

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Monday, November 13, 1995

Page 9

State of the ARTS

Gerry Beltz

Saying bye to Calvin comes hard

First it was "Bloom County," then it was the "Far Side."

Bad luck comes in threes, and those were the first two. The third was dealt out on Thursday.

"Calvin and Hobbes" is going away. I found this out Friday morning, and sat on my couch in silent retrospect, looking back on a cartoon enjoyed by kids and adults alike.

It's not just a daily comic strip being lost, but an entire way of thinking (plus some good pranks).

Not only that, how many questions will go unanswered?

— Just what exactly was the infamous "noodle incident," and was Calvin involved?

— Will Susie and Calvin ever become boyfriend and girlfriend? Or does Hobbes revoke his Get Rid of Slimy Girls (GROSS) membership and run off with Susie?

— How much therapy will Rosalyn need after all those nights of babysitting Calvin? Will she still like kids? — Are humans created from spores?

— Did Miss Wormwood have a nervous breakdown from having Calvin as a student?

Thankfully, Calvin will not completely disappear. He will continue to appear in calendars and books worldwide.

Calvin has led a very ... unique life. He has been a Tyrannosaurus Rex rampaging through a city, Spaceman Spiff escaping from the enemy, and he's managed to jump out of his own skin.

Creative genius is another quality of Calvin's, making a transmogrifier out of a simple cardboard box, and using the same box — but in a different position — to create a time machine (or was that a duplicator?).

Calvin also lived through some downfalls and rough times over the last few years. His propeller beanie didn't lift him off the ground, he broke his father's binoculars and his father insisted on taking the family out on camping trips.

Controversy has occasionally followed Calvin through his life, and some newspapers refused to run the strip because of his outrageous behavior (that thermos of phlegm didn't go over too well).

The loss of "Calvin and Hobbes" will be another blow to the comics page.

With the way things are going, many papers will likely replace Calvin with something like "Rex Morgan M.D." or "Andy Capp" instead of something cool like "Sherman's Lagoon" or "Funky Winkerbean."

Hopefully, this winter, Calvin's snow sculptures will see new life in the light of his disappearance.

On Dec. 31 — Calvin's last day on the comics page — I ask all loyal Calvin and Hobbes fans to leave the New Year's Eve party they are attending or preparing for, and go outside to build a two-headed snowman or something that only Calvin could come up with.

Let these monuments stand for a 6-year-old hero who spoke to an entire generation.

Beltz is a senior English education major and a Dally Nebraskan senior Arts and Entertainment reporter.



Courtesy of Warner Bros.

Jim Carrey returns as pet detective Ace Ventura, who has confined himself to an ashram in Tibet in "Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls."

Carrey's comedy out of control in 'Ace'

By Gerry Beltz
Film Critic

Like many other critics across the nation, I gave "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective" a low rating, and I subsequently went into shock — like many other film critics — when the movie met with mega-success.

Movie Review



This brought up two possibilities: either the critics were all wrong or the moviegoing public consisted of a bunch of spamheads loyal to the rubberfaced Jim Carrey.

I'm not making any guesses this time; I'm just calling them as I see them.

Carrey's first sequel has some of the same gags and the same level of humor, but it still can get almost anyone to crack

a smile.

Ace (Carrey) has confined himself to an ashram in Tibet after failing to save the life of a raccoon trapped on a mountain ledge, but he leaves to help find and return Shikaka, a rare white bat (the one animal he cannot stand to be around).

If Ace fails in his mission, the Wachati and Wachootoo tribes will fall into a bloody war.

Granted, some of the same toilet humor from the first movie shows up again, but Ace's antics around the prim and proper British consulate members really bring out the comedic moments in this film.

Carrey is — again — out of control. Ace has the same silly walk, enunciation and animal devotion that made him such a hit last time.

What holds this film back are the repeats; the same tired lines and gags pulled in the last "Ace Ventura" flick. They've become catch phrases, and having them used in the sequel make them

The Facts

Film: "Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls"

Stars: Jim Carrey, Simon Callow, Tommy Davidson

Director: Steve Oedekerk

Rating: PG-13 (brief nudity, suggestive situations)

Grade: C-

Five Words: Ace enthusiasts will have fun

sound even more tired.

Ace fans will love the movie, but those seeking intellect-based comedy should look elsewhere.

Funky dunky Connick's unique sound stops in Lincoln Tuesday

By Brian Sharp
Senior Editor

By definition, Harry Connick Jr. is anything but safe.

From his first major break onto the scene with

Concert Preview



"20" and his contributions on the "When Harry Met Sally" soundtrack to his most recent album "She," Connick has swung from a conservative big band style to a

rambunctious flash of fusion. Tuesday night, that rhapsodic rendition of jazz, funk, ballad and rock 'n' roll will take the stage at the Lied Center for Performing Arts as Connick and his funk band hit the UNL campus stop of their "She

College Tour."

The 7:30 p.m. show is sold out.

It has been a little over a year since Connick played before a Nebraska audience. The original "She" tour stopped at Ak-Sar-Ben in Omaha during summer 1994. That night, Connick had the crowd breaking through barricades and dancing under the stars as he invited fans to leave their seats and surround the stage.

The detachment from the crowd set up by fences was not the arena Connick wanted to play.

For those surprised by "She," Connick says the style is simply getting back to his roots.

"This is the music I've played my whole life," he says. "Everything I have done revolves around the New Orleans experience."

Connick was born in that steamy



Courtesy of Columbia

Harry Connick Jr. will perform a sold-out show Tuesday night at the Lied Center for Performing Arts.

See CONNICK on 10