



Courtesy of Paramount Pictures

Sally Field and Kevin Kline play soap opera stars Celeste Talbert and Jeffrey Anderson in "Soapdish," a comedy about soap opera stars' public and private lives.

Soap opera satire

# 'Soapdish' full of laughs

By Julie Naughton  
Senior Editor

In what is sure to be one of this summer's best comedies, a star-studded ensemble cast sends up a maliciously funny interpretation of the world of soap operas in "Soapdish."

The film opens at the 32nd annual Daytime Television Awards. The audience is introduced to Celeste Talbert (Sally Field), the star of America's top-rated soap, "The Sun Also Sets." She has just won an Emmy.

She thanks her castmates, as they sit around the table muttering "bitch" and "I hate her" under their wide smiles. Especially antagonistic towards Celeste are fellow stars Montana Moorehead (Cathy Moriarty) and Ariel Maloney (Teri Hatcher) and the soap's producer, David Barnes (Robert Downey, Jr.).

Down in Florida, at a dinner theater catering to the over-60 crowd,



"Soapdish" Starring Sally Field, Kevin Kline Rated PG-13 Grade: A

Celeste's former castmate and lover, Jeffrey Anderson (Kevin Kline) also is cursing her name. Celeste had him written out of the show years before, and he'd love to get even. Through the efforts of the calculating (and wickedly funny) Moorehead, he's back on the show — and prepared to make Celeste's life hell.

In fact, "Soapdish" deals with all

the people that want to make Celeste's life difficult — her co-stars, who intentionally want to get her, and her "niece" Lori (Elisabeth Shue), a would-be actress who unintentionally gums things up.

The film also shows the on-screen aging of a woman that has been America's sweetheart all of her life.

The only person on Celeste's side is soap opera writer Rose Schwartz (Whoopi Goldberg), who constantly is giving the beleaguered actress much-needed pep talks (and going to bat for her against conniving co-workers).

"Soapdish" is far from a weighty film about life-threatening drama. Instead, it's a hilarious, irreverent send-up of the world of daytime television — otherwise known as soap-opera land, to those outside of the industry.

The film's funniest performance is turned in by the hugely talented Kevin Kline. Kline's sarcastic por-

See SOAPDISH on 11

## Pinewood Bowl to present variety show with financial help from local businesses

By Steve Pearson  
Staff Reporter

According to the Pinewood Bowl Committee, the show must go on.

In April, the Pinewood Bowl Committee announced the cancellation of its traditional summer musical due to a lack of funds. Last week, the committee announced that a variety show will be performed at the Pioneers Park amphitheater at 8 p.m., July 27-28.

The committee had intended to present the musical "Oliver" this summer, but later discovered it would be difficult to meet the \$35,000 to \$40,000 budget — including a \$4,000 royalty fee to be paid in advance of the production.

"We decided we did not have enough reserves to strike out on that

big a budget," said Rosemary Rhodes, president of the Pinewood Bowl Committee.

After the cancellation was announced, several Lincoln businesses got involved with the committee's problem and the idea for a variety show was conceived.

"KFOR/KFRX Radio is helping put it together, and Russ's IGA and Meadow Gold have agreed to underwrite the show so that all the money raised through ticket sales will actually go right into the fund," Rhodes said.

The variety show, "Pinewood Bowl Presents," will feature several established local performing groups and a new group, the Pinewood Players, which will perform four numbers from previous Pinewood Bowl musicals.

The numbers will be choreographed

by local choreographers Courtney Clark, Craig Ellingson, Mark Moore and Shari Shell-True.

Groups performing at the variety show include the Pinewood Players, the Lincoln Light Opera Company, Lincoln Midwest Ballet Company, Accent Brass, the Lincoln Continentals, Summerstage Magic, and The Dougs.

"We'll also have some well-known Nebraska and Lincoln-area personalities as emcees," Rhodes said.

In addition to the variety show, a children's hour will be held at the top of the Bowl from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The Lincoln Children's Museum, the Lincoln Fire department, and others will entertain prior to each performance.

See PINWOOD on 11



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