









'Complaint' dismissed

arts

Review by Larry Kubert

Where Woody Allen's Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex, But Were Afraid to Ask succeeds, Ernest Lehman's production of Portnoy's Complaint fails. Miserably.

Remaining loyal to Phillip Roth's book, the movie traces Alex Portnoy's maturation through life, complete with momism, masturbation and playing "super stud."

Most of the dialogue seems to have been written for the typical dirty old man and the

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actors avoid any opportunities to 19ry and improve the scenes.

Dick Benjamin as Portnoy and Karen Black, the over-sexed Monkey, both occasionally succeed and pull a couple of scenes out of the mire in which the film is imbedded. Particularly good are a funny scene that has Portnoy and the Monkey checking into a New England inn for the weekend and an argument that the two have in a New York City park.

However, these are overshadowed by a multitude of bad scenes, especially the four at the end: Portnoy's leaving of Monkey, his side trip to Israel, a confrontation with God and the closing scene with his psychiatrist.

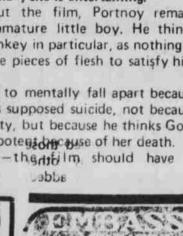
Overall, Black delivers a better performance than Benjamin, who comes across like a whining puppy. But then, if she had been stuck with the lines Benjamin was, maybe she wouldn't have looked any better.

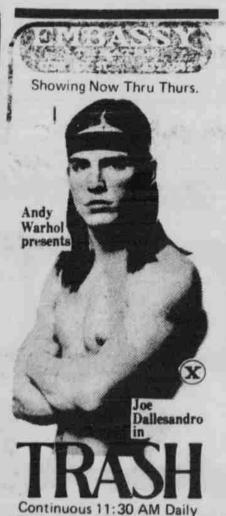
Lee Grant, as Alex's mother, does a fine job. Although a cliche performance as the "nice Jewish momma", she is entertaining.

Throughout the film, Portnoy remains a confused, immature little boy. He thinks of girls, and Monkey in particular, as nothing more than hot little pieces of flesh to satisfy himself

He begins to mentally fall apart because of the Monkey's supposed suicide, not because he is feeling guilty, but because he thinks God has made him impotegation of her death.

Too bad-thentelm should have been sterilized.





Regents consider minimum workload

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents was presented a statistical profile of University teaching workloads Sunday by University Vice President Merk Hobson.

In a report to the board, Hobson discussed the "Texas Plan," an approximate picture of how UNL and UNO history teachers allot their teaching time.

Hobson said teachers in the two departments carry higher loads than what the Texas Plan recommends. The plan, used last year at the University of Texas, established a minimum faculty workload of four unit courses or about 12 hours each week of student-professor contact.

UNL history teachers averaged 4.1 units the first semester and 4.9 the second; UNO teachers carried an average of 4.7 units the first semester and 4.5 the second.

The report on the Texas Plan came after Regent Robert Prokop, Papillion, indicated interest in including a minimum workload standard in University bylaws.

The Board asked Hobson to continue to define University workloads, but did not move to include the concept of the Texas Plan in the bylaws.

Housing position offered

A former housing director at the University of Georgia has been offered a similar position at UNL, according to Ely Meyerson, student affairs dean of administration.

Meyerson said Tuesday that Richard Armstrong, who now coordinates a scholarship program in North Carolina, had verbally accepted the offer.

If Armstrong moves into the position, he will fill a vacancy created by Meyerson, who was promoted.

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