

3-9-93

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

MAR 15 1993

Greg Luce
Committee for Film Preservation
and Public Access
2747 Shannesy Drive
Medford, Oregon 97504

MOTION PICTURE, BROADCASTING
AND RECORDED SOUND DIVISION

Dear Greg:

I have been a staunch supporter of our committee's work toward film preservation through copyright reform and I thought I was fairly sophisticated as to the issues involved.

The motion picture has been validated as the art form of the century. The long neglected issue of film preservation has been finally given some acceptance (though we all know more work is needed).

However, your recent statement, "Preservation Without Access is Pointless" was a true eye opener.

As you know, I am a major film buff. It amazes me to think that so many of the works which I had assumed were "lost" either by negligence or indifference were in fact sitting in vaults, properly preserved - at the expense of, well -- all of us.

This should be good news. But, it is very bad news when we realize that the original owners, (many of whom are "lost" themselves or could care less) still have the final say as to when or even if these films will ever be made available to the public.

It seems clear enough. If the public has to bear the expense of preserving these films, many of which are in the public domain or will soon be, shouldn't the public be given an opportunity to have reasonable access to them?

Since the original owners have in effect abandoned these works, then shouldn't entrepreneurial types, who are willing to bear the expense, have these materials made available in order to release these titles, especially to video?

The issue seems bogged down by laws which were created before the realities of the electronic revolution. Whatever the committee can do to change these law and open the floodgates has my full support.

I am looking forward to the result: access for myself and others like me to the countless films which would disappear if this issue is not resolved.

Best regards,

Matthew Weisman

Matthew Weisman
14527 Dickens Street
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

'People that matter' bet on Monte Carlo

By Louise McElvogue

MONTE CARLO — Scrawled across the poster for a local McDonald's on the approach to Monte Carlo is the graffiti slogan "Yankee Go Home!"

But one thing that is clear from business at the Television Market here is that Monte Carlo needs the Americans and the Americans need Monte Carlo.

Business was down slightly. Attendance was probably 20%-30% under most pre-event estimates. Those attending complained about the conflict with surrounding markets. But the clubbish atmosphere still meant an important meeting place with the top European buyers. See **MONTE CARLO** on page 20

Wharton work for Obst

By Kirk Honeycutt

Is Edith Wharton hot or what?

Yet another book by the American novelist is heading for the big screen with the purchase of "The Buccaneers" by 20th Century Fox for producer Linda Obst, sources confirmed Wednesday.

The deal was completed Tuesday night between Elizabeth Gabler, the Fox executive on the project, and agent Lucy Stille of See **WHARTON** on page 21

Boam/Cuse inks with Paramount

By Anita M. Busch

Boam/Cuse Prods. has inked an overall, multiyear deal with Paramount Pictures in which screenwriter Jeffrey Boam ("Lethal Weapon 2," "Lethal Weapon 3") will likely make his directorial debut.

Boam comes to the studio after ending a seven-year, exclusive re- See **BOAM/CUSE** on page 7

CBS sees turnaround in ads buoy bottom line

By Robert Marich

CBS Inc. posted robust earnings Wednesday for calendar 1992, benefiting from improved ratings and a return to profitability at CBS Television network.

Oppenheimer & Co. media analyst Jessica Reif said the rosy CBS results also signal that a turnaround in the overall network TV

advertising market late last year — which ended a painful two-year slide — is translating into measurable financial gains. In the September-to-December fourth quarter alone, CBS earnings tripled.

Reif added that CBS and ABC Television, the Capital Cities/ABC Inc. unit, are getting a double boost because of their strong network

ratings, while General Electric's NBC Television and News Corp.'s FBC ratings are lackluster.

Smith Barney, Harris Upham & Co. media analyst John Reidy estimated CBS Television network enjoyed an operating profit of \$25 million to \$30 million (network-owned TV stations are the main, steady profit engines of network broadcasting groups). Reidy expects the CBS network to earn more than \$100 million this year, challenging ABC as the major network profit leader.

For the year, CBS said Wednesday. See **CBS** on page 20

Public pays, but can't see preserved pics, group says

Activists to press Library of Congress for access

By Kirk Honeycutt

Frustrated over lack of access to films preserved and often restored at public expense, the Committee for Film Preservation and Public Access plans to make a pitch for greater public access at Friday's hearings of the National Film Preservation Board of the Library of Congress in Los Angeles.

The hearing at Sofitel's Ma Maison Hotel will be conducted by the board to take testimony on the state of film preservation and restoration in the United States for its report to Congress under terms of the National Film Preservation Act of 1992.

The committee — whose members include noted film historians William Everson and Anthony Slide, producer-director Joe Dante and film archivist-producer Robert Harris — is concerned that written agreements between studios and See **PRESERVE** on page 21

Jackson live: Media stories 'so much trash'

Michael Jackson went public with his personal life Wednesday night with Oprah Winfrey, blasting the media for making up "so much godawful stories."

Winfrey's questions in the live ABC special focused almost exclusively on Jackson's personal appearance and rumors about the reclusive pop star. He said he has a disorder that destroys pigmentation of his skin and has had "very, very little" plastic surgery.

About 45 minutes of the "live" interview show was actually a live interview. The rest was taken up

Reid-Wallace CPB educator

Carolyn Reid-Wallace, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education, has been named senior vp for education at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The appointment was one of several announced at CPB on Wednesday, which the organization said was part of its effort to underscore education as a top priority for public broadcasting.

CPB president Richard Carlson See **CPB** on page 19

Dame Edna Dis debutante

By Anita M. Busch

"Mother-in-Law," which was in turnaround at Paramount Pictures, has moved to Touchstone Pictures as a vehicle for the grand dame of comedy, Dame Edna Everage, to star in, sources confirmed.

The project would mark the feat. See **DAME EDNA** on page 20

IATSE warns of 'full-scale crisis'

By David Robb

The IATSE and its Hollywood locals "are confronting a full-scale crisis" and "need to change the way we do business" in order "to survive," said IATSE Camera Local 659 president George Spiro Dible in the local's latest newsletter. See **IATSE** on page 21

WHAT'S INSIDE

Viacom's back in the black	3
Vajna made a run at Imagine	4
NHK out of HDTV competition	5

REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION



emerging technology & computer rentals

"The Computer Rental Source for the Entertainment Industry"

800
427-2382

