



**DARRYL WHITE**, an UNL assistant professor of trumpet, loves both jazz and classical music. White only has been at UNL since last semester, but he already has assumed a heavy teaching load as well as working on recordings and performances. MATT MILLER/DN

# From Bach 2 Be- 2 Bop

## UNL professor pulls double musical duty

BY BARB CHURCHILL  
Assignment Reporter

Darryl White is a busy man. With his jazz gigs, his classical appearances, his recording sessions (he appears on tenor saxophonist Keith Oxman's new album, "Out on a Whim") and his relatively heavy teaching load, White is one of the busiest men on campus.

As if that weren't enough, he also has a recital planned for March 10. This recital will be part classical and part jazz, and will feature the first Nebraska appearance of the Pretext Quartet.

This is only the second semester that White has been assistant professor of trumpet at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

White replaced professor Dennis Schneider, who retired after teaching trumpet at UNL for more than 25 years. He said students seemed comfortable adjusting to working with him.

"No one said, 'That's not the way Denny (Schneider) taught it,'" White said.

"Denny had a love for good tone, as I do. Denny and I had discussed our tonal concept, what's a good sound, etc. And that's a very important issue for students."

White's face lights up at the mention of the soon-to-be-released compact disc "Out on a Whim." White's inclusion on this album was both unexpected and fortuitous.

Oxman, one of Denver's best-known and highest-regarded tenor saxophonists, specifically requested White to play on his album. Oxman remembered hearing White at a mutual jazz gig from years earlier. White's performance on "Out on a Whim" marks the first appearance of a trumpet on an Oxman album. "Keith (Oxman) and I sensed a connection the first time we played together in our styles and influences," White said.

"Jazz is a language. It's just like speaking ... you can get with

Please see **WHITE** on 10

## Despite heat, Quackoff will forge onward

BY JASON HARDY  
Assignment Reporter

With the Super Bowl wrapped up and the Orange Bowl a distant memory, Nebraskans are turning to a new display of athleticism.

Nebraska is turning toward Avoca.

On Saturday the Avoca volunteer fire department is holding the 18th annual Avoca Quackoff. A festival ripe with tradition, the Quackoff has become a staple of winter fun to Nebraskans and out-of-staters alike.

The daylong event includes eating, beer drinking and, of course, duck racing, an event that draws competitors from places as far away as Oregon, Colorado and Minnesota.

The format for the race is simple. Racers can either bring their own duck or rent one there.

Each duck races heat by heat, with the winner going on, until the final heat, when a champion is crowned. That champion then waddles away with \$100 in prize money.

For Quackoffs of the past, the town tennis courts, on which the races are held, have been hosed down for an icy raceway of danger and excitement.

The projected temperature for this year's festival, however, is in the lower to mid 50s.

Nevertheless, David Seay, public relations officer for the Avoca fire department, said race fanatics can expect the same excitement as in years past.

"We're gonna race 'em no matter what," Seay said.

He said that as long as contestants don't touch their duck, they can motivate them any way they want.

What results is a frantic blur of butts and feathers.

"You can't touch the ducks so frequently they go every direction except the one you want it to," Seay said.

He said it is this kind of display that keeps people coming back.

"It's been continually growing every year," Seay said.

He said last year's 117 racing ducks was a record-setting event.

Seay hopes that record doesn't stand long.

"We're hoping to break the previous record this year," Seay said.

Registration for the races begins at 10 a.m. in the Town Hall. The races start at 1 p.m.

Avoca is located about 25 miles east of Lincoln on Highway 34; just take O street east until you get to the Avoca "Home of the Quackoff" sign. Then take a right.

No ducks were harmed during the writing of this article.

## Ska bands set to launch Lincoln attack

BY PATRICK MINER  
Music Critic

### Concert Preview

Few bands are able to put a "Now On Tour" sticker on the cover of their compact discs. However, for Goldfinger, it's a safe assumption to make.

Goldfinger, a four-member ska/pop/punk band from Los Angeles, will bring its seemingly never-ending tour to Knickerbockers Bar and Grill, 901 O St., Saturday. Ska/reggae/funk band The Skeletones will open the show, with doors opening at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Goldfinger is touring in support of its latest release, "Hang-Ups," which came out last September. The album has less punk than the band's 1996 self-titled debut, although tracks such as "Disorder"

and "S.M.P." are every bit as excitable, as are the self-titled tracks, "Only A Day," and "The City With Two Faces."

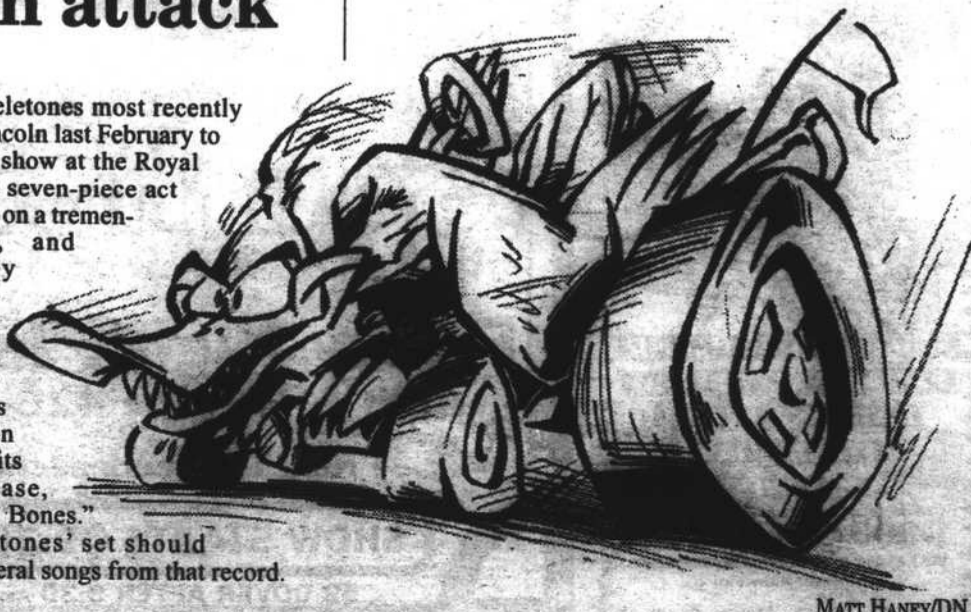
"Hang-Ups" is also a noticeable giant leap forward in Goldfinger's musicianship. Instruments such as a mandolin and flute are used on the album, and the uncommon instruments for a ska/punk band fit well into songs such as "This Lonely Place" and "Too Late."

The pairing of Goldfinger and The Skeletones is natural, as the two bands know each other well. The acts have toured together several times, and The Skeletones' saxophonist Kip traveled with Goldfinger on its fall tour, performing on ska tracks from the band's two

albums.

The Skeletones most recently came to Lincoln last February to play a free show at the Royal Grove. The seven-piece act always puts on a tremendous set, and Saturday should be no exception.

The band is touring in support of its latest release, 1996's "Dr. Bones." The Skeletones' set should contain several songs from that record.



MATT HANEY/DN