

# Entertainment

## 'Shining' is Summer's work of art

By L.R. Bert Parrish

Generally when a novel is made into a movie the complaint is that the book was better. This is not true with "The Shining." Stanley Kubrick has taken this rather average horror story and made the terminal horror film.

The Shining contains every bit the suspense in a classic Hitchcock film. King placed the emphasis of his book on the supernatural.

Kubrick, working in a visual medium, is able to place the emphasis more naturally on the characters interaction with each other.

Jack Nicholson is superb in his portrayal of Jack Torrance. It is fascinating to watch the transformation of Jack Torrance, ex-teacher and supposed author, to that of possessed killer.

Torrance is the typical confused liberal who is having a mid-life crisis. He becomes the caretaker of a beautiful resort,

The Overlook, that closes down in the claustrophobic isolation of harsh Colorado winters. Here he hopes to sort out his life and write a novel. He brings with him his wife Wendy, played by Shelly Duvall, and his seven-year-old son Danny, played by Danny Lloyd.

Torrance is told by the hotel manager that The Overlook was built on sacred Indian ground, and he also is told of a gruesome 1970 incident. Former caretaker Grady took an ax to his two daughters and wife. He stacked the pieces of the bodies neatly in room 237 before blowing his own brains out with a double-barrel shotgun. The speculation being that he went mad because of isolation and loneliness. Torrance laughs it off, oblivious to the dangers ahead.

"The Shining" is a movie of faces and facial expressions. Those who remember Nicholson as R.P. McMurphy in "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest" remember how insane he could make himself look.

Here we see a friendly, sane, recovered alcoholic from a small town in Vermont, become a monomaniacal ax killer. His change, however, does have humorous moments.

When Torrance smashes through the bathroom door with his ax and the

### Review

viewer thinks Wendy's life is over, Torrance interjects a familiar "Tonight Show" cry; "Here's Johnny!"

But the show is not all Nicholson's. In spite of all the blood and decaying corpses shown, perhaps the most terrifying scene is when Wendy looks at the writing her husband has been doing for all these weeks. Written in a variety of ways is page after page of the sentence; "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

The boy, Danny, is not spared either. It is he who has the psychic gift of "shining" as the hotel cook, played by Scatman Cruthers, calls it.

His imaginary friend Tony shows him the two murdered little girls. It is Danny who is attacked in room 237. It is Danny who knows what has happened to his father when he writes the cryptic "redrum," which when placed before a mirror spells murder.

As with all of Kubrick's films, "The Shining" is rather long — almost two and one-half hours long. The movie starts slowly, and builds slowly. The first hour is as banal as the role Shelley Duvall must play.

The use of time sequence direction chops the film into unnecessary parts. But, when compared with this summer's other offerings of terror, "Screams," and "Friday the 13th," there is no comparison.

"The Shining is art, the others are schlock entertainment. The Shining is now playing at the Cooper Theater, 54th and O Streets.

## Student hosts help newcomers adjust to UNL

By Mary Louise Knapp

Helping incoming students to adjust to life at UNL with a minimum of stress is the basic goal of New Student Orientation, which began June 10 and ends July 1, according to student host, Sheva Brown.

As a student host, Brown, a UNL junior, takes students on tours of the campus and answers questions they have about UNL.

The program, which begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at about 4:30 p.m., provides new students with an opportunity to visit the UNL campus, review their class schedules with an academic advisor from their college, and learn about daily campus life.

Assisted by student hosts from their colleges, incoming students will attend several mini-sessions on campus life, which include topics such as campus services, financial planning, the first day of class, housing alternatives, student activities, and student rights and responsibilities.

In addition, students will be able to talk with their college academic advisor, and go through free drop and add if necessary.

This year, there will be a special Study Skills Workshop conducted by the staff of the UNL Educational Learning Center, which emphasizes time management, listening, reading, and notetaking skills.

Students wishing to attend Summer Orientation must register by filling out a registration form in the New Student Orientation Office or a form that is sent to their homes, and send a check payable to UNL for the registration fee.

### Summer Nebraskan

The Summer Nebraskan is published weekly by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Journalism during eight weeks of the summer sessions. Summer Nebraskan office is 112 Avery Hall, City Campus. Telephone 472-3210.

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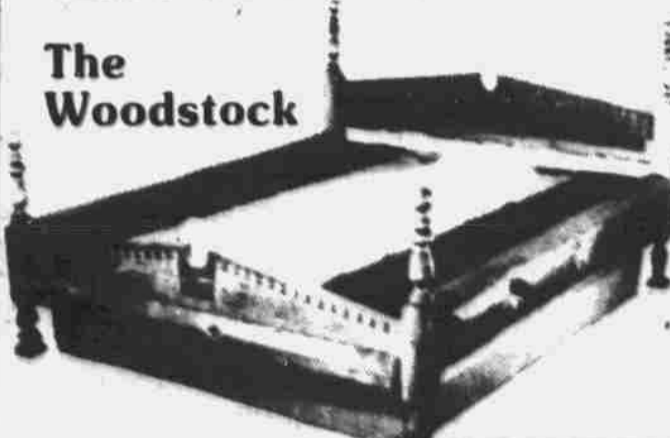
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