

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, April 5, 1996

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## TGIF

### Concerts highlight weekend

This week, in honor of the capturing of the Unabomber suspect, we here at TGIF would like to salute the FBI by presenting some entertainment options for this weekend.

Hey, get off our backs, we really couldn't do much more than this.

At Knickerbockers, 901 O St., the Bystanders and Remember Alice? from New York City will play tonight. Saturday will see the Wild Onions and Chicago's own Ignatius. Both shows start at 10:30 p.m. and have a \$3 cover charge.

At the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St., reggae will rock the house when Zelcke, a band that comes "from Ethiopia via Chicago" takes the stage tonight and Saturday. Both shows start at 9 p.m. and have a \$5 cover charge.

Mudslide Slim's, 1418 O St., will kick some local flavor tonight with Sideshow and Opium Taylor. The show will start about 10 p.m., and there is a \$3 cover charge.

At the Silk Cafe, 227 N. Ninth St., some rock for a good cause will be going on Saturday night. Plastik Trumpet will headline the all-ages show, which is a benefit for Bosnian rape victims. The show also will feature Pavlov's Triangles, Pitchfork, Broken Spindles, Think and Project Mercury. The music starts at 6 p.m., and there is a \$2 cover charge.

The "Laser Fantasies" series will continue at the Mueller Planetarium starting tonight, featuring the music of Nine Inch Nails, a band that holds a special place in Bob Dole's heart. "Laser Fantasies" shows run at 8 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. today and Saturday. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for UNL students with identification.

It's a slow week for new movies opening up. In fact, no new movies open up today, and only one movie is coming back. Three movies, however, did open this past Wednesday.

"Primal Fear" stars Richard Gere as an attorney who is hungrier for headlines than he is the truth. He finds himself hip-deep in trouble concerning the death of an archbishop.

"A Thin Line Between Love and Hate" stars Martin Lawrence, Lynn Whitfield and Bobby Brown, and looks at what happens when a fast-talking ladies' man crosses paths with the wrong woman.

In the black comedy "Faithful," Jack (Ryan O'Neal) wants his wife Margaret (Cher) dead after 20 years of marriage, and he hires hit man Tony (Chazz Palminteri) to do the job.

The only returning movie is "Happy Gilmore," starring Adam Sandler. Sandler brings professional hockey to the arena of professional golf. The scene with Bob Barker is worth the price of admission alone.

At the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, the 23rd Annual Student Academy Awards competition will be running all weekend long. Complete schedules for the competition are available at the theater box office. Admission to all screenings is free.

Have something to contribute to TGIF? Send information to "TGIF," c/o Daily Nebraska Arts and Entertainment, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588, or fax us at 472-1761. TGIF is compiled by the arts and entertainment staff.

## ROCK OVER LINCOLN



Matt Miller/DN

Wesley Willis and the Wesley Willis Fiasco performed Wednesday night at Mudslide Slims, 1418 O St.

### Willis' unique character ignites devoted crowds

By Jeff Randall  
Senior Editor

Wesley Willis doesn't look like a typical salesman.

He is about six feet tall and weighs in at 300 pounds, with a jagged scar on one cheek and a half-dollar-sized welt on his forehead. His voice is a bellowing rumble, and his slightly bloodshot eyes roll around when he speaks. His pants hang a bit too low and his stretched T-shirt hangs a bit too short.

But Willis has one thing that — as any good salesman will tell you — is the good salesman's most valued trait.

He has the sales pitch. "Buy my CD," he says, thrusting the jewel case into the face of anyone who happens to be near.

And whether people are prompted by Willis' abrupt manner or genuinely afraid of the man who stands before them, they usually buy.

It's a Wednesday night, and Willis is in Lincoln with his band, the Wesley Willis Fiasco, for a show at Mudslide Slim's, 1418 O St.

Willis has come to, as he puts it, "rock the place down like a cheese stick" — something he's been doing for quite some time now. The Wesley Willis Fiasco has been touring the United States with a few short breaks since the year began.

The tour has included a big-time stop at the South By Southwest Music Festival in Austin, Texas, as well as an extensive tour with California hard-core/reggae band Sublime and New York rap artists Lordz of Brooklyn.

The Fiasco definitely rocked at Austin, and they rocked in front of an audience that included major record label representatives, music critics and MTV, among others.

"We played it just like any other show; we had fun with it," says Dale Meiners, lead guitarist and founder of the Wesley Willis Fiasco.

"Then we get off stage and people are like 'Yeah, one of the editors from Rolling Stone was here,' and 'There's a bunch of record label guys in the crowd, and they really liked you guys.'"

Meiners smiles and shakes his head in disbelief.

"It was just bizarre."

Now, after about 3 1/2 months on the road, the Fiasco is ready for at least a short break. Lincoln will be the last stop before the band's long-

See FIASCO on 13

## Lawrence's directing debut misses mark

By Gerry Beltz  
Film Critic

Martin Lawrence most certainly kept himself busy with his latest film "A Thin Line Between Love and Hate."

### Movie Review



style.

Looking back on his life as he floats in a bloody heap in the pool of a mansion, Darnell (Lawrence) shows us where he went wrong.

Darnell has more women than Bob Dole has senior citizen discount cards, and he treats them all like crap.

Enter Brandi Web (Lynn Whitfield, "The

Josephine Baker Story"), a tough-as-nails real estate agent.

Darnell sets his sights, aims, and after some well-placed comments and compliments, he wins Brandi.

But when he tries to break things off to pursue Mia (Regina King), the relationship — and movie — enters the "Fatal Attraction" category, where every facet of his life starts to go straight down the toilet.

With that, the movie splits off. Sometimes it is funny with Darnell's reactions to what is going on around him. Sometimes it is dramatic, watching the damage Brandi inflicts in the name of revenge.

Things escalate, Mia gets threatened and the club that Darnell and best friend Tee (Bobby Brown) work at gets firebombed. As usual, the cops are as helpful as steel-tipped ballet shoes.

Lawrence is OK as the fast-talking Lothario, and is showing growth beyond his past work. Bobby Brown also turns in a splendid performance as the best friend trying to help a man who is over his head, but who won't ask for a rope because of his pride.

### The Facts

**Film:** "A Thin Line Between Love and Hate"

**Stars:** Martin Lawrence, Lynn Whitfield, Bobby Brown

**Director:** Martin Lawrence

**Rating:** R (language, subject matter, nudity)

**Grade:** C+

**Five Words:** Womanizer falls into personal nightmare

For a film billed as a "comedic-thriller," Whitfield's role is taken far too seriously, but for a serious role, it is handled well; she's a freshwater fish stuck in a saltwater lake.

Overall, if "A Thin Line Between Love and Hate" could have decided if it was a drama, thriller or comedy, then it could have worked. As it is, wait for cheap seats or a video release.