

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Buffalo gals' native tunes rock KZUM

By John Fulwider
Staff Reporter

Former UNL student Jill O'Brien is going by a different name these days. Radio listeners know her as "Buffalo Jill."

O'Brien, who attended UNL last semester, co-hosts a new KZUM-FM 89.3 program called Buffalo Soul. The show features American Indian and Canadian Indian music.

O'Brien's reason for volunteering at the community-sponsored radio station is simple.

"I want to let people know about this music," she said.

Each Monday from 6:30 to 7 p.m., O'Brien and her co-host, Susan Braine (a.k.a. "Buffalo Braine") play a mix of traditional, blues, jazz, rock, heavy metal and rap music — all by native artists. They've hosted the program since mid-November 1994.

The program is different every week. O'Brien said sometimes she'll have a call-in from an out-of-state artist, combined with a few songs by that artist.

Once, to memorialize the historical massacre at Wounded Knee, she and Braine read a chapter from the novel, "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee," selecting appropriate music to accompany the emotional reading.

Sometimes they play only music. She said there were subtle differences between Native American music and mainstream music.

"It's quality music," she said. "Sometimes the difference is in lyrics, where we're talking more about eagles soaring or about the great spirit. But they are set to rock rhythm."

Current Native American music reflects the past as well as the future, she said.

"It's more of an evolution showing where Native American people are at today," she said. "There are songs that cover historical events, there are political songs, and there are very spiritual and ecological songs."

One way that Native American artists reveal their history, she said, is through traditional powwow music, based on drum beats and chants. Mod-

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The members of No Left Stone are singer Craig Korth, bassist Chris Sommerich, drummer Mike Daeges and guitarist Doug Agne.

Travis Hoving/DN

Band leaves no stone unturned

Editor's note: This is the fourth story in a weeklong Daily Nebraskan series exploring the eastern Nebraska rock music scene.

By Joel Strauch
Senior Reporter

Like almost every other local band, No Left Stone dreams of breaking into the national music scene. But this Lincoln band has a plan.

That plan hinges on the band's new album, "Weaver Festival Phenomenon."

Chris Sommerich, No Left Stone bassist, said the band planned to use the album to expand their radio play, their audience and their touring.

"The big key is the radio campaign," Sommerich said. "We've been waiting until the new semester to expand on college radio stations because of all the changes over break."

The band, which also includes singer Craig Korth, drummer Mike Daeges and guitarist Doug Agne, needs to perform in

cities where they are getting extensive airplay, Sommerich said.

"Our last album charted in a lot of different places that we didn't devote the right amount of attention to," he said.

"If we can get that happening on any substantial scale, we can set up touring behind it," he said.

Touring is one of the main things a local band can do to get national notice, Sommerich said.

"Bands like 311 or Mercy Rule get attention by playing nonstop all over the country," he said.

"We need to be able to get out of town on a more serious basis."

But the band will have to wait until they aren't so busy with work and school, Sommerich said.

"When spring comes, we will be able to tour a week or two at a time," he said.

"We want to get to the point where we

don't have to play both sides of the fence," he said. "We want to make enough money to support ourselves."

No Left Stone has not tapped a potentially large under-21 audience, Sommerich said.

"It's a big market that shouldn't be overlooked," he said.

"We recently played an all-ages show at Le Cafe Shakes to get known among the high school kids," he said. "It's great to see young kids all excited about our band."

No Left Stone has been together for almost three years. Getting the first show can be tough for a band, Sommerich said. No Left Stone had a lucky break when they first started out.

"We had a lot of support from bigger bands," he said. "Our very first show, we opened for the Millions."

The band has shown similar kindness to smaller local bands as their own popularity increases, Sommerich said.

"It's been nice to return the favor to other

See NO LEFT STONE on 14



Singleton schools audience on issues

By Elizabeth Gamboa
Staff Reporter

Rarely does a movie come along that boldly addresses the issues of our time. To a generation defined by apathy and laziness, John Singleton asks the question, "How many people came here to change the world?"

"Higher Learning" is written, directed, and produced by John Singleton ("Poetic Justice," "Boyz n the Hood"). Singleton proves his versatile directing skills in this movie through powerful close-ups and handheld camera work. His camera is always moving, always asking the audience to see the world as he sees it.

This perspective is a great asset to the movie since life is too often portrayed through the eyes of the majority. Singleton offers a fresh look at a generation that many are anxious to discount as useless.

The movie centers on Columbus

The Facts

Movie: Higher Learning

Rating: R

Stars: Omar Epps, Tyra Banks, Kristy Swanson, Ice Cube, Laurence Fishburne

Director: John Singleton

Grade: A

Five Words: Thought provoking, a must see.

University, a diverse college campus where newcomers, struggling to find their places, fall easily into persuasive groups. The outcome is a battle fueled by hatred and ignorance.

This film gives a truthful look into college life, examining date rape, financial problems and racism among students. Although Singleton does

exaggerate to make his points clear, the events portrayed are definitely based in reality.

Omar Epps give the film's best performance. He portrays Malik, a student on a track scholarship, who feels the white establishment is blocking his path to success. Epps gives a very sensitive performance of a vulnerable and strong man trying to find his place in the world.

Ice Cube plays the leader of the black students on campus and offers the most resistance to police officers who constantly harass and attack black students while allowing the white, real criminals to go free.

Kristy Swanson ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer") plays a rich girl who is led to date rape and bisexuality. She realizes racial tension is a problem on campus and organizes a peace rally to bring people together.

Supermodel Tyra Banks ("Fresh

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