

# Troupe gives holidays a twist

By Brian Priesman  
Staff Reporter

Take five UNL students and graduates, a little dose of creativity, a heck of a lot of courage, Santa Claus and a live audience and what do you get?

The Have Nots!, Nebraska's only professional sketch-comedy/improvisational troupe and its latest production, "Not! A Christmas Carol," which runs Friday and Saturday nights at the Wagon Train Project, 512 S. Seventh St.

Co-founder and UNL graduate student Greg Tavares described the Have Nots! as "kind of like Saturday Night Live, but funny."

The other Have Nots! are Steve Shields, Todd Zaruba, Tony Heffner and Jeff Luby.

"Not! A Christmas Carol" will feature the group's cutting-edge style of demented comedy in a Christmas-themed show, Tavares said.

"We're making fun of the Virgin

Mary. We're making fun of Christmas," he said.

The show is a mix of original sketch comedy and fast-paced improvisations based on audience suggestions.

"It's adult. It's raucous. It's mad-cap," Tavares said.

The Have Nots! have spent the last few months developing sketches for this show.

"Not! A Christmas Carol" will present original sketches dealing with everything from the top 10 worst Christmas carols to the Have Nots!' own rendition of "The Nutcracker."

"Audiences can expect a wacky night of comedy," Tavares said.

The Have Nots! changed their name from The Mothers about eight months ago. The Mothers was a larger group, Tavares said, and he wanted to work with a smaller number of people.

Since the name change, the Have Nots! have performed all over the country. Tavares is hopeful that he and the Have Nots! will be able to continue in some form or another.

Improvisational comedy, also known as improv, is a growing field, Tavares said.

"Every town has sketch comedy and improv groups now."

The popularity of sketch comedy shows like "The State" and "Exit 57" and improv shows like "Whose Line Is It, Anyway?" have added to the sketch and improv comedy boom in recent years.

A large percentage of both the audience for and performers of these comedy styles are young adults and college students.

Luby, the group's newest performer, tried stand-up several years ago. He said he preferred improv because of its unpredictability.

"It's more thinking on your feet. It's fly by the seat of your pants."

Tickets for Friday's and Saturday's shows are \$5 and are available at the door before each performance. The show begins each night at 8 p.m. For more information, call 435-5592.

# Choosing champagne depends on key factors

By Albert Schmid  
Staff Reporter

Many people will pop the cork on a bottle of champagne over the holidays without giving a thought to what they are drinking.

But you might want to, because not all champagne is created equal.

To be truly classified as champagne, the grapes used in the wine must come from and be processed in the Champagne region of France.

In addition, the wine must be made with a process called Methode Champenoise. In this method, the final fermentation, which produces the carbon dioxide bubbles, happens in the bottle.

In other words, all champagne is sparkling wine but not all sparkling wine is champagne. As a matter of fact, only 10 percent of

the world's sparkling wine production is true champagne.

But the decision-making process doesn't end there. You also must decide how sweet you want your champagne, a decision that can be aided by simply reading the bottle's label.

If it says "Brut" you can expect the driest kind of sparkling wine. "Extra dry" is the second driest, followed by "sec" and "demi-sec." You may also run across "Extra Brut," which is even drier than "Brut."

And a final reminder — when opening the champagne, be careful. The pressure in the bottle is close to 90 pounds per square inch.

To reduce the risk of injury and to ensure retention of maximum carbonation, remove the cork slowly, with a gentle twisting motion.

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3 Fiesta Bowl tickets for sale. 40-yard line. 25th row. \$1500 for all. (602) 951-0062.

Fiesta Bowl need 5 tickets will pay top \$\$\$ 712-336-3520.

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92 Toyota Tercel, 2dr, 4 speed, FM cass., red, 58K. Nice. \$4350

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**SPRING BREAK '96** Cancun from \$399, Jamaica from \$439, Florida from \$99. Organize a group of 15 and travel free!! Call Student Travel Services 1-800-648-4849 for more information. On campus contact: Ty @ 467-4368, Ty @ 483-1306 or Katie @ 438-7892.

## 210 Announcements

### Delta Sigma Pi

Congratulations to the new officers of the Alpha Delta Chapter.  
President—Lynelle Strong, Senior VP—Chris Leitner, VP Pledge Education—Jodi Anderson, VP Professional—Mike Fortkamp, Secretary—Melissa Brown, Assistant Treasurer—Neal Smith, Historian—Bob Clark, Chancellor—Jason Glover, Senior Guide—Jenny Brabec, Junior Guide—Brian Baum. Congratulations to everyone who received awards at the Banquet.

### Dinosaurs Etc.

Museum gift shop at Morrill Hall. 20% off sale on all regular priced items. Save on your Christmas Gifts! Sale continued until Jan 7.

### Fiesta Bowl Rentals

In Scottsdale, 2-bedroom condos! 1-800-600-6850

### Guitar Instruction/Rental

Zager Studio, 464-7771.

### I-TEAM APPLICATIONS

Deadline will be extended to Jan. 9. Pick one up to fill out over here at 200 Neb. Union. Questions, call Michelle McCune 472-8142.

### JOBS IN PARADISE

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## TIME IS RUNNING OUT

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## 220 Greek Affairs

## AAPI

To the Best Girls on campus.  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
Kim and Granny

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