

Holiday film reflects 'real' families

It's that time of the year when the blues show up and so do the relatives.

The film *Home for the Holidays*, a Paramount/Egg Production is showing in theaters all over the nation, and at least until the Thanksgiving holiday is over.

I think the film is a true reflection of the not-so-typical American family. Co-producer Peggy Rajski and co-producer/director/actor Jody Foster presents a pleasant look at what sometimes is not a pleasant event, the annual Thanksgiving get-together.

The movie is supported by classical American rock music, one of which is the opening song "You've Got to Change Your Evil Ways" originally performed by Santana.

In other words, it is a good film that I would recommend seeing, and students get a discount at Act III Theaters, so take your families and friends.

Avy Kaufman, the casting director, puts together a terrific line-up and Foster brings some depth into her character both through directing and acting with Robert Downy Jr. as her brother

CINEMA REVIEW

Home for the Holidays

Paramount/Egg Production
Directed by: Jody Foster

★★★★

Tommy, Ann Bancroft as her mother and a whole host of other talents including Steve Guttenberg.

The show is a sweet and sour experience. Some of the titled novel style chapters of the movie's sequence are more realistic at times than the audience can handle. But at the same time, the very same scene, which displeases the audience with its stark reality, eases the audience with its severe endearment as well.

The movie balances itself with the two extremes well enough to still create an ideal work of fiction. The extremes are seen in the dinner scene in which Foster and Downy Jr., who provide their sibling closeness and let it all hang out causing the audience to almost taste the humor on screen.

An overweight father, a wig-wearing mother, a starving artist, a gay only-son, that son's straight friend, a daughter's yuppie family and a depraved, over-horticultured and zany aunt create constant familial pratfalls throughout the movie.

Although this movie's strong point is its humor from the confrontations of the culturally diverse family, the romance gives it that warm holiday feeling as well. The feelings run deep both for the good times and the bad, and the cast does a fine job in realizing it for a believable sense of relation.

Not only does the movie play to the lives of white middle-class family members, but I think it also appeals to a wide range of social strata by addressing the problems and remedies that all people experience with their family or loved ones.

This movie is definitely not *It's a Wonderful Life*, and it certainly is not the classic *A Christmas Carol*, even so, *Home for the Holidays* should make anyone's stay with their relatives over the holidays a pleasant one.

By Andrew Mayer

Cross country skiing ideal recreation

Want to dazzle your sun-worshipping friends when they return from places down south in January? Learn how to cross-country ski during winter break.

The River House, located at 310 N. Adams St., offers classes for the beginner to the adventurous, who may want to plan a tour of Crater Lake in early February.

Beginning cross country ski lessons cost as little as \$125 and

the student teacher ratio is as small as 6:1. Topics covered in class range from equipment selection to ski waxing and emergency repairs.

The winter outdoor program of the River House is entering its 28th year and the professional instructors are members of the Professional Ski Instructors of America — Northwest. By taking a full day and a half lessons, River House invites students to

take advantage and to discover if skiing is for them.

Besides, the ski programs, others classes include instruction in ski skating and classes for children. Winter survival techniques, snowshoeing and avalanche awareness are also a few of the speciality courses offered.

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By Anne Moser-Kornfeld

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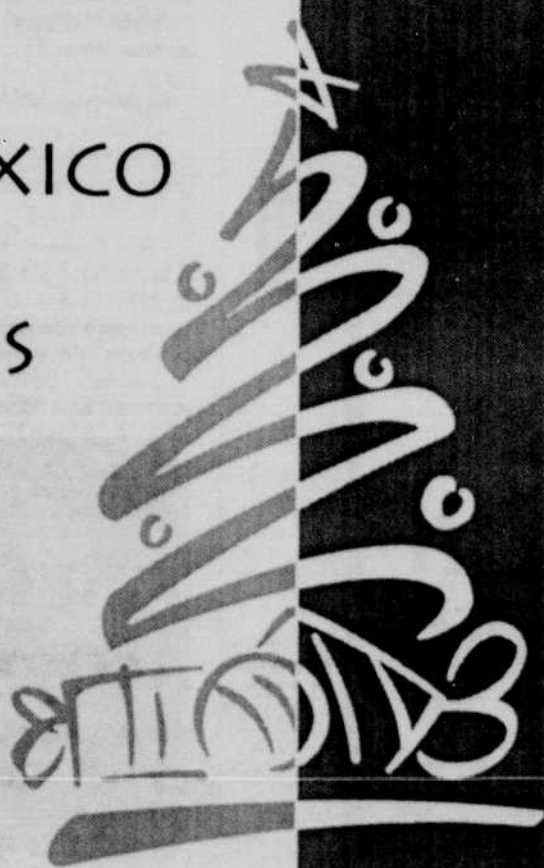
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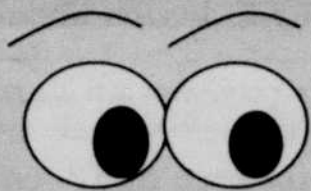


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