



University of Nebraska Press  
Newsletter

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## Book Chronicles UNP's First 75 Years

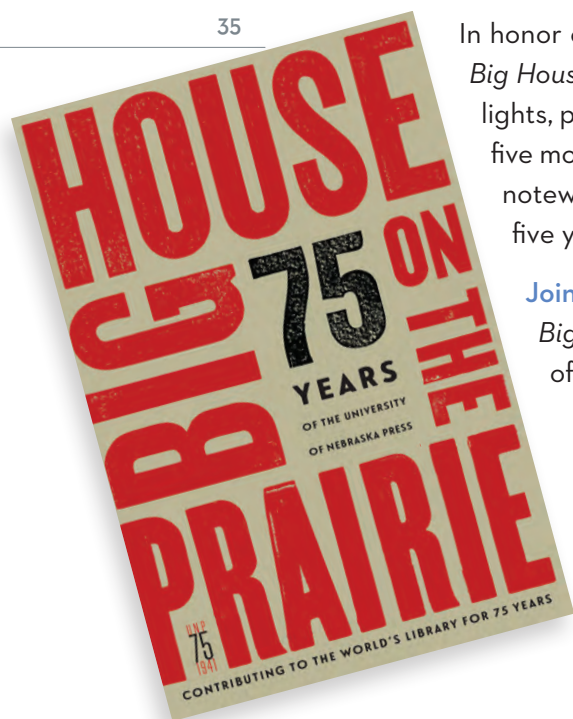


In 2016 the University of Nebraska Press celebrates its 75th anniversary. Proudly rooted in the Great Plains, the Press has established itself as the largest and most diversified publisher located between Chicago and California. Through the efforts of a vast network of devoted authors, editors, board members, series editors, and staff, the Press has published more than four thousand books and more than thirty journals of influential and enduring value.

What started as a one-person operation at a land-grant institution on the sparsely populated plains of Nebraska has tenaciously grown into a press that has earned an international reputation for publishing notable works in Native studies, history, anthropology, American studies, sports, cultural criticism, fiction, fiction in translation, creative nonfiction, and poetry. Winning numerous awards through the years, the Press has contributed richly to the state, the region, and far beyond. The Press's partnership with the Jewish Publication Society has placed an emphasis on books in Jewish studies and Bible studies, while the acquisition of Potomac Books has expanded the Press's subject matter to include national and world affairs and more widespread coverage of military history.

In honor of its 75th anniversary, the Press has produced the book *Big House on the Prairie*, which features a narrative of Press highlights, profiles of key historical employees, and lists of its seventy-five most significant books, thirty journals, and seventy-five most noteworthy book covers. Please join us in celebrating seventy-five years of publishing excellence.

[Join Friends of UNP](#) now and receive a complimentary copy of *Big House on the Prairie* along with all of the other benefits of membership at your chosen level.





# THE EPIC NEIHARDT: THE LIFE AND LITERATURE OF JOHN G. NEIHARDT

**T**hough he is best known for his book *Black Elk Speaks*, John G. Neihardt also is poet laureate in perpetuity of Nebraska and is the author of poems, stories, and essays about literature, science, Native Americans, and the settlement of the American West. This past February, more than seventy-five people gathered at the Center for Great Plains Studies in Lincoln, Nebraska, for a symposium on “The Epic Neihardt.” Speakers Tim Anderson, Aubrey Streit Krug, and Pamela Gossin presented different approaches but with the same aim: to demonstrate the breadth and depth of John G. Neihardt and to show that *Black Elk Speaks* is just the tip of the iceberg.

“It’s one of the reasons we chose to call the seminar ‘The Epic Neihardt,’” said UNP’s director, Donna Shear. (The Press, along with the Center for Great Plains Studies, sponsored the event.) “John Neihardt had many vitally important works, and we wanted to expose people to those. The other reason is that for years he taught a course at the University of Missouri based on his *Cycle of the West* called Epic America.”

Tim Anderson speaks  
at The Epic Neihardt  
Symposium in February.  
Photo by Mark Francis.

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# Why I Write

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By ROGER WELSCH

I was reading through student evaluations of my intro to folklore class at UNL and was puzzled by one student's remark that "being in Welsch's class is more like being at a performance than a class." A couple other students were loafing in my office at the time so I asked them if I should consider this a compliment or insult. One said, after a moment's thought, "Actually, Rog, being in your classes isn't like being in either a class or a performance. It's like being in a congregation."

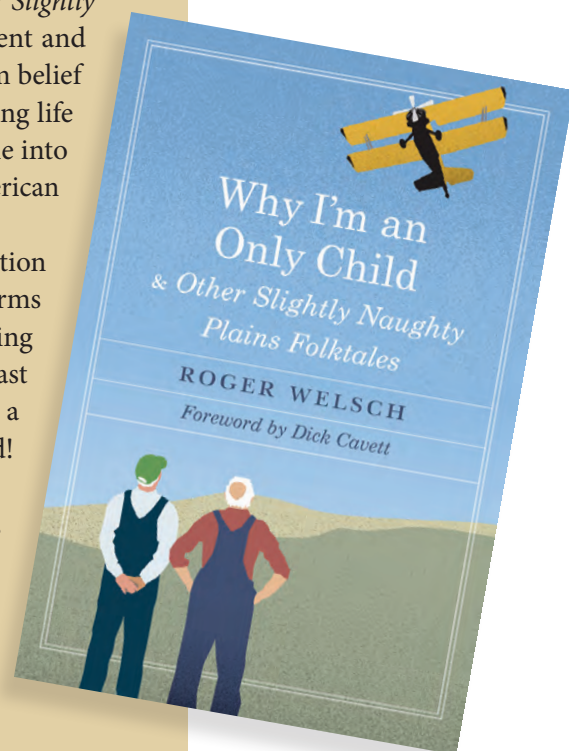
Wow! That was it! I was a missionary among the heathens, and my cause was folklore. What I have done in my teaching and writing is to try to share the excitement I found almost sixty years ago when the magnificent value and wonder of folklore smacked me in the face. I was studying language and literature, and as is probably still the case, our studies focused on the fine arts: literature, high art, music, theater—those parts of culture that find expression in theaters, concert halls, galleries, and leather-bound books. But my people are migrant sugar beet and factory workers, domestics and gardeners, cooks and laborers. When I realized that there was a culture there too, it was like a religious epiphany; I was filled with the zeal of the convert, not just happy to find new purpose in my own life but eager to shout the gospel of lore and tradition from whatever pulpit I could find—the classroom lectern, a banquet dais, and in writing.

My first book, *Treasury of Nebraska Pioneer Folklore*, was published fifty years ago, and I am still shouting my amens and hosannas in my most recent publication for the University of Nebraska Press, *Why I'm an Only Child and Other Slightly Naughty Plains Folktales*. As I note in those pages, for every department and class listed in a university catalog, there is an equivalent in folklore, from belief to architecture, poetry to song, art to medicine. And in my blessedly long life and eagerness to spread the word, I have enjoyed the chance to scramble into almost all those expressions, sod house to tall tales, folksong to Native American spirituality, foodways to humor.

Oh, I'd like to pretend that somehow my writing results from a dedication to the betterment of mankind, blahblahblah, but there are folk speech terms for that kind of thing too. In honest moments, perhaps when I am doing research in yet another folk craft—a snifter of fine whiskey—I confess at least to myself that my writing has been an indulgence, a concession to myself, a kind of shout to anyone who'll listen, "Hey! Over here! Look what I found! This stuff is absolutely fascinating!"

As usual, however, when I grope for words I turn to my beloved wife, Linda, who sees things with greater clarity than most. We were once sitting at a table in our town tavern with a couple friends, a plumber and an auto body repairman. One asked me, "Rog, how do you get paid for writing?" I had just done some work for a major magazine so

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# Why I Write

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I said, “Well, sometimes I get paid for an article or sometimes, with this magazine, they are paying two dollars a word.”

“You mean you get two dollars every time you write ‘the’?!” he asked.

Linda then spoke words I have never forgotten because she summed up writing better than anyone I had ever heard before: “He can use the same words over and over, but he has to put them in different order every time.”

That’s me. For fifty years I’ve been pretty much using the same words. Just putting them in different order every time.

**ROGER WELSCH** is a retired professor of English and anthropology at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and a former essayist for *CBS News Sunday Morning*. He is the author of more than forty books, including his newest work, *Why I’m an Only Child and Other Slightly Naughty Plains Folktales*. ■

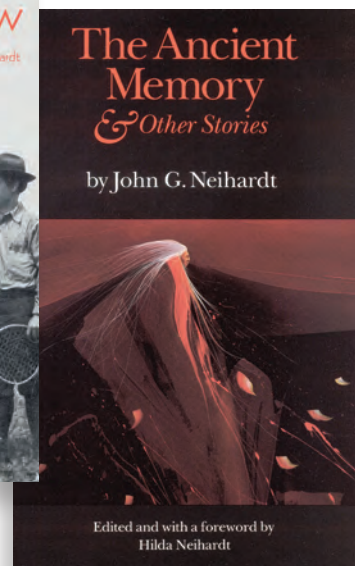
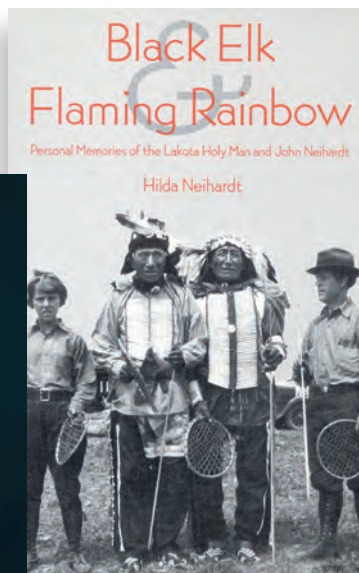
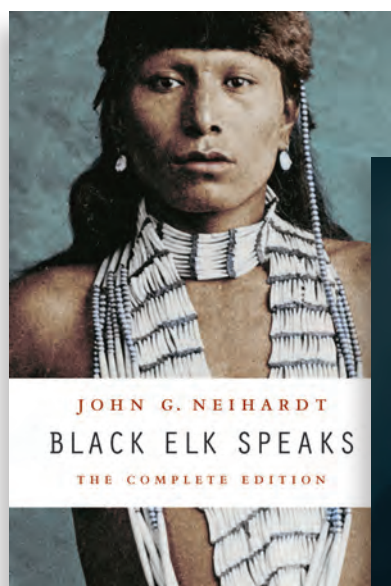
## THE EPIC NEIHARDT

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Tim Anderson, Neihardt’s biographer, spoke about Neihardt’s struggles to get his *Cycle of the West* recognized. Anderson also dove into the various parts of the *Cycle*, discussing when Neihardt wrote each section and what inspired him to do so. Aubrey Streit Krug took a close and fascinating look at Neihardt’s stories about the Omaha tribe, most of which are collected in books published by the Press. Finally, Pamela Gossin, who is researching Neihardt’s correspondence and essays, gave a broad overview of Neihardt’s works and the authors who influenced him.

“This is just a small part of our effort to inform the wider public about John G. Neihardt and the greatness of his work,” said Shear. “In the near future, we’ll be issuing new editions of *Cycle of the West* and *Eagle Voice Remembers* as we continue in this quest.”

Listen to the talks online by visiting <http://www.unl.edu/plains/neihardt-symposium> and clicking on the audio links to each speaker’s presentation. ■



# Director's View

By DONNA A. SHEAR, UNP director



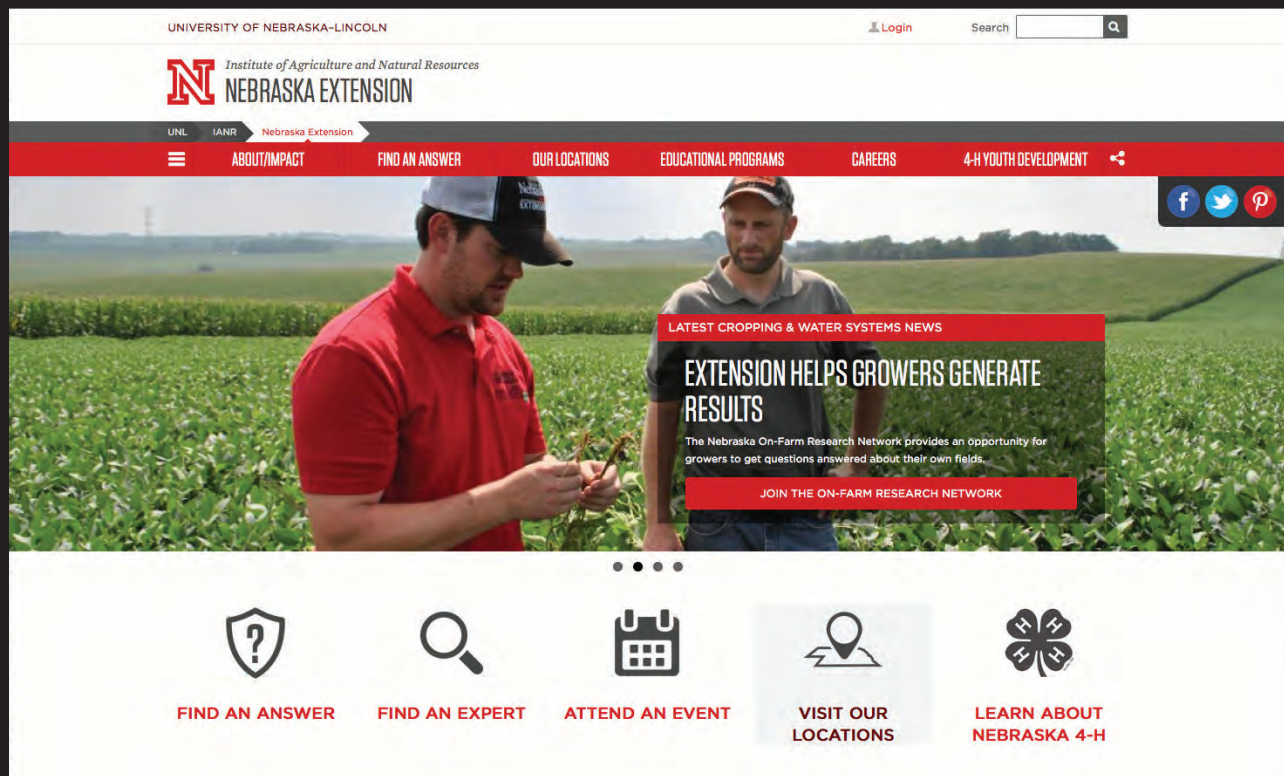
I recently had the honor to meet with the finalists for the UNL chancellor position as one of the heads of the various “arts” groups on campus. I was deeply gratified that we were considered crucial enough to the university to be allowed a session with each of the finalists. And I was glad I was able to make a point to each of the candidates that I want to reiterate here: that the University of Nebraska Press, along with the Center for Great Plains Studies, the University of Nebraska State Museum, the International Quilt Study Center and Museum, the Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center, and the Lied Center for Performing Arts, all serve vital functions both internal and external.

Internally, we look to bring the best of the arts to the university community, and we look to collaborate with one another in order to do that even better. Later in this newsletter you’ll find an article that outlines some of the campus collaborations the Press is involved in to further this internal mission. But externally, these institutions extend beyond the university and, indeed, beyond the state of Nebraska.

Whether it’s the Press or one of the fine museums or our performing arts center, we have earned international reputations for excellence in research, scholarship, teaching, and service that transcend the university and bring greater visibility to UNL and the state. We take pride in that and take the role we play externally very seriously.

In the case of the Press, we publish the scholarship and creative works of authors from around the globe. UNP is known also for some of the groundbreaking and important literature in translation it has published, including the works of three Nobel Laureates. Publishing these books is part of our mission to make important literature available throughout the English-speaking world.

One chancellor candidate talked about his vision for the university as one of “distinctness” at the same time as “comprehensiveness.” This is very much the philosophy at the Press. On the one hand, we are known for certain distinct subject areas: Native and indigenous studies, sports history, literature in translation, and the American West. But we also strive to be a comprehensive university press, and thus publish fine scholarship in other disciplines as well. We can’t be all things to all people, and we can’t publish anything and everything, but we do evaluate whether a topic or area is important to the state or region, whether it is being adequately or better covered by other university presses, and how it fits into our broader publishing program. Hence, we are vibrant and flexible, but we are also focused: we know where we are heading and why, but we take time along the way to examine all the possibilities to see if a diversion here and there is warranted. We think that’s why we continue to grow in size and reputation while still fulfilling our mission as Nebraska’s university press. ■



# J:MaPS “Extends” Its Publishing Services

By JOYCE GETTMAN, J:MaPS marketing and fulfillment manager

When a restructuring within Nebraska Extension, part of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln’s Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, left it in need of a partner capable of providing publishing and web support, the journals division of the University of Nebraska Press stepped in—and stepped up—to help.

A few years ago, the journals division renamed itself J:MaPS—Journals: Management and Publishing Solutions—in recognition of its strategic decision to move beyond the publication of its thirty journals into publishing, fulfillment, and management services both for university departments and faculty as well as the wider academy. Over the last few years, J:MaPS has provided these services to a number of entities, but the partnership with Nebraska Extension is the most far-reaching and required the Press’s Digital Asset Management and Information Technology department to assist in the venture.

The timeframe, once an agreement was reached, was a short one. The Digital Asset Management and IT department had just a few months to develop and go live with Extension’s new website because the university was decommissioning Extension’s server on October 1, 2015.

UNP got it all done: J:MaPS now handles the production of Extension’s new and revised publications, ranging from the short NebGuides (everyday practical information on agriculture, home and lawn maintenance, food and nutrition, parenting, and other related topics) to the three-hundred-page annual *Guide to Weed Management in Nebraska*, for both print and electronic distribution. J:MaPS will also provide customer service support for print publication orders from individual Nebraskans, 4-H programs, and the 150 locally based Extension professionals in Nebraska’s ninety-three counties.

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# Behind the Book

with MICHAEL FALLON, author of *Dodgerland: Decadent Los Angeles and the 1977-78 Dodgers*, and ROB TAYLOR, UNP senior acquisitions editor for sports

## Michael Fallon: On Writing *Dodgerland*

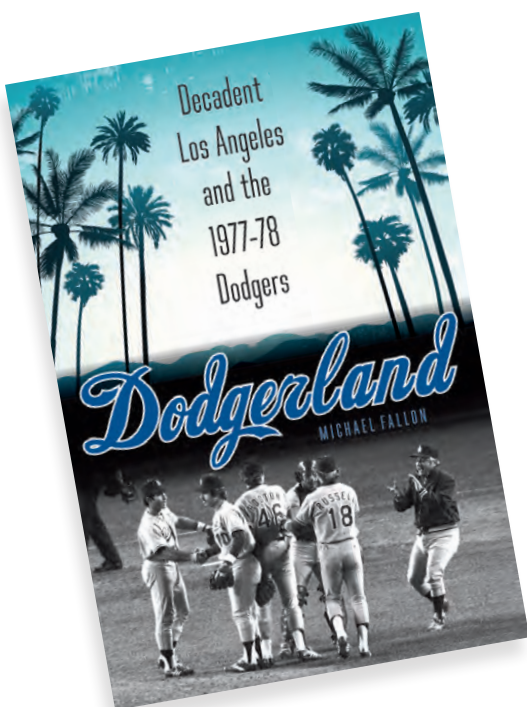


Don Sutton said that playing against the 1977 Dodgers was “like fighting an octopus.” To be honest, so was writing about the team. While researching the story I often found stray tentacles of narrative attached to my leg, refusing to let go until I investigated. As a result the final book, *Dodgerland: Decadent Los Angeles and the 1977-78 Dodgers*, may seem driven by its own, peculiarly internal, cephalopodic logic. So be it—as Clint Eastwood once said, every story has its demands.

The octopus thing may be why it’s hard for me to pinpoint when I decided to write the story of the 1977-78 Dodgers. It could have happened in 2007. That was when ESPN’s dramatization of Jonathan Mahler’s *The Bronx Is Burning* (about the 1977 New York Yankees) made me wonder if the tale of the team I rooted for as a kid—and that the Yankees vanquished that year—would be just as compelling. Or it could have been ten years earlier, when I watched from a distance (after moving away from Southern California) as Peter O’Malley sold off his father’s fabled team to Rupert Murdoch. That event left an indelible hole in my heart.

Perhaps my storytelling urge went back to 1989, when my childhood hero, the team’s squeaky-clean paragon of a first baseman Steve Garvey, was discovered to be just as unprincipled as any other ballplayer of the time. Compared to what can be found in the sports pages these days Garvey’s double-paternity-suit scandal seems almost quaint, but it was traumatic enough to the younger, more idealistic version of me that it became the subject of the first piece of writing I ever published—in the 1990 edition of the vaunted literary journal of Mt. San Antonio College. Or it could have come as far back as 1978, when my grandfather loaned me a copy of his favorite book of baseball history, *The Glory of Their Times* by Lawrence Ritter, thereby exposing me to a literary universe I had not known existed.

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# Behind the Book

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While I'm uncertain about the exact source of my literary inspiration, I do know that the best, most inspired baseball books tend to tell the real stories of their ballplaying subjects and to revel in their human imperfection even as they marvel at their athletic prowess. Such books are not simplistic deifications or hero-worshipping snow jobs but something more honest, revealing, and meaningful. In *The Glory of Their Times*, Jim Bouton's *Ball Four*, Roger Kahn's *Boys of Summer*, Mahler's *The Bronx Is Burning*, and the like, the fully rendered characters and even-handed narration of events not only provide an informative look at the men who've played this sport; they tell us something important about what it takes to achieve in what is, after all, a pretty difficult human pastime.

Which leads us to another question, somewhat related to the previous: What is there to say about this Dodgers team? That is, why exactly did I find it important to fill nearly five hundred book pages with descriptions of Ron Cey's duck-like home-run shuffle, Dave Lopes's laser-quick stolen-base slide, Steve Garvey's hammer-of-Thor swing, Don Sutton's slingshot-armed curveball, Tommy John's shot put-drop of a sinkerball, Glenn Burke and Dusty Baker's ecstatic invention of the high five, and Tom Lasorda's mix of avuncular hugs, Dodger-Blue blasphemies, and marine sergeant vulgarity? What does the fact that I have, for nearly forty years, carried a torch for this band of underachieving, octopus-like, two-time World Series losers reveal to a reader?



Well, I could give you my answer—what I think the 1977–78 Dodgers mean to us today—but that would be like having me spoil your appreciation of the meaning of an inkblot. Better, of course, would be for you to assess the ample, tentaculoid evidence and decide for yourself. So what are you waiting for—as Tom Lasorda might say, just buy the damn book and read it. The Great Dodger in the Sky will be pleased that you did.

## Rob Taylor Responds:



When Michael says that writing about these teams was like having narrative tentacles attached to his leg, he's describing what I think is one of the book's virtues: the sun-drenched-yet-complicated culture of Los Angeles and Southern California in the late 1970s gave him a lot of interesting material to weave into the story of the 1977–78 Dodgers. That's in part what made Michael's book proposal so attractive, along with the fact that the Dodgers teams of the 1970s were some of the greatest in the franchise's history and had not yet been widely written about. While they didn't win the World Series and the California Dream dimmed somewhat, the 1977–78 teams were the best and most memorable of their era, and *Dodgerland* brings them vividly back to life. ■

Michael Fallon is currently "live"-tweeting the Dodgers' 1977 season @MichaelSFallon.





A conversation between UNP's senior acquisitions editor for Native American and indigenous studies **Matt Bokovoy** and **C. Richard King**, author of the new book *Redskins: Insult and Brand*

**RK:** I initially became interested in Native American mascots while completing my doctorate in anthropology at the University of Illinois. At the time, Chief Illiniwek, an invented Indian icon, anchored student and sport culture at the school. A white student danced in face paint and regalia at home football and basketball games, the university endorsed and profited on the sale of merchandise and memorabilia emblazoned

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While I had long kept tabs on the controversy in DC, it would be a symposium at the National Museum of the American Indian spearheaded by Harjo years later that would spark this project. On the one hand, the symposium brought together lead intellectuals and activists in DC to talk about mascots and the Washington professional football team in particular. On the other hand, it was a catalyst for heightened media interest and subsequent activism. The interactions with peers and their perspectives inspired me to engage the controversy fully, while rising action and ongoing discourse gave me ample opportunity for research. This interplay between scholarship and activism was crucial to the emergence of the work and left a lasting imprint on my interpretation of the team and its traditions in the book.

**MB:** Why do you think the team ownership and management has been resistant to changing the name of the Washington DC professional football team?

**RK:** Support for the team name, in spite of recent challenges to it, derives from a number of sources. Some of these are quite understandable, while others are more questionable. At least six factors seem to help explain continued support for the team and its traditions.

First, large numbers of fans have a sentimental connection to the team. They went to games with their fathers when they were children, they tailgated with friends and family, they idolized individual players, and they marked their lives through memorable plays and big games. The team and its traditions convey something deeper than a word; they represent relationships, community, history, and identity. To advocate for

change is to call these things into question.

Second, most fans, like most Americans, do not know or interact with American Indians; they

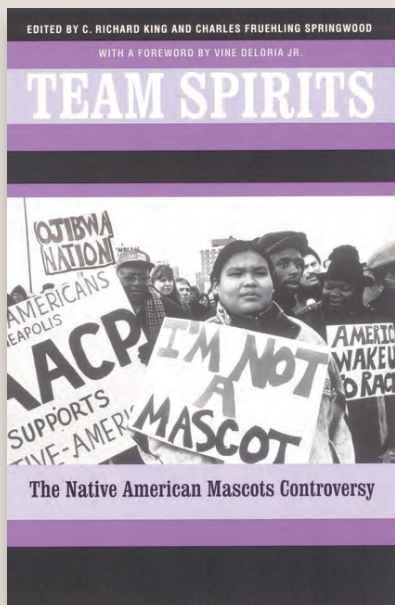
are not friends with them, nor, beyond occasional family lore, do they have any Native Americans in their families. In fact, what they know about American Indians tends to come from popular culture. This context fosters misunderstanding and encourages misrepresentation, allowing problematic ideas and practices, like the team and its traditions, to be held in high esteem by their supporters.

Third, without thinking, many supporters of the team feel a sense of entitlement to American

Indian culture. They think of it as a resource to use as they please. We see evidence of this in important celebrations like Thanksgiving, in groups like the Boy Scouts and in many summer camps, in the fashion industry, and in the reappearance of the headdress among hipsters and at music festivals.

Fourth, the manufacture of Native American consent by the team allows many to remain supportive of the team. The franchise has routinely drawn upon American Indians to legitimize its brand. In fact, in addition to orchestrating appearances by tribal leaders and indigenous veterans at games, it established a philanthropic organization to secure support in Indian Country.

Fifth, prevailing ideas about race make it difficult for many Americans to see the anti-Indian racism at the heart of the team and its traditions. Like most Americans, fans of the DC NFL franchise understand racism to be taboo, associating it with hate, bias, and prejudice. Moreover, most fans do not think of themselves as racist, nor imagine the things that they love hurting others. In such a frame of mind, the suggestion that the



name disparages or that they are racists makes little sense and actually may evoke resentment, defensiveness, and hostility.

Finally, some people, perhaps most notably NFL owners and shareholders of multinational corporations, support the team because it remains highly profitable.

**MB:** What type of psychological effects do you see Indian mascot stereotypes having on Native American youth?

**RK:** Many supporters of the team wrongly believe the team name was created to honor American Indians or at the suggestion of a Native American coach. They tend to frame its traditions in positive terms. While such a framing may be understandable given their investment in the team, it neglects the very real impacts of the brand, fan antics, and the attitudes toward indigenous people associated with them. Indeed, scholarly studies have shown that in spite of positive regard or good intentions, such uses and understandings of Indianness in sport harm Native Americans.

- When exposed to such imagery, Native American youth have lower regard for themselves, a depressed sense of community worth, and a more negative assessment of future possibilities.

- American Indians had higher levels of psychological distress after exposure to Native American mascots than their white peers.
- Such imagery blurs the distinction between imaginary Indian caricature and embodied indigenous person, activates negative stereotypes of Native Americans, and encourages negative assessments and bias directed at American Indians and members of other marginalized ethnic groups as well.
- Even so-called positive stereotypes cause harm and negatively impact self-esteem.
- At the same time, such imagery makes non-natives feel better about themselves.

Given all of this it is hard not to conclude that Native American mascots are a form of symbolic violence that targets American Indian individuals and communities, establishing a context of certain harm. This led the NCAA to determine that they create “hostile environments,” and the American Psychological Association issued a position paper denouncing them.

**MB:** If sports teams would like to connect to local or regional indigenous nations, what role can indigenous nations have in collaborating with sports teams?

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## IN MEMORIAM

# Chantal Kalisa

1965–2015

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Associate professor of French and the director of the Women’s and Gender Studies program at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and author of the UNP book *Violence in Francophone African and Caribbean Women’s Literature*.



# INTERN SPOTLIGHT

One of the ways UNP extends the university's mission of teaching, research, and service is to host graduate and undergraduate student interns in departments throughout the Press. Student interns help us accomplish the many tasks involved in the publishing process, while we provide them with valuable work experience during their university years and exposure to the world of publishing as they contemplate their career paths. Here you will meet one professional who is a former UNP student intern and one student who is currently interning at UNP.

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**Hannah Gokie** is a freelance ebook coder and professional writer living in Lincoln, Nebraska, with her husband, David, and daughter, Kateri. She interned at UNP for several years and graduated from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln with degrees in English and French in 2013. **ie** interviewed her in February.

**ie:** Hannah, thanks for making space in your busy schedule to reflect on your time at the Press. Could you tell us how your experience at UNP affected your life and/or career trajectory?

**hg:** I was an English and French double major at UNL, and I interned at the Press from my sophomore year through my senior year (2010–13). I was an intern in the Editorial, Design, and Production department, which involved lots of index correcting, a little exposure to compositing and design, and lots and lots of reading and editing—which was why I became an English major in the first place.

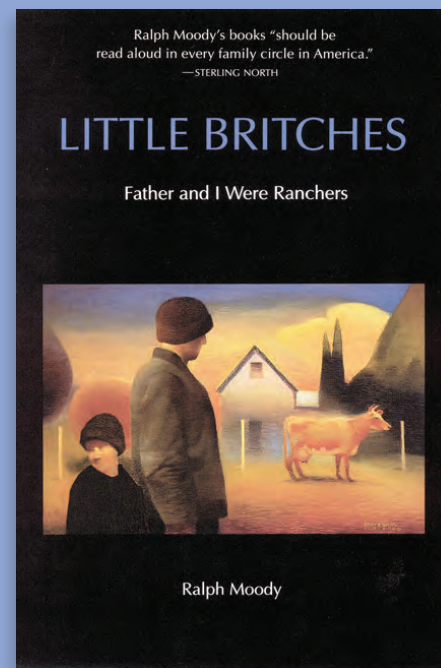
UNP was truly very informative in my career trajectory. I held many other internships and jobs during my college career, but none of them challenged me and pushed me like my internship at UNP. I enjoyed my work immensely, which is why I chose to forego other career paths in marketing and sales to become a freelance ebook coder and write professionally on the side.

**ie:** What do you remember most about your time as an intern at the Press? Do you have a story to share?

**hg:** I was able to help the Press on multiple occasions with my French background—those are some of my best memories. With the Press's translated French works (especially those by Jordan Stump, who was a favorite professor of mine during college), there were varied needs for a French speaker around the office—contracts, emails, and so on—that I was happy to help with.

**ie:** Do you have a favorite UNP or Bison book?

**hg:** Hands down, my favorite Bison books are the *Little Britches* series by Ralph Moody. They're a vastly underrated autobiographical series of a boy growing up in the early twentieth century, moving from New Hampshire to Colorado, and places all over after that (Nebraska, Maine, and Arizona, to name a few). As a farm kid, Ralph has to grow up and take care of his family. He travels through lots of jobs and meets many great characters along the way. These books are honest, entertaining, and a perfect read for any midwesterner.





**ie** also interviewed **Timothy Cook**, a PhD student in the UNL department of English who is currently interning in UNP's Acquisitions department. Timothy plans to complete his degree in 2019 or 2020 and hopes to continue progressing as a writer, editor, and teacher after graduation. Running a successful press is also a career goal.

**ie:** Timothy, where are you from and what did you do prior to being a student at UNL and an intern at UNP?

**tc:** Originally, I'm from Oneonta, a small college town in upstate New York that is a little more than twenty-two miles from Cooperstown. Since graduating high school, I've been fortunate enough to travel far afield from where I grew up while pursuing a number of passions, interests, and degrees in higher education. Employment-wise, I've done everything from newspaper reporting, bartending, and alpine ski race coaching to real estate closings on Wall Street, teaching English in Taipei, Taiwan, and managing the day-to-day operations of a small publication company in Missoula, Montana. It's certainly been a humbling, satisfying, and awe-inspiring journey thus far.

**ie:** What kinds of work are you doing as a UNP intern?

**tc:** As an intern at the University of Nebraska Press, I assist in the Acquisitions department, which is proving to be a wonderfully fortuitous development. More specifically, I help with initial reviews of proposals and manuscripts that are submitted to UNP. Also, I've had an opportunity to draft editorial memos, edit manuscripts with an eye toward any content-related and legal issues, locate outside readers for critical feedback on manuscripts submitted to the Press, cull bibliographies, and identify resolution issues for photographs that might appear

in some of the books that are moving toward publication. Sitting in on editorial and launch meetings has been beneficial, too, as I'm able to observe the inner workings of a university press and how books are produced, soup to *digestif*.

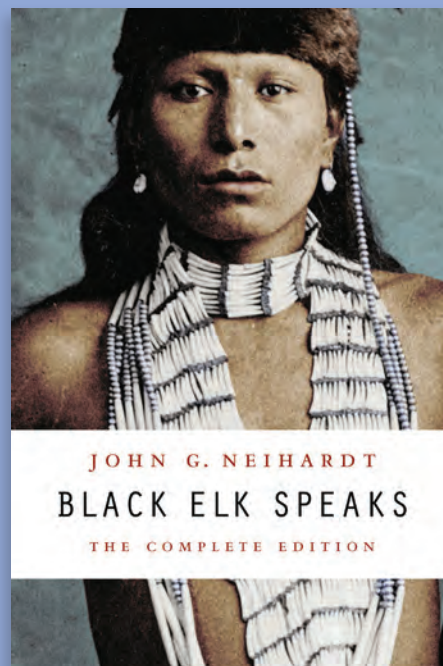
**ie:** What have you learned so far as an intern at the Press? Do you have a story to share?

**tc:** I am a process-oriented person in that I learn best while observing *and* participating in the finer aspects of any production. Thus, interning at UNP has been extremely fulfilling as I'm able to experience the intricate facets of scholarly and trade publishing. Anecdotally speaking, one of the first book proposals that I reviewed was submitted by an author located on the East Coast. The writer's credentials were impeccable, including a plethora of advanced degrees in an array of fields. While asking one of the acquisitions editors under which subject area the proposal should be reviewed, it came to my attention that UNP's fiction titles—which this book was being pitched as—must be located, plot-wise, in the Great Plains, or else written by an author from the region. Fit and adhering to specific details, I quickly learned, make all the difference here at UNP and in the larger world of book publishing.

**ie:** Have any of our books made a particular impression on you?

**tc:** When I was a graduate student in English with a concentration in literature at the University of Montana, I took a course in the history department that focused on Native Americans. During the semester, I selected John G. Neihardt's *Black Elk Speaks* as one of the books I reported on for

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As part of our 75th anniversary celebration, the Great Plains Art Museum is hosting a yearlong exhibit featuring UNP's 75 most iconic covers. The display in the lower lobby of the museum will have new book covers every month. Visit any time or come to the museum's First Friday events from 5–7 p.m. each month throughout 2016.

**WHO:** You, your friends, family, coworkers, and everyone else you know!

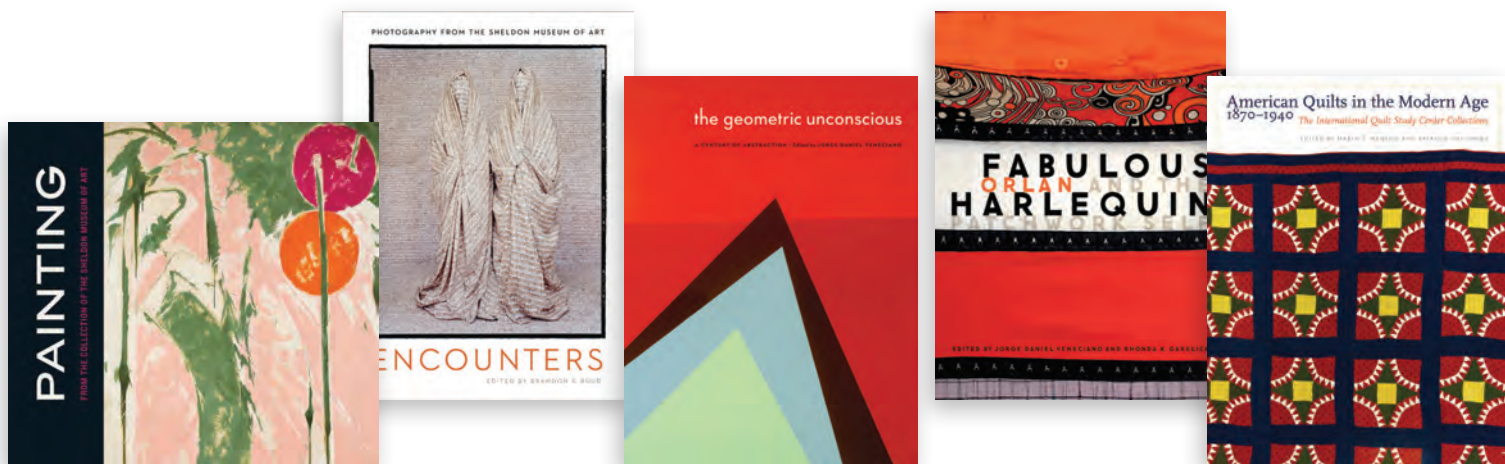
Founded in 1941, UNP has published more than four thousand books under the Nebraska, Bison Books, and Potomac Books imprints and in partnership with the Jewish Publication Society, along with thirty journals. Throughout the Press's illustrious history we have published groundbreaking works, won major international awards, and have sold books across the globe.

Throughout the year, the Press will celebrate this landmark with special offers, events, and promotional activities. Join us on social media and use #UNP75 to follow news and events for our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Like, share, post, and interact with us on our UNP75 Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/unp75/>. ■

# 75 ICONIC COVERS







# Working with Campus Community a Key Mission of the Press

By DONNA A. SHEAR, director

It's springtime on campus! While I spend most of my day in my office about a mile from the UNL campus, I love to have an excuse to go on campus, especially in the spring. And with the number of university partnerships we've forged, I've had lots of reasons to go there.

At the University of Nebraska Press, we wear our affiliation with our parent university proudly. We are honored and gratified to be a part of this dynamic organization. We are not an island, and as such, we strive to partner with and assist whenever and wherever we can. Elsewhere in this issue, there is an article about UNP's partnership with UNL Extension. But our campus and community reach goes far beyond that one initiative.

We have for several years partnered with the Sheldon Museum of Art to produce catalogs and books based on exhibitions or the museum's permanent collections. Among these are recent volumes from the permanent collection: *Painting from the Collection of the Sheldon Museum of Art*, *Encounters: Photography from the Sheldon Museum of Art*, and *Works on Paper from the Collection of the Sheldon Museum of Art* (forthcoming this spring). In addition, UNP has published the exhibition catalogs for *Geometric Unconscious* and *Fabulous Harlequin*. Many of these books won prestigious industry design awards.

UNP's campus collaborations also extend to the International Quilt Museum and Study Center; UNP has published *American Quilts in the Modern Age, 1870-1940* and will be publishing other volumes in that series soon.

*continued on page 16*

UNP is the publisher of the winners of the Prairie Schooner contests in poetry and fiction. I won't list all of them because there are so many, and I hate to pick out a couple at the expense of all the others we've done over the decades. Check them all out on our website!

When Kwame Dawes came to UNL as the new editor of *Prairie Schooner* literary magazine, he approached the Press about starting a series of African poetry as well as continuing the Prairie Schooner Book Prize partnership. We were delighted to do so, and as Kwame says about both arrangements:

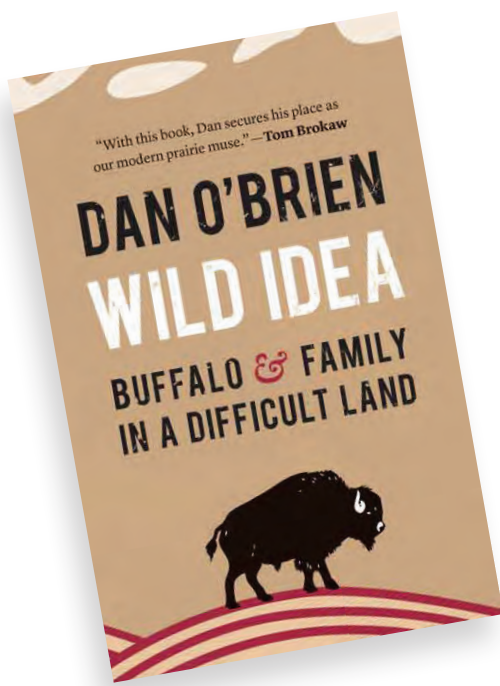
"Every time I look at my shelf parading the elegantly designed books by the Prairie Schooner Book Prize winners and the African poets of the African Poetry Book Fund, I smile with deep gratitude for our partnerships with UNP and how they make a difference for so many writers."

The Press has also had a very fruitful partnership with the Center for Great Plains Studies. In addition to copublishing important books such as the *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains* and the *Atlas of the Great Plains*, the Press and the Center have recently cosponsored the highly successful symposium "The Epic Neihardt." This fall, in collaboration with the Center, we will publish the first in a series of short books on topics about the Great Plains. This series will include books on the Indians of the Great Plains, the weather of the Great Plains, the literature of the Great Plains, and much more. Says Center director Richard Edwards:

"The Center has long worked with the Press, but in the last five years our collaboration has been so productive and grown to so many projects that the Center's program is much stronger and has more impact than ever before."

Whether it's our unique arrangement with UNL Extension or publishing the books from institutions on campus, UNP is committed to finding avenues and settings for showcasing the work of our colleagues in the campus community. ■





## • • • • • UNP Donates More Books to Lincoln's Little Free Libraries • • • • •

This past August, UNP donated copies of three youth-oriented titles to Lincoln's Little Free Libraries. In December four of Lincoln's LFLs were again filled with copies of a UNP book: Dan O'Brien's *Wild Idea: Buffalo and Family in a Difficult Land* (a 2015 Spur Awards Finalist in Best Western Contemporary Nonfiction). ■

## Richard King *continued from page 11*

**RK:** The Washington professional football team has proven itself to be resistant to change. It has battled Native American leaders and their allies in the court of public opinion for over forty years and fought legal proceedings for the past two decades. And although the franchise initially met with critics in the early 1970s, it has since refused to take them or their concerns seriously, perhaps because the team realizes that regarding American Indians as something other than a collection of stereotypes would mean retiring the name, logo, fight song, and fan antics.

The proliferation of Native American mascots began in a period of triumphalism and romanticism in which many Euro-Americans celebrated their winning of the West and lamented the demise of indigenous peoples. They did not consult with American Indians when they chose to use images of them to represent their sport teams. And owners did not share with them the profits from the brands created out of popular misunderstandings of them. This was a process of taking and remaking as whites saw fit and in some cases—like the DC NFL franchise—making big money in the process. Today, tribal leaders, indigenous activists, and many others call on sport teams not simply to

end the use of ugly images or disparaging words but to change how they recognize and relate to American Indians.

Toward this end, the ownership, fans, and the media would be best served by listening to Native Americans, by opening dialogues with them about painful histories and their legacies, and by clearing a space to work toward common ends. The recognition that many American Indians like sports, play sports, and want to take their kids to sporting events, but that sport arenas can be hostile places that deny them the same pleasure, spirit, and opportunities enjoyed by their peers underscores the importance of such dialogues. And far from idealistic dreaming, collaborative work can actually be affirmative. To take but one example, the Spokane Indians baseball team worked with the Spokane Tribe of Indians to redesign the team's uniform in a manner that accorded the latter with respect and preserved the brand of the former. The result was a jersey that bears the name of team, tribe, and town in the local native language, Salish: *Sp'q'n'i*. Undoubtedly, the dialogues would be more difficult in DC and would likely lead to a more complex outcome, but it is the pathway to respect and mutual recognition. ■



the class. It's a moving and tragic story at any number of levels as well as a text that folks with roots extending outside of North America should read for the comparative insights it poignantly offers. I have long thought that life works circuitously, so it was a pleasant surprise to learn of UNP's storied history with Neihardt's groundbreaking text as it centers on Black Elk's haunting visions.

**ie:** How do you think/hope your time and experience at UNP will affect your life and/or career trajectory?

**tc:** Serendipitously, I've benefited from a handful of game-changing experiences throughout my life. The first of these happenings occurred when I spent just under a year in Seinäjoki, Finland, prior to starting

my undergraduate degree. Studying poetics with Dr. Albert Glover at St. Lawrence University was a second development that sent me further along my path as a writer and thinker. Subsequently, being advised by Dr. Robert Baker at the University of Montana while also starting *Cedilla*—a small literary journal—were tertiary manifestations of fortune in my life. Undertaking my PhD studies in English with a focus in literary studies at UNL is serving as the next evolutionary development after my years spent studying in western Montana. This opportunity, too, at the University of Nebraska Press, is furthering my growth in the fields of editing and publishing, as they cross with my larger intellectual pursuits in the realm of western literature. ■

## J:MaPS Publishing Services continued from page 6

Because many of Nebraska Extension's approximately 1,600 existing publications are available free online, UNP's Digital Asset Management and IT team's expertise in management and delivery of digital publications was key in making a smooth transition from Extension's existing web platform to a new site: [extensionpubs.unl.edu](http://extensionpubs.unl.edu). Working closely with Extension personnel and UNP's outside technology partners, they created an attractive, user-friendly site for information delivery. E-commerce functionality is scheduled to be added to the site within the next few weeks. This will, for the first time, allow Extension's stakeholders to download free information and order print publications without being redirected to a separate e-commerce site. In addition, the new website allows customers to search for publications by topic or title.

When asked about the partnership, Nebraska Extension dean and director Chuck Hibberd said, "Publications are one of the most important ways that Nebraska Extension communicates research-based information to Nebraskans. We are very excited to have the opportunity to work with a professional publishing organization of the quality of University of Nebraska Press."

Said Donna Shear, director at UNP: "We are equally excited to be a part of this initiative that takes research produced by our institution's faculty and places it in the hands of our fellow Nebraskans, where they can put it to work in their everyday lives. Campus collaborations such as this benefit not only the two divisions—Extension and UNP—but the entire university and the wider Nebraska community." ■

### IN MEMORIAM

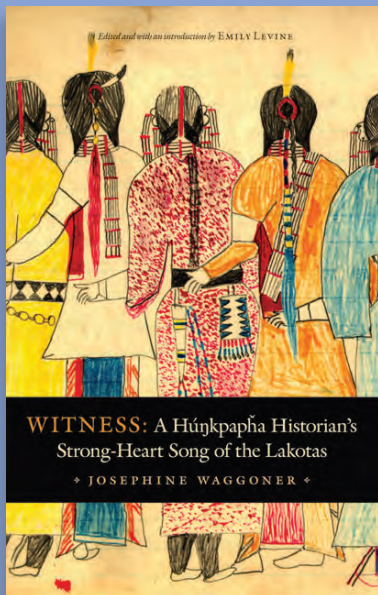
Debra Turner

1950–2016

Former UNP production manager

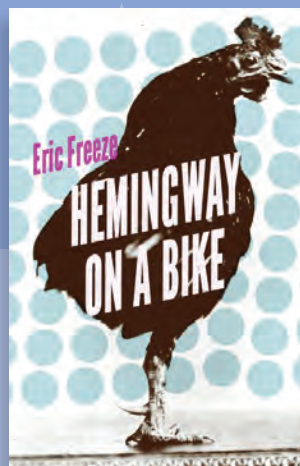
# AWARDS

The American Historical Association bestowed its 2015 J. Franklin Jameson Award for outstanding achievement in the editing of historical sources upon Emily Levine for ***Witness: A Húnkpapha Historian's Strong-Heart Song of the Lakotas*** by Josephine Waggoner. The citation called the volume “sensitively edited and translated. . . a major editorial achievement.”

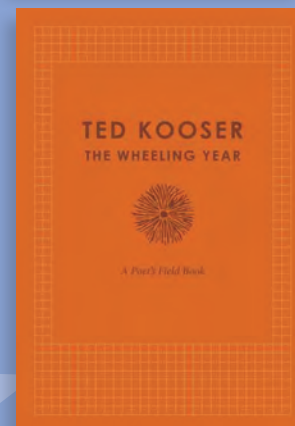
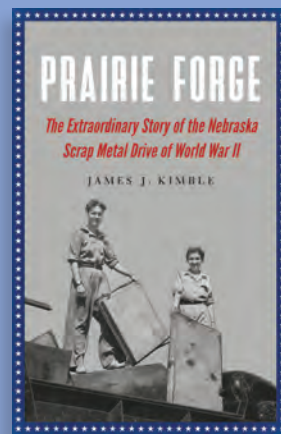


***My Wife Wants You to Know I'm Happily Married*** by Joey Franklin won the 2015 Association for Mormon Letters Award in the category of Creative Non-Fiction. The judges called it “an uplifting rumination on learning from the past and living for the present, a hopeful take on being a man without being a menace to society. . . . [A] beautiful book—sharp and clear, like a jewel under light.”

***Hemingway on a Bike*** by Eric Freeze took home the AML Award in the same category in 2014.



Four UNP books earned 2015 Nebraska Book Awards. ***History of Nebraska*** by Ronald C. Naugle, John J. Montag, and James C. Olson took the award for Non-Fiction (Nebraska—Reference). ***Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II*** by James J. Kimble won for Non-Fiction (Nebraska Spirit). ***The Wheeling Year: A Poet's Field Book*** by Ted Kooser garnered the Anthology award. ***In Reach*** by Pamela Carter Joern won in the Fiction (Short Story) category.

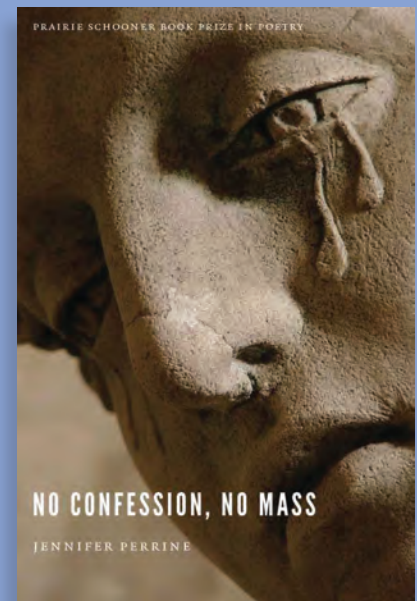
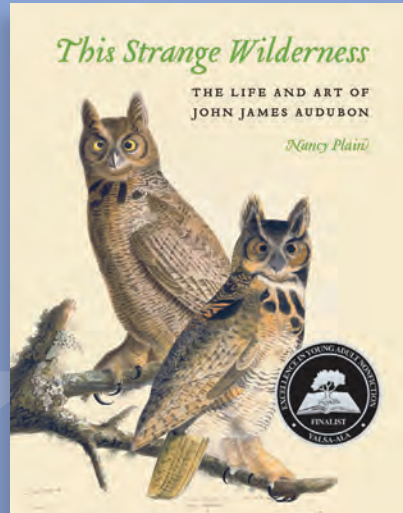
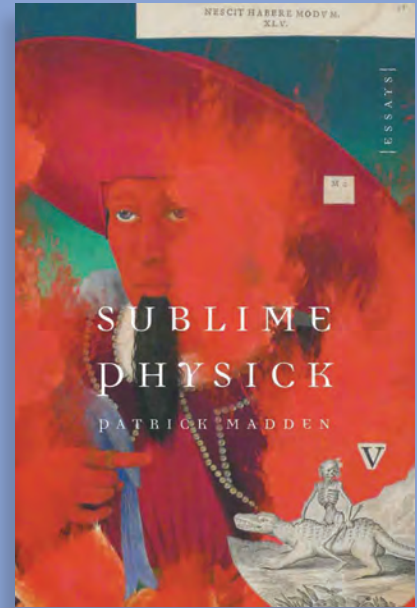
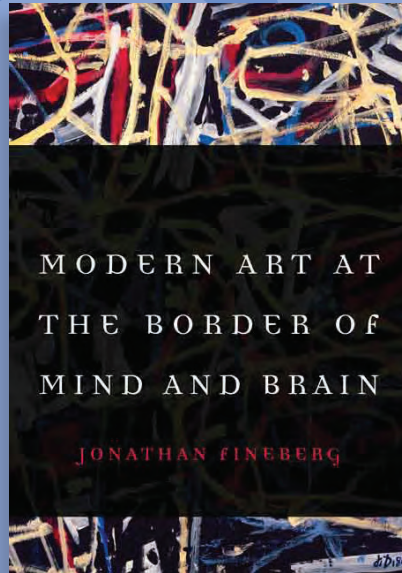




**Young Widower: A Memoir** by John W. Evans won a Foreword Reviews 2014 INDIEFAB Book of the Year silver award in the Grief/Grieving category.

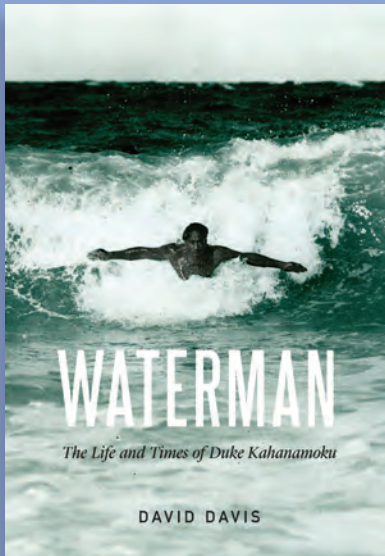
The Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association, selected five books as finalists for the 2016 Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Award, which honors the best nonfiction books written for young adults. One of the finalists is **This Strange Wilderness: The Life and Art of John James Audubon** by Nancy Plain.

Four UNP books were among the selections for excellence in design at the 2016 AAUP Book, Jacket, and Journal Show. **Modern Art at the Border of Mind and Brain** by Jonathan Fineberg was selected in the Scholarly Illustrated category. **Sublime Physick: Essays** by Patrick Madden made the Trade Typographic list. **This Strange Wilderness: The Life and Art of John James Audubon** by Nancy Plain was chosen for the Trade Illustrated category. **No Confession, No Mass** by Jennifer Perrine won in the Poetry and Literature category.





# SELECT REVIEWS



***Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku*** by David Davis: “A belated and bountiful tribute to this great Hawaiian’s memory. . . . [A] fine book—bravely put out not by a major New York publisher, or even by one in Hawaii, but by sensible and sensitive souls in Lincoln, Neb.”—*Wall Street Journal*

***How Winter Began: Stories*** by Joy Castro: “The startling range of these 28 stories . . . brings depth and dimension to the complex lives of women, mostly Latina and mostly working class. Castro’s compressed narratives are as fulfilling as the longer stories and their purpose is to mine the rich interior of women whose roles in society are usually overlooked, whose voices are seldom heard.”—Rigoberto González, *NBC News*

“These artful and economical stories examine the tightrope walked by characters who, operating under oppressive circumstances, often achieve poetic acts of revenge.”—*Kansas City Star*

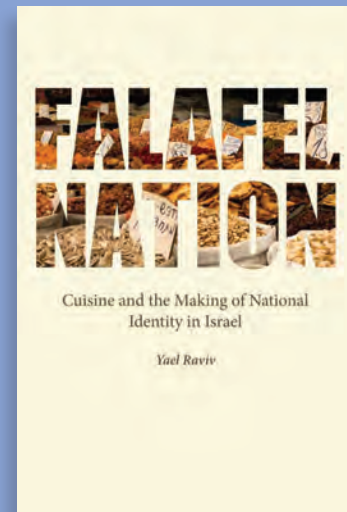
“When Joy Castro tells a story, readers can be sure of two things: first, they will be blown away by the beauty of the language; second, they will feel. That might sound like a simple thing—just to feel; however, creating a genuine emotion in a reader is one of the most difficult, and most important, skills a writer can master.”—*Los Angeles Review*



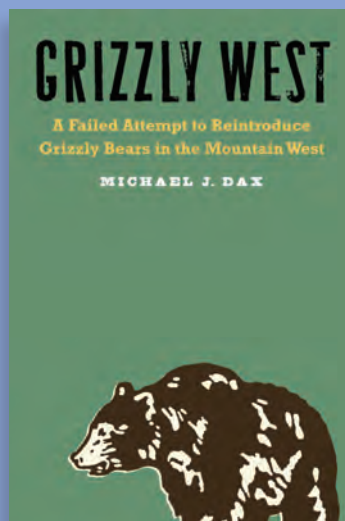
***The Complete Letters of Henry James, 1878–1880: Volume 1*** edited by Pierre A. Walker and Greg W. Zacharias: “This latest volume of the *Complete Letters* represents, no less than its forebears, an inestimable contribution to readers hitherto obliged to hunt down James’s letters in various selections or scattered archives, and deserves to be greeted with the same jubilant chorus of praise and gratitude.”—*Times Literary Supplement*



***Falafel Nation: Cuisine and the Making of National Identity in Israel*** by Yael Raviv: “An extraordinary, insightful study of Zionism and modern Jewish nationalism. It is painstakingly researched and well written. This book reflects the impeccable scholarship of Yael Raviv. Anyone interested in Jewish food and nationalism will benefit from it.”—*Washington Book Review*



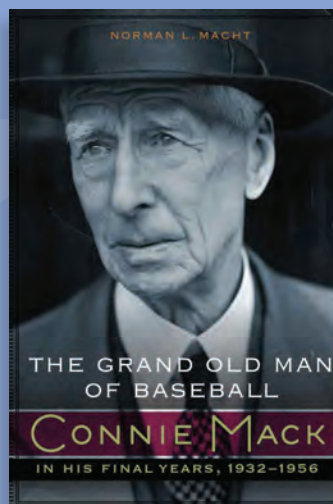
***Grizzly West: A Failed Attempt to Reintroduce Grizzly Bears in the Mountain West*** by Michael J. Dax: “*Grizzly West* is an excellent environmental history that puts the story of grizzlies in the West in [its] biological, human, and political context. Dax has a nimble hand and skillfully pulls together the intertwining storylines into a clear, coherent and readable narrative.”—*Big Sky Journal*



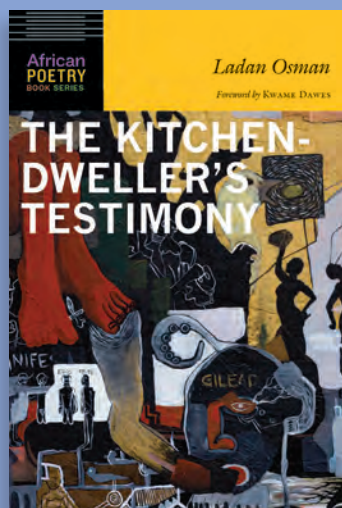
***Seymour Hersh: Scoop Artist*** by Robert Miraldi: “An illuminating biography of Hersh, who is unquestionably one of the world’s most important—and controversial—journalists of the past 50 years.”—*America*



***The Grand Old Man of Baseball: Connie Mack in His Final Years, 1932–1956*** by Norman L. Macht: “If ever a baseball book could be called a definitive biography, this examination of Connie Mack can.”—*Christian Science Monitor*







**The Kitchen-Dweller's Testimony** by Ladan Osman: "Ladan Osman conveys a language and logic that is disturbingly fresh; it leaps from one observation to another and speaks familiarly yet obliquely enough to make us listen a little harder."—*Rain Taxi*

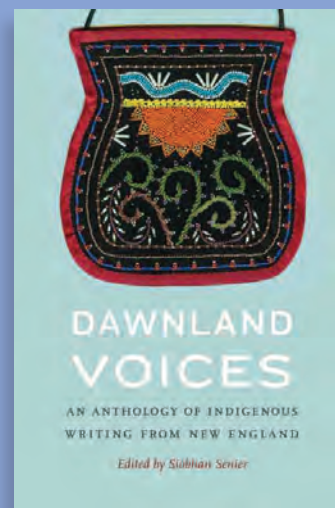


**Go, Flight! The Unsung Heroes of Mission Control, 1965-1992** by Rick Houston and Milt Heflin: "Houston and Heflin breathe life into the friendships, missteps, and proud moments of the hard-working personnel behind the curtain."—*Air & Space*

**Now We Will Be Happy** by Amina Gautier: "Gautier's persistent thematic explorations into the meaning of family and identity make *Now We Will Be Happy* cohere and resonate in ways that you'll remember long after the final page."—*Kenyon Review*



**My Wife Wants You to Know I'm Happily Married** by Joey Franklin: "With humor and honesty, Franklin draws wisdom from a variety of experiences in his first collection of personal essays. . . . Franklin is a young writer, but he has the skill and good grace of a veteran."—*Publishers Weekly*  
"These thoughtful, emotional, and touching personal essays explore universal themes of the human experience."—*Shelf Awareness*



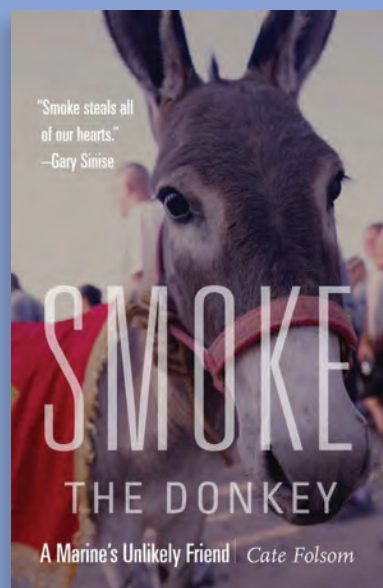
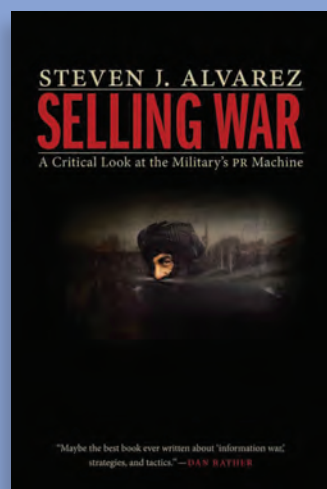
**Dawnland Voices: An Anthology of Indigenous Writing from New England** by Siobhan Senier: "Puts another nail in the coffin of the persistent fantasy that 'real' Indians and their traditions have vanished east of the Mississippi, the region where colonization happened earliest."—*Times Literary Supplement*

**Redskins: Insult and Brand** by C. Richard King: "King shows why this controversy matters well beyond the football field."—*Kirkus*

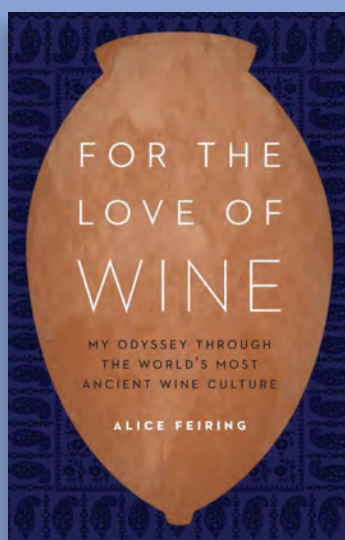




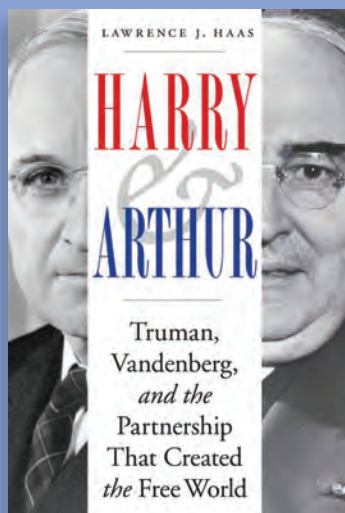
***Selling War: A Critical Look at the Military's PR Machine*** by Steven J. Alvarez: "A pull-no-punches critique that spares few in the defense establishment."  
—Kirkus



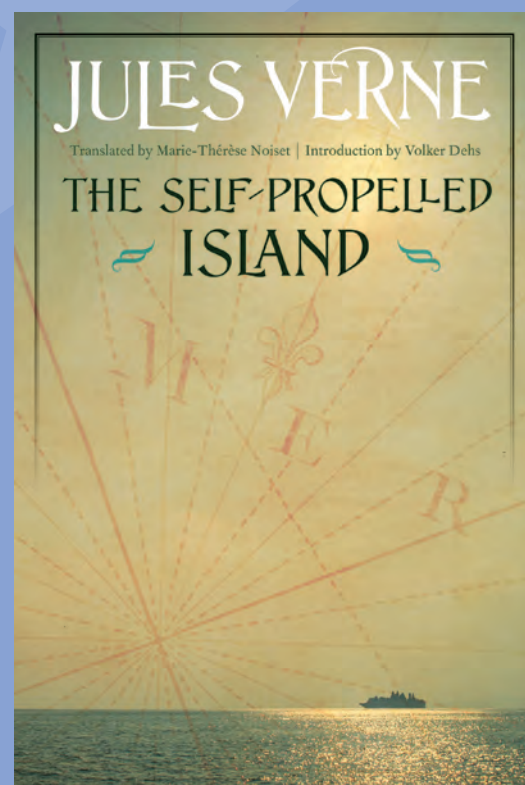
***Smoke the Donkey: A Marine's Unlikely Friend*** by Cate Folsom: "Readers learn about the importance of logistics to a war effort, which military books often downplay. . . . A good read for Marines and their families as well as animal lovers."  
—Kirkus



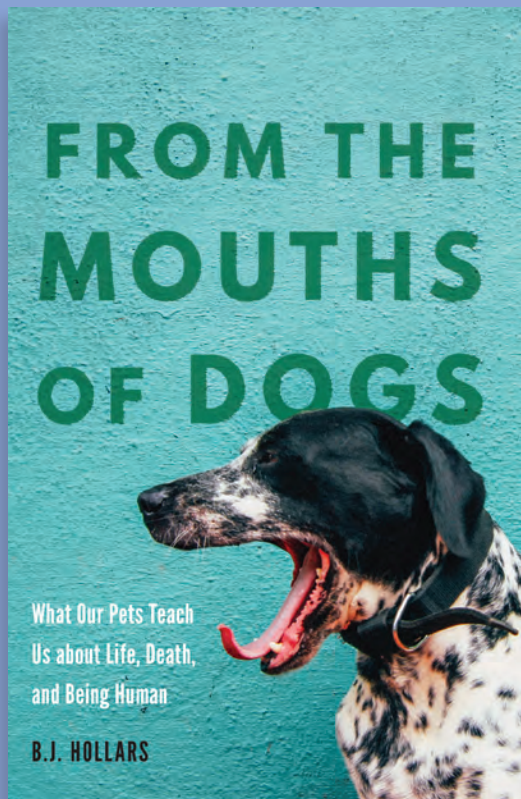
***For the Love of Wine: My Odyssey through the World's Most Ancient Wine Culture*** by Alice Feiring: "Feiring's lively account is a good place to begin for wine lovers seeking a head start on exploring a vastly under-appreciated wine-producing country."  
—Kirkus



***Harry and Arthur: Truman, Vandenberg, and the Partnership That Created the Free World*** by Lawrence J. Haas: "A sharply drawn contrast study of the twin engines behind America's post-World War II vision in foreign policy."  
—Kirkus



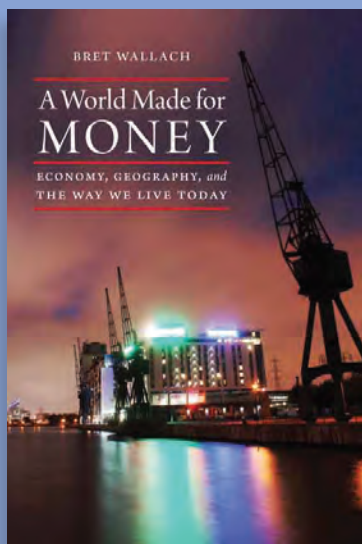
***The Self-Propelled Island*** by Jules Verne, translated by Marie-Thérèse Noiset: "If you haven't read Jules Verne since childhood, now is the time to rediscover him. The University of Nebraska Press's admirable 'Bison Frontiers of Imagination' [series] includes *The Chase of the Golden Meteor*, *The Lighthouse at the End of the World* and other Verne novels."  
—Michael Dirda, *Washington Post*



***From the Mouths of Dogs: What Our Pets Teach Us about Life, Death, and Being Human*** by B.J. Hollars: “*From the Mouths of Dogs* is not tear-jerking but reflects a tough realism in each powerful profile. There are tailwinds and headwinds to the emotional flow that moves smoothly throughout while Hollars wraps the human-animal bond in a rich context.”—American Kennel Club



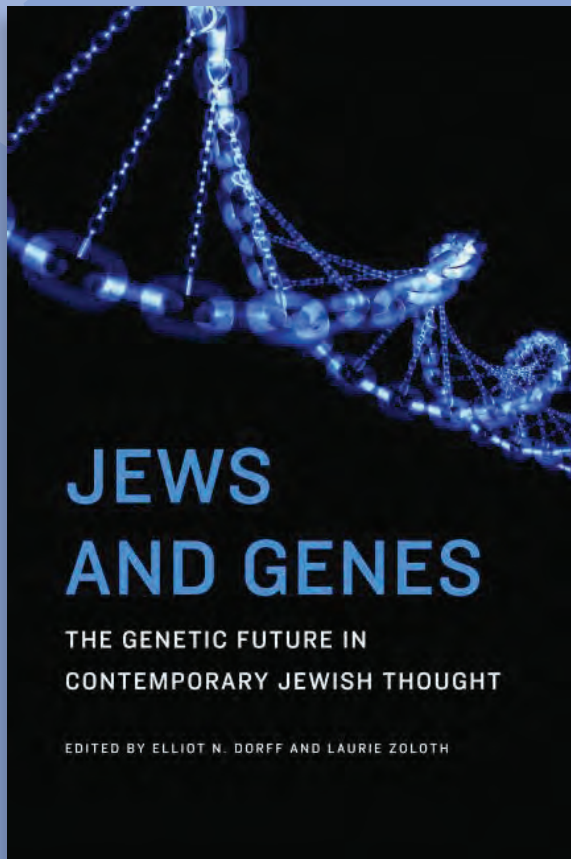
***Cora Du Bois: Anthropologist, Diplomat, Agent*** by Susan C. Seymour: “Seymour is a fine biographer and writer who makes the most of extraordinary sources to bring this intrepid woman to life in a readable book that belongs in all libraries.”  
—CHOICE



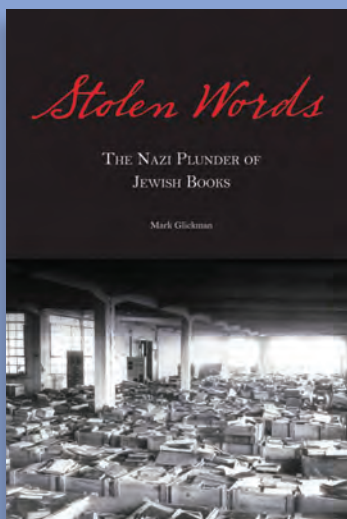
***A World Made for Money: Economy, Geography, and the Way We Live Today*** by Bret Wallach: “Wallach’s juxtaposition of examples is a compelling way to illustrate change. . . . Fascinating, memorable—a grand book. Highly recommended.”—CHOICE



# Select JPS Awards and Reviews



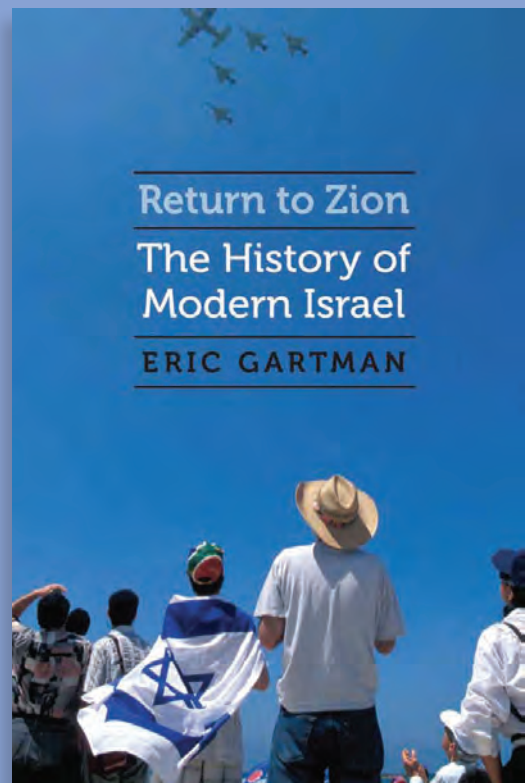
The 2015 National Jewish Book Awards named *Jews and Genes: The Genetic Future in Contemporary Jewish Thought* edited by Elliot N. Dorff and Laurie Zoloth a finalist in the category of Contemporary Jewish Life and Practice.



***Stolen Words: The Nazi Plunder of Jewish Books*** by Mark Glickman:  
“Glickman has produced a provocative history that preserves this important yet often overlooked aspect of the Holocaust, and readers will come away with a valuable perspective on how the written word can be abused for the sake of cultural genocide.”  
—*Kirkus*

***Return to Zion: The History of Modern Israel*** by Eric Gartman: “Gartman’s writing is particularly effective at making the reader feel as if he were present during meetings, where one could cut the tension with a knife. . . . His account will satisfy anyone who wants to take it one step beyond what we already know about Israel and focus on the human element of its struggles.”—Daniel Schere, *Baltimore Jewish Times*

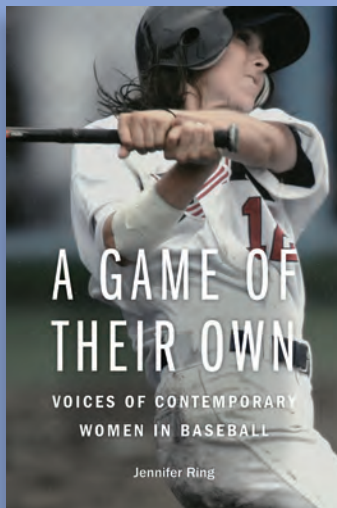
“Readers interested in a concise history of Israel, especially those who believe in her right to exist, will appreciate this book.”—Laurie Unger Skinner, *Library Journal*





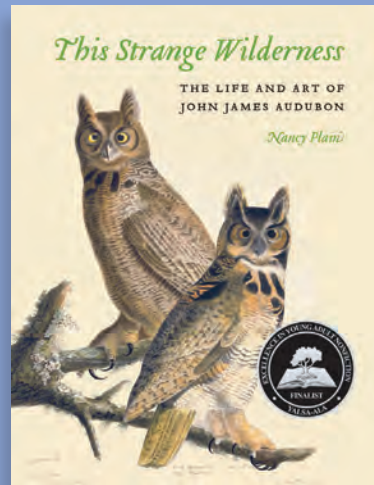
# SELECT MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

In *True West* magazine's 2016 "Best of the West" issue, UNP was named "Best Western History Book Publisher" by the magazine's readers.



*A Game of Their Own: Voices of Contemporary Women in Baseball* by Jennifer Ring was named one of "The Best Books of 2015" by the *Boston Globe*.

Joy Castro's *How Winter Began: Stories* was named one of the *Kansas City Star's* "Best Collections of Short Stories, Essays of 2015."

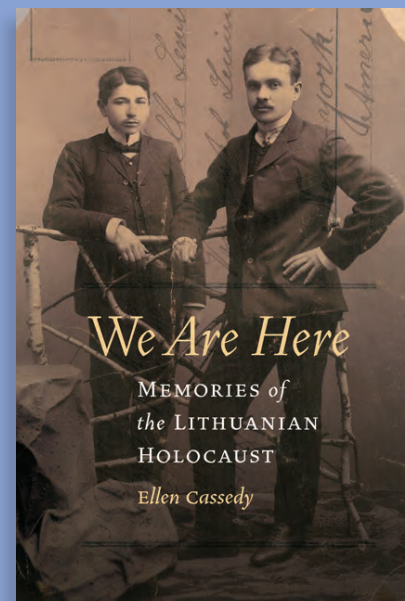
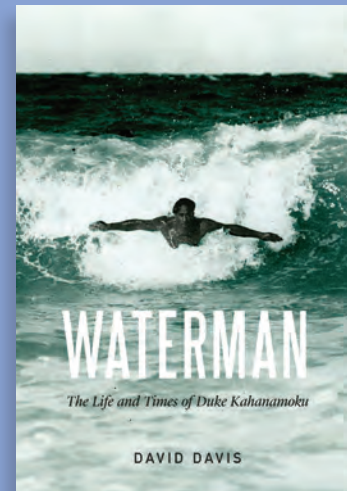


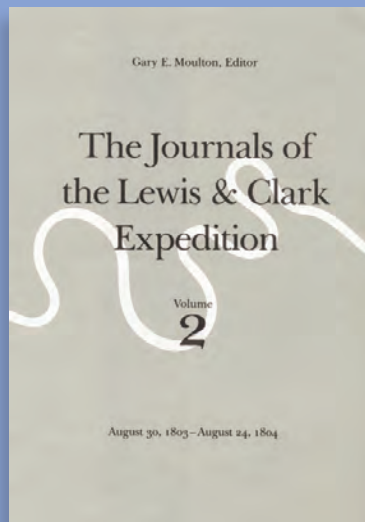
Booklist selected *This Strange Wilderness: The Life and Art of John James Audubon* by Nancy Plain as one of its "Top 10 Science and Health Books for Youth: 2015."



National Geographic named Vilnius, Lithuania, as one of its "Best Winter Trips 2016" and highlighted Ellen Cassedy's award-winning memoir *We Are Here: Memories of the Lithuanian Holocaust* as "What to Read Before You Go."

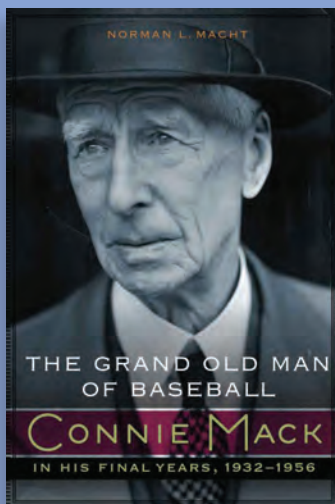
In the November 20, 2015, *Wall Street Journal*, Sarah Wheeler recommended *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* by David Davis as one of the best biographies of 2015. The *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* included the book in its list of "The 10 Books of Christmas: A roundup of favorite holiday reads," and the Los Angeles Public Library named it on its list "Best of 2015: Non-fiction."



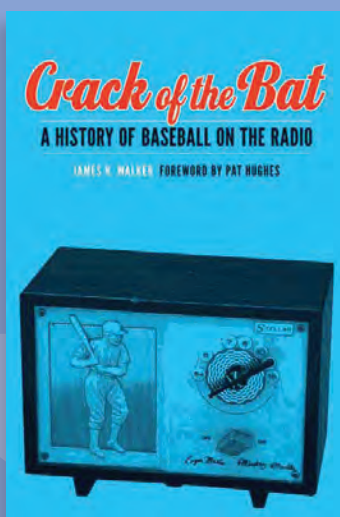


*The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*, edited by Gary E. Moulton and published by UNP over a twenty-two-year span, is one of fifty projects being celebrated as part of the National Endowment for the Humanities' 50th anniversary. The NEH's anniversary website reads, "Together, the complete journals and the projects they inspire are ensuring that one of the most important expeditions in American history continues to excite the spirit of scientific exploration that Lewis and Clark possessed in such abundance."

The December 6, 2015, edition of *The Inquirer* (Philadelphia) included a piece about Norman L. Macht and his massive biography of Connie Mack, the manager and owner of the Philadelphia Athletics for a half century. Begun in 1985, Macht's thirty-year obsession resulted in "three volumes, published between 2007 and '15, [that] stand seven inches high; contain 2,009 pages; and probably make up the most extensive, thoroughly researched baseball biography ever." The final volume in the trilogy is *The Grand Old Man of Baseball: Connie Mack in His Final Years, 1932–1956*.



James R. Walker, author of *Crack of the Bat: A History of Baseball on the Radio*, penned an article titled "The Humble Origins of the First World Series Broadcasts," which appeared in the October 27, 2015, issue of *Time* during the World Series.



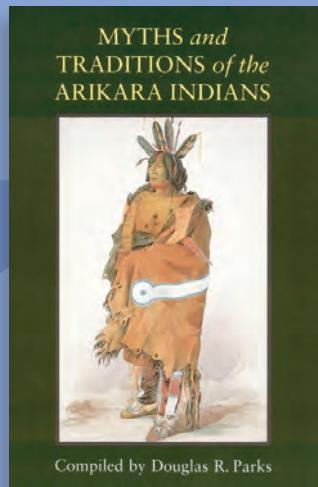
## JewAsian

Race, Religion, and Identity  
for America's Newest Jews

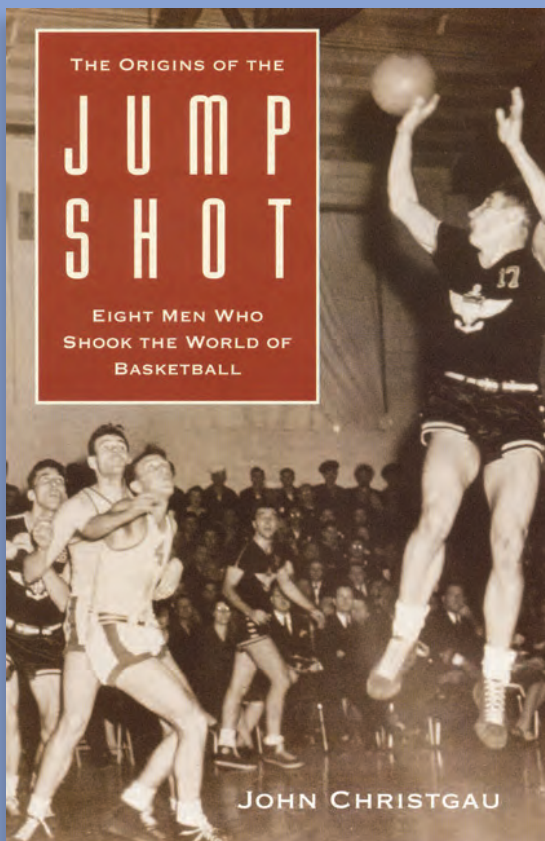
Helen Kiyong Kim and Noah Samuel Leavitt

The December 13, 2015, edition of *The Forward* featured a lengthy piece from *Haaretz* about the phenomenon of mixed Jewish and Asian American couples, citing Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan as a prime example. Leading researchers of relations between Jews and Asian Americans Helen Kim and Noah Leavitt are quoted extensively in the article about their work and their new UNP book *JewAsian: Race, Religion, and Identity for America's Newest Jews*.

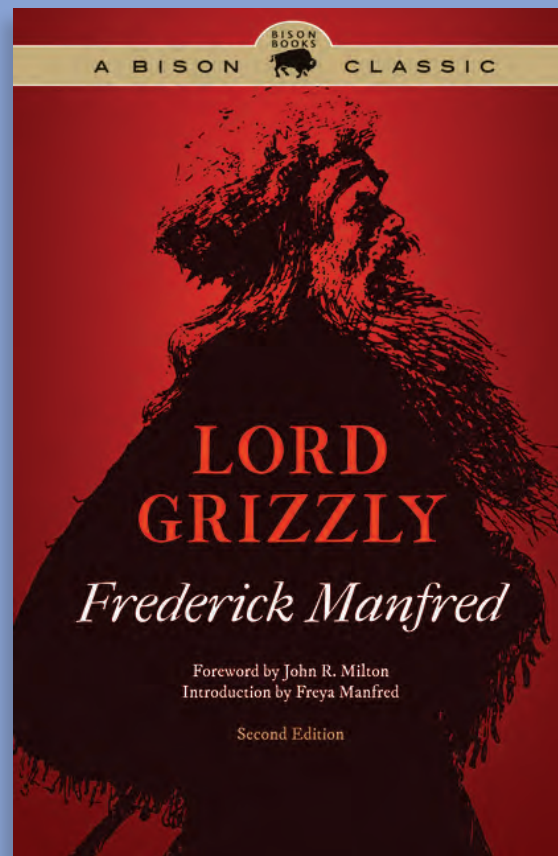
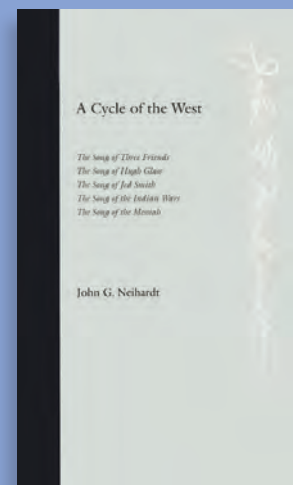
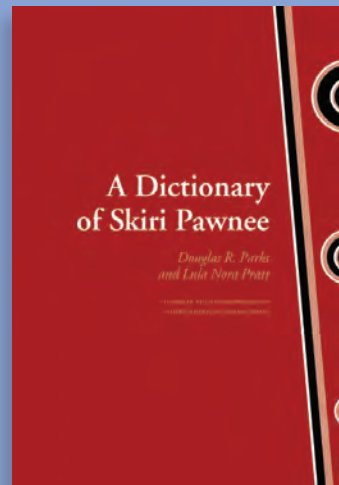




Douglas Parks, author of the UNP books *Myths and Traditions of the Arikara Indians* and *A Dictionary of Skiri Pawnee* and editor of the UNP journal *Anthropological Linguistics*, helped provide authentic Pawnee and Arikara dialogue for the hit film *The Revenant*. In other *Revenant*-related news, Christopher Benfy, in his article about the film for the *New York Review of Books*, cited John G. Neihardt's "The Song of Hugh Glass" in the UNP book *A Cycle of the West*. And UNP's Bison Books edition of *Lord Grizzly* by Frederick Manfred—which tells the story of Hugh Glass, Leonardo DiCaprio's character in the movie—experienced a welcome sales spike during the film's successful run.

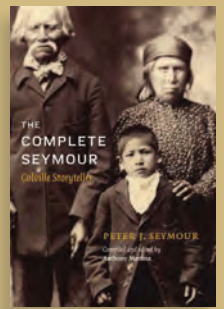
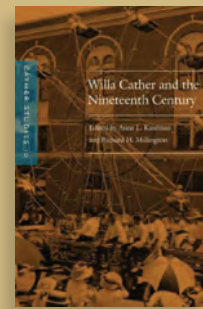
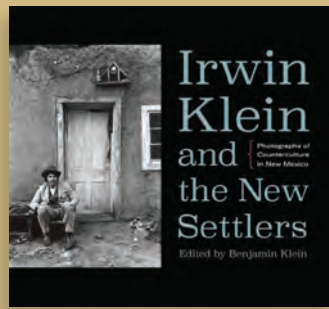
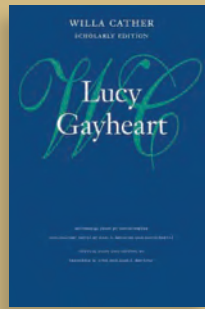
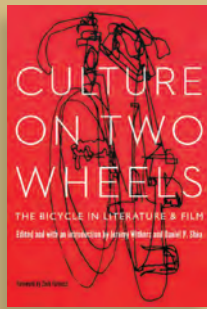


*The Origins of the Jump Shot: Eight Men Who Shook the World of Basketball* and its author John Christgau were quoted in a January article in the *New York Times* upon the death of basketball pioneer Kenny Sailors. Sailors was one of the players credited with inventing the jump shot, "a basketball innovation that would one day be seen as comparable to the forward pass in football."





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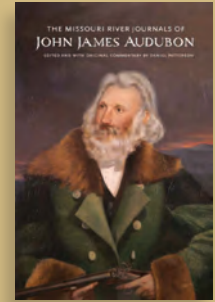
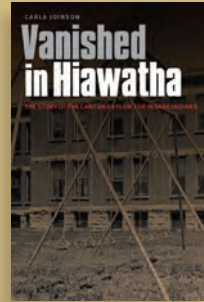
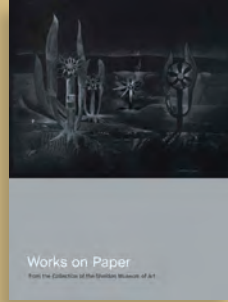
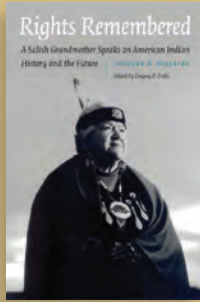
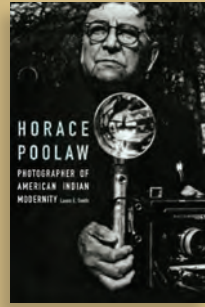
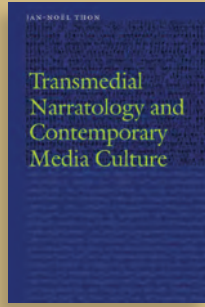
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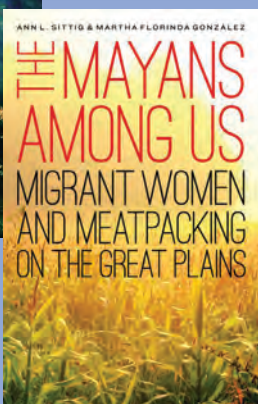
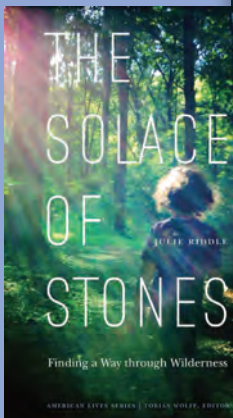
Willa Cather Foundation in Red Cloud, Nebraska

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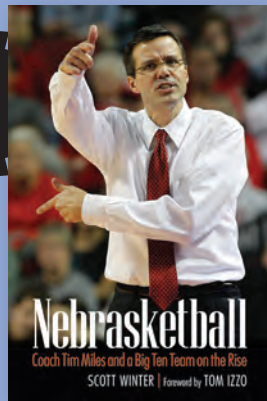
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UNP authors Patrick Madden (dressed as French essayist Montaigne), Joey Franklin, and Dinty Moore ponder Franklin's newest book *My Wife Wants You to Know I'm Happily Married*. Madden, Franklin, and Moore were just a few of the authors who stopped by the UNP booth at the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) conference held March 30–April 2 in Los Angeles.