

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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## TGIF

### Much to do in Lincoln on weekend

Another weekend has rolled around and all your friends are out kung fu fighting, so you're left at home with nothing to do. Well, pick that chin up — there's plenty to do in Lincoln this weekend even if you're not a certified black belt.

"Jeffrey" will continue its run at the Futz, which is located in the Mission Arts Building, 124 S. 9th St. This play combines a comical love story with a number of social issues, including AIDS and gay romance in the '90s.

The play runs tonight, Saturday night and Jan. 25-27 at 8. Tickets are \$10. Because of the play's subject matter, no one under the age of 17 will be admitted without an adult.

The blues will soar this weekend at the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St., with Studebaker John and the Hawks. A blues artist since 1971, Studebaker John has played throughout the United States as well as in Europe and Canada.

As fine purveyors of tough Chicago Blues, Studebaker John and the Hawks are not to be missed. They will perform tonight and Saturday night at 9. Cover charge is \$5.

"The World Goes Round" will continue its run at the Downtown Dinner Theatre, 245 N. 13th St. This unusual musical will show tonight through Sunday with dinner starting at 6 and the show at 7:30. There also will be a Sunday matinee, with dinner at 1 p.m. and the show at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for dinner and show, \$10 for show only.

But if sitting in a dark room and staring at a big white screen sounds like fun, this week's new crop of movies promises to satisfy your urges.

"Sense and Sensibility" — Emma Thompson has earned buckets of praise for this adaptation of a Jane Austen novel. She already has earned a Best Actress Golden Globe nomination and, with the Oscar nominee announcements fast approaching, things can only get better. This one also features Hugh Grant and may prove to be some sort of redemption for the actor after "Nine Months."

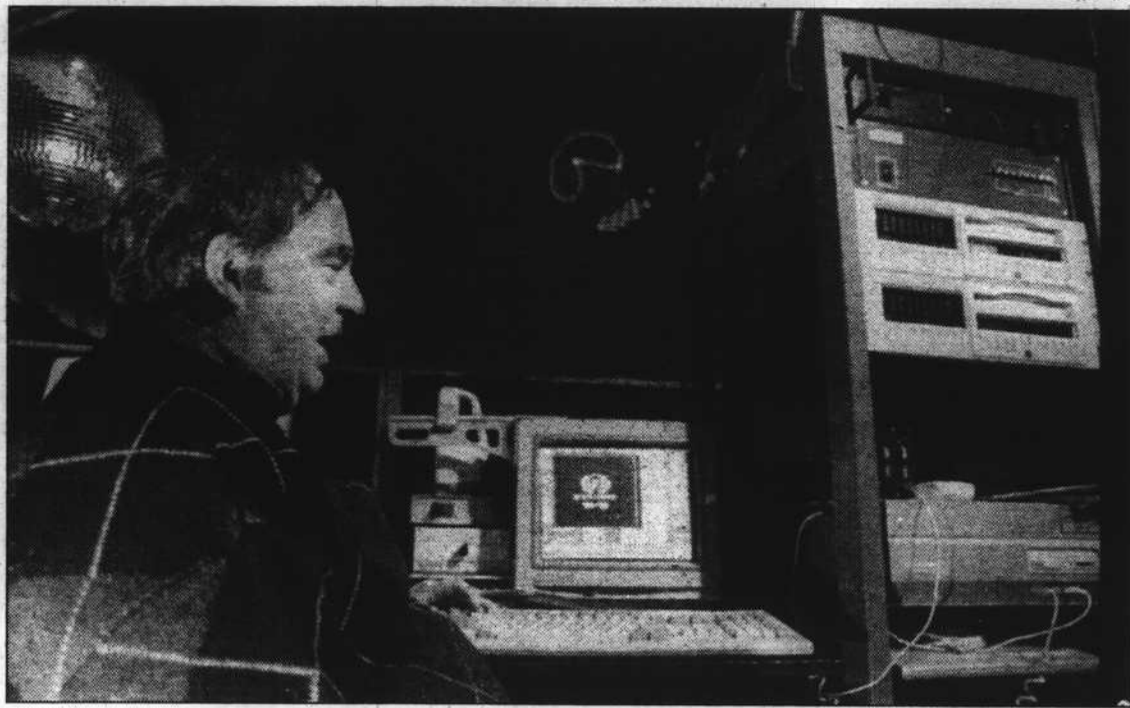
"From Dusk Till Dawn" — Quentin Tarantino, Robert Rodriguez. 'Nuff said. Well, maybe not.

As the latest in a recent rash of vampire films, this effort could prove to be disappointing. But with Tarantino and Rodriguez at the scripting and directing wheels, this ride promises to be anything but the usual.

"Kids" — Larry Clark's film debut will continue its run at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater. This dark look at a clique of troubled teens has stirred up as much controversy as it has critical acclaim.

"Kids" shows tonight at 7 and 9, Saturday at 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Admission is \$5.50, \$4.50 for students and \$3.50 for seniors, children and members of the Friends of the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater. No one under the age of 18 will be admitted to "Kids" without the accompaniment of a parent or legal guardian.

Have something to contribute to TGIF? Send information to "TGIF," c/o Daily Nebraskan Arts and Entertainment, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588, or fax us at 472-1761. TGIF is compiled by the arts and entertainment staff.



Jack Dunn demonstrates the tools of his trade. Dunn is coordinator at the Mueller Planetarium and organizes the laser light shows there.

Tanna Kinnaman/DN

## Laser light shows blasting off

By Gerry Beltz  
Senior Reporter

The seats are tilted back, and your gaze is filled with the sight of the dome above you. The lights go down and the laser light show is about to begin.

But how is the magic of this audio-visual spectacle possible?

Ask Jack Dunn, coordinator of Mueller Planetarium, said the laser shows are created at several different levels.

"First, there are three kinds of images: abstract (geometric, but not representational), graphic (something people would recognize, like a dolphin) and luminous (colored cloud-like things)."

Also a part of this are the beam effects to be seen in the air, which cannot be done without fog.

"Laser shows are combinations of all these," he said.

The creativity lies within the person — or persons — in charge of putting the show together.

"It is up to them what happens when," Dunn said. "The technician becomes the artist."

"There is no magic box. The laser artist has to sit and decide what happens and when."

Some shows also use a lot of graphics, he said.

"For example, for 'Sunday

Bloody Sunday" by U2, we used pictures of guns, tanks and stuff," Dunn said.

The laser shows of today have come quite a long way since the first laser light shows in the '70s, he said.

"The early shows had only two colors — red and green — to work with," he said. "The first shows here were in red only."

Dunn said two major developments since then have raised the quality and quantity of laser shows.

"One major step were the devices to separate the lines from a white-light laser, which consists of the colors red, blue and green," he said.

"Once we have those, we can combine them and get any ol' color we want."

Another major development was a crystal that can be controlled with electricity and vibrations, he said.

"Again, it separates the colors and we can control what is picked out," Dunn said. "This was one of the biggest advances of color control; it's very accurate."

The future of laser shows won't be so much in new stuff, but in working with what already existed, he said.

"The laser shows will become more complex, and the speed of the shows will increase as well," he said.

Most shows take about a week to put together, "working on different

parts and different times," Dunn said.

"The music was selected a couple of weeks ago," he said, "and we usually have more than one show in production within the same week."

The music for the laser shows is important, and it takes some phone work and book checking to make the final decisions, he said.

"We call the radio stations and find out what's popular," he said, "what concerts will be coming around and what albums are being released."

"We try to go toward things which are well-known."

Audience sizes vary from musical genre to musical genre and artist to artist, Dunn said.

"Our Laser Country shows do well," he said, "but with our Laser Classical and Laser Jazz, it is just difficult to draw an audience."

Variety is a key to success at the Mueller Planetarium, he said.

"We are always trying to do new things," he said, "otherwise it would stifle our creativity and our audience."

"So far, no one has asked to do Laser Polkas."

Tonight, the Spring 1996 Laser Fantasies series will begin with the music of Green Day. The shows start at 8 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for UNL students.

## Series combines politics, film

By Gerry Beltz  
Senior Reporter

According to Bob Dole, the film industry may not be good for America. But the political realm has proved to be very good for Hollywood.

And Nebraskans will get the chance to see this relationship at work when the Nebraska State Historical Society presents its latest weekly film series.

"American Politics and American Film," a collection of films made between 1939 and 1972, kicks off Sunday through March 10.

The films feature several recognizable stars, including Jimmy Stewart, Katherine Hepburn, Spencer Tracy and Robert Redford, and will be shown Sundays at 2 p.m. at the Museum of Nebraska History, 15th and P streets. All screenings are free and open to the public.

This year's series isn't the result of a random choice, said Andrea

Paul, library/archives associate director. The combination of a planned William Jennings Bryan exhibit and the 1996 elections played a major part in deciding upon the subject matter.

No other series was even seriously considered for this year, she said.

"There are some possibilities every year, but because of all the outstanding factors, this year was pretty much dictated."

The films for this year's series were chosen by Paul and Bill Pratt, a history professor at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, she said.

"Between the two of us, we decided to place the emphasis on electoral politics and how it works."

"Bill's specialty is 20th-century American history, and that influenced our decision."

While there is no formal set of criteria for the films, considerations must be made for each series, she

## Aces High to perform Saturday

By Emily Wray  
Staff Reporter

Aces High will show all of its cards at a welcome-back dance in the East Campus Union on Saturday.

The concert/dance, sponsored by the University Program Council will run from 8 p.m. to midnight.

The six-piece band originated in Lincoln a little more than a year ago and features five performers with UNL roots.

"Aces High was here last year and did a concert and dance. UPC brought them back because they were so successful," event director Anne Olson said.

Band members include lead singer and rhythm guitarist Mark Keaton, a senior agronomy major; Dale Downs on lead guitar and vocals, a graduate student in animal science; and drummer Clint Lefler, a graduate with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. Jerry Maranville, a professor of agronomy, plays steel guitar, and his son, sophomore Case Maranville, plays bass guitar in the group.

Fiddler Patrick Nowak is a University of Iowa graduate with a master's degree in business from Creighton University.

"Aces High has a traditional country sound, like George Strait and Chris LeDoux, but our music has a unique style featuring new country not heard from other bands," Keaton said.

The band plays a combination of swing style, rodeo and cowboy music and supplements its program with original compositions written by different band members.

For Saturday's dance, Aces High will play several swing pieces, two-steps, waltzes, shuffles and polkas on request, Keaton said.

"We do what we enjoy, and it's working well for us. The band is heavy on fiddle and steel guitar, which is unique in this area," he said.

Keaton said the band was excited about playing for the UNL community.

"We had a really good turnout last year and invite everybody back out to see how we've changed," Keaton said.

Saturday's dance is in the Great Plains Room at the East Nebraska Union, 37th and Fair streets.

Tickets are available at the door for \$5, \$2 with a UNL student identification.

## Emotions explored

From Staff Reports

Mezzo-soprano Judy Cole will perform at Kimball Recital Hall on Sunday. Cole, a professor of music, will perform "Songs of Love and Farewell" with Catherine Herbener, piano.

As its title would imply, Sunday's program will feature a variety of songs that explore the many emotional aspects of love and farewell.

"It is a fun program, a great combination of beautiful, happy, sad and funny songs," Cole said.

Some program highlights are a newly published Samuel Barber piece and a pair of Canteloube folk songs.

Sunday's performance will begin at 3 p.m. Admission is free.