

# Out & about

A&E WEEKEND OUTLOOK



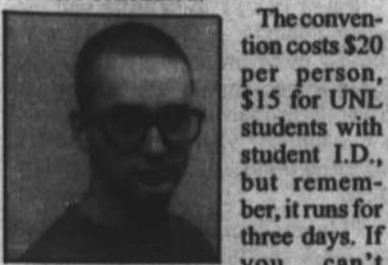
TOM MAINELLI

## Maelstrom highlights weekend

**S**unday's FloodFest will mark the high point of quite a few people's weekend, but if 12 hours of music — staged for a good cause — isn't your cup-o-tea, here's a few more options.

Starting today and running through Sunday is "Maelstrom," the Lincoln Fantasy and Science Fiction Club's first convention.

The event will feature discussions with science fiction and fantasy writers from around the country, including Mickey Zucker Reichert, Richard Knaak, and Lincoln's own Robert Reed. Vendors of sci-fi merchandise, an art show, Japanese animation, videos and free food and drink are also scheduled.



The convention costs \$20 per person, \$15 for UNL students with student I.D., but remember, it runs for three days. If you can't

make it to all the events, special rates are available on a day-by-day basis, said Garner Johnson, event coordinator.

Most of the events will be held at the East Campus Student Union, with related room parties and other celebrations at the Super 8 at 27th and Cornhusker.

Star Trek fans, all three generations, should pay special attention to Sunday, Johnson said. "Sunday will have the Star Trek emphasis," he said. "We'll have trivia contests, bloopers, a rumor mill about the shows and the upcoming season and The Next Generation's season premiere."

The premiere will be shown at about 3 p.m., Johnson said.

Sunday could be a tough decision for Trekkers who like music.

Moving on.

Movie-guy Gerry Beltz asked me to mention that "What's Love Got To Do With It," will be appearing at the Starship 9. The movie had only a brief run here in Lincoln this summer.

"If you blinked you missed it," he said.

Which was a real shame, according to Beltz.

The movie, which is based on the Tina Turner's autobiography, "I, Tina", featured Academy Award-caliber performances from Angela Basset as Tina and Laurence Fishburne as Ike Turner.

"It's a powerful film that captures both the fragility and invulnerability of the human spirit," Beltz said.

Speaking of human spirit — this is the last weekend to catch "Orlando" at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater. Don't miss the opportunity, it is a beautiful film that will appeal to anyone — even those of you who think of Sheldon as a place for "artsy" films. True, you can see "Dennis the Menace" for \$1.50, but hey, expand your horizons and give it a try.

For the 21-and-over crowd looking for a cheap good time, Rockin' Robin offers its second "customer appreciation" concert on Saturday.

Jim Calloway, the bar's manager, said SBK recording artist Michael McDermott and Omaha's Ges Werk will perform a free show at 9 p.m.

The show is designed to thank loyal customers, bring in some new faces and give some exposure to the artists, Calloway said.

Last April the bar brought in the band Expose, and the night was a great success, Calloway said.

He expects the same on Saturday. "Our last one was sold-out, and this one probably will be too. Get here early," he said.

Can't beat free.

Mainelli is a senior news-editorial major and the Daily Nebraskan Arts and Entertainment editor.

## Promoter hopes flood of work pays off

By Anne Steyer  
Senior Reporter

After working hard for five months, A-DAM Productions organizer Curtis Grubb is hoping a few thousand people pour into Pioneer's Park this weekend for FloodFest.

Grubb — who formed A-DAM Productions with friends Craig Mangan, Chris Costello and John Heaston — said he has spent uncountable hours planning and organizing FloodFest, a 12-hour, nine-band benefit extravaganza for flood relief.

"There's no real reason this thing should be 12 hours, we just wanted it to be. And we were fortunate enough to be able to put it together," Grubb said.

"It allows people to come out and play frisbee and hackey-sack — to come out all day and have a really good time."

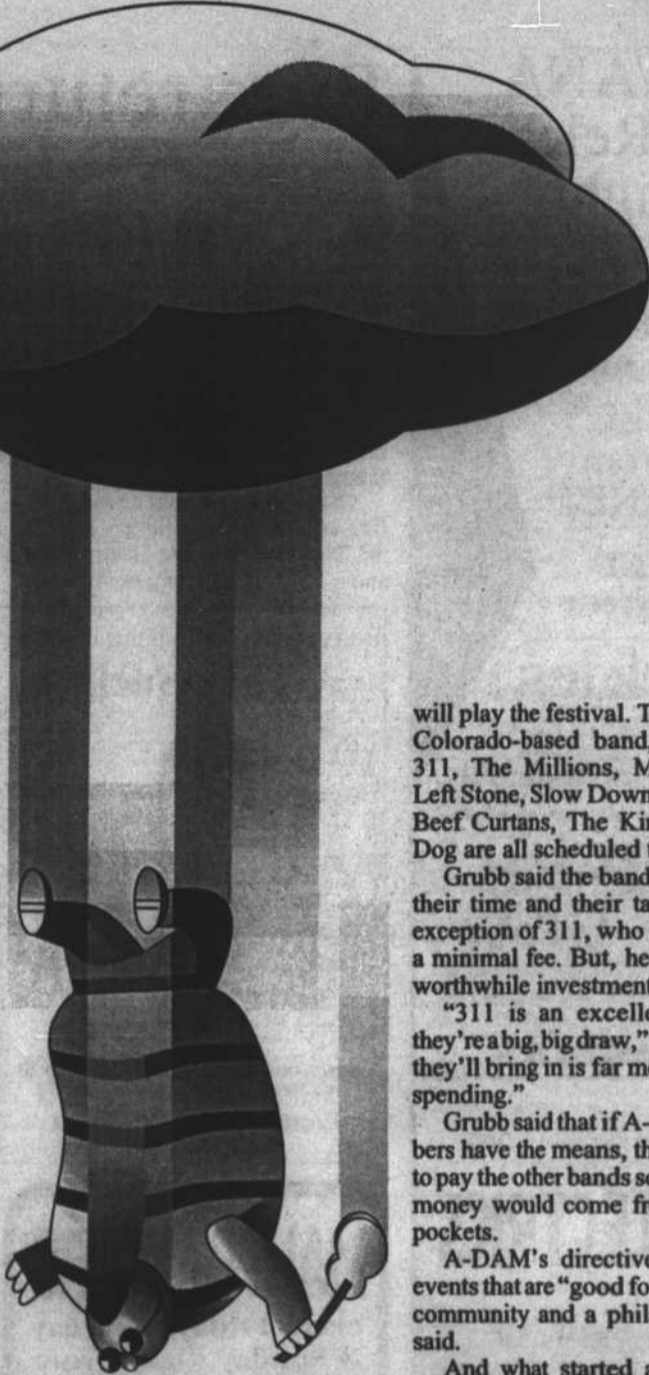
FloodFest has already been compared to a Nebraskan mini-Lollapalooza, and Grubb said he takes it as a compliment.

"Compare something we're doing to the biggest traveling festival ever? To be compared to that kind of operation is fantastic."

Although FloodFest has things in common with Lollapalooza, a major difference is where the money goes.

All FloodFest proceeds will be donated to the American Red Cross National Disaster Fund, Grubb said.

Other comparisons may not be that far-fetched. One of Lincoln's largest outdoor venues — Pioneer Park's Pinewood Bowl Amphitheater — is the setting. In addition to



the mainstage performance area, a second area also will be designated for other band performances.

George's Gyros, Runza, Sharkey's and other food vendors will be at the park, Grubb said. Ralph's Hungry Eye Tattoo, Eyes of the World and Smile-A-While will also have booths set up. No alcohol or drugs will be permitted.

Grubb said FloodFest's entertainment will not be limited to music. A-DAM invited "benevolent recreational activities" groups to participate, including a yo-yo group, jugglers, drummers and other musicians. Nine bands, two from out-of-state,

will play the festival. The Samples, a Colorado-based band, California's 311, The Millions, Mousetrap, No Left Stone, Slow Down Virginia, The Beef Curtans, The Kind, and Straw Dog are all scheduled to play.

Grubb said the bands are donating their time and their talent, with the exception of 311, who is getting paid a minimal fee. But, he said, it was a worthwhile investment.

"311 is an excellent band and they're a big, big draw," he said. "What they'll bring in is far more than we're spending."

Grubb said that if A-DAM's members have the means, they would like to pay the other bands something. The money would come from their own pockets.

A-DAM's directive is to foster events that are "good for the spirit, the community and a philanthropy," he said.

And what started as a goodwill effort turned into a multi-dimensional, full-scale project.

He said he found out almost immediately it wasn't going to be simple and what began with four people grew into an event involving nearly a thousand.

The numbers come from all areas, from parking to security, stage management to cleanup. Grubb said over 100 volunteers are from two UNL greek houses, Beta Theta Pi fraternity and Pi Beta Phi sorority. Both are helping as part of their philanthropy requirement.

Grubb said American Red Cross

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## 'Nebraska-palooza' local, national bands come to Lincoln for benefit show

By Jill O'Brien  
Senior Reporter

Sunday's FloodFest at Pinewood Bowl in Pioneer's Park will swamp the stage with local and national bands in an effort to raise money for flood victims.

Local bands include: No Left Stone, Straw Dog, The Beef Curtans, The Kind, Mousetrap, and a new Omaha group, Slow Down Virginia.

Flying in on the wheels of their trusty R.V., California-based 311 will be in town for the flood gala, along with Colorado's Samples and Lincoln's The Millions.

Former University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduate, Doug Agne, guitarist for No Left Stone, said the concert should be a good mix of music.

Agne said the festival afforded No Left Stone the opportunity to play in front of a younger crowd.

"Because we're more of a bar band, most of our crowd is over 21," he said.

"Overall, FloodFest is a great idea," he said. "You're getting tons of local talent together and its for a good cause at the same time. It kind of kills two birds with one stone."

Guitarist Harry Dingman III of The Millions, agreed.

"It's a real good bill because we

all complement each other," he said.

Dingman said the band, which has played several local benefits to aid the Lincoln Food Bank and Salvation Army, looked at this event as the perfect opportunity to help out more people.

"We were really glad we were in town and able to do FloodFest," he said.

Since finishing their new album, "Racule," scheduled for a Halloween release date, the band has kept busy playing out-of-state gigs, he said.

"It's good to be back in circulation after living in a studio all summer," Dingman said.

"I really love doing it, but after a while, you know, the summer's gone, and I never even saw sunlight. I've got a good studio tan going — bugged-out eyes, pale tan," he said.

The Millions have planned a different type of set for FloodFest, Dingman said.

"We're going to be playing acoustic — something completely different from the loud, live show. We're going to be playing about 50 percent new stuff and 50 percent from our last album."

The Samples will also be playing "new stuff," said drummer Jeep MacNichol and keyboardist Al Laughlin.

The band will stop in Lincoln as part of the tour supporting the new album, "The Last Drag," Laughlin said.

MacNichol said he first heard about FloodFest when the band recently co-headlined a show with The Millions in Atlanta, Ga.

He said he was looking forward to teaming up with The Millions again, and with 311.

"I'd definitely like to play with 311. They're a killer," MacNichol said.

Nick Hexum, lead singer for 311, said FloodFest's organizers were old friends from Omaha, and the bands scheduled to play weren't strangers, either.

"Beef Curtan, they're very good friends of ours; The Kind are some dear old friends of ours; Mousetrap...I haven't seen them in a long time," Hexum said.

"It will be like the Nebraska-palooza," he said. "I'm sure we'll all be partying together and having a good time as well as raising some funds."

When 311 was asked to play, Hexum said the band jumped at the chance, despite the band's manager's objections.

"Our manager said, 'No, you guys aren't doing that Lincoln show. It's

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