### THE PARTY OF THE A KAMESIA A The Post clues you in to 99

By SARA STEWART, MICHAEL KANE and MICHAEL GILTZ

OT so long ago, the Golden Globes were not only the biggest Hollywood party of the year - they were our best chance to see celebrities let their hair down, get loaded and do embarrassing, unscripted things on- and off-

the Hollywood Foreign Press Association awards cere-mony, airing on NBC tomorrow night, has come to be taken more seriously as an Oscar predictor, that's become way less likely.

But hope springs eternal, so we'll still sit rapt in front of the TV waiting for a boozy insult, a nip slip or, best of all, a Jack

Nicholson sighting.

In the meantime, we present everything you need to know about the Globes and this year's nominees, from what's for dinner to what's on Jake Gyllen-haal's mind (he thinks the cowboys are straight!).

Don't worry, there won't be a quiz at the end — since everyone will forget who won when the Oscars are announced March 5, anyway.

What's trickier than

filming in New York without a permit? Try the Middle East. While

secrets of the Golden Globes filming a scene with camel riders in "Syriana," director Stephen Gaghan and his crew accidentally crossed the border from the United Arab Emirates into Oman, The Omani army forced them to

Talk about faith in a script: Heath Ledger agreed to play the role of Ennis Del Mar in "Brokeback Mountain" before ever meeting or speaking to director Ang Lee.

Apparently, nobody's geeky enough to play Chris Rock. The comedian says Tyler James Williams, the child actor who plays him in

turn back.

"Everybody Hates Chris," is far from a perfect match: "He's a cute kid," Rock says. "My teeth were all messed

> Apparently, thinking you're doomed is funny. The cast and cre-ators of "Scrubs" felt so uncertain of their standing at NBC — the net-work wouldn't say when the situation comedy would return to the air - that they stopped thinking about being appro-priate and did whatever they wanted.

No won-der Brits have a snobby "Match Point" director Woody Allen gushed over his U.K. cast members, saying the most dialogue seemed smarter

BROOKLYN IN THE HOUSE: Glam couple Heath Ledger and Michelle Williams bought their Boerum Hill townhouse from New York bon vivant and 'Rocky Horror Picture Show" star Nell

and wittier coming out of an English mouth.

> If you want to get Burt Reynolds' attention, just make fun of him. After "My Name Is Earl"
> did a sharp parody
> of the "Smokey and
> the Bandit" blooper reel,
> Reynolds agreed to make an upcoming appearance on the

SMOKIN' HOT: Even before she became America's favorite pot dealer, Mary Louise Parker knew how to inspire tribute. The Counting Crows wrote the song "Butterfly in Reverse" for her in 2002.



Turns out that annoving Hollywood suits weren't the only inspiration for Ari, the viciously funny agent of HBO's "Entourage." The part was created

ed specifically with actor Jeremy Piven mind.

Proving that the wall between TV and film continues to crumble: Felicity Huffman scored nominations for Best Actress in a Film Drama ("Transamerica") and TV Musical/Comedy ("Desperate Housewives").

Ironically, Halle "Catwoman" Berry was late

for the red carpet last year because she had lost her cat.

Tenacious "Crash" director Paul Haggis suffered a heart attack during shooting, but wouldn't let anvone take over his duties. He managed to return to the director's chair only two weeks later.

Obviously a kid in search of a father figure: Noah Baumbach, director of the autobio-graphical film "The Squid and the Whale," had actor Jeff Daniels wear his dad's clothes so he'd be more in tune with the part.

"Grey's Anatomy" was originally set in Chicago. But creator Shonda Rhimes realbut creator should armies teal-ized the Windy City might be a little crowded in viewer's minds, what with "ER" and "Chicago Hope" having resided there as well — so it was relocated to

The real scene is offcamera: Roughly 1,300 people are expected to eat dinner at the event, but three times that will show up for viewing and after-parties at

But the stars who bother to show up will eat well — at least the ones who aren't trying to fit into a size-0 ball gown. The first course on this year's dinner menu is a green papaya and Asian pear salad with Indochina spiced jumbo shrimp and chili-lime-cilantro dressing.

We all know about Hollywood ageism, but this seems a little extreme: Of all five drama and six comedy TV series nominees, only one has been on for longer than two seasons: HBO's "Curb Your Enthusiasm."

STIIMRI F INTO LIQUID: "Lost" may win a Globe, but the cast has been less than lucky in criminal matters- Josh Holloway was robbed at gunpoint in his home in Oahu- And castaways Cynthia Watros and Michelle Rodriguez (right) were both arrested for drunken driving.

"Brokeback director Ang Lee hasr always had a way with western His 1999 Civil War drama "Rio With the Devil," which features shoot-'em-up raid on Kansa was his first critical and cor mercial misstep since his brea through "The Wedding Ba

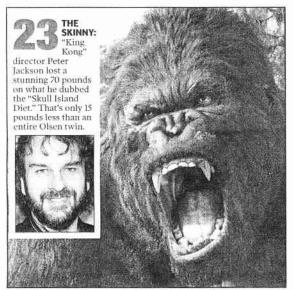
"Capote" star Philip Se mour Hoffman is hard the first one to portray Tr man Capote. Less accura versions have popped up "To Kill a Mockingbird" novelist Harper Lee bass Dill, the strange little be next door, on her write friend — and in "Breakfast Tiffany's" George Peppan plays a straight, normal-loo ing version of the odd autho



Back to Hoffman, accor ing to gambling Web site he's a 1-to-3 favorite to win be actor in a drama, ahead of packed field that includes Hea Ledger (9-to-Russell



## 



rence Howard (8-to-1) and David Strathairn (9-to-1)

At 12-plus years, S.
Epatha Merkerson's
"Law & Order" character Lt.
Anita Van Buren is the
longest-running African
American character in an
American television drama.

PLAYING 10 **DOCTOR:** Hunky Patrick Dempsy of "Grev's Anatomy" has no problem with generation gaps. He married his bestfriend Corey Parker's mother. Rocky, in 1987 when he was just 21. That made Corey, who is nearly a full older than him,

What were Globes voters smoking in 1951? That was a low point for the show's Oscar-predicting accuracy: Only one in five winners went on to get an Academy Award.

Don't call it a comeback:
Mel Brooks, nominated for best original song for "The Producers," was also nominated in 1969 for best screenplay for the original version of that movie.

The first nationally televised Golden Globes show was broadcast in 1964 on "The Andy Williams Show." But it didn't become a household name until NBC picked up the contract in the mid-"90s.

Times were simpler then: The first Golden Globes ceremony, in 1943, included only five categories — Best Picture, Actor, Actress, Supporting Actor and Actress — and the winners received a scroll, not a statuette.

Hold the phone notoriously volatile Russell Crowe is the only one up for "Best Actor: Drama" who's been previously nominated. Perhaps they're afraid of what he'll do if he doesn't get a nod.

Foreshadowing many a hearty hangover, 67 cases (or 402 magnums) of Moet & Chandon champagne will be on hand for the event this year. Plus, there's another 3,552 tiny champagne bottles that convert into flutes available for the red carpet and throughout the evening.

TV creator Gregory Thomas Garcia's last show, "Yes, Dear" was blasted by critics — but they love his new show, "My Name Is Earl."

Just how important is Maria Bello in "A History of Violence"? The actress is nominated for Best Dramatic Actress for her role in "A History of Violence" — but the New York Film Critics Circle awarded

her best supporting actress for the same role.

Jim Carrey and Adam Sandler were both considered for the part of Willy Wonka in "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" before Johnny Depp signed on for the role.

During breaks in shooting "Pride & Prejudice," Keira Knightley would sneak off dressed in ball gowns and corsets to practice nunchucks for her bounty-hunter role in "Domino,"

NO ACE UP HIS SLEEVE: Jonathan Rhys Meyers, who plays a tennis pro in "Match Point," says he is actually an embarrassingly bad tennis player in real life.



"Memoirs of a Geisha" star Ziyi Zhang is a graduate of the Beijing Dance Academy and considered the second-most popular celebrity in China—behind NBA player Yao Ming.

In 1982, Pia Zadora received a Best New Star of the Year award after her husband, Meshulam Riklis, flew every member of the HFPA to Las Vegas for a luxurious press junket.



CANDID CAMERA: "Constant Gardener" director Fernando Mei

director Fernando Meirelles followed Rachel Weisz around the slums of Nairobi, hidden from view, with just a hand-held camera to capture her authentic reactions to Kenyans.

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#### The Oscar outlook

By MICHAEL KANE

DO the Golden Globes

matter?
Let's be honest, no star is
Oscar-level enthused about
winning a Globe. No matter
how many tears you see.

The Hollywood Foreign Press, a relatively tiny assemblage of foreign journalists with dubious credentials, is hardly the last word in cinematic taste.

So tomorrow night is really more of a practice run for stars — if you can make it through your long list of thank-yous at the Globes, you'll be less nervous when it comes to the Academy (if you should be so lucky as to win, that is).

To its credit, the Globes has always made up what it lacked in import in spontaneity, letting the Champagne flow freely and the stars ramble interminably onstage.

In the past few years, though, that one key advantage has been notably lacking.

The once-boozy and unpredictable Globes have become more of a rehearsed campaign stop — where all but laid-back legends like Jack Nicholson and Meryl Streep arrive at the show with an agenda.

"The Globes have become a showcase," says David Poland, who pens the Hollywood mustread Internet column The Hot Button. "How someone performs in an acceptance speech can sway Academy voters."

voters."
Globe critics cite the organization's size and unprofessional status as marks against them. Whereas the Academy consists of 6,000 insiders in the movie industry who vote in their area of expertise (directing, score, etc.), the Globes are decided by the 90-odd members of the freebieloving HFPA.
"There's not

"There's not really any cachet to winning a Golden Globe that will affect your Oscar chances," Poland says. "Academy voters have seen the films and probably already made up their minds.

"For example, everyone says 'Brokeback Mountain' is unstoppable this year, right?" continues Poland. "But there are a lot of over-50 Academy voters I've talked to who aren' so ready to make this the 'gay Oscars.'"

Oscars.

But, Poland points out, there's always the human element that — more often than not fueled by the free booze and roomful of rampant egotism — could turn things in a Globe-winner's favor come Occar time.

"Let's say Heath Ledger is at the Globes with his wife [Michelle Williams] and mayb their new baby, then he wins and sheds a tear during his acceptance speech — suddenl it's not a gay movie anymore. It's family-friendly."

It's family-friendly."
Similarly, a thankful and poised Terrence Howard may be able to use the Globes as a platform to win over reductant voters to "Hustle & Flow," a movie about an inner-city

pimp.
"The Academy wants to feel comfortable in thinking their pick will be reverent in accepting the award," Poland says. "Which, as funny as he was at the Globes two years ago, probably worked against Bill Murray.

Bill Murray.

"He was joking around, having a laugh at the whole thing. That might have cost hi the Oscar right there."

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# 99 finage

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Web site awfulplasticsurgery.com has voted red-carpet doyenne Joan Rivers the "third scariest-looking celebrity," after Jocelyn Wildenstein and Bruce Jenner.

Before his death, Johnny Cash picked Joaquin Phoenix as his choice to play him in the biopic, despite the fact that Phoenix had never sung professionally and couldn't play a lick on guitar.

Patrick Dempsey's nickname on the set of "Grey's Anatomy" is Dr. McDreamy. dinner menu this year is sautéed Chilean sea bass and grilled tenderloin, served with an array of asparagus, spinach, shallots and baby carrots in a red-wine taragon sauce that should temper even the most vociferous vegetarians.

'Hill Street Blues," where Hill and

Renko (played by Michael Warren

and Charles Haid) were supposed

to be killed in that pilot.

The

second

More than 10,000 silverware and plate settings will be used for the awards' official events.

Dessert is a golden chocolate globe filled with macadamia-nut mousse and yellow sponge cake served on a raspberry "red carpet." (Isn't that cute?)

Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana wrote the screenplay for "Brokeback Mountain" in less than three months, but it took them seven years to get the movie made.

It takes two makeup artists four hours to apply Wentworth Miller's decal tattoo for "Prison Break."

Allegations of celebrity bribes have dogged the Globes for years. In 1999, Sharon stone sent expensive Coach watches to each member of the HFPA before the nomination process began. They were returned, but she snagged a Best Actress nomination for box-office bomb "The Muse," anyway.

Bolstering the claim that they're not quite as invested in showbiz as Academy members, many HFPA members write only part-time and have other jobs, too — such as car salesman and teacher.

In the TV movie "Warm Springs," Cynthia Nixon plays Eleanor Roosevelt, long thought to be bisexual or lesbian, having had a long-term relationship with journalist Lorena Hickok. Coincidentally, Nixon berself recently went public with her relationship with Christine Marinoni.

MEDIA CIRCUS: You wouldn't think it to watch his intensely serious portrayal of Edwin R. Murrow in "Good Night, and Good Luck," but David Strathairn (far right) once attended Ringling Bros. Clown College and spent six months making funny in a traveling circus.

Ever wonder why celebs wear sunglasses and employ "handlers"? For starters, 58 camera crews, 65 still photographers and more than 100 journalists will be scrapping for interviews along the red carpet.

The more than 30,000 square feet of red carpet being laid down at the Beverly Hilton would cover 80 acres.

BATTLE OF THE NETWORK
'STACHE: Jason
Lee — a world

class skateboarder in his previous life — had to fight tooth and nail to keep his facial hair in "My Name Is Earl." "Trust me," he told NBC execs, "I'm funnier with the moustache."

"Pride & Prejudice" shot two endings, one for American audiences and one for the U.K. Both show Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy together at the finale. But the American version shows them kissing, while the U.K. version remained faithful to the book's more chaste ending.

There's so much swag being handed out to this year's presenters that the gift bags have been upgraded to trunks. Valued at \$62,000, they're packed with lavish toys, like a \$500 BlackBerry 8700c and a \$375 pair of Salt Optics sunglasses — not to mention a tasty gift certificate for \$300 worth of ice-cream quarts from Cold Stone Creamery.

To go with their handsome trunks, presenters are showered with free vacations. They get a two-week sea excursion around Tasmania and New Zealand valued at \$22,000 and a \$15,000 getaway to the Canadian Northwest Territories with optional diamond-cutting and polishing lessons.

Internet wagering sites list Felicity Huffman as a 2 to 5 favorite to win best actress in a drama. Maria Bello from "A History of Violence" is the longshot at 10 to 1.

Man, that Viggo Mortenson likes rough sex! While shooting the love scene on the stairs in "History," Maria Bello got bruises all over her back, which had to be covered with makeup.

She's not just another pretty English face: Emma Thompson did an uncredited rewrite of the "Pride & Prejudice" script — she's thanked in the end credits.

We all love sharing love: Ari Gold's "Entourage" catchphrase, "Let's hug it out, bitch!" was voted No. 6 in TV Guide's list of "TV's Top 20 Catchphrases."

"Entourage" jokingly suited up its main character to play the lesser superhero Aquaman — but now the amphibious do-gooder has resurfaced, first in a cameo on "Smallville," then getting his own spinoff from that role.

In order to be a member of the HFPA, applicants have to be proposed by two existing me bers. And prospective memb need to be sure they don't have a outstanding feuds with peers. A member has the power to blackl a journalist who's applying.

Sort of like "Co-stanz.
The theme music "Curb Your Enthusiasm" based on a commercial jin that got stuck in creator Lau David's head.

Everything you saw, he or to spaghetti: George Cloo gained 35 pounds for his role in "S iana," mainly on a pasta diet.

Gwyneth Paltrow play the role of Catherine rave reviews in London's W End stage production "Proof."

On the set of his mov "Brokeback Mounts director Ang Lee performs a C ense good luck ceremony with cast and crew, which involves liging incense and bowing to the fcorners of the room.

For the nude cliff-jump scene in "Brokeb: Mountain," it was rumored t Jake Gyllenhaal used a bo double — a claim denied in an intervi

double — a claim denied in an intervi with Details magaz late last year.

> WARDROBE FUNCTION: Par of Reese Witherspoon's preparation for "Walk the Line" included looking through the recently decease June Carter Cas closet for inspiration.

Russell Crowe located his shoulder du his boxing training "Cinderella Man" and duction had to be dele for two months. Too ba wasn't injured during stay at the Mercer Hotel

This year's Miss Gol Globes will be Dal Johnson, daughter of Mels Griffith and Don Johnson who can be seen in a small in the 1999 movie "Craz Alabama."

To match the all-Brit Kate Winslet was origi picked for Searlett Johansson's in "Match Point." But the "Tit star dropped out to spend; time with her husband and kie



HUGGING IT OUT: Jeremy Piven is best friends, and used amates, with John ho got all the good

to be roommates, with John Cusack, who got all the good parts. Then Piven's big break as obnoxious agent Ari on "Entourage" evened the score.

When the Golden Globe nominations were announced this year, "A History of Violence" director David Cronenberg looked for them online, but found a list of likely nominees instead, "History" hadn't made that hypothetical list, so he was surprised when told his film was nominated for Best Picture.

One's a hero, the other's a zero: "Scrubs" star Zach Braff went to high school with Ahmed Best, the voice of infamous "Star Wars: Episode l The Phantom Menace" character Jar Jar

Matthew
Fox's
character on
"Lost" was supposed to die in
the pilot
harkening back to

Binks.

During the making and promotion of "Broke-back Mountain," Jake Gyllen-haal repeatedly proclaimed that he, like most people, had gone through a stage where he wondered if he was attracted to people of the same sex.

Despite Emmy-winning work on acclaimed TV movies like "Sarah, Plain and Tall," and "Something About Amelia," Glenn Close says "The Shield" was the first TV series to seek her out.

World's most endearing married couple, Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward, who scored supporting-actor nominations for the miniseries "Empire Falls," first worked together back in 1958, in the movies "The Long Hot Summer" and "Rally Round The Flag, Boys!"

Like father, like son, sort of: "House" star Hugh Laurie's dad was a real doctor.

It's a big year for Sutherlands. Donald and Kiefer are celebrating multiple fatherand-son nominations: Kiefer for "24" and Donald for the TV movie "Human Trafficking" and his sly turn on "The West Wing."

Continuing in the family vein: Felicity Huffman's real-life husband, actor William H. Macy, was nominated for Golden Globes for TV's "Door to Door" in 2002, and "Seabiscuit" a year later.

Talk about a cushy job: Hollywood Foreign Press Association members only have to publish four paid articles a year to hold onto their active standing in the organization.

Not that we're saying it could have any influence on them or anything, but the Golden Globes will be broadcast five days before the polls close for Oscar voting. (No wonder Globes winners also win Oscars 65 percent of the time).

There's a five-way tie for the Globes' most honored films. "Doctor Zhivago," "Love Story," "The Godfather," "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and "A Star Is Born" all received five awards.

"Cuckoo's Nest" is the only picture to ever sweep all five top categories: Motion Picture, Actor, Actress, Director and Screenplay.

Two of the biggest Globes losers were 1967's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" and 1991's "The Godfather Part IIL" Each was nominated in seven Globes categories, but failed to win even one-

Most entertaining Globes guest ever? It's gotta be Jack Nicholson, who mooned the audience in 1999.

While television went crazy with no less than six

UMA? NO ULLA? Stat-

uesque Uma
Thurman wasn't the
producers' first
choice for "The
Producers." They
originally cast Nicole
Kidman to play
Swedish bombshell
Ulla. But before the
petite star even read
the script, she
withdrew due to
"scheduling
conflicts."

versions of the Jane Austen classic, 2005's "Pride & Prejudice" with Keira Knightley is the first feature-film of the novel in 65 years.

If it sounds too good to be true, it is: Actress Scarlett Johansson has a good-looking twin — but, guys, before you get too excited, he's named Hunter. The actor scored a bit part in her 1996 film "Manny & Lo."

This year, Paramount Television and UPN sent members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Polaroid DVD players to promote "Everybody Hates Chris" — but they returned them because it violated their rules on accepting promotional

items.

Proving that human skin can be stretched tighter than Saran wrap, TV Guide channel pre-show host Joan Rivers is 72 years young.

Since 1990, the Globes have had solid success predicting Oscars for Best Picture (69%), Director (69%), Song (69%), Screenplay (75%) and Actress (81%). They have fared less well at predicting Oscars for Best Foreign Film (44%), Score (50%) and Supporting Actor/Actress (50/54%).

Maybe it was some crazy elf magic, but "The Girl in the Café" star Bill Nighy (left) got an early break as the voice of Sam Gamgee for BBC radio's adaptation of "The Lord of the Rings." It became one of the most popular radio miniseries ever.

If only we could get a repeat of 1958, when Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr. and Frank Sinatra got fed up with the bland presenting style — the HFPA journos gave out the awards themselves — and took over the proceedings. Ever since, stars have done the duties.

While many in the media have been skeptical of the Globes' importance, celebs themselves are usually hesitant to bite the hand that feeds them. Director Rob Reiner has referred to the Golden Globes as "unkosher" — but still does press conferences for them.

Only pretty people in front of the camera, please: HFPA members attend the Golden Globes, but are seated upstairs and to the side of the stage.

In a classic historical conflict, HBO's "Rome" and ABC's "Empire" were both filming simultaneously in Italy, fighting for every available toga, sandal and stand-in the country had to offer. But now the victor has been named. "Empire" was a critical and commercial flop. "Rome" is coming back for a second season and is nominated for Best Drama.



## Where to watch

The 63rd Annual Golden Globe Awards airs tomorrow on NBC from 8-11 p.m. Pre- and post-show show

coverage:
E! Online: "Live
Countdown," 12-6 p.m.; "Live
From the Red Carpet," 6-8
p.m.; "Live Post-Show," 11

p.m.-1 a.m.

TV Guide Channel: "Joan
and Melissa Live at the Golden
Globes," 6-8 p.m.

NBC: "Golden Globes

NBC: "Golden Globes Arrivals Special," 7-8 p.m.