

MTV to select best video of year

By Scott Harrah
Daily Nebraskan Staff Writer

Bette Midler and ghostbustin' Dan Akroyd will host MTV's first annual Video Music Awards Friday night in New York. Five videos have been selected as nominees

Video Review

for Best Video of the Year. Rather than review new videos this week, I'll give a critical analysis of the videos slated for awards.

The Police, "Every Breath You Take":

When artists achieve success, they often think it is their duty to produce something with "high-brow" meaning, as is the case with this video. Sting and his Policemen sit around in a room enveloped by pseudo-artsy lighting, overflowing ashtrays and other "serious and existential" objects. The result is a video that's even more pretentious than the song.

Cyndi Lauper, "Girls Just Wanna' Have Fun":

Lauper heralded her arrival as one of the music world's most unique personalities in this video that shot her into the hearts of music fans everywhere. The video technically is cheap in parts, but has an engaging effect. Lauper and her cronies make up for the flaws as they show the world that fun is No. 1. Lauper probably won't win with this one, but her fans will remember it for years to come.

The Cars, "You Might Think":

This band had some good ideas for this video, but the problem is that they're presentation was much too amateurish to be impressive. Band members playing on bars of soap and popping up in lipstick, combined with shots of vocalist Ric Ocasek looking as endearingly greekish as ever would have been eye-catching five years ago, but today it looks trite and dated.

Herbie Hancock, "Rockit":

The BBC banned this incredibly bizarre video that features

lingerie-clad robots going haywire in an apartment that looks like it was decorated by an LSD-influenced interior designer. It has to be one of the most irrelevant, creative and symbolic videos ever released. It's not the best video of the year, but it completely eclipses its rivals in the competition because it's an original.

Michael Jackson, "Thriller":

Does anyone really care to see this overrated extravaganza one more time? Does Michael really need another award? Whether he does or not, he's going to get one for "Thriller," which is really a mini-movie, not a video. MTV played "Thriller" incessantly when it was first released, and viewers soon grew tired of the satirical dialogue, predictable story line and campy acting. "Thriller" is an innovative anachronism in the vid-biz scene — as long as we never have to see it again! MTV should give Michael his award, then they should lock "Thriller" up in a time capsule and show it to another generation.

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



The Fixx...

Continued from Page 8

We see that Curnin hasn't totally lost hope when he opens up the first two lines of "I Will."

"If the love doesn't set you free/ Then I will."

Like the lyrics, the music by The Fixx, highlighted by Jamie West-Oram's guitar and Rupert Greenall on keyboards, takes the listener for a ride up and down, around and through tunnels of the mind, without the listener feeling the slightest bump.

"Less Cities, More Moving People" comes to us with a sense of claustrophobia highlighted by the primitive background sounding very staid and methodic.

Curnin's voice sounds sleepy and pained at the same time almost like a plea or begging.

On "Sunshine in the Shade," West-Oram takes off for one of his sharp, meticulous runs with an ending so abrupt that listeners are all but thrown forward in their seats.

"Phantom Living," "In Suspense" and "Woman on a Train" are solid cuts that highlight the message in *Phantoms*.

Tightrope...

Continued from Page 7

Me," and the "Every Which Way But Loose" series.

In "Tightrope" he shows a harsh exterior — one of his finest characteristics. Eastwood does show his caring side when the movie portrays him as a single parent trying to keep his family together.

This movie is recommended for anyone who is looking for a good mystery. Also, this movie will have an appeal to those who like a non-stop action picture. And especially if you're a Clint Eastwood fan, this one is for you.

At times distressing, *Phantoms* is the best album by The Fixx. Distinct, original and unassum-

ing, this band could be the top band of the year and one of the top bands of the decade.

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