

## Harris—BIA is attempting to eliminate tribal groups

Nebraska and South Dakota have the two worst reputations for treatment of Indians, according to LaDonna Harris, speaker at the Thursday afternoon session of Indian Awareness Week.

Harris, a Comanche Indian and founder of Opportunities for Indians in Oklahoma, explained that better relations with Indians come from an understanding of their background and culture.

Part of the problem is that people don't see Indians as a group of more than 300 tribes, each with separate cultures, she said. It's like referring to people as Europeans and not recognizing that they are Swedes, Germans and Italians, she added.

In the last two years there has been a radical change in the organization of the Indian minority, she said.

"We have been able to work together for such things as tribal sovereignty and rights guaranteed in treaties while keeping tribal identifications," Harris said.

One problem the Indian has had to contend with has been the systematic termination of tribes by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), she said. This was accomplished through relocation, sending people to large cities and finding them homes and jobs, she said.

In the Thursday morning session, Hyemoyohsts Storm, a North Cheyenne Indian from Billings, Mont. and author of *Seven Arrows*, said life on an Indian reservation may be easier than living away from one.

Storm said on a reservation an Indian "doesn't have to compete with every Tom, Dick and Harry to be what he is. You can be yourself."

Although reservations have not been good in the past and are not good now, Storm learned much on the reservation and he has come to realize how deliberate his lessons were, he said.

Laying out a symbolic Prayer Robe, Storm explained that life is composed of many trails. When a person walks on a trail, he sees things through his own experiences, he said.

Storm compared going through life with chasing a killdeer. When approached, the killdeer will fly from its nest and act wounded to lead the hunter away, he said. Life should be built by going on different trails trying to catch the bird, he said. It is not even important to catch the bird, he explained; the importance lies in the experience of walking the trails.

Storm said that when one goes into a new area it is always easier to walk the path of another. Children do this naturally, he said. However, at some point one must find his own path to follow. Otherwise he is just playing children's games, he said.

Other events scheduled during Indian Awareness Week:

10 a.m.—A. Babby, area director of the BIA Nebraska Union.

11 a.m.—John Arbuckle, ex-director of Indians of Nebraska, Union.

1:30 p.m.—Joe Locust, American Indian Movement (AIM) official from Denver, Union.

2:30 p.m.—Panel of Friday's speakers, Union.

7:30 p.m.—Concert by Indian rock group, XIT, Union.

Saturday and Sunday

Noon—Intertribal pow-wow

## daily nebraskan

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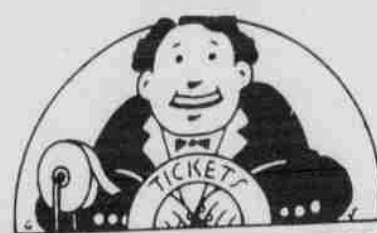
**138 No. 11th**

**BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL**

AFRO DANCE ENSEMBLE  
MONDAY  
**APRIL 16**  
WORKSHOPS (dance, Black History & Culture, African Languages, Drum)  
9:30-11:30 am CULTURAL CENTER  
1:30-3:30 pm  
PERFORMANCE, UNION BALLROOM  
8:00 pm

IDA LEWIS, EDITOR OF *ESSENCE* & *ENCORE*  
WEDNESDAY  
**APRIL 18**  
WORKSHOP, CULTURAL CENTER  
9:30-11:30  
SPEECH & RAP SESSION  
1:30 pm, Union Small Auditorium  
SPONSORED BY UNION CONFERENCE COMMITTEE & BLACK ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

ELLIS HAIZIAP, PRODUCER OF SOUL TV SHOW  
THURSDAY  
**APRIL 19**  
WORKSHOP, CULTURAL CENTER  
9:30-11:30 am  
SPEECH & RAP SESSION  
1:30 pm, Union Centennial Room  
Asian or Rainbow



## WEEKEND FILMS

## GAMMELOT

Vanessa Redgrave, Richard Harris  
Four Academy Awards—Friday

## ONE DAY

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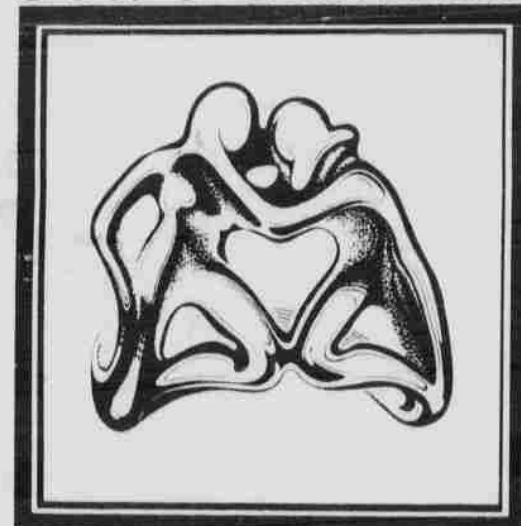
—Saturday

7:00 & 9:30 Henzlik Hall Auditorium

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