

Bechdel draws for lesbians

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two young lesbians: Mo, "a young, white, middle-class dyke vaguely based on me," said Bechdel; and Lois, cool, relaxed, and having many girlfriends.

"The hardest thing for me as a cartoonist has been taking myself seriously," said Bechdel. The fall 1986 publication of the first book of compilations from "Dykes to Watch Out For" by the Firebrand Press has helped Bechdel take herself seriously, she said.

Today, with her second book of cartoons about to come out, Bechdel does "pretty well" compared to other alternative cartoonists, she said. In fact, Bechdel now makes her entire living from the gay community — she's the production manager of Equal Time Magazine in Minneapolis, and still has her revenue as an illustrator. Although she admitted that as a lesbian cartoonist, she will never appear in the

daily papers, Bechdel finds the lesbian community very supportive of her work.

The most important aspect of her work, Bechdel concluded, is showing lesbians as they really are. At this point in her work, Bechdel wants to hit a "universal chord" between all lifestyles "without betraying an individual community."

"I think it would be great if straight people read my cartoons," said Bechdel, but added, "...I really draw them for lesbians."

Bechdel's presentation was sponsored by the UNL Gay/Lesbian Programming Committee. Co-chairs Nanci Hamilton and Dave Whitaker were not completely satisfied with the attendance, but cited that the nearly two hour delay may have contributed to the problem. Both Hamilton and Whitaker invited the public to attend the fall planning meeting of the G/LPC on Tuesday, April 19th, in the Nebraska Union.



John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

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NO COUPON NECESSARY



The Church, "Starfish" (Arista)

The Church has, for a relatively modest time, been one of Australia's most popular bands. Similar to its nearby counterpart Midnight Oil, the band has never sold many records in America until now, but has collected a fair share of praise from critics.

Now the Church has hit us with yet another LP, "Starfish." Probably its most winning attribute is getting away from the REM-clone album "Heyday." Once again they find themselves reinventing and rethinking the Church sound to great advantage.

My first initiation into the Church's own peculiar vision of the Australian outback came in 1983

from a friend's copy of "Seance." Hearing those beautifully twanging guitars was a revelation. "Seance" brought out a '60s sound that didn't seem to exist with other bands at the time, despite their best retroactive efforts.

But to the present. "Starfish" presents us with 10 new songs and a different perspective. Steve Kilbey is more subdued in his writing than longtime Church listeners will be used to. "Destination" reflects his concern with the microcosms around us that are often taken for granted. "Under the Milky Way," the cut currently getting the most attention, is a contemplation of sorts while the rest of side one is subtle.

— Ken Haviat



Those Guys, "Rock-N-Stuff" (independently produced cassette)

This is an exciting time in Lincoln's music scene. Talented,

creative musicians abound, but there is no No.1 band. As bands vie for a larger audience, they release tapes of their music both to gauge their popularity and to spread their sound.

The latest band to throw its hat in the ring is Those Guys. After playing to Lincoln audiences off and on for several years now, the band recently released its first tape, "Rock-N-Stuff." The title reflects the variety of musical styles on the tape.

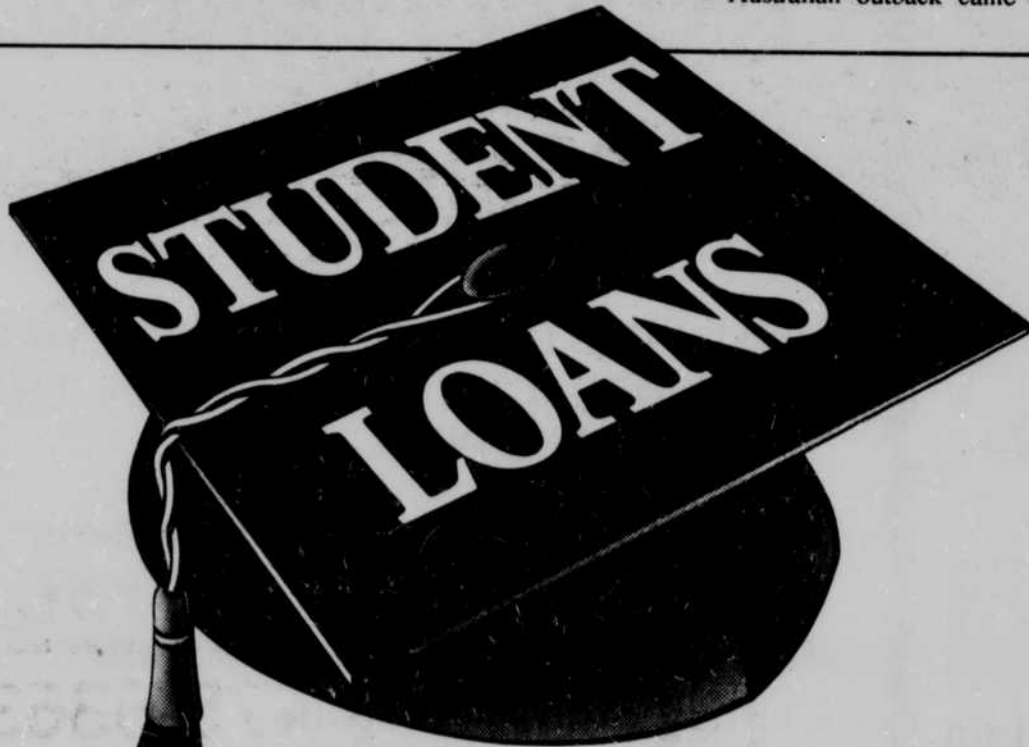
There are several directions Those Guys could take.

Those Guys experiment with the pop sound. The first two songs on the tape, "Sister Swing" and "Cover Girl," feature layers of sound, clean and crisp guitar work, exciting vocal harmonies and attention to dynamics. They are fun songs that showcase their musicianship, yet don't tax the listener's mental faculties much.

"The Weakness" and "Original Sin" are their contributions to R&B. These songs extoll the physical weaknesses that eventually lead to moral bankruptcy and the breakdown of the American way of life. More than that, they are a slice of angst-ridden '80s life. The songs are about relationships between men and women, mistrust, sexual paranoia, and a plethora of other unhealthy attitudes running amok through a generation with little else to live for other than satisfying selfish desires.

"Mr. President" and "Bibles & Guns" are songs with a social message. "Mr. President" is a fun semi-psychedelic tune that makes somewhat insolent but truthful remarks about our president. "Bibles and Guns" is about what the United States sends to Central America. The use of

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