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KUCV expands station's coverage of gulf war news

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska Public Radio Network (NPRN) is providing expanded news coverage of the Persian Gulf War.

The network will sign on the air earlier in Lincoln and pre-empt other programming for the expanded coverage National Public Radio (NPR) is now offering to affiliated NPR stations.

Morning announcer Martin Wells will sign on KUCV-FM in Lincoln at 4 a.m. instead of 5 a.m., with NPR's newsmagazine, "Morning Edition." The rest of the Nebraska Public Radio Network will join KUCV's "Morning Edition" coverages at the usual 6 a.m. "Morning Edition" will continue coverage throughout the morning, as events warrant.

"We're expanding national news coverage and also local news coverage, as appropriate, to provide our listeners with more news at this critical time," Wells said. NPRN also is pre-empting local news stories to integrate local Persian Gulf news into the general newscast.

The network also will pick up NPR's evening news program, "All Things Considered," which has begun broadcasting an hour earlier, at 4 p.m. instead of 5 p.m. This show will continue each afternoon for as long as news is available for that afternoon.

Network manager Steve Robinson said he and NPRN staff are keeping close tabs on how events are moving.



Courtesy of Warner Bros.

Queen Gertrude (Glenn Close) feels she can no longer listen to any more of Hamlet's (Mel Gibson) words as her emotions are exhausted in "Hamlet."

'Hamlet' a strong, vivid film for wide range of audiences

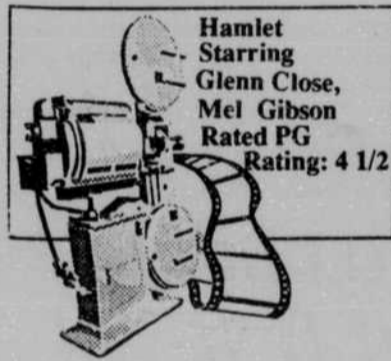
By Kristie Coda
Staff Reporter

For once, Mel Gibson shows us more than his posterior in Franco Zeffirelli's "Hamlet," a surprisingly successful production of Shakespeare's classic play.

An impressive display of ensemble cast work and a screenplay that remains true to Shakespeare's word combine to give the audience a rich and lively performance of a play that is often overdone and overdone.

People who usually avoid Shakespeare should give this incarnation a chance — they will be pleasantly surprised. For those who missed the classic play the first few hundred times around or can't recall the story, "Hamlet" tells the story of a young prince trying to vindicate his father's murder. Hamlet (Gibson) is urged by his recently deceased father to avenge his murder, perpetrated by his uncle Claudius (Alan Bates). This problem is worsened when Hamlet's mother, Gertrude (Glenn Close), hastily marries Claudius.

Gibson has made a point of showing his impressive rear end in many of his recent films, but in "Hamlet" he shows his considerable acting talent as well. Hamlet, as played by Gibson, is witty and alive, introspective and passionate. Many other actors have played Hamlet as a spineless, weak character. But al-



though Hamlet is given to dark moods and brooding, Gibson doesn't play him as a wimp. Gibson ably manages to interweave serious acting with his comic timing, making Hamlet real and unaffected. His dramatic ability, not particularly evident in his recent work, is considerable in this film.

Also notable is Bates as Claudius, the expansive, self-indulgent father-uncle-king of Hamlet. His jocularly is untempered by guilt until "The Mousetrap," the players' production of Hamlet's play. But even that does not fully stop his ambition.

Because Close and Gibson are so close in age, Close really is not believable as Hamlet's mother. Close's character, Gertrude, is a merry widow who treats Hamlet more as a playmate than a son. Her performance seems forced at times,

and though Gertrude is less than deep, she is even more shallow in this manifestation.

The supporting cast is remarkable, completing the ensemble feeling and adding depth to the entire performance. Helena Bonham-Carter as Ophelia adds yet another winning performance to her impressive body of work.

Ian Holm, as the bumbling Polonius, and Paul Scofield, as The Ghost, manipulate the material easily. The cast as a whole makes the production flow, and the language problems encountered in reading Shakespeare seem to disappear in the performance.

The scenic backdrop of southern England — though the play takes place in Denmark — and the use of period costumes and weapons give the film authenticity. Without this, the movie would have suffered greatly. The visual effect is dark and damp and windswept. But the effect is so often repeated, one almost starts to ignore it by the end of the picture.

"Hamlet" is strong and vivid, expertly crafted by both actors and director Zeffirelli. It is highly recommended to Shakespeare lovers and Shakespeare loathers alike as a must-see film.

"Hamlet" is currently being shown at the Douglas 3 Theatres, 13th and P streets.

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Winterfest

Continued from Page 13
humbling experience."

Being selected for the High School Wind Ensemble also could be a humbling experience. Auditions required students to submit a recording of a five- to 10-minute solo, and an application form listing previous musical accomplishments.

Because only 49 musicians were selected from the states Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, "these students are the cream of the crop," Kloecker said.

The music selected for the festival was more difficult than most high school arrangements. It ranged in style

from baroque fugues to modern jazz, and participants were divided into eleven different chamber groups that performed Saturday. The festival was capped off when the combined High School Wind Ensemble and University Wind Ensemble performed Alfred Reed's arrangement of "Othello (after Shakespeare)".

The UNL Winter Festival for Winds and Percussion is quickly becoming one of the most prestigious honor bands in the state.

"We are the only festival in the region like this," Kloecker said. "All the others have eighty to two hundred members. None of them have the chamber element."

Kucera also noted the quality of the festival.

"Everyone in this band is dedicated. Music is their life," Kucera said.

Kloecker said those who attended the concerts last weekend were treated to excellent chamber and symphonic music. Also, those who participated in the festival were treated to a glimpse of life after high school.

Kloecker said that perhaps it is the combination of good musicians that makes this event so prestigious. But whatever it is, he said, "We are very proud to be developing a reputation for being the best honor band in the state of Nebraska."

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