

News

2016 Oscar Recap: Chris Rock Pokes Fun at Both the Boycott and the Academy

By Kam Williams
For The Skanner News

On a night when the Academy Awards were overshadowed by the absence of black nominees, Spotlight upset *The Revenant* for the big prize, Best Picture, although *Mad Max* netted the most trophies (6) overall. But from his opening monologue clear through his the close of the evening's festivities, master of ceremonies Chris Rock kept the pedal to the metal, reminding viewers at every opportunity of the conspicuous absence of African-Americans honorees.

just as tough on the supporters of the protest, insinuating that they ought to lighten up since things were far worse back in the 1950s and 1960s when their grandmothers might have been lynched. Rock reserved his most caustic comments for Jada Pinkett Smith, making a crude joke implying Jada is untalented and about as likely to be nominated as he is to have sex with the attractive pop diva.

Next, he took a swipe at Jada's husband, Will Smith, prefacing his remarks by announcing, "I'm not hating." After conceding that Will had been snubbed for *Concussion*, Rock pointed

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He began by welcoming the audience to the “White People's Choice Awards” before launching into a 10-minute stand-up routine in which he was careful to level barbs at both sides of the controversy. For example, he chided the members of the Academy for being racists, suggesting, “If they nominated hosts, I wouldn't even get this job.”

out that it was equally unfair that he'd been paid \$20 million for his poor performance in *Wild Wild West*.

The profusion of race-based humor had its share of awkward moments, like when Chris announced that the “In Memoriam” package would be devoted to “black people shot by cops

On the other hand, he was

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COMPLETE LIST OF OSCAR WINNERS

PICTURE: *Spotlight*
 DIRECTOR: Alejandro González Iñárritu, *The Revenant*
 LEAD ACTOR: Leonardo DiCaprio, *The Revenant*
 LEAD ACTRESS: Brie Larson, *Room*
 SUPPORTING ACTOR: Mark Rylance, *Bridge of Spies*
 SUPPORTING ACTRESS: Alicia Vikander, *The Danish Girl*
 ADAPTED SCREENPLAY: *The Big Short*, Charles Randolph and Adam McKay
 ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY: *Spotlight*, Josh Singer and Tom McCarthy
 ORIGINAL SCORE: Ennio Morricone, *The Hateful Eight*
 ORIGINAL SONG: “Writings on the Wall,” *Spectre*
 BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM: *Son of Saul*
 DOCUMENTARY FEATURE: *Amy*
 ANIMATED FEATURE FILM: *Inside Out*
 VISUAL EFFECTS: *Ex Machina*
 SOUND MIXING: *Mad Max: Fury Road*
 SOUND EDITING: *Mad Max: Fury Road*
 FILM EDITING: *Mad Max: Fury Road*
 CINEMATOGRAPHY: *The Revenant*
 MAKEUP AND HAIRSTYLING: *Mad Max: Fury Road*
 PRODUCTION DESIGN: *Mad Max: Fury Road*
 COSTUME DESIGN: *Mad Max: Fury Road*
 LIVE ACTION SHORT FILM: *Stutterer*
 DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM: *A Girl in the River: The Price of Forgiveness*
 ANIMATED SHORT FILM: *Bear Story*
 JEAN HERSHOLT HUMANITARIAN AWARD: Debbie Reynolds

Film Review: ‘Eddie the Eagle’ Chronicles Exploits of Underdog Ski Jumper at the 1988 Winter Olympics



Hugh Jackman and Taron Egerton in 'Eddie the Eagle'

By Kam Williams
For The Skanner News

Growing up in Cheltenham, Michael Eddie Edwards (Taron Egerton) would tell anybody who would listen that he would be an Olympic athlete one day. Although mercilessly teased by playmates and barely tolerated by his skeptical father (Keith Allen), the boy seized on the unwavering encouragement of the very supportive mother (Jo Hartley) who would feed his seemingly-unreachable dream.

Despite being extremely farsighted, born with an underwhelming physique and betrayed by bad

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Ted Wheeler & Jules Bailey

March 10 ~ 6:30 PM

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