

14 Oscar nods for 'Titanic'

OSCAR from page 12

Addy, who played the hefty sidekick Dave.

Steven Spielberg's DreamWorks studio fared poorly in its first Oscar year. His "Amistad" was not nominated for best picture, nor was Spielberg for directing it. Anthony Hopkins was nominated for supporting actor, but Djimon Hounsou, the star of "Amistad," was overlooked.

The two movies that made the most money in 1997 - "Men in Black" and Spielberg's "The Lost World: Jurassic Park" - got a meager four nominations altogether, all in minor categories.

Winslet was nominated for best actress along with three fellow Englishwomen - Helena Bonham Carter of "The Wings of the Dove," Julie Christie of "Afterglow" and Judi Dench of "Mrs. Brown" - and one American, Helen Hunt, of "As Good as It Gets."

On the strong lineup of British women, Winslet said English actresses aren't better. The nominees, she suggested, were lucky to get good roles. "One can't help but feel: Good on the Brits," she said.

Robert Duvall's self-financed starring role in "The Apostle" earned him a best actor nomination. He will face Matt Damon from "Good Will Hunting," Peter Fonda from "Ulee's Gold," Dustin

Hoffman from "Wag the Dog" and Jack Nicholson from "As Good as It Gets."

Absent from the nominations was Winslet's "Titanic" co-star, young Leonardo DiCaprio, who has teen-age girls going back to theaters several times to see the movie.

"Titanic" was also nominated for art direction, cinematography, costume design, editing, makeup, score, song ("My Heart Will Go On"), sound, sound effects editing and visual effects.

The Academy Awards will be presented March 23 in Los Angeles.

In February 1997, "Titanic" co-producer 20th Century Fox was inundated with distress signals from the film's location. One week, the crew's food was drugged by a disgruntled worker. Another week, Cameron was able to complete only a few seconds of action.

The movie's budget ballooned to nearly double its original size, and the picture's release was delayed from July to December. In one widely told tale, two top executives nearly came to blows over the release date.

Once the movie arrived in theaters, audiences couldn't get enough: "Titanic" has been the nation's No. 1 movie for eight weeks and will pass "Jurassic

Park" this weekend to claim third place on the all-time list.

"I don't sit here gloating over proving everyone wrong. But I'm certainly happier they all were wrong," said Peter Chernin, who heads Fox parent News Corp. He said the picture was "the victim of relentless, nasty press coverage and industry gossip. What kept us going was what we saw on screen."

In the best director category, Cameron faces Peter Cattaneo for "The Full Monty," Gus Van Sant for "Good Will Hunting," Curtis Hanson for "L.A. Confidential" and Atom Egoyan for "The Sweet Hereafter."

"Titanic" is titanic. Like the ship, it's huge. What can you do? I just sort of feel we are surfing along in their wake," Hanson said.

The nominees for best supporting actress were Stuart, Joan Cusack in "In & Out," Minnie Driver in "Good Will Hunting," Julianne Moore in "Boogie Nights" and Kim Basinger in "L.A. Confidential."

Burt Reynolds was nominated for best supporting actor for "Boogie Nights." The other nominees were Robert Forster from "Jackie Brown," Hopkins from "Amistad," Greg Kinnear from "As Good as It Gets" and Robin Williams from "Good Will Hunting."

Sinatra hospitalized

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Frank Sinatra was hospitalized Tuesday for tests that a family spokeswoman said was for nothing serious.

The hospitalization at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center comes 13 months after the 82-year-old entertainer suffered a heart attack.

"Mr. Sinatra is at Cedars where he is undergoing testing," his spokeswoman Susan Reynolds said, refusing to comment further.

Sinatra was taken by ambulance from his Beverly Hills home about 9 a.m. He was accompanied by his wife Barbara, and the ambulance traveled to the hospital without lights and siren.

"It's a non-emergency. He's fine," hospital spokeswoman Charlie Lahaie said.

Sinatra has not been seen in public since his heart attack in January 1997.

CORRECTION

In Tuesday's edition of the Daily Nebraskan, the architect of the NBC Bank Building was incorrectly identified. The architect's name is I.M. Pei.



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'Dance' taps out glimpse of life in Japan

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is Suo's latest work, and it is perhaps the greatest film ever to come out of Japan, winning all 13 Japanese Academy Awards.

"Shall we Dance?" is a polite film that focuses on the midlife metamorphosis of Shohei Sugiyama (Koji Yakusho), an ordinary businessman living a comfortable suburban life with his faithful wife and adorable daughter. As he says about his situation, "It's not a matter of like or dislike, it's my job."

But his mundane life soon takes a turn. Taking the train home after work, Sugiyama sees a beautiful woman standing alone, lost in thought, at a second-floor window. Each night, as the train shuttles him back to the comforts of home, she is in the window. One night, on a whim, he gets off the train and decides to investigate.

Upon entering the building, he learns that the beautiful woman, Mai, played by ballet veteran Tamiyo Kusakari, is an instructor at a ballroom dancing school. Sugiyama promptly signs up for lessons, hoping for private lessons from Mai, but must settle for a group class taught by an older woman.

Sugiyama soon regains the spring his step had long since lost. His continued absence from home

“In the end, "Shall we Dance?" is a passionate character study that teaches both the characters and the audience that life's lessons are not learned by yourself ...”

raises some suspicions from his wife, who thinks he is having an affair.

Although his original motivation for dance lessons was a chance to meet Mai, Sugiyama continues to take lessons in secret and begins to appreciate the art of ballroom dance with the company of his classmates.

The pace, tone, dialogue and cinematography makes for a gorgeous film. The film is subtitled - but if you can read this, it won't be a problem. Sugiyama's classmates provide a nice amount of comic relief, including a co-worker of his who disguises himself as the passionate Latin dancer "Donny Aoki."

The most interesting construct of the film is the intimate look it takes on Japanese culture and the stigma its almost Victorian society places on social interaction with the opposite sex - including dancing.

In the end, "Shall we Dance?" is

a passionate character study that teaches both the characters and the audience that life's lessons are not learned by yourself but through interaction with others.

"Shall we Dance?" is playing at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater in the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery from Thursday through Sunday and Feb. 19-21. Show times are at 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. with added matinees for the weekend showings. All showings, except for the premiere, are open to the public.

The premiere of "Shall we Dance?" is part of a special event hosted by the Nebraska Art Association and Friends of the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater. Admission is \$15 per person and features a cash bar and dessert buffet with a ballroom dancing lesson after the film. For more information about the special screening, call the NAA office at (402) 472-2540.

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