

# Drumstick encourages truancy; tell professor your mom died

By Charles Lieurance  
Diversions Editor

You have lots of good reasons to miss class.

The Drumstick is a real good one. You educate yourself musically night after night with bands like Get Smart, Savage Republic, and the Tail Gators and you miss math. Look at that sentence. Get Smart, Savage Republic, Tail Gators...math. Which looks more important?

In September the Drumstick has set your priorities for you. You go see Get Smart next Tuesday, hear their underground/anthology hit "Back into the Future." It's impossible to wake up the next morning, you tell the professor your mom fell into a grain auger, eventually you flunk math. You'll catch up Thursday.

Get Smart plays atmospheric funk. There seem to be two major events for youthful alternative guitar frustration. If the high speed riff is the game, as it is with most new bands, there's hardcore or white funk. Get

Smart goes for white funk, jagged whips of guitar laid into your brain and limbs the way construction workers with biceps the size of your average Daily Nebraskan reporter's head lay in a major freeway through a mountain range.

Got through math on Friday. The professor even believed the grain auger story. He said if things didn't improve at home he'd do the folks' taxes. Nice of him.

You weren't thinking about much in class but the Tail Gators from Austin. All day swamp rot's been running through your veins, tepid and slimy, a stagnant, mildewy blackness akin to the Tail Gators music. If you head deep into the mighty Bayou you're in Creedence Clearwater territory, all menace, evil and reverberation, guitars swimming through fuzz and distortion like alligators through green scarves of swampweed. If you just ramble round the edge of the swamp where the roadhouses seem to move ever downstream ahead of the law, where John Fred and the Playboys got their start, howling out Rhythm

and Blues to the Cajuns around Shreveport, you hit the Tail Gator's sound. It's part Cajun and part R & B, fractured roadhouse rock'n'roll from some expatriates from the Le Roi Brothers.

Weekend. You think you're lifeless, but you're not. You can get up and you can dress. Don't look on your desk. Your mathbook was lost in the shuffle long ago. It's Savage Republic and Live Skull for you. Savage Republic is an asylum of musical influences. It's fiddle, acoustic guitar folk music if your folks used to sit around ground zero to warm their hands. It's experimental avant-gardism if you're a spike-headed experimentalist who listens to melodic, sappy Chieftains classics.

As for Live Skull, it's pretty much a poor, morbid imitation of the hell and feedback that Sonic Youth have used to prey upon the intelligentsia of New York City.

Tell the math professor you're sorry, you need "No Report" to graduate.

# Children's theater presents three plays

By Kim E. Karloff  
Staff Reporter

Peaches, penguins, a man named Popper, and apes.

You'll find them all during the 1986-87 season of Theatre Arts For Youth, the Lincoln Community Playhouse Children's Theatre.

"I'm looking forward to three great shows," said Lenette Nelson Schwinn, director of the Children's Theatre.

The season productions include "James and the Giant Peach," "Mr. Popper's Penguins," and "Tommyknockers." According to Schwinn, all three productions will be presented in the L.L. Coryell & Son Children's Theatre at the Playhouse, 2500 S. 56th St.

"James and the Giant Peach," is the adventure story of James Henry Trotter. James escapes from his cruel aunts in a giant magic peach. James' tale unfolds as he and his band of human-size garden insects travel across the Atlantic Ocean from England to the United States. Their journey is filled with sharks, angry beasts called Cloudmen and, eventually, a warm welcoming committee in New York City.

Written by Ronald Dahl, author of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,"

the story is adapted for the stage by Richard R. George.

Rehearsals for "James and the Giant Peach" begin Sept. 2. The production will be performed Oct. 10 to 12 and 16 to 19.

"Mr. Popper's Penguins," adapted from the book by Richard and Florence Atwater by Albert O. Mitchell, is the story of the Popper family and their penguins. The Poppers receive a gift of two penguins which multiply and threaten to eat the family out of house and home.

The transition of the Poppers' home to a penguin refuge is amusing enough. The fact that the birds eventually make the family a fortune adds to the comedy.

"Mr. Popper's Penguins" is scheduled to run Feb. 20 to 22 and Feb. 26 to March 1. The production is sponsored by Lincoln Benefit Life.

"Tommyknockers," inspired by the mining community of Creede, Colo., was first performed at the Creede Repertory Theatre in Colorado.

Written by Chris Thompson, Mark Houston, Eric Engdahl and Richard Baxter, the musical tells the legend of tommyknockers, troll-like creatures who inhabit the area's mines.

"Tommyknockers" is set to perform April 24 to 26 and April 30 to May 3.

Season memberships include three admissions at \$16 for adults and \$8.50 for those 18 and under. Theatre Arts for Youth (TAFY) members receive discounts on theater classes and the TAFY Special Events. These events include "The Dinosaur Show," a puppet presentation by Paul Mesner on Sept. 13 as well as "Funtasia," a film and activity festival scheduled for January.

For season memberships and more information, contact the Lincoln Community Playhouse, 2500 S. 56th St., Lincoln, 68506, or call 489-9608.

The Lincoln Community Playhouse's Theatre Arts For Youth season is supported in part by the Nebraska Arts Council.

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**ARMED:** The suspects are armed with patience, concern and a desire to help others. . .should be considered extremely valuable!

Health Aide Openings: Greek Fraternities: Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Kappa Psi Able 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 Sandoz 6 Harper 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 Schramm 7, 8 Smith 9 Burr 1E, 2E, 3W Selleck 8200 Brown Palace Cather 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Pound 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11 Neihart: Raymond 2, Love 2, 3, Heptner 2 Piper 2.

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