

Good Kottke bores

By JOHN VANORE
The inception of the art every great film maker has followed simple rules to produce enduring films. One of those says "Masturbation is not a sport." Perhaps if Leo was a film maker he would

have had a chance to follow that maxim.
As it was, Kottke's Special Attraction in the Rudder Auditorium last Friday night was a spectacular display of excessive self-indulgence. No doubt about it, Kottke is an outstanding guitarist. But he used up his bag of tricks in the first two numbers,

and the rest of the show was repetition ad nauseum.
Perhaps the biggest factor against him is that he tries to go it alone. Kottke admitted he didn't have a great voice and that was why so few of his songs have any vocal parts. A one-man show of instrumentals on a 12-string guitar gets old pretty fast. Compared to other guitarists who play with a full back-up, such as Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton or Rory Gallagher, Kottke sounded pale and shallow.

True to form, only six of Kottke's 19 numbers were vocal compositions. On the others, he just showed the audience what a fantastic and versatile performer he is. One can only take so much of a musician honing his own horn. And an hour and a half is definitely more than enough.

The vast bulk of Kottke's set consisted of fast and furious chord playing, complemented by a lot of fine slide work and some spirited pick-

6 scholars to hold frontier symposium

Six leading scholars on America's frontier will share the podium at a two-day centennial academic assembly Thursday and Friday at Texas A&M.

The symposium, "The American Frontier Re-examined," provides the public a chance to hear Dr. Gay Wilson Allen, professor emeritus of English, New York University; Dr. Howard R. Lamar, William Robertson Coe, Professor of American History, Yale University; and Dr. Gerald D. Nash, history chairman, University of New Mexico.

Also appearing will be Dr. William A. Owens, professor and dean emeritus, Columbia University, and writer-in-residence, Texas A&M; Dr. Henry Nash Smith, English professor, University of California at Berkeley; and Dr. Arlin Turner, James B. Duke, professor of English, Duke University.

Owens begins the assembly in the Memorial Student Center 206 at 8 p.m. Thursday. His topic is religious music. At 2 p.m., Lamar speaks on

the trader. Smith concludes the first day's speaking at 8 p.m. with an address on "Mark Twain, Turner and the Myth of America."

A 3:30 p.m. reception Thursday will honor all six participants in MSC 145.

Friday, Nash reviews the 20th Century West at 10 a.m. in 106 with Allen and Turner sharing a 2 p.m. lecture as they discuss Emerson, Thoreau, Whitman and Hawthorne and their roles in the frontier.

Allen has been a U.S. State Department lecturer and a Rockefeller and Guggenheim foundations fellow. Co-editor of "The Collected Writings of Walt Whitman," he has authored "American Prosody," "The Solitary Singer: A Critical Biography of Walt Whitman," "William James: A Biography" and "The New Walt Whitman Handbook."

Lamar has held Morse, American Council of Learned Societies and Social Science Research Council fellowships.

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY
STUDENT Government Blood Examined, 225-226 MSC from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
COLLEGE of Agriculture Centennial, 701 Tower, 8-5 p.m.
NATIONAL Association of Conventioneers, 501 Tower, 8-5 p.m.
CENT Developments in Light Microscopy & Spectroscopy, must be at 701 Tower, 8 a.m.-11 p.m.
STUDENT Seminars, 302 Tower, 8 a.m.-noon.
STUDENT Svc. Weekly Staff Meeting, Conference Rm.-MSC., Jersey, 8 a.m.-noon.
ANTHROPOLOGY Re-Examined, 206 Tower, 1-11 p.m.
ACADEMIC Council, 601 Tower, 2-5 p.m.
COAST STATE Sanitariums, 225-226 MSC, 2-5 p.m.
DEPARTMENT of Economics, 301 Tower, 3-4:30 p.m.
STUDENT Y Association, Conches Mice Rm.-MSC, 3-4 p.m.
UNIVERSITY Traffic Panel, 607 Tower, 3-15:5 p.m.
SEX Orientation Conference, 701 Tower, 5-6 p.m.
STUDENT Government Spring Elections, Conference Rm.-MSC, 7-8 p.m.
BICYCLE Repair, 228 MSC, 7-8 p.m.
MEGA Phi Alpha, 410 Tower, 7-8 p.m.
SPAS Interviews, 216-L MSC, 7-8 p.m.
GRADUATE Student Council, N&O MSC, 5:15-7 p.m.
DRK Producers Board of Directors, 352 MSC, 7-8 p.m.
FREE-U House Plants, 228 MSC, 7-8 p.m.
FREE-U Bass Fishing, 229 MSC, 7-8 p.m.
FREE-U Pets, 230 MSC, 7-8 p.m.

137 MSC, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
AMERICAN Frontier Re-Examined, 206 MSC, 8 a.m.-11 p.m.
STUDENT Government Spring Elections, Conference Rm.-MSC, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
RECENT Development in Light Microscopy & Spectroscopy, 402 Tower, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
FINANCE Department, 140-A MSC, 10-11 a.m.
BASIC Grants W/S, 228 MSC, 1-4 p.m.
ENGLISH Graduate Students, 145 MSC, 3:30-5 p.m.
SPHINX & Polaris, 228 MSC, 5-7 p.m.
TEXAS Animal Ag Conference Banquet, 224 MSC, 6:30-9 p.m.
ALPHA Zeta, 301 Tower, 7-10 p.m.
DATA Processing Management Association, 402 Tower, 7-9 p.m.
FREE-U Exercise, 601 Tower, 7-8 p.m.
FREE-U Woman & Guns, 229 MSC, 7-8 p.m.
FREE-U Amanda Marga, 230 MSC, 7-8 p.m.
CRAFTS and Terrariums B, 137-A MSC, 7-9 p.m.
PHI Alpha Xi Dinner, 203 MSC, 7-9 p.m.
COLLEGIATE 4-H Club, 139 MSC, 7:30-9 p.m.
FREE-U Arabic, 141 MSC, 7:30-9 p.m.
EL PASO Home Town Club, 410 Tower, 7:30-9 p.m.
FLYING Club, 308 Tower, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
CEPHEID Variable, 701 Tower, 7:30 p.m.-midnight
FREE-U Guitar, 228 MSC, 8-9 p.m.

Rabies shots available soon

Rabies booster shots will be made available next week at Texas A&M University for students, faculty and staff who work closely with animals. The shot will be administered at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday at the A. P. Beutel Student Health Center. The cost for each shot will be \$4, payable by the individual at the time of the injection unless the person's name is included on one of the departmental lists to be submitted prior to Tuesday.

AGGIE CINEMA

The following is an Aggie Cinema Film Poll for the Fall semester 1976. Please turn in polls at the Student Programs Office, or the Ballot Box in front of the Aggie Cinema display case on the first floor of the MSC.

POPULAR

Pick 12 of the following:

- Nashville
- Godfather II
- Mahogany
- Earthquake
- The Black Bird
- Bite the Bullet
- The Exorcist
- Alice In Wonderland
- Magnum Force
- Death Wish
- Freebie and the Bean
- Three Days of the Condor
- The Return of the Pink Panther
- Day of the Locust
- Hard Times
- Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore
- The Tamarind Seed
- The Front Page

- The Four Musketeers
- The Wind and the Lion
- Mandingo
- Love and Death
- Bananas
- Once Is Not Enough
- Cabaret
- The Way We Were
- The Drowning Pool
- Tommy
- Man Who Loved Cat Dancing
- The Elger Sanction
- Funny Lady
- Rooster Cogburn
- The Other Side of the Mountain
- The Odessa File
- Farewell My Lovely
- French Connection II

MIDNIGHT

Pick 5 of the following:

- Monty Python and the Holy Grail
- O Lucky Man
- The Conversation
- Mean Streets
- Night Moves
- Harry and Tonto

- The Killer Elite
- The Parallax View
- W. W. and the Dixie Dance Kings
- Royal Flash
- The Night Porter
- The Trial of Billy Jack

CLASSIC

Pick 8 of the following:

- Bringing Up Baby
- Adam's Rib
- Singing in the Rain
- The Bad Seed
- Mr. Smith Goes to Washington
- The Mark of Zorro
- Gone With the Wind
- East of Eden
- Rebel Without a Cause
- Inherit the Wind
- Moby Dick

- Some Like It Hot
- Arsenic and Old Lace
- Jezebel
- Dark Victory
- Dames
- I Could Go on Singing
- A Star is Born
- Little Caesar
- Wuthering Heights
- Treasure of the Sierra Madre
- Psycho
- Ben Hur

INTERNATIONAL

Pick 8 of the following:

- The Emigrants
- A Man and a Woman
- The Passenger
- Lies My Father Told Me
- The Trojan Women
- Roman Polanskis Macbeth
- Mad Adventures of Rabbi Jacob
- Hamlet
- Day for Night

- Lacomb Lucien
- Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie
- The Adversary
- Lord of the Flies
- Tom Jones
- The Lion in Winter
- Great Expectations
- Oliver
- The Little Prince
- Brother Sun, Sister Moon
- The Beauty and the Beast

SUGGESTIONS

Review

ing. His style defies classification and is a blend of so many others. It contains elements of rock, blues, country, Latin and classical.

Although Kottke writes most of his own music, he still plays some borrowed tunes such as Procol Harum's "Power Failure," which he played Friday night. He occasionally does the Byrds classic "Eight Miles High," but said he couldn't do it because the guitar he needed for it was being repaired. The deficiencies of a solo guitar came to light more thoroughly when there was a chance for comparison. Procol Harum's full use of instrumentation puts Kottke's feeble attempt to shame.

There are a lot of good guitarists around today, but Kottke's refusal to play with a back-up makes him unique. Straight from the horse's mouth, I found the two big reasons for this are lower costs and fewer people to get along with. I'll skip over speculation about why he never found anyone he wanted to work with. But if Jeff Beck, probably the world's most temperamental musician, can always put together a band, then what is Kottke's problem?

What matters is whether the reader would take the word of a jaded old impartial critic over the 1800 die-hard Kottke fans in attendance. The audience loved the show, and gave Kottke three standing ovations amidst thunderous applause. Now I need to find out how his fans can tell one song from the other.

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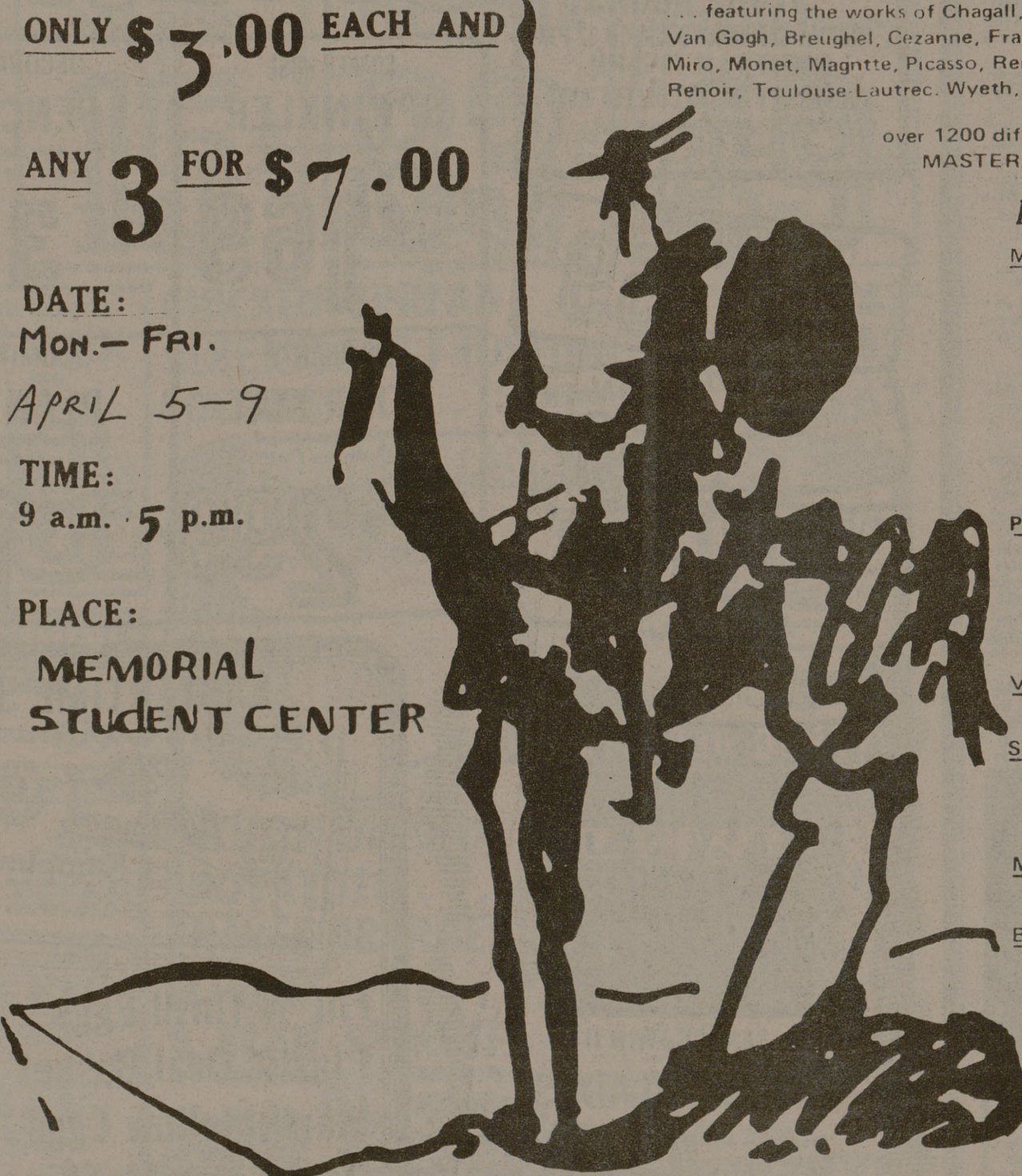
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