## **New Film** Both Sad, Humorous

"East is East" is a faithful adaptation of the British play. It mixes bawdy humor with a serious message.

ARIADNE GUTHRIE

Everyone remembers his or her own path to self-discovery as a bumpy one, which is why people will find it so easy to relate to the film adaptation of the British play "East is East."

"East" is full of the bawdy British humor made Full Monty" pokes fun at fat girls and giggles about gen-

that "The Movie Review "East is East"

itals as it weaves a sitcom-like tale of growing up

George Kahn, played by Om Puri ("The Ghost and the Darkness") leaves his home in Pakistan to operate a restaurant in England. He marries a British woman, and together they raise seven children in a 1970s working class neighborhood. As India and Pakistan go to war in the east, the Kahn family struggles to define itself.

George wants a traditional Muslim household, with obedient sons and a submissive wife and daughter. The children want to fit into their British surroundings, going so far as participating in a Catholic procession and secretly dating the white neighbors. The culture clash becomes volatile when the children defy their father's authority, and George slowly loses control of his fam-

At its core, "East" is the struggle for acceptance and the trials of being an outsider, even in your own mind. George condemns all things British to maintain his own heritage, but mus eventually realize that he has assimilate ed in the very ways he tells his children not to, from his Énglish wife to his tra-ditional fish and chips shop.

The cast is comprised of caricatures and stereotypes. George is the hypocritical, tyrannical patriarch, both vio-lent and absurdly comic. Ella (played with sass by UK stage maven Linda

Bassett), is the protective mother hen.
As for the kids, they are all one-dimensional: a rebellious son, a tomboy daughter, a banished gay son, etc.

The movie's main flaw is its ending Conflict builds steadily throughout the movie, then seems to suddenly run out of time and resolves itself in a hurry. The movie reaches its climax in a con frontation between George and Ella that escalates to violence, then ends with a

cup of tea as its only reconciliation.
"East is East" is both heartwarming and heart-wrenching, and presents the perfect bonding experience for upcoming Father's Day

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at artsdesk@unc.edu.

FROM THE RUN LOLA RUN

7:00, 9:30, weekends 2:00, 4:30

# Woody Allen Yucks It Up in Small Time Crooks'

MICHAEL WOODS

Every year, like clockwork, director Woody Allen serves up a new movie for MOVIE REVIEW sumption. And, every year, it is "Small Time Crooks" sible to know

isfied for three decades.

That flavor is what dominates his cur-rent picture, "Small Time Crooks," which marks Allen's return to his slapstick roots. The recipe is simple, but classic: take one off-beat actor, shape into an improbable role, place in a combustible situation, add clever character actors, and bake for at least 80 minutes. (Comedic genius should ensue).

With "Small Time Crooks," Woody,

head out of the clouds. So when Ray presents her with a half-baked, get-rich-quick scheme, she is against it.

But Ray's wit and neurotic charm ear away at her resolve, and they decide to throw in with three dim-witted guys in an attempt to commit the most original of crimes - a bank robbery.

Before long, the husband-and-wife team is rolling in dough - but not the

makes for good comedy. But Allen gets greedy and adds a few ingredients too many. He submits the characters to the perils of wealth and they transform so quickly that Uncle Ben would be jealus. Once so firmly planted in reality, Frenchy now swoons with socialites, while Ray finds that his dream is more of a nightmare and longs for his old,

simple life. The problem is not so much Allen's use of a predictable plot twist, as it is his inability to spice it up. By no means does the movie become completely bland. Hugh Grant's portrayal of a caddish art dealer (David) is noteworthy, and Elaine May (May) is excellent as Frenchy's

However, the acrid taste of Allen's '90s films ("Husbands and Wives," "Deconstructing Harry" and "Celebrity") is detectable, if only slight-

It also features John Lovitz (of "Saturday Night Live" fame), Michael Rapaport ("Higher Learning"), and Tony Darrow (Larry Boy from "The

Despite flaws, "Small Time Crooks" manages to remain a goofy, Pop Tart of a movie on the whole. It is not nearly as rich as the fast-paced comedies that catapulted Allen's career in the '60s, but it is worth sampling.

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# what to expect. With his rare gift for artistic flexibility, Allen has built a body of work that defies genre. But, whether it is a Bergmanesque drama ("Interiors") or a futuristic comedy ("Sleeper"), his films always have the intelligent, self-deprecating flavor that has kept audiences sat With "Small Time Crooks," Woody, Allen attempts to channel the spirits of his earlier comedies, such as "Take the Money and Run" and "Sleeper." Allen plays Ray Winkler, an ex-con with pie-in-the-sky dreams and a knack for losing jobs. His wife, Frenchy (British comedian Tracy Ullman), is a sardonic manicurist who struggles to keep Ray's FBI Memo Questions Gores Funds FBI Memo Questions Gores Funds

An FBI memo sent to Janet Reno and kept secret for two years questions Gore's fund-raising techniques.

WASHINGTON - In a memo kept secret for 2 1/2 years, FBI Director Louis Freeh warned that the Justice Department was ignoring "reliable evi-dence" that conflicted with Vice President Al Gore's accounts of his fundraising activities

Freeh sent the November 1997 memo, written by staff at his request, to Attorney General Janet Reno to urge appointment of an independent counsel to investigate Democratic fund raising.

'In the face of compelling evidence that the vice president was a very active, sophisticated fund-raiser who knew exactly what he was doing, his own exculpatory statements must not be given undue weight," the Freeh memo

It preceded a better-known, and more scrutinized, memo by the chief prosecutor in the case, Charles LaBella, who urged the same action and also accused his Justice Department superiors of contorting their investigation to avoid triggering an independent coun-

The memos were released by a House committee today as Republicans in both chambers of Congress examined why a special prosecutor was never

appointed.

"Can you blame the American peoany in Congress for being cynical?" House Government Reform Committee chairman Dan Burton, R-Ind., asked after reading from the

The FBI director said the Justice Department's preoccupation with bit players should be replaced by a topdown investigation starting with President Clinton and a "core group" of aides under the theory that "most of the alleged campaign abuses flowed directly or indirectly from the all-out efforts by the White House and DNC (Democratic National Committee) to raise money.'

Freeh's memo focused in part on fund-raising phone calls Gore made from his government office. The vice president denied that he intended to raise "hard money," which is regulated by federal laws prohibiting solicitations on federal property.

The director's memo suggested the

Justice Department was "relying a most exclusively on the vice president's own statements to draw inferences favorable to him even where those statemen are contradicted by other reliable

dence."
"If the attorney general relied pri-marily" on Gore's "statements to end this investigation, she would be inviting intense and justified criticism," the memo said,

In a memo responding to that allega-tion, Lee Radek, the chief of the department's public integrity section who dealt with independent counsel issues, said the Justice Department did not rely solely on Gore's word.

The conclusion that Gore's phone calls were to solicit (oft money," outside the scope of the law, was based on "hundreds of interpers with those who participated in the calls, and the examination of scores of documents," Radek wrote in a memo also released today. And the law in question a seldom prosecuted, he said.

In his own "1-page memo, prosecutor LaBella complained that his Justice Department su periors were "intellectually dishonest" and practiced "gamesmansing" to avoid an independent counselly investigation of Presient Clinton's and Gore's 1990 fund raising.

In May, Duke University Medical Center was placed on probation for similar problems, Rhyne said. State officials llar problems, Rhyne said. State officials will return for re-inspection in coming months

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through a wristband lottery system, in which they go to the ticket office and get bracelets with numbers on them. A ran-

#### **FELDMAN** From Page 3

Vice President.

Press Secretary Chris Lehane jokes Feldman is a "towering figure," which draws chuckles from the travelling press who know Feldman is actually a down-to-earth, personable man. Also ironic is Feldman's title: "senior" adviser. He's actually only 31.

Feldman graduated with a B.A. in political science from Tufts University in Boston and joined the Clinton/Gore campaign in 1992.

Since that campaign, Feldman has been steadily rising through the ranks of the Office of the Vice President, and the mands on him have increased.

Feldman travels with Gore every where he goes domestically.

"It's physically exhausting to travel as much as we travel and keep the schedule we keep," he says. "I have a profound respect for the stamina of a presidential candidate, of the Vice President, because it's a very demanding enter

Gore's small travelling troop consists of Feldman, Lehane and a couple others (excluding the always present and numerous Secret Service agents).
"We in a sense, live together,"

Feldman says. We spend every waking reidman says. we spend every waking hour in the same place, same hotel, same airplane, same vehicle."

So much time together inevitably necessitates comic relief and Morehouse

relates an on-going practical joke within the VP's troop. Lehane started slipping

random things (rocks, bananas) into the others' bags and pockets and Felmdan joined in. One can only imagine how oic Gore would seem if actually caught

with a banana in his pocket.
Okay, chances are, Gore is rarely the butt of the practical jokes. But Morehouse says Feldman has a wry wit and loves to make faces and say things that make Gore laugh during briefings.

Feldman has such a charm ab him, in fact, that one wonders if all his work for Gore isn't just a stepping stone to a political career of his ov

Though he is down-to-earth, he says all the right things. He speaks of "delivering the Vice President's message" and mentions North Carolina numerous times, including admitting that it is a "crucial battleground state."

Feldman says he's unsure what lies ahead for him. "Undoubtedly, when this is all said and done, my life is going to change considerably. Win or lose, I'll feel a lot better about my next endeavour inside of government or outside of

But this phase of his life won't be over for "five months and two days."

A smile and a handshake and Feldman slips out the backdoor for a debriefing with the Vice President.

No doubt, Feldman will return to the "hotly contested" state of North Carolina. But the next stop for the campaign is in New York.

Tonight, Feldman will finally get to see his girlfriend – "for a couple hours."

Brian Frederick can be reached at brifred@yahoo.com.

From Page 3

announced Saturdays

HOSPITALS

Trauma Center has held its Level I rank ing since 1982.

Stinneford said part of being a Level I ranked facility signified a commitment

A ticket distribution task force,

The allotted tickets for students will

Thomas Stafford, vice chancellor of

including ten students, came up with the

be given out to the first students in line, but the order in line will not determine

where their seats are located, though.

student affairs and head of the task force

for a new student ticket distribution pol-

icy, said, "This is the easiest and sim-

VIRGIN

MUST END SUN., 6-11

plest method we could come up with.

new student distribution policy

to public service and was a mark of excellence. "Being; an academic medical cen-

ter, it's obviously very important to our mission that we are able to pro-vide that quality both for training and service purposes," Stinneford

"Everyone has a fair chance because (the ticket: distribution) takes place on a

Saturday morning."

N.C. State students are not happy to have the camp-outs cancelled. Clint Allen, a junior criminal justice major from Cary, said not having the camp-

outs will take away from spirit-building.

"It's going to take a big element of fun out of the games," Allen said. "(The camp-outs) are kind of like our pep rall-

At UNC, students receive tickets

CAROLINA dom bracelet number is then chosen to the first in line

be the first in line.
Previously, UNC held camp-outs for tickets until the student ticket distribution was reorganized under Carolina Athletic Association Prevident Tee Pruitt in the 1998-1999 years?

The City/State & National Desk can be reached at stridesk@unc.edu

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#### The Daily Tar Heel

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