

Arts, Letters, & Entertainment

SCREEN DEMON

OSCAR
KICK-OFFAngela Lynch
Staff Writer

There are those who believe that the harbinger of Springtime is the blossoming of trees and the song of birds in the air -- but little do they know. To the enlightened of the world, springtime arrives with the image of a golden statue and the phrase "And the Oscar goes to....."

Although the first awards handed out by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences back in 1927 didn't make much of an impact, today the Hollywood industry regards the ceremony as its highest accolade. And come Monday, March 30 everything in the film industry will grind to a screeching halt as we find out who gets to take home the little bald-headed, naked man we have come to know and love as "Oscar."

And now, like every other film critic in the world, the Screen Demon must publicly voice selections and opinions about the Oscar nominees -- and probably be completely wrong on every one.

In the Best Actor category, the Academy has selected five incredible performances by men who are probably the best actors of our generation. Nominees include Warren Beatty for **Bugsy**, Robert De Niro in **Cape Fear**, Anthony Hopkins for **The Silence of the Lambs**, Nick Nolte for **The Prince of Tides**, and Robin Williams for **The Fisher King**. (If your character didn't have a slight mental imbalance, you wouldn't stand a chance in this year's selection.) All of the nominees gave what could be considered the perfor-



mances of their careers and it's almost tragic that only one will walk away with the Oscar. But the Screen Demon nod goes to Anthony Hopkins for his unforgettable role as Hannibal Lechter in **The Silence of the Lambs**. Perhaps you might not remember this, but **Silence** was released almost an entire year ago -- and for a performance to be remembered and nominated for an Academy Award after this great length of time is a grand accomplishment.

Warren has too many Oscars anyway. De Niro gets nominated for everything and Williams has only touched the surface of his talents, so rest assured that he will be Oscar-material for years to come. Nick Nolte may be Hopkins top contender for the Oscar -- but I think "Hannibal the Cannibal" will prove gold for Hopkins first nomination.

As we move to the Best Supporting Actor category, nominations went to Tommy Lee Jones in **JFK**, Harvey Keitel and Ben Kingsley for **Bugsy**, Michael Lerner for **Barton Fink**, and Jack Palance for **City Slickers**. Hands down -- the Screen Demon pick goes to Tommy Lee Jones as Clay/Bertrand Shaw in **JFK**. Jack Palance may pull in some sympathy votes because of his age, but Jones is the best pick -- by far. Makes me wonder why more per-

MADAME ZELDA

Look in the
Crystal
Ball!

ARIES--Slow down, Ram! Your energy and drive to discover new experiences makes the average person dizzy. If you're looking for a compatible pal or lover to traipse behind you on all your mad dashes from here to everywhere, look for a Libra. Being at the beginning of the zodiac, symbolizing new beginning, you tend to be self-centered, but this blends nicely with the Libran philosophy of surrendering to others. Look forward to Tuesday: it is Aries' lucky day, and if by chance you find yourself near Florence or Naples, be sure to stop for a visit -- those cities are cosmically right for you.

T A U R U S -- E v e r thought about humoring your mother and giving voice lessons a shot? You should. A Taurus throat may prove to be very valuable--but be careful. Along with this gift comes a drawback: you are extremely vulnerable to colds and laryngitis. You share a sign with musical genius, Barbara Streisand and musical cutie, Shirley Temple. Try decorating your room in light blue or mauve to feel more comfortable in your surroundings.

formances for **JFK** weren't nominated -- Joe Pesci and Kevin Bacon rocked and deserve more recognition.

Best Actress is really hard to decide. The nominations went to both Geena Davis and Susan Sarandon for **Thelma & Louise**, Laura Dern in **Ram-**

GEMINI--It is a very dull-minded individual that can not understand you, Gemini. Your gift of excellent self-expression manifests itself in everyday conversations, formal speeches and writing. This is accented by versatility, so you can probably charm the socks off of most anyone (professors included). Do you feel inspired to write poetry? Don't hesitate. Poet geniuses like Allen Ginsburg, Walt Whitman and William Butler Yeats all wrote under the sign of The Twins. For inspiration, try San Francisco.

CANCER--If you've been feeling kind of blue lately, never fear. Your emotions will shift with the new moon on April third. Your keen Cancerian instincts will be at their peak at this time, so be sure not to discard any inspirations or revelations. Work on getting to the point sometimes instead of side-stepping issues, Crab. Your lucky day is Monday.

LEO--You are extremely self-assured and enthusiastic in your ambitions. You look out for yourself and may tend to dominate others. You control a room and

gladly soak up the attention. This love of the limelight might possibly lead you to the stage like some of your brothers and sisters of the zodiac: Robert De Niro, Dustin Hoffman and Mae West. If you find yourself in Hollywood, don't be surprised -- the city is cosmically right for you. To protect yourself from any physical injury, wear a ruby.

VIRGO--People find you to be very reserved and often hard to get to know. Don't let your Virgo nature cause you to lose friends. I know, I know, you think love is nice but finding facts and remaining in control is more important, right? Well, maybe Virgo. Your ability to balance the checkbook and objectively analyze EVERYTHING is quite impressive, just try not to let it be obsessive. To achieve balance, find a Pisces; your signs are opposite. Between your acute case of practicality and the Fishes' disease of disillusion, reality just might be in there somewhere.

LIBRA--Well, you are the social butterfly. Your overwhelming charm aids in your ability to win people over. You are a romantic commit-

bling Rose, Jodie Foster in **The Silence of the Lambs**, and Bette Midler in **For the Boys**. First instincts say "Jodie Foster" and the Screen Demon nod swings heavily in her direction -- but keep a thought open for Susan Sarandon; she may be the surprise contender.

The Best Supporting Actress nominees -- for the most part -- gave the warmest performances of all. Diane Ladd in **Rambling Rose**, Mercedes Ruehl in **The Fisher King**, and Jessica Tandy in **Fried Green Tomatoes** all gave perfor-

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