

UNL film moves on to next round of contest

By Trevor McArthur
Staff Reporter

A University of Nebraska student film will move on to the semifinal round of judging in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences 15th Annual Student Film Awards.

"Whose Kids are These?," the story of a "typical" rock band and the product of the 1987 16mm filmmaking class at UNL, was one of eight entries selected in the dramatic category at the Region 5 preliminary judging in Lincoln Saturday. The eight entries will advance to the semifinals on April 16 in Chicago. One film from each of three categories — documentary, animation and dramatic — and one extra "wild card" film will be chosen to go on the final judging at the Academy in Los Angeles on May 10, 12 and 14.

Region 5 includes schools in Nebraska, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas and Missouri.

There is also a category for experimental films, but none of this year's experimental entries from Nebraska's region was given the seven-point average rating needed to go on to the next round. Only one animated film was chosen, "Cat and

Rat," featuring the two title characters in a comical chase through various forms of animation. It was produced at Columbia College of Chicago and directed by James Richardson. It received a perfect score of 10 from the judges. "Whose Kids" received seven points.

Two other UNL films were entered in the competition, both in the dramatic category, but are not moving on: "The Writer," described as "an existential melodrama about entropy and pizza," by Stephanie Strait and Ray Brown, and "Milk & Honey," a fantasy of incredible innocence and violence, by David Stilwell. Stilwell also directed "Whose Kids" for the filmmaking class. He said he was surprised that "Whose Kids" was chosen.

Four other dramatic films and four documentaries were chosen to go on to the semifinals. They are:

- "Puppet Show" from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, directed by Stephen F. Tempe. A thriller about a young boy whose psychologist father is treating a dangerous psychopath.
- "The Geometry of Love" from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, directed by Rafael Wang and David Allison. The story of an architect who tries to find how life can

be made as logical as Euclidean geometry. At 46 minutes, by far the longest film in the competition.

- "The Waitress Conspiracy" from Northwest University in Evanston, Ill., directed by Robert Borden and Bruce Cooper. The restaurant's kitchen is conspiring to make you feel like a fool, and they are very experienced at it.
- "Atonement" from Columbia College of Chicago, directed by Dan Moran. The story of man who confesses his sins while being hunted by the mob as a result of one of them. A film with a strong religious message.
- "Norma Jean" from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill., directed by John Behnke. A humorous documentary about an elephant, her death and the town that remembers her. Best line — "I think if you can't help someone, (even) if it is only an elephant, why should you be here?"
- "Just Keep Going" from Columbia College of Chicago, directed by Ellen Meyers. A look at a shelter for the homeless and the three women who run it.
- "Special Feelings" from the University of Iowa at Iowa City, directed by Dirk Eitzen. A look at persons with severe physical handicaps and their romantic relationships.

- "Around Round Barns" by Jonathan Mednick and Dirk Eitzen. School affiliation unavailable. A documentary about farmers in Iowa who own historical round barns. It explores their uniqueness, their histories and the possibility of their demise and extinction, and the parallels with the people who own and work in them.

This year the Academy is experimenting with allowing entries on videotape. The last three documentaries listed — "Just Keep Going," "Special Feelings" and "Around Round Barns" — were entirely shot and presented on video. Unfortunately, the Sheldon Film Theater, where the screenings were held, was not set up for viewing video presentations and the audience had to move down to the front rows when they were presented to see the two standard-sized TV monitors, after watching films projected on a feature-size screen all day. In addition, there were technical problems with the tape player or tapes which occasionally interrupted the screenings.

Dan Ladely, curator of film and facilities coordinator for the Sheldon Art Gallery, said the reason for the video experiments was to give a chance to people with budgets too small to cover all the costs associated

with shooting film or producing a projectable print. Some entries were shot on film but either edited on videotape, transferred onto video or submitted as taped copies to save on shipping.

Apparently, this method of presenting films is not popular with the judges. June Levine, UNL professor of English, chairwoman of UNL's film studies program and a judge for the event, said she does not think the quality of a video image can compare with projected film.

"Everyone I talked to thinks it should be only film, and I agree," Levine said.

She said the videos were hard to watch. She doesn't really like to watch television, she said, but could sit through all 16 hours of a Werner Fassbinder film the Sheldon presented over two days once.

Wheeler Dixon, assistant professor of English and art and another judge, agreed.

"Videotape should be banned from the competition because it's not film and because it encourages people to make very long and formless documentaries," Dixon said.

The screenings were also held all in one day, practically 12 hours of viewing, rather than spread over two days as in previous years.

T-shirts make progress, statements

By Joseph Bowman
Staff Reporter

If you've ever watched "Leave It To Beaver" or other old sitcoms, you'll know that people didn't always just wear T-shirts. Generally, all the guys would have to wear some stiff and scratchy shirt that

Primarily this stemmed from the lingering Puritan elements in American society. Many prominent, influential theologians and higher-ups in the church still believed, even as late as the 1950s, that clothing should be uncomfortable.

But out of the social, sexual, political and cultural upheavals of the

Now, for the first time in American history, they could brazenly promenade down any city street in just a T-shirt.

Nowadays anyone can walk into any number of clothing stores and ask for, in a candid and level tone, a T-shirt. There's no mystery, no clandestine slipping on of the T-shirt in some back room. Now we have a freedom that is taken for granted by most.

In the '80s, T-shirts have even become indispensable fashion accessories. People wear solids, stripes, black, white and the entire spectrum of colors. They are an accepted and expected expression of one's individuality. In a world that demands so much conformity, clothing is one of the few domains left to the individual.

By now you're probably thinking, "Wow, he's right. So how can I carve out a little individuality for myself?" Well, you can go to a variety of shops within walking distance of City Campus to find the kinds of T-shirts you're looking for.

The first and most obvious stop is Nebraska Bookstore. They carry a full line of UNL and football shirts, but if you want to stand out in a crowd here, you can't do it wearing red. Fortunately, they also have a good selection of comic shirts, like the well-known Far Side and Bloom County. And, augmented by the popular "Dick, Jane and Spot" line, they successfully round out their customer appeal.

If you're into music (like everyone and her dog), then you already know about the stuffed shelves and racks at Twisters, Pickles and Trade-a-Tape. They all offer similar types of designs featuring popular bands, concert shirts, tie-dyes and others.

However, Trade-A-Tape differs, selling shirts with artwork from Marvel and DC comic books, and from some underground bands that aren't carried by the other stores.

But no other store really comes close to the spangled variety of choice at Avant Card. As an inspiring bastion of liberty in fashion, they are the model to which all others aspire.

Avant Card carries several designs you simply can't find any-

where else in town. They stock the same sort of shirts carried by all the aforementioned stores except for the music-oriented motifs and the "Better Red than Dead" stuff.

Start with the pseudo-Oriental prints. They're all prints of fish. Really big prints of fish. Still, they're just pictures of fish. But the art is of such high caliber that it succeeds in taking something like an ordinary trout and transforming it into a creature of mystery.

They also provide a selection of some extremely witty shirts that address common college themes; sex, drinking and politics. For example, the shirt in which one bitter chick offers her friend comic consolation after a hard breakup; "You're not alone, honey. My shampoo lasts longer than my relationships."

In addition, Woody Jackson's distinctive green herford cow shirts are available. Besides the well-known "Holy Cow" design, there are two other "cowographs," one of mother and child, and the other of cows with landscape. Jackson works in Vermont, a state with more cows than humans in it. He's constantly in a state of inspiration.

Above all other brands tower the creative giants of Artwear and Fabric Art T-shirts. As their names suggest, this clothing falls under the definition of wearable art. Some of them simulate Aztec rug weaves. Some hatch a peephole-view of fantastic lifestyles. A few simply portray a discrete bunch of flowers. However, it is the season, and bright blossoms like those still may add a flush to one's cheeks.

The best thing about a lot of the shirts at Avant Card — they're uncommon and relieve the poverty of originality one may feel when pressed into the masses at school.

If you're looking for a unique, comfortable gift for yourself or someone else, T-shirts are the way to go. They're hip, they're stylish, they're you. So step into the limelight and buy some popularity. Don't just listen to me, listen to your friends. They'll tell you that buying T-shirts is more than just a trend, bigger than a mere hobby. Above all, it's the right thing to do, babe.



Dave Hansen/Daily Nebraskan

Avant Card employee Angie Carver in the store's window display.

either Mom or the wife starched to a uniform crispness. The kind of attire that would make a grown man whimper and chafe.

In the summer, they were simply fiendish torture devices, especially if you had a heat rash or a sunburn. They were made not only to look bad, but to feel bad.

'60s came the T-shirt. The new liberality and the widespread acceptance of casualness in all things climaxed in the 100 percent cotton, thoroughly comfortable, outerworn undergarment. No longer did men have to hide their secret to peace of mind beneath an outer shell of viciously clashing polyester knits.

Shorts

The Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a Wildlife Babies Seminar at the Chet Ager Nature Center on Sunday, April 10, from 2-10 p.m.

This family program is free of charge. Pre-registration is required. Call 471-7895 to register.

The Nebraska Wesleyan University's Union Program Board is sponsoring the NWU Jazz Fest Sunday at Pinewood Bowl in Pioneers Park. Performing will be Fusion Force, an Omaha-based group specializing in New Age and fusion jazz, and Mother's Big Band and the Larson Brothers, both more traditional jazz groups based in Lincoln.

The show will run from 2-6 p.m. and is free and open to the public. Rain site is Knight Field House, 53rd and Huntington on the NWU campus.

Burke High School, 120th and West Dodge Road in Omaha, presents an evening with Maynard Ferguson, tonight at 8 p.m. Limited, reserved seat tickets are \$10.

The 18th Annual Lincoln City Library Foundation Book Sale will be held will be held at Bennett Martin Public Library, 14th and N, in the Fourth Floor Auditorium, until Sunday. The schedule is as follows:

Today — 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturday — 9 to 5:30
Sunday — 1:30 to 5 p.m.

A wide variety of books are for sale. Prices range from 10 cents for Reader's Digest condensed books to \$1 for hardcover and trade paperbacks.

The Fifth Annual Heritage Room Adult Spelling Bee will be held April 12, at 8 p.m. at P.O. Pears, 322 S. 9th St.

In the past four years the competition has been between businesses, organizations, the university community, government officials and individuals. Heritage Room Adult Spelling Bee will be held at P.O. Pears, 322 S. 9th St.

There is a \$30 registration fee for contestants and a \$2 cover charge at the door for supporters. All proceeds will be used to match a \$100,000 Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

For more information call Barbara Hansen at Lincoln City Libraries, 435-2146.