

Yuletide offers grab bag of videos

BOOK Review

By Gerry Beltz
Senior Reporter

Although students will take a vacation, new video releases will not. The next four weeks don't promise anything monumentally terrific, but there's still enough good stuff to get through the month.

Three very mediocre flicks will be released Wednesday: "Baby's Day Out" starring Joe Mantegna will please the kids with its mindlessness; "Blown Away" with Jeff Bridges and Tommy Lee Jones needs less drama and more action; and "I Love Trouble" with Nick Nolte and Julia Roberts is just plain blah, and not worth the trouble.

Three more releases will be out Dec. 21, and the verdict is in favor of another John Grisham flick. "The Client" stars Susan Sarandon and

Tommy Lee Jones, and even non-Grisham fans can enjoy this film. Also released on this date are "Lassie" and "Wagon's East," starring Richard Lewis and the late John Candy.

For those looking for a good kids film, "The Land Before Time II" will be released Dec. 23. This made-for-video animated dinosaur flick is the sequel to the successful original "The Land Before Time" from the late 1980s.

The Wednesday before classes start, Jan. 4, is the beginning of a great month of video releases. "Renaissance Man" with Danny DeVito and "Airheads" with Brendan Fraser both come out that day, and both are worth seeing.

Also coming out in January are

"True Lies," "Wolf," and "The Shadow."

PICK-OF-THE-MONTH — This was a tough decision. This movie must be such a film that it would speak to generations, a movie that stands out from the rest.

The choice was obvious: "Flash Gordon."

From the early '80s, this flick epitomizes the phrase "turn off your brain and enjoy." It stars Sam J. Jones as our hero, with Melody Anderson as Dale Arden, Topol as Dr. Hans Zarkov and Max Von Sydow as Ming the Merciless.

A soundtrack by Queen, hokey special effects, fun-loving action, and dialogue that boggles the mind all combine to make "Flash Gordon" a fun little film to rent.

Flix

Continued from Page 14

Jodie Foster will try for another Oscar in "Nell," which opens Dec. 23. Foster stars as a backwoods woman who falls for Liam Neeson.

"Street Fighter," will also be released Dec. 23; it is based on the popular arcade game. This one stars Jean-Claude Van Damme and the late Raul Julia.

Movie theaters and convenience stores are about the only places open Christmas Day. There's a healthy amount of movies opening Christmas Day, including two movies based on literary classics: Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women," starring Susan Sarandon, Winona Ryder and Kirsten Dunst; and Rudyard Kipling's "The Jungle Book" starring Jason Scott Lee and Cary Elwes.

Also opening is the comedy "I.Q." with Meg Ryan, Tim Robbins and Walter Matthau as Albert Einstein.



Courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox

Natasha Richardson, Jodie Foster and Liam Neeson star in "Nell," which opens Dec. 23.



Courtesy of Glen E. Friedman

Henry Rollins, author of "Get in the Van: Life on the Road with Black Flag" performs with Black Flag.

Buckle the belts: Rollins' book 'Get in the Van' a trip

"Get in the Van: Life on the Road with Black Flag" Henry Rollins Grade: B+

Henry Rollins chronicles his years with the legendary thrash band Black Flag in his latest book. Rollins edited his tour diaries and gives the reader an intimate look into the ups and downs of his earlier years.

A lot of the journal entries were written in the now-famous "Shed," a tool shed where Rollins lived for a couple of years.

The book has been released in printed and audio versions, but listening to Rollins' emotional voice relive his rocky beginnings.

Rollins' "tour of duty" with the Flag ran from 1981 until 1986 and spanned the globe.

He comments on everything from the skinheads who often came and ruined their shows to the concert they played in Lincoln.

Rollins' comments are often witty and amusing.

Rollins on England: "I hate England."

Rollins on skinheads: "These people should go get killed. It's a drag to have to put up with these people who should just be hit by cars."

Rollins on relations with police: "It's like being bossed around by a child twice your body weight."

Rollins on Lincoln: "Last night was Lincoln, Nebraska. I thought we played real well. Crowd was cool."

—Joel Strauch

Wheel'n & Deal'n Bike Shop

SEASON'S GREETINGS

New '95 Bikes Are In!
Clearance Sale on all '94 Bikes.
Stop by and check them out!

2706 Randolph

438-1477

PRECISION SNOWBOARDS

Starting at \$349.95

We GOT Style!

Check it out!

2115 O St.
476-3044



NOVOY FULL STOCK

Gregory

Continued from Page 14

a college career and be set up for life," Cleasby said. "But for some people that isn't fulfilling."

Brock is a senior English and philosophy major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, but he said he wouldn't be satisfied with the usual middle-class, college-graduate job.

"A lot of people go through college and get a job and become that job," Brock said. "I don't want to become some bitter person sitting behind a desk saying, 'You know, I could have been a musician.'"

"I have a job as a janitor, but I make music."

Mark Wolberg, Gregory's bassist, said being a musician was different than other jobs.

"You're working for yourself, and you have to know that so you can motivate yourself," Wolberg said.

The band has been together two years. Members said they'd been

"I know that everyone in this band would be able to flourish in a college career and be set up for life, but for some people that isn't fulfilling."

OWEN CLEASBY

Gregory lead singer and guitarist

criticized for not accomplishing as much as most bands.

"It took us a long time to get our shit together. What we've established over the last two years may not have been any releases or national attention, but we have established lifelong friendships and a spiritual approach to music," Cleasby said.

Gregory has had loftier aspirations, he said.

"Our goal has been to develop an idea about what it's like to play music."

Taking their time made them a stronger band, Cleasby said.

"We have a lot of confidence in ourselves that isn't based on other people's confidence or our own pretensions," he said.

The band is getting things going now and plans to record an album in 1995, Wolberg said.

"We also have our first out-of-town show in January on the 20th at the Capital in Omaha," he said.

They also are considering touring in their recently-purchased van.

A priceless adventure doesn't have to cost you a small fortune.



You can study abroad for a lot less than you might think. We can help you stretch your budget so that adventure is within your reach.

International Affairs Center 1237 B Street 478-5388 e-mail: iaffairs@unlinfo.edu



University of Nebraska-Lincoln World Campus



Get a Global Attitude...Study Abroad

Traditions

Continued from Page 14

uses his imagination to thrill a hometown audience every Christmas.

Manheim Steamroller will roll onto Omaha's Orpheum Theater stage Dec. 26 at 8 p.m. Additional performances include Dec. 27 through Dec. 30 at 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. and Dec. 31 at 9 p.m.

Tickets are \$17.50 and \$21.50, and are available through Ticketmaster.

"A Christmas Carol"

For those in need of some extra Christmas spirit, "A Christmas Carol" is playing in Omaha.

The classic tale of the crotchety, miserly Ebenezer Scrooge ends with redemption and renewal of the Christmas spirit.

In its 19th year, the Omaha Community Playhouse production takes on a new look this year with more than 20 new cast members and new costumes for the second act.

"A Christmas Carol" runs through December 22 at the playhouse, 6915 Cass St. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets, \$24 for adults and \$12 for students, are available through the playhouse box

office.

"The Nutcracker"

Unwrap the magic of the Sugar Plum Fairy, Clara and her Nutcracker as they dance to the classic tunes of Peter I. Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" at the Lied Center for the Performing Arts.

"The Nutcracker," one of the world's most popular ballets, features beautiful pageantry, whimsical dancing and festive costumes.

A little girl named Clara receives a Nutcracker doll from her uncle. In a dream, the Nutcracker becomes a soldier and fights off an army of evil rodents. Clara saves him from a fatal blow and he becomes a prince who takes Clara on a trip around the world.

The two are greeted by the gossamer Sugar Plum Fairy in the land of the sweets and are treated to a variety of dances.

"The Nutcracker," produced by the Lincoln Midwest ballet and the Lincoln Orchestra Association, will be on stage at the Lied Center Dec. 17 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$24, \$20 and \$16, and are half price for students. Tickets are available through the Lied Center box office.