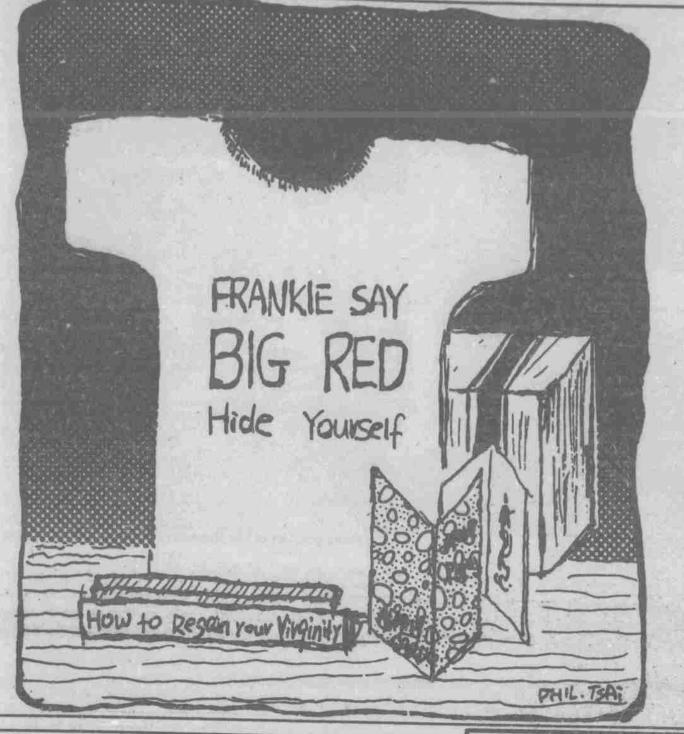
## Progressive shoppers find gifts in Lincoln



Analysis by Scott Harrah Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

The Christmas season is frustrating for students because studying for final exams seems to take up all of their shopping time. What's even more perplexing is finding unique gifts for the unusual people on one's Christmas list in the plastic Santa Claus world of Lincoln stores. But, if you use your imagination, you can easily wrap up an avant-garde Christmas. Here's a list of some local businesses that carry strange items for the progressive shopper:

Dirt Cheap at 217 N. 11th St. offers a bastion of bizarre items in a broad price range. You can choose from such ceramic frivolties as a Betty Boop soap dish to a Humphrey Bogart mask for your living room wall. For the perverts in your life, there's the Sexual Trivia game and a book on "How to Regain Your Virginity."

Wearers of arcane fashions might appreciate one of the store's leopard-print blazers or an anti-Nebraska Frankie Goes to Hollywood t-shirt with "Frankie Say, Big Red - Hide Yourself!" emblazoned across the front. For your parents, check out the tastefully tacky dragon's head and flamingo lamps. The store also has studded leather bracelets and whips. And for the punker who has everything, you can buy numerous Day-Glo earrings and hot pink gloves.

John McCallum, proprietor of the downtown Dirt Cheap, says records and tapes are the hottest selling items this year.

But gift items still are popular with both students and professional people who can afford the more expensive imported goods.

Although some of the store's items are costly, most are worth it in quality and originality.

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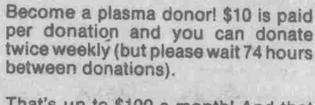
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