

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Tuesday, April 2, 1996

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Brian Priesman

Good taste best choice on Internet

Ah ... the Internet. Gosh, how I love to spend hours, days and weeks pouring over Web pages and newsgroups for tidbits of information and humor.

The other day I was perusing some movie-related newsgroups, and I saw something that made me rethink my place in the universe.

This guy, who posted under the name "Bruce Lee" was asking some questions relating to love stories. Well, I wouldn't actually say love stories; they were more love scenes.

He called his posting "Popping a boner: Are sex scenes real?"

He seriously wanted to know if love scenes in R-rated movies were real.

He said, and I quote, "How can bump and grinding go on and there (sic) not be penetration? Is it trick angles?"

He went on to ask about body suits and the like.

But, ladies and gentlemen, the icing on the cake was his last question—"How do you keep from popping a boner when you do the love scenes?"

Ladies and gentlemen, just think ... this could be the next step in the evolutionary ladder. (shudder)

Friends, I'm not a big fan of censorship in any form, but this man needs to be stopped. Dead or alive! It's people like this who give the Internet a bad name. It's people like this who our esteemed Sen. Exon is trying to protect children from.

Speaking of children, has anyone else stopped to think that this man might reproduce? (double shudder)

Ladies and gentlemen, this newsgroup posting provides me with the perfect opportunity to teach some newsgroup etiquette.

1) If you are going to post to a newsgroup, make sure you have something intelligent to say. Also, try to make sure it's the right newsgroup.

Don't post a question about Pamela Anderson's latest breast implants in the rec.arts.disney newsgroup. And vice versa, don't post a question about Minnie Mouse's latest breast implants in the rec.nude.PamelaAnderson newsgroup.

2) If someone posts something stupid, like our good friend "Bruce Lee" did, get medieval and flame the crap out of his weenie gluteus maximus!

A flame, for those who don't know, is really insulting and rude e-mail sent to the person. Its sole purpose is to make the person feel so bad about his life that he has no choice but to slash his wrists as he jumps off of a 10-story building.

3) Please try to be polite with your posting. And your flames. It's much more effective to post/flame someone if you don't reduce yourself to mindless vulgarities. Besides, it's more fun to sound smarter than everyone else.

4) Never, ever mention lemmings. I'm not sure why, but it sounded good. The same goes for the word albatross and Belgium. Also Sweden. It makes you sound silly.

There you have some basic and helpful rules of etiquette. Don't be like "Bruce." Please follow them to the max, or I might have to flame you! And believe me, I will ...

Priesman is a freshman news-editorial and theater major and a Daily Nebraskan staff reporter.



Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures
Steve Martin stars as the title character in the film version of Phil Silvers' television sitcom, "Sgt. Bilko."

Martin sells audience short in Sgt. Bilko

By Patrick Hambrecht
Film Critic

In the '80s, lousy comedies like "Porky's" or "Hollywood Hot Tubs"

Movie Review



unscrupulously targeted teenagers with cheap sex gags and hip rock soundtracks. Today, rotten comedies like Steve Martin's "Sgt. Bilko" are geared to exploit baby boomers in a similar fashion — with boring stars, nostalgic '50s soundtracks and lots of bland family fun.

At least with "Hollywood Hot Tubs," sitting through the whole thing guaranteed you'd get to see someone naked. No one is naked in "Sgt. Bilko," including Martin.

Instead Martin has given us yet another Hollywood adaptation of a 1950s sitcom, designed to cash in on the decaying standards of the 40-year-old set. He plays Bilko, a swindler in the army who has rigged his military base as a covert gambling casino. But when Bilko meets up with the honest man whom he framed, the card cheat comes to terms with his past by ... framing him again. How's that for a plot?

What used to be filler gags for Martin have become his selling points in this movie, as the former stage genius stutters without consonant and jerks his pelvis around in strange new ways.

The Facts

Film: "Sgt. Bilko"
Stars: Steve Martin, Dan Aykroyd, Phil Hartman
Director: Jonathan Lynn
Rating: PG
Grade: C
Five Words: What was Steve Martin thinking?

Phil Hartman plays the same emotionless and melodramatic char-

acter he always does, as Bilko's moral enemy, Major Thorn. Dan Aykroyd was wasted in his role as the swindler's superior officer, Col. Hall, but he was probably responsible for the film's lame soundtrack, consisting of the same radio-etched soul music he uses in all his movies.

Glenn Headly, as Bilko's girlfriend, is also boring.

The best thing that can be said about "Sgt. Bilko" is that it isn't "Father of the Bride." But it seems to suggest, along with Martin's most recent "Saturday Night Live" appearances and other films, that the former stadium comedian has lost his spark. Why someone as smart as Martin allowed his razor instincts for irony and absurdity to be poisoned by Hollywood, no one knows.

Perhaps by playing con men in both this movie and "Leap of Faith," he's trying to let us know that he,

See BILKO on 10

P.O. Pears to buzz for a spell

By Gerry Beltz
Senior Reporter

Do you spell "imbrication" with an 'i' or an 'e'? Is there more than one 's' in 'scissors'?

Such questions have been the makers and breakers in past spelling bees, and tonight's 13th Annual Adult Spelling Bee should be no different.

Again, this year's Adult Spelling Bee will be led by Scott Young of KFOR-AM radio and will be held at P.O. Pears, 322 S. Ninth St.. Start time is 7 p.m.

Barbara Hansen, administrative aide at Bennet Martin Public Libraries, said other words that have made the difference in the past have included ensemble, sapience and malingering.

"It's amazing what some of these

people can spell," she said.

The words to test contestants are chosen by a committee that goes through the dictionary, she said.

"We don't use the same words every year," she said.

Hansen said, as of Monday afternoon, about 15 people had signed on for the contest, but that the sign-up rarely stopped there.

"It's a little less than usual," she said, "but it's not at all unusual for there to be a lot of last-minute people."

The winners of the contest have not always been of the same demographics, either, she said.

"A real mix of people have won it," she said. "We've had editors for University Press, sometimes a high school teacher or retired businessman. One year it was jewelry maker."

"Some people just have a knack for spelling."

Video releases offer variety

By Gerry Beltz
Film Critic

Ah. A nice, calm week for the new releases. A soft blend of adventure, suspense, drama and animation wafts down the gentle surf, followed by a wonderful comedy-drama that is our pick of the week. Lie back and enjoy.

New Video Release



"Balto" (G)—An animated non-Disney film that never stood a chance. Too bad, because it's actually pretty good.

Balto (voice of Kevin Bacon) is

a half-coyote, half-husky that must lead a team of dogs across an icy tundra to save his village from a plague of dispatcher. Other voices include Bridget Fonda, Bob Hoskins and Brendan Fraser.

Based on a true story, it's worth looking into.

"Home for the Holidays" (PG)—With Easter coming up, this film would be perfect, even though it takes place at Thanksgiving.

Holly Hunter plays a woman who must deal with the entire family coming together to celebrate the holiday. And with the turkey and dressing come the arguments.

Co-stars include Charles Durning, Anne Bancroft and Steve Guttenberg. It's not just a comedy, but a drama as well. Again, it's worth

checking out.

"Devil in a Blue Dress" (R)—Denzel Washington gets hip-deep in trouble when he gets involved in the search for a mysterious woman.

Set in post-WWII Los Angeles, Easy Rawlins (Washington) is hired by Dewitt Albright (Tom Sizemore) to find a mysterious woman in a blue dress (Jennifer Beals). But soon, Easy finds himself up to his eyeballs in murder, racism and political corruption.

The direction of the film is excellent, and Sizemore's performance is absolutely outstanding. This one is definitely worth looking for.

"Strange Days" (R)—This is the odd one of the bunch, or more ap-

Renowned performer in concert

By Cliff Hicks
Staff Reporter

When classical pianist Vladimir Feltsman takes the stage at the Lied Center tonight, Jeth Mill is pretty sure audiences will be pleased.

"This is what classical music is all about," said Mill, executive director of the Lincoln Orchestra Association.

Tonight's concert is an All-Brahms concert by the Lincoln Symphony, featuring

ing Feltsman, an internationally acclaimed pianist, as guest soloist.

"He's one of the best pianists of his generation," Mill said.

Feltsman was born in Moscow in 1952, making his public debut as a solo pianist at the age of 12. He immediately gained respect in the U.S.S.R. and performed with all of the country's major orchestras and at all of the music festivals.

In 1979, Feltsman announced his intentions to leave the Soviet Union.

The next eight years were mostly spent trying to emigrate to Israel, but he failed in his attempts to do so. During this period, his musical career was severely curtailed.

After much struggle, Feltsman was granted permission to leave the Soviet Union and came to the United States during the summer of 1987.

See FELTSMAN on 10

See NEWVID on 10