

## the glassy eye



**Matt Woody**

## Legacy of 'Star Trek' carries on

It's one of television's longest-running shows, and it just keeps on going. Some say it lacks the magic it once had, that its best years are now behind it.

No, it's not "Murder, She Wrote." It doesn't look like that will ever die.

It's "Star Trek," which, er, doesn't look like it will ever die.

Yes, "Star Trek" is alive and well in the form of two television series in production, not to mention another feature film.

But no longer is the debate between Trekkers one of Kirk vs. Picard, but rather "Deep Space 9" vs. "Voyager."

Just as the answer to the first question is obvious (Kirk, and his death in the last movie didn't do the character justice), so is the answer to the second one.

"Deep Space 9," in its fourth season, is once again the best "Trek" on television, a status it has enjoyed since its second season, which also was the final season of "Star Trek: The Next Generation."

"Voyager," in its second season, has yet to hit a stride. The "Gilligan's Island" bit (the ship and crew, on the other side of the galaxy, likely won't see home again) seems to have limited the producers. As one fan told me: "I wish they'd just get off the island."

Meanwhile, the dullness of the plots is matched only by that of the characters. While plenty of potential for character development has been introduced, only the holographic doctor has been realized to any extent.

On the other hand, "DS9" was able to overcome its slow character development early on with innovative and clever scripts.

But "DS9" never got the ratings that "TNG" did. So executive producer Rick Berman and his team pulled out all the stops for this new season.

They've given Avery Brooks' Capt. Sisko a goatee and shaved head, making him look like Brooks' Hawk from "Spenser, For Hire."

They've re-orchestrated the "DS9" theme song, trying to make it sound more hip.

And, most noticeably, they've brought in Michael Dorn to reprise his role as gruff Klingon Lt. Cmdr. Worf, in an attempt to lure back some "TNG" viewers.

The changes weren't needed to make "DS9" a good show. It already was. And it hasn't made it a better show yet; Worf has barely produced a blip on the sensors.

Nevertheless, the show's writers continue to churn out intriguing and unpredictable stories.

No one knows what will happen between the Federation and The Dominion.

The long-standing peace between the Federation and the Klingon Empire has been shattered.

And Garak, the station's resident Cardassian tailor, is as enigmatic as ever.

Get on board while you still can.



Tanna Kinnaman/DN

Andree Molyneux, BBC producer and director, lectures at Howell Theatre Tuesday.

## Good taste

### Filmmaker pushes TV ethics

By Jeff Randall  
Senior Reporter

Andree Molyneux used to think that making films was simply about making films.

But through her experience as a producer/director for the British Broadcasting Corp., Molyneux has learned to recognize the importance of film and the filmmaker.

And she brought that knowledge to Howell Theatre Tuesday afternoon with her lecture "TV and Social Responsibility."

Employing a combination of speech and visual examples from her catalog of film work for the BBC, Molyneux discussed the importance of self-censorship and good judgment in the modern filmmaker.

"You have a powerful weapon in the screen," Molyneux said.

And the screen's power, she said, is multiplied by the wide availability of filmmakers' work on television around the world.

Molyneux urged future filmmakers in the audience to give sincere consideration to even the smallest details in their work. The result of these considerations, she said, is a less vulnerable and

more authentic representation of reality.

"When dealing with political subjects, the drama producer/director is bound to come under attack from someone," Molyneux said.

And, in her years of work at the BBC, Molyneux has been the focus of several points of criticism because her films have examined British social and political problems ranging from drug use to racism in the armed forces to the Catholic-Protestant conflict in Northern Ireland.

The best defense against critics, Molyneux said, are the facts.

"It's not the filmmaker's job to pass judgment. We feed the people information to allow them to make decisions for themselves."

Another aspect of self-censorship arises in the filmmaker's decision to portray violence and sex in a blunt or more subtle manner, she said.

"It turns into a question not of morality or personal beliefs, it's just a matter of good taste," Molyneux said.

But allowing government agencies to censor film and television is not an answer, she said.

"What it comes down to, and I think it always has, is the individual. You have the final say in what you are willing to put up with."

## Comedian Buckley performs tonight

By Patrick Hambrecht  
Staff Reporter

Kathy Buckley, a hearing-impaired comedian, performs tonight at 8 at Pershing Auditorium.

Buckley was dared by a friend into her first stand-up performance in 1988, and since then, she has appeared on "The Tonight Show," "Comic Strip Live" and "Live With Regis and Kathy Lee." A documentary about Buckley, "I Can Hear The Laughter," won an Emmy in 1991.

In addition to her comedy act, Buckley speaks from personal experience about the challenges facing the handicapped. From second to seventh grade, she attended a school for the mentally and physically handicapped until she was diagnosed with a hearing impairment.

Buckley was then mainstreamed back into the regular high school system from which she graduated. She was hit by a lifeguard jeep in a beach accident, and she struggled with paralysis and cancer for years.

Preceding Buckley's act, Dr. Bob Rook will do impressions and show off the wacky props in his "doctor's bag." Rook graduated from Lincoln East in 1985, picked up a degree at Wesleyan, and went on to play a role in the TV miniseries "Amerika."

Since "Amerika," Rook has appeared in "To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything, Julie Newmar" and "The Devil Inside."

Tickets for tonight's show are available at the door. Admission is \$4.75 for the general public and \$2 for students.

## B.B. King plays tonight in Omaha

By John Fulwider  
Senior Reporter

Blues legend (or is that demigod?) B.B. King will grace Omaha with his presence tonight.

King, 70, has been singing and playing the blues for more than 60 years. He takes the stage at the Orpheum Theater, 409 S. 16th St. tonight at 7:30.

King started off playing for dimes on the streets of Itta Bene, Miss., and today is a seven-time Grammy Award winner with more than 50 albums to his credit. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987.

Armed with his trademark guitar, Lucille, King plays on the road 250 days a year. His average of 275 concerts a year have taken him to more than 15 foreign countries and all across the United States.

King has given free concerts at more than 50 prisons nationwide. He recorded two live albums from prison performances: "Live at Cook County Jail" in 1970 and "Live at San Quentin" in 1990.

His distinctive style of combining traditional blues, jazz, swing and mainstream pop has influenced other artists like Mick Jagger, Eric Clapton and Sting.

King performed with U2's for "When Love Comes to Town" off the "Rattle and Hum" album.

King's most recent album, "Blues Summit," won the Grammy Award for Best Traditional Album in 1993. "Blues Summit" includes duets with John Lee Hooker, Koko Taylor and Joe Louis Walker.

Tickets are still available for \$22 and \$25.

## Two exhibits open today in Love, Sheldon

By Gerry Beltz  
Senior Reporter

Art lovers rejoice! Two art exhibits open today at UNL, one at the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, and the other in Love Library as a part of the Great Plains Studies Art Collection.

A traveling exhibition entitled "Critiques of Pure Abstraction" runs through Jan. 7 in the Sheldon.

"This seemed to be an opportunity to borrow several works that would be very instructive and beneficial to both the campus and the general population," said Daphne Deeds, chief curator at the Sheldon.

The exhibit features the works of 20 contemporary artists, in the forms of photographs, sculptures and paintings, Deeds said.

The Sheldon, located at 12th and R streets, is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday through Saturday evenings 7 to 9, and Sunday 2 to 9 p.m.

In Love Library the works of Paul Goble, an author-illustrator of children's books, will be shown in an exhibit running through Dec. 15.

Martha Kennedy, curator of the Great Plains Art Collection, says Goble has always had an interest in American Indians, although he was born and raised in England.

"He was fascinated from boyhood onward," Kennedy said, "and this strong interest grew through extensive research and studying artifacts in museum and private collections."

Goble's works will appeal to many different people for many different reasons, Kennedy said.

"His works are vividly colored, beautifully executed and have fascinating detail," Kennedy said.

Goble will be available to autograph books at the Center for Great Plains Studies Art Collection — located in 205 Love Library — on Sunday from 3:30 to 5 p.m.