

New Releases



Slayer
"Diabolus in Musica"
American
Grade: B+

It's been three long years in the abyss since Slayer last released a collection of death-metal anthems, but the wait is over. This time fans can expect more than just a "reign in blood" — they can expect a complete sonic assault from the trenches of the devil's playground.

"Diabolus in Musica," Slayer's latest offering on American Records, is an album riddled with death-metal bullets, and though some of them are a bit off the mark, many are dead-on, making the album a worthwhile investment for any Slayer fanatic.

The group starts things off with "Bitter Peace," a track that cranks out slow and heavy riffs for the first minute or so and then blasts into thrash craziness for the next 3½.

The mayhem rolls on with the next track, "Death's Head," probably the best song on the album. The death toll rises as Slayer combines some of its heaviest chunka-chunka riffs with a super-catchy guitar line and rhythmic screaming sure to

keep your head nodding and your eyebrows furrowed. Tom Araya's vocals seem to rumble up from the guts of Hades to offer a massacre of the senses.

From there, things slow down a bit, and songs five through seven are basically just filler. Some of the songs end very weakly, and the vocals sound bland and diluted.

However, the carnage continues with "In the Name of God," a marching soundtrack for total annihilation, rampant with machine gun style double bass attacks by new drummer Paul Bostaph.

The album winds up with "Point," a four-minute march of torture built from a barrage of Slayer's deadliest weapons, pounding chunk riffs one minute, light speed leads and shock-wave snare violations the next. "Diabolus in Musica" ends abruptly, leaving listeners in a catatonic daze, with fingers stuck in the "hook 'em horns" position, blindly mumbling "Slayer, Slayer, Slayer."

Like a junkie's needle, Slayer's lyrical content seems stuck in the same vein that has always worked for them: songs about death, pain, destruction and all the other morbidly cheesy things that happen south of Heaven. The overall effect of the 11-song album is a bit depressing, but what do you expect from a band that depends on shock value to sell records?

However, if Slayer seems to sweeten your corrupted cup of tea, "Diabolus in Musica" is a worthy investment.

— Jason Hardy

Palm reader brings skills to fair

FAIR from page 9

"My daughter is born with the ability," she added later as her mother and niece looked on from a couch on an adjacent wall.

Defensive about her privacy and trade, Mrs. Roberts sidestepped many of the questions presented to her, claiming she didn't want bad press. But she was more than happy to give me a personal reading — after I coughed up \$10, the standard fee for her state fair readings.

She charges considerably more out of her shop in Omaha, which she declined to name.

Sitting at an angle to me on the couch that more than likely turns into a dinner table, she asked me to open both my hands in front of her.

Without touching them, she began speaking rapidly.

"You have a long lifeline," she began, and with a painted nail motioned across my thumb toward my wrist.

I also apparently have quite a long love life, but, despite my eager facial expression, she didn't tell me when it

would start.

Since taking notes and having your palms read are two mutually exclusive activities, getting her exact reading was impossible.

But the experience is unforgettable. With her rapid delivery and oscillating accent, Mrs. Roberts quickly got me purring with assurances of my good nature, honest habits and capacity for love.

She then asked about back problems. Sure enough, I suffer from a mild form of scoliosis.

More generalities followed about romance, a prosperous — but not too prosperous — future and a loving wife with three kids. Other middle class dreams, including a trip in the next year to a major body of water, rounded out the palm reading.

My West Omaha up-bringing is that obvious.

That's what happens when the only scar on your hands comes from a skateboarding accident.

The reading lasted no longer than three minutes, and it seemed Mrs.

"If they want me to tell them how they will die, I will tell them."

MRS. ROBERTS
palm reader

Roberts had nothing more to say. Her mother, dressed in a long black gown on the 90-degree day, looked on during the reading and, with the rapidity that seems to define this family, spoke to Mrs. Roberts, who answered in English.

What they were talking about I don't know. In fact, there were a lot of things I didn't understand. Mrs. Roberts is a woman who guards her trade and her secrets with a vengeance and no apologies.

Of course, if you read people's lives every day, you'd keep secrets too.

Acting troupe builds a better barn

BARN from page 9

seated on three sides of the stage and uses minimal technical elements.

At the beginning of the 1997 season, the Blue Barn company discovered the building that housed their theater was being sold.

"We knew we didn't have time to find a space and convert it, so we went on the road," Lawler explained.

The Blue Barn spent the next year performing in various locations around Omaha.

"It was a great chance to expand our audience," Lawler said, "but each time we switched venues, we basically had to build a theater from the ground up. It was very expensive."

At the end of last season, the Blue Barn began looking for a more permanent home.

"I wanted to improve two things from the building on 13th Street. One was location. Two was the facility itself. I didn't want to get a space that was equal or worse than the old one," Lawler said.

In addition to a larger and newer theater with state-of-the-art equipment, the new home also incorporates a more traditional stage with the audience seated in front.

This difference can be a big change for a theater company unaccustomed to the arrangement.

"Usually people take the other way," Walkinshaw said. "You work in a traditional space, and then suddenly you're

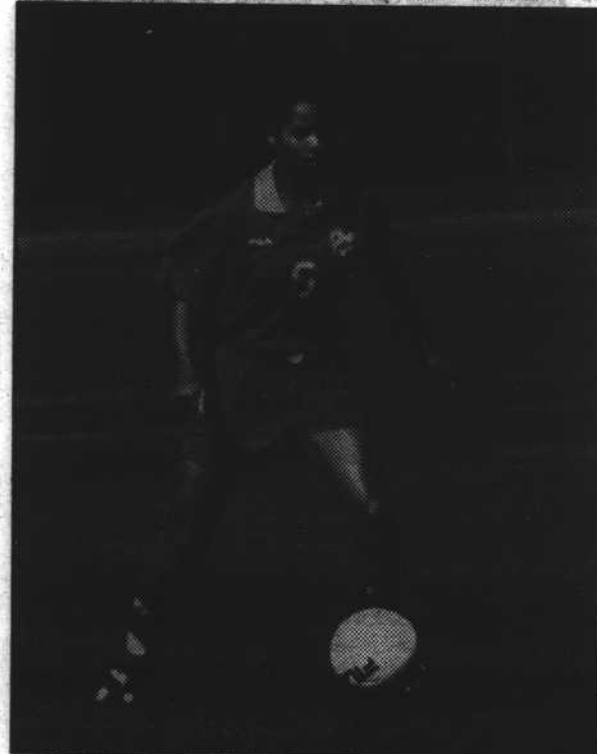
given a black box, and the rules change."

The new space has challenged the four founders as they have reunited for this season's opening show. Lawler said the proscenium stage affects each aspect of the play, from the director's staging to the actor's delivery.

"We're flexing our artistic muscles," he said.

Walkinshaw added the production has shown him how the four have grown in the past 10 years.

"We're much more grounded as to what we like and what we don't like," Walkinshaw said. "We're all striving for the same goal. We're presenting the new works that will be considered classics 100 years from now."



Nebraska Soccer

Nebraska vs.
Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Friday, September 4
@ 7 p.m.
Abbott Sports Complex

(1 1/2 miles north of 70th
& Cornhusker Hwy.)



Reserved Season \$30
G.A. Season \$15
Family Plan \$40
7-Game Mini \$11
4-Game Mini \$7
Single Game \$2

For ticket information call 472-3111.

The Biggest Pre-game party is happening right here on campus!

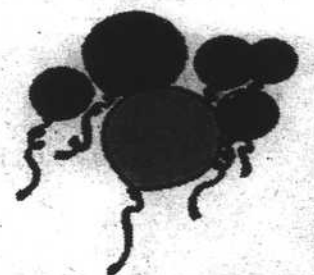
Nebraska Alumni
Association's Home
Husker Huddle

Saturday, September 5
10:00 - 11:30 AM



Food, Entertainment, Door
Prizes, and lots of Husker
Spirit

FREE and OPEN to the public
Students Welcome
Wick Alumni Center
1520 R Street



WIN A TREK MOUNTAIN BIKE.

Come down Aug 31 - Sept 4
Present your student ID to get a
chance in our drawing for a
Trek Mountain Bike!

ALL 98 MODELS ON SALE

CYCLE WORKS



If your date doesn't like
the movie you chose,
we've got 8 others.



Sick of the same old movies being offered night after night? Starship 9 gives you a choice. If you're in a headlock over your Saturday night date—or you just don't know what you're in the mood to see—we'll fix you up. Call 475-9991 for listings.



www.doughnut.com

13th and Q, Lincoln

mobile: 441-0222