

Gilder's new album a rip-off

By Chris McCubbin
Staff Reporter

I remember 1978, the beginning of my junior year of high school. I was already living in a dorm then, but that's a long story. I remember the boys rushing down the hall to try for a hot shower at 7:30 a.m. cranking out rock 'n' roll songs in their various adolescent tremolos. The song most often croaked by high school boys that fall was "Hot Child In The City," by Nick Gilder.

Record Review

Gilder has a new album out now. It's called simply "Nick Gilder." It's his first new album in five years, and it contains no song even remotely like "Hot Child In The City." Gilder is to be commended for the courage he shows in not ripping off his one previous commercial success, but since he steals shamelessly from practically every other "power pop" band in existence, it seems a wasted gesture. Almost all the songs on this album sound in some way like a song done before by someone else.

Who, specifically, does Gilder steal from on this album?

"Scream Of Angels" sound like Meatloaf.

"Footsteps" sounds like Bryan Adams.

"Let Me In" sounds like Steve Perry. The album cover proudly proclaims "Let Me In." So what? Is there a video out or something?

"Fingerprints" sounds like "The Warrior" by Scandal. Actually, since Gilder co-wrote "The Warrior" with Holly Knight, I suppose it's okay for him to use the rip-off version on his own album.

"Miles to Go" sounds like a poem by Robert Frost, a 20th century American poet.

"Waterfront" sounds like Tony Carey, but this song has none of the fascinating characters that make Carey's music special.

"Rebel," sounds like "He's a Rebel," by The Crystals, the 1960s women's group.

"Nowhere to Run" sounds like nobody, really. This is the album's best cut. It's a "school sucks" anthem with a surf-guitar lead line. The virulent lyrics should make this a hit with high

school kids. However, the bass line sounds like the "Batman" theme.

"Sabotage" sounds like "Every Breath You Take" by The Police, and is the album's most shameless rip-off.

"Don't Forget" sounds like Heart.

However, this is not a completely wretched album. The band is right, and the songs (especially "Nowhere to Run") do occasionally rock. Gilder also has a fine rock/pop voice. He just needs someone to write songs for him.

G.P.A. rating: 2.5.

Entertainment shorts

Contemporary sculptor Alice Aycock will give an illustrated lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery Auditorium.

Aycock's lecture coincides with the special exhibition of the Sheldon Gallery's recently acquired Aycock sculpture, "The Machine That Makes the World."

While in Lincoln, Aycock will participate as the first of six artists in the UNL Art Department's 1985-86 Visiting Artists Series.

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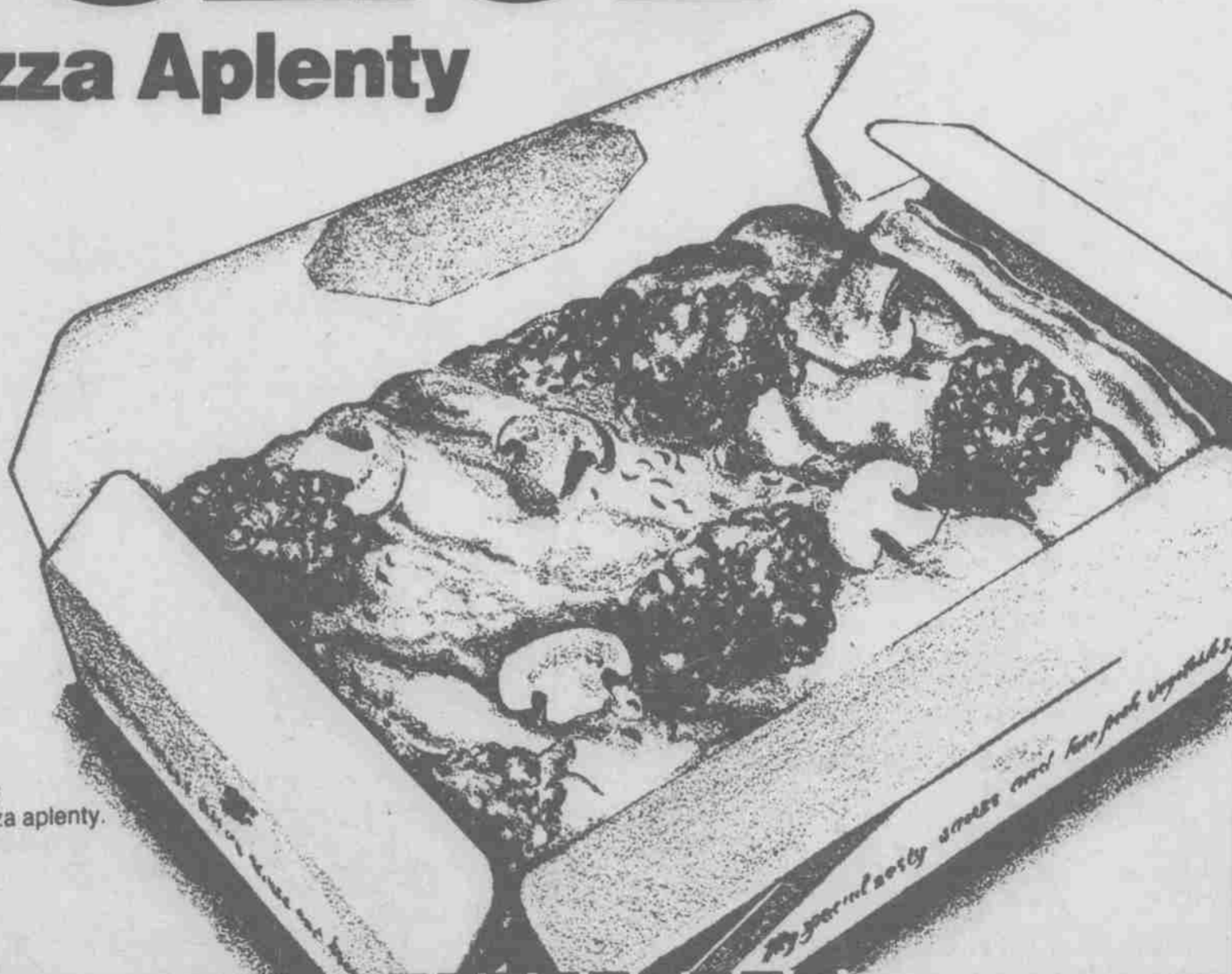
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