

# Fans anxious for show's winner

Loyal Big Brother viewers will find out tonight who's going to walk away with a half-million bucks.

BY BILLY SMUCK

With the final week of "Big Brother" upon us, the question many viewers are asking is who's going to take home the \$500,000.

"Big Brother," which is CBS' second "real TV" show, most commonly compared to the recent hit "Survivor," will have its final live broadcast tonight at 7.

In early July, 10 strangers - five men and five women - volunteered to be locked in the Big Brother house for a maximum of three months in an attempt to claim the half-million dollar grand prize.

Every two weeks each house guest would nominate two of their fellow roommates to be marked for banishment on the following week's show.

The two house guests with the most nominations would then be at the mercy of the viewing audience who could call in and vote off one of those who was marked.

The last house guest to be voted off, and also the last woman left to be banished, Jamie, left the house on Wednesday's live broadcast.

Now only three remain: Curtis, Eddie and Josh. They are ensured of winning at least the third-place prize of \$50,000. The second-place winner will receive \$100,000.

The general public will play a role in the show by deciding the order in which the top three will place.

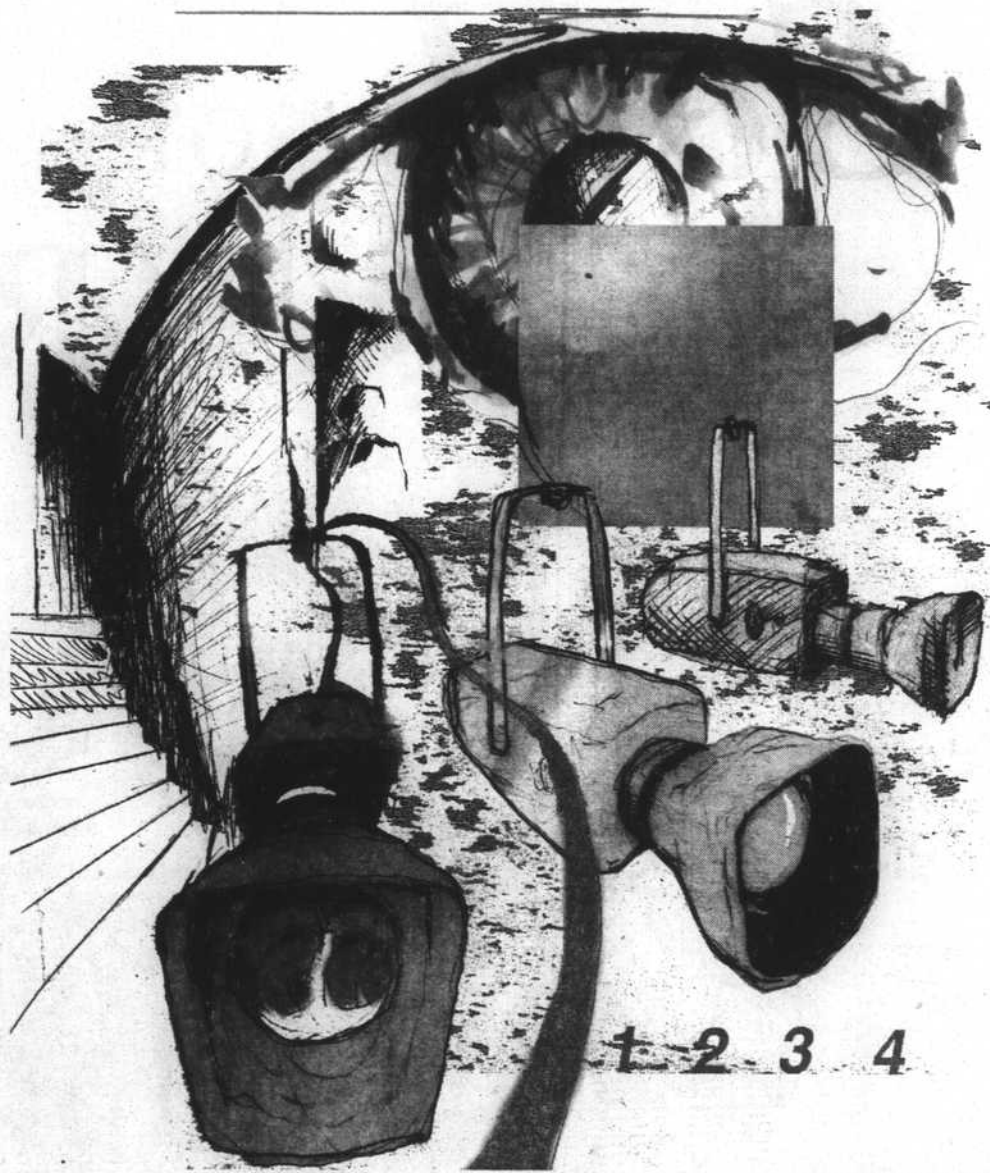
Thursday, some UNL students gave their opinions on who they thought would win the grand prize.

Kathy Floersch, a senior English major, and Laura Carlson, a senior advertising major, said they thought Curtis would take it.

"He seems the most genuine," Floersch said.

Carlson agreed. "He is very well rounded and has a good personality, not to mention the fact he's cute," she said.

This opinion was in the minority however, in comparison with other students who watch the show; nearly 70 percent of the students interviewed said that Eddie would win.



Delan Lonowski/DN

Deena Doyle, a sophomore accounting major, said she hoped Eddie would win.

"Of the three, he is the most real," she said. "He doesn't try to be someone he's not. With Eddie, what you see is what you get."

The tables have turned; rather than voting for who they want out, the audience is voting for who they want to win, and the motivating factors will shift from the negative to the positive.

Dr. Drew Pinsky, Big Brother's health and relationship expert, commented on the show on the official Big Brother Web site.

"People that don't have appeal tend to 'bug,'" he said.

"When somebody bugs, they get voted for. So it's the negatives you vote for, not the positives."

For more information, check out the Big Brother Web site [www.bigbrother2000.com](http://www.bigbrother2000.com).

# Flower stands tall in man's domain

BY BRIAN CHRISTOPHERSON

Performance Preview

## Mary Flower

Where: 7th Street Loft  
504 S. 7th St.

When: Tonight @ 7:30

Cost: \$6 for students  
\$12 for general public

They used to tell her that she could finger-pick that guitar real well, for a girl.

Now they tell Mary Flower that she can finger-pick that guitar real well, for anyone.

"A lot of women don't focus on playing the guitar," Flower said. "There is still the '60s idea that the women should be in the background banging on the tambourine."

People who believe that idea haven't heard Flower play.

She showed the boys a thing or two last week at the Walnut Valley Festival where she placed third in the national finger-picking contest.

Flower was only the second woman to place in the top three in the finger-style guitar contest's history.

"It was me and all these men, and I thought some of them played circles around me," Flower said. "But it was great. I think it's real cool when people see you as a good player, not just a good girl player."

Flower enjoys playing an array of blues music, as well, whether it is Delta blues or Piedmont blues, which has more of a ragtime, upbeat style.

She said her latest CD, "Honey from the Comb," presents her music as raw, with little interference from production enhancements.

"It sounds like what I want to sound like," Flower said. "And I think each one of my CDs represents a little slice of my life."

Tonight she will headline a show at the 7th Street Loft, playing mostly folk music. Other acts will include two Lincoln folk singers, John Walker and Dan Newton.

Flower said she revels in the opportunity to play at "listening" venues such as the Loft, as opposed to a bar atmosphere.

"We like to bring in folk musicians that you don't normally have a chance to hear in Lincoln," said Kerry Krause, board member for the Lincoln Association for Traditional Arts.

The LAFTA organization is responsible for putting together the eight to 10 concerts a season at the Loft.

The board jumped at the opportunity to bring Flower, a Denver resident, into town.

Flower said she hates traveling but loves the test of bringing new ideas she has learned to the stage.

"It's a culmination of what I have learned and to see if I can pull it off," she said. "I am still a student and always learning something new."

The 51-year-old has more opportunities to work on growing a larger fan base now that her children have grown up.

"I lost some ground over those years when I was at home," Flower said. "And now I have to reclaim my territory and work fast to reclaim an audience."

And if that audience includes a few girls that wish to follow in her footsteps, she wouldn't mind.

"I don't think of myself as a role model," she said. "I have heard that before, but I hope that I can be an inspiration."

# Flower power: New CD is softly dominating

BY ANDREW SHAW

Her name sounds like a literary tool to describe the pure and fragile character of the latest story your English professor stuck under your nose.

Think again, my friend.

Mary Flower is one of the country's most acclaimed blues musicians, an area of music overrun by men. As a prodigy of finger-style guitar playing and lap-slide guitar, Flower makes a brave stance as a woman in the blues scene. Though it may sound like a lot of pressure, you would never notice it from listening to her latest album, "Honey From the Comb."

The album is an exhibition of control and expertise. In

instrumental songs like "Black Dog Rag" and "I Hate That Train Called the M&O," Flower softly dominates the strings, playing quick arpeggios and melodies as if they come as natural as breathing.

Listening to these songs proves her prowess over the genre of finger-style rag and blues, as does her third-place finish at the Walnut Valley Festival's National Finger-Picking Championship. She was only the second woman to place in the top three in the last 27 years.

In "Bad Juju," Flower's voice adds a new dimension to the music. Though her voice is not rough and edgy like the stereotypical blues artist, her smooth

declarations assault the listener straight from the bottom of her soul.

"Bad Juju" is propelled along by a rolling bassline and Flower's diverse soloing. One moment they send chills down the back of your neck.

The next moment they force you to sway in your seat. Then flying to the high range of the instrument, she makes you sit up straight.

And like the greatest blues artists to pass waves through the air, Flower has a mastery of simple comedy in blues form.

"Big Foot Mama" tells the melancholy tale of all big-footed women in her family lineage.

Listening to such an enjoyable album makes one wish he

MUSIC REVIEW

## Mary Flower

Title: "Honey from the Comb"

Label: Time and Strike

☆☆☆☆ of 4 stars

or she could experience this singer-songwriter in her natural environment.

Lucky for all of Lincoln's blues fans, she will be in town tonight performing with two greats of the Lincoln folk scene, John Walker and Dan Newton.

# 'Woman on Top' is both romantic, comedic dish

BY KAREN BROWN

MOVIE REVIEW

## Woman on Top

Director: Fina Torres

Stars: Penelope Cruz, Murilo Benicio, Mark Feuerstein, Harold Perrineau Jr.

Rating: PG-13

☆☆☆☆ of 4 stars

What happens when you mix spicy Bossanova music with a beautiful actress (with a sultry Brazilian accent) and then cook it with a little bit of magic?

You get one of the most lovely romantic comedies I've seen in a long time. "Woman on Top" has just the right amalgam of true delight and cheesy fun to make it altogether endearing.

I fear American audiences are going to react harshly to this film for a few simple reasons. However, these reasons could also be what makes it a hit.

First, none of the music is Top 40 - or anything popular in these here United States. In fact, it's all Bossanova-Latin sung with a Brazilian tongue. It is some of the most unobtrusive, elegant music used in a romantic comedy today. With the Latin music explosion in the last couple of years, this may be what audiences have been looking for.

Second, there's an element of magic intertwined in the movie that most people may find sappy and "typically foreign." Don't let this magical element distance you from the characters on screen. Let it suck you in and cause you to understand the power behind what they believe. Don't be afraid to live in a half-fantasy, half-voodoo-based world.

Third, there is a wonderful mix of love and cooking food. And for some people, you can't live without both.

Isabella (Penelope Cruz) suffers from an incredible case of

motion sickness and comes to the states after she leaves her husband, Toninho (Murilo Benicio), when she catches him in bed with another woman.

She tries to land a job in a restaurant; unfortunately, in our patriarchal society, she cannot land one anywhere despite her overqualified skills in the kitchen.

Finally, she comes to a restaurant, and out of luck, lands a job as a cooking teacher. It is in this class that her cooking knowledge, along with her bosoms, reels the class in and lands her a job on an evening television show.

Eventually, she copes with the "suits" try to dilute her ethnicity, but she ain't havin' that.

So, if you can get over the blatant objectification of this beautiful lead actress, then go to the movie to feel a little romantic sweetness.

You may just accidentally learn something about love and music, and that food is still the way to anyone's heart.

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