



This week's edition of TGIF will be presented in memory of the nice weather we had up until Thursday. Other than that, we've got the usual concerts, movies and other equally heartwarming entertainment options.

UNL's School of Music will make a double offering this weekend at Kimball Recital Hall. Tonight we'll see the Jazz Ensemble under the direction of David Sharp. On Sunday, the Concert Band and Wind Ensemble will take the stage under the batons of professors Rod Chesnutt and Jay Kloecker. Tonight's show starts at 8. Sunday's show starts at 3 p.m. Both concerts are free and open to the public.

At Mudslide Slim's, 1418 O St., rock 'n' roll will continue to fly over Lincoln. Offerings include Marlee MacLeod and former Millions singer Lori Allison tonight. Saturday night will feature the Tom Ficke Group (with the illustrious Tom Ficke) and, in their final performance, the local guys known as Heroes and Villains. Tonight's show starts at 10, Saturday's will kick off at 10:30 p.m. Both shows have a \$3 cover charge.

At Knickerbockers, 901 O St., some West Coast sunshine will make a stop tonight courtesy of San Francisco's own Ovarian Trolley. The Criminals will open the show. Saturday will see Cadmium and Gasoline on the stage. Both shows start at 10:30 p.m. and have a \$3 cover charge.

Lollapalooza '96 is on its way, kids, so what better way to get primed for the show than with the tour's scheduled headliner, Metallica. The music of these hard-rockin' boys will be featured at this weekend's Laser Fantasies show tonight and Saturday. Show times are at 8 p.m., 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for UNL students with identification.

Movie pickings are, sadly, a bit slim this weekend; there's mystery, a kid's flick and comedy.

In a teen-age version of "Fatal Attraction," Mark Wahlberg gets his first starring role in "Fear." Also, in the animation style of "The Nightmare Before Christmas" comes "James and the Giant Peach," featuring the voices of Richard Dreyfuss and Oscar-winner Susan Sarandon.

For the comedy lovers, check out "Flirting With Disaster," where a man (Ben Stiller) goes on a search for his biological parents (Alan Alda and Lily Tomlin). The film also stars Mary Tyler Moore and George Segal.

At the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, the exotic and erotic vampire film we like to call "Nadja" will continue its run. The film, which features Elina Lowensohn and Peter Fonda, will show tonight and Saturday. Show times for tonight are 7 and 9 and Saturday at 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

On Sunday at the Ross Theater, the University Program Council International Film Series will continue with China's "Red Firecracker, Green Firecracker." Show times are 2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m.

Admission for both films at the Ross is \$5.50 for the public, \$4.50 for students and \$3.50 for senior citizens, children and members of the Friends of the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater.

Returning movies include "The Bridges of Madison County" to the Starship 9 and "Down Periscope" to the Joyo Theatre.

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. 68585, or fax us at 472-1761. TGIF is compiled by the arts and entertainment staff.

Steinbeck's classic novel takes the stage

By Brian Priesman
Staff Reporter

A new adaptation of John Steinbeck's classic novel, "To A God Unknown," will make its world premiere tonight as Theatrix continues its 1996 spring season.

"To A God Unknown" tells the story of Joseph Wayne's spiritual and physical journey to the open lands of the West in the early 20th century.

This production is a staged reading of the script, which means that unlike a full production, the cast will perform the play with scripts in hand.

"The difficulty is having the script in your hands most or all of the time," said Andrew Hayes, the play's director. "It kind of makes the

actor feel like he's in a rehearsal."

The actors are doing a staged reading of the play so they can get full legal approval from Steinbeck's family.

"It has not been put into a form that can be submitted to the Steinbeck family for legal approval," Hayes said. "Of course there is an interest in preserving the integrity of Steinbeck's works."

Hayes has more than a passing interest in the success of the play. The playwright, Gloria Gaither, is his mother-in-law.

Hayes said Gaither was a Steinbeck scholar and had done the play as part of her graduate studies.

"She wasn't sure if she wanted it to be a

screenplay or a movie of the week or a stage play," he said.

Hayes said that switching from dramaturge to director has been his biggest problem with the piece.

Hayes said Gaither's adaptation stayed very close to the novel.

"It's extremely faithful, in that all of the dialogue was pulled from the novel."

Steinbeck's visual style of writing assisted in the effort to bring his book to the stage, Hayes said.

"To A God Unknown" plays tonight and Saturday at the Wagon Train Project, 512 S. Seventh St. on the third floor. The performance starts at 8 p.m., and admission is free.

Jazz group cruises into Lied Center

By Lane Hickenbottom
Staff Reporter

For those who have always wanted to go on a Caribbean cruise, now is the chance.

Well, kind of.



The musical brilliance of the Caribbean Jazz Project will fill the hearts and ears of the Lied Center audience Saturday night at 8.

The Caribbean Jazz Project delivers tropical pleasures that are kind to the ear and remind us of that dream vacation upon a Caribbean cruise ship.

Originating as a 1993 concert in New York's Central Park Zoo, the Project started when a promoter came to vibes/marimba master Dave Samuels. Samuels collaborated with Cuban saxophone/clarinet great Paquito D'Rivera and steel pan legend Andy Narell.

In 1995 the Caribbean Jazz Project released a self-titled compact disc featuring south-of-the-border rhythms.

Samuels, D'Rivera and Narell will play along with pianist Dario Eskenazi, bassist Oscar Stagnaro and drummer Mark Walker.

D'Rivera has called the Project's music a melting pot of a melting pot, a type of music that requires a sense of humor.

David E. Sharp, director of jazz studies at UNL's School of Music, will offer two pre-performance talks 55 minutes before and again 30 minutes before the performance in the Lied Center's Steinhart Room.

Tickets for the show are \$22, \$18 and \$14, half-price for students.



Photo courtesy of Heads Up International Ltd.

The Caribbean Jazz Project is (from left to right) Dave Samuels, Paquito D'Rivera and Andy Narell. The group will perform at the Lied Center on Saturday night.

Young artists show off work

By Patrick Hambrecht
Senior Reporter

The genius of Barbie, Ludwig van Beethoven and Pablo Picasso is just one of the themes explored by Lincoln artists of all ages in the "Mentoring a Generation of Women Artists" show by the Nebraska Women's Caucus for Art.

To encourage and train girls in art, the caucus' mentoring program selects girls from the community to participate. Some of the pieces created by these young artists are featured, along with the work of professional women, in this show at the Burkholder Project, 719 P Street.

A surprise hit, Omaha seventh-grader Evan Thompson's painting "Ode to Joy" celebrates freedom and classical music in brilliant primary colors.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall,

Thompson's mentor, Mary Beth Fogarty, played Beethoven's masterpiece to her to help inspire her and provide extra stimuli for interpreting the event. The result was one of the strongest pieces of the gallery show, an angelic statement of thrilling grace.

About half of the show is made up of Anne Burkholder's "Love Letters to Picasso," a long series of tributes to the Spanish artist. Each piece in the series has a Pablo Picasso chocolate candy wrapper in the center, printed with a painting by the famed artist. The wrappers are framed by arranged rectangles of decorated paper, signed by Burkholder to Picasso, like a handmade Valentine.

Burkholder said her "love letters" were inspired by a Picasso slide show she saw 40 years ago, which was one of her first introductions to modern art.

"I thought, 'Wow, this stuff is really great,'" Burkholder said of the slide show. "It was all kinds of news, intellectually."

"When a friend gave me this box of chocolates, I thought, 'Gee, that would be really neat to do something with them.' It's kind of a play on love letters."

Corrie Suhr's "How To Make A Girl" commands attention, just as it did when it appeared in the UNL Undergraduate Show in March. Her cupcake-pan assemblage of ink prints combines resentment with nostalgic kitsch in a surprising, pretty way. The segregated black prints seem at once cute and regal, implying a strong meaning for Barbie dolls, curling irons and other feminine objects of consumer culture.

The Women's Caucus show will be on display through April 30. The Burkholder Project is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

'Nobody's Fool' author to read on Saturday

By Gerry Beltz
Senior Reporter

On Saturday night, acclaimed author Richard Russo will give a fiction reading at Love Library Auditorium at 8. The event is free and open to the public.

Russo wrote the novel, "Nobody's Fool," which was made into a major motion picture starring Paul Newman and Melanie Griffith.

For his reading Saturday night, Russo will take selections from his new novel, "Occam's Razor," which is still in progress, said Kate Flaherty, managing editor of the Prairie Schooner.

"He's hoping to finish it this summer," she said, "and it should come

See RUSSO on 13