

Comedy act to feature 'Color' star

From Staff Reports

Some students who were hoping for a "booty call" on Tuesday may be disappointed, but not for lack of laughter.

MTV host and stand-up comedian Bill Bellamy had been scheduled as the featured act at a comedy show Tuesday, at the Lied Center for Performing Arts.

But due to the scheduling of a television pilot taping that week in which he will star, Bellamy was forced to cancel his appearance.

"In Living Color" star and stand-up comic Tommy Davidson will take Bellamy's place, Rich Caruso of UNL Student Involvement said.

Tickets that have already been sold for the show may be refunded at the Lied Center box office.

But for those wishing to attend Tuesday's comedy show, those tickets will still be redeemable. Tickets are also on sale, \$5 for students with IDs, and \$8 for the general public.

The University Program Council-sponsored event will start at 8 p.m.

'Presidents' an excellent social criticism

By Jeff Randall
Film Critic

As the Vietnam War becomes an increasingly over-mentioned topic in the American cinema, filmmakers have to look for new clothes to put on the same old model.

When these films first began springing up, directors were able to bring the topic alive with nothing more or less than excellent filmmaking.

Francis Ford Coppola made "Apocalypse Now," one of the greatest films of all time. Oliver Stone made "Platoon," "Born on the Fourth of July" and "Heaven and Earth."

The first in Stone's trilogy was an excellent and disturbing picture; the second two films revealed that Vietnam was getting old for audiences.

Stone then examined the ripples, or tidal waves, Vietnam made when it hit the lake of life. In other words, the war wasn't important, coping with it was.

That tradition is now continued by the Hughes Brothers (Allen and Albert) in their new film, "Dead Presidents." Their chosen avenue of exploration is the post-Vietnam experience for black soldiers.

This film centers on the experiences of An-

thony Curtis, who is played by Larenz Tate ("Menace II Society," "The Inkwell").

Anthony is an intelligent young man who decides that becoming a Marine would be better than four years of college. He becomes a top-notch soldier in a reconnaissance unit in Vietnam.

When he returns home from the war, he finds that living in America isn't what it used to be. He expects to be welcomed and appreciated for his defending America, but he finds only suspicion, more expectations, and open hostility from both family and anti-war activists.

After losing his job in a butcher shop, Anthony realizes that little opportunity is available for him. In desperation he decides to take advantage of his military training and, along with some friends and a few of his fellow disillusioned Vietnam veterans, heist an armored car.

Among these friends are his drug-addicted pal Skip, played by Chris Tucker ("Friday"), and Anthony's former hustler boss, Kirby, played by Keith David ("Clockers," "Men at Work").

This film is at its best when exploring the complexities of racism and oppression in America. It is at its worst when depicting the experience of Vietnam.

The Hughes Brothers try to do too much with the film in two hours, and they violate the idea of "write what you know" since they weren't even born during the Vietnam War.

The Facts

Film: "Dead Presidents"

Stars: Larenz Tate, Keith David, Chris Tucker

Director: The Hughes Brothers

Rating: R (violence, language, brief nudity)

Grade: B

Five Words: Crime film examines social problems

Racism, however, is still alive and well in America and is a subject that the Hughes Brothers live with every day. This results in a sharp, often subtle, illustration of one of America's most evil and most frequently denied ills.

Outstanding camerawork and editing make this film a visual and intellectual delight. The constantly moving style the Hughes Brothers and cinematographer Lisa Rinzler employ maintains a level of sub-surface intensity that is all too rare in most films of today.

As a period piece and historical film, this effort by the Hughes Brothers more often falls flat than not. But as social criticism, this one should be hard to beat.

Movie Review



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Doors

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viewed Morrison's friends, and practiced replicating Morrison's onstage movements until they became his own.

The result, according to many fans of the original thing and Hakim's band, is an eerily realistic recreation of the Doors in every aspect.

Robin Vansen, a promotional director for the band, said Hakim won over even the most skeptical of fans.

"At first, some people have a hard time getting over the fact that Jim Hakim doesn't look exactly like the original Jim.

"But, by the end of the show, it's almost impossible not to believe that he is Jim Morrison reincarnated."

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ROBIN VANSEN

Promotional director for the Back Doors

When considering the continued popularity of the Doors, a band that hasn't recorded an album in more than 20 years, Hakim said Morrison's personality was as much a part of the equation as his music.

"He's so enigmatic and hard to understand that people like both sides, the part they can't understand as well," he said.

Helping people to solve that puzzle, Hakim said, is not a job he is willing to undertake. He just wants

to let people hear the music.

"They'll have to use their imagination to figure out that part," Hakim said. "That's what I've had to do."

Nebraskans will get the chance to try solving the mystery for themselves Thursday, when the Back Doors take the stage at the Ranch Bowl in Omaha.

Tickets for the concert are \$6.50 in advance, \$7.50 on the day of the show. Local band Ivory Star will open up the concert at 9 p.m.

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Wednesday, October 11 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Dixon

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"It's really an impossible medium for me to continue in."

Dixon received his Ph.D. in English from Rutgers University in 1982, and came to UNL.

"The environment at UNL was supportive and anxious to help a film studies program," he said.

Courses in the film studies program have been highly sought after, and Dixon has had to turn away many students every semester seeking an override, he said.

"The courses are in heavy demand," he said. "I have a sign up on my door saying that I will not sign any overrides, because all film classes are offered on a first-come/first-served basis."

Although he is no longer making films, Dixon said, the future of filmmaking will be at the fingertips of people all over the globe.

"The future of cinema is in the World Wide Web," he said. "People in Africa and the Middle East have been making films on the web full time."

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