

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Gerry Beltz

## City lacks video game locations

Ever since Coinfun (next to Wendy's) closed down, the choices of where to play video games in this town have become few and far between.

There was once a day when arcades were everywhere. Like Blockbuster and Amigos, you couldn't swing a warm squash around without hitting one.

Game Gal-ry stood in place of what is now A Taste of China at 14th and Q streets. Fantasy Fair occupied part of the space now used by Kinko's and Pinball Pete's locations were all over the city, including one where Duffly's stands today on 14th and O streets.

Tommy's was the really good one. It had older games, but it offered two plays for one quarter on those games. That really kicked things into high gear for the video junkies (easily identified by the quarter marks up and down their arms).

But one by one they fell. Game Gal-ry, Tommy's, Sluggo's, Fantasy Fair. And all the Pinball Pete's places.

All gone. Forever.  
Now, there's a W.C. Frank's arcade out at East Park Mall, but half the place has those redemption machines (collect 500 tickets for a plastic whistle or Jolly Ranchers), and the other half is populated with 50-cent video games involving either racing, fighting or comic book characters.

And the place is usually overrun with rug rats, taking time out from catching a smoke outside before running home to beat curfew.

Granted, the Nebraska Union does provide some decent games at affordable prices... when the machines work. This is not completely the Union's fault. Many times a day one can watch the typical UNL student try to fix a "broken" video game or pinball machine by punching it with a clenched fist.

(Surprise! Now it really IS broken!)

Since the folding of Coinfun and the Depot (about a year or two ago, near Target), video game playing is almost limited to finding a bar or bowling alley to play the games, but the smoke factor is usually a killer.

Actually, the BEST choice (though time-consuming) is to drive up to Omaha and visit the Family Fun Center at 71st and Dodge streets. The Center does have its drawbacks. Several games are 50 cents, if not more, and occasionally rug rats overrun the place.

But they have a real selection of stuff to choose from!

There are at least a dozen pinball machines, plus games of skill, games of chance, the latest games, the older games, all shapes, sorts and sizes of games!

(No word on Tilt! at Westroads yet...)

Lincoln needs an arcade. W.C. Frank's and Champions Fun Center don't count because of the inordinate amount of floor space given to redemption machines. We need a place for young and old to play a plethora of video games, ranging in skill, style and age.

And some comfortable bar stools, too.

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

## Bush takes concert to sold-out Pershing

By Cliff Hicks  
Staff Reporter

Tuesday night, Bush will make sure "Everything's Zen" at Pershing Auditorium, and Goo Goo Dolls and No Doubt.

### Concert Preview



to Lincoln.

Bush, formed 2 1/2 years ago, hit the United States with amazing success. "Everything's Zen" became an MTV "Buzz Clip" and took off for the mainstream from there. Bush began touring everywhere and appearing on shows like "The Late Show with David Letterman."

The band also has had amazing luck in running into the law, though never at its own fault. First, at an early show in a small club, the club was robbed mid-performance and police broke in to intervene.

Then, during the filming of the video for their second single, "Come-down," two men who had just committed armed robbery fled into the studio where the video was being filmed. Police followed, and after a search, the two men were caught hiding in a wardrobe room.

The Goo Goo Dolls, one of the two opening bands for Bush, released its third album, "A Boy Named Goo" in early 1995. After

See CONCERT on 10



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Records Inc.

Goo Goo Dolls, which is touring in support of its latest album, 1995's "A Boy Named Goo," will open for Bush at the Pershing Auditorium Tuesday night.

## Stars connect to make 'Up Close' a gem

By Gerry Beltz  
Film Critic

Finally. A romantic movie that won't endanger your cholesterol count or blood-sugar level.

### Movie Review



Supposedly based on the real-life events of Jessica Savitch, "Up Close and Personal" watches the professional and personal lives of two network journalists unfold.

Sally Atwater (Michelle Pfeiffer) is the rookie who ends up learning a thing or two from seasoned professional Warren Justice (Robert Redford) at her first network news job.

"If it bleeds, it leads," Justice

says.

Atwater's idealism and facade quickly change to match the frantic pace around her. On her first television appearance (as a weather forecaster), Justice changes her name to Tally at the last second, and a star is born.

The problem? They fall in love with one another.

Atwater's star is rising fast, and she eventually moves away, straining the relationship. But Justice soon uproots himself and comes to her. Unfortunately, his hard-edged attitude causes him problems in the job market.

The soft romance and edgy drama continually fade in and out, superbly blended together by director Jon Avnet ("Fried Green Tomatoes," "Risky Business"). He has taken the love of these two people and surrounded it with prison riots, professional back-stabbing and the fast-

paced world of televised news.

Pfeiffer and Redford have some excellent chemistry going for them in this film. Both performers have the star power to carry a movie solo, but each made way for the other in "Up Close and Personal."

True, Redford's face may (at times) closely resemble a relief map of Idaho, but that reassuring smile and those devastating blue eyes and ... oh yeah, he can act, too.

Pfeiffer also does rather well, making the transition from green rookie to anchorwoman. She holds her own against an egotistical anchorman, but reveals the personal toll it takes on her.

Both characters have one similar trait. They both are unyielding. Justice gets it through experience, and Atwater finds it through integrity. For the relationship, however, it's two immovable objects meeting the irresistible force of love.

### The Facts

Film: "Up Close and Personal"

Stars: Michelle Pfeiffer, Robert Redford

Director: Jon Avnet

Rating: PG-13 (language, intense situations)

Grade: A-

Five Words: Great blend of drama, romance

Still, the ending of the film is drawn out too long and is a bit overdone. But the overall quality of the film, when added to the realism of the ending help it rise above these minor shortcomings.

It's a keeper. Go see "Up Close and Personal" and bring a friend.

## Grammer's wit shines in Navy comedy

By Cliff Hicks  
Film Critic

"Down Periscope" is a comedy about a bunch of misfits, a maverick captain and a World War II submarine pitted against

### Movie Review



the rest of the Navy in a bizarre war game.

Lt. Cmdr. Dodge (Kelsey Grammer) may be one of the brilliant and most likable men in the Navy, but the fact that he is a bit unorthodox keeps him from getting a real submarine to command.

That, and the fact that he got

really drunk one night and had "Welcome Aboard" tattooed on his genitals (an incident that the admirals bring up during his review session).

Still, the admirals won't let him go to waste, so they put him in charge of a diesel submarine that hasn't been used since 1955 and challenge him to take on the entire U.S. Navy as part of a war game.

If this doesn't sound tough enough, he is deep-sixed with a strange crew—to say the very least. The executive officer (Rob Schneider) has a volume problem; the dive officer (Lauren Holly) is the first woman to serve on a submarine; the sonar operator (Harland Williams) hears absolutely everything, and the rest of the crew is just as bad.

Grammer is excellent in his part,

smirking through most of the film. He has a sly, crafty look to him that convinces the audience that he would actually be crazy enough to try the stunts he does.

"Down Periscope" really is an ensemble film. All members of the crew get their own moments, including Buckman's (Ken Hudson Campbell) "small explosion" during silent running to Sonar's whale calls.

One of the great things about the film is the timing. Director David S. Ward ("Major League," "The Program") knows how long to string a joke on and, thankfully, when to drop it.

The only thing really holding the film down is that several of the jokes make you grin more than laugh, but

### The Facts

Film: "Down Periscope"

Stars: Kelsey Grammer, Lauren Holly, Rob Schneider

Director: David S. Ward

Rating: PG-13 (language)

Grade: B

Five Words: Oddball crew vs. U.S. Navy

that's not detrimental enough to ruin the film.

"Down Periscope" is a fun film that is good for a couple of laughs, several grins and at least a couple of bucks.