

# Conversation film successful look at life



Courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox

Steve Martin is Davis and Kevin Kline is Mack in "Grand Canyon," Lawrence Kasdan's serious comedy about big-city dwellers grappling with the harsh realities of contemporary urban life.



"Grand Canyon"



By Anne Steyer  
Senior Reporter

Lawrence Kasdan has a flair for brilliant, realistic dialogue.

His storytelling skills do not disappoint in his new film "Grand Canyon," opening today at The Lincoln Theatre, 1145 P St.

"Grand Canyon" introduces the audience to six Los Angeles residents, each one coping and coming to terms with the realities of life. Although it sounds like another yuppie realization film, it truly is not.

This movie is more complicated, with each character serving as an important aspect of the film. Each has his or her own story line. These story lines resemble an artist's portfolio, where each work is separate, but each shares the feel or theme of the others. Their lives overlap and intermingle, as do the scenes.

Kasdan has set the film up so that each scene visually flows into the next.

Kevin Kline is the center of the film as Mack. He is an immigration attorney who becomes increasingly frustrated with the world around him.

Mary McDonnell ("Dances With Wolves")

See GRAND CANYON on 10

## Action-packed Norwegian flick to kick off new UPC film series

By Mark Nemeth  
Staff Reporter

This semester's UPC foreign film series opens Sunday at the Mary Riepma Ross Theater with "Pathfinder," an excellent action-adventure set in arctic-north Norway.

The action in "Pathfinder" is with bows and arrows, on foot and skis.

The film, the first from Norway's actor-director Nils Gaup, is based on a 1,000-year-old legend passed from generation to generation in northern Norway. Gaup first heard the story from his grandfather.

The film centers on a Lapp boy named Aigan, and his ingenious revenge on the mysterious, evil, black-clad Tchude warriors who kill his family and then search for him.

Aigan, played by Mikkel Gaup, narrowly escapes his family's camp, and watches as the Tchudes dump his sister into a hole in the ice.

When Aigan seeks shelter at a nearby Lapp village, he causes a rift within the village. Some wish to fight the Tchudes and some wish to escape to the coast. Aigan eventually finds himself leading the Tchudes directly to the Lapps who befriended him.

Gaup uses a virtually unknown cast, mostly from Norway, whose natural acting abilities rival schooled performers. But his refusal to use established actors made it difficult to receive funding.

"Pathfinder" is the first major film release using the Lapp language. All Lapp speaking parts were cast with actors from Kautokeino, a small town far above the Arctic Circle in northern Norway.

All Tchudes, except Iceland's Helgi Skulason, are played by professional actors from southern Norway. Because no one knows the language the Tchudes spoke, linguists created one for the film, based on hard sounds and the grammatical constructions of Russian and Finnish.

Gaup hired Martin Grace, chief stunt coordinator from "A View to A Kill," to handle the action sequences, which were challenging because of the arctic climate and terrain.

See PATHFINDER on 10

## Minor technical difficulties overwhelm writer in "Voice of the Plains" debut

ENTERTAINING  
PEOPLE



By Mark Baldridge  
Staff Reporter

I've always wanted to be a famous movie star like Laurence Olivier or Madonna. I have to admit a deep-seated yen to dance around on stage like Bono and have The Edge be my best friend. Beneath my meek and mild exterior is a raving Gilbert Godfrey straining at his leash. And sometimes I've practiced sweating and weeping in the mirror just like Jimmy Swaggart. Hasn't everyone? Well, in these pages every week we'll all get a little dose of vicarious experience as I, and a team of experts, go around the world — OK, well, around Lincoln — in search of Entertaining People.

\*\*\*

One Tuesday not long ago I had my first brush with stardom.

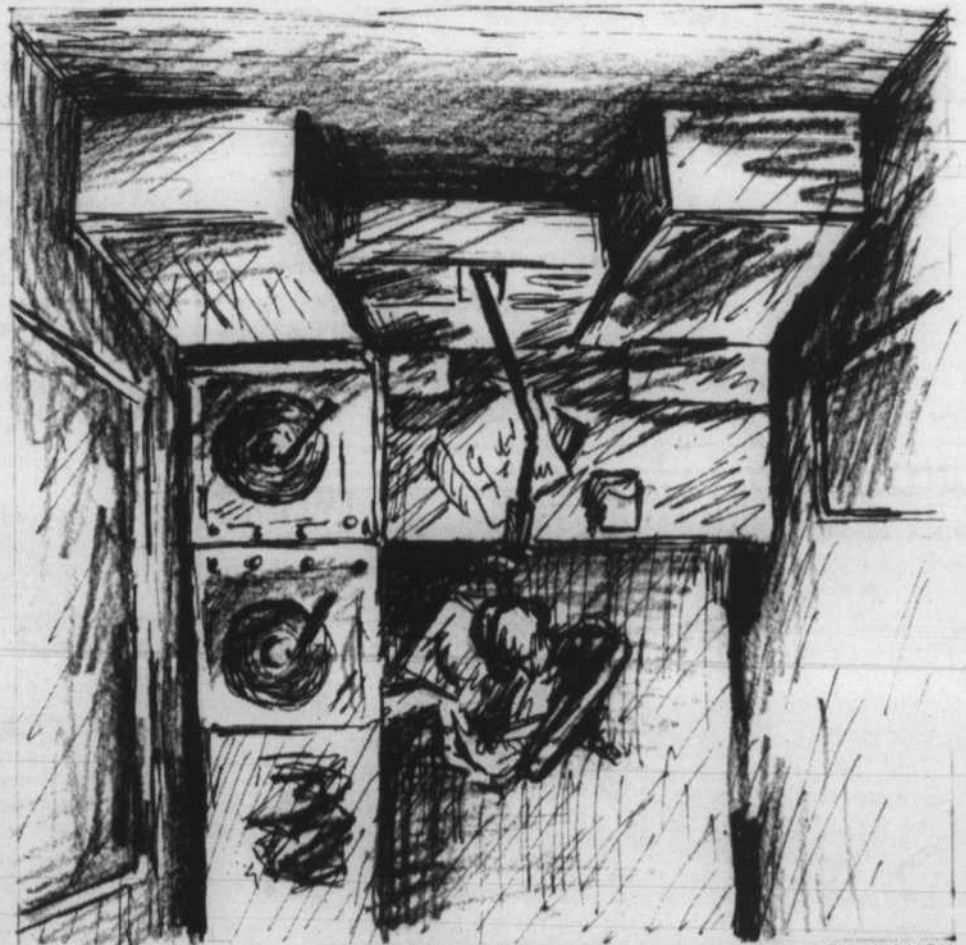
I found myself in the studios of KZUM, Nebraska's only community radio station. I was there to fill in for one of their programmers, Eli Rhodes, on her "Jazz Fusion" show from 10 a.m. to noon.

I knew Eli would be there to help me. In fact, I figured she'd do most of the complicated stuff. I'd just lean back in my headphones and be the "Voice of the Plains," a mysterious and sexy disembodied character. I figured I'd get fan mail.

But tragedy was to strike down my dreams of instant and easy local stardom. Destiny appeared in the form of computer problems. Eli, KZUM's technical "whiz kid," had to run off and fix things before whatever happens when computers go on the fritz happened.

"You're on your own, kid. Can you handle it?" she asked as she headed out of the studio.

"Uh, sure," I replied. "Wait, Eli..." but she was gone.



Robert Borzekowski/DN

Up to this point I'd only had instruction in How to Handle the Records, without touching them. Stuff like that. I'd never been on the air before, really. And now I was captain of this ship, sailing in unknown waters.

The mixing board of a radio station is kind of like the helm in "Star Trek": It's complicated and looks futuristic.

I stared at the bewildering controls and at the counter on the CD player that told me how long the current song would last. When that song ended I had to go "ON AIR," which was suddenly what I least wanted to do.

Fifteen seconds, ten, five, ZERO. I flipped a switch, leaned into the mike and said, "You're listening to KZUM. Lincoln." Nothing. No sound came out of the overhead speakers.

Now, I've read about breaking out in "cold sweats" before, but I always thought it was a made-up thing, a literary device, like "weak in the knees" or "blood rushing to the head."

When the monitor speakers went dead I kept right on talking, but I broke out in a cold sweat.

See PEOPLE on 10