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Film touches heart, stirs mind



"The Joy Luck Club"



It is rare that a film comes along that can touch the heart and stir the mind.

"The Joy Luck Club" is one such film.

Based on the novel by Amy Tan, it is the story of mothers' love and the barriers that stand between mother and child. It's the story of how little two people can know each other, even if they love each other very dearly. It's every daughter's desire to make her mother proud and every mother's pain and inability to convey understanding.

And it is an inspiring and heart-tugging film.

"The Joy Luck Club" focuses on pivotal moments in the lives of four women, Suyuan (Kieu Chinh), Lindo (Tsai Chin), Ying Ying (France Nuyen), and An Mei (Lisa Lu). Their extraordinary lives are filled with much heartache and pain, hopes and dreams, love and loss. And, the hopes and fears they have



Courtesy Buena Vista Pictures

The complex story of two generations of Chinese women and their American daughters unfold in the movie, "The Joy Luck Club."

for their daughters, June (Ming-Na Wen), Waverly (Tamlyn Tomita), Lena (Lauren Tom) and Rose (Rosalind Chao) respectively.

Their four daughters' stories — and troubles — are also an important part of the film. Their mothers' wisdom, often ignored, is important in each of the daughters' lives.

Director Wayne Wang and screenwriters Ronald Bass and Amy Tan seem to keep true to Tan's novel, telling most of the story in various flashbacks. What could have been an annoying distraction is instead an intimate look at each

person.

Credit must go, of course, to the fine ensemble of actresses that make this film so wonderful. Many are familiar faces, but never before have they been given the opportunity to play centerstage — and they do it very, very well. Hollywood should take heed: there is abundant talent in this picture.

"The Joy Luck Club" is being touted as a film to take a hankie to. That's not too far off base, but it would be a good idea to take your mother, too.

— Anne Steyer

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Rap

Continued from Page 9

Not all of Lincoln's rappers are college students.

Tara Moody attends Lincoln Northeast High School and raps under the name Baby T. She moved to Lincoln from Bronx, New York. She said she comes from a musical family. Several of her cousins are rappers, and her father is a DJ.

Moody said she used a combination of styles in her rap, which all reflected her influences.

Moody said she rapped righteous like Queen Latifah and fun like MC Lyte.

Rap isn't destined to be her career, though. She has other plans.

"I want to be a doctor," she said.

Rudy Moseley, also known as Deja Ranks, grew up in the Bahamas with his Jamaican parents. He moved to Lincoln to attend UNL.

"Like rap is (big) here, (dance hall reggae) is the big thing down there. That's all they play," Moseley said.

Moseley, a junior biology/pre-dentistry major, said the dance hall style was different from the traditional rap sound.

"They dance different. To me it's more fun," he said.

Moseley said rap for him was "kind of a hobby," even though he wrote his own lyrics and produced all the tracks.

Moseley said he thought Rapfest would be good because it would "bring a lot of people together because a lot of people like it."

Jones said Lincoln's lack of a real rap scene had been a concern of local rap artists and fans.

"There's no place period (for rap)," Jones said.

Suhayb agreed, but said he had noticed a slight increase in the number of rap concerts in Lincoln.

Things have "picked up slowly but steadily," Suhayb said. He cited the recent rap shows with national acts Positive K and Kris Kross and the upcoming Rockin' Robin/APU show that features Shabba Ranks and Mad Cobra. In November, national acts Boss, Onyx, Tag Team and Scarface will visit Lincoln.

While things have improved, there still isn't much rap in Lincoln, partly because of the many misconceptions about the music, Suhayb said.

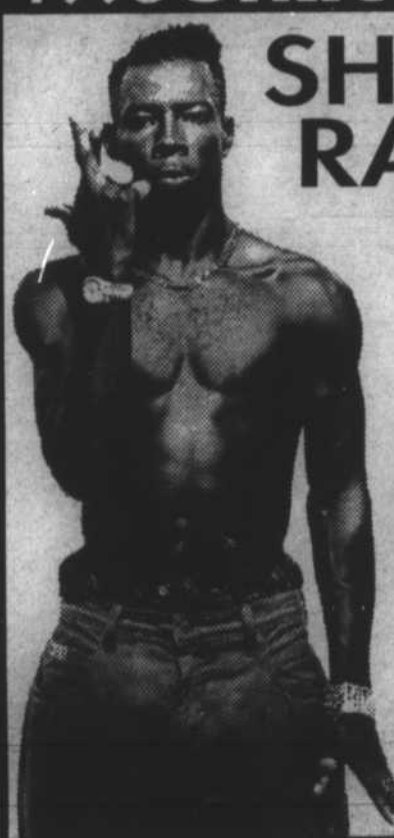
"Rap has been stereotyped," he said. "People are afraid of what might happen."

"(Rappers) don't create the problems; they rap about them," he said.

Admission to the all-ages event is \$7 and \$5 with a UNL student I.D. There will be an additional \$1 discount for people who bring a can of food, which will be donated to the Lincoln and Omaha food banks.


An after-concert party will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The party will feature DJ Dynamike from Movement Enterprises. Admission to the party is included in the Rapfest price.


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