

arts/entertainment

Musical 'jack-of-all-trades' fishes away the blues

By William Graf

Steve Hanson, Lincoln's musical jack-of-all-trades, just played his last job with the Lincoln-based blues band, Homecookin. But instead of staying with the blues or putting his time into bluegrass, as he has done for half his life, Hanson said he's ready for something new.

"What I want to do, or what I'm trying to do, is I want to get a country and western band together. I wouldn't mind even doing straight country. You know, Merle Haggard, George Jones and also do some swing stuff too," he said.

So far, Hanson said, Pete Blakeslee, former Bluegrass Crusade guitar player, would play steel guitar and Hanson would play electric guitar.

"And we're trying to get Renold Peterson, the old singer from Sour Mash," Hanson, 31, said.

Hanson said switching styles has its problems.

"The problem is, of course, that you become a jack-of-all-trades and a master of none," he said.

"I think of this as kind of a culture shock. I'll go from playing bluegrass one night to playing with Chuck Pennington and sort of middle of the road stuff — standard pop, jazz tunes. Then I go from that to Homecookin, which is about 50 percent blues," he said.

"I've always had this problem deciding what I wanted to play. So I've never been able to nail down any one thing I wanted to play," he said.

"To have a band within a band would be the best. To have a bluegrass band that played a set of country."

The band to be with, Hanson said, would be Hot Rize, a bluegrass band on the Flying Fish label.

Hot Rize will play a set of bluegrass, Hanson said, then make an excuse that they are too tired to continue, and that they're going back to the bus to watch TV. After leaving the stage they'll return in cowboy garb as Red Knuckles and the Trailblazers.

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Steve Hanson

Photo by William Graf

Outskirts no concern to downtown managers

By Janice Pigaga

Two downtown movie theater managers say the opening of a new theater complex in East Park Plaza at 66th and O streets, and the proposal for another in the Edgewood Plaza at 56th and Highway 2 will have little effect on their business.

Bruce Smith, manager of Cinema I and II at 13th and P streets, said he wasn't concerned that his theater would lose any customers, but rather that poorer quality movies would be shown in Lincoln.

With a limited number of quality movies being made, Smith said the theaters might have to resort to showing films that otherwise might not be shown in first-run theaters.

"We might have to play a movie because we can't get anything else to play," Smith said.

Edward Sell, manager of the Stuart Theater, 13th and P streets, said the three-theater complex at East Park Plaza and the proposed three-theater complex at Edgewood don't bother him at all. But he said he wished the companies investing in the theaters had waited about five years.

Sell said waiting five years to build the theaters would have reinforced downtown Lincoln's strength in the entertainment market.

When downtown areas begin to deteriorate, the first thing to go is the entertainment, Sell said. In Omaha, Sell's company, which owned the Astro Theater for 18 years, saw the downtown entertainment market go down the drain, he said.

Lincoln has so few screens that the best theater gets the best movies, Sell said. He said that if General Cinema of Boston, the company interested in developing the Edgewood theaters, wanted to move into the Lincoln market, the best place would be downtown.

Lincoln currently has 15 theater screens. The figure has recently increased to 18 with the opening of the three-theater complex in East Park Plaza.

Sell said Lincoln is one of the few cities in the country that has a thriving entertainment district downtown. But with the development of theaters in the suburbs, that thriving district could become deserted at night.

Stores and restaurants gain revenue from the theaters too, Sell said. He said people come downtown to shop and stay to eat dinner and see a movie.

The theater complex in East Park Plaza is being developed by Douglas Theater Corp., the same corporation that owns the Douglas Theater in Lincoln, and the Cinema Center, Cinema 4 and others in Omaha.



ON STAGE

B.J.'s Hideaway: Bill Hogan and Company, Thursday through Saturday, no cover.

Boar's Head: Chuck Pennington, Thursday through Saturday, no cover.

Chesterfield's: Wondersea, Thursday through Saturday, no cover.

Downstairs: Robbie Manzel, Thursday through Saturday, no cover.

Drumstick: Tony Brown Band, Thursday through Saturday, \$2 cover Thursday, \$3 cover Friday and Saturday.

Green Frog: Highway Call, Thursday through Saturday, no cover.

Hidden Valley: Reflections, Saturday, \$5 per couple with reservation; Sandy Creek Pickers, Saturday and Sunday, \$2 cover.

Kraus' Korner: Revere, Thursday through Sunday, \$1.50 cover.

Little Bo's: Crossfire, Thursday through Saturday, \$1 cover.

Mountains: The Excessives, Friday and Saturday, no cover.

O.G. Kelly's: Cost of Living, Thursday, \$1 cover; Little Rock, Friday and Saturday, \$1 cover.

Pla-Mor Ballroom: Orville Von Seggern, Saturday, \$3 cover.

Reuben's: Steve Pejsar, Thursday through Saturday, no cover.

Royal Grove: Destiny, Thursday through Saturday, no cover.

Scoreboard: Spike and the Sputniks, Thursday through Saturday, \$1 cover.

Sidetrack: Joyce Durand, Friday and Saturday.

Tucker Inn: Free Ride, Thursday through Saturday, \$2 cover with first drink free.

Zoo Bar: Guitar Junior and his Blues Band, Thursday through Saturday, no cover.

MISCELLANEOUS

Kimball Hall: Houston Ballet, Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. Tickets \$10 general admission, \$5 students.

Lincoln Community Playhouse: Company, Thursday through Sunday.

Mueller Planetarium: Starbound: A Space Age Fable,

2:30 Saturday; 2:30, 3:45 Sunday. Adults, 41.25, students 50 cents.

Sheldon Art Gallery: Kansas City art exhibition, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Studio 12: Bus Stop, 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Tickets \$4 general admission, \$3 students.

ON SCREEN

Cinema I & II: *Kramer vs. Kramer* (PG), 7:40, 9:40 Thursday; *Superman II* (PG), 7 p.m., 9:20 Friday; 2 p.m., 4:30, 7 p.m., 9:20 Saturday and Sunday; *An Eye for an Eye* (R), 7:20, 9:20 Thursday; 7:40, 9:40 Friday; 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40 Saturday and Sunday.

Cooper: *Mommie Dearest* (PG), 7:15, 9:45 Thursday through Sunday.

Douglas 3: *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (PG), 7:20, 9:25 Thursday and Friday, matinees 1:05, 3:10, 6:15 Saturday and Sunday; *Arthur* (PG), 7:15, 9:15 Thursday and Friday, matinees 1:15, 3:15, 5:15 Saturday and Sunday; *So Fine* (R), 7:20, 9:20, matinees 1:20, 3:20, 5:20 Saturday and Sunday.

East Park: *Only When I Laugh* (PG), 1:10, 3:20, 5:30 7:40, 9:50; *So Fine* (R), 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20; *Kramer vs. Kramer* (PG), 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30.

Joyo: *Victory* (PG), 7:30 Thursday through Sunday.

Embassy: *Misbehavin'* and *Budding of Brie* (X), 10 a.m. to midnight Thursday through Sunday.

Plaza 4: *Escape from New York* (R), 7:45, 9:45; *Return of the Seacausus Seven* (R), 7:20, 9:20; *Body Heat* (R), 7:30, 9:40; *Hell Night* (R), 8 p.m., 10 p.m., Thursday through Sunday. Midnight movies: *Jimi Hendrix, A Clockwork Orange, The Rocky Horror Picture Show, M*A*S*H*, Friday and Saturday.

Sheldon: *Pioneers of Modern Painting: Edvard Munch*, 1:30 Thursday and Friday; *Gone With the Wind*, 7 p.m., Thursday and Friday; *I am My Films: A Portrait of Werner Herzog*, 7 p.m., 9:15 Saturday through Monday, matinee 3 p.m. Saturday.

State: *Continental Divide* (PG), 7:30, 9:30 Thursday and Friday, matinees 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 Saturday and Sunday.

Stuart: *Paternity* (PG), 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 Thursday through Sunday. Midnight movie: *American Gigolo* (R), Friday.