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A REVIEW OF MATTHIAS SCHUBNELL’S
N. SCOTT MOMADAY

—By Dr. Leroy Thomas

The name N. Scott Momaday is well known in Western Oklahoma; therefore, Matthias Schubnell’s
N. SCOTT MOMADAY: THE CULTURAL AND LITERARY
BACKGROUND (O.U. Press, 1986) will be of interest to WESTVIEW readers.

Schubnell is a native of Breisgau, West Germany; but he now lives in the United States. He earned a Ph.D. in American Studies from Oxford University.

In his study of Momaday, Schubnell concentrates on the complex literary and cultural influences that have shaped Momaday’s works. Among the works reviewed are HOUSE MADE OF DAWN, THE WAY TO RAINY MOUNTAIN, and THE NAMES: A MEMOIR.

Early on, Momaday is quoted as saying that he is deeply aware of American folklore in his works. Schubnell’s approach is sensitive and comprehensive—two characteristics that make the book one that’s worth owning. The price is $19.95; the book is available at the University of Oklahoma Press (1005 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK 73019-0445).