



COURTESY PHOTO

THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS BROTHERS, a Scottish lounge-rock band with strangely Lincoln-like speech patterns and addresses, will perform at the Zoo Bar this weekend.

Eclectic 'Scots' to rock righteously at Zoo Bar

BY JASON HARDY
Senior Reporter

The Self-Righteous Brothers have been playing music for 66 years. Its members claim Weatherbee, Scotland as their homeland.

They travel by blimp or jet. They tend to drink just a bit. And this weekend the Self-Righteous Brothers are celebrating the release of their first compact disc with two shows at the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. The shows will mark the first Self-Righteous Brothers performance in Lincoln in three months.

Though Lincoln fans have only been familiar with the Self-Righteous Brothers for the past four years, the band claims to have been playing in and around Scotland for 60 odd years. That's quite a feat; of course, they are self-proclaimed living legends.

Trendy McFadden, guitarist for the band, said that after 60 years of living life in the fast lane, he's grown accustomed to all the traveling.

"We're getting pretty used to it. Now the jet lag is pretty much a part

of our high," McFadden said, in an oddly American accent. "So many years, so many jets."

Sweet Basil McJagger, organ player for the group, said the band usually traveled by blimp, which was slightly slower than jet travel, but more fun in the end.

"As with everything we do, there is plenty of cocktails and young girls around," McJagger said, also sounding as American as apple pie and baseball.

McFadden said even though this was the band's first compact disc to date, the group has been busy.

"There have been numerous vinyl releases. People search the globe for some of the rarities out there," McFadden said. "There has even been movie ideas that we turned down."

As for the actual album, he said it was quite an accomplishment.

"It presented some challenges, but we just went for it, and I think it sounds quite true to the live shows," McFadden said. "It's not your pristine Ocean Way (recording studio) \$100,000 release, but it's very much us."

He said recording the album presented a few challenges because the band includes seven members, making studio space limited.

"We had amplifiers in the bathroom sitting on a toilet and the organ player in the lounge of the studio," McFadden said. "It was really a trip."

McJagger, who describes the group's sound as being three-chord original rock masquerading as a lounge act, said the two shows this weekend would be funk-rock badness and over-the-top madness.

"They're going to be all-out free-for-all's with lots of general debauchery occurring," McJagger said.

As for the future of the white-tuxedo-wearing Self-Righteous Brothers, McJagger said they were concentrating on their mission.

"We're not going to rest until we have a pinball machine that's based on the band," McJagger said. "We're already on lunch boxes in the UK, so we're getting there. It's happening."

The Self-Righteous Brothers will celebrate their album's release with performances Friday and Saturday nights at about 9 p.m. Each show has a \$5 cover charge.

Concert Preview

Third time's a charm for Urge St. Louis band to perform at Knickerbockers Sunday

BY PATRICK MINER
Music Critic

This Sunday, Knickerbockers will get hectic.

The Urge, a self-proclaimed "rock-n-horns" band from St. Louis, will perform Sunday at Knickerbockers, 901 O St., with New York rap and funk act, 2 Skinnee J's.

The Urge will be in Nebraska for the third time since January, when it played shows at the Ranch Bowl Jan. 2 and 3.

At those shows, the band mostly played songs from its fifth album and major label debut, "Receiving

the Gift of Flavor." Tracks from that album, such as the guitar-speedy "Brainless," the horn-centered "Violent Opposition" and show finisher "Gettin' Hectic," are high-energy numbers that keep the crowd moving at a feverish pace.

The band also played a few tracks from its upcoming record, which is tentatively scheduled to be released April 21. These songs include the lively "Straight to Hell," as well as the album's first single "Jump Right In," which features backup vocals by 311's Nick Hexum.

2 Skinnee J's appeared in Nebraska more recently than the Urge when they played at the Ranch Bowl Feb. 19. The J's also are await-

ing the release of their self-titled debut, which should come out in April as well.

The 12-track album features the J's doing what they do best, playing funky music behind the solid rhymes of J Guevera and Special J, who is a graduate of Omaha Central high school. The album features four songs, including the anthems "718" and "Mindtrick," from the bands self-produced EP "Return of the New and Improved." Also, the record has some brand new tunes, with "Pluto is a Planet" and "Ball Point Man" standing out.

The all-ages show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 day of show.

Woodwind quintet to make rare showing

BY SARAH BAKER
Senior Reporter

If it hadn't been for a 19th century innovator, they might never have existed.

But thanks to the work of Theobald Boehm, an originator of flute construction who influenced the manufacture of all future woodwind instruments, the Boehm Quintette graces Lincoln this weekend.

The internationally famous Boehm Woodwind Quintette, named after Theobald Boehm, performs Saturday night at 8 in the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12th and R streets.

The five-piece ensemble comes to Lincoln as part of the Lincoln Friends of Chamber Music's 33rd annual concert series.

Carlos Messerli, publicity director with the Lincoln Friends of Chamber Music, said the group formed 20 years ago.

"They are all individual artists in their own right," Messerli said. Messerli said woodwind quin-

tets are different than their counterpart, string quartets.

"Woodwind quintets are different than string quartets because in a woodwind group, all the members are playing different instruments," he said. "It's challenging in a different way."

Messerli said the Boehm Quintette plays a lot of contemporary music.

"There is really no historic literature for woodwind quintets," he said.

Messerli said this visit of the quintet is a rare opportunity.

"Internationally famous artists like this rarely come to Lincoln," he said. "They have really accomplished a lot in their field."

The performance will be preceded with comments from John Bailey, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln faculty flutist. Bailey's speech begins at 7:30 p.m. After the show, a reception for the artists and audience will be held in the Sheldon Great Hall.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$5 for students at the door. For more information, call (402) 435-5454.

Music

The Artist
"Crystal Ball"
NPG Records
Grade: A

As one of popular music's most prolific and bootlegged artists, The Artist (you know, the guy we used to call "Prince") release of a rarities compilation was an inevitable event.

But whether said compilation would be worth the price of purchase or even the effort of listening was a debatable proposition.

"Crystal Ball" is that compilation, and it's worth every penny. It was first released late last

year via mail order only. This week, it is making its

retail debut.

A three-disc set of alternate versions, never-before-released tracks and live renditions, "Crystal Ball" is a well-conceived and well-executed collection. The set is complemented by an additional disc called "The Truth," which is an all-acoustic collection of new material.

And although the release of anything more than a double disc by any artist is a recipe for disaster, The Artist pulls it off here for the second time in a row (the first time being last year's three-disc "Emancipation").

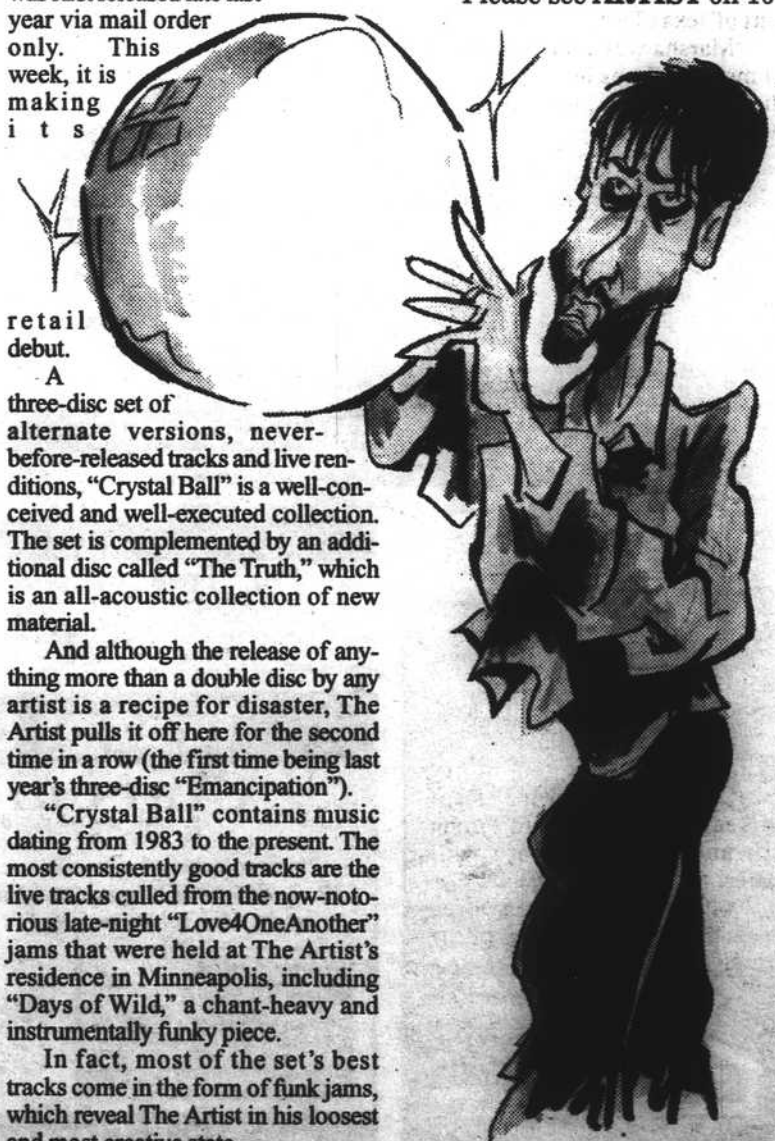
"Crystal Ball" contains music dating from 1983 to the present. The most consistently good tracks are the live tracks culled from the now-notorious late-night "Love4OneAnother" jams that were held at The Artist's residence in Minneapolis, including "Days of Wild," a chant-heavy and instrumentally funky piece.

In fact, most of the set's best tracks come in the form of funk jams, which reveal The Artist in his loosest and most creative state.

"Get Loose" is a solid, free-flowing jam that segues perfectly into a remix of "P Control," one of The Artist's most indisputably bottom-heavy tracks. "PoomPoom," an equally funky track, injects a sense of humor into the mix.

But ballads are present here as well, with the best among them being "Crucial," a song originally intended for "Sign O the Times." Had this one been included in that album's release, "Sign O the Times" might have been even better than the masterpiece it already is.

Please see ARTIST on 10



MATT HANEY/DN