

## the Fine Print

By Cliff Hicks and Emily Wray

### Books need promotion for survival

Books are slowly starting to go the way of the Beta tape and the mood ring. Soon, the only place to find them will be in libraries and second-hand stores.

Why? •

Several reasons, unfortunately. Book prices have risen. A new paperback will probably cost between \$5 and \$7. With hardbacks in excess of \$20, the money issue becomes even more important.

Books aren't heavily advertised anymore, either. Only a select group of authors regularly get the press hype saying, "New book! Coming out soon!"

If Stephen King, Tom Clancy, Danielle Steele, Mary Higgins Clark, Anne Rice or John Grisham have a new book coming out, the majority of the public will know.

Publishers need to start seriously promoting books. If they've got a hot new author, they need to promote them!

Perhaps the reason for the book's decline is because the world doesn't seem to be reading as much as it used to. Fewer and fewer books get exposure each year as the world turns its eyes to the tube.

It's hard to get kids to read books. They want to watch TV, see a movie, play a video game or surf the Internet. All of these are valid forms of entertainment, but they leave nothing to the imagination.

Part of the joy of books is that while the author gives you a storyline with characters and descriptions, all the little details that flesh the world out are left to your imagination. You envision it as you want to.

Therefore, we shall make it our mission to revive the literary genre. We cry to the students, "Up with books! Put thy video game down! Back away from thy television set! Use the brain in thine tiny little skull!" (Alas, what fools these mortals be.)

Well, maybe we won't go that far, but we're going to ask you to read for fun, no matter what it takes. During the coming months, we will offer suggestions and commentary on both genres and books in specific.

By the time we're done with you, you will go out and buy a hardback book because you're dying to read the story, not because of who the author is.

If one student says, "I'm glad those two told me about this book..." we'll feel satisfied with a job well done.

Besides, you can still read a book when the power's out, even if it is by candlelight. It's called atmosphere.

Read on, gentle readers, read on...

Cliff Hicks has a fetish for fedoras. His sidekick Emily Wray has a laugh like popping bubbles. They are both book lovers, Daily Nebraskan staff reporters and shall return.

## Nirvana compilation records band history

By LANE HICKENBOTTOM  
Music Critic

Nirvana has released yet another album, more than two years after the suicide of iconoclastic band member Kurt Cobain.

"From the Muddy Banks of the Wishkah," released Tuesday, features a compilation of pre-released tunes recorded live from 10 separate tour venues. The 17-song lineup includes live versions of the hit singles "Smells Like Teen Spirit" and "Heart-Shaped Box."

The intro track sets the tone for this fast-paced album immediately, with Cobain yelling from the top of his lungs.

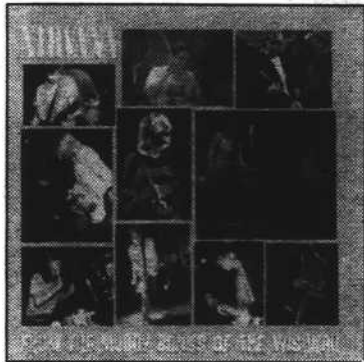
The intro quickly slides into the second song, "School," which was recorded in Amsterdam in November 1991. Originally released in Nirvana's first album, "Bleach," it contains hard-beating drums, highly distorted guitar chords and Cobain's raspy voice.

"Wishkah" is even louder than Nirvana's previous, studio-recorded albums. Longtime Nirvana fans who have followed the band since its "do-it-yourself" days will appreciate the live sound, as will those fans who collect anything by the group.

Listeners who only enjoyed the Nirvana singles that made the pop charts may want to avoid this new release. "Wishkah" preserves the punk-rock sound Nirvana maintained before they signed with Geffen Records and the rest of corporate America.

This new album simply rocks harder and louder than previous megamoney-makers, "Nevermind," "In Utero," and "MTV Unplugged."

Playing up through track nine, the album continues its upbeat momentum with songs like "Smells Like Teen



Nirvana  
"From the Muddy Banks of the Wishkah"  
DGC/Geffen Records  
Grade: B+

Spirit," "Lithium," and "Sliver." All three of these songs, and every song in between, give the impression of a collection of garage recordings. If the album wasn't recorded in a garage, one would at least swear that "Wishkah" was a bootleg. Neither is the case.

Track nine changes the pace a little bit. Maintaining the live sound from previous tracks, "Spank Thru" starts much slower. Cobain's voice is very deep and almost unrecognizable at first, making it completely different from the other tracks.

However, before the song ends, Nirvana starts playing like a bat out of hell again.

"Scentsless Apprentice," track 10, is a song originally released in Nirvana's "In Utero." This track is one of the album's few songs that sound close to its respective studio recordings. "Scentsless Apprentice," however, was recorded as one of the more hard-core songs in "In Utero," so those who are familiar with it can get a taste of what "Wishkah" is all about.

"Heart-Shaped Box," the next



track, starts with the return of Cobain's low-key voice. Funky guitar distortion helps set this track apart from the single that modern pop-radio station listeners are familiar with.

Cobain does a lot of screaming in "Polly," a track originally produced in "Nevermind." The screaming effect is done well, maintaining the tone of the album.

"Wishkah" brings back memories of a time when moshing was not synonymous with boxing and punk was not synonymous with Green Day. It pours

from the speakers as music the musicians truly appreciated, not a compilation of songs made to satisfy money-hungry producers.

The album's insert includes nine pages of band pictures and a brief Nirvana concert history, written by Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic.

Novoselic asks the listener to simply enjoy the music, writing, "Let all the analysis fall away like yellow, aged newsprint. Crank this record up and realize the bliss, power and passion... TOTAL NIRVANA!"

## Poet shares wisdom at Indian Center

Simon Ortiz focuses on the importance of language and culture in his readings Wednesday.

By ANN STACK  
Senior Reporter

For Simon Ortiz, language and culture are what define our world.

Ortiz, a free-lance American Indian writer, poet and lecturer, gave his speech "Native American Creative Verbal Expression" at the Lincoln Indian Center Wednesday. He later appeared for a poetry reading in Love Library.

Ortiz, who lives in Tucson, Ariz., began his morning lecture with a benediction.

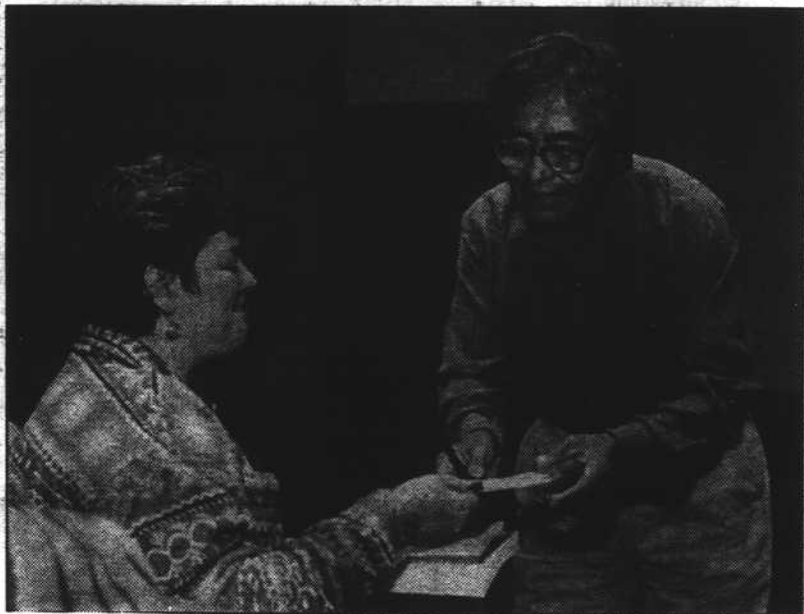
"Poetry and prayer are related to each other," he said. "We speak each when we look at the world around us."

He went on to read from two of his poetry books, "Woven Stone" and "After and Before the Lightning." Ortiz has published over a dozen poetry books.

Ortiz grew up on the Acoma Pueblo Indian Reservation in Western New Mexico and later taught at the University of New Mexico. Most of his prose and poetry focus on events that happened in this region.

His father's influence was prevalent in his life, Ortiz said. His father worked as a farmer, a railroad worker and a house builder.

He also acted as the Antelope Elder, who was responsible for the tradi-



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

JANET JARVIS, a junior English and art major, exchanges a check for an autographed copy of Simon Ortiz's book. Ortiz, right, read Wednesday morning at The Indian Center and Wednesday afternoon in the Great Plains Room in Love Library.

tional religious knowledge of the people and for setting ceremonies and other important dates.

Ortiz said his father was also a singer, something else he admired.

"Songs are a way to express ourselves and the way we perceive the world around us, what we have to share of ourselves," he said.

Ortiz sang a song he wrote called "Dance My Sacred Horse." He said he was inspired to create the song after a pile of human bones dated over 10,000 years old was found in the Andes Mountains.

"I thought about the ceremony that

had to have taken place in that cave 10,000 years ago," he said, citing the thought process that led to the song.

He finished his reading with another poem about language, written during his two years spent on the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

Ortiz ended his lecture by saying everyone should be adept at using language, because language was the key to communication.

"Language is breath," he said. "It's consciousness; it's how we know and form ourselves."

## Letterman's movie critic sent to jail

XENIA, Ohio (AP) — Fans of David Letterman won't be seeing any movie reviews from Manny the Hippie for awhile. He was sentenced Wednesday to 18 months in prison for violating probation on a marijuana-selling conviction.

Manny, whose real name is Micah Papp, returned from California two weeks ago and surrendered to Ohio officials who spotted him on "Late Show with David Letterman."

In March, Papp pleaded guilty to selling marijuana to an undercover policeman and was ordered to serve five years probation. Authorities said he violated the terms by moving to California without court permission.

Papp, 20, then appeared frequently on Letterman, doing movie reviews and even taking the host on a tour of San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury district, instructing him on street lingo such as "schwag" (bad), "dank" (good) and "diggy dank" (quite good).

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