

Volleyball

Be There!

#1 Nebraska

Be There!

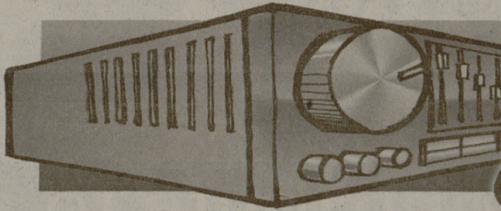
Wednesday • 7:00 p.m.

American Marketing Association

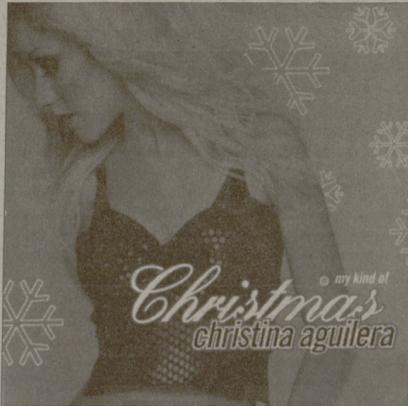
**Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 7
7:15pm
Wehner 125**

**Guest Speaker
formerly of Lockheed Martin**

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Volume Control



My Kind of Christmas
Christina Aguilera
Courtesy of RCA Records

Miss Aguilera is one step closer to accomplishing her goal — becoming Mariah Carey. With the holiday season around the corner, the Grammy-winning singer compiled a full-length Christmas studio album. Apparently, when an artist wins a Grammy, the next step is filling the masses with the joy and mirth of holiday cheer.

It is difficult to listen to this album. On one hand, there are R&B/pop infused dance tracks that fit with today's Top 40, but the lyrical content deals with themes of trees and sugar plums.

There are a few upbeat new songs, one of which Aguilera had a hand in writing — surprisingly the best song on the album. Of course, she is billed last on the track; maybe she is getting a little ahead of herself.

This girl can sing, and she does well on "Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." But the top syllable expansion is not the way to a signature voice. It has been done before, and the world can handle only one glass-shattering crooner.

Christina's image over the past year has been anything but pious, but surprisingly, she chose to pray the "Our Father" in an interlude on "Holy Night." Feeble attempt at redemption or genuine love for the Lord? Regardless, it's a bit out of place, especially with the soulful, jazz finale.

If one is ready to abandon traditional holiday fare of the likes of Bing Crosby and Perry Como, this is definitely the way to go. But serious rockers around the Christmas tree was never supposed to turn into freakin' around the Christmas tree. (Grade: C+)

Breach
The Wallflowers
CD Courtesy of Interscope Records

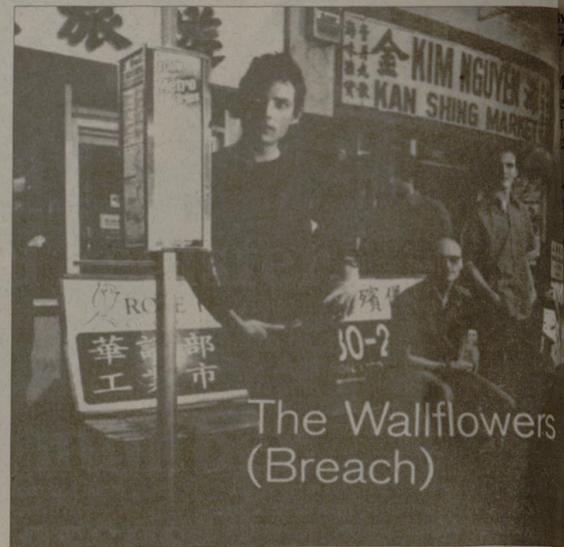
The Wallflowers' latest release, *Breach*, has reaffirmed the band's soulful roots. Its sound is reminiscent of its 1996 *Bringing Down the Horse* album, but *Breach* has much more meaning behind it. It is obvious the Wallflowers have evolved as a band, bringing more confidence and energy to the recording studio.

Jakob Dylan is proving to be his father's son by spilling his emotions into the fabric of every song. This first track draws the listener into Dylan's pain. "Letters From the Wasteland" makes it obvious Dylan has been knee-deep in depression. The song is about a romance gone awry. Lyrics like, "I wake up quick, I wake up sick, as you abandon me," clearly demonstrate the writer's longing.

This album pushes Dylan's singing talents to the limit. He successfully explores upper ranges in "Morning Train" that show he has become a versatile vocalist. Dylan's raspy voice has become the calling card that will bring the band fame. He sounds like the offspring of successful artists Tom Petty and The Boss.

Overall, this album is relatively sober and laid-back. It is exactly what one would expect from the Wallflowers. It is the perfect album to listen to when depressed or trying to shut down a party. Dylan's lyrics show are other lives out there that are more depressing than the listeners'. (Grade: B+)

— Chad Adams



**The Wallflowers
(Breach)**

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