

Tuff

Big movies, laser lights: It's your pick

There's no shortage of entertainment this weekend. Films, music, madness ... take your pick. The music is loud, the movies are loud — it's loud entertainment weekend here in Lincoln.

Theaters usher in three big-name films this weekend to duke it out: "The Long Kiss Goodnight," "The Ghost and the Darkness" and "The Chamber."

"The Chamber" is the latest film based on a novel by John Grisham. Gene Hackman plays a convict on death row, and Chris O'Donnell plays the long-lost grandson who's trying to save him.

With the track record of Grisham movies ("A Time To Kill," "The Firm," "The Pelican Brief"), this will probably be another big hit. And after the performance Hackman gave in "Crimson Tide," he's sure to give the audience a good time.

"The Ghost and the Darkness" features Michael Douglas and Val Kilmer versus lions in Africa in 1896. The movie is based on a true story and was filmed on location in the savannah.

"The Long Kiss Goodnight" stars Geena Davis as an amnesiac housewife who's really an assassin, and Samuel L. Jackson as a low-class private investigator.

As action-comedy films go, this should be one of the best. The comedy looks good, the action looks big and the plot is just generally cool.

"From The Journals of Jean Seberg" will play this weekend at the Mary Riepma Ross Theatre. It's showing tonight at 7 and 9; Saturday at 1, 3, 7 and 9 p.m. and Sunday at 3, 5, 7 and 9 p.m.

After you've had your fill of movies, check out this weekend's eclectic music scene.

Knickerbockers will feature The Mount McKinleys and The Return of Mudjack tonight. The New Zealand band Eye-TV (actually, in New Zealand they're called The Nixons, but that obviously won't work here) and Houndstooth will perform Saturday. Shows start at 10 p.m.; cover charge is \$3.

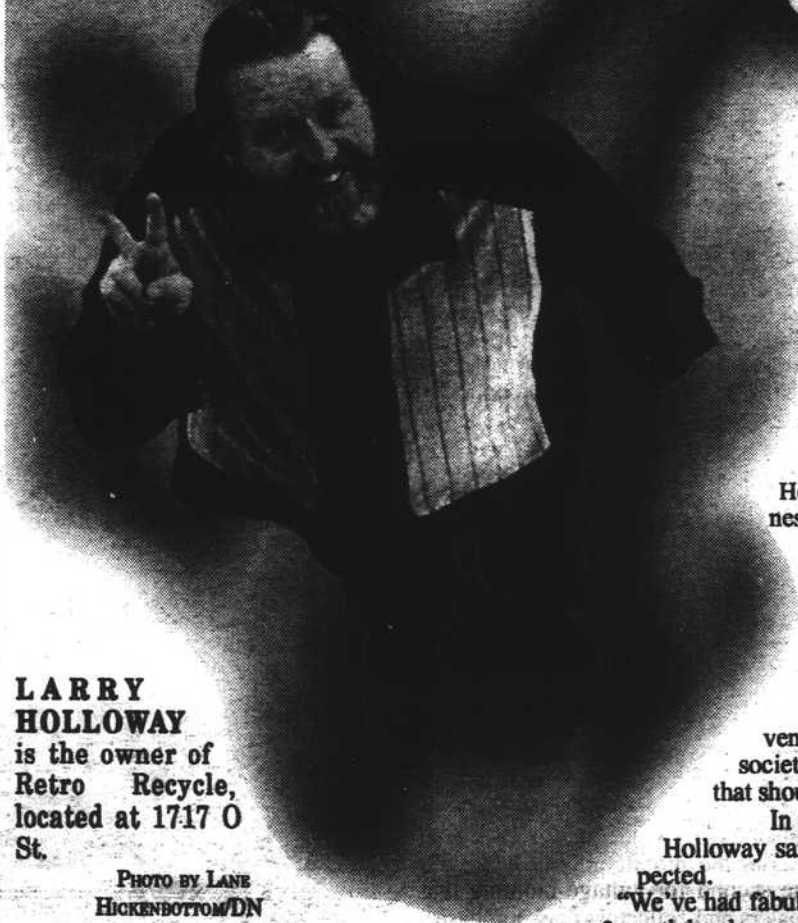
Big Al and the Heavyweights will play their brand of red-hot blues music tonight at The Zoo Bar. Saturday night, blues artist Willie "Blind Eyes" Smith, will perform. Both shows are \$5 and start at 9.

The Mueller Planetarium's Laser Light Show plays "Rockin' '80s" this weekend with shows tonight and Saturday at 8, 9:30 and 11 p.m. "Laser Country" will light up Sunday night at 8:30.

"From Generation to Generation" also opens this weekend. It deals with the question of how people will be remembered by their family. It will be shown at the Jewish Community Center Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Admission is \$8 for the public and \$6 for students.

So take your pick. Film, music or madness, this weekend's got it all.

Blast from the Past



LARRY HOLLOWAY is the owner of Retro Recycle, located at 1717 O St.

PHOTO BY LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

Shop uses '70s themes to sell vintage wares

BY ANN STACK
Senior Reporter

Recycling is a big issue in Larry Holloway's life. After all, he built a business around the concept.

Holloway is the owner of Retro Recycle, (also known as the Retro) which opened in Lincoln Sept. 1 at 1717 O St. He owns another Retro Recycle at 12th and Howard streets at the Old Market in Omaha.

"Recycling is the main thrust of the venture," he said. "We're such a disposable society. There's so many pre-owned garments that should go around again."

In the 1 1/2 months since the store opened, Holloway said, business has been better than he expected.

"We've had fabulous customer response," he said. "Word of mouth has been great."

The Retro offers something for just about everyone. It's in the building of a former Goodwill Store, but it's not exactly a thrift store. For one thing, it's not a nonprofit organization — the stores pay for used clothing.

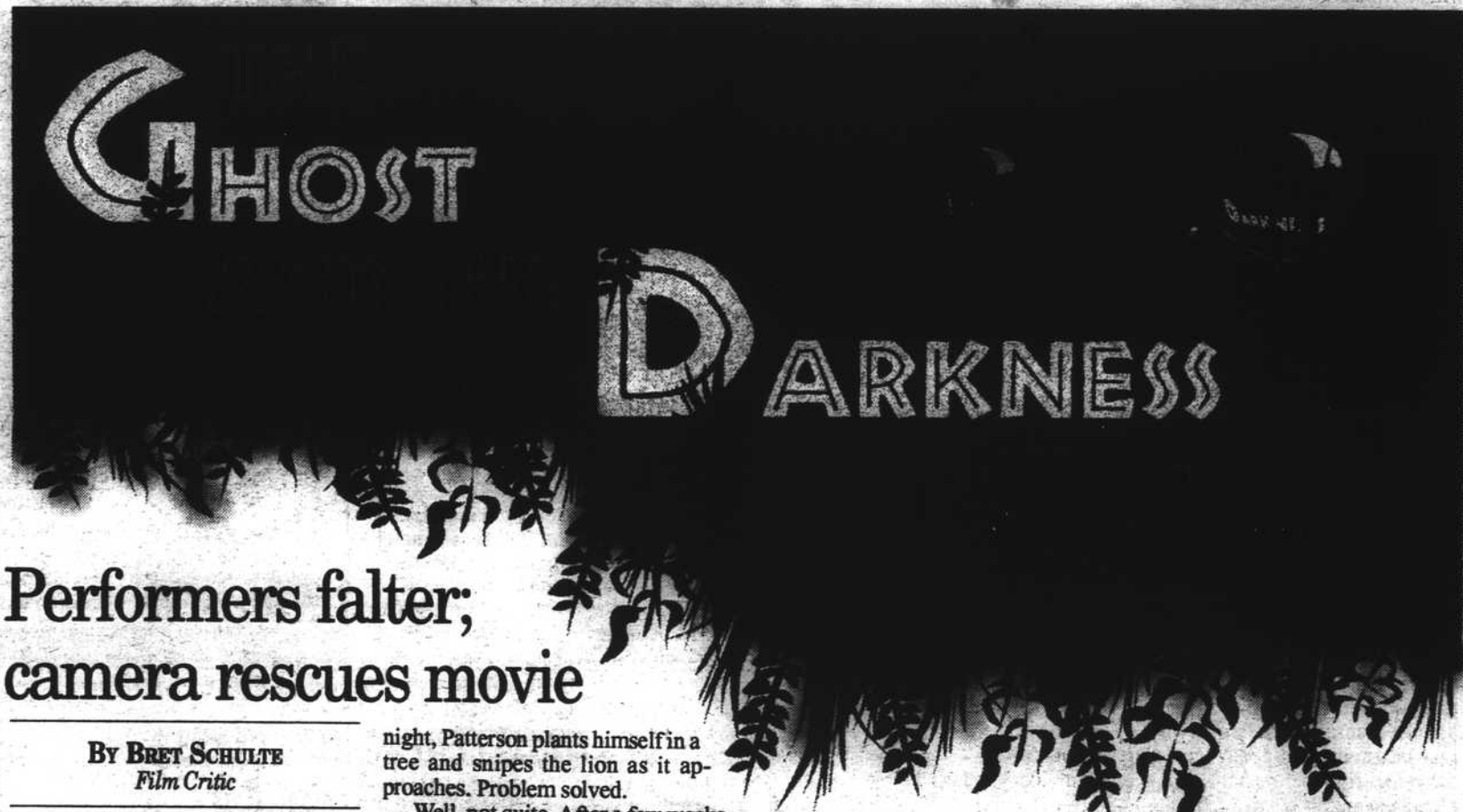
"We pay cash or we'll give someone a marker exchange for merchandise," he said. "As we progress, we hope to set up a buying center."

The store deals primarily with clothing from the 1950s, '60s and '70s. The big thrust of the store is denim, he said.

"Our specialty is denim and casual wear," he said. "We try to stock disco wear as well, for costumes and special occasions."

As testimony to that, racks of jeans dot the wide, airy storeroom. Lava lamps line one wall, along with vin-

Please see **RETRO** on 13



Performers falter; camera rescues movie

BY BRET SCHULTE
Film Critic

"The Ghost and the Darkness" opens in late 19th century England with bridge engineer Col. John Patterson (Val Kilmer) receiving a commission to construct a bridge across an "extremely precarious ravine" in South Africa. Patterson leaves his pregnant wife for six months while he completes the bridge construction.

And here the journey begins. From the beginning, the most captivating aspect of this film is the breathtaking widescope cinematography. As Patterson travels by train through the African safari he witnesses breathtaking mountain-scapes effectively framing the grandeur of the African continent.

Arriving at the job site, Patterson is immediately confronted with the task of killing a lion who has been sporadically attacking the workers. That first

night, Patterson plants himself in a tree and snipes the lion as it approaches. Problem solved.

Well, not quite. After a few weeks, the camp, filled with thousands of African and Indian laborers, is suddenly attacked by two large, mysterious lions who have developed a sudden dislike toward humans.

Patterson, after having tried every idea imaginable to snuff out the large cats, is joined by the nomadic hunter Remington, played by Michael Douglas. Remington, a Southerner, has fled to Africa after losing his family and patriotism in the Civil War. He now hunts, not because he likes it, but because he has the talent. At least, that is what he claims, but there is little evidence of such in the film.

Both Kilmer and Douglas forget their roots and background throughout the movie. Douglas seems to think that being a Southerner simply means being belligerent, which he uses to com-

pensate for his lack of a twang or drawl. While Kilmer maintains the dignity of an educated citizen of the British Kingdom, he too only remembers his accent on occasion.

After anxiously waiting, the question as to what the lions are, beast or demon, is never really reckoned with. Meanwhile, the film relies heavily on dramatic close-ups and expressionistic camera work to relay emotion and suspense that the script cannot.

The picture paces itself well, and the camera work effectively establishes Africa as a continent of shadows and beauty, both which are deadly. However, the film falls apart after a while, particularly by having an abrupt, anticlimactic conclusion.

Perhaps if the script had dealt more with the facts, since this movie is based

THE FACTS

Film: The Ghost and the Darkness
Stars: Val Kilmer, Michael Douglas
Director: Stephen Hawking
Rating: R (violence, scary kitties)
Grade: B-
Five Words: Bad acting, good camera work.

on actual series of lion attacks resulting in the deaths of more than 130 people, the movie could have been lent a tinge of real suspense.

Regretfully, the story focuses too much on the circumstances surrounding the attacks, and not enough on the motivations and mystical properties of the man-eating killers who successfully slaughtered more than a hundred men.