

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Rock, country music highlight summer

By Dawn Brunke
Staff Reporter

Sunday will mark the beginning for Lincoln and Omaha's summer concert season.

In the next week-and-a-half, four tours will roll through the heartland, much to the delight of Nebraska music lovers.

Sunday's concert will team up Cheap Trick and Loverboy at Ak-Sar-Ben in Omaha. Both bands reached their heyday in the '80s but have managed to hold on to both themselves and the music.

Cheap Trick is well known for their remake of Elvis' "Don't Be Cruel," as well as popular hits "The Flame" and "Surrender." One of Loverboy's biggest hits is "Hot Girls in Love," and other smashes include "Notorious" and "This Could Be the Night."

Tickets for this show on June 11 are \$20.25, and the music starts at 7 p.m. Come early because it is general admission seating, which amounts to first come, first served.

The Righteous Brothers will also be traveling to Omaha, and will be playing on Tuesday, June 13, at the Orpheum Theatre.

The Righteous Brothers are perhaps best known for their songs "Unchained Melody," (heard in the movie "Ghost") and "You Lost That Lovin' Feeling" (popularized by "Top Gun").

Tickets for Tuesday's show are going for between \$26.50 to \$46, with reserved seating (more expensive tickets mean better seats) with an 8 p.m.

starting time.

The concerts start coming to Lincoln on Thursday, June 15, as the Beach Boys and Christopher Cross kick off the June concert series in Pinewood Bowl.

Christopher Cross' soothing voice has crooned soft tunes including "Sailing" and "Think of Laura."

The Beach Boys have been together in different variations for over 30 years. Their music, though ever changing and adapting in subject matter, has been true to rock n' roll.

The Beach Boys are on tour to promote their latest album "Summer In Paradise." But their hour-and-45-minute set will have over 30 hit songs including "Kokomo," "Surfin' USA," "Little Deuce Coupe," "Help Me Rhonda," and "California Girls."

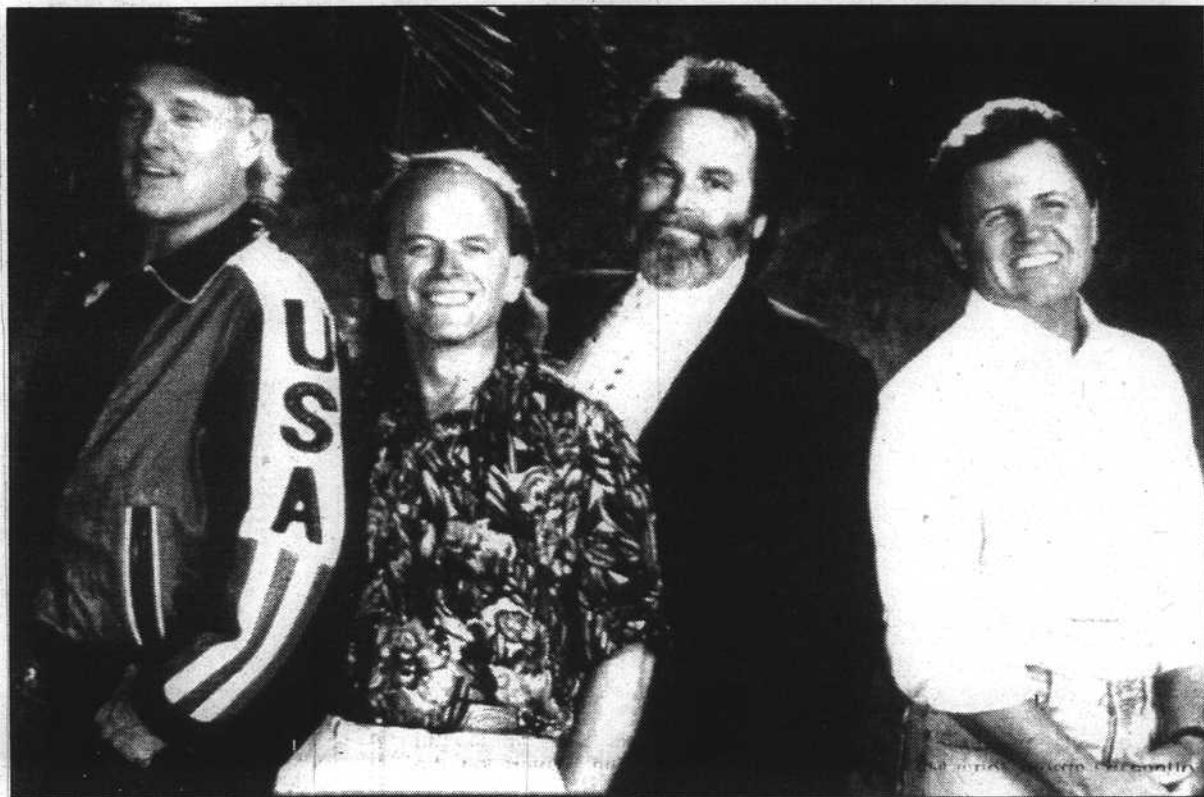
Tickets for this show are \$25, and Christopher Cross will open the show at 7:30 p.m.

Tracy Lawrence and Patty Loveless are the second act in the Pinewood Bowl's concert series. They will be taking the stage June 17.

Tracy Lawrence was named new male vocalist of the year by the Academy of Country Music, and is currently supporting his latest album "Alibis."

He and his band are best known for the songs "The Good Die Young" and "We Don't Love Here Anymore."

Patty Loveless is also supporting a new album, "When Angels Fly." She is best known for the songs "Blame It On Your Heart," "How Can I Help You Say Goodbye" and "You Don't



Courtesy of Ogden Entertainment

The Beach Boys are one of several concerts coming to the Lincoln-Omaha area over the next couple of weeks.

Even Know Who I Am."

Patty will start off the show off at 7:30 p.m., tickets for this show are \$20.

Tickets for all of these shows are available at all Ticketmaster locations and at the Pershing Box Office.

Tickets for the Pinewood Bowl con-

certs are available at Pinewood Bowl on the day of show for cash only.

Also, for the Pinewood Bowl concerts, it's "lawn seating," which means no actual seats will be available. Blankets, cushions and sleeping bags will be allowed in, but no lawn chairs,

recording devices or umbrellas will be allowed in.

Also, no food, beverages or containers/coolers will be allowed into Pinewood Bowl. There will be food and beverages available for sale at the concerts.



Courtesy of Warner Bros.

Clint Eastwood and Meryl Streep star in the romantic drama "The Bridges of Madison County"

Waller's popular love story romantic, beautiful on screen

By Ann Stack
Staff Reporter

"The Bridges of Madison County" is the story of two star-crossed, middle-aged lovers set in rural Iowa in 1965.

Meryl Streep ("Death Becomes Her") stars as Francesca Johnson, a lonely Italian housewife whose family is away at the state fair for five days. Clint Eastwood ("Unforgiven") plays Robert Kincaid, a National Geographic magazine photographer sent to photograph Madison County's covered bridges. He stops at Francesca's house to ask for directions. She shows him the bridge; and he shows her how to love again.

What follows in the next four days is not just a steamy love affair between two strangers, but a reawakening, both sexual and spiritual, for Francesca. She discovers feelings she thought were long dead

The Facts

Movie: "The Bridges of Madison County"

Director: Clint Eastwood

Stars: Clint Eastwood, Meryl Streep

Rating: PG-13

Grade: B+

Five Words: Romance blooms in beautiful film

with the help of Kincaid, the worldly photographer from Seattle who lacks world-class sophistication.

Streep puts on an outstanding performance as the housewife who once had dreams and now has a responsibility to her family. As Francesca Johnson, she is torn between following her one true love and protecting her family from small-town gossip and ridicule.

Eastwood does a surprisingly good job of becoming the loner/lover that is

Robert Kincaid. He portrays Kincaid as the thoughtful, shy yet sexy, quietly defiant vagabond that Robert James Waller had intended when he created Robert Kincaid. It's hard to picture Dirty Harry spouting off W.B. Yeats and picking wild flowers, but he manages to give a convincing performance.

Eastwood also directs and co-produces the film, which was shot on location in Winterset, Iowa.

The movie definitely has more life to its leading characters than the book, thanks to the chemistry between Streep and Eastwood. But the film drags horribly in the middle. At least in the book you can skip those parts.

All in all, this is a good film with a serious message about relationships and morality that viewers must interpret for themselves.

Note: the ending is a real tearjerker so be sure to bring plenty of Kleenex.