Friday, September 3, 1993

Stephen King novel turns quiet town around



"Needful Things"

What would you be willing to do for one wish?

That is the question posed by the movie "Needful Things," the latest screen adaptation of a Stephen King novel.

Castle Rock, Maine, is a quiet little town. The local sheriff (Ed Harris, "Glengarry Glen Ross") has just proposed to the cafe owner Polly (Bonnie Bedelia, from the "Die Hard" films), and in general everybody is happy. That is until the guage but mys terious Leiand Gaunt (Max Von

Sydow) arrives and opens up an antique store called Needful Things.

Of course, this isn't just your run-of-the-mill antique store. Somehow, Gaunt can give his customers the one thing each has al-

ways wanted — for a price. No, they don't have to sign away their souls; they just have to pull a "harmless prank," such as throw-ing mud and turkey crap all over someone's laundry.

Eventually, Gaunt gets every-one in the town hating one another, and the "harmless pranks" escalate

with the use of high explosives and shotguns, and Gaunt is loving every minute of it.

Fraser Heston's debut as a director is good, especially consider-ing the string of successful King novels converted into flops for the big screen. He keeps the film rolling along at a leisurely pace, with all the action and suspense in the right places, with a few touches of humor thrown in as well.

Heston also knows what kind of scenes will bring a macabre smile from moviegoers, such as a couple of priests trying to beat the holy snot out of each other.

The cast is excellent as well, with great performances from Amanda Plummer ("The Fisher King") as the soft-spoken Nettie and J.T. Walsh ("Good Morning Vietnam") as Keeton, a city council member that falls heavily under the influence of Gaunt's spell.

The prize, however, has to go to von sydow. His portrayal of the devilish Gaunt is deliciously morbid, and the line of puns concerning Gaunt's background -- "I didn't think another soul would fit in here" doesn't stop, but it isn't overdone

The music, however, is over-done. Patrick Doyle threw in just a few too many "Ominous Angelic Choruses," and at times it hurts the film's effectiveness as a thriller.

But the great suspense and good acting makes "Needful Things" worth the price.

-Gerry Beltz

Daily Nebraskan

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University Health Center / GM-Southwest Student Insurance

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Again this year UNL and GM-Southwest are working together to provide a health care program to help off-set the high cost of medical care. Your University Health Center is working with the Student Insurance carrier to offer such a plan. International Students and Dependents: August 12, 1993 - August 12, 1994 Domestic Students and Dependents: August 23, 1993 - August 23, 1994

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Edgewood Plaza - 5400 S. 56th St. 423-2584

Eastpark Plaza - N. 66th St.

This program is open to both graduate and under-graduate students.

There are some changes this year in the procedure for enrollment that will be affecting International Students.

Immigration laws state that International Students must be financially responsible to reside in this country. The UNL policy requires mandatory insurance for International Students. These students will be required to show proof of private insurance or will be billed automatically on their tuition statement for Student Insurance.

As in the past, all students will be required to seek initial treatment at the University Health Center whenever possible. To effectively utilize this policy, your Health Center fees must be paid as well as your insurance premiums.

Dependent coverage is also available for an additional premium. The student must be on the Student Insurance program in order for dependents to be enrolled. Applications for the dependents of International Students, as well as for all Domestic Students and their dependents, are available at the University Health Center Business Office. INTERNA-TIONAL STUDENTS DESIRING BASIC STUDENT **ONLY COVERAGE DO NOT NEED TO FILL OUT APPLICATIONS!** EFFECTIVE DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PREMIUMS:

International Students: \$211.00 per semester (Fall and Spring/Summer)

(this includes repatriation + medical evacuation benefits) If you have your own insurance already, see the insurance clerk to sign a waiver by Sept. 7th.

Domestic Students: \$406.00 annually \$213.00 semi-annually \$112.00 quarterly \$1,225.00 annually Add for Spouse: \$641.00 semi-annually \$321.00 quarterly \$594.00 annually AddperChild: \$300.00 semi-annually \$150.00 quarterly The cost of dependent coverage is the same for families of Domestic or International students. ENROLLMENT TIMES: Deadline for enrollment is 31 days after the effective date of each semester. Annual, semiannual or quarterly payment options are available only in the fall

Payments may be made at the University Health Center or sent to GM-Southwest directly. PLEASE NO CASH PAY-MENTS! Enrollment applications are available by mail or at University Health Center Business Office. 24-HOUR INFORMATION LINE: 472-7437.