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movie review

harping on 'Garp'

By Jonathan Siegle
Of the Emerald

So much has been written about making movies out of books, various combinations of good and bad books, good and bad movies. Among them are those of Gabriel Garcia Marquez, who recently turned down a million dollars for the film rights to his stunning novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude."

"My reticence to make movies out of my works is due to my desire for direct communication with my readers, so that by means of the letters I write they can imagine the characters to be as they wish, and not as the borrowed face of an actor on the screen. Besides, I have seen many good movies made from very bad novels, but I have never seen a good movie made from a good novel."

John Irving's "The World According to Garp" is a very good novel.

The film, starring Robin Williams is not a bad film, but it's not "Garp."

Irving's book is darkly humorous. It begins with Garp's mother Jenny stabbing a masher in a movie theater and ends with Garp's murder at the

hands of a fanatical feminist. It is quite raw, and quietly bitter.


Garp himself is a simian sort — stumpy, dark, serious. He has no sense of humor. Robin Williams is an inspired choice, but he's not Garp.

Robin Williams is a brilliant comedian. His humor has inspired a whole generation of teenage television addicts like none other since Maynard G. Krebs. He appeals at many levels. With his silly putty face and gaggle of voices he could worm a smile out of the Mt. Rushmore Four. But he's not Garp.

Don't you see? Garp is ugly/beautiful, a mutt, a dog-eared old book, a tattered sofa. Robin Williams is too cute. And he's not Garp.

The movie is a two-dimensional sham. Director George Roy Hill has given us scenes without development. We just don't know why Helen cheats on Garp. We're supposed to accept that she does and enjoy the movie. This is Ronald Reagan telling the American people they don't need to know why Haig quit. It's not art.

Yet it's really not a bad movie. Glenn Close is brilliant as Roberta, the ex-football player transsexual. In fact, none of the acting is bad, it's just not "Garp."



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OSL elects executives for next year

ASHLAND — The Oregon Student Lobby this weekend elected its 1982-83 officers at its regular monthly board meeting.

Shawn Dooley, the student body president of Oregon State University was elected chairer, University journalism major Ann Portal was elected vice-chairer and Marc Farmer, student body president at Southern Oregon State College was elected treasurer.

The OSL, which operates with \$72,000 in statewide student fees, lobbies the Oregon Legislature on issues concerning Oregon higher education. Besides an eight-member board of directors, with representatives from each state institution, the OSL also employs three paid staff members.

Dooley, an agriculture economics major who works for Ralston-Purina will lead the OSL board of directors and act as its official representative, said Bob Watrus, executive director of OSL.

As vice-chairer, Portal will fill in for Dooley when he is unavailable and will chair executive meetings of the OSL. Portal is an ASUO vice president for state and University affairs.

The OSL lobbies on behalf of students in the state system, Watrus said. It focuses on tuition, financial aid and the state system's budget.

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Mrs. Butterworth Syrup 24 oz.	\$1³⁸	Ground Beef and Turkey Mix	68^c per lb.
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