

Legends play

BANDS from Page 8

Arlo Guthrie, one of the archetypes of '60s counterculture, is coming to Omaha. Guthrie first gained fame and acclaim from the "hippie generation" with "Alice's Restaurant," an eighteen-minute underground hit.

"Alice," with its left-wing irony and thought-provoking lyrical insistence, put Arlo in the eminent folk music ranks of his father, Woody.

Guthrie's music consists of numerous "story songs" that blend social statements and anecdotes. Though most of his work is on the humorous side, he can be furiously serious on tunes like "Chilling of the Evening."

His greatest work, besides "Alice," has to be the venomous anti-Nixon anthem, "Presidential Rag." Even today, it's still on its satirical, scathing target with a message that applies to any corrupt president.

Guthrie will be joined by John Prine, a former folk artist who has gradually evolved into a soft rocker. His first L.P., "John Prine," was also his most successful with such classics as "Hello in There" and "Sam Stone." A lot of his early work contained morose, angst-ridden images of white working-class lifestyles.

In the mid '70s, Prine sharpened his experimental music claws on such albums as "Common Sense," a commercial failure and a creative triumph. His sidewalk yowl and rocked-up sound were too daring for the general public, but he persevered and went on to make such esoteric gems as "Bruised Orange," which critics call one of his best albums ever.

Tracks like "Fish and Whistle" and "Crooked Pieces of Time" proved that when it came to lyrical whimsy, Prine led the pack.

The simplicity of his work, juxtaposed with a remarkable sense of social awareness made Prine one of the most fascinating underground artists of the '70s.

Guthrie and Prine will play at the Omaha Music Hall on June 12 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$13.50 and available at Dirt Cheap, Pickles and Brandeis in Lincoln, and Drastic Plastic in Omaha.



Photo courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox

Kate Capshaw and four stereotyped adolescents blast off for a "Breakfast Club in space" in this summer's "Spacecamp."

Stallone's 'Cobra,' remake of 'The Fly' among summer films

Analysis By Ken DiMaggio
Staff Reporter

One way to babysit children — especially teens — is to seduce them with summer films about lovable robots, lonely kids who can have relationships, and remakes of '50s science-fiction movies for a decade that is a horrifying remake of that time.

Sylvester Stallone mauls the season first with "Cobra."

The old Hollywood tough guy had to have a tough name. You wouldn't believe John Wayne single-handedly wiping out an entire Viet Cong company if he used his real name, Marion Morrison.

But this new one-man crime-fighting machine that Stallone plays is called Marion Cobretti. If you call him Marion he won't punch your face in unless you're scum. But don't call Stallone primitive. What

other tough guy has given his latest film character a wimpy name? Has Clint Eastwood ever done a movie called, "Dirty Lesley?"

Give a young and talented director one successful movie, and he'll give you back a formula. John Badham, who made himself known with "War Games," gives us "Short Circuit," where technology stars again in the form of a lovable peace-nik robot designed for military use. Funny how the liberal hero is a machine and not a human being we can identify with.

The remake this summer is "The Fly," starring Jeff Goldblum and scheduled for release in August.

The sequel this summer is "Aliens," starring Sigourney Weaver as the only crew member to survive a nightmarish pair of slimy teeth. It is schedule for release in mid-July.

See **SUMMER** on 10

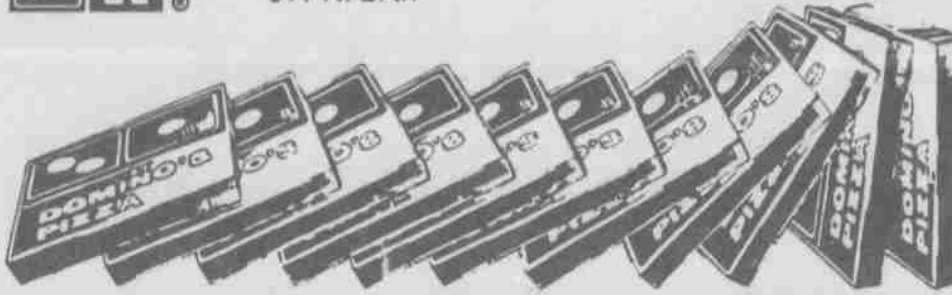
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