

Red Hot Chili Peppers return with new songs

By Mark Lage
Senior Reporter

Tonight the funky alternative rock band The Red Hot Chili Peppers returns to Omaha for a live performance at The Ranch Bowl.

concert PREVIEW

The Chili Peppers recently released "Mother's Milk," the fifth record in a recording career that began in 1984 with a self-titled debut. The band has been known since its beginning for playing crazed, thrashy funk music, often enhanced on record by occasional strings and horns.

According to band members, "Mother's Milk" continues in this tradition, despite the fact that half of the four-member band is new.

In June 1988, guitarist Hillel Slovak died. Shortly thereafter, drummer Jack Irons decided that he could not continue with the band.

Despite the sadness at the loss of one of their best friends, vocalist Anthony Kiedis and bassist Flea decided to continue with the band, and began the mission of finding a drummer and guitarist they considered qualified to be Peppers.

Kiedis and Flea discovered John

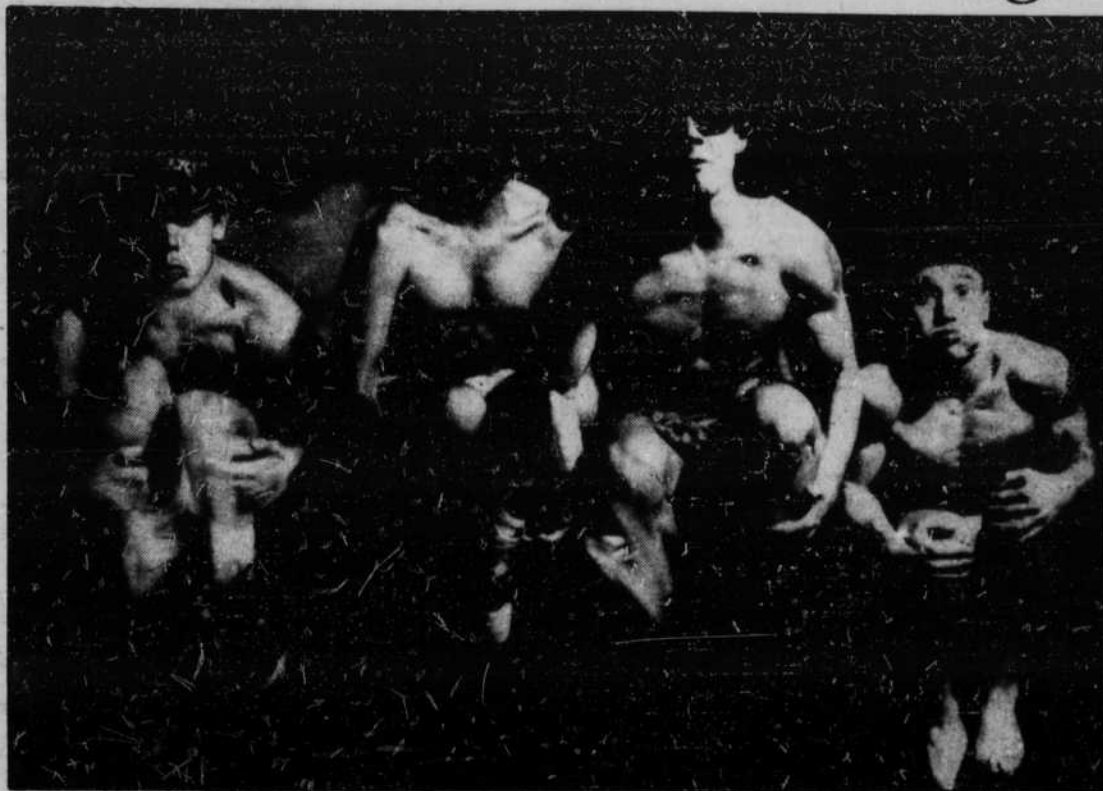
Frusciante at a tryout for the band Theloniuos Monster. Frusciante became the Peppers' new guitarist. Finding a drummer was a little tougher, but after numerous auditions they chose Chad Smith from Detroit.

After finding new members, the band was ready to move ahead again by recording "Mother's Milk." In addition to featuring 11 new Chili Peppers' originals, the album contains covers of Jimi Hendrix's "Fire," and Stevie Wonder's "Higher Ground."

Red Hot Chili Peppers' live shows have been likened to an imaginary combination of The Marx Brothers, Jimi Hendrix, James Brown and P.T. Barnum. For fans of its funk-driven music, the band is a physical, mental and emotional workout.

Opening for the Peppers at The Ranch Bowl will be Raging Slab, a band whose self-titled major label debut was released recently. This New York band formed in 1984. Before signing to RCA, Hit Parader named it one of the 10 best unsigned acts in America. The honor is based on the strength of its two independent releases, and the reputation of its live show.

Doors for the show will open at 8 p.m.



Courtesy of EMI

Red Hot Chili Peppers

Lincoln offers extensive variety of live music, bands

By Mick Dyer
Staff Previewer

It looks like another banner week for live music in Lincoln, especially for alternative rock. Here's the way it breaks down.

Alternative:

Thursday, Yabba Griffiths and Traxx will perform 4 to 7 p.m. on the Broyhill Fountain Plaza. Yabba Griffiths and Traxx is Lincoln's perennial reggae favorite. The rain location is the Centennial Ballroom. This free concert is sponsored by University Program Council.

Friday, three hard-core bands from Chicago will perform an all-ages show at the Malone Community Center, 2032 U St. The band Flower features Steve Albini, who played guitar for Rapeman and Big Black. Jesus Lizard features two ex-members of the band Rapeman. Brick Layer Cake rounds out the show. All three bands play an aggressive guitar-assault style of music.

Saturday, six Lincoln bands will perform a benefit concert for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Art

League at the Commonplace, 333 N. 14th St.

Red Max plays some pretty raw guitar grunge music. The band's tension on stage occasionally evokes a subtle sense of terror in the audience.

Mannequin Beach plays punk music from a rural viewpoint. In performance, the band's cynical humor and loud urgency drives thought-provoking messages through the seams between the bones in the listeners' skulls and right through into the brain.

Speed Wobble plays a heavy style of speed metal music.

Such Sweet Thunder plays soulful, poetic and engaging alternative rock with a reputation for its high-spirited performances on stage. Its name speaks for itself.

Side Show plays a loud, manic brand of alternative rock.

For Against plays dark and beautiful, sometimes pop-oriented, alternative rock.

Also Saturday, My Life With the Thrill Kill Kult will play at the Malone Community Center. The industrial-art band from Chicago

plays around musically with themes such as brainwashing, alienation and satanic activity. On stage, the band is a bizarre and disturbing sonic experience that penetrates the vulnerable places of your mind -- where your deepest fears have been accumulating all your life -- and shakes them loose, to let them run amok with your gray matter. Be sure to wear lots of black if you plan to attend this show.



Sunday, the Screaming Trees and Of Cabbages and Kings will play at Duffy's Tavern, 1412 O St. The Screaming Trees is a four-piece, white-noise guitar sub-pop band from Oregon. Of Cabbages and Kings is a four-piece act from New York City, featuring Algis Kizys, the ex-bass player for the Swans, and Rich the drummer from Live Skull. The band plays intense, dark, heavy rock

and is on the leading edge of the New York City "no-wave" sound.

Country: Thursday, Sean Benjamin will play acoustic folk music at 9th Street Blues, 421 S. Ninth St.

Friday and Saturday, the Cheatin' Snakes will play at the Mountains Bar and Grill, 311 S. 11th St. The Cheatin' Snakes is a dynamic, rough-and-tumble, foot-stomping, good-time country band that often gives the audience more than its asks for in terms of entertainment.

Jazz/Blues: Tonight, Amethyst will play at the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Amethyst is Lincoln's premiere women's music group. The band plays a variety of styles, ranging from reggae to blues to rock.

Thursday, the Bill Ritchie Quartet will be playing jazz music at Julio's, 132 S. 13th St.

Thursday through Saturday, the Pontiax will play at the Zoo Bar. The Pontiax is another southern California band following the latest national trend of young musicians playing older, traditional blues. The harp-

oriented band is straight out of the 1950s, Chicago blues scene. The Pontiax played in Lincoln last March and knocked the audience out with some great shuffles. The band includes rhythm guitar player Jon Lawton, an Omaha native.

Friday, Fusion Force will play fusion jazz at Julio's.

Sunday, the Monks will play jazz music at Chesterfield's, Lower Level 245 N. 13th St. The Monks is comprised of an array of University of Nebraska-Lincoln students who play a whole cornucopia of toe-tapping-good jazz favorites.

Monday and Tuesday, Ron Thompson and the Resistors will play at the Zoo Bar. Thompson toured with John Lee Hooker and is known for playing the guitar and the piano with a subtle and captivating sense of authority. Thompson also is known as a powerhouse performer for playing long sets (sometimes he will play for three hours straight) with almost no gap between songs. Needless to say, Thompson exhausts drummers and

See LIVE on 10



Courtesy of Expanded Entertainment

A scene from "Twenty-Five Ways To Quit Smoking" by Bill Plympton.

Compilation celebrates international animation

By John Payne
Staff Reporter

"The Second Animation Celebration: The Movie," a compilation of 24 animated films from around the world, is 105 minutes of sheer delight, showcasing the works of animators from the U.S. to the Soviet Union to Italy.

movie REVIEW

Those who think they have outgrown cartoons will marvel (no pun intended) at how far state-of-the-art animation has come.

The films were chosen from more than 1,500 entered in the Los Angeles International Animation Celebration last year. The short features represent several animation styles ranging from computer animation and clay animation (claymation) to traditional animation.

England's "Umbabarauma" is an exotic music "video" from David Byrne's new project

"Beleza Tropical." Byrne's album is a compilation of the Afro-Brazilian pop music that he loves. "Umbabarauma" is an intoxicating five minutes of Brazilian song and spirit accompanied by striking artwork and animation. It will leave the audience singing.

From Italy there is "Salome," the tale of a salami who races over kitchen counters and paddles his way across a kitchen sink, all in an effort to avoid being sliced up for snack food.

Among the American entries are five films from Matt (Life in Hell) Groening. "Goodnight," "The Funeral," "Burp Contest," "Zoo Story" and "Family Portrait" all chronicle the misadventures of the Simpson Family, introduced to audiences this fall on "The Tracy Ullman Show."

"Propagandance" is another of the noteworthy American films on hand. It tells the story of a Russian Cossack dancer and an American

See CARTOONS on 10