

'Bugsy' highlights video hits

By Gerry Beltz
Staff Reporter

There were no new releases for this week, but other recently released videos included some big names and eagerly anticipated titles.

"Shining Through," starring Michael Douglas ("Basic Instinct") and Melanie Griffith ("Pacific Heights"), is a comedy-suspense spy thriller set during World War II. Griffith has a shining performance as a secretary who believes her boss (Douglas) is actually a spy for the Nazis.

The film features some decent "cloak-and-dagger" intrigue, if you can accept some of the leaps of faith and preposterous happenings that occur in the movie.

"Bugsy," directed by Barry Levinson also arrived recently. It is a very powerful film with equal impressive performances from Warren

Beatty as Bugsy Seigel, which may have been one of the best performances of his long career, as well as Annette Bening ("The Grifters") as the woman he desires.

Nominated for several Oscars, the movie was one of the best of the year and is definitely worth checking out.

Finally, we have "Star Trek 6: The Undiscovered Country" with the quintessential Enterprise crew including William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, DeForest Kelley and James Doohan, all reprising their roles of Kirk, Spock, McCoy and Scotty. We also have Christopher Plummer as a Klingon with a fondness of quoting Shakespeare and Kim Cattrall as a Vulcan officer onboard the Enterprise.

Set up as the last "Star Trek" movie of the series, it isn't a letdown to any of the Trekkies in the world, and has some good comedy lines as well as some terrific special effects.

1. Star Trek VI
2. Cape Fear
3. Bugsy
4. Grand Canyon
5. Father of the Bride
6. Shining Through
7. Freejack
8. My Girl
9. Kuffs
10. Curly Sue

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Video

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high film speed accompanied by "The William Tell Overture", and "2001: A Space Odyssey" (the bone becomes a spaceship and the black building block is full of disco lights).

Stan. Buddy. Come back to us. Come back to the pack. We'll take care of you.

3. "Fantasia" — We've got self-actualized broomsticks, dancing hippos and crocodiles (or were those alligators? I never could keep those straight, something with the snout), and a centaur colony under attack by a big dude on a thundercloud, what more of a hint do you need?

The animation is superb, and has a soundtrack to match. The movie has stood the test of time, for today I still refuse to watch this movie if I have had so little as Nyquil in my bloodstream. It's just too much to digest.

2. "Altered States" — Here, we've got William Hurt (in his first major

motion picture, back in 1980) portraying Eddie Jessup, a scientist in search of the first and ultimate truths, which he believes are buried deep within the DNA structure of the human body. He attempts to do so with the combination of a sensory-deprivation tank and an "ancient South American mushroom solution" at the same time.

This movie has so many mentally fantastic concepts of the "true self," and so many truly incredibly visual effects, not to mention the plethora of religious symbolism that Jessup endures during several of his earlier tank trips, that it had the potential to be at the top of the list.

1. "Pink Floyd, The Wall" — The granddaddy of them all; the movie synonymous with the phrase "You can't understand it unless you're either drunk or stoned." Definitely the most depressing movie of the whole bunch, but has possibly the most popular music related to a movie of all

time; after all, the movie was formed around the music, instead of the usual reversal. A very powerful and disturbing movie, and possibly the second-highest midnight movie in terms of popularity and repeat visits.

This movie is a clear cut from the "bizarre" genre. Do NOT watch this movie in an attempt to relieve depression, it could bring Mouseketeers to new lows.

Also, check your brain at the door before the movie starts. (In other words, don't try to follow a plot or series of events, just kick back and experience weirdness at its best.)

Other movies that are worth mentioning that didn't make the list are "The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai," the recently-released "Naked Lunch," "The Toxic Avenger" and any movie with Gamera, Rodan or Godzilla in the title.

Beltz is a senior language-arts education major and a Daily Nebraskan staff reporter.

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