

Unforgiven takes Oscars -- third western to win Best Picture

Well, another year in the movie industry passed Monday night with the 65th Academy Awards ceremony. This year the gala came with the usual glitz and glamour, as well as some surprises.

I always enjoy watching the ceremony because it's the world's largest fashion show and it's the closest I'll ever get to the stars. This year though, I was anxious to watch because I knew there were going to be some surprises in the Dorothy Chandler Pavillon -- and I was right.

The biggest surprise of the evening came when newcomer Marisa Tomei walked away with the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress. Tomei's Oscar was the product of her comedic performance in *My Cousin Vinny*. Tomei's award was a big surprise since the academy tends to go with dramatic performances and especially this year since Tomei was up against four established actresses.

Gene Hackman won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actor for his performance in *Unforgiven*. Hackman, whose uncle had died a few hours before the awards, gave a shaky speech thanking



Traci Latta

director Clint Eastwood for the opportunity to make *Unforgiven*.

Best Actor went to Al Pacino for his performance in *Scent of a Woman*. Pacino's Oscar was long awaited since he had previously been nominated seven times without winning. "You broke my streak," said Pacino.

English actress Emma Thompson won the Oscar for Best Actress for her performance in the period film *Howards End*. Thompson was so surprised when her name was announced it took her a few seconds to get out of her seat.

Clint Eastwood, who had never been nominated before, racked up with Oscars for Best Director and

Best Picture for this film *Unforgiven*. *Unforgiven*, which was up against formidable competition, *A Few Good Men*, *Howards End* and *The Crying Game*, was a dark horse as well.

Other noted wins were songwriters Alan Menken and Tim Rice's award for Best Original Song for "A Whole New World" from *Aladdin*, *A River Runs Through It* for cinematography, and *Bram Stoker's Dracula* for costume design, sound effects and makeup.

The film with the true surprise, *The Crying Game*, walked away with the Oscar for Best Original Screenplay.

All in all though, the ceremony was once again way too long (3 1/2 hours) and full of glitz and glitter. Probably the most annoying part of the evening were the several political statements made by several of the stars. Oh well, it's just another day (night) in paradise I suppose. Maybe next year it will take only 2 hours and the recipients will thank only those who deserve it in under one minute. Yeah, right -- like I said, just another day in paradise.

Culture Notes

•N.C.S.U. Glee Club and Meredith Ensemble Performance, April 1, 8 p.m., Jones Auditorium

•Heidi Anne Williams, Graduation Piano Lecture-Recital, April 2, 10 a.m., Carswell Concert Hall

•Amanda Moore, Graduation Piano Recital, April 2, 8 p.m., Carswell Concert Hall

•Shelly Register, Junior Voice Recital, April 3, 8 p.m., Carswell Concert Hall

•Nancy Rocamore, Graduation Voice Recital, April 4, 5 p.m., Carswell Concert Hall

•Raleigh Symphony Orchestra Performance, April 6, 8 p.m., Jones Auditorium

MCTV -- Wednesday, March 31-Friday, April 9	
W	Channel 10 10:00 am French in Action #5 10:30 am Ensemble, Chapter 9 8:00 pm Life From the Sea
E	Channel 13 12 noon Voices & Visions: T.S. Eliot 5:00 pm The Power of Myth, volume 3 6:00 pm Africa, volume 4 7:00 pm Home Planet 8:00 pm Firm Arms & Abs
D	Channel 10 11:00 am French in Action #5
A	Channel 13 10:00 am Voices & Visions: T.S. Eliot
Y	Channel 10 5:00 pm Anthony & Cleopatra
W	Channel 10 3:00 pm Deutsch Direkt #7
E	Channel 13 5:00 pm The Power of Myth, Vol. 4 6:00 pm Africa, Vol. 5: The Bible And The Gun 7:00 pm Third Planet
D	Channel 10 3:00 pm Deutsch Direkt #7
A	Channel 13 12:00 pm Civil War, Vol. 5

The Shenandoah Shakespeare Express

will be performing at Meredith College April 14 and 15
A Midsummer's Night Dream will be presented on Wednesday.
Antony and Cleopatra will be presented on Thursday.
Jones Auditorium 8 p.m.
Admission is free
Seating is first come first serve

Performances and workshops are sponsored by the Fletcher School of Performing Arts. After each performance, there will be a question and answer session.

See Meredith's Stars!

The Meredith Video Club Presents

The Second Annual Mickey Awards

April 7
Kresge Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

bring your autograph book!