

Eyes

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around the world." She has merchandise from all over South America, including Ecuador and Guatemala. Haiti's wares are represented, as is merchandise from the states, she said. The store carries a good selection of local artists' works as well — from jewelry to artwork.

Eyes of the World carries a large selection of what Geis calls "conscience-raising" bumper stickers, jewelry, clothing, wall hangings and other decorating items.

"Any time I can carry anything made with recycled paper I get those too," she said.

While the clothing selection weighs in more for women than men, Geis said the store stocked clothing items that should appeal to both genders. Sweaters from Ecuador, hats, gloves and mukluks — slippers with leather soles — are some of her more popular items.

She's also waiting on some holiday shipments, which will include "velvet dresses and some nice boutique things." Winter will bring more varied items as well, she said, including warm leggings and wintery shirts.

While the first months of business have been good overall, the shop has had its share of mishaps, Geis said.

Flowers and plants placed in the

— “ “
My store would never fit into a mall. I would never fit into a mall.

— Geis

storefront's window boxes kept getting destroyed, so Geis said she "gave up on that idea."

Also, the shop didn't escape the tyranny of the "beer gut" bandit. Luckily the vandal's permanent black magic marker wasn't so permanent on polyurethane, and Geis managed to save the sponge-painted door from permanent damage.

Geis returned to Lincoln last fall after a stint living in Santa Cruz. She returned for two reasons, she said. She missed her friends and family, and she wanted to open her own business.

Originally, Geis planned on opening a coffee house, but after a little research she found she didn't know enough about it.

Instead she focused on something she knew more about.

"I've always loved ethnic countries," she said.

After working retail for many years, she said she thought "what the heck — I should try it."

And Eyes of the World was born.

Geis said she did a lot of research and a lot of library work in an attempt

to give her store a realistic feel. Shortly before she opened she made her first trip to South America.

"It was only for 10 days, but it gave me a little boost, especially price-wise."

By directly buying merchandise she was able to offer her customers authentic products for less, she said.

Keeping prices down is a big concern, she said. The store concentrates on keeping prices as reasonable as possible.

"We're just starting to take off," Geis said. "We have things priced for minimum-wage workers and professionals as well."

Her clientele is varied, she said. Eyes of the World generally appeals to an "open-minded alternative-living" type of people.

"My store would never fit into a mall," Geis said, laughing. "I would never fit into a mall."

MUSIC REVIEW



Courtesy Epic

"Vs." Pearl Jam Epic

Call it "Five Against One," call it untitled or call it "Vs.," but call this release the further development of a band struggling with success.

The music on "Vs." won't allow you to pin down one description — much like the band itself. But if you're looking for more top-40 hits like those on the terrifyingly successful "Ten," you'll be sorry.

Pearl Jam seems out to limit its audience. In this effort, the band has switched to producer Brendan O'Brien, and drummer Dave Abbruzzese, who's played with the band before, makes his Pearl Jam album debut.

There's no one attitude prevalent in the album. It's a little bit of everything — very diverse. There are sarcastic pop tunes and hard-nosed aggressiveness.

Adrenaline-pumping tunes kick off the album, but it heads into slowed-down acoustic melodies like "Daughter" and "Elderly Woman Behind the Counter in a Small Town," a stunning break from the band's usual one-word titles.

Eddie Vedder has again provided disturbing lyrics to decipher. You get the impression Vedder must be on the brink of suicide with all the real-life experiences he relays through his songs.

Some think that is what drives Pearl Jam.

But the true highlight, apparent on almost every song on "Vs.," is when the music finds a groove and the band builds off it. Vedder's lyrics are only part of the groove.

This release is the band's statement against all those who hyped Pearl Jam as "the band of the 90s."

You'll probably never hear that directly from the band. As always, the members are shying away from talking about what this album and its songs are about.

Pearl Jam is huge and there is no going back. But Gossard, Abbruzzese, Ament, McCready and Vedder don't have the mindset of a successful band, and that is what will allow them to keep developing with more releases like "Vs."

— Jeffrey Robb



Courtesy Immortal/Epic

"Judgment Night — Music from the Motion Picture" Various Artists Immortal/Epic

"Bang your head to this!" screams Boo-Yaa T.R.I.B.E in the "Judgment Night" soundtrack's second track, "Another Body Murdered," performed with Faith No More.

This song is one of the best tracks on a album devoted to a new

theme: bringing together all musicians from opposite ends of the musical spectrum. Ten rap groups and 11 rock/alternative groups teamed up in pairs to create new sounds and complement each other's styles.

A full range of rap and rock styles are represented here, from a Teenage Fanclub and De La Soul's mellow collaboration, to an Ice-T and Slayer thrash metal screamfest.

The excellent pairing of these groups and their abilities to combine lyrics and instrumentation lead to dramatically original music.

For example, the hard-rocking Biohazard style is paired with the "Mad Face" of Onyx on the title cut. Onyx hits hard with the song, which should have been included on the group's debut album "Bacdafucup." Biohazard does not seem to mind the angry, chaotic lyrics — they just keep rocking hard.

On a more laid-back beat, Teenage Fanclub and De La Soul sample a Tom Petty song to create "Fallin'." De La turns back their own clock to make "Fallin'" a "3 Feet High and Rising/Bandwagonesque" performance.

Ice-T sheds his Bodycount coat and teams up with Slayer to create "Disorder." Produced by Rick Rubin, and mixed by Rubin and Slayer, this intense track features howling vocals by both Ice and Slayer.

Cypress Hill is the only group to appear twice on the album, once with Sonic Youth on "I Love You Mary Jane," another in the long line of Cypress Hill's pro-marijuana songs, and again with Pearl Jam in the CD bonus track "Real Thing," possibly the most anticipated combination.

"Just Another Victim" was the first release from the album, out long before the movie. Here, Helmet and House of Pain join forces. Although a good combination, the song ends up with two distinct parts, separating the groups. This split-group syndrome occurs in several tracks, but is most noticeable here.

The other tracks include duets from Living Colour and Run-D.M.C., Mudhoney and Sir Mix-A-Lot, Therapy? and Fatal, and another standout from the classic alternative band Dinosaur Jr. and West Coast rapper Del the Funky Homosapien in a slammin' alternative rap track.

Completely original in its conception, this soundtrack adds much to the movie, but stands alone as the new standard for rock/rap team-ups.

— Greg Schick and Joel Strauch

"Spare Ass Annie and Other Tales" William Burroughs and The Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy Island

William Burroughs is one of the most formidable intelligences in American literature.

The Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy is arguably the most intelligent voice in pop music today.

Together — in Island Records new release "Spare Ass Annie and Other Tales" — these artists are just a little much.

It's almost unbelievable that anything, any mere background music, could tear a listener's attention from the death-like humorous tones of "uncle Bill" — as one cut on the album calls him.

See CD on 11

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