

'Pittsburgh': work 'well worth reading'

MYSTERIES from Page 9

friend, Claire. At a crossroads, Art anticipates his last free summer as "a coming season of dilated time and of women all in disarray" before fall and adult life begin.

He finds, instead, a whole other ball game: a summer job at Boardwalk Books — a gleaming chain store to whom "a good book was still a plump little paperback that knew how to sit in a beach bag and keep its dirty mouth shut" — and friends the likes of Cleveland — a ne'er-do-well biker who wants to

eat the world. Art also soon falls in love with Phlox, a troubled expunker/French major/romantic post-'80s girl . . . and becomes equally enamored of Arthur Lecomte, handsome, slick, sly, perfectly charming — and gay.

"The Mysteries of Pittsburgh" teems with words.

Chabon's style is simply liquid. Not since Jane Austen have so many phrases and clauses been woven together so effortlessly. Describing his current relationship with his father, Art relates, "We'd just come

to the end of a period of silence and ill will — a year I'd spent in love with and in the same apartment as an odd, fragile girl whom he had loathed, on sight, with a frankness and fury that were not at all like him." Instead of boggling the reader, Chabon's words float

lightly and exuberantly on air, "guiding characters and reader alike through a strange labyrinth with astonishing skill," as critic Elizabeth Spencer wrote.


Happily, unlike some of Chabon's contemporaries' first

novels, "Pittsburgh" doesn't circle around itself in a tightly closed world only accessible to a privileged upper elite. Instead of dazzling (and subsequently alienating) readers with Never-never Land glimpses into the fast-lane lives of "Bright Lights, Big City," "Less Than Zero" and "Slaves of New York," "Pittsburgh" bypasses Yuppies-in-training and "Don't-you-wish-you-were-here" attitudes to concentrate on characters. And although the novel deals with rather tricky subjects at times, Chabon doesn't apologize for his characters

or pull any punches with them. Furthermore, we are able to care about them, not the least because Chabon infuses them with life while still maintaining a rather ironic detachment from them.

Forget that this is a first novel. Forget about any so-called literary "Brat Pack" of authors. Forget all the advance gushing in Newsweek On Campus. "The Mysteries of Pittsburgh" stands all by itself as a remarkable work well worth reading and Michael Chabon as an author to look out for.

WHY go to those small hole-in-the-wall bars?
Thursdays the BIG PARTY is at
MINGLES
 9TH & P



TROPICAL THURSDAY & ROCK NIGHT
 50¢ Draws 75¢ Mixed Drinks
 NO COVER ALL NIGHT
 Hawaiian Dress (shorts, etc.)
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19" Zenith color TV, \$65 and 19" RCA color, \$50. 467-5189

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RECORDS, CD's, posters, more! Don't miss THE MID-AMERICA RECORD CONVENTION. One day only. April 24th, 10-5 at The Cornhusker Social Hall, 2940 Cornhusker Hwy, behind YAMAHA. Door prizes. \$1 admission. Bring your friends. Great fun for everyone.

Smith Corona electric typewriter and Yashika 35mm camera with flash and telephoto and wide angle lenses. Best offer, please call 476-0121 after 5:00.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

★ Club Coca-Cola My God it's here!
 Wed. April 13 East Union

★ **ATTENTION**
 CRC Blood Drive. Please come donate. April 14, Union Ballroom, 10 am-4 pm.

★ **SAA PR committee meeting** Wednesday 10:00 p.m. at Chi Omega.

CASINO NIGHT
 Try your luck with a roll of the dice.
 8-10pm, April 14, East Union. \$1 w/ID, \$2 w/o.
 UPC Kaleidoscope
 \$5555

UNL Wildlife Club Meeting
 7:30 pm East Campus Union. Room will be posted. Everyone is welcome.

★ Club Coca-Cola!
 The hottest video dance club ever to hit the Midwest!
 Wed. April 14, 8:00pm East Union.
 Tickets on sale now. Both unions.

NCAA GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS
 Thursday, April 14-Saturday, April 16, 7pm each night; 1-7 pm, Saturday. Student tickets are ONLY \$3!


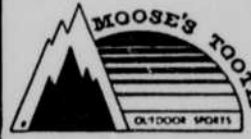
It's
"NAY DAYS"
 at the Moose's Tooth!

Get 15% OFF any pair of Vuarnet sunglasses!
 (Weds., April 13th through Sat., April 16th)

Plus... receive a FREE Vuarnet pin with every sunglass purchase.



TRUNK SHOWING
 The Vuarnet factory rep will be here Saturday, April 16th. Order ANY PAIR of Vuarnet sunglasses and get the same 15% discount. Saturday, April 16th only! 12:00-3:00

The **MOOSE'S TOOTH** OUTDOOR SPORTS
 4007 "O" St. 489-4849

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1985 Yamaha Maxim, 700 cc. \$2,000. 477-0536.

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theology for lunch
 Thursday Noon St. Mark's, 1309 "R" St. April 14 Brown Bag

"DOES CHRISTIAN REVELATION STOP WITH THE BIBLE?"
 Dr. Harvey Potthoff
 Distinguished Professor of Religion
 Nebraska Wesleyan University
 FACULTY, STAFF, & GRAD STUDENTS WELCOME

NU MEDS
 Final gathering, Thursday, April 14, 6:30 pm at Chesterfield's.

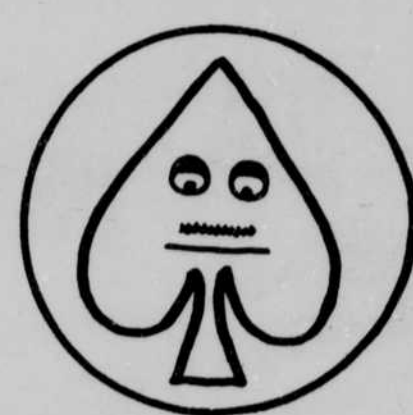
CORNSTALK XVIII
 It'll be a groovin' time. Featuring: The Sons, Ivory, and ETC. Friday, April 22, noon to 6 pm! East Campus Intramural Field.
 Sponsored by UPC Dances & Cornstalk

PRE-LAW CLUB
 Congratulations New Officers
 President: Cris Stream
 Vice President: Susie Phour
 Secretary: Shawn Ferritor
 Treasurer: Lori Bankey
 Next meeting Wed. April 13, 7:00 p.m., Nebr. Union.

A-PHI OPEN
 Sun, April 17th
 \$15 entry fee per two-some
 Entry blanks available at A Phi Sorority
 or Call 476-8064 to sign up!

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CASINO NIGHT



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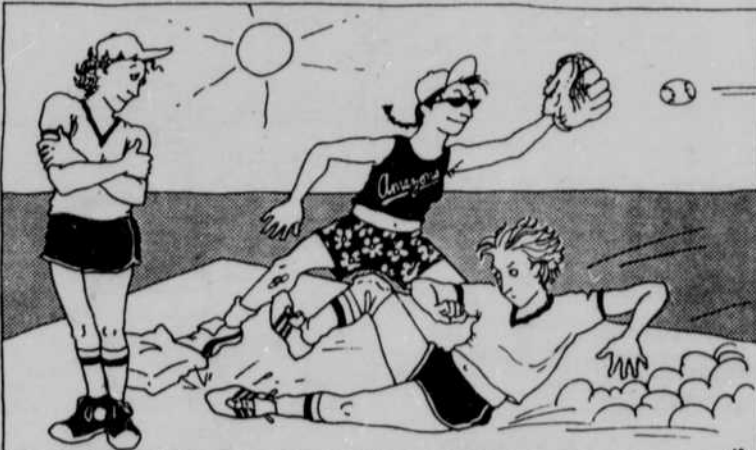
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UPC Kaleidoscope

April 14—Thursday 8-10 PM
East Union
\$1 W/ID \$2 All Others

DYKES TO WATCH OUT FOR



WANDA, SMITTEN WITH THE SECOND BASEWOMAN, DISGRACES HER TEAM BY FORGETTING TO RUN.

Alison Bechdel, lesbian illustrator, will give a slideshow presentation about her work.

Fri., April 15 at 2 PM. Nebraska Union room posted. Students free. Non-students-\$1. Call 472-2597 for info.

Co-sponsors: UPC, GLPC, WWM, and Arts Committees