

# An encounter with Bob Dylan

Meeting with a musical great created an unforgettable experience

By Ken Morton

Staff writer

So what do you say to a legend, an icon, a man who has helped shape the face of popular music and arguably the world in general?

Well, in my case, absolutely nothing.

When faced with the opportunity of a lifetime, I couldn't even manage a "Hello, Mr. Dylan." All I could do was just stare and smile as he walked by.

The whole situation came completely by chance, one of those freak occurrences where everything happens at exactly the right time.

I had ordered the tickets online for the April 4 concert the day they went on sale and snagged 25th-row seats — not too bad, I thought at the time.

My bandmate Jeff and I had two of the tickets spoken for and had two more waiting for friends if they wanted them.

Jeff invited his pal Greg along, and another friend Tim took the last ticket. Tim was pretty much broke, but I told him I would knock a couple of bucks off the price if he would drive. Tim accepted and the four of us were off to Omaha.

After a quick trip to Bronco Burger — where their motto is "Serve 'Urself and Save," whatever that

means — for a dinner of grease burgers and melting fries, we headed down Dodge Street to the Civic Auditorium.

A giant, plush black bus was parked in front of the Fuddrucker's on 72nd Street, and Greg said jokingly, "Hey, I wonder if that's Dylan's bus."

We all chuckled and kept going, and about three blocks later, Jeff spotted a man wearing black sweat pants, a hooded black coat and black combat boots.

"Hey, that looks like Bob Dylan," Jeff said.

We laughed again, but this time with a small pause. Things were getting really weird.

"No, seriously, that had to be him," Jeff said.

Tim turned the car around and headed back to the parking lot where we had seen the black-clad man. He had turned down a side street, and Tim drove by him slowly.

"Holy shit, that's Bob Dylan," Jeff yelled.

Tim stopped the car about a block ahead of him. We didn't know what to do. We had no plan, not even an idea of what to say. Jeff got out of the car as Dylan got closer.

"Can I shake your hand?" Jeff asked him.

"Nope. Got my gloves in my hand," Dylan replied. He kept walk-

ing toward the car, and the rest of us got out. He looked weathered but healthy. His gray hair under his hat made his head look huge.

We just sat there and looked at him — just sort of awestruck.

"We're going to see you tonight," Tim said as Dylan passed the car.

"Hope it's good. See you there," Dylan said.

He turned a corner and walked down another street. We got back into the car and sat there.

I had just met Bob Dylan, and I hadn't said a damn thing.

I guess Dylan handled the situation as well as anyone could expect. Just imagine: You're a mega-famous star in a strange town. You're completely alone, out for a walk, and four strange men drive up and get out of a car.

He may have been afraid of getting mugged or just didn't want to be bothered. He wasn't really rude, just short.

On the other hand, what the hell was Bob Dylan doing out walking the streets of Omaha by himself? You would think he would have bodyguards or something with him.

Dylan's dress, too, completely gave him away. It was like he was trying to dress so inconspicuously that he stood out like a sore thumb.

He's in Nebraska on a nice day and he's dressed in all black.

Nice disguise, Bob.

Whatever his reason for not talking to us longer, we felt a little jilted. We expected him to say more, but we didn't exactly dazzle him with our wit and intellect.

After our brief brush with fame, we made our way to the concert. I wondered if he was frazzled, if our little encounter would affect his performance.

It didn't. He had probably forgotten about it ten seconds after it happened. Dylan was energetic and playful onstage, most of the time taking guitar leads and just noodling around, improvising as he went. His backup band was loose enough to roll with the changes but still tight enough to breathe life into some of the most classic songs of all time.

Dylan mostly stuck to the big hits, but pulled a few obscure ones, such as "This Wheel's on Fire" off "The Basement Tapes" album and a wonderful cover of Buddy Holly's "Not Fade Away."

As I sat in my seat no more than 150 feet from the stage, I couldn't help but think how far away he looked after being a few inches away. I don't think I would change my experience if I had it to do over again.

I smiled at a legend, and that's a memory that's not likely to fade away.

# Mrs. Seinfeld has bun in the oven

NEW YORK (AP) — Imagine Jerry Seinfeld inside his Long Island mansion, baby bottle in one hand, burp cloth in the other, musing: Whyyyyyy do they call it a burp cloth?

That's right. First came love (1998), then came marriage (last December) — and now Seinfeld and bride, Jessica Sklar, will soon be pushing a baby carriage.

The big announcement was made Thursday by Seinfeld pal Regis Philbin on TV's "Live With Regis and Kathie Lee."

"Yes. It's true. There will be a new little Seinfeld sometime this fall," said Seinfeld's spokeswoman, Elizabeth Clarke.

It is the first child for both Sklar and Seinfeld.

But that was then and this is now, and soon the 45-year-old Seinfeld will be up to his diaper bag in commitment.

Seinfeld apparently asked Philbin to serve up the news for him. Philbin did it gladly, informing viewers that the little Seinfeld is scheduled to arrive in October. Clarke did not want to pinpoint the due date.

The new arrival may have the undevoted attention of his dad, who retired his series in 1998.

Baby Seinfeld will also have plenty of room for all that kid stuff like swing sets and building blocks. The couple are reportedly paying as much as \$40 million for Billy Joel's 12-acre oceanfront mansion in East Hampton.

WEEKEND PREVIEW

The following is a brief list of events this weekend. For more information, call the venue.

**CONCERTS:**

Duggan's Pub, 440 S. 11th St.  
(402) 477-3513  
Friday: Blackberry Winter  
Saturday: Face Value

First Plymouth, 20th and D streets  
(402) 436-1785  
Friday and Saturday: "Carnival of the Animals"

Knickerbockers, 901 O St.  
(402) 476-6865  
Friday: Project Wet, Planet Arsenal  
Saturday: Polyester, The Dick Prall Band

Royal Grove, 340 W. Cornhusker Highway  
(402) 474-2332  
Friday: Negativland  
Saturday: Case Wicked

7th Street Loft, 512 S. Seventh St.  
(402) 477-8311  
Saturday: Anne Hills and David Roth

The Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
(402) 435-8754  
All weekend: Matt "Guitar" Murphy

**THEATER:**  
Lied Center for Performing Arts, 301 N. 12th St.  
(402) 472-4747  
All weekend: "Fiddler on the Roof"

Lincoln Community Playhouse, 2500 S. 56th St.  
(402) 489-7529  
All weekend: "Children of Eden"

Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, 12th and R streets  
(402) 472-2461  
Friday and Saturday: "Julien Donkey-boy"  
Sunday: "Earth"

O'Donnell Auditorium, 50th and Huntington streets  
(402) 465-2319  
Saturday: Small Ensemble Festival Concert  
Sunday: Huntington Trio Concert

**GALLERIES:**  
Burkholder Project, 719 P St.  
(402) 477-3305  
All weekend: Laron McGinn, Harry Dingman, Fine Crafts Group Show

Doc's Place, 140 N. Eighth St. Suite 150  
(402) 476-3232  
All weekend: Liz Dodds

Gallery Nine, 124 S. Ninth St.  
(402) 477-2822  
All weekend: Audrey Greve

Haydon Gallery, 335 N. Eighth St.  
(402) 475-5421  
All weekend: Carol Thompson

Noyes Gallery, 119 S. Ninth St.  
(402) 475-1061  
All weekend: Western Nebraska Artists: Carol Sexton, Maxine Yost, Alis Rodgers, Richard Tucker; Jo Brown, Sheila Downey

Rotunda Gallery, First Floor Nebraska Union, 14th and R streets  
(402) 472-8153  
All weekend: MFA Thesis Exhibition I

The Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12th and R streets  
(402) 472-2461  
All weekend: "Visions of the Prairie," "Parallel Perspectives: Early 20th Century American Art," Josef Albers: "Elements of Art"

The Venue, 1247 S. 11th St.  
(402) 475-8368  
All weekend: San Francisco Artist John Burton

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\$5.25/15 words  
\$3.50/15 words (students)  
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For Details, please call **474-2335**  
**NABI Plasma Center**  
**300 S. 17th, Lincoln NE**



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**220 Furniture For Sale**

3 piece sectional with recliner and queen fold out hide-a-bed. Clean, neutral color, \$500 OBO. High back desk with shelves, \$100 OBO, 483-1634.  
Matching sofas, love seat, oversize chair. Only 8 months old. Also, coffee table, 2 end tables and 2 lamps. Call 328-8381.

**240 Misc. For Sale**

Kenmore washer/dryer for sale. Good condition. \$250 for the pair. 466-4995.

**290 Vehicles For Sale**

'81 V.W. rabbit pick-up, good condition. \$1400, hurry-up. 421-8659.  
'98 VOLVO S70 T5. Loaded, 52K, beautiful, wholesale \$22,500. 402-489-9100, 434-9110.  
1986 VW Jetta, Wolfsburg Edition, clean, good condition, 40mpg. \$1300 O.B.O. 435-0221 after 4pm or 472-5023 before 4pm.

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**320 Bridal Services**

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**370 Misc. Services**

For all your insurance needs: auto, home, health, life and business, call Jim Wallace at American Family Insurance, 1340 L St., Lincoln, NE 68508 or call 402-474-5077.

**Need help moving?**

Moving help within Lincoln or Nebraska for home furniture, office or merchandise. By the hour. NR Express Movers. 470-2970.

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Advance Self Storage. Safe, secure and low, low rates! Call 484-8829.

Will do daycare evenings, overnight and weekends in my home. Strong family environment. 438-7385, Southwest.

**378 Pregnancy**

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Birthright is a confidential helping hand. Please call for appointment or more information, 483-2609. Check out our website [www.birthright.org](http://www.birthright.org).

**400s Housing**



**400 Roommates**

1-2 summer roommates for house on 19th & Holdrege. C/A, W/D, walk to campus. 477-2019.  
Female nonsmoker to share 3BR apartment, \$175/month+ 1/3 utilities. Call 476-1159 or 472-6364.  
Looking for a place to live? [www.housing101.net](http://www.housing101.net)... Your move off campus! Free roommate sublet listings.

Roommate needed to share clean 2BR apartment with patio and fireplace. \$230/month. 1 block north East Campus. Call 325-8043.

Wanted: male roommate to share 2BR apartment for summer. \$275/month, ask for Andy. 477-9882.

**420 Rooms For Rent**

Room for rent in 3BR house, five minutes from campus. \$300 per month. 476-5580. Leave message.

**430 Houses For Rent**

400 Terrace Road, 3 bedroom, A/C, garage, fence yard, references, no pets, \$850. 483-4887, 483-7720.

1535 N. 28th, 2 bedroom complete remodeled like new, covered porch, dishwasher, washer/dryer, central air, parking, \$508. Call 466-5626 or 423-7356.

April 1 availability. 2BR, newly decorated. Central air, all new appliances, close to campuses, off-street parking. \$575 range, garbage and water paid. 489-5358, messages returned immediately.

Great houses close to UNL, available in May or earlier. 432-0644:

- 1237 Court, 3BR, \$650
- 1438 N. 21, 4BR, \$800
- 1541 N. 26, 5BR, \$900
- 1426 N. 23, 5BR, \$950