

Out & about

A&E WEEKEND OUTLOOK

Cast shines, plot does not in 'Addams Family' sequel

It's mid-November. The turkey is thawing, finals are right around the corner, and the first wave of holiday movies is hitting theaters nationwide. And what would a holiday movie season be without sequels?

The first sequel to show up this cinematic season, opening today, is "Addams Family Values."

Although the previews for the film seem to focus on Pubert, the

newest member of the Addams household, his role turns out to be only a small part of the movie.

All the original cast members are back, except that Grandma is now played by Carol Kane ("The Princess Bride"). There are some other new faces as well.

Joan Cusack ("Working Girl," "Say Anything") shows up as Debbie, the new nanny. However, she has something else in mind besides nannying.

Debbie likes to marry rich, lonely men, then kill them on their wedding night after being named the next of kin.

As it turns out, Uncle Fester (Christopher Lloyd) is lonesome and looking for love, and Debbie is broke and looking for bucks.

Debbie's true intentions are discovered by the lovably macabre Wednesday (Christina Ricci). Debbie gets one step ahead of Wednesday, and convinces Gomez and Morticia (Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston) that the older children want to go to summer camp.

Wednesday and Pugsley (Jimmy Workman) don't just end up at any summer camp; they're sent to Camp Chippewa, a camp that caters to the most

WASP-ish members of society. The camp is led by two perpetually perky people, Becky and Gary Granger (Christine Baranski and Peter MacNicol).

Wednesday and Pugsley, surrounded by droves of cheerful children who thrive on happiness and laughter — can we say "culture shock?"

Not only must Wednesday and Pugsley escape the torturously happy surroundings of Camp Chippewa, but they also must prevent the wedding of Uncle Fester and Debbie.

Many of the film's most hilarious moments come courtesy of the two children — particularly in the "rehabilitation techniques" they use on their fellow campers.

Unfortunately, the other plot lines are a bit thin, and they seem to wander here and there, waiting for the ending to arrive to tie them all together.

Director Barry Sonnenfeld, who directed the blockbuster "Addams Family" in 1991, is back in the director's chair, but he isn't able to reach the same peak he achieved two years ago.

All the cast members are terrific in their respective roles, but it is Ricci who steals the movie. Her deadpan portrayal of the wicked Wednesday is absolutely delicious and provides the best moments of the movie.

Anyone who's a fan of the "Addams Family" movie definitely should check out "Addams Family Values."

— Gerry Beltz



David Badders/DN

TOM MAINELLI

Weekend pow-wow: Cultures converging on campus

Native American tribes from around the country will gather this weekend for the fourth annual University of Nebraska-Lincoln Pow-Wow.

Thomas Parker, vice president of the University InterTribal Exchange Program (UNITE), said the pow-wow was open to any tribe, and to members of any race.

"The focus is to bring all people together," he said. "The door is open to anyone who wants to participate."

Parker, a freshman geology and environmental studies major, said reg-

istration for the pow-wow's various dance and music competitions would begin Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Centennial Ballroom at the Nebraska Student Union.

At 1 p.m., the grand entry and invocation begins. Parker said the grand entry was when the various tribal dancers entered the arena. Their entry will be accompanied by the songs of the Young Generation, a Native American group made up of young singers from Walthill.

After the grand entry, an elder will bless the event. Then the master of



sometime before 5 p.m. the dance contests would be held, after which everyone is invited to Selleck Hall for a traditional Native American meal.

After the break, the pow-wow will

ceremonies, Gary Rush of Omaha, will begin the intertribal dance, where all tribes are encouraged to participate.

Parker said

continue from 7 p.m. until "finishing seems appropriate," he said.

The pow-wow resumes at 1 p.m. on Sunday with another grand entry and continued dancing.

Parker encouraged anyone interested in Native American culture to attend the event.

He said any student who had ever seen a Disney movie or Hollywood representation of Native Americans could learn a lot at the pow-wow.

"We are proud of who we are, and we like to show people more about our cultures," he said.

The event's sponsors include UNITE, Casino Omaha, UPC, Grants for American Indians in Nebraska, the Nebraska Humanities Council, Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa, and the UNL Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Admission is free with the donation of a can of food. For more information about the pow-wow call the Office of Multicultural affairs at 472-2027.

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