

Campus-Connection

College Internet sites leave users tangled in the World Wide Web

BY JASON HARDY
Senior staff writer

Recently a number of high-tech Web sites have been set up to help students spice up their college years while simplifying their lives.

They offer things like e-mail accounts, résumé hints, medical advice, fashion advice, sex advice, movie reviews, news from other college campuses, discounts at local shops and restaurants, online shopping, chat rooms and more links than a sausage factory.

They are all free of charge and are aimed to help Joe and Jane Student get more out of their college experiences.

Sounds great, but it's not quite that easy. The sites are free of charge, that much is true, but utilizing all of the available online resources to make life "easier" and more "exciting" can be a daunting and complex process.

Three such Web sites promising this cyber-campus bliss are College Club (<http://www.collegeclub.com>), animalhouse.com and collegestudent.com. Each offers information, resources and entertainment directed toward college students across the country. The content of each site

is largely nationalized, but they all attempt to feature some local connections.

Collegestudent.com makes the greatest effort to localize the World Wide Web, and Lincoln is included. Basically a gateway site leading to a number of different college-oriented sites across the country, collegestudent.com will lead you to The Husker Network, a site dedicated to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The Husker Network features a number of links to things like roommate searches, housing searches, local news, campus organizations, class ratings by other students and Lincoln-based activities and attractions.

But only a few of the links actually lead to something helpful, and many of the specialized links, such as roommate searches, campus organizations or class ratings, don't have anything at all. The other links basically just take you to already established Lincoln sites like the Lincoln visitor's guide, Nebraska Web, the UNL Web page and even

Daily Nebraskan Online.

While at first glance The Husker Network looks exciting and helpful, the immense amount of advertising on the page makes it hard to sift through the offered information, much of which isn't there anyway. But The Husker Network does have at least some localized coverage, which is more than can be said for the other two sites.

Both College Club and animalhouse.com feature sections dedicated to individual college campuses across the country, but unfortunately UNL isn't one of them.

Jay Samit, president of animalhouse.com, said the reason for the absence of UNL is because the site hasn't yet found anyone from UNL to develop and maintain a local connection. Megan Humpal of College Club said the same is true for its page, and both said anyone interested could apply through their prospective sites and would be paid for their work.

Despite the absence of UNL on both of the aforementioned Web sites, Samit and Humpal both claimed they have a lot to offer UNL students.

Humpal said College Club offers a way for students to better communicate with one another, regardless of college location, while learning more about current events on their individual campuses.

"I went and spent 4 1/2 years at college and got out and wished I had done some of the other things," Humpal said. "We're trying to round out the college experience."

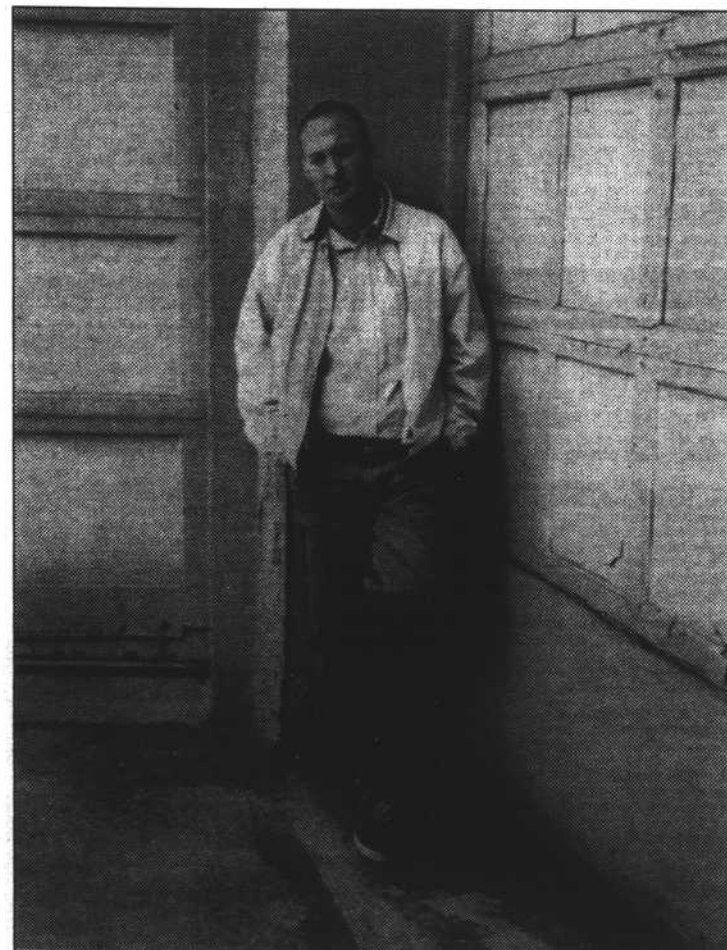
To accomplish this lofty goal, College Club offers 12 campus sections showcasing arts and literature, college and academics, jobs and money, lifestyles and health, love and relationships, entertainment and a number of other sections.

Each section provides articles written by students, a featured group of the day, a poll of the day and a discussion question, with which any College Club member can interact. Also, members can create groups for individual purposes, such as study groups or student organizations.

The problem is the resources are so extensive it's hard to find your way through it all.

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MEGAN HUMPAL
College Club representative



BOB MOULD appears tonight at Omaha's Ranch Bowl. "The Last Dog and Pony Show" tour will be Mould's last time playing electric rock concerts.

COURTESY PHOTO

Mould quits loud rock touring

BY BRET SCHULTE
A&E editor

Musician Bob Mould is not known for his nostalgia.

He never even listened to Hüsker Dü's posthumous live release, "The Living End." When his next band Sugar dissolved in 1995, he promptly launched a solo album with a cross-country tour.

Now, he has decided he's had enough of electric rock in general.

"The main thing to me is just getting back home to do some writing in New York," he said from an anonymous pit stop somewhere on the East Coast leg of his "Last Dog and Pony Show" tour.

The tour is the last of its kind for Mould, who decided to make this his last big electric effort. Tonight, he appears at Omaha's Ranch Bowl, 1600 S. 72nd St., with Zero Hour artists Varnaline.

Loud, pioneering and frequently articulate rock has become a hallmark for the 38-year-old Mould, who has fronted the intrepid soundwall ensembles Hüsker Dü and Sugar.

Despite his greatest fame as a loud and notoriously moody vocalist for post-industrial punk bands, Mould has taken plenty of time for himself over his two-decade career.

His solo record "Workbook," shines as

bright as a smile at points, and exists in sharp contrast to 1996's self-titled album (or "hubcap," due to its cover art), which grinds away at issues of psychology, abandonment and general self-absorption.

"The Last Dog and Pony Show" is Mould's second post-Sugar recording and features his newest group: Bob Mould Dog and Pony Band, consisting mostly of old industry friends and acquaintances. The roster is making his life on the road considerably easier.

"It's going well," he said. "It can be difficult trying to find a like-minded group of people that can all interact as humans, and act as traveling companions."

Mould has grown weary of the demands, both physically and socially, of large-scale electric rock touring, and seems interested in making this last trip as enjoyable as possible.

For this reason, Mould selected long-time engineer Jim Wilson to man the bass, Texas buddy Matt Hammon for the drum set and finally Michael Cerveris as a guitarist. Cerveris managed to find time for the tour, having just finished up the title role in the Broadway production of "Tommy."

Mould defends his choices carelessly. "The best drummer in the world might be a total asshole after two weeks on the road," he concluded.

This somewhat disgruntled philoso-

Concert Preview

phy has pervaded Mould as of late and led to his decision to knock off the electric rock tours. After all, he's been doing it since the early '80s, when Hüsker Dü had to scrap around Minneapolis and the rest of the Midwest looking for gigs.

After a few solo albums, "Black Sheets of Rain" and "Workbook," Mould fronted his second power trio, Sugar. Its 1993 release "Copper Blue" re-established Mould as the smartest neo-punk craftsman around. Since then, Mould has taken turns between abusive sonic excesses and gently strummed ballads.

His mood swings are notorious among his fans, who have dictated certain emotions to every album. Mould believes that his fans may be a bit too eager to subscribe him certain passions.

"Other people are very quick to analyze the records and say this is this mood, and that is that mood," Mould said. "I am not really thinking about that."

"I am just documenting things as I see them."

Lately the guitarist has been plagued by rumors of hearing loss, which some fans credit as the reason for his decision to quit on the electric rock format.

Please see WEB on 10

Please see MOULD on 10