

TGIF

Just two days and so many great options

Another weekend and Lincoln is your only hideaway. Join the club. So if you're stuck alone with nothing to do, here are a few suggestions of how to spend your time, other than studying.

For movies this week, you have your choice of pachyderms, postal works or poetry, as three films open in Lincoln today.

"Larger Than Life" stars Bill Murray as a down-on-his-luck man whose relative dies and leaves him a very big inheritance — an elephant.

"Dear God" is the second film from ex-"Talk Soup" guru Greg Kinnear. Kinnear stars as a man who is sentenced to work in the U.S. Postal Service (and isn't that the worst kind of punishment any of us can imagine).

Kinnear works in the Dead Letter Office. There are three types of mail that the DLO can't do much with — letters to Elvis, Santa and God. Kinnear starts answering the third.

"William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet" makes its way into the modern era with an adaptation that uses the original dialogue and updated everything else.

The film stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes as the two star-crossed lovers, with handguns instead of rapiers. Gee, I wonder if they die in the end.

Saturday night the union will be alive with Turkish music and food as Turkish Night sweeps through. Admission is \$9, and festivities start at 7:30.

At the Lincoln Community Playhouse, "A Raisin In The Sun" opens this weekend. The play tells the story of a family's trouble to break out of poverty. The show is tonight and Saturday night at 7:30 and a 2 p.m. show will play Sunday.

Ann Chang-Barnes will put on a piano recital at Kimball Recital Hall Sunday at 3 p.m. The recital will feature the music of Bach and Isaac Albeniz.

Tonight at the Lied Center, 60 performers from Tibet will perform both song and dance, using instruments such as 12-foot-long trumpets, cymbals and a form of triple-tone singing known as "The Awesome Voice." Tickets cost \$28, \$24 and \$20 for adults and \$14, \$12 and \$10 for children 12 and under. The show starts at 8.

Saturday the Lentz Center for Asian Culture will hold the opening ceremonies for the Buddhist monks from the Sera Je Monastery in India. The monks will create a sand mandala (a circular design containing concentric geometric forms and images of deities) over seven days, and then destroy it on Nov. 9. The opening ceremonies start at 10 a.m.

TGIF is compiled by staff reporter Cliff Hicks.

Eclectic sound brings artists together

By ANN STACK
Senior Reporter

There's a place close to the border, just west of the blues, where salsa meets swing and roots rock slams headlong into Tex-Mex honky-tonk.

That's about where you'll find Billy Bacon and Chris Gaffney. The two artists, sans-respective bands, are featured tonight and Saturday at the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.

Hailing from the San Diego area, Bacon is with the band Forbidden Pigs, and Gaffney is with Cold Hard Facts.

Although the two met eight years ago at a show in Tucson, they never played together. When the opportunity to tour together came up, they took the proverbial plunge.

"The tour was booked as a Forbidden Pigs tour, but the guys in the band didn't want to go out," Bacon said. "So I decided to go out with Chris. We'd always talked about touring together; we finally just did it."

They are touring with Gaffney's regular guitarist, Danny Otto, and Bacon's nephew, drummer Matt Yansch. Bacon plays the electric and the upright bass, and Gaffney plays the accordion and acoustic guitar. They

take turns sharing lead and backup vocals.

Gaffney and Bacon are only out together for a month, and the Lincoln dates are the midpoint for the tour. This is Gaffney's second trip to Lincoln; Bacon is almost a regular, performing in Lincoln five or six times a year.

The two cite influences from San Antonio's Sir Douglas Quintet to Johnny Cash and Otis Redding.

Growing up so close to the border, it's easy to see where the influences come into play.

"We mix all different types of American music," Bacon said. "Country, rock, blues, swing—we try to hit all the bases. There's something for everyone in there."

"It's a mix of Mexican and Western that's played mostly on the border," Gaffney said. "It's not really blues, but a lot of it comes from blues. Country is blues."

Gaffney's band has been together for 13 years, and have five albums to their credit. Forbidden Pigs have been together for 12, and have three albums.

The men equally split the material they do live, playing half Forbidden Pigs and half Cold Hard Facts songs, as well as whatever the mood inspires



RYAN SODERLIN/DN

BILLY BACON plays the upright bass and sings while Danny Ott plays the guitar at the Zoo Bar Wednesday night.

Wednesday night, they covered Count Basie's "Take Me Back Baby" and Creedance Clearwater Revival's "Tombstone Shadow." (That track also appears on Forbidden Pig's second album.)

The boys genuinely seem to be having fun together—it's not just a show. In the middle of a slow, sweet acoustic ballad, Forbidden Pigs' "You Don't Know," they let out loud whoops and catcalls. The chemistry between all the

members of the touring group is very good.

Jim Garver, vice president of the Lincoln Board of Education for District 3 and self-proclaimed Zoo Bar regular, said he was enjoying the band.

"They sound really good," he said. "It's an evolving show; it changes as it goes along. It makes it interesting. They're road-tested professionals."

Sandy's Bar moving in to new location

From Staff Reports

Sandy's Bar, 122 N. 11th St., is moving.

But for those of you who swear by their locally famous "Elk Creek," take heart—they only moved a couple of blocks.

Tonight Sandy's will open its new doors at 1401 O St., and will officially become a member of the bar scene in the heart of downtown.

The decision to move, co-owner Judy Dickerson said, was made with Lincoln residents—especially students—in mind.

"It makes Sandy's more available to our target market," Dickerson said. "It's a responsible move by us to bring us closer to the students."

The move also brings Sandy's closer to its original home at 101 N. 14th St., what is now I Can't Believe It's Yogurt. The bar moved to its present location about 13 years ago, Dickerson said.

Dickerson and her husband Daryl said they planned to have the new building open for business late this afternoon or early tonight, while the old one remains open.

"We're both really confident we'll be ready to open," she said.

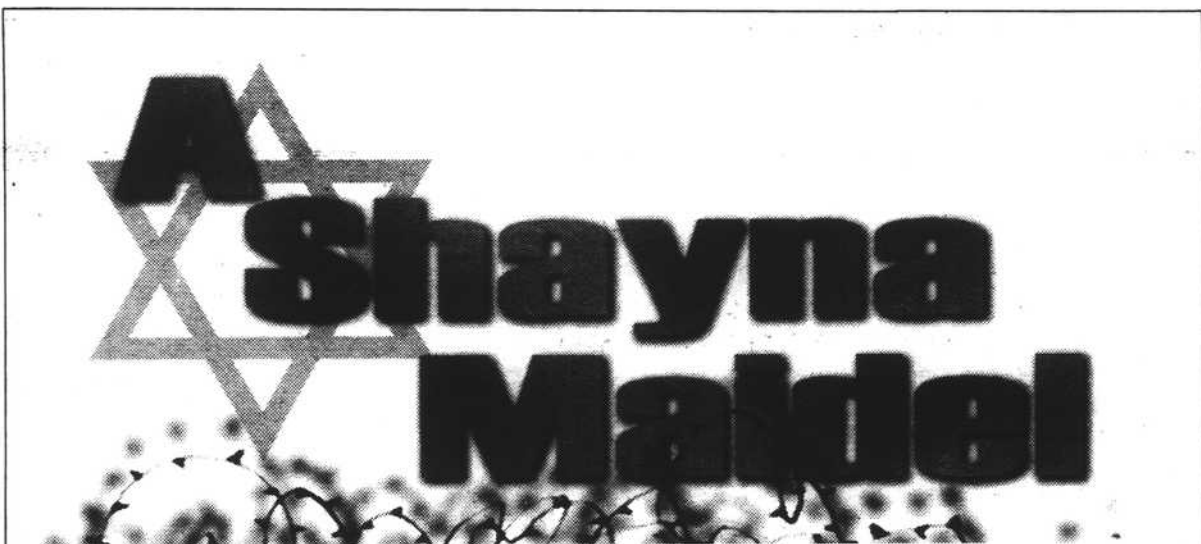
But Dickerson said that in just a matter of months, the old Sandy's will become the home of Lincoln's only true jazz venue, Rogue's Gallery.

"It will be sort of like the Zoo Bar," she said, "but more jazz-oriented. There isn't any place like that in Lincoln right now."

Rogue's Gallery will lend itself to positive reception from an older crowd, she said, because of its proximity to the Lied Center for Performing Arts and the Haymarket.

But for now, the Dickersons are concentrating on becoming part of 14th and O streets bar cluster.

"It was important to us to move closer to the rest of the college bars in Lincoln."



Play portrays struggle, survival

By LIZA HOLTMEIER
Staff Reporter

Audiences attending the UNL Theater Department's production of "A Shayna Maidel" should come equipped with Kleenex.

The play, set in 1940s Brooklyn, depicts the struggles of a Jewish family in the aftermath of the Holocaust. The character of Lucia, who has been in a Swedish hospital after surviving Auschwitz, has been reunited with her family after years of separation.

To prepare for the show, the cast and crew were involved in a variety of research. Cast members took language lessons in Yiddish and attended temple, while Director Karen Libman and her designers visited the Jewish Community Center in Omaha.

The group also spoke with Bea Karp, a Holocaust survivor who was in a concentration camp in France.

Jacque Camperud, who plays Rose in the production, said visting with Karp was the highlight of her preparation.

"She wasn't a figure who was looking for sympathy," Camperud said. "She was feisty and fiery and full of life."

The play also does not try to create sympathy for the survivors, but rather to provide a greater appreciation and a better understanding of the people who lived through and were affected by the Holocaust.

Though the family in the show is affected dramatically by the Holocaust, Libman and cast explained that the show has a more universal theme as well.

"Every family has to face things together and then face each other," said Amy Gaither-Hayes, who plays Lucia. "It's just that with this family; it's the Holocaust that rips them apart."

"Most everyone can identify with the family element in this play," Libman said. "There are some sad moments. There are some hysterically funny moments."

The overall effect of this mixture of emotions, she said, is that the audience will ultimately feel uplifted.

"I think they may feel exhausted because of the emotional catharsis the characters go through, but I see them leaving uplifted," Libman said.

The intense emotional subject has proved to be a challenge for the cast.

"It's so hard not to cry. That would be my first instinct ... but we must contain that emotion so that the audience gets the full effect," Camperud said.

Libman also said that occasional breaks were needed during rehearsals for the actors to collect themselves, and tissue boxes were spread around backstage.

"It's a very moving piece ... what we call a 'six Kleenex piece,'" she said.

Gaither-Hayes said that facing her character's loss of a child and acting the emotions out every night has been difficult.

"I have a son of my own and losing a child is the most horrible thing I can think of," she said.

Amid the surrealism and intense emotion, the show also promises to provide information on the Jewish culture.

"Even though I was raised in a Jewish community, no one else in the cast was," Libman said. "This is a play about a culture that is not common in Nebraska."

"A Shayna Maidel" will run through Saturday and from Tuesday through Nov. 9 in the Studio Theater of the Temple Building. The play begins at 8 p.m.; tickets are \$10 for the public and \$6 for students.