

Arts & Entertainment

Einstein leads poster poll

People 'hanging' bodies, cars and . . . scientists?

By Kevin Cowan
Staff Reporter

Pin-ups, posters or pictures . . . you can learn a lot about someone by what kind of decorative garb they fasten to their walls. The poster/print market is saturated with everything from tasteless glitter to aesthetically pleasing prints. But, art to one person can be intellectual rubbish to another. The point remains — what wall clutter is available in Lincoln.

The new poster child

What used to be the sultry eyes of Greta Garbo or the bleach-blond flirtings of Marilyn Monroe has evolved into a genre that leaves nothing to the imagination. Heather Thomas, queen of the posters, and others with no "name" at all have come to dominate the poster-girl market. Sporting such phrases as "Power and Poise," "Squeaky Clean" and "Haulin' Ass" (described as "smut" by one store manager and "in bad taste" by another), these air-brushed Athenas can be found posing next to various sport cars and other toys of maturity.

While the complement — the over-developed male — has his bulging pectorals plastered on a number of female walls, the poster girl has the definite lead in overall sales.

You can find a wide variety of musical memorabilia coating the walls of music junkies: everything from the Cure to the Grateful Dead. However, those are two extremes. The vogue is a rabid tangent . . . ultra-heavy metal. Twisted Sister, Iron Maiden and other "ax-metal" groups hold the pole position in sales (I was under the impression that Kiss had worn the makeup thing out . . . guess not.)

More reversions to psychedelia

Following the lead of lava lamps and the new psychedelic rock, black-light posters come back to the status quo.

"They've been hard to keep in stock," said John McCallum, manager of Dirt Cheap. The accessory — the black light — still costs about \$2.

Granted, the lower end of the poster spectrum is laden with air-brushed glitter, but you can't limit the scope of posters to that lot. If you're adverse to having large pictures of naked people

covering your walls or if you're not a music junkie, there is still hope.

Patrick Nagel's women (i.e. the cover of Duran Duran's "Rio" album, sell well in the more sophisticated poster/print shops. Nagel's prints cost from \$35 to \$625.

Other "yuppie" prints in fashion include the works of R.C. Gorman, Southwest Indian prints, the ever-present contemporary abstract and an unsurprising shift toward traditionalism. For those who give in to the sudden urge to redecorate their apartments and who have more than \$10, Anthony's Gallery and Hangups (both in the Atrium) can accommodate.

The best seller

Who would you guess. Heather? Motley Crue? Einstein. Indeed. Of the stores polled, Einstein seems to corner the market as the best-selling poster. A refreshing breath from the rest of the sludge . . . the man had a certain knack for reality.

So there they are, from glitter rock to glitter girls to the man who described the physics of the universe. There are posters for people with all types of tastes and all types of bankrolls.



Paul Vonderlage/Daily Nebraskan

Poster-browsers Jim Boohar and Stephanie Shaw check out some of the many selections Dirt Cheap has to offer.

'Prison' poet to read Tuesday

Etheridge Knight, who began his literary career as an inmate of the Indiana State Prison, will present a public reading of his poetry at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday in Andrews Hall 228.

Knight's first book of poems, "Poems from Prison," was published in 1967. He finished his second book, "Black Voices From Prison," while still in prison. The book was published in 1968, shortly after his release.

Since his release, and despite

having no academic degrees — not even a high-school diploma — Knight has acquired an international reputation. He has been poetry editor for Motive magazine and a contributing editor to the University of Missouri's New Letters. Knight has been awarded Guggenheim and National Endowment for the Arts fellowships and was presented with the Poetry Society of America's Shelly Award in 1985.

He has been in demand as a poet-

in-residence and workshop leader in high schools, universities, prisons and churches, and read at the Library of Congress in February 1986.

Knight's appearance at UNL coincides with Black Awareness Week. His visit is being coordinated with the Goodrich Center at UNO and the Harambee African Cultural Organization at the Nebraska State Penitentiary.

Indian gallery to open in spring

A \$25,000 grant from the Woods Charitable Fund Inc. will make possible the installation of a Plains Indian Gallery in UNL's Nebraska State Museum, Museum Director Hugh Genoways said.

Genoways said the Woods Fund grant matches a \$25,000 grant from the

National Endowment for the Arts, which required a one-to-one match to be implemented.

The gallery, expected to open in spring 1988, will focus on the Indians' adaptation to the Plains, not only to the natural environment but also to the human and supernatural environments,

Genoways said. Many examples of Plains Indian art will be exhibited, including paintings, quillwork and beadwork. The gallery will include changing and permanent exhibits.

The Plains Indian Gallery will join the Lentz Center for Asian Culture as an important new gallery installed since 1986.

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