

Jack Nicholson has Trouble with film

"Man Trouble"



By Gerry Beltz
Staff Reporter

Even diehard Jack Nicholson fans

will probably find that "Man Trouble" (Lincoln 3, 12th and P streets) just isn't worth the trouble.

In one of his first attempts in acting in a straight romantic-comedy, Nicholson portrays Harry Bliss, a guard dog trainer who is up to his neck in marital problems and overdue bills, just waiting for that "big break."

Enter Ellen Barkin ("Switch") as the "big break."

She plays a recently divorced opera singer, named Joan, whose home recently has been burglarized.

Joan moves into the home of her self-centered sister Andy (Beverly D'Angelo), but is still frightened. She remembers an advertisement for Bliss'

service, she calls him and POOF! It is love at first sight for Harry.

From there, the movie becomes very difficult to describe in terms of plot and character development because director Bob Rafelson (who previously directed Nicholson in "Five Easy Pieces") never really decides which way he wants to take the

storyline.

Sometimes the viewer follows a plot involving a book Andy has written about a former boyfriend (who is also a gangster). Other times the viewer briefly sees the changing lives of Harry and Joan.

See TROUBLE on 9

PARKING PERMIT NOTICE

Due to unforeseen manufacturing delays, the 1992-1993 parking permits will not be available for over-the-counter sales before the first part of August.

UNL Parking Services apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Films to compete for awards during Sheldon's Great Plains Film Festival

By Gerry Beltz
Staff Reporter

The first annual Great Plains Film Festival will open at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater located in the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery.

Featured during the festival are 34 competition finalists, who will compete for nearly \$10,000 in cash awards, and a special posthumous tribute to Academy Award winning actress Sandy Dennis.

The festival will run through Aug. 2, screening the finalists in feature-length (more than 30 minutes) dramas, feature-length documentaries, short (less than 30 minutes) films and videos and films and videos by Native American artists.

To qualify for the festival, entries had to be received by June 30th and were required to originate from the central United States or the Canadian Great Plains Region.

The awards ceremony will be held on Aug. 1 in the Sheldon Gallery, and all winners will be screened for the public Aug. 2.

A tribute and special award given to honor the late Sandy Dennis, who won an Academy Award for her performance in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" will also be a part of the festival award ceremonies on Aug. 1. Dennis was born and raised in Nebraska.

Competitors will compete for five awards: grand prize (given to the film or video that best reflects the ethnic heritage of the region); best film or video by a Native American; best dramatic feature film or video; best documentary feature film or video; and best short film or video.

The festival had an impressive start with the regional premiere of "Gas Food Lodging," directed by finalist judge Allison Anders about the heart and strength of three women in the New Mexico desert.

"Gas Food Lodging" tells the story of Nora (Brooke Adams), a divorced, working-class mother who is trying to raise her two teenage daughters Trudi (Ione Skye) and Shade (Fairuza Balk).

Trudi is a tough-talking monument to teenage rebellion, doing everything her mother tells her not to do. She

attempts to hide her true feelings and dark past with her language and promiscuous behavior, but her real feelings eventually surface when she meets and falls for a nice guy named Hank.

Nora, a waitress at a local truck stop, is always wanting the best for her daughters but is frustrated by Trudi's disobedience.

Shade, the film's narrator, is an adolescent girl who spends much of her time at the local theater watching black-and-white Spanish movies, and wants to find the same romantic love that she constantly sees on the screen.

Complete schedules for the festival are available at the Ross theater. Festival passes, which are good for admission to all screenings and special events including the awards ceremony, are \$25 and available at the theater.

Individual tickets for the screenings will also be available at the door. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for UNL students and \$3 for senior citizens, children and members of the Friends of the Ross Film Theater.

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