

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Page 6

UNL graduate fills KZUM jazz DJ slot

By Jill O'Brien
Staff Reporter

Amy McAndrews, a 1992 University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduate, said she never had any intentions of becoming a disc jockey until KZUM radio engineer Eli Rhodes approached her one evening at work.

"I thought it would be an interesting thing to learn, and then it just happened," said McAndrews, who bartends full time at O'Rourke's Tavern.

To become a KZUM volunteer programmer, McAndrews first filled out a program application and submitted it to the program director, Caroline Tetschner.

On the application, McAndrews outlined her idea for "Kitchen Sink Jazz" and listed the artists she planned to feature, which included Ellis Marsallis, Chet Baker, Chick Corea and Dave Brubeck, she said.

A two-hour jazz slot opened on KZUM, and McAndrews took it.

"Cajun music was my first choice," she said, "but I'm familiar with jazz because we play a lot of it at work."

It helped also, she said, that the time slot for her proposed program fit into her schedule without interfering with her job at O'Rourke's.

The next step involved the training process, she said.

Surprisingly, the toughest part of the training was not learning about buttons, switches and policies, she said, but getting up in the mornings for her Saturday sessions.

"I was fortunate to sit in on Ron Jacobs' 'Blues at Sunrise' Saturday morning, but that was really early for me because I work Friday nights, and Ron's program begins at 6 a.m.," McAndrews said.

Besides spending several weeks behind the scenes watching programs in progress, McAndrews completed three weeks of technical instruction, she said.

The training helped her get a feel for the control panel, she said, learning which to turn on and off and how to cue up pairs of turntables, cassette decks and compact disc players.

"Last week on Susan Berlowitz's 'Women's Blues and Boogie' show was the first time I really did everything by myself," McAndrews said. "I had a couple of screw-ups because I kept forgetting to turn off the microphone, but other than that, it went well."

Then, Monday afternoon, McAndrews swallowed her nervousness and piloted her



Shaun Sartin/DN

Amy McAndrews, a 1992 UNL graduate, began her KZUM radio show, "Kitchen Sink Jazz," on Monday. She is on the air thanks to the KZUM volunteer program.

first show.

"I'm usually a laid-back person, but I'm feeling pretty anxious right now," she said before the show.

Part of the preparation for the show requires McAndrews to enter the studio armed with a stack of tapes and compact discs, nearly two hours worth of music.

At KZUM, shelves and boxes of CDs, tapes and albums ranging from jazz to blues to New Age, folk, rock and you-name-it are available for programmers to use.

McAndrews said most of the music she planned to use would come from O'Rourke's CD menu. She will also bring a few CDs from home, she said.

"My show is a variety show," she said. "I want a little bit of consistency, so it's choreo-

graphed to some extent with a women's section. There's a piano section ..."

As a licensed DJ, McAndrews has to comply with KZUM policies and FCC regulations. Policies include reading underwriting and public service announcements and playing short tapes promoting other KZUM programs every half hour.

What it really comes down to, McAndrews said, is remembering to turn the microphone off and on at the right times.

The KZUM Programming Handbook stresses that programmers be familiar with the Federal Communication Commission's obscenity policy and never, never air one of the "Seven Deadly Words."

Even if McAndrews refrains from swearing, she still must beware of the deadly seven

that might be contained in album lyrics. Even guest musicians or speakers need to be briefed about the dreaded words before going on the air, she said, reciting what she had learned from engineer Rhodes.

But McAndrews is not worried about speakers or musicians at this point.

"All I want to do is get the basics down first," she said. "Then I'll worry about experimenting or having guests."

And McAndrews has learned much after one show.

"I try and do 20-minute sets and then do my underwriting announcements. The more I listen to radio, I find the less jibberish there is, the better."

McAndrews' show, "Kitchen Sink Jazz," airs every Monday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

'UN Sung' EFFORT



Trevia Hoying/DN

Page Hamilton, lead singer and guitarist from the band Helmet, sings the band's hit song "Unsung" during their show at the Royal Grove Sunday night. Playing along with Hamilton are bassists Henry Bodgan, left, and drummer John Sanier.

—People Watch— Aiello goes drag in new film

HACKENSACK, N.J. (AP)—The notion might have driven Coco loco: Danny Aiello attired in a lovely little Chanel outfit.

"I look like Margaret Thatcher," the actor said of his cross-dressing performance in the upcoming Robert Altman movie "Pret a Porter."

Aiello plays a fashion director for a Chicago department store who has a secret penchant for

wearing women's clothes.

"Altman says to me, 'Danny, I want to bring you out of the closet,'" Aiello told *The Record* of Hackensack. "I said, 'Bob, no way. I am the last of the heterosexuals and I am standing firm.'"

But Aiello, star of "Moonstruck" and dozens of other movies, went along in the end.

The movie also stars Teri Garr, Julia Roberts, Sophia Loren and Lauren Bacall.

Japanese royalty donate art

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—Prince and Princess Takamado of Japan are on an artistic mission.

The first members of Japan's royal family to visit Poland were invited by President Lech Walesa to open a Japanese art and technology center.

The prince, a cousin of Emperor Akihito, and his wife arrived Sunday. They met with Walesa and other dignitaries on

Monday, then presented 15 grand pianos to the Frederick Chopin Music Academy in Warsaw.

On Tuesday, they are to visit Krakow, where they are to open the \$5 million art center.

The center was designed by the Japanese architect Arata Isozaki to house exhibitions of Japanese art from the \$50 million collection of turn-of-the-century Polish traveler Feliks Jasienski.