

Weekend Preview

The following is a brief list of events this weekend. For more information, call the venue.

CONCERTS:

Duffy's Tavern, 1412 O St.
(402)474-3543
Sunday: Bottom, Ignitors, Entertainment

Duggan's Pub, 440 S. 11th St.
(402)477-3513
Friday: FAC with The Cruisers
Saturday: Darlings

Knickerbockers Bar and Grill, 901 O St.
(402)476-6865
Friday: The Aaron Zimmer Band and Dago Red
Saturday: Think, Black Dahlias, Joe Kring's Prog Inflation

Royal Grove, 340 West Cornhusker Highway
474-2332
Friday: Cede
Saturday: Cede

Pla-Mor Ballroom, 6600 W.O St.
(402)475-4030
Sunday: Cactus Hill and Bordertown

WC's, 1228 P St.
(402)477-4006
Friday: Angry Salad

The Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
(402)435-8754
Friday: Rev. Raven and the Chain Smokin' Alter Boys
Saturday: James Solberg

THEATER:

Lincoln Community Playhouse, 2500 S. 56th St.
(402)489-7529
All weekend: "The Rocky Horror Show"

Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, 12th and R streets
(402)472-2461
All weekend: "Croupier"

GALLERIES:
Doc's Place, 140 N. Eighth St.
476-3232
All weekend: Jerry Morgan, Jen Helzer, Shawn Ballarin, Nick Kauter, Jake Gillespie, Melanie Faulk

Noyes Gallery, 119 S. Ninth St.
(402)475-1061
Saturday: Julia Noyes Mural Demonstration

The Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12th and R streets
472-2461
All weekend: "Local Color II: Judith Cherry, Patti Gallimore, David Halm, Larry Roots" and "American Impressions from the permanent Collection"

Underground



Scott Eastman/DN

Boston sound

Angry Salad to dish out 'melodic rock' sound

BY EMILY PYEATT

Now, lettuce begin. The self-described "melodic rock band," Angry Salad, will rock WC's tonight.

The Boston-based band formed in 1993 when lead vocalist Bob Whelan, drummer Hale Pulsifer and bass guitarist Brian Vesco met at Brown University.

The three met up with guitarist Alex Grossi while in Boston, adopted a name given by Freddie Mercury of Queen and created the full-bodied sound of Angry Salad.

"We're not a militant-vegetarian group or anything," Whelan said.

"When I was in high school, I went with my family to St. Thomas. I got the worst sunburn, so my brother and I stayed in the hotel bar," he said.

"I was very, very much underage, but I was talking about the small band I had just formed and mentioned how we still needed a name. A voice from the end of the bar shouted out 'Angry Salad,' and that was it."

Bob Whelan
Angry Salad lead vocalist

The voice at the end of the bar was actually Freddie Mercury, and they stuck with the name and still can't get rid of it.

"The guys' personalities, along with their music, will take them a long way," said Matt Rydberg, the co-host of the "Brady Goodman Show" on KKNB-FM (104.1) "The Point."

"They have an underground alternative sound with emotion made for radio," Rydberg said.

Opting for a mainstream pop-rock sound, Angry Salad "matches up favorably with bands like the Goo Goo Dolls and Counting Crows," Whelan said.

"Our sound kind of worked out that way. We come from influences that range from Metallica to Kiss to ABBA, and one thing that they have in com-

mon is melodic rock and roll. Radio is for that rock sound."

The Boston music scene contributes just as much to Angry Salad's sound.

"There is something to be said for a town that has at least twenty colleges," Whelan said. "There are always new people bringing new energy to the music scene."

That Boston energy has been a starting point for some pretty prestigious people in the music world. The city was the starting ground for bands like Aerosmith, The Lemonheads, and The Cars.

"We feel as if we have become a tiny piece of history by being a part of the Boston scene," Whelan said.

Angry Salad works cooperatively to write all its lyrics and music and envisions its songs "popping out of the radio," Whelan said.

The band has produced two albums so far. The first was an independent release called "Guinea Pig," and the current self-titled album "Angry Salad" is under the Blackbird/Atlantic label.

Fans may have caught glimpses of Angry Salad on the Jenny Jones Show or recognized the band singing the theme song to the WB series, "D.C." Its "Milkshake Song" has also hit the Lincoln airwaves.

The band previously toured with Vertical Horizon in April and is now touring the Midwest with Cowboy Mouth.

"We both try to be strong, live bands," Whelan said.

"The Point" is covering the show live tonight at 2109 Highway 2, and the Angry Salad guys "promise not to disappoint."

Vertical Horizon in April and is now touring the Midwest with Cowboy Mouth.

"We both try to be strong live bands," Whelan said.

Performance Preview

Angry Salad

Where:

When:

Cost:



Scott Eastman/DN

Show lets Dago Red gauge its fan base

■ The Omaha band's sound mixes early R.E.M., roots rock and Buffalo Tom.

BY KEN MORTON

Playing in an original band in Omaha can be a bittersweet experience, according to Glenn Antonucci.

"Crowds can be scarce, unless you play a bunch of covers or start getting some breaks," he said.

Antonucci's band, Dago Red, will play at Knickerbockers, 901 O St., tonight, and Antonucci hopes the change in scenery will revitalize the band and win over some new fans.

"Playing out-of-town means taking friends and family out of the equation," he said. "That's when a band really has a chance to gauge where they stand."

The trip to Lincoln marks Dago Red's first venture outside of Omaha, but guitarist and singer Antonucci is no stranger to the Lincoln music scene.

Originally from Chicago, Antonucci moved to Lincoln to attend college and played in bands while going to school. He said he appreciated the reception original bands received in Lincoln.

"In Omaha," he said, "if

you're not doing someone else's stuff, it's really hard to get any attention. Obviously it can be done, but except for a few great people, they just don't seem to care much about local, original music in Omaha."

Dago Red, which is an Italian slang term meaning "cheap, red wine," started about 2 1/2 years ago when Antonucci and bassist/vocalist, Tom Adams, first met. The band later added violinist Dan Britt.

Antonucci's brother, Mike, originally played drums but was replaced by Adams' brother, Jimmy.

After Jimmy Adams left the band, he was replaced by another Adams - Shane. Tom Adams and Shane Adams are not related.

The band's sound mixes Buffalo Tom, with a little early R.E.M. and roots-rock feel. The songs on its debut EP, "A Month and a Day," range from guitar-fueled power pop to spacey, Velvet Underground-influenced art rock.

Antonucci said Buffalo Tom, more than any other band, helped define Dago Red's sound.

"Buffalo Tom may be one of the best bands no one has ever heard of," he said.

Antonucci also cites current

Son Volt - and former Uncle Tupelo - front man Jay Farrar as a major influence on his song-writing and vocal styles. He said, to a lesser degree, Jeff Tweedy, who split with Farrar from Uncle Tupelo and now is in the band Wilco, influenced his music.

After playing Lincoln tonight, Dago Red is off to Sioux City, Iowa, to play at the Tommy Bolin Festival. Bolin, Sioux City's native son and legendary Deep Purple guitarist, died in 1976 of a drug overdose.

Shane Adams, who booked the show for the band, said the festival was held in the parking lot of Rhonda's Speakeasy, a popular Sioux City nightclub.

"It's mostly a bunch of local bands getting together to play a big show," Adams said. "But I guess people do still worship Bolin in Sioux City."

Dago Red plans to release another CD sometime early next year, but for now, Antonucci said the band is concentrating on developing its sound, tightening its live set and building a fan base around Nebraska.

Antonucci also said he has set up a Web site on mp3.com, where listeners can download the band's single, "Frank Sinatra."

Antonucci said he recognized the power of the Internet

Performance Preview

Dago Red

Where: Knickerbockers Bar and Grill 901 O St.

When: Tonight @ 10 p.m.

With: Crush the Crown

Cost: \$3

but doubted whether it could help many new bands.

"The Internet can be a useful tool for someone looking for a particular band," he said. "But as far as it being an equalizer for unsigned bands, I just don't see it."

"Call me a skeptic, call me old-fashioned or whatever, but I still think word-of-mouth and solid, live performances are still the two biggest factors in getting noticed."

However, that doesn't mean Dago Red won't take full advantage of the possibilities the Internet offers.

"We'll do anything to get our music to people," he said, "even if it is just a handful of them."

Album is good, but has nothing original

BY ANDREW SHAW

Daniel Cage takes full advantage of the "headphones experience" on his debut album, "Loud on Earth."

From the first noise on the album, the listener's stomach churns from the sporadic left-to-right phasing, providing a much-appreciated burst of adrenaline.

Unfortunately, the music Cage offers doesn't deliver much beyond the dual-aural mixing and splatters of techno samples.

"Loud on Earth" sums up the basic themes of modern, mainstream, cautious rock: basic chord structure, mid-tempo rhythms and the occasional string choir.

Though Cage only supplies the vocals and keyboards on this album, he is slated as the main composer, programmer and arranger of all 11 songs. He is also given production credits, which he shares with Phil Nicolo (Dishwalla) and Kevin Killen (U2, Elvis Costello).

Cage's bicoastal upbringing may contribute to his mainstream sound, drawing inspiration from so many different sources that his music falls short of placement in any one tribu-

Daniel Cage



tary of the rock genre. But it can sit next to the Goo Goo Dolls in the "inexplicably catch" section of your local record store.

Fans of Five for Fighting or Collective Soul will find Cage's raspy voice delightfully familiar and his lyrics and melodies conveniently derivative of similar mainstream rock acts.

Though his music is not quite original, it is appealing.

Cage has discovered elements that work, producers who can mold hits from the blandest roots and veteran mixing engineers who know how to create winning compilations from cliché compositions.

"Loud on Earth" will, without explanation, undoubtedly burrow a happy little hole into the minds of its listeners.