

# Arts & Entertainment

## NDT looks at the Big Apple

Plays about New York give audiences both comedy and drama

By Chris McCubbin  
Senior Reporter

New York doesn't make much sense to Nebraskans, and vice versa. We can't really understand them, they can't really understand us. We're fascinated by New York, or at least by the images

### Theater Review

of New York we pick up from detective shows and sitcoms, but we really can come no closer to what it means to be a New Yorker than we can to knowing what it means to be an Albanian or a Masai.

In "All Around the Town," the current production of the Nebraska Directors Theater, director Jon Meyer, a transplanted New Yorker, is trying to give Nebraskans a somewhat more mature and truthful vision of the Big Town than they can get from "Hill Street Blues" or "The Jeffersons."

"All Around the Town" is three short plays: "The Loveliest Afternoon of the Year" by John Guare, "Death Knocks" by Woody Allen, and "The Indian Wants the Bronx" by Israel Horowitz. The mood is set and sustained between pieces by an imaginative selection of New York songs from Billy Joel, Frank Sinatra and a number of Broadway

shows.

"The Loveliest Afternoon Of the Year" is a mildly surrealistic comic love story. Kent Lindemar, who was so delightful recently as the Orphan in "Celebrator" is just as charming here, but the enthusiastic performances of Lindemar and the equally amiable Yvonne Anderson are not enough to make this play go. In this play, as in many plays from the '70s, many amusing things are said, but nothing really happens, and "Loveliest Afternoon" remains unsatisfying.

"Death Knocks" took me back to my high-school speech-contest days. If you've never seen this Woody Allen sketch you'll probably enjoy this rather clownish interpretation, but most literate theater-goers probably had "Death Knocks" all but memorized before they even started college.

But "The Indian Wants The Bronx" is more than worth the price of admission all by itself. "Indian" was an important vehicle for launching the career of the young Al Pacino when it opened 20 years ago.

"Indian" is the story of two lower-class young men who meet an elderly Near-Eastern man who doesn't speak English. Their taunting of the old man, their confiding in him, their irrational fear of his dignity and strangeness and the old man's growing confusion and

fear will combine to make a darkly vivid picture of the pain and tension inherent in modern city life.

Tom Viessman plays Gupta, the Indian gentleman, with beautiful, desperate dignity, but Joe Sampson and Jim Hanna carry the night by their absolute commitment to their roles as Murph and Joey.

The Nebraska Directors Theater is located downstairs at Saint Mark's on-the-Campus, 1309 R St. "All Around the Town" is playing through Sunday nightly at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$4, \$3 for students and senior citizens. For reservations call 472-1610 weekdays between 1 and 5 p.m.



Ward Williams/Daily Nebraskan  
Nat Ackerman (Steven Lewis) plays gin rummy with Death (Rob Mc Tarffer) left. "Death Knocks" by Woody Allen is one of three plays that make up "All Around The Town," the current production of the Nebraska Directors Theater.



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### State of the Arts

By Stew Magnuson  
Staff Reporter

At Kimball:

**FACs:**  
Today, the Zoo features the New High Flyers from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Jazz musicians and fans will want to check out the Friday-afternoon jazz jam session at Anthony Blues, 1042 P St. This might be your best bet because there's no cover.

The University Symphony Orchestra will give its second concert of the academic year at 3 p.m. Sunday. The free concert will feature Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2, Donizetti's Overture to "Daughter of the Regiment" and Haydn's Symphony No. 103 in E Flat major, also known as "Drum Roll."

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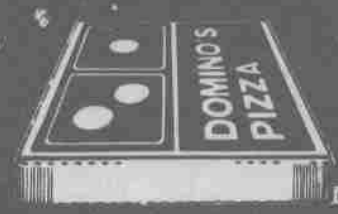
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One party will be awarded to the winning dormitory floor and one party to the winning fraternity or sorority.

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4. The location and time of the party will be convenient to both the winners and Domino's Pizza.
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