

Alternative band becoming 'smashing' success

Concert preview

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

On the alternative scene, Smashing Pumpkins is big. And the Chicago-

Nebraskan lays claim to Reuben

Lincoln boasts some great originals:

Dick Cavett, skinny talk show host.
Charles Starkweather, child prodigy of mayhem, and ...

The Reuben.
You know, the sandwich?
A little corned beef, a little sauerkraut on rye bread and voila! The Reuben.

But, not according to Reinhold Rebensoerf.

"Ninety percent of them, they're not made right," the 80-year-old chef said.

And he should know. Rebensoerf claims to be the creator of the sandwich heard 'round the world: the humble Reuben.

"Well, let's say I popularized it," said Rebensoerf, who gave his nickname to the popular sandwich.

The correct way to make a Reuben? According to the master, too many people make it with peppered corned beef.

Rebensoerf said a real Reuben is made with "genuine brisket."

Then of course there's the sauerkraut, the thousand island dressing and Swiss cheese on dark rye. The dressing is "mixed in with the sauerkraut," Rebensoerf said.

The resulting sandwich can be eaten straight or grilled, he said.

"Sometimes we'd put sliced chicken in it," he said.

The sandwich wasn't created under laboratory conditions — unless that lab might be the discriminating palates of fellow hotel workers.

"I was a chef for the Cornhusker (Hotel) there from '32," Rebensoerf said.

"I'd make something up and feed it to the help."

From there the sandwich spread — no pun intended — until almost every dive from New York to Honolulu offers one version or another.

And what does the father of the Reuben have to say about his prodigy?

"It's been a pretty popular sandwich."

—Mark Baldrige

go-based band is about to get bigger.

The up-and-coming rock stars will play Thursday night at the Peony Park Ballroom in Omaha.

Smashing Pumpkins is a band on the verge of going mainstream. The band's guitar-full melodies have caused a commotion on the music scene nationwide. The group's popularity has even merited a feature story in the latest edition of Rolling Stone.

The band's success stems from its latest release, "Siamese Dream."

The CD expresses the peaks and valleys of human relationships. The tracks on "Siamese Dream" shed light on the post-grunge, baby-band boom.

Co-producer of the CD, Butch Vig, explains the CD this way: "I was trying to get the sound of things, like coughing angels, the king and queen of the prom setting themselves on fire, losers getting laid, high hopes

being ripped down and fizzing out."

The riff-heavy songs Smashing Pumpkins is known for make a serious attempt at accomplishing those sounds.

But Smashing Pumpkins' success story started back with its 1991 release, "Gish."

The band members — Billy Corgan, vocals; D'Arcy, bass guitar; Jimmy Chamberlin, drums; and James

Iha, guitar — pulled together to put out a CD that broke through the underground music scene and scored the band a spot on the Primus tour two years ago.

On this year's tour, local fans have the chance to see whether Smashing Pumpkins members can hold their own as headliners.

Shudder to Think will open for the show, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50.



Courtesy of Universal

In order to get financing for his dream hotel, Doug (Michael J. Fox) agrees to entertain Andy (Gabrielle Anwar) in the movie "For Love or Money."

'For Love or Money' worth neither



"For Love or Money"

While it rates less than two reels on the Daily Nebraskan movie scale, "For Love or Money" hits a 9.5 on the Velveta cheesiness scale.

Michael J. Fox plays Doug Ireland, the "conciierge" of the Bradbury, a very posh hotel.

Doug can get box seats for Broadway shows and reservations at exclusive restaurants. He can even save a marriage or two while he's at it.

"I'm a genie in a suit. Just rub me and make a wish," Doug says.

But while he is busy fulfilling everyone else's dreams, Doug realizes he has his own. He wants to build a luxury hotel, a project he has envisioned "down to the marble in the bathrooms."

Unfortunately, since Doug doesn't have \$3 million to spare, he ends up running favors for Chris-

tian Hanover (Anthony Higgins, "Young Sherlock Holmes"), a very demanding investor who asks Doug to "baby-sit" his mistress for him.

The mistress turns out to be Andy Hart (Gabrielle Anwar, "Scent of a Woman"), a woman Doug has been trying to get a date with for some time.

Gosh, what will happen? What will Doug choose, love or money? Will Doug and Andy end up together, despite Andy's feelings for Christian? Could Doug see his dreams fulfilled?

Probably.

While Fox insists he is trying to break free of his childlike roles,

this is the same kind of bumbling-genius role that he played in "The Secret of My Success."

Hey, why sugarcoat it? The entire cast here is very mediocre, even the usually good Bob Balaban ("Altered States"). Balaban appears as an Internal Revenue Service agent set on bringing Doug down for all of the \$100 tips he has received — but has failed to disclose.

Director Barry Sonnenfeld ("The Addams Family") should hope this film gets buried somewhere and forgotten.

If you're heading towards "For Love or Money," go looking for love and save your money.

—Gerry Beltz

Lincoln band maintains low profile despite new label

SPOTLIGHT

By Glenn Antonucci
Staff Reporter

Ten years on the Lincoln music scene are starting to pay off for the band For Against.

The band began recording its first album for its new label, Dutch East Records, yesterday. In December the trio will play the College Music Journal seminar in New York City as one of 400 international bands.

"We're rolling," drummer Paul Engelhard said.

Vocalist and bassist Jeffrey Runnings said the new album, which follows the release of the CD "Aperture" on Independent Project Records two months ago, will be a more timely representation of the band.

"This album is the one we want to make," he said.

Runnings said For Against's sound has gotten heavier, like a "big anvil on the side of my head."

Guitarist Steve Hindrichs, who has played with Lincoln bands Playground and The Gladstones, said the sound has become "darker."

All three members attribute the band's evolution to straightforward, more collaborative songwriting. Since they have known each other for so long, Engelhard said they could be comfortable with each other.

Runnings is the last of the original For Against lineup, which played its first show in 1984 at Lincoln's legendary club The Drumstick.

The trio put out two critically acclaimed albums under the Independent Project Records label: "Echelons" in 1986 and "December" in 1988, both recorded at Black Sea Studios in Lincoln with Randy Watson.

Watson, in addition to playing with local band The Return and teaching English at the

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, still serves as For Against's "mentor," Runnings said.

In 1989, drummer Greg Hill and guitarist Harry Dingam III left and later joined The Millions.

After a year of "drugs and depression," Runnings joined up with Hindrichs and Engelhard, who had played with the bands Holiday and A1 House of Fun.

The reformed For Against, together for four years, has released two singles, one for Independent Project and one for New York's Part-Trance Records. The singles caught the ear of a New York attorney, who helped the band land a deal with Dutch East.

But the band continues to keep a low profile here at home, playing about once a month.

Runnings said the light schedule is the result of a change in the band's priorities.

"We do play a lot, practicing three nights a week," he said. "We just don't play a lot in front of people."

Engelhard cited the plight of bands whose fan base drops off because they play too many shows with the same songs.

— "66"
Our interest is in new material and getting it on tape.

— Engelhard
drummer, For Against

— "99"
"Our interest is in new material and getting it on tape," he said.

As far as long-term goals, For Against is happy to be on an independent label and living in "relaxed, complacent" Lincoln.

"We just want to record our music, get it heard and continue playing because we enjoy it," Engelhard said.

But according to Runnings, if the opportunity arose to relocate, "I'd go in a second with these two handcuffed to me."

For Against will perform with The Spinanes on Oct. 20 at Duffy's. Cover charge is \$3.

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