

Six highly-successful albums, numerous Juno awards and three much-heralded national tours have not spoiled the fine artistry of Bruce Cockburn's unique musical sound. It is impossible to pin a label on Cockburn's music - his style of musical expression leaves no room for comparison; it is truly his alone. Cockburn will be in concert Tues. and Wed. Feb. 24-25 at 8:30 p.m. in the Students Union Theatre, presented by S.U. Records. Tickets available at S.U. Box office (HUB and Mike's Ticket Agency).

This week at SUB Theatre

Dates have been changed for SUB Theatre's double-feature night. *Lady Sings the Blues* and *Mahogany* will be shown on Feb. 18, Feb. 21 and Feb. 22, with *Lady* at 7 p.m. and *Mahogany* at 9:30 p.m.

On Friday, Feb. 20 the dramatic *Les Ordres* will show

at the theatre. This film was made in Quebec in 1974 and gives an account of the FLO crisis that is quite different from what we've been previously told.

On Monday, Feb. 23, there will be one showing only of *Ben Hur* at 7 PM.

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Boy and his Dog - Old Yeller, it's not

by Kim St. Clair

I've always suspected that long 'trailers' shown before the feature presentation serve only to supplement a short, meatless movie. Cinematic pablum, even if it is spiked with vegetables, fails to satisfy my appetite.

A Boy and His Dog, now playing at the Towne Cinema, is not pablum disguised as vegetables - it is yogurt disguised as meat.

When friends tell you this movie is good for a few laughs believe them, because it is. Even so, the laughs are contrived and not really an integral part of the story line. Basically, the movie goes like this:

Boy and dog are telepathic (we never really understand why), the world has been devastated by a nuclear war, and life exists in two factions - one above the ground and the other in artificial bomb-shelter worlds below the surface. Through a few predictable and

over-worked comparisons we are led to believe that the life and death struggle on the top, though savage, is preferable to the structured madness of the world below.

But both places have a similar problem - women. There aren't any on the surface (again, we don't know why), except a few who get gang-banged to death by roaming crowds of hard-up men. Below, the women are unable to reproduce because their men have become sterile (not much explanation for this, either).

The boy and his dog are partners. The dog is intelligent (for some reason not mentioned in the script) and together with the boy scavenges for food and keeps from getting killed. The partnership is dissolved though, when the boy is lured 'down under' by a beautiful woman (naturally enough) to act as a one-man sperm bank. While there he is hooked up to a massive vibrator and ruthlessly pumped.

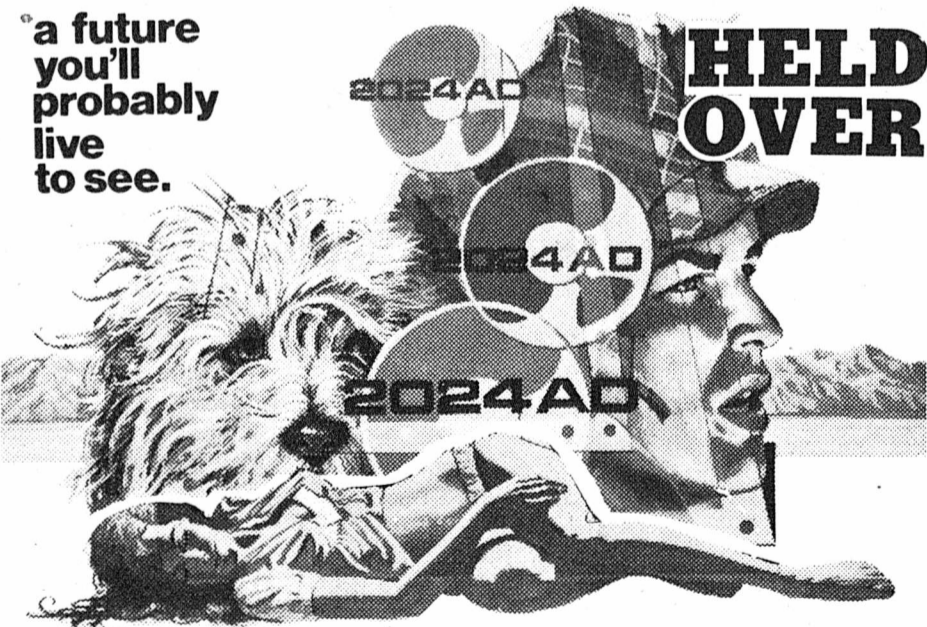
As cheap as this plot may seem it does have some redeeming qualities. There is an underlying message (be it scalped from *Gulliver's Travels*, *The Crystalids*, *Brave New World*, and a host of other sources) of human degradation and the dangers of technology. We are told in an oblique fashion, that power unchecked leads to ruin, that civilization destroyed reverts to barbarianism.

But we've been told this many times and in far better ways than given us in *A Boy and His Dog*. Thankfully, the movie doesn't dwell on presenting these half-formed messages, but settles for a more marketable product, glorified yogurt.

The storyline is bizarre enough to maintain interest and laughlines are well placed, but beyond that expect nothing more than just what the movie is billed as: 'a kinky tale of survival.'

The year is 2024...

a future you'll probably live to see.



HELD OVER

a boy and his dog
rather kinky tale of survival

starring DON JOHNSON · SUSANNE BENTON and ALVY MOORE with a special appearance by JASON ROBARDS



'The dog is a Don Rickles with fur!'

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