

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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the glassy eye



Gerry Beltz

## New 'toons not worth tuning into

Saturday mornings just aren't worth it anymore.

In olden days—about 15 years ago or so—Saturday mornings made it worth getting up early.

"Super Friends" (Wonder twin powers, ACTIVATE!) and "Spider-Man and His Amazing Friends" provided the comic book action, along with the previous double feature hits of "Tarzan" and "Batman" cartoons (remember the Moon Man?)

Other Saturday morning favorites included quite a bit of original programming, including "Rickety Rocket," "Sigmund and the Sea Monsters" and "Blue Falcon and Dyno-Mutt."

And, naturally, a lion's share of Bugs Bunny/Daffy Duck cartoons; about an hour and a half, if I remember correctly.

Also, we had those cool "Schoolhouse Rock" commercials ("I'm A Bill," "Conjunction Junction") and "In The News" (or something like that) to keep the young-uns up to date on the real world (and give them a chance to tinkle and grab some more Alpha-Bits cereal).

And now?

It's ALL comic book and movie-related crap. "The Mask," "Ace Ventura" and even "Free Willy" have their own shows. "Timon and Pumbaa" (of "Lion King" fame) have their own show. And Winnie The Pooh, Casper and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles are STILL in existence!

I don't know if it's still on, but 6 a.m. used to be a double plug of "Iron Man" and "Fantastic Four," both of which were really lame. The 1967 cartoons were much better, though the scripts were just as stupid.

"Spider-Man" has been updated somewhat, with better villains and story lines, but usually the shows are straight copies from the comic books with no originality.

Also sad is the loss of those "Schoolhouse Rock" thingies. Of course, as capitalism is required in all facets of society, they have been removed from free TV (where someone could benefit from them) and relocated to video cassette to be rented or purchased by the nostalgic.

There's one cool thing about today's cartoons, the increase in violence.

No, I'm not talking blood and guts, but the fact that Spider-Man and the various X-Men now can PUNCH somebody instead of using a pathetically peaceful weapon or some webbing to keep the criminal's feet in place.

Granted, we're not going to see Wolverine doing a Veg-O-Matic on any human-types anytime soon, but at least he can punch somebody in a brawl.

There is one new series worth its weight in salt, and it is "The Tick." This is a cartoon to amuse both those who do and don't follow comic books. His stupidity and heroism know no bounds, and when the Tick speaks, you'd better listen.

Why? Because you'll laugh your ass off, baby.

Besides "The Tick," there is only one other good thing about getting up on Saturday mornings.

There's still Bugs Bunny.

Beltz is a senior English education major and a Daily Nebraskan senior reporter.

## Grammy winners are anybody's guess

By Cliff Hicks and Brian Priesman  
Music Critics

The Grammys are once again upon us, and the music industry is abuzz with guesses as to who will take home the golden gramophones. Two of the Daily Nebraskan's music critics have their own guesses, however. Staff reporters Cliff Hicks and Brian Priesman are here to speak their minds.

### Record of the Year

Hicks: What a fun world it is when Coolio gets to take on Joan Osborne. Despite the popularity of both these artists, as well as Carey's team-up with Boyz II Men and Seal's masterpiece (which only would win in a perfect world), the best bet is TLC. They've been mopping up with "Waterfalls" for most of the year.

Priesman: Seal's "Kiss From A Rose" a masterpiece? Whatever. Anyway, I'm placing my money on TLC with "Waterfalls." But personally, I want Coolio to kick the whiny butts of Seal, TLC, Mariah and Joan Osborne straight to Canada. I never liked Canada much, anyway. (It's a joke, people!)

### Album of the Year

Hicks: Again, several people put up a fight, but Osborne's too wet behind the ears, Pearl Jam is too out of place for the Grammy crowd to pick it, and the screechers Carey and Morissette shouldn't get it. Give it to the guy with the glove.

Priesman: Wow! I actually agree with my esteemed partner! I'm going to give it to the gloved one, Michael Jackson, as well. Because no matter what type of freak he is and where his sexual interests lie, he's still a darn good musician. Besides, he's Michael, and Michael owns the Grammys.

### Song of the Year

Hicks: Nix Osborne and Morissette for controversy, and although All-4-One and Jackson both had decent songs, Seal's "Kiss From A Rose" was a beautiful song with great lyrics. Stick it to Seal. If "You Oughta Know" wins, Brian, the only thing anyone "oughta know" was that everyone's got more song-writing ability than Morissette.

Priesman: "Kiss From A Rose" has great lyrics? Cliff, what are you smoking? "I've been kissed by a rose on the wind..." Yeah, Cliff and Seal are obviously on the same bad acid trip. The two safe bets are All-4-One's "I Can Love You Like That" and Alanis Morissette's "You Oughta Know."

### Best New Artist

Hicks: Oh, like this is even a choice. I'm sorry, but Twain, Osborne, Morissette and Brandy combined wouldn't be enough to topple the mighty force that is Hootie. Simply too much to mess with.

Priesman: Hootie. He's got this one in the bag. Although I'd like to see Alanis Morissette win it because she's got a really cool attitude.

### Best Pop Album

Hicks: The squelcher, Carey; the squealer, Madonna; and the diva, Lennox, but none of them have this one in the bag, nor does Joni Mitchell. The Eagles win this one simply for agreeing to play together again.

Priesman: Eagles? Yet again I am astounded at the intellectual vacuum of my esteemed partner, Cliff. The Eagles will win only when "Hell Freezes Over" (pun intended). My money is on the queen of all divas, Annie Lennox. Two snaps up, babe!

### Best Rock Song

Hicks: It's this year's hardest call, with a ton of neck-and-neck runners. Morissette won't because she's too new, Young's not going to get it because he's been around too long. Reznor's too far out and as much as I'd like to see U2 win it, Dylan, despite his age, is one of the most respected people in rock and it's a great song. Bet's on Bob.

Priesman: Bob Dylan? Give me a break. He may be a great song writer and well-respected, but he has about as much of a chance as I do. I'm gonna go with Bono and U2 for "Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me, Kill Me."

### Best Rock Album

Hicks: "Forever Blue" is about as rock as Frank Sinatra is rap. No. Young's respected, but the others are above him, and "Jagged Little Pill" is too inconsistent to snag it, no matter how many of them Brian's taken. As popular as Pearl Jam is, Petty's time has come, and "Wildflowers" should snag here.

Priesman: Now I know Cliff is on drugs. Neil Young all the way, baby! (That's a joke!) Cliff, when did you listen to all of Alanis' "Jagged Little Pill?" I know you don't own it, and you haven't listened to all of mine, so when did you hear it all?

Actually, I'm putting my money on Ellen DeGeneres, the Grammys' host, on winning this one.

## Grammy Nominees

### Record of the year:

Mariah Carey & Boyz II Men  
"One Sweet Day"  
Coolio Featuring L.V.  
"Gangsta's Paradise"  
Joan Osborne  
"One of Us"  
Seal  
"Kiss From A Rose"  
TLC  
"Waterfalls"

### Album Of The Year

Mariah Carey  
"Day Dream"  
Michael Jackson  
"HIStory Past, Present and Future Book I"  
Alanis Morissette  
"Jagged Little Pill"  
Joan Osborne  
"Relish"  
Pearl Jam  
"Vitalogy"

### Song Of The Year

All-4-One & John Michael Montgomery  
"I Can Love You Like That"  
Seal  
"Kiss From A Rose"  
Joan Osborne  
"One Of Us"  
Michael Jackson  
"You Are Not Alone"  
Alanis Morissette  
"You Oughta Know"

### Best Rock Song:

Bob Dylan  
"Dignity"  
Neil Young  
"Downtown"  
U2  
"Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me, Kill Me"  
Nine Inch Nails  
"Hurt"  
Alanis Morissette  
"You Oughta Know"

### Best Rock Album:

Chris Isaak  
"Forever Blue"  
Alanis Morissette  
"Jagged Little Pill"  
Pearl Jam  
"Vitalogy"  
Tom Petty  
"Wildflowers"  
Neil Young  
"Mirror Ball"

### Best New Artist:

Brandy  
Hootie & The Blowfish  
Alanis Morissette  
Joan Osborne  
Shania Twain

## Norwegian pianist to perform at Kimball

By Emily Wray  
Staff Reporter

Pianist Audun Ravnar will bring Norwegian flavor to Kimball Recital Hall at a performance tonight at 8.

The concert is a fund-raiser for the Nebraska Public Radio Network. Titled "Piano Music of Norway," the program includes compositions from Edvard Grieg, Rikard Nordraak and other Norwegian composers.

The Norwegian-born Ravnar studied piano with Norway's leading pianist and as a teen-ager,

was a featured performer at the centennial celebrations of Grieg's birth.

He also has close ties to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is now a George Holmes Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Music.

In his 36-year teaching career, which ended in early 1993, Ravnar also garnered many awards and served as the chairperson of the piano department.

Benefit concerts of this type are good opportunities for performers to donate their services and talents for a cause, said Michele Peon-Casanova, membership coordinator at Nebraska

Public Radio Network.

This benefit concert is in conjunction with an on-air fund-raiser that the Nebraska Public Radio Network starts on Friday, she said.

Peon-Casanova encouraged students to listen to and support public radio.

"It's a good way to be informed with what's happening in the world by tuning into the news, and it offers an alternative with classical music you can't find anywhere else," she said.

Tickets for tonight's performance are \$10 and can be obtained from the box office at the Lied Center for Performing Arts by calling 472-4747.

## Ross Theatre to feature Canadian series

By Gerry Beltz  
Senior Reporter

Canada: Good beer, great cinema.

Today through March 9, the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theatre will run the film series "The Changing Face of Canadian Cinema: New Films from Canada," featuring nine recent feature films and 10 new short animated films, the selection of which was very multi-faceted, said Dan Ladely, director of the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theatre.

"Some were selected because I had seen them before at film festivals," Ladely said, "and 'Exotica' was brought on for the merits of its director Atom Egoyan, who is one of the major creative forces in Canada."

Ladely said he was happy with the films that had been selected.

"We picked nine of the best films to give a representative sampling," he said. "There's documentary, experimental film-making and animation, which I think will be a big favorite."

"It's not meant to be totally comprehensive because it's only nine films, but it gives people a

very good flavor of film as an art being produced in Canada right now."

Ladely said he saw nothing but sunshine in the future of Canadian cinema.

"I think the future looks pretty good," he said. "In the past, it has been thwarted by United States film-making, which is a hard obstacle to overcome."

"But I think they have done it with great distinctness, and I think we will continue to see very good films for a long time to come."

Another part of this series will be a discussion on issues raised by the films, featuring a panel of scholars in film and Canadian literature. The panel recently added L. Kent Wolgamott, a film critic for the Lincoln Journal Star. Admission to the discussion, which takes place Sunday at 4:45 p.m. is free.

Some of the films to be exhibited in this series include:

● "Love and Human Remains" (by Denys Arcand), which won't appeal to the Pat Buchanan crowd, with its frank looks at homosexuality, domination and real life in general.

● "Forbidden Love" (by Aeryn Weissman and Lynne Fernie), which looks at the shrouded world of homosexuality in the 1950s and '60s, as told by a group of 10 women from that era.

● "32 Short Films About Glenn Gould" (by Francois Girard), which shows the trials and tribulations of pianist Glenn Gould, a genius at the piano and as strong-willed and perfection-minded as he was talented. His gift set a new standard for the performance of Bach, but he was met with some problems when recording crossed his mind.

● "Careful" (by Guy Maddin), which takes place in the 1800s in the village of Tolzbad, where students train to be butlers. The film features blind ghosts, duels and star-crossed lovers galore.

Complete series schedules and plot synopses are available at the Ross Theatre.

Individual tickets may be purchased for \$5.50, \$4.50 with student identification, and \$3.50 for senior citizens, children and members of the Friends of the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theatre. A ticket for the entire series may be purchased for \$15.