' tune, he snaps his fingers, twirls around and seems to be thoroughly enjoying himself. When he sings "Fascinating Rhythm," he takes it at a crazy, dizzying clip until the whole thing breaks down and he himself dis-

tingles into laughter.

But there's nothing self-indulgent about Bennett and his show. The emphasis is definitely on romantic songs which are standards because he sang them on records in the past. When the lyrics cooperate, he stresses the words that seem to reach out and say to each person in the audience, "I'm singing this song just for you."

In the first half of the generously long show, Bennett — with longtime associate Ralph Sharon on piano, bass and drums — sang a score of tunes that included some of the best pop songs of all time.

"My Funny Valentine" got the full Tony Bennett treatment as he romantically whispered phrases and ended with the booming falsetto voice he uses for the big finish.

His recitation of the verse of the songs proved an appealing way to segue from one song into another. When he began "At Time Goes By" that way, he turned the song over to his excellent pianist Ralph Sharon with the request, "Give us a little Humphrey Bogart, Ralph." Sharon, a fine jazz and

## review

cocktail pianist, responded in appropriate fashion.

SHARON'S PRESENCE emphasizes Bennett's love for jazz. Bennett scats a chorus of "The Man I Love" and his voice for this jazz standard has a well-traveled and certainly live-in sound to it.

The secret of Bennett's success is that he sings the songs associated with him — in this concert there were actually 40 of them — and he leaves no doubt that he was singing to each individual member of the audience. Even if

he did slip during the second half of the concert and call the Detroit Symphony Pops the Dallas Symphony.

You can easily forgive him for such slips. After all, as one easy-going member of the audience noted, "It's probably as hot here tonight as it is in Dallas."

Bennett closed his show with "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" and "I Want to Be Around to Pick up the Pieces." These warm fuzzies from a classic pop singer were enough to sustain an audience that could have taken another dozen songs.

## Fourth Street offers comedy

The Michigan premiere production of "Division Street" by Steve Tesich continues through Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Fourth Street Playhouse, 301 W. Fourth in downtown Royal Oak.

Performances are at 8:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 9 p.m. Saturdays and 7 a.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$8 on Thursdays and Sundays, \$8 on Fridays-Saturdays. Special group rates also are available. For reservations or further information, call the playhouse at 543-3666.

Set in Chicago in 1980, "Division Street" is a comedy about grown-up '60s radicals trying to get something, anything, going for the '80s.

Steve Tesich was born in Yugoslavia in 1942 and moved to the United States with his family when he was 14. He studied at Indiana University. He is best known as the screenwriter for "Breaking Away," "The World According to Gary" and "Four Friends," but he also has written several other plays including "Nourish the Beast," "The Carpenters" and "Gorky." Tesich lives in New York.

"Division Street" is directed by Darrell Zink and features Ron Turek, Susan DeLaney, William Elmore, Michael Kendrick, Van McKenna, Charles Greenia, Nancy Minckler and Fred Parnes in the cast.

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