

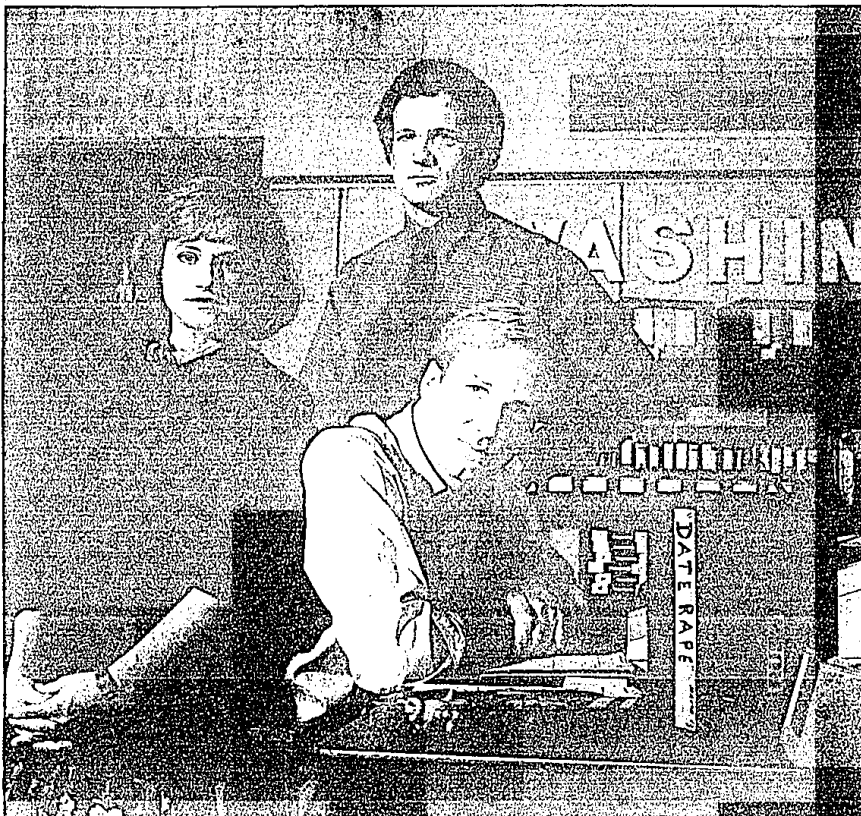
At the top

What do horseback riding and the Chrysler-Maserati convertible have in common? Plenty, according to Alan Teitel, who has a list of what's hot in retail on Page 5D.

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Holly Hunter and William Hurt were nominated for best actress and actor respectively and Albert Brooks as best supporting actor in "Broadcast News," which netted seven nominations in all, including best picture.



Although Nicolas Cage didn't get the nod, Cher did for best actress in "Moonstruck," which walked off with nominations in three of the four acting categories as well as best picture.



Michael Douglas garnered his best actor nomination for his performance in "Wall Street," while his co-star in "Fatal Attraction," Glenn Close, is in the running for best actress for her performance in that movie.

For the rules and entry form, turn to Page 4D.

Greenberg's favorite: He's 'Moonstruck'

By Dan Greenberg
special writer

More good movies premiered in 1987 than in many a year. The reason? It's simple, according to this lame expert, Hollywood is making more movies than ever before.

Last year 550 films were produced in the United States, one of the largest totals on record. So, I reason, if 5 percent of the films in any given year are great, 5 percent of a bigger number means more good films.

All this prognostication is supposed to help you dear readers with the Observer & Eccentric/AMC Oscar contest and win a trip to Hollywood.

Those of you who have followed my picks in past years know that my help may not be the best in town. Maybe you should look elsewhere for assistance.

But a bad track record never stopped me from giving counsel, so here goes.

Keep in mind as you pick the winners that politics is the name of the Hollywood game as members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences vote for Oscar winners.

The often-heard rumor that Spielberg never wins best director because he's come along too fast and hasn't paid his dues may be more than rumor. It's possible that some Academy members feel he's had too much success too quickly, so they won't give him an Oscar.

That's foolish, considering his films are tops. But, then, what do I know?

Another political slant: This year's Oscar nominations have a definite foreign flavor — and not just in the best foreign film category. Fourteen of the 33 picks received by the five best picture selections went to two British productions, "The Last Emperor" and "Hope and Glory."

Adding to that foreign flavor, for the first time in Oscar history, no Americans were nominated for best director.

From the top, then, for best picture, the choices are "Broadcast News," "Fatal Attraction," "Hope and Glory," "The Last Emperor" and "Moonstruck."

"The Last Emperor" heads the list with nine nominations, giving a big hint as to the Academy's regard. Besides best picture, "Emperor" got the nod for its director, Bernardo Bertolucci who, along with Mark Pellée, also was chosen for screenplay adaptation.

In addition, the film was tapped for best cinematography, film editing, original score, art direction, costume design and sound.

All those nominations indicate Academy members have a very positive feel for the film. On the other hand, from nomination to victory is a rocky road. "Citizen Kane" received nine nominations but only won one Oscar.

"Hope and Glory" also competes for best director — John Boorman — plus cinematography, score and best sound.

"Fatal Attraction" has five to its credit — in addition to best picture, Adrian Lyne for director, Glen Close as best actress, Anne Archer for supporting actress, screenplay adaptation and film editing.

"Broadcast News" received seven nominations — best picture, William Hurt as best actor, Holly Hunter as best actress, Albert Brooks as supporting actor, original screenplay, cinematography and film editing.

FINALLY, my favorite and my choice for best picture, "Moonstruck," which received six nods — best picture, Norman Jewison for best director, Cher for best actress, Vincent Gardenia for supporting actor, Olympia Dukakis for supporting actress and for best original screenplay.

Personally, I enjoyed "Moonstruck" more than the other four nominees with "Hope and Glory" a very close second.

One looks for reasons to back up sentimental, personal choices. I'm betting that "Emperor" will miss in this category, but pick up a number of its remaining eight nominations. As far as "Fatal Attraction" goes, it's not wise to sell short on a \$150 million box office gross. Hollywood loves success and dollars are the measure. Of course, "Three Men and a Cradle" has grossed almost as much but didn't get a nod from the Academy.

While so much money may sway some voters, I can't go for a film ("Fatal Attraction") that creates sympathy for a character who disregards his marital vows the minute his wife leaves town — and does so with total disregard for AIDS and other prevalent sexual diseases.

Besides, I thought the ending was phony and very unrealistic. Glen Close was strangled and drowned, clearly dead, the film's goal — sympathy for the object of psychotic attack, Michael Douglas and his family — requires that the wife, Anne Archer, also has to have revenge.

While the public reaction, big box office, indicates audiences love it no matter how contrived, this old-fashioned guy says no.

"Broadcast News" will gather lots of support but not enough, in my book, to overcome the high regard for Cher and the rest of "Moonstruck's" cast.

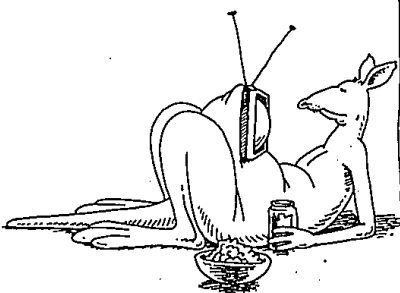
While "Broadcast News" joined "Moonstruck" with nominations in three of the four "people" categories, acting — Hollywood and the Academy are intensely personal — but "Moonstruck" has far more notable supporting roles and its ethnic appeal should help.

Most important of all "Moonstruck" is a celebration of life. To me that counts more than anything. Besides, it was a great movie!

R.U. Syrius

Karlos Barney

AUSTRALIAN POUCH POTATO



By Iris Sanderson Jones
special writer

Q: Every March the disc jockeys play the same songs — "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" and something about the swallows coming back to Capistrano. I know about St. Patrick's day, but what's with the swallows? Can we visit Capistrano?

J.P.
Canton

A: It's a wonderful story that starts with the birds and climaxes with a song called "When the Swallows Come Back to Capistrano."

Travelers from all over the world have been swarming to San Juan Capistrano for years because all the ingredients are there: Spanish missions and pirates mixed with myth, color, legend and a little Irish blarney.

The birds came first. They have been flying for thousands of years from their winter home in Argentina to their nesting sites on the high seaside cliffs of what is now southwestern California.

They were swarming north when Columbus discovered America and when the Spanish sent reluctant padres and convicted soldiers to build 21 Franciscan missions along the Pacific coast. That was the cheapest way to colonize the area and bring Christianity to the coastal Indians.

Please turn to Page 8

Swallows are returning to Capistrano



The fountain in the courtyard of Mission San Juan Capistrano is a good place to view the swallows during their annual visit to the historic California landmark.