

Bands vary in Lincoln

By Mark Lage
Staff Reporter

Lincoln has a variety of local bands that appeal to various aural palates. The following is a list of Lincoln noisemakers:

Bobby Curious: Cover band that features Bobby Kennedy on bass and vocals. Also, the only band around that always uses the same flier.

Charlie Burton and the Hiccups: An essential asset of Lincoln's rock and roll scene, these veterans do not try to impress, pick up record deals or make big statements. They just rock.

Elysium Crossing: This band still has too many obvious inspirations, most notably guitarist Shamus Adams, who sounds more like the early Edge as time goes by. Which only proves that The Edge with a large chord vocabulary would still be The Edge. But Adams' talent is evident, and he often leaves his band in the dust during live performances. When they can keep up, this band has a number of impressive songs.

For Against: Only the weakest link of the trio is left. Jeffrey Runnings recorded two Independent Project albums and threatened to play live about once a year but never made it. Two new guys have joined with bassist/vocalist Runnings, and for no apparent reason they're still called For Against.

Geranium Diapers: They make loud, undisciplined, unstructured noise and they fill rooms with thick, smelly smoke. Art or nuisance?

Leafy Green Things: Fairly straight-forward guitar rock that occasionally threatens to be some sort of jazzy speed-metal, which would be interesting.

The Lemmings: Formed in 1985 by guitarists John Bruce and Brad Grier, the band was previously called Foghorn Leghorn and Guru Shrub. Their recently released tape, "Skoomba Loomba," features the drumming of former New Brass Gun Brian Barber, who has since departed for Minneapolis.

Lie Awake: Reputedly the best cover/fraternity band in Lincoln. Their main claim to greatness is the fact that they have two keyboardists, which means that they can perform the most precise Cure covers in town.

Mannequin Beach: Bizarre sounding, heavy effects, a combination of thrash, heavy metal, and acid rock, topped off by a sort of cartoonish lyric/vocal style reminiscent of Jello Biafra. Responsible for one of the very best songs out of all three Broadside tapes, "I Dig Love."

The Millions: Bass and vocals from The New Brass Guns (Marty Amsler and Lori Allison) combine with drums and guitar from For Against (Greg Hill and Harry Dingman) -- making this Lincoln's local "supergroup" -- to form a band that manages to be less interesting than either of those two bands. Which means, of course, that they're already off to L.A. to record their first album.

Also, they are easily Lincoln's best-looking, most photogenic band.

The Return: Randy Watson, who

has produced releases by 13 Nightmares, Trout Mystery, For Against and more at his Black Sea studio, leads this band. They recently released a cassette, "Glossingtown." Watson's guitar and vocals are inspired by XTC, but don't quite live up to that standard. He is ably backed by drummer Greg Hill (he's everywhere), and bassist Dave Farrens. This band is capable of filling a room with large, clear, entertaining sounds.


13 Nightmares: The most established alternative band in Lincoln, with the most highly developed sound and style. Apparent carelessness and an occasionally punkish attitude show blatant disrespect for their own well-conceived songs. But when they're good they are Lincoln's best evidence that the guitar will never die.

Lead guitarist Jon Taylor's pastoral-sounding pickings and bionic-wristed strummings seem unlikely partners for singer/guitarist Gregg Cosgrove's thunderously distorted power chords, but Taylor's guitar webs drape effectively over Cosgrove's solid, simple foundations. This stark contrast between hooks and power is the crux of 13 Nightmares' sound. It is given further forward momentum by Heidi Ore's fluid bass lines, and is aptly punctuated by drummer Ron Albertson. The raw but catchy whole is a powerful vehicle for Cosgrove's honest, lonely, raw-throated vocals. This band is capable of alternately inspiring more awe than any other band in town, and generating the severest headaches.

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Kimball brings stars to its stage

By Tom Koperski
Staff Reporter

At the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the place to find a bit of culture is Kimball Hall. There you will find a variety of events in the areas of music, theatre and dance taking place throughout the school year.

According to Judy Furry, coordinator of publicity and promotion, Kimball Hall hosts different traveling companies which perform in Lincoln during the school year. The School of Music and the Department of Theatre Arts & Dance also host faculty and student productions throughout the

year.

The Kronos Quartet will open Kimball's fall season. This group is returning to Kimball for the fourth time and features the sounds of 20th-century composers.

kimball
PREVIEW

The Market Theatre Co. is returning this fall with another production about apartheid. This production is called, "You Strike the Woman, You Strike the Rock." It looks at apartheid from a woman's perspective through the combination of African chants and dances.

In the area of dance, MOMIX is

back for five shows. This dance group puts on a spectacular show filled with extraordinary moves that excite the audience while telling a variety of stories.

A special event this fall is the return of The Flying Karamazov Brothers. This group of acrobats and jugglers is the ultimate experience in audience participation.

Admission to each of the 14 major productions this season at Kimball Hall average about \$11 for non-students with a feature of half-price admission for university students. Kimball Hall also offers a discount package for those purchasing tickets to a certain number of shows.

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