



Cliff A. Hicks

Religious web sites give insight

Last week, a dear friend of mine passed away from AIDS-related pneumonia. It was, to say the very least, upsetting.

There's been quite a bit of pain, a great many tears and several rounds of talking to friends for longer than usual. Even still, I wonder why. I have to. For that answer, I've been looking for a little guidance from above.

I've done some searching through the Internet, among other places. It's been a lot to think about. Death.

I'm agnostic, sort of. I was confirmed Methodist and am an agnostic only because there has not been a religion that feels right to me. The person who confirmed me, his name is lost in the sands of time, told me there was nothing wrong with seeking my own path.

That's been almost eight years ago, and since then, I've looked at many different religions, traveled many paths, read a lot, listened to many different people of many faiths, and I still don't have an answer. I doubt I ever will. What I feel after having looked as long as I have is that there's something out there, but whether he/she/it watches over us I don't know. Seek your own answers.

There are many places to look; here are a few.

The Pope has his own page (<http://www.pope.pfmc.net/>) where one can find out about the Pope's visits and duties, along with what it means to be Pope.

Don't stop with Christianity, though. There are many other religions out there, some older, some younger. There isn't one "right" religion, merely different opinions.

The extremely old religion of Wicca is explained at (<http://www.voicenet.com/~reinhart/rw>) and at (<http://www.cog.org>), which houses the Covenant of the Goddess, a large organization of Wiccans across the United States.

Despite popular opinion, witchcraft doesn't involve placing hexes or riding broomsticks. In fact, the Wiccan Rede states "An it harm none, do what ye will."

Druidism, another commonly misperceived religion, has a very nice homepage at (<http://www.newageinfo.com/res/druid.htm/>). There one can look through the ancient religion of Ireland and Britain.

Perhaps the best place to look, however, is (<http://marvin.biologie.uni-freiburg.de/~amueller/religion/>), which houses the World Wide Web Virtual Library, a very good overview of all the various religions of the world.

There are a great many places to look for answers. I may never be able to say why people die, where they go when they do and why some people die sooner than others, but I have to keep looking.

It isn't easy losing a friend; I know now. You can find friends on the Internet too. Trust me. I've made a few that way, and they are to be treasured like any other friend. Value each moment as if it were your last, and pray that it isn't to whatever God you believe in.

Hicks is a freshman news-editorial and English major and a Daily Nebraskan staff reporter.

Rock gods



Jason Gildow (left) and Patrick Hambrecht strut their rock-god stuff Sunday night at the Wagon Train Project, 512 S. Seventh St.

Photo by Mott-ly Tiedale

Five quick and easy tips for gaining rock stardom

By Patrick Hambrecht

Senior Reporter

There's nothing easier than playing a music show in Lincoln. Everyone who either has a guitar, knows someone who has guitar, or just enjoys screaming alone should try it at least once.

I played with my band, American Goy, at the Lincoln Youth Coalition concert on Sunday using the following simple method. Follow it carefully, and you too can follow the road of the dubiously talented toward rock stardom.

1. Have an enormous ego.

As soon as I began contemplating playing a show, I thought, "Why should people want to listen to a jerk like me? Aren't there enough mediocre college bands in this world?"

But then I realized that I am really, really cool.

Even if every interesting type of rock song already has been written, I haven't played them yet. Just like Devo, Kiss or Elvis Presley, we have the stuff of ROCK GODS!

2. Form a band, write some songs.

Just do it, and the less time you spend the better. No one wants to hear some pretentious, overwrought crap.

3. Sign yourself up for a rock show, with no collateral or money down!

It's even easier to play a show than to watch one in Lincoln — you don't have to be 21 or pay a cover.

Knickerbockers, Mudslide Slim's, The Coffee House, The Purple Moon, The Q and

many other venues are always ready for new talent, as long as you don't suck. If you think you might suck, refer to rule one.

Then make a tape of your songs, give it to the manager and call them constantly until they let you play a gig. The Purple Moon signed American Goy for two performances on March 12 and March 29 (at 9 p.m. both nights) instantly, without having heard us (which may have been a mistake).

The Wagon Train Project can be booked for any performance at a \$25 cost of membership, plus \$7.50 an hour. Anyone interested should call company manager Stephanie Beerling at 435-5592.

The Lincoln Youth Coalition is another good resource for finding a place to play. Call Shane Critel at 438-4491 for more information.

4. Avoid personality conflicts.

Artists all seem to quickly develop the nervous, high-strung personalities of poodles, especially as the performance date nears.

5. Show up and play.

We showed up at the Wagon Train Project at 7 p.m., then waited another 30 minutes for an audience to show up.

After people began to arrive for Suckface and Mercy Rule, we played 15 minutes worth of music.

I jumped up and down and screamed, "I knew in this great big world there was something just for me, so I almost finished high school, and I got my GED!"

The guitars were really loud. We became rock gods. It was a lot of fun.

White Zombie's ghoulish rock hits Pershing

By Patrick Hambrecht

Senior Reporter

White Zombie will pound and hammer out its own distinctive style of ghoulish metal music tonight at the Pershing Auditorium, 226 Centennial Mall South.

Concert Preview



Filter will open the show. Wicker Man, originally slated to open, has canceled.

A veteran of the New York hardcore metal scene, White Zombie draws from the violent, showbiz mysticism of '80s metal bands such as Slayer, Alice Cooper and Vengeance Rising. But its supernatural theme is thoroughly modernized, infused with a

mix of '90s funk and industrial rhythms.

White Zombie bassist Sean Yseult's aggressive instrument tactics have made her one of the most prominent women in hard rock today — a stomping, angry-faced fury whose colored hair constantly whips around.

No less visual is frontman Rob Zombie. With a thick, gnarled beard of black, the singer goes to great lengths to appear possessed.

Even if White Zombie's precision assault of quick, thick peals of thunder leaves some cold, its energized stage presence has to be admired. Emerging in an age of self-defeating grunge and mature alternative rock, this band has tried hard to bring back the youthful Roman-styled arenas of Van Halen and Black Sabbath.

With mesmerizing light shows, large stage props and a strong rapport with the crowd, White Zombie ushers in a new level of rock entertainment for the combat-boot set.

But White Zombie still will have to work hard to reverse the somber, no-fun ethos of its opening band, a terse, sulky one with no sense of humor whatsoever. Filter, which sings despairingly about the death of Nirvana's Kurt Cobain, will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$22. The doors will open at 6 p.m.

'Rumble' tops blockbusters at box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Rumble in the Bronx," the martial arts film starring Hong Kong star Jackie Chan, knocked "Broken Arrow" from the top of the box office by grossing \$10 million in its weekend debut.

"Broken Arrow," a military thriller starring John Travolta, fell to second place in its third week with estimated ticket sales of \$8.3 million, industry sources said Sunday.

Two other debuts made the Top 10: "Before and After," starring Meryl Streep and Liam Neeson as parents whose son is charged with murder, placed seventh, followed by "Mary Reilly," a Jekyll-Hyde tale with Julia Roberts.

The top movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters are based on estimated ticket sales Friday through Sunday. Final figures are due out today.

Weekend money makers



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| 1. Rumble in the Bronx | \$10 million |
| 2. Broken Arrow | \$8.3 million |
| 3. Muppet Treasure Island | \$6.6 million |
| 4. Happy Gilmore | \$6.4 million |
| 5. Mr. Holland's Opus | \$5.3 million |
| 6. City Hall | \$4.4 million |
| 7. Before and After | \$4.1 million |
| 8. Mary Reilly | \$3 million |
| 9. Mr. Wrong | \$2.9 million |
| 10. Sense and Sensibility | \$2.3 million |
| 10. Dead Man Walking | \$2.3 million |