



AT SUNFLOWER CINEMA, Jessica Bremer (above) got a customer a soda at the concession stand. Adrian Chambers (below) enjoyed popcorn as he waited for the movie to start Sunday afternoon.

Twice a week volunteers run theater here

Run by volunteers, Oberlin's Sunflower Cinema opens twice each weekend to provide entertainment for young and old.

It's a bargain, too. At \$3 a ticket, you can go to the movies for under \$6, even with a trip to the concession stand.

Each week, members from organizations, student and adult, help sell tickets and run the concession stand. Individuals also volunteer.

The theater, owned by the city, is operated by a board of five: Jennifer Auxier, Bev Reiter, Duane Dorshorst, Jan Badsky and Brian Keahey.

Ms. Auxier said the theater reopened in August 2003 and has been open since then, although it has closed for some holiday weekends when volunteers are hard to find.

The theater, she said, is making money. There are weekends that it loses, but it is still afloat. It isn't that they are able to bank money, she said, but the theater is remaining steady.

The theater did well over the holiday season, she said, and things should pick up toward the start of summer, but right now it is in the in-between season for movies. Families are more apt to go to a show during the holidays, said Ms. Auxier, and also during the summer.

As with any business, the board works on repairs and maintenance all the time. The board would like to replace the carpet in the lobby, she said, and is planning its yearly taco dinner in April to help raise the money. A date hasn't been set yet.

Ms. Auxier said, come this summer, the board will need one more member. She said she will be moving back to Texas and would like someone to volunteer for her posi-

tion. She orders the movies, does the books and billing, coordinates delivery and pickup of the films, helps with set up and take down — films come in several rolls and have to be spliced onto one, — stocks concessions, coordinates maintenance and rounds up volunteers.

With one less board member, she said, the board isn't sure if the theater will stay open through the summer. A lot of the volunteers come from school groups, which aren't

active during the summer.

Ms. Auxier said the theater will be closed for Easter weekend on April 15 and 16 and for Memorial weekend in May.

Movies coming up include "The Pink Panther" this weekend and "Eight Below" the second weekend in March.

Anyone interested in serving on the board or working at the theater may contact any of the board members, she said.



IN THE TICKET BOOTH, Colleen Rittmann (above) waited for her next customer while LeAnna Sheaffer (right) got a tub of popcorn.

