

Film sets mind on 'little' aimless romp

By GERRY BELTZ
Film Critic

"The Man Who Knew Too Little" is a second-rate version of the recent Michael Douglas hit "The Game," but with a comedic twist.

Wallace Ritchie (Bill Murray) is a boring Blockbuster Video clerk (there's a redundancy) who has come to England to celebrate his birthday with his brother James (Peter Gallagher). However, James has a presentation to give to an important client, and he can't afford to have Wallace around mucking things up. Consequently, James sets up his brother with the "Theater of Life."

A full-blown participation game, "Theater of Life" is the latest rage in the London area. During the game, the innocent bystander (in this case, Ritchie) is swept up into a dramatic situation with a group of performers playing the other parts in the scenario.

However, fate wets on the charcoals by having Ritchie accidentally intercept a phone call meant for an assassin, who is part of a government

Movie Review

The Facts

Title: "The Man Who Knew Too Little"
Stars: Bill Murray, Joanne Whalley, Peter Gallagher
Director: Jon Amiel
Rating: PG-13 (adult humor, a little language)
Grade: B-
Five Words: Americans humor kills classic thriller.

plot to restart the Cold War with Russia. Ritchie - being as naive as Nebraska winters are cold - believes this is all just part of the "Theater of Life" and proceeds to run headlong into a foray of bullets, threats and, of course, a beautiful, mysterious woman (Joanne Whalley).

No, this isn't Bill Murray's best, but he's having fun, and the movie itself is very enjoyable. Murray is delightful in this nonsensical romp that flings reality out the window



WALLACE RITCHIE (Bill Murray) dances his way out of a tight situation by posing as a Russian dancer in the screwball comedy "The Man Who Knew Too Little."

PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROS.

(along with any active brain cells held prior to seeing this film). The movie itself isn't hilarious, but it is very enjoyable, perhaps best suited to wait for the cheap seats.

Finals are coming. You'll be using your brain then. For now, if you need a subtle giggle or two, shut the brain down and see "The Man Who Knew Too Little."

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Concert Preview

Quartet to 'string' in concert

From staff reports

The Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery will showcase a different art form tonight when it plays host to the Alcan String Quartet at 8.

In its ninth season, the quartet hails from the French-speaking town of Chicoutimi, Quebec and consists of violinists Brett Molzan and Nathalie Camus; violist Luc Beauchemin; and cellist David Ellis.

Ellis said playing smaller venues such as the Sheldon had many advantages.

"Because of size, the quartets are able to play in smaller settings whereas orchestras are limited to large concert halls," Ellis said.

The concert is part of the ensemble's season of 50 performances. Tonight, the group will feature Franz Schubert's "Quartet in B-flat, Op. 168," Claude



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALCAN STRING QUARTET

ALCAN STRING QUARTET, from Chicoutimi, Quebec, Canada, will perform works by Schubert and Debussy tonight at Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery.

Debussy's "Quartet in G Minor" and a piece by Grieg never before performed in this format. The performance also will feature the 1994 winning entry of the CBC Young Composer's Competition, "This is My Voice," by Kelly Marie Murphy.

Tickets, which are available at the door, are \$25 for general admission and \$5 for students.

Blues will rule for weekend fun

FUN from page 12

For those more interested in their own talents, the Library Lounge, 6891 A St., is becoming an increasingly popular night spot for University of Nebraska-Lincoln students because of its weekend karaoke evenings. Although the lounge's system carries more than 2,500 titles, from Perry Como to ZZ Top, owner Cindy Swanson said the most popular song is Adam Sandler's "Ode to my Car." Swanson said she had to restrict the performance of the song until after midnight because of its frequently offensive lyrics. However, this has failed to deter whole groups of people from engaging in the slurred obscenities every night of the weekend.

"The more they sing along, the more they drink," she said. "Then, the more they think they can sing."

But most undergraduates exist in the legally dangerous limbo of college-aged minors, so weekends can be frustrating for those interested in going out.

In Montana, the answer to Friday-night frustration is obvious - small-arms fire. Nebraska isn't far behind.

All Seasons Shooting Range, 4713 Hartley Road, is open Friday night until 9 and Saturday until 6 p.m. A veritable arsenal of pistols and rifles are available for rent at competitive prices (e.g. \$8.50 for a 9mm). Ammunition prices are also reasonable (e.g. \$11.50 for a box of 9mm ammo) and will allow you to pump off rounds for hours without putting holes in your wallet.

Take comfort in the fact that although you can't buy a beer you may still run the risk of getting loaded - the no-minimum age policy isn't an issue at the firing range. "As long as they're under control there is no problem," said a range employee.

At Madsen's Bowling & Billiards, 4700 Dudley St., "the lanes look like swimming pools," an employee said.

Although equipped with a tavern, the bowling alley is open to anyone over 18 after 9 p.m., and its glow-in-the-dark bowling on Friday nights is part of a "national phenomenon" of late-night bowling. The evening is set to a rock 'n' roll soundtrack of everything from The Beatles to Jackyl to big band music. Pool is also available until 1 a.m.

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