

Let's Go Bowling set to roll into Omaha

BOWLING from page 12

like the people out there, so there's no reason why we shouldn't."

Miskulin said the tour with the Reverend was both positive and challenging for LGB because the band wasn't playing in front of ska crowds.

"We were playing to the fans of the Reverend, and a lot of times there would be crossover fans," he said. "We knew we had to be really good, so we decided that we weren't going to take any prisoners."

"It worked out really well, and the audiences were very accepting of us."

Opening for the Skatalites was a treat for the members of LGB because they all like the band and have a lot of respect for them, Miskulin said.

"It was very cool just because of who they are - so much history, you know," he said. "Without those guys, who knows what we'd be playing. We'd be some kind of funk band somewhere."

Along with English second-wave ska band The Specials, Miskulin said,

the Skatalites are one of the bands that helped influence LGB's unique brand of ska.

"The thing with all the guys in the band is that everybody likes so many different things," he said. "The one common music that everybody likes is ska, and so I think what helps define our sound and who we are is that we bring all of our individual influences to the one influence that's common with everybody."

Being a contemporary ska act from the United States, Let's Go Bowling's style is characterized as new-wave ska, or third-wave.

However, Miskulin said, he once heard a description of the band's sound that was a little more accurate.

"Somebody once called us modern traditionalists, and I thought, 'Wow, what an oxymoron that is,'" he said. "But then the more I thought about it, I guess that would be kind of an accurate description."

"We don't want to turn our back on the traditional stuff; we want to incorporate it, yet we want to do something

new that hasn't been done before."

But in the Midwest, Miskulin said, style doesn't hold as much weight with audiences. And that's the way he likes it, he said.

"The East and West Coasts are kind of getting polarized in the kind of music that they'll listen to and the kind of ska that they'll listen to," he said. "And I find the Midwest audiences more accepting of all the styles of ska that are out there right now."

Let's Go Bowling's members write a lot of instrumental songs, and the guys in the horn section create most of those, Miskulin said. Fletcher, LGB's keyboardist, also writes some instrumental tunes as well as the occasional song with vocals.

Basically every song that Miskulin writes is going to be a vocal tune, he said, because he likes to sing. Something else Miskulin likes to do is play the harmonica, which he started playing at the age of 19.

"It's a cool instrument that not a lot of people utilize, and it has so much history in rock 'n' roll and blues,"

Miskulin said. "When I was asked to join (LGB), they said, 'We really like the idea that you play the harmonica, too.' And I was like, 'Yeah, cool,' 'cause I wasn't gonna do it if I couldn't."

With a name like Let's Go Bowling, one might think the members would try to bowl every chance they could get. But Miskulin's last bowling score, which was a lowly 78, disproves that theory.

"Unfortunately, because we're on the road so much, we don't really get a chance to (bowl)," he said. "It's kind of fun when we do, 'cause we go out and usually drink a lot and yell at each other and throw balls around."

"The thing about it is, we all suck."

Let's Go Bowling's concert in Omaha with opening act the Self Righteous Bros. begins at 9 p.m. on Tuesday at the Ranch Bowl, 1600 S. 72nd St. Tickets for the all-ages show are still available and cost \$8 in advance and \$9 the day of the show.

'City of Angels' fails to make successful flight

ANGELS from page 12

And even though Cage didn't have a lot to work with for a plot, his portrayal was very weak. He goes through the entire film with a confused, blank stare that doesn't change no matter what situation he finds himself in.

Ryan does a decent job, but she doesn't really convey the type of love for Cage that would be necessary to bring an angel to earth for good. Sure she's sexy, but one would hope angels had a little more self-control than to ditch heaven for someone they barely knew.

The only redeeming factor of this film is the bits of comedy here and there. However, the funny scenes can't combat the inconsistent details and the shallow plot of this movie.

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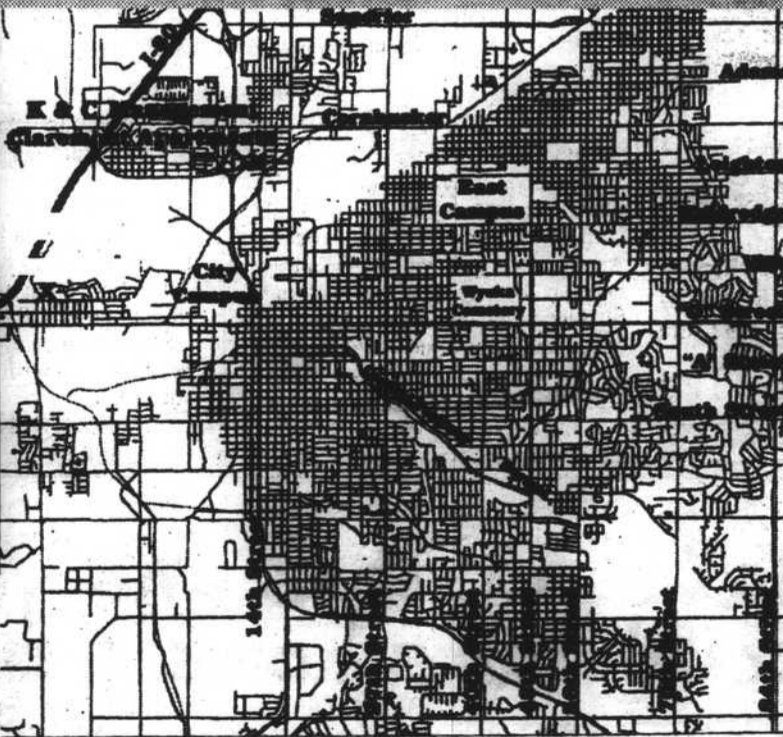
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