

# Thin White Rope hopes for a crowded house

By Ken Havlat  
Staff Reporter

Guy Kyser, a vocalist for Thin White Rope, said he hopes a few more people will be in town Friday when the band returns to Lincoln.

## Band Preview

"Last spring when we were in town, we came over spring break and played at the chicken place (The Drumstick)," Kyser said in a telephone interview. "No one knew we were in town."

Thin White Rope will perform Friday at Duffy's, 1412 O St. Those Guys are the opening act. Music is scheduled to begin about 9:30 p.m.

Fortune has been good for Thin White Rope. The band's newest album, "In the Spanish Cave," debuted at No. 44 on the Rockpool college radio charts in the April 8 issue. Their popularity has escalated so much in Europe that an outtake EP, "Bottomfeeders," was released for the European market. Demand for this EP was so strong that it also was released to American college radio stations.

The northern California band originally signed with Scott Vanderbilt and his Rational label. Partly

through his efforts, the band was signed to Frontier, which also put out its first two LPs, "Exploring the Axis" and "Moonhead."

Watching the band's progress from its early origins to its present sound has been exciting.

"In the Spanish Cave" is a richly textured album with vocals by Kyser that bring home an individualistic, first-person introspection into the band's music. More than this, however, it is the pulsating beat created by the other three band members—Roger Kunkel on guitar and vocals, John Von Feldt on bass and vocals, and Josef Becker on drums—that caused the European press to make Thin White Rope feel like one of their own.

"It's mystifying to us," Kyser commented. "Why they think we are so European is beyond us. Sometimes I feel introverted by writing, but I feel it gives us something in common with our audience."

Some of the stronger material on the new LP includes "Mr. Limpet," a swiny piece of false history about Don Knotts at Chappaquidick, and "Elsie Crashed the Party," an ode to the band's dead mascot.

Kyser said Thin White Rope loves playing for live audiences.

"We enjoy taking our songs,



Courtesy of Frontier Records

### Thin White Rope

stripping them down and forgetting about the studio nuances," Kyser said. "We want to get all the energy out of the songs as we can. We have to have fun on stage or we wouldn't be doing it."

Kyser said "In the Spanish Cave" is the band's first album in which all the songs were written in the past

year. Doing this, he said, makes him worry about getting writer's block.

Thin White Rope has been living a scary existence, Kyser said, because of its three LPs. Having many selection allows the band to pick and choose from the material already recorded, he said. It also allows an explorative trek for anyone wishing

to experience a Thin White Rope show for the first time and provides an opportunity to explore something new similar to the cracks and crevasses of their existence.

Paranoia never felt so good.

Duffy's hasn't decided yet on the cover charge, but a Duffy's official said it probably would be about \$3.

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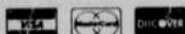
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