UNL prof wins poetry award

By John Fulwider Staff Reporter

Poetry is just a side interest for Stephen Behrendt.

Yet Behrendt, a professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, recently received a \$2,000 Nebraska Arts Council Artist Fellowship for his poetry.

Maybe it's more than a side interest.

Behrendt already had one 1990 Nebraska Arts Council fellowship under his belt, as well as "Instruments of the Bones," a book of his

He called his latest award "a feather in the cap" and said the money would allow him more free time to write.

the more than 300 contestants, Behrendt said.

It was great to be chosen from

"To place in that kind of competition is really very flattering," he said.

Behrendt said he started writing poetry in high school but didn't get serious about it until college. While trying to get his poetry published,

he was driven by his interest in how language operates, he said.

He said his poem, "Coyote," part of the portfolio of poems entered in the competition, was a meditation on death, life and beauty. Many of hispoems deal with death, Behrendt said, but in a positive manner.

"It better be (positive)," he said. "Because if it isn't, it's depressing."

The Nebraska Arts Council awards several Individual Artists Fellowships each year to Nebraska artists and writers.

Contestants must be Nebraska residents for two years or more, must not be students and must be a serious practitioners of their art

Suzanne Wise, Nebraska Arts Council spokesperson, said the award was a way to thank talented people for staying in Nebraska. Artists don't need to live on the coasts to be successful, she said.

"There's an advantage to living in Nebraska," she said. "If you're really serious about what you do, you may receive an award.

Coyote

It's mid-afternoon, and a coyote, tan as the dust of fallen aspen leaves, is crossing the west pasture, eyeing me as he runs, head curied back over the right shoulder, trusting the way is clear and straight ahead.

The dry brome strokes his sides. his underbelly, his upcurved muzzle: I watch it bend, wave and wake, as his slender body parts the shafts.

Later this same coyote (we will know him by his ragged ear) will cross the wrong field unwary, strike a fresh diagonal across a neighbor's backlot filled with wildflowers with sage and mullein, spiderwort.

The first shot downs him, tearing through left flank, soft ivory undercoat, shatters the pelvis so he cannot stand. Half-submerged amid the flowers, he digs front claws into warm clay, draws his body forward toward the rising moon.

The second shot fills the silence of late September, expanding in the quiet like thurser manticipated; the the second shot shafters his skull, ruins the butter-colored fur, the deep and glossy pupils behind the grey lids that will not rise again. The second shot hangs in the air, brooding over the sharp cry it cannot wholly silence. Stephen C. Behrendt



Courtesy of 20th Century Fox

Nicolas Cage and David Caruso star in "Kiss of Death," which opens today.

Vast array of movies arrives in theaters

By Gerry Beltz Senior Reporter

Springtime. A time when a person's mind turns to love, to life, to the cinema. A cornucopia of flicks, both new and old, makes its way to movie screens today.

"The Cure" is a comedy/drama, telling the tale of Erik (Brad Renfro, "The Client"), a rebellious kid who befriends Dexter (Joseph Mazzello, "Jurassic Park"), a lonely boy who has contracted AIDS through a blood

transfusion. Although the entire neighborhood ignores and isolates Dexter because of his illness, Erik takes Dexter out on a quest to find a cure, and they end up discovering friendship and love.

"Jefferson In Paris" comes from people that gave us great films like "Howard's End" and "A Room With A View.

Detailing the life of Thomas Jefferson while he was the American ambassador to France, "Jefferson In Paris" stars Nick Nolte in the title role and Greta Scaechi ("The Player").

"Kiss of Death" shares only its name with the 1947 Richard Widmark film of the same name. This "Kiss of Death" features an all-star cast, including David Caruso, Nicolas Cage, and Oscar-nominee Samuel L. Jack-

"While You Were Sleeping" has shown up just in time for anyone whose heartstrings haven't been tugged in a

Lucy (Sandra Bullock) is lonely and in love with Peter (Peter Gallagher), who's in a coma, and his family thinks the two of them are engaged. To further complicate things, Lucy soon finds herself falling in love with Peter's brother Jack (Bill Pull-

A few movies are making a second Merchant-Ivory Productions, the same appearance in Lincoln today. "Clerks," which had a successful run at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, will open at the StarShip 9. Also coming back via the StarShip are "Boys on the Side" with Whoopi Goldberg and Drew Barrymore and "Little Women" with Susan Sarandon and Winona Ryder.



Elastica "Elastica" Geffen Records Grade: A

Elastica is a band that shares the Beatles' talent for writing poppy, witty songs. Replacing the Lennon/ McCartney team are two female singers who can both harmonize sweetly and belt out rockers.

Their self-titled album is solid all the way through in the style of entire-album masterpieces like "Re-

"Car Song" is a catchy ditty that one-ups the innuendo of the Beatles'
"Drive My Car." This time the aggressive come-on is on the part of the female, putting a spin on this popular theme of machismo.

In a similar vein, "Hold Me Now" puts a modern perspective on the sexual repression of "I Wanna Hold Your Hand," reversing the roles to show a female point of

Elastica evokes Sgt. Pepper memories on "Indian Song." This track is a reworking of "Within You and Without You" with mock Indian tones and distorted guitars.

"Never Here" is a song about a lover who slowly fades away and is lost in dreams of stardom. It calls to mind the condemning message of the Beatles' "I'm Looking Through You" with its imagery of a transparent boyfriend. It also mirrors the sentiment of John Lennon's "Yer Blues" at the end when the narrator realizes that music has torn the couple apart, and she begins to hate her rock n' roll.

As poppy as Elastica may seem at times, it adheres closely to the alternative standards of its time. Punk pretenses and grungy guitar abound, but they often seem out of place.

In true neo-punk form, the songs are short bursts of adrenalin that do not overstay their welcome. The production quality is kept minimalistic to meet the alternative genre's requirements for demo-like recording.

Elastica even closes its album with a song called "Vaseline." Another alternative song about Vaseline.

'Elastica" is a great album, consistent in its rocking poppiness. The songs are tight and memorable and are bound to burrow their way into your subconscious.

-Jason Gildow

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BASEBALL CARD SHOW Sunday, April 30th, 10-4. Villager Motor Inn, 5200 O St. Lincoln. FREE Admission. Door

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solutely NO finals may be given during Dead Week, als can ONLY be moved to another time DURING IALS WEEK with the unanimous consent of the class, izzes are acceptable. Stop by the ASUN office, 115 br. Union with questions or complaints or call 472-

Earth Day Bike Ride om the Union to Earth Day festivities at Anti aturday! Rally at Broyhill at 10:30am, trip sta

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Nancy Cole

Dir. of Public Outreach for Union of Concerned Scientists, will speak on Diopower from agriculture Friday at 3:30 at the East Union. NATIONAL PARKS HIRING- Seasonal & full-time employment available at National Parks, Forests & Wildlife Preserves. Benefits + bonuses! Call: 1-206-545-4804 ext.N57784.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES TRIP DEADLINES

Tuesday, April 25, is the deadline to sign up for the following Outdoor Adventures trips: Badlands Backpacking and Moab Mountain Blking. Don't miss out on these great trips. Call the Office of Campus Recreation at 472-4777 for more information.

ΠВФ "All you can eat" SPAGHETTI FEED Sunday, April 23, 4-7pm at Pi Beta Phi

\$3.50 in advance/\$4 at the door, For ticket info call 436-6188. Proceeds go to Arrowmont and the Uncoin Literacy

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