

# Blues-based group The Call to rock Omaha

By Julie Naughton  
Staff Reporter

The Call, a California-based rock group, will perform Wednesday at the Ranch Bowl in Omaha.

## concert PREVIEW

The Omaha stop is the 15th of a 16-city tour The Call is making to promote its latest album, "Let the Day Begin." "Let the Day Begin" is the sixth album for the four-man group.

Members of the group are Michael Been, bass guitar, guitar and lead vocals; Tom Ferrer, guitar and vocals; Jim Goodwin, keyboards and vocals; and Scott Musick, drums and vocals. The Call began in Santa Cruz, Calif., in 1980, when Been moved from Los Angeles with Musick. They joined forces in Santa Cruz with Ferrer and bassist Greg Freeman, who left the group in 1984. Goodwin joined the lineup in 1984.

Compared to musical legends such as Bob Dylan and U2 and hailed as "the future of American music" by Peter Gabriel, The Call combines meaningful lyrics with blues-type

melodies. The Los Angeles Times says that "The Call is able to deliver what U2 only skirts: an integration of spiritual yearning with blues-based grit."

"We never asked for music to give us a free ride or make us big shots," lead vocalist Been said. "All we ever asked was to be working musicians."

The Call has indeed worked, opening concerts for Peter Gabriel, recording its own albums and making guest appearances on other people's albums.

Past albums for the group are the self-titled disc "The Call" (1982), "Modern Romans" (1983), "Scene Beyond Dreams" (1984), "Reconciled" (1986) and "Into the Woods" (1987).

Famous fans of The Call have contributed to its albums, including musicians Peter Gabriel, Robbie Robertson and Jim Kerr on 1986's "Reconciled" and actor Harry Dean Stanton on "Let the Day Begin."

The 9:30 p.m. show opens with The Graces.

Tickets for the show are available at Pickles in Lincoln and Omaha as well as Homer's and Tunes in Omaha. Prices are \$10.50 in advance and \$11.50 at the door.



Courtesy of MCA Records

The Call

## It's never too early for Christmas greed

By Jim Hanna  
Staff Humorist

I was strolling down O Street last Friday with one torrid babe on each arm. We were heading for the Centrum to have elevator races.

True to their "survival of the fittest" genetic codes, each woman was trying to impress me more than the other, hoping instinctually to blend chromosomes with me at a later time.

As we came upon the intersection of 13th and O streets, I looked up to see city employees busy at work hanging Christmas decorations on the street lights; you know, those true-to-life gold and green metallic Christmas trees.

Jim Hanna



I grew up in this town and those decorations are a well-loved Lincoln tradition. It seems, however, that the decorations are going up earlier each year. I can remember when they used to go up around Christmas.

But here it is, almost a week away from Thanksgiving, and the city is splattered with festive holiday adornments.

"Christmas is becoming so commercialized," I said, just like an enlightened social critic.

The female on my left cooed with awe and said, "You're so smart and insightful, Jim."

The female on my right squeezed my bicep and trembled like a leaf on a tree.

A surge of testosterone made me light-headed for a few seconds. When my head cleared, I started thinking about what I had said.

So what if Christmas is commercialized? I can respect those who find religious significance in the holiday, but for me it's usually just a time to receive presents while realizing that I'm again too poor to return the favor.

Once, my brother bought me a digital watch; I got him a Mr. T button (seriously). But that's be-

side the point.

It may be more blessed to give than receive, but I still don't mind receiving an awful lot.

It occurred to me that the earlier the Christmas season starts, the more time people have to shop for me. If the city can put up decorations Nov. 16, I see no reason why I can't make up a gift list Nov. 21.

That is what I have done. I am providing you all with my Christmas list more than one month before Christmas. Then maybe my friends and family will see it and have plenty of time to work on getting me what I want.

Here, in ascending order of value, is my wish list for the holiday season:

WORTH LESS THAN \$1 (for my cheap "friends"):

- Four video game tokens at Joyce's subs and pizza
- Meter change
- A gift certificate for 20 copies at Kinko's
- My degree from UNL

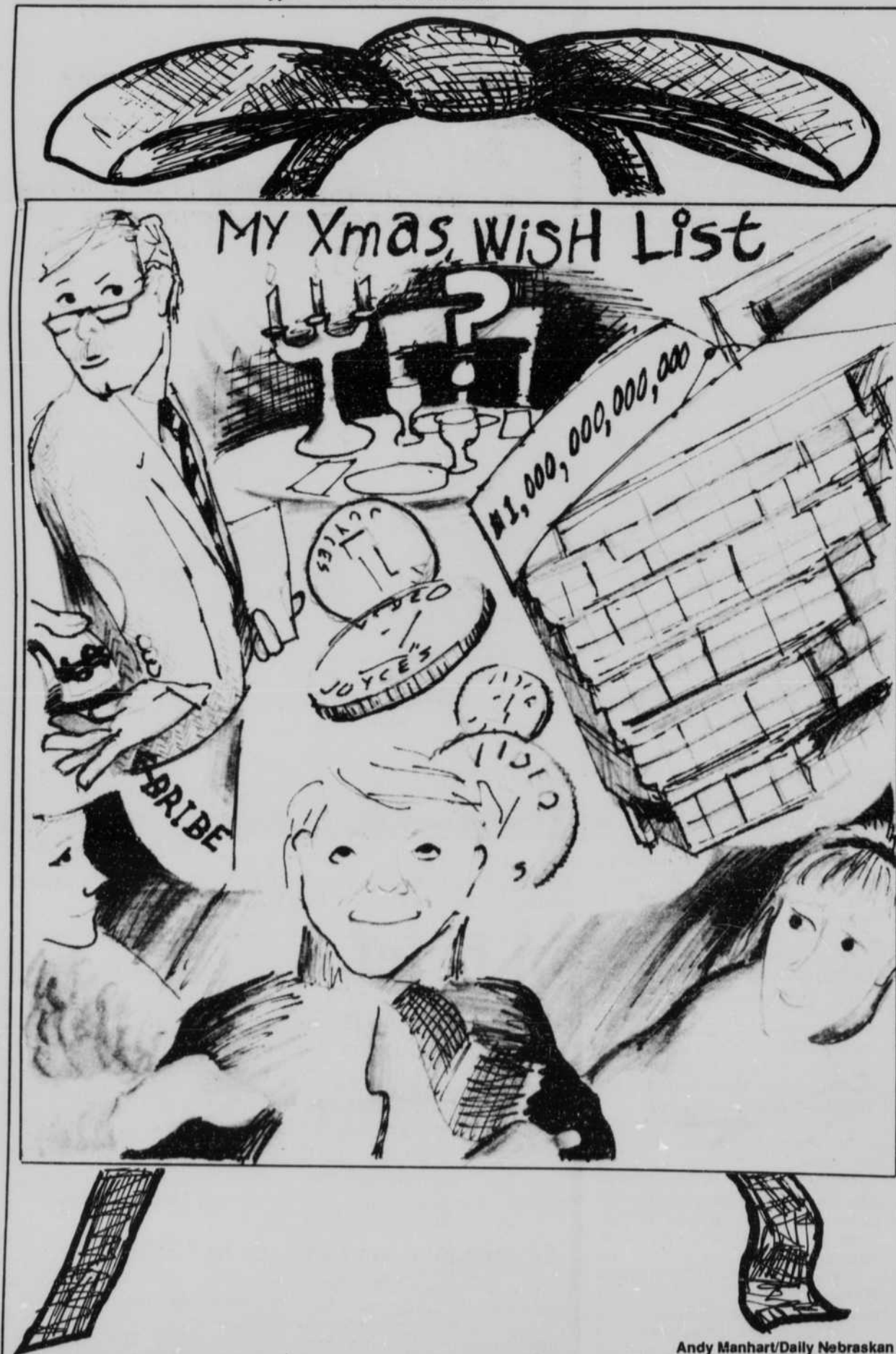
WORTH \$1 to \$100:

- A new picture to accompany my column (This one looks like I'm about to puke).
- A gift certificate for 2,000 copies at Kinko's
- Pay off my delinquent bookstore credit card bill
- A brick in the Lied Center (Oh please, please, please)

WORTH \$100 to \$1 million (for good, good friends):

- A dinner/dancing date with either Kay Orr, Nancy Hoch or Irene Cara
- Life insurance
- Pay off my delinquent short-term loan
- Pay off my delinquent tuition statement
- Pay off my delinquent cable bill
- Bribe my psychology teacher into giving me an A
- A gift certificate for 20 million copies at Kinko's

See HANNA on 7



Andy Manhart/Daily Nebraskan