

## College Web sites difficult to wade through

WEB from page 9

"We try to make it really user-friendly, but we just have so much content," Humpal explained.

Despite advertising distractions and content overload, Humpal claimed individual students are still able to find things specifically related to their interests.

"There are so many different types of college students who find stuff in our site," Humpal said. "They sort of find what they like or what fits them."

While College Club offers more communication-based options like free telephone-accessible e-mail accounts and 1-800 numbers, animalhouse.com features organizational options to "create an online resource for college students, so you can have more fun and have more time to do things off line," according to Samit.

"There's always 90 hours worth of things (for students) to do and 24 hours to get them into," Samit said. "This will hopefully help you to get more out of those hours."

Things like free online calendars, local hang-out and event information, carpool boards and weather updates are there to help students better plan their day. Aside from the organizational aspects, animalhouse.com offers chat rooms; job boards; uncut, uncensored music videos; travel information; horoscopes; and other attractions. Samit says all of these help students get the most out of their college experiences.

Animalhouse.com runs into the same problems as its competing site, however. The information is hard to find, and it would take hours to effectively master it enough to actually save time.

It seems ironic these Web sites are created to help students have a better life away from the computer while requiring hours of daily use and interaction. Also, the lack of UNL-based sections severely limits the Web sites' uses for its students. But both College Club and animalhouse.com are new projects. Meanwhile, Samit and Humpal both claim to be recruiting UNL Web representatives even now.

Until then, interested students can consult these three sites and an ever-increasing number of others for everything from hairstyle advice and music reviews to scholarships and job opportunities. Then they can design free personal Web pages to help them organize all their newfound information.

For everyone else, there's always the old-fashioned way: Read the paper and find a calendar.

## Temple to show all-female 'Godot'

By LIZA HOLTMER  
Staff writer

In the days of the Greeks, continuing through Shakespeare, men traditionally played women characters like Juliet, Lady Macbeth and Antigone.

This weekend, the UNL Department of Theatre Arts and Dance reverses the age-old patriarchal tradition.

In its production of Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot," the department presents a cast of all women portraying male characters.

The reasons behind the all-female casting are twofold. The next production of the main stage season, "Picasso at the Lapin Agile," has a cast of eight men and only two women. Shirley Carr Mason, the director of "Waiting for Godot," felt an all-woman cast was the best way to serve the needs of the many female theater students.

In addition, Mason said, the play does not revolve around sexual or gender relations. Therefore, casting women as men did not affect the relationships depicted in the play.

"The relationships are very much the relationships between human beings," Mason said. "The factual information is not

important in this play. It's how one relates to the characters and to the experiences the characters are going through."

Because of the play's material, the cast decided not to change Beckett's language. Lines dealing with the male anatomy and masculine pronouns were left untouched.

"It's not going to give the audience anything but a momentary flicker of surprise," Mason said.

As the actors have approached their characters, they have tried to keep them gender-neutral. Cast members decided not to mimic male physical movements or lower the sound of their voices.

Amy Rafa, a graduate student in theater who plays Pozzo in the production, said making the characters gender-neutral emphasized the humanity of the play.

"The basic principal (of the play) is that there is a universal feeling of isolation," she said.



MATT HANEY/DN

This means the characters do not rely on gender to define their identities or their searches for meaning.

This is the department's second show in the past year to cast a woman in a male role. In March, the department presented a production of "Dr. Faustus" with Erin McLaine in the title role.

But this casting decision was based on the idea of Faustus as a woman. While the play still explored basic human dilemmas concerning the world of evil, McLaine provided an alternative dimension to a traditionally male role.

"Waiting for Godot" also explores questions all human beings must work through, Mason said, but without adding a new dimension of femininity to a relatively gender-neutral plot.

In "Waiting for Godot," two bums pass the time waiting for Godot, a mysterious being who represents some form of salvation. The bums do not know why or for what they wait; they only know they must.

Mason said the questions the play poses are as common as the questions children often ask.

"Why are we here? What are we doing? Is it going to happen today or next week, whatever it is? Anyone who faces up to their own mortality faces these questions," Mason said.

However, Mason said, the play avoids providing an answer to these questions. Instead, audience members must evaluate the ideas based on their own experiences.

"Waiting for Godot" opens Thursday with a student preview and continues through Sunday and October 13-17.

Shows are at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$9 for faculty members/staff/senior citizens and \$6 for students. For reservations, call the Temple Box Office at (402) 472-2073.

## Post-punk veteran plays last electric rock tour

MOULD from page 9

Michael Wolf, publicist for Mould, said the myth springs from the musician's complaint about ringing ears after concerts. But he assures Mould's hearing is normal.

"That is absolutely not why he is retiring (from touring)," Wolf said.

Mould's real reasons are somewhat dubious, still. He certainly seems to be fed up with the rock 'n' roll lifestyle as he has lived it for the past few years.

"I've been shaking hands and

kissing babies for so long, I haven't spent any time at the writing table," he complained.

His reluctance to disclose future plans to the press — saying only that he has "some things on the back burner" — is understandable as he has had nary a second to himself since the release of "The Last Dog and Pony Show" in August.

In the past he has expressed interest in exploring other avenues of writing, but to date has had nothing published. His favorite book is

"Naked Lunch" by William S. Burroughs because "it's a pretty hard-core glimpse into somebody's mind."

You could say the same for his lyrics. These lines are found on "Roll Over and Die" from his self-titled release:

"In this world, I've got no choice: There is nothing left at all: and you don't notice, but that's all right: you don't know what it's like."

Mould has had trouble with the reasons for giving up his relationship

with electric rock. But, he explains, it is not as simple as people think.

"If I write a really loud guitar song, I am not going to temper it for recording," he said. "In the studio anything is fair game."

For now, fans should focus on Mould on stage, as it will be their last chance to witness one of modern rock's greatest contributors doing what he does best: loud rock 'n' roll.

Tonight's all-ages concert is \$16.50. Varnaline opens for Mould at 9 p.m.

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