

# Unusual musical combinations find success in 'Unity'

By Kelly Anders  
Staff Reporter

Despite popular belief, sometimes oil and water do mix. Shinehead's album, "Unity," is a perfect example. A blend of rap and reggae, the album is full of surprising sounds. The title cut, "Unity," starts the album, and is one of the best songs on

it. Primarily a rap tune, this song has a fast beat. The intense and monotonous drone of the bass is a perfect background for the high-pitched guitar licks.

Throughout the song, Shinehead mixes in pieces of other songs one wouldn't think of using. During two parts of the cut, for example, he started to sing the lyrics to the spiritual, "We Shall Overcome" and the Beatles' "Come Together." Surprisingly, the songs integrate well.

"Chain Gang-Rap" follows. The song is a little more like reggae than rap. The bass, easy beat and Shine-

head's vocals are reminiscent of reggae band Steel Pulse's material. But while he sings some lyrics he raps some, too. The effect is quite interesting and quite good. Like "Unity," this piece is definite dance material.

"The Truth," "Hello Y'all" and "Do It With Ease," the remaining songs on side one, are all basically reggae, but none are alike.

"The Truth" sounds a lot like UB40's material -- style, lyrics and all. The beat is speedy, the reggae has a pop edge to it and Shinehead quickly drones the lyrics in time to the beat. He uses his voice, not like a

singer, but as an instrument.

In "Hello Y'all," Shinehead sounds like a rapping Bob Marley. Even the background music is reminiscent of Marley.

"Do It With Ease" is completely reggae. The tempo is pretty slow compared to the other cuts on the track. Shinehead sings the lyrics in a lower register which gives the song a sensual edge.

Side two opens with "Gimme No Crack." Not quite rap and not quite reggae, this mid-tempo tune has an almost calypso-like sound to it. Shinehead belts out the lyrics like Eddie

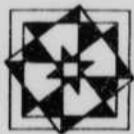
Grant (of "Electric Avenue" fame) would if he decided to do a rap tune. "Raggamuffin" is yet another dance-inducing tune with a quick beat. There's nothing particularly unusual about it but it's a lot of fun to listen and jump around to.

"Golden Touch," the last song on the album, is the slowest and the sexiest. The beat is so calm and the bass overpowers the piece. Shinehead's vocals are background material, harmonizing and complimenting the bass.

Shinehead's "Unity" is a truly innovative piece, worth listening to.

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## Power of 'Major League' is minor characters

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that's the heart-warming thing, isn't it, Lisa? The Indians, against every possible odd, learn about the owner's evil scheme to relocate to Miami, and ... and ... well, that would be giving it away, wouldn't it?

LD: So what? I told you what was going to happen half way through (you owe me \$5). No, I'm kidding. "Major League" offers a simple look at many things which threaten the human condition. Everything from religion and love to the joys of my favorite sport on the earth -- baseball.

WR: How cute, Lisa. How great. But you barely mentioned the biggest threat to the human condition: Harry (Bob Uecker). Uecker is great in "Major League" as the terminally drunken Indians announcer. He just

kind of grows on you ... like mold on three-week-old Wonder Bread, or a tumor.

LD: I'll tell you what really grows old is the romance between Jake (Berenger) and an old flame. Of course she's not going to marry her perfect lawyer fiancée. Not when she can have a daring, bold baseball player.

WR: Let's talk about Charlie Sheen. Is he going to make baseball movies his second career? Actually, Charlie Sheen was so inoffensive in "Major League," I could hardly believe it. Is this the same Charlie Sheen who normally throws himself around a movie screen? I actually kind of

liked him. What a surprise!

LD: Personally, I think "Major League" was just another way for Sheen to exhibit what a lame actor he really is. Not only is he inoffensive, but he's ineffective. His tough-guy lines are carried out in a half-hearted manner and basically he looks awkward and rigid on screen. But, he does have that severe look in his eyes -- like Daddy Martin and brother Emilio.

WR: Forget about the major characters, Lisa. And it's easy to do, isn't it? "Major League's" strength is not its three "big" stars. What makes this movie appealing, dumb jokes and all, is the whole package: the

underdogs pulling themselves together and kicking the stuffing out of the big, evil Yankees. It's as American as apple pie, fireworks, skinheads and Jessica Hahn.

LD: OK, so it's not going to be recognized by the academy, but it's good clean (and not so clean) fun. The jokes are good, the opening shots of Cleveland are good and now a hot dog sounds good.

WR: A hot dog? Do you know what those things are made of? I worry about your digestion, Lisa. And I worry about recommending "Major League" to our audience, but what the hay? You always can go rent "Bull Durham."

## Lied will aid UNL's concert promoters

UPC from Page 9

couldn't play a whole set.

According to the article, Hernandez said the Sports Center should prepare for no future concerts after the Van Halen concert scheduled for later in that semester.

However, this had no serious consequences toward concerts at the Sports Center. Van Halen played at the Sports Center Nov. 5 and "Van Halen went off; piece of cake," Fremstad said.

Gina Sutko, concerts and coffee-

houses chairperson, just took her position in January. Concerts and Coffeeshouses is responsible for bands playing in the union's centennial ballroom. Being a newcomer to the job, Sutko decided to have an event with a local focus before booking a national college-oriented act.

Thus, last Thursday's "Local Exposure '89" came about, an event she hopes will become annual. "Local Exposure '89" featured the Return, the Leafy Green Things and Elysium Crossing.

Sutko hopes this event gives mi-

nors a chance to see these young bands who generally play in bars.

There are also plans to bring more variety to campus such as comedy, reggae and folk music, she said.

Next year, the concert promoters will not only have more experience, but the Lied Center will be open as well, so the chances of national concerts will be better.

The Lied Center will seat around 2,500 people; 1,500 more than the Centennial Room, Fremstad said. This will also allow UPC to navigate the schedule restrictions imposed by the athletic department.

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(Top left, clockwise) Cherie Cook, Chris Carey, Scott Vogt and Ty Traugher audition for College Madhouse Friday afternoon on the Union Plaza. Contestants raced to fill baby bottles with water from balloons. Peg Johnson, research analyst at the office of the vice chancellor for student affairs, said producers would notify contestants at the end of May or during the first part of June.