

## For Your Consideration

is a quick SFPA zine by Jeffrey Copeland. Published by Bywater Press, 3243 165<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Bellevue WA 98008 on 12 February 2002. (Uncharacteristically composed using Microsoft Word, rather than TeX.)

Today is Mardi Gras. It is also Lincoln's real birthday. The Oscar nominations were announced after the flock of traditional advertisements from which I draw my title. And I have spent odd moments today working through my Hugo nominations ballot.

First, the **Oscars**: The good news is that *Fellowship of the Ring* was nominated for Best Picture, along with *A Beautiful Mind*, *Gosford Park*, *In the Bedroom*, and the completely silly *Moulin Rouge*. I have only seen *Fellowship* and *Moulin Rouge*, but have read large chunks of the book on which *A Beautiful Mind* is based. Perhaps Liz and I will see *In the Bedroom* or *A Beautiful Mind* on our Valentine's Day date.

I'm pleased that Nicole Kidman is nominated. She's a better actor than her ex-husband, the movie star, and she's pleasant to look at. The two good things about *Moulin Rouge*: Nicole Kidman's presence and Jim Broadbent's rendition of "Like a Virgin". (Though Broadbent's Oscar nomination is for *Iris*.)

Meanwhile, Russell Crowe's handlers have launched a massive press push about how he's a nice guy, not the complete jerk he's got a reputation for. After all, they say, he really, really deserves to get back-to-back Oscars for Best Actor like Tom Hanks and Spencer Tracy. Sorry: he didn't deserve the award for *Gladiator*; I can't imagine he deserves another nomination for *Beautiful Mind*, given his range of facial expression from A to A.

It's interesting that *Fellowship* won the "most nominations" sweepstakes. One wouldn't have expected a movie that will appear on the Hugo ballot to have achieved this honor.

And that brings us to the **Hugos**:

Last year, Charles Stross should have been nominated for a Hugo for "Antibodies." Unfortunately, it was a short story, and that was the strongest of the generally poor short fiction categories. Perhaps this year, nominators will see fit to shortlist either his "Lobsters" (*Asimov's*, June) or its sequel "Troubadours" (*Asimov's*, Oct/Nov).

I've already marked down Mike Resnick and Janis Ian's wonderful short story "Water-Skiing Down the Styx", even if it does end in a bad joke. (And, yes, that's *that* Janis Ian, the singer, who was completely wowed by her first Worldcon in Philadelphia.) Unfortunately, this was only published electronically --- see <http://www.fictionwise.com> to get a copy.

I've made my perennial nominations for Best Fanwriter and Best Fanzine, (even though the last time my nominating Arthur Hlavaty had any effect was 1986). I've not marked *Locus* under Best Semiprozine, since there's nothing semi about it anymore.

Dramatic Presentation? *Fellowship of the Rings*, obviously. *Harry Potter*, despite the backlash from Rowling winning Best Novel last year. I'm also nominating an episode of *Buffy The Vampire Slayer*, though not the obvious musical episode "Once More With Feeling", but rather choosing the excellently written "The Body," in which Buffy's mother dies and each character deals with grief differently. *Enterprise*, while workmanlike, is still neither inspired nor interesting.

I'll be e-mailing a version of this to several people ahead of SFPA, but both the Academy Awards ceremony and Hugo nominations deadline occur before the next SFPA will go out, so this will have no effect at all, and it's actually "For Your Amusement."