

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Cliff A. Hicks

Web sites pay homage to authors

It seems, with the future of technology flying as fast as it is, that every author has his or her own home page, be it official or not.

Those few who don't probably will, sooner or later. Lots of people get their first book published, and soon a handful of web sites spring up dedicated to them.

Hell, I want to get published as a novelist so people will open up a fan page for me. Oh, yeah, the money, fame and popularity would be nice, too. Mostly just the money. That, and being able to walk into a bookstore, buy a copy of my own book and pay by check.

Until I do get published, however, I'll have to be content surfing through other author's home pages. Here are a few for your netting perusal.

With the new "Hellraiser" movie due out Friday, horror master Clive Barker's home page seems like an excellent place to start. "Web of Lost Souls" actually is endorsed by Barker, which is nice. You can find it at (<http://www.barkerverse.com/>).

Sticking with the horror path, the king of horror, Mr. Stephen King, has his own site at (<http://www.csif.cs.ucdavid.edu/~pace/king.html>). It's not official, but it is quite up to date.

Other spooksters with their own unofficial home pages include Vampire Queen Anne Rice (<http://www.webcom.com/chamber/ar.html>) as well as the late H.P. Lovecraft (http://www.crl.com/~jgifford/rah_faw.html), who is unquestionably one of the founders of modern horror.

On a lighter note, Douglas Adams, the creator of the infamous "Hitchhiker's Guide To the Galaxy" series and a decidedly British person, has several unofficial home pages. The best of these is (<http://www.umd.umich.edu/~nhughes/dna>).

Fellow Brit Terry Pratchett also has a couple of home pages, dedicated to him and his "Discworld" series. Try (<http://www.pp.kdt.net/tati.ryberg/contents.html/>).

Classic fantasy master J.R.R. Tolkien has more than 50 home pages dedicated to various aspects of his writing and a number of his books. One of many is (<http://paul.cspu.edu/~aragorn/tolkien.html/>).

Robert Anton Wilson, whose "Illuminati" books mingle conspiracy theory with humor, philosophy, sex and physics, has an official home page at (<http://www.nets.com/site/raw/raw.html>), which, if I understand correctly, he runs himself.

I cannot depart without a personal favorite, Steven Brust's home page. It is unofficial, but very up to date and fact-filled. It's at (<http://www.math.ttu.edu/~kesinger/brust/>).

Sooner or later, I'll get published, and then you can all open up fan pages to me! Granted, it may be 20 years or so. But you know, I can wait ...

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

Radio station nets new image in midlife

By Lane Hickenbottom
Staff Reporter

Radio stations, like people, can face a midlife crisis.

The case is true for 95.1 KLDZ. Formerly known as the home of the "Greatest hits of the '70s," the radio station underwent a name, format and image change Monday morning.

Like the middle-aged man who decides he must buy a flashy Corvette for life to go on, 95.1, now called "The Net," changed its music

range from '70s rock and disco to '70s, '80s and '90s "adult alternative." The Net is trying to attract more listeners in the targeted ages of 25 to 54.

Pending Federal Communications Commission approval, the Net also will change its call letters from KLDZ to KNET.

Dallas Michaels, operations manager and program director of The Net, said that 95.1's former format wasn't doing as well for the station as it used to do.

"There just isn't enough music in 10 years," Michaels said.

The Net also began airing a nationally syndicated morning talk show with Don Imus as the host. The show, which features many guests and political and newsworthy discussions, will air weekdays from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Along with the change of format, there comes a flood of angry, die-hard KLDZ fans.

"That is to be expected," Michaels said.

He said he expected the first couple of days to consist of angry callers complaining about the change. Afterwards, he said, people will start calling the station, praising the changes.

The Net also will feature its own home page on the Internet. Still under construction, the site will be located at <http://www.knet.com>.

"We will have info on events we are doing," Michaels said. "It will also include stuff on local bands and other stuff."

Composer pens classical funk

By Patrick Hambrecht
Senior Reporter

If German chancellor Otto von Bismarck ever tried to get down and funky, he would have loved the new mix of James Brown and Richard Wagner music, "Randwulf," composed by UNL music professor Randall Snyder.

"Randwulf" and five other original compositions by Snyder will be performed tonight at a free concert in Kimball Recital Hall.

Snyder said combining the thundering style of Wagner with the rapid-fire trumpets of Brown was an easy choice.

"I really like James Brown's late '60s music," Snyder said. "It's very polyrhythmic, with one rhythm used on top of another. Often there's no chord progression, and the horns are used as drums."

"It's very radical. It's very well-known that rap can be traced back to James Brown."

Snyder's interest in funk music was peaked recently while he was doing research for a rock history class to be offered this summer, he said.

"I take James Brown's music and combine it with more of a classical sound. That piece has more of a rock feel to it, but I guess it'd be more alternative, for lack of a better term."

"Randwulf" will be performed by the Lincoln Youth Symphony, with Brian Moore directing.

Snyder said he wrote music according to his instincts, drawing from a variety of musical sources, including Korean music.

"I'm a compulsive composer," he said. "I think writing the same sort of piece over and over again gets very stale."

Snyder said he often tried to champion Korean music to the uni-

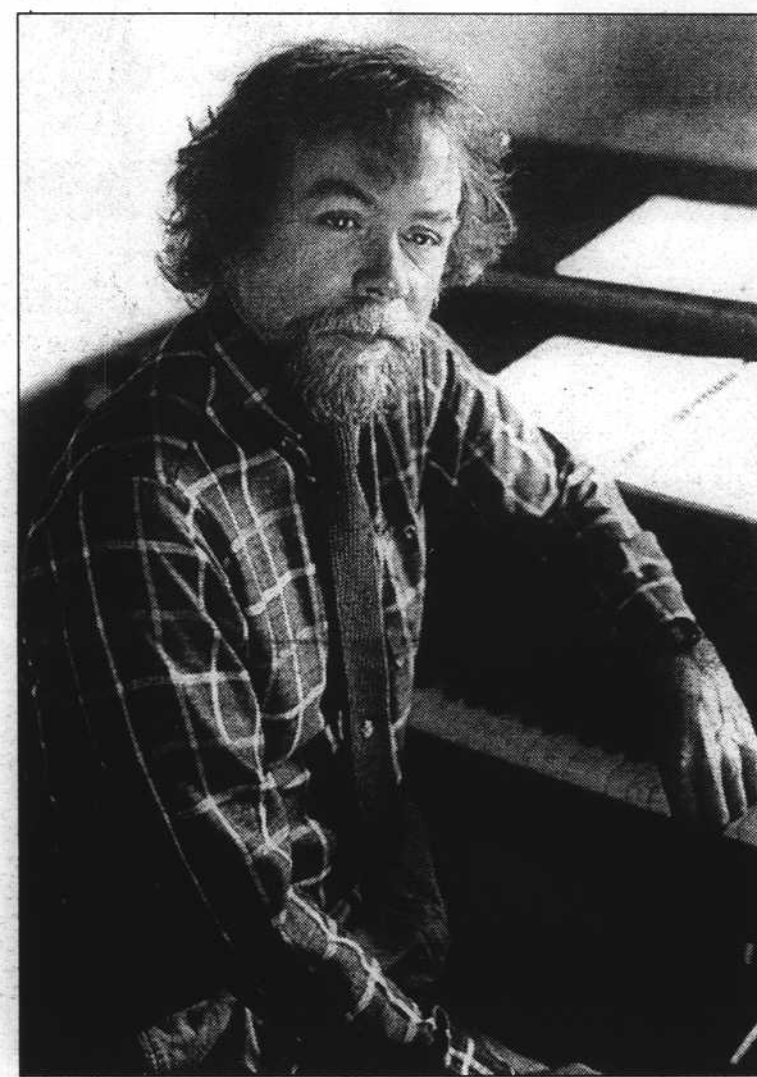


Photo courtesy of Randall Snyder
Several of Randall Snyder's compositions will be featured in a recital tonight at Kimball Recital Hall.

versity as an exciting music all its own, instead of just a hybrid of Chinese and Japanese cultures.

"Its sound is really neat," Snyder said. "A lot of Korean music is just

as distinctive as Chinese or Japanese."

Snyder's renditions of Korean "Spring Songs" will be performed with other songs at the 8 p.m. concert. Admission is free.

'Brothers' best new video bet

By Gerry Beltz
Film Critic

Sorry we missed you last week, but we were out enjoying the weather. Now that the weather sucks again, we've headed back inside.

"Pocahontas" (G) — This animated film was released last week, for both sale and rental.

The film was the first Disney feature that was inspired by a real-life figure. It starred Pocahontas (Irene Bedard) and the handsome, fearless John Smith (Mel Gibson).

The story chronicled the love they shared amid the problems between her people and Smith's friends and ship crew. Naturally, as a Disney creation, there were a couple of cutesy animals and impromptu sing-

ing numbers scattered about.

If it wasn't a Disney film, it could've worked. But as it is (with Gibson SINGING?!?), "Pocahontas" was just average.

"Fair Game" (R) — Ooooooh! Cindy Crawford's acting debut! Keep my feet from dancing!

Crawford plays a lawyer who is chased by the KGB (huh?), and the only person who can protect her is a rough-edged cop (Billy Baldwin) who dislikes her as much as she despises him.

Yep, they get it on.

"A Walk In the Clouds" (PG-13) — Keanu does romance. I'm glad I'm wearing my rubber pants!

Victoria is returning home, fearing her family's reaction to the illegitimate child she is carrying. Paul (Reeves), a traveling salesman, offers to pose as her husband for a short while, before he returns home to his own wife.

Hmmm. Will they start to fall in love? Hmmm.

Wonderful scenery make this film above crap, and there are a few funny

scenes as well.

"Brothers McMullen" (R) — It's a Catholic thing, you wouldn't understand.

But writer/director/star Edward Burns does his best in this comedy-drama about three Catholic brothers who face their childhoods and find themselves compromising their faith, usually because of the women in their lives.

The film's mix of sharp dialogue, romance at a real-world level and playful sexuality with unrelenting pangs of guilt make for one of last year's best releases.

PICK OF THE WEEK — Earlier this week, director Ron Howard was honored by the Director's Guild of America for his work in "Apollo 13." One of his earliest films, "Night Shift," may not be Academy or DGA quality, but it is still a riot.

Chuck (Henry Winkler) and Billy (Michael Keaton) work the overnight shift at the city morgue and get the bright idea of becoming pimps (excuse me, "love brokers") to take up their free time.

Political cartoons displayed

By Cliff Hicks
Staff Reporter

Today, the Great Plains Art Collection, at 205 Love Library, goes political.

"It's Just Plain(s) Politics: Cartoons as Perceptions of the Regional and National Scenes" opens today and will run through May 3.

The exhibit contains 40 pieces from 10 different cartoonists. They are: Oswald (Oz) R. Black, John H. Cassell, Jay N. "Ding" Darling, Homer C. Davenport, Paul Fell, Ed Fischer, Herbert Johnson, Jeff Koterba, John T. McCutcheon and Guy R. Spencer.

Each of the cartoons has historical value, and displays prominent political figures like Franklin D. Roosevelt and William Jennings Bryan, as well as more recent regional figures, in editorial fashion.

All of the cartoonists either came from the Midwest or did much of their work there. And so the cartoons reflect a Midwestern influence.

Most of the cartoons reflect not only regional issues, but national problems of the time as well, such as extreme weather, prohibition, problems in agriculture and the effects of government on people's lives.

Most of the cartoons are done in either pen and ink or charcoal, which gives insight into the different techniques used by different artists.

In addition to the collection on display, a special panel will be held Friday from noon to 1 p.m. in the gallery to discuss the role of editorial cartoons.

Panelists include: cartoonist Jeff Koterba of the Omaha World-Herald; cartoonist Paul Fell, whose work appears in the Lincoln Journal Star and elsewhere; and Nancy Hicks, who is the editorial page editor for the Lincoln Journal Star.

Michael Stricklin, director of graduate studies and news-editorial professor, will moderate the discussion.

An informal reception will begin in the gallery at 11:30 a.m., before the panel discussion.

Admission to both the panel and the gallery is free.