

by Hollywood Rob  
and Daniel W. Duffy

If you spot a Honda CRX with the license plate "FILMGUY" near University Hall, it belongs to Sean Adam O' Hair, the golden boy of UNLV's small, but up-and-coming film studies department.

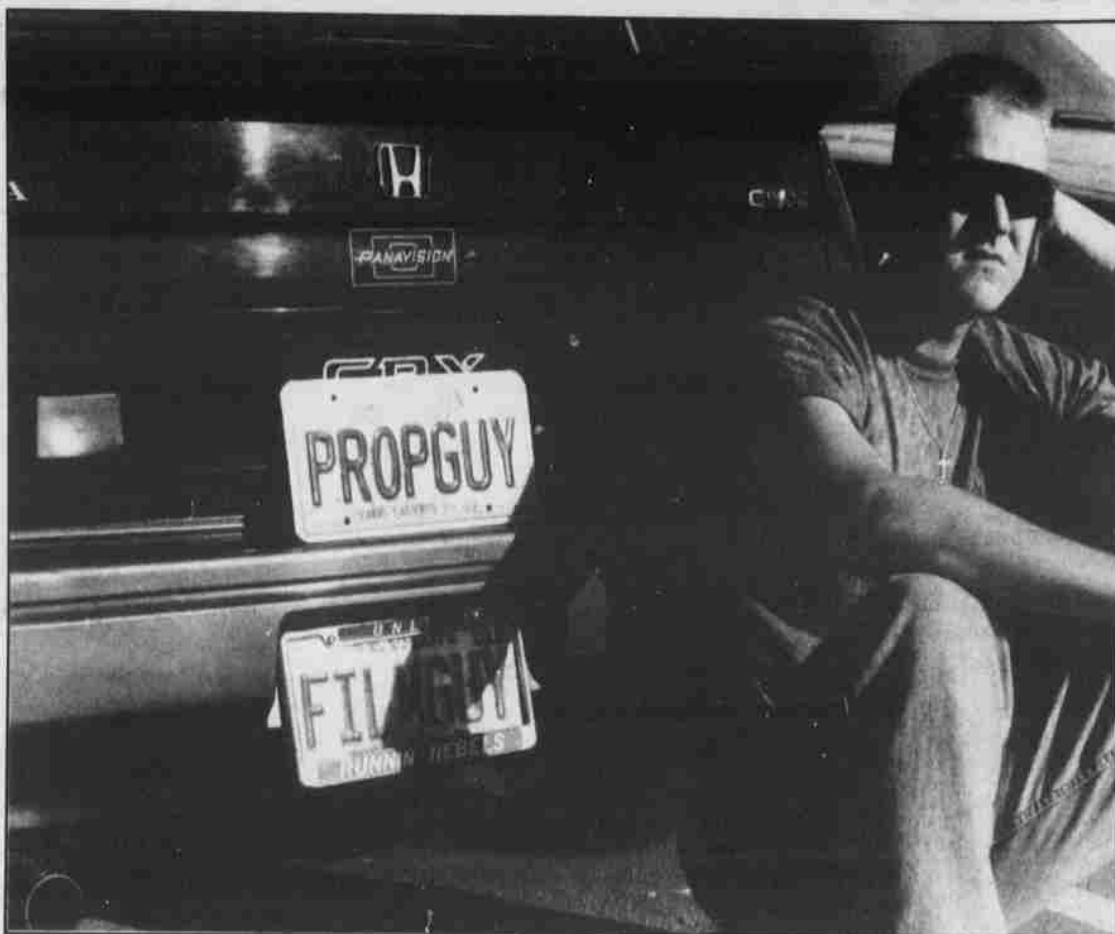
O' Hair, 22, is a special case in a city more than 400 miles east of Tinseltown. He will go out into the world with more than an education in film when he graduates; he will go with practical experience.

Last summer, O'Hair seized a rare opportunity landing a job with the production phases of the Paramount feature *Indecent Proposal*. The film, which stars Robert Redford, Demi Moore, and Woody Harrelson was partially filmed in and around Las Vegas.

During pre-production O' Hair worked as an intern under location casting director Bill Dance (*Hero, Far and Away*). His duties included taking photos of extras, making phone calls, and arranging files among other things.

In June, when production started, he became the props production assistant.

"I did everything from handing out and retrieving props to painting fake poker chips for roomfuls of extras to carry," O'Hair said. He worked on the film 12 to 14 hours a day, six days a week for approximately a month. "I was lucky to get more than three hours of sleep a night. Basically, I was always out of it."



Sean Adam O'Hair and his panavision ride.

photo by Jay P. Morgan

## 'FILMGUY' spotted on campus

On the set, the prop master kept O'Hair busy, so there never really was a time or place for him to be star-struck. "It all seemed to happen so naturally. Only occasionally would it dawn on me that I was in the same room with Adrian Lyne directing Robert Redford and Demi Moore in a scene," O'Hair said.

"After some of the gang in the prop department caught a glimpse of my license plate, I was jokingly dubbed 'Prop Guy.' The prop department followed up on this by surprising me with a

Nevada license plate that said "PROPGUY." It's something I'll never forget," O'Hair said.

Summer ended all too soon, as did his summer job, and O'Hair found himself back at the school grindstone for another go 'round. He is a junior and estimates he will graduate in spring 1994.

This semester he is concentrating on finishing his first feature-length screenplay. His sole film class is Screenwriting, and although his script is a class project, he has been work-

ing on it for about two years.

"I was about two-thirds of the way finished with it when I went back to the beginning to attack it from a better angle. I'm now in the process of a complete rewrite and hope to have it finished by the end of the semester," said O'Hair.

He was recently cast in the role of Fedotik in the University Theatre production of Chekov's *Three Sisters*. The play is scheduled to open in March and rehearsals are already under way under the direction of theatre arts professor Cathy

Hurst. He previously appeared in the University Theatre production of *Seed of Darkness* in 1990.

O'Hair gained his first professional work with several local production companies. He worked as a P.A. on two local Walker Furniture commercials. He also worked on a national television spot for A.C. Delco.

"Things have definitely changed since I was an 18 year-old with a camcorder," said O'Hair.

In his spare time, O'Hair co-leads a Christian youth group for twentysomethings. He also serves in the U.S. Marine Corps reserves with whom he traveled to Okinawa and mainland Japan in 1991 for support of Operation Desert Storm. While overseas, he made a 40-minute action-comedy titled *Thunder and Lightning* on video. The film starred

O'Hair's fellow Marines who following the war, "had plenty of free time waiting to come home" to work on it. The

video was shown to over 400 military personnel on the flight home.

For now, having completed several student films and all the offered film production classes, O'Hair is content upon helping other film students and working on his own story ideas while pursuing his degree.

"Without a doubt, I want to, and will end up writing and directing feature films. How I pursue these goals depends on what happens between now and graduation."

# Concrete Blonde set for Sunday show at Huntridge

by Tricia Romano

Back in the early Hollywood days of Concrete Blonde, James Mankey probably wouldn't have pictured his band playing in Elvisland, Las Vegas. But on Sunday night, the Huntridge Theatre will host Concrete Blonde.

It's not the first time the band has ventured to the lounge-lizard capital of the world. The guitarist clearly remembers their last stop at the defunct Calamaty Jane's. "That place was so full of happy people. I've never seen so many happy people in one building in my life," he said.

Incidentally, Vegas and any other city should feel privileged to get a glimpse of Concrete Blonde this time around. Because of lead singer-songwriter Johnette Napolitano's bout with salmonella, this was almost the tour that didn't happen. "She wasn't going to tour anymore. She was having

back problems, from hanging a heavy bass guitar around her neck. She was really sick for a couple of months. We did a short European tour for six weeks and she was fine with it," said Mankey.

Mankey and Napolitano first joined forces after meeting in a recording studio where they worked. It was during this time that they worked on their self-produced and released EP. And the rest, as they say, is history. The self-titled debut produced the band's first breakthrough single, "Still in Hollywood," thus establishing them as a part of the L.A. underground.

Strangely enough, "Hollywood," a fast, punk-style tune, is a far cry from the dark ballads that the band is known for. Has the band mellowed out with age? "I think it's other people's perceptions, more than anything that we've done. I've gone back and listened to the old album, I thought

that there were some great ballads on that album," Mankey said.

Their latest release, *Walking in London*, continues on with the traditional moody ballads of their past. But Mankey said their next release due at the end of the year, might take a departure from that. "We've got a few harder songs on this upcoming record. There are a lot of possible approaches."

So, what's it like working with the dark lady of rock? "Yeah, she can be difficult. I don't think that's a secret. I don't think she would argue with that. She can definitely be reasonable. But if there is something she doesn't like, she'll let you know," said Mankey of his bandmate.

As for Elvisland, Las Vegas, well, the second coming of Concrete Blonde, should be as exciting as the first, as they bring their brand of mood music to the Huntridge.