

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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STATE
ARTS
with Joel Strauch

Melrose rage addicts man

I couldn't believe it when Sydney joined that wacky cult just because porn star Traci Lords became her friend.

And I about died when Jo's baby was kidnapped again. Life's not fair for some people (especially on television).

If you don't know what I'm talking about, then you probably will think I'm one of those soft-minded cretins who sits around and sobs in front of soap operas all day.

But I'm not. I'm a man, dammit! I like sports. I like going out, getting drunk and raising Cain. And I also like "Melrose Place."

Sure, it's okay to admit that you used to watch "90210," as long as it was just the first season or so. But as soon as it's discovered that you are a "Melrose" fan, you're branded a tasteless simpleton.

All right, maybe the plot isn't Emmy-winning, and the characters mirror real life like funhouse glass, but there's a special something about the show that brings millions of viewers back week after week.

I used to go out every Monday night (until I ran out of money and livers) and make fun of the poor saps who were chained to their television sets wondering what would happen to the worthless group of lackluster actors this week.

I started watching the show because my girlfriend was an avid viewer, and I figured I could sit through "Melrose" if she let me watch "The Simpsons" on her TV.

The first couple of times I watched, I thought it was better than jamming pieces of glass under my fingernails, but I wasn't really impressed.

Then something snapped inside me. It was like some ancient genetic switch in my DNA had been turned on, and now there's no shutting it off.

I find myself yelling at Amanda — not only because she's the biggest vixen this side of Shannon Doherty — but also because she does stupid stuff like getting involved with that evil pig Michael.

I cringe whenever Matt is shunned by homophobic characters. I cry along with Jo when she is refused custody of her son.

No, I don't think it's a perfect show.

It's full of idiots who let themselves get taken advantage of time and time again.

It's got weak lines and far-fetched plots. It's got more adultery and betrayal than the House of Representatives.

But it's also got pizzazz. It's got style. It's got social messages.

And it's got Heather Locklear.

Strauch is a senior education major and a Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter.

Film gives new view on Vietnam

The Facts

Film: "The Walking Dead"

Director: Preston A. Whitmore II

Stars: Allen Payne, Eddie Griffin, Joe Morton

Rating: R

Grade: B+

Five Words: Fresh look at Vietnam life.

By Chad Johnson

Film Critic

"The Walking Dead" ventures into areas never explored by a Vietnam war movie. Breaking new ground ignored by "Platoon," "Full Metal Jacket" and "Hamburger Hill," "The Walking Dead" returns to the home front to explain why soldiers fought a less than patriotic war.

Preston A. Whitmore II reaches a level comparable to Oliver Stone ("Platoon," "Born on the Fourth of July") based on the fact that Whitmore was there. His direction brings a fresh new perspective on the role of African-Americans in the Vietnam conflict.

His characters appear much more real than Willard in "Apocalypse Now" and much deeper than anyone in any of the 1980s Vietnam war movies.

Allen Payne, Eddie Griffin and Joe Morton are the key figures in a mission to rescue some prisoners of war from an abandoned camp.

The double-cross is explained early on as the main characters discover they are being used by "The Man" for a dirty job. The cast is believable, adding depth and power to roles that have been previously treated as token characters in other films.

The film moves at a rapid pace. Flashbacks provide necessary insights into character development. "The Walking Dead" is the first

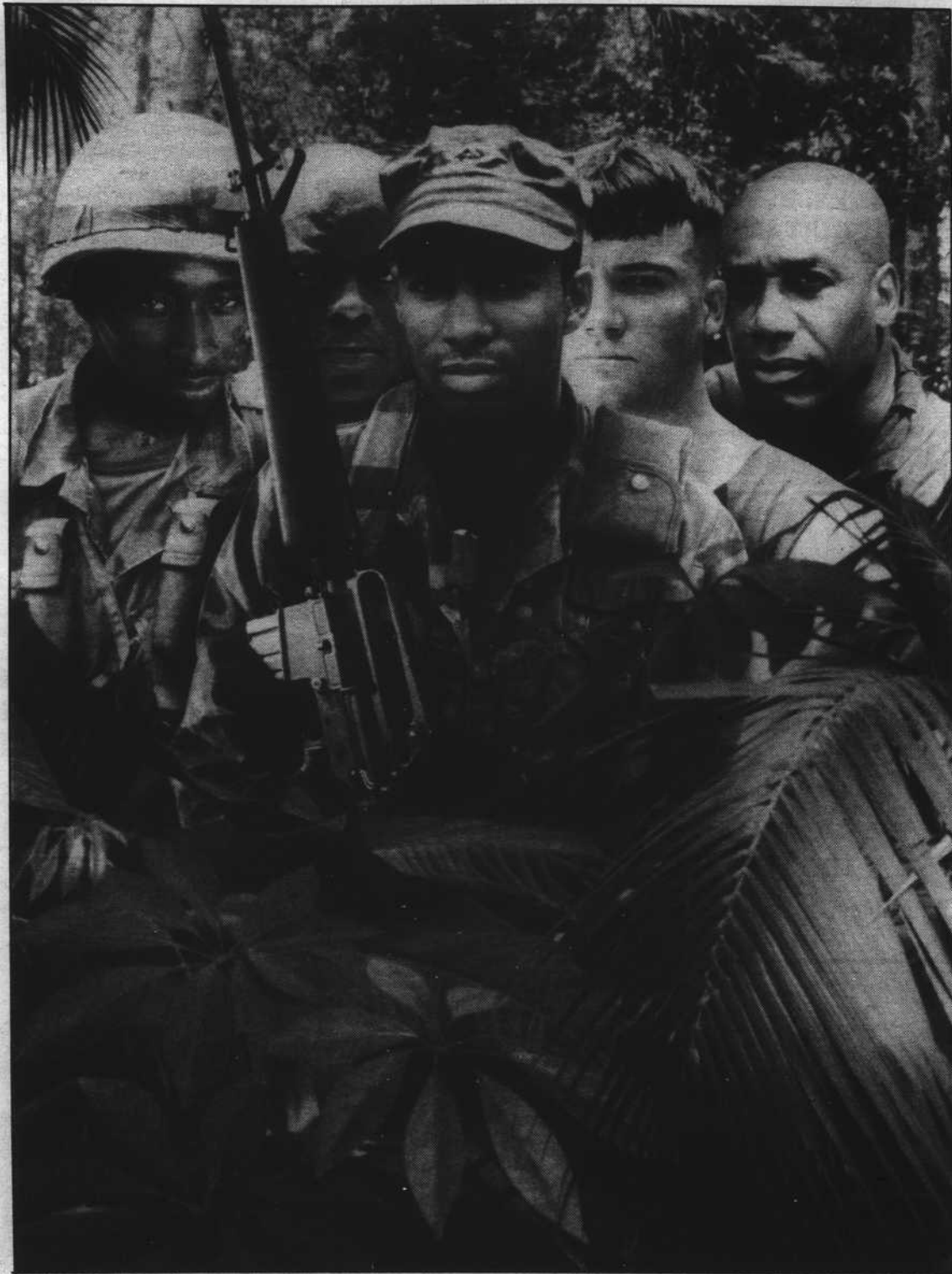


Photo courtesy of Savoy Pictures

Eddie Griffin, Vonte Sweet, Allen Payne, Roger Floyd and Joe Morton star as marines in "The Walking Dead."

See "DEAD" on 10

FCC allowed 101.9 change

By Jeff Randall
Staff Reporter

Last Tuesday's change in format for Omaha-Lincoln radio station KYNN-FM was influenced by a 1992 Federal Communications Commission deregulatory act.

KYNN was purchased just weeks ago by Mitchell Broadcasting, an Omaha-based company that had previously owned KQKQ-FM (98.5) and KKAR-AM (1110).

The 1992 act allows duopolies, ownership of up to two stations in each format (AM and FM) in a single market. Thus Mitchell Broadcasting could also acquire KOIL-AM (1290) in August 1993, and, more recently, KYNN-FM (101.9).

Mitchell Broadcasting's decision to expand its ownership is typical in the broadcast industry, said Marty Riemenschneider, the company's executive vice president.

"The general rule of thumb is

"We felt we should take advantage of the deregulation in order to both increase our market share and to allow us better service for the public."

MARTY RIEMENSCHNEIDER

Mitchell Broadcasting spokesperson

multiple ownership," Riemenschneider said. "It is fast becoming the best way for stations to survive and be successful.

"We felt we should take advantage of the deregulation in order to both increase our market share and to allow us better service for the public."

John Bender, an assistant news-editorial professor, said the FCC's previous restrictions on dual ownership had been the result of excessive media concentration.

"There were some situations in

which one owner would have total or near-total control of all of the media in a specific market," Bender said.

Bender said a good example of over-concentration was the near-monopoly the Kansas City Star had in the 1950s. The Star owned both of the city's daily newspapers, the Sunday newspaper, one television station, an AM radio station and an AM/FM radio station.

See DUOPOLY on 10

Show tonight offers humor, free hypnosis

From Staff Reports

Master of the mind Jim Wand will perform his unique brand of hypnosis tonight in the Great Plains Room of the East Campus Union.

Wand, who has performed more than 4,000 professional engagements and hypnotized more than 50,000 people, uses audience participation, humor, his educational expertise and self-help techniques to entertain audiences nationwide.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln students may remember Wand best from his many Big Red Welcome appearances in the past.

The show begins at 7:30 p.m. and is free for students and \$3 for the public.