



## second runs

**Tom Panzenhagen**

"Champion" (1949), 12:37 tonight on Ch. 9. Originally 90 minutes. TV time slot: last program on Ch. 9 schedule.

The first of three films this week directed by Mark Robson is "Champion," starring Kirk Douglas, Arthur Kennedy, Paul Stewart, Lola Albright, Ruth Roman and Marilyn Maxwell. But "Champion" doesn't belong to Robson. It's the property of producer Stanley Kramer, who has conceded in later years that he made it as an indictment of the boxing game. It's just as much an indictment of ambition and disloyalty, though, as it is an expose of the ruthless characters who populate the fight game. In other words, it works well on a couple of levels.

Rating: 3.5.

"Von Ryan's Express" (1965), 1 p.m. Sunday on Ch. 50. Originally 117 minutes. TV time slot: 180 minutes.

Robson may have been under Kramer's thumb when he made "Champion" together but, one suspects, Robson was his own man when he shot "Von Ryan's Express," starring Frank Sinatra, Trevor Howard, James Brolin, Edward Mulhare and Vito Scotti. It's a taut, high-energy, escape story with POWs commandeering a freight train. "Von Ryan's Express," like "Champion," is well directed with little clutter getting in the way of a good plot.

Rating: 4.3.

"Valley of the Dolls" (1967), 8 p.m. Wednesday on Ch. 50. Originally 123 minutes. TV time slot: 135 minutes.

Mark Robson, who directed "Champion" (albeit with Stanley Kramer's overview), "Von Ryan's

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

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

"Express," as well as "The Bridges at Toko-Ri" and another powerful, anti-fight film, "The Harder They Fall," also directed "Valley of the Dolls," one of the trashiest, most excessive, most overwrought potboilers ever essayed. Robson also directed (and produced) an incredibly bad soap opera, "From the Terrace" (1960), starring Paul Newman. So next time you think a director or producer alone is responsible for a film, think again. Let's credit the writers and other technicians responsible for the success of some films and the downfall of others. Barbara Parkins, Patty Duke, Sharon Tate, Susan Hayward, Paul Burke and Martin Milner (in an unintentionally funny role) co-star in "Valley of the Dolls."

Rating: 2.1.

"Teacher's Pet" (1958), 1 Wednesday night on Ch. 50. Originally 120 minutes. TV time slot: 138 minutes.

"Teacher's Pet" is not only a wonderfully funny film — with terrific comic turns by Gig Young, Mame Van Doren and Nick Adams — but a surprisingly tender love story with Clark Gable and Doris Day as the principals. Gable and Day garner their share of laughs, too, but it's their romance that holds this superior film together.

Rating: 3.45.

**It's a first**

The world's first coins were invented in the 7th century B.C. by the Lydians of Asia Minor. These first coins were made from electrum, a mixture of gold and silver as found in nature. In the years since that time, thousands of coins of varying sizes and alloys have been made.

# Eventful Bruckner a pleasant surprise

By Ruth Zaromp  
special writer

A recent Meadow Brook concert featured Stanislaw Skrowaczewski as its conductor. Maestro Skrowaczewski is Polish-born and has recently been appointed as conductor and music adviser to the Halle Orchestra. He has appeared at Meadow Brook before.

This time, he started the concert with Rossini's Journey to Reims Overture. While this overture is not in the standard repertoire, it resembles the outline of Rossini's better-known overtures. The performance was good with the flute played by Ervin Moore and the triangle played by Robert Pangborn standing out from within the orchestra. One drawback in the performance was the limited, short-winded crescendos, which were ineffectual.

The second piece played during the evening was Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4 in D, featuring the violinist Dmitry Sitkovsky. This young violinist left a marked impression on all who heard him.

His playing revealed a rich and accurate tonal quality with delicate dynamics and his whole manner was extremely well-controlled. The orchestra, on the other hand, sounded weak. There was no interrelationship of quality demonstrated between the violinist and the orchestra, no feeling of conversation or cooperative effort to bring out the quality of the whole music.

Skrowaczewski maintained an overall low dynamic quality to the orchestra. In the beginning of the concert, the feeling of unison was missing, and

the players gave the impression they were playing without a conductor, as they were not completely together. While the orchestra was appropriately small, the focusing of sound was not very efficient.

THE HEIGHT on the program was attained with Bruckner's Symphony No. 3.

To some people, a Bruckner symphony sounds long and boring. However, judging from this performance, it is revealing how exciting and eventful a Bruckner symphony can be. Skrowaczewski brought out the different ideas in the music with knowledge and detail.

From the very first measures to the very last one, he held the interest of the listener, making the Bruckner symphony into an extremely colorful and deep piece of music.

**review**

The second movement sounded pastoral and idyllic, aspects that are rarely associated with Bruckner. The scherzo was forceful, yet not overblown. A good balance was maintained between the brass and the rest of the orchestra.

When the final movement abruptly ended with the final fanfare, one had the feeling of having completed an eventful journey rather than having gone around a large empty circle.

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