

DANIEL LUEDERT/DN

ANTONE DOUGLAS, also known as All Ayz, is both a senior English major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and an Omaha-based rap artist. Here he flashes a hand signal symbolizing the Midwest. All Ayz's first CD "Last Breath: 24th Street Stories" is available in record stores.

Rapper mixes life with coast styles

BY **BRET SCHULTE**
Staff Reporter

The East Coast-West Coast rivalry tends to be the focus of the rap community, but Antone Douglas is trying to change that.

Douglas, a senior English major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, usually goes by the name All Ayz. And under that name he has released a rap album, "Last Breath: 24th Street Stories."

The album focuses on the stories and experiences of Omaha and Bellevue's 24th Street, particularly Omaha's north side, where Douglas grew up.

"I've been writing since the first grade," Douglas said. "I used to write poems to little girls in my classroom. Around seventh grade I started putting my poems to a beat."

Working his way into Omaha's rap community, Douglas began playing at local venues including high schools, clubs and the Civic Auditorium.

Raised in North Omaha, Douglas draws on his own experiences to fuel his music. Growing up, he recounts a childhood where food stamps replaced money and powdered milk frequently took the place of fresh milk.

"We're not running from what's real. The rappers that make it out of the ghetto are

"
We wanted to get a Midwest sound. East is known for its lyrics, and the West for its beats. But being from the Midwest I've got the best of both coasts.
"

ANTONE DOUGLAS
AllAyz

talking about the same thing," Douglas said.

In the absence of a distinct Midwestern rap style, All Ayz developed his own sound and message. With his life-long friend and producer, Enoch Pittman, the two formulated a musical style to reflect their Midwestern experiences.

Please see **ALLAYZ** on 13

Red Red MEAT

Critic chows town's choicest cheeseburgers

BY **GERRY BELTZ**
Food Critic

Cheeseburgers aren't just a food item; they are an art form within themselves.

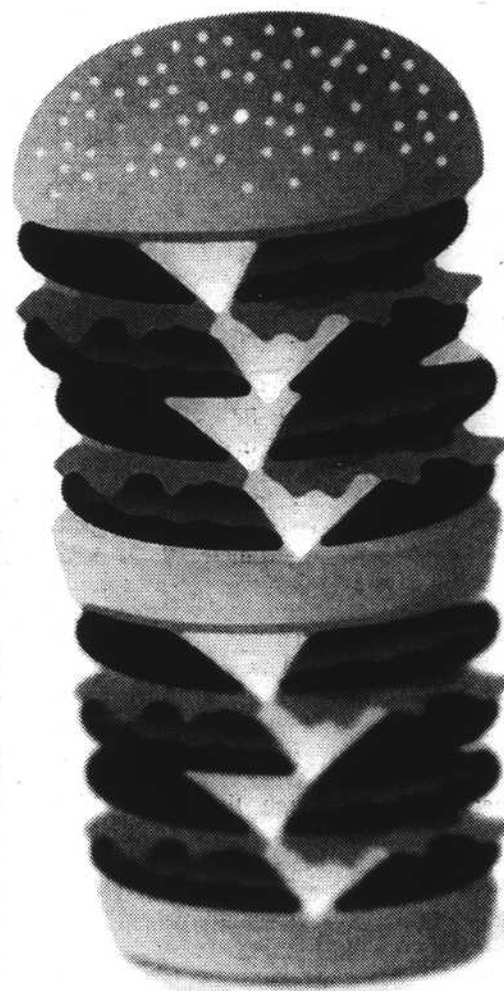
The grill and meat become the canvas; the onions and mustard are the paints in creating these cholesterol classics.

I combed the city far and wide in search of the perfect cheeseburger — the Monet with mayo, the Picasso with pickles, the Toulouse-lautrec with tomato and lettuce.

I skipped studios like McDonald's, Burger King and Wendy's for their boring "paint-by-numbers" craftsmanship.

Down below, please note Lincoln's six best places — in the opinion of this critic — to enjoy a truly great cheeseburger. Not all are perfect, but they are good.

At every restaurant visited, I ordered the specialty burger, the name of which is noted immediately after the restaurant's address. Each restaurant has been subjected to strict criteria, which include the bun, the condiments, the patty, the side orders and the overall panache. To wrap up each



AARON STECKELBERG/DN

Please see **BURGERS** on 13

Games, good guys, gangsters team up for virtual video fun

BY **GERRY BELTZ**
Film Critic

Ouch! Only one of three decent films on the new release shelves this week, but at least that one is a family type of movie. The pick-of-the-week goes to a flick not for the faint-of-heart.

"Space Jam" — Chicago Bulls superstar Michael Jordan comes to the rescue of the Looney Tunes characters when they are in a basketball game for their lives ... literally.

Live action blends well with animation here, and it's a blast to see all the characters going at it, especially the quick homage paid to "Pulp Fiction," courtesy of Elmer Fudd and Yosemite Sam, as well as recognizing audience members from the old cartoons (keep the pause button handy).

Cinematic fluff? Yup. Fun for all ages? Yup. Your best bet this week? Yup.

The "yups" have it. Next!

"The Glimmer Man" — Steven Seagal and Keenan Ivory Wayans? In a "buddy cop" movie? Involving a serial killer and a copycat?

Sure, why not?

Granted, Seagal has all the comedic rhythm of a compost heap, but Wayans is all right. Some of Seagal's moves are looking a little stiff, though. Flip a coin here.

"Maximum Risk" — Oh good. Another Van Damme movie.

He's in over his head (again), this time imitating his dead twin brother. He's got to rely on

New Videos

his wits (snicker) and poor marksmanship by his enemies to get him through this adventure.

Most importantly, he needs a script that will let him pause long enough to dazzle us with his martial arts flexibility and training.

Better to taste-test pork-flavored ice cream.

PICK-OF-THE-WEEK — It's not that old of a flick, but just in case you haven't seen it in a while, or you need a reminder of what Madonna's "Like A Virgin" was really all about

Yep. "Reservoir Dogs."

The diamond heist has gone awry. Mr. Orange (Tim Roth) has taken a bullet in the belly and is slowly bleeding to death. In the meantime, Mr. Pink (Steve Buscemi), Mr. White (Harvey Keitel) and Mr. Blonde (Michael Madsen) are all trying to figure out which one of them is the police informant ... if there really is one.

Directed by Quentin Tarantino, who also appears on the screen a few times as the chattering Mr. Brown, this flick is a piece of cinematic wonder. It's comedy, drama and action all rolled into one gripping piece of art, and it is absolutely hypnotic. (Warning: loads of violence and naughty words — and getting shot in the stomach isn't the cleanest wound in the world.)

But the true question surrounding this film is the one no one seems to be able to answer — what happens to Mr. Pink at the end?

Check it out and make a guess for yourself.