

Arts & Entertainment

Professor's jazz work picked for symposium

A composition by Robert Beadell, professor of theory and composition in the UNL School of Music, has been chosen in a national competition as one of eight works to be performed at a symposium at Radford University in Virginia.

The work will be performed at the Symposium XI for New Band Music at Radford on Saturday by the Virginia Intercollegiate Band.

Beadell's composition is titled "Chicago Dance No. 2." It is a three-section, jazz-oriented piece, reflecting the composer's Chicago roots. It is intentionally "mainstream" in style, giving its performers an opportunity to realize a non-nostalgic but integral jazz style.

Beadell, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1942 to 1945, received his bachelor's and master's of music degrees from Northwestern University, where he studied under Anthony Donato. In 1951, he studied with Leo Sowerby and from 1962 to 1963, he studied under

Darius Milhaud. He has been a professor of music at UNL since 1964.

Beadell has written works for orchestra, band, chorus, four operas, solo and chamber works, jazz ensemble pieces and arrangements and film scores for educational TV. His numerous awards and grants include the Thor Johnson Prize, a Ford Foundation Grant for Visiting Composer/American Opera Season at the New York City Center, two National Endowment for the Arts Composer Fellowships for "Chicago Dance No. 1" and annual ASCAP awards for Creativity and Advancement of American Music each year since 1967.

"Chicago Dance No. 2" premiered in 1985 and performed by the UNL Symphony Band and Faculty Jazz Trio. His work, "Evocations," settings of poems by Ted Kooser, will be performed on March 6 at UNL as part of the Kimball Faculty Composers concert.

'The Best of Times' works well despite predictability of game

By Geoff Goodwin
Staff Reporter

At one time or another everyone has an experience that, given the chance, they would gladly change the outcome of.

Movie Review

"The Best of Times," a new film showing at the Plaza Four, 12th and P Streets, is based on this premise.

Jack Dundee, played by Robin Williams, is haunted by the memory of dropping a pass against the archrival, Bakersfield, 13 years ago. Had he caught it, it would have given his team, Taft, its first win over Bakersfield in more than 50 years. Instead the game ended in a scoreless tie.

Dundee is tortured by the memory of his mistake. He constantly watches films of the play. If that wasn't enough

to remind him, his father-in-law, a fanatical Bakersfield fan, is always reminding him of the game.

As a way of purging his guilt, Dundee conceives the idea of replaying the game. He tries to convince Taft's former quarterback, Reno Hightower, to play the game. Hightower is reluctant.

Hightower, played by Kurt Russell, is the greatest quarterback not only in Taft history, but in the history "of southern Kern County." He threw, depending on whose account you listen to, anywhere from three to eight touchdown passes against Porterville.

As Hightower notes, "The number keeps going up every year."

Hightower, who was injured in the game, is now a mechanic and van customizer. For him, high school was the highlight of his life. He wants to remember his skills as they were.

Finally, with the help of a little sabotage by Dundee, Hightower and the other members of the team agree to play the game.

The problem is that Bakersfield looks like the Chicago Bears and Taft looks

like an adult version of the Bad News Bears.

As if Jack and Reno didn't have enough problems already, their wives, fed up with their infatuation with football, have left them.

The game itself, as in most movies of this type, is predictable. If you can't guess how it comes out, you shouldn't be enrolled in this institution.

In spite of this the film works. There are some funny scenes, especially towards the end.

Williams and Russell both perform well. Williams isn't as funny in this film as he has been in earlier movies, but that's mainly because the script gives him less room to freeloance.

It's almost impossible not to like this film because it appeals to — sorry, Robert Frost — the road not taken in each of us.

We want Jack to catch that ball and even though we know he's going to (Oops!) it doesn't detract from the moment. And it's a helluva catch.

"The Best of Times" isn't the best of films, but it is worth seeing.

Band's unique sound recalls the late '60s

By Randy Schummer
Staff Reporter

The Dream Academy, "The Dream Academy," Warner Brothers.

The Dream Academy's album is one of the biggest surprises of 1985-86. Taking a huge risk, the band plays music resembling the mid- to late-60s sound.

Record Review

The Academy consists of only three band members — Gilbert Gabriel, Nick Laird-Clowes and Kate St. John — but the complicated music also required many studio musicians. The band doesn't have many electric guitars, but rather timpani, cellos, and harmonicas.

"Life in a Northern Town," the album's first release, is doing remarkably well on the charts. This album should have many hit singles. "(Johnny), New Light," is almost an exact duplicate of what the Mamas and the Papas would do, but has The Dream Academy's sound. "The Party" is more of an upbeat, bouncy song destined for a place in the top 40.

The lead vocalist, Gabriel, does not have a melodic voice, but the two female backup singers have excellent voices. Gabriel's voice really doesn't hurt the album that much, but I would like to see one of the background singers sing lead on a song.

After listening to so many albums that can only be labeled generic trash, this was a breath of fresh air. The music is not meant to be danceable or trendy, just different. Finally a band pulls off that task, flawlessly.

'1888' voices appear tonight

A dramatic reading of "Blizzard Voices," a play by poet Ted Kooser, will take place today at 7:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room on the third floor of Bennett Martin Public Library, 14th and N streets.

Based on true personal accounts of the blizzard of 1888, this play is spoken in four interweaving voices to create the overall picture of the blizzard, its victims, and its survivors.

The play is read by Alan Drees, Barbara Frank, Susan Cross Helms and Sam Ridge, all of whom have appeared on stage at the Lincoln Community Playhouse. Also, Alan Drees has appeared in several roles with the Lincoln Mellerdrammers and the Star City Dinner Theater.

Barbara Frank is a member of Clowns of America, was county-outreach storyteller for Lincoln City Libraries and has appeared in many college and community theater productions.

Sam Ridge has been a puppeteer for more than 19 years and has more than 130 puppet plays, TV shows, local movies and commercials to his credit.

This program is the last in a series of four, made possible in part by a grant from the Lincoln Community Arts Council.

It is also part of a series of events scheduled in the Heritage Room to increase the public awareness of the literary and artistic heritage of Nebraska.

For more information, contact the Heritage Room, 435-2146.

Starship to hit Omaha

Grace Slick and Starship will appear in concert March 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Omaha Civic Auditorium Arena.

Starship, formerly known as Jefferson Starship, last appeared in concert at the auditorium May 11, 1978.

"Knee Deep In The Hoopla," the Starship's latest album, is a new beginning for the band.

The "Gavin Report" recently reported that the hit single "We Built This City"

exhibits "a modern, superhot mix of great 1980s style rock. This is not '70s rehash."

Outfield will open the concert. The group's LP, "Play Deep," features the single "Say It Isn't So."

General admission tickets are on sale now at the auditorium, Brandeis ticket outlets, TIX and Pickles Records. Advance tickets are \$13.75, day of show, \$14.75.

Terrorism could end Nebraska's woes

Everyone knows that Nebraska's economy is in the dumpster. State senators are running



Stew Magnuson

around the Capitol trying to pull our

state out of this economic decline.

But if Nebraskans will follow the simple plan suggested here, I guarantee prosperity for all of them.

The first thing Nebraska must do to improve its economy is to secede from the Union.

How to secede from the Union without really trying

Nebraska's revolution must have a terrorist group. Terrorists are a great way to get people involved in an issue and are a great source of free publicity.

So we must form the Nebraska Separatists Front. Since Nebraskans tend to shy away from violence, the NSF must pick out targets that won't harm anyone, instead endearing the group to the people's hearts.

Things to blow up

All terrorists must blow things up.

I suggest the model of the Lied Center for the Performing Arts. It may take some intelligence-gathering to find out where the NU Foundation is displaying the model this week. Casualties should

be non-existent since few people take enough interest in the thing to stand close to it.

Blow up the KOLN antenna. When Nebraskans realize that the NSF is responsible for taking Mel Mains, Linda Beerman and Dick Janda off the air, wide-scale support will follow.

Kidnap Herbie Husker

Everytime the ugly, fleabag, moth-eaten mascot appears on national TV, he is a disgrace to the state. The terrorists can rid the state of this costume forever by kidnapping Herbie, making impossible demands, releasing in good faith the poor person who has to wear the costume and burning the wretched frock.

After Nebraskans realize that Herbie and Mains are finally gone, the Legislature will be forced to declare the State of Nebraska independent from the United States.

Wasn't the bloodiest war in U.S. history fought when the South tried to quit the Union? Yes, but those were different times. We're living in the modern age, a nuclear age, you might say. We have the bomb now, and Nebraska just happens to have gobs of them out in the Panhandle.

But how will this help Nebraska's lagging economy?

Banking

Nebraska will quickly set up a Swiss-style banking system where people will give a number instead of names and they will be able to deposit all sorts of money, tax free. Unbelievable sums of cash will come flowing into our banks from all over the world. Nebraska will rank right up there with Switzerland

and the Isle of Mann as places to dump large secret stores of cash.

Tourism

All those Japanese, German and French tourists who usually just visit New York City, Los Angeles and the Grand Canyon will flock to visit our Republic out in the middle of the United States. Europe is full of just such places, tiny countries where tourists love to buy duty-free items and unique postage stamps.

Agriculture

Forget this feed corn business. Nebraska's farmers will start to diversify by growing cash crops like alfalfa sprouts, garbonzo beans and bacon bits. Soon Nebraska's name will be synonymous with salad bars throughout the world.

Who will lead?

Naturally the name Tom Osborne will come up. He would be a great and popular leader. But we all know Osborne is dedicated to his profession and would never quit coaching.

The second choice would have to be me. This whole revolution thing was my idea! So why can't I be president of Nebraska? Actually, I would prefer the title President-For-Life Stew Magnuson, or better yet, Absolute Dictator Stew Magnuson.

Soon after the NSF installs me as the absolute, yet benevolent leader, movie starlets will come here to mate me. Eventually, the girl of my dreams, Vana White, hostess of America's favorite game show, "Wheel of Fortune," finally will go out with me.

And you thought I was going to help our economy.

SEE WHAT THE CHOP SHOP CAN DO FOR YOU!



BEFORE



AFTER



CLOCKTOWER PLAZA
70TH AND "A"
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MON., TUES., FRI. 8:00-5:00
WED., THURS. 8:00-7:00
SATURDAYS 7:00-3:00