

The Salt Lake Tribune CALENDAR Friday, December 2, 1994

B5

### Tillis Rides Familiar Themes, But Bucks Convention, Too

By Lori Ratters  
SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

For someone who is touted as a throwback to the good old days of country music, Pam Tillis put on a progressive show Wednesday night at Salt Lake City's Capitol Theatre.

She's traditional and a whole lot more — not the least of which is charming and witty. Tillis' infectious personality reached past the wandering panels of cameramen who were taping her every move for an upcoming television program. She tapped at banjo strings with the Tammy Wynette-inspired "Do You Know Where Your Man Is" and "Spilled Perfume."

Her sense of humor came through loud and clear with "Cleopatra, Queen of Deseal," which she treated out with a few Egyptian dance steps. Tillis, who knows a thing or two about famous families (her father is a Tiltill) who let with the winking introduction to "What Would You Do?"

"This one I'm dedicating to Michael and Lisa Marie," she said. "A good portion of Tillis' songs fall under traditional country themes cloaking, rid-

### 'The Client,' 'Widows Peak,' 'Maverick' Coming to Video

By John Hart  
SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

December's rather thin line-up of new video releases includes a long-delayed sequel, a pair of TV spin-offs and another adaptation of a John Grisham best-seller.

At least the sequel, Bruce Brown's "Endless Summer II," is an agreeable entertainment. Scheduled to arrive Dec. 28, it's a considerable improvement on Brown's original 1986 surfing documentary, making intelligent use of a bigger budget and faster camerawork to tell the story of two surfers traveling around the world in search of perfect waves.

The TV spinoffs include Richard Dinkley's shamelessly off-budget reworking of "Maverick" with Mel Gibson, Judge Foster and James Garner trying to find amusement in a dull script about rough coast artists (it's due Wednesday), and "Lambo," a summer box office flop that failed to revive interest in the car's adventures (it's coming Dec. 21).

Joel Schumacher's adaptation of Grisham's "The Client" (due Dec. 21) also covers familiar territory, but screenwriter Brad Rindberg is quite effective, in his boyishly skeptical way, as an 11-year-old witness to a mob lawyer's suicide. Susan Sarandon, at her most dynamic as a struggling lawyer who tries to keep him from harm, could earn another Academy

award nomination come February.

Performances also drive "Widows Peak" (coming Dec. 7). Mia Farrow's first son-Woody Allen movie in 12 years. This enjoyable British comedy-mystery was written by Dublin-born playwright Hugh Leonard ("Dr. The Mind of Mearns") and it was originally intended for Farrow's mother, Marlene O'Donoghue. But Farrow steps into the role as if no one else could have played it. Joan Plowright and Natasha Richardson provide most of the scenery.

chewing, as well as the majority of the film's laughs.

Not counting just everything as Jeff Bridges, Sami Davis, Forest Whitaker and Tommy Lee Jones demonstrate in the monotonous bomb-terrorist thriller, "Blown Away" (due Dec. 14).

Almost as disappointing is "Foreign Student" (Dec. 21), a bare-bones coming-of-age drama that wastes an interesting cast and subject. It's the story of a French foreign exchange student (Marco Hofschneider) who attends a Southern college in the mid-

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