



Inside "Session News"

Drummer Spotlight

"Local Digs" Column

Product Close-Up

Clinic News

Sales Page

Now with Two Locations:

Midwest Percussion

10137-C S. Harlem
Chicago Ridge Il. 60415
(708) 499-2314

19031 Old LaGrange Rd. #210
Mokena Il 60448
(708) 478-3555

Visit us on the Web at:
<http://members.aol.com/midperc>

© 1999 Midwest Percussion.
All Rights reserved.

Midwest Percussion®

Drum Session

1st Quarterly Newsletter on local drumming news

Welcome to [Midwest Percussion's](#) first edition of "Drum Session". What you'll find inside each edition is, local drummer news, new product reviews, clinic news, and a special sales sheet. [Drum Session](#) is to inform the local drummer of who and what is happening right here in your area. All of the featured drummers are [Midwest Percussion](#) customers who through their hard work and effort have made a decent dent in the local scene. There will be one featured drummer in our "[Drummer Spotlight](#)" section and a list of many others in our "[Local Digs](#)" column.

When looking for new equipment, its important to understand all aspects of what you are buying. In our "[Product Close-up](#)" section, we will inform and educate you on the important issues of those particular products. All of the reviewed products will have special pricing whether its listed or not in the "[Sales Page](#)" section.

We hope the "[Drum Session](#)" newsletter sheds some light on whats going on right here in your drumming community. Gives inside and helpful tips on all the latest gear, informs you on upcoming and past clinics; and supplies you with a sales page on equipment you can really use.

We at [Midwest Percussion](#) want you to feel a part of what is an outstanding group of drummers.

Sincerely,

John Litrenta
"Midwest Percussion"





Oscar Seaton

Chicago drummer makes his mark!

Oscar has been playing drums since he was about five years old. At eighteen years of age he started shopping at **Midwest Percussion**. From the first time he was there he knew that it was the place to talk shop and buy all his gear. Everytime he came in everyone was so cool and they always had everything he needed, but more importantly when he needed it, and the prices were the best in town.

All the hard work has paid off for Oscar, who's now endorsed by **Yamaha, Zildjian, Remo** and **Vic Firth**. When he's in town he enjoys coming to **Midwest Percussion** to shop and visit.

Last year was a very busy year for Oscar. He was on the road for eight out of twelve months. He started off the year doing a lot of recording, going from one project to another. Then from May to August he was on tour with **Boz Scaggs**. That tour took him to every major city in the US, including Chicago where they played the World Theater in June. When the **Boz Scaggs** tour finally wound up, Oscar headed back to Chicago for a much needed rest, but that rest never came. He got a call From **Lionel Richie** to do a five month tour of Europe, which just ended in January of '99. Oscar had the privilege of playing with **Sheila E.**, who played percussion on that tour. It was a great experience for Oscar.

This is going to be a busy year for one of Chicago's premier players. He's now engaged in several more recording projects, and when that winds up, he's back on the road from June thru August with **Boz Scaggs** and September thru December with **Lionel Richie**. That's another seven month stint on the road, but Oscar knows great drummers must endure the heavy road work to be a success.

Oscar says, "I've been blessed to work with a lot of great people, and I've made many friends over the years. It's been truly remarkable and I hope to do this many, many more years. For all young drummers, keep playing and dreams really do come true."

Oscar Seaton is one of many great drummers, but what makes him special is that he still knows who he is and where he comes from. We wish him the best of luck through all his many travels.

Choice of Gear

Oscar uses **Yamaha's Beech Custom** drums. Why not Maple Custom or Recording Custom? He chose the Beech line for their full sound and sharp cutting power, and they were offered in a very unique **Pear Yellow Lacquer**.

His cymbal choice is very simple, **Zildjian!** With a mixtue of "**K**" and "**A Customs**" he knows there will be no problems from sound check to the last encore.

His drum heads are **Remo Ambassadors**. They offer him all the sound he needs with punch and projection. He drumsticks are **Vic Firth 5A**, which give him durability night after night.



"Oscar kicking royal butt in London last November with Lionel Richie".

Midwest Percussion works for You!

Midwest has been very busy the last six months because of our second store opening. We felt we needed to be more accessible to the far south suburbs, so we opened a store in Mokena, at 191st and LaGrange. The shop is about 2000 square feet and houses all the drum gear you need, including lessons. The same great service and price will be there too. Questions answered, small repairs or just to see what's new, stop in at either location to see why Midwest Percussion is the largest, most complete drum shop in Chicago.

The things Midwest prides itself on is it's "commitment to stock", in other words we keep a lot of stuff right here at the shop. If you come in looking for cymbals, we won't show you just one crash model, but two or three of the same model to choose from. As you know, two of the same cymbals can sound totally different. They're some models we might sell two all year, but when you need it we got it.

Sticks are another item we stock heavy; wood tip, nylon tip, oak, hickory, maple, marching....the list goes on and on. But that's what you should expect from a drum shop like Midwest Percussion.

At Midwest we are trying to break the "start at list price and work your way down". We realize you are much smarter than that. We take the retail price then discount it between 35% and 50% everyday. So when you see a sale at Midwest Percussion you can rest assured that it's a great deal over and beyond our normal discount. Our everyday stock of drum gear, is much greater than those so-called superstores, just try us.

All of our sales staff are working drummers. To some customers that doesn't mean much, but to most it provides honest answers to real life drumming situations, that you the customer, might not have had experienced yet.

I hope this gives some insight on what Midwest Percussion means to the drumming community. A shop where you get the best price, service, and most of all the satisfaction you deserve. **And don't forget, we guarantee to meet or beat ANY price!**

See ya Later; Robin

Who's Happening out on the scene!

LOCAL DIGS

Boy, do we have some news on who's doing what, when and where (all drummers mentioned are regular Midwest Percussion customers).

One of our friends and great drummer **Pat Doody** is not only busy with **Lonnie Brooks** but can be seen with **The Griff Band**. His play and style is one of only a handful of players can hope to achieve. Get out and see this dude (no pun intended).

Loudmouth, [who's drummer **John Sullivan**], has just put out their debut CD on Hollywood records. John has also joined forces with **Slingerland** drums and **Paiste** cymbals to carry his hard driving drumming style out on the road with him.

John Vasquez drummer for **Fuse**, has released a new CD entitled, "**The Addiction**". Also **Lance Lewis** is busy holding down the groove for **Joanna Conner**.

One of Midwest's stellar employees, **Brian Hamelen** whose band **Lauter Tun** is currently working on their upcoming CD. A power Trio with the accent on power. Check'em out!

RJ Strocchio's latest endeavor "**Heavens -Tawgatroyd**" has recorded their upcoming CD at Studio Chicago. **RJ** plays his new **DW** set, which really puts his signature on every track.

Mike Brown, a long time great employee has been very busy with the **FlapJacks**. They are currently working on their second CD. His sound consists of **Noble & Cooley** drums, **Aquarian** heads and **Zildjian** Cymbals. Mike can be also heard live, every Thursday at **O'Malley's**, with his Remo djembe at his side.

Longtime friend and great drummer **Dan Massey** is keeping very busy with **Robbie Fulks**. They just finished their Geffen release, and are now on the road.

[Anyone who wishes to get into the "Local Digs" column, please stop in and give us info on what's going on with you or your band.]



by John Litrenta

PREMIER Cabria

Through all the clutter of mid-priced kits Cabria lands on it's own two feet.



The drum shells feature “Quick Tom Sizes” which are 1” shorter than standard power toms. They give a brighter and louder sound with all the power you need. Cabria shells are select plys of Merranti and Eucalyptus wood which are machine lacquered and UV cured which is why they can produce a great finish without the high price tag. One of the best features is that they offer the kit with a matching wood snare instead of the normal chrome jobby.

The hardware is solid single braced which features a swivel hi hat stand, chain drive bass pedal, and now comes with a boom stand. Hi-tension lugs along with a great tom holder gives this kit the durability you’ll need gig after gig.

Cabria is offered in standard or fusion setups with either 20” or 22” bass drums, and ten different solid lacquer finishes. If you need a first kit or second, make sure you look here, it’s worth it.

Don’t make the mistake and overlook this kit. I’ve seen a lot of kits and this one stands out at price and product quality.

I give Cabria..... ★★★★★



by Scott Bonshire

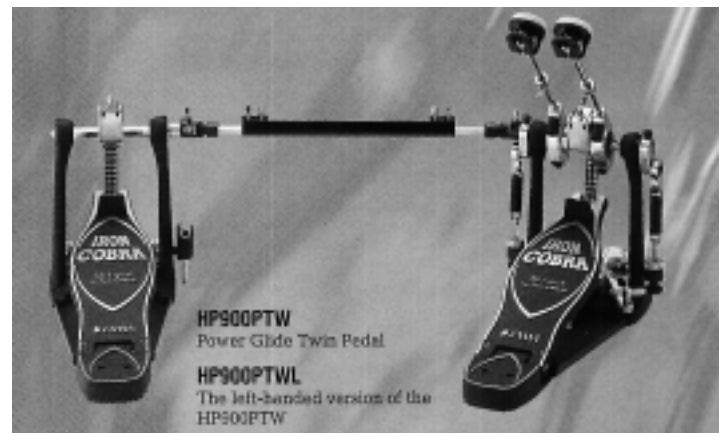
Tama Iron Cobra

With it's recent facelift the Iron Cobra still has the competition scared.

If memory serves me correctly, it was the mid to late 70’s that Tama dominated the headlines. I wasn’t familiar with their drums but the buzz going around was, “The hardware is great.” to which my response was, “Yeah, but you don’t play the hardware.” except.. for the pedals.

The newly designed Iron Cobra is a welcome treat. Very smooth with a number of angles and tensioning that gives the competition a run for their money. The Iron Cobra has an adjustable beater head so it will hit flush against the bass drum everytime. It also has three removable beater heads to choose from: Wood, rubber or felt. There is weight on the beater shaft that is adjustable as well as removable, if so desired. The foot board is a little wider than most and is very solid. No loose play whatsoever. A key that has it’s own slot on the pedal also acts as an alan wrench.

If you’re in need of a new pedal or want to make a change, I suggest checking out the Iron Cobra.



I give Iron Cobra..... ★★★★★



THE WORKSHOP SERIES by



DW: If they build it,
they will buy it.

by Art Baldacci

In an effort to reach an even larger market, (if that's at all possible) **Drum Workshop** has introduced a mid-priced line of drums known as "THE WORKSHOP SERIES". These are not what you would consider entry-level drums, but are more affordable than the top of the line DW drums.

To start, **DW** uses thin **all-Maple** shells without reinforcing hoops to give the drum a warm low fundamentally pitched tone that **DW** is famous for. The workshop series uses what **DW** calls the proportionately shell thickness to diameter ratio so that the smaller toms are slightly thinner and warmer than the larger ones, and the snare drums are thicker and brighter than the toms and kick drums.

These drums are available in 3 finishes; **Royal Blue**, **Cranberry Red** and **Teal Green**. In either a satin oil or a machine applied lacquer. They are fitted with a newly designed oval lug casing and oval badge and come with true-pitch tension rods and **STM** mounts standard. They are available in a limited range of **FAST** sizes (**Fundamentally Accurate Sized Toms**, another **DW** innovation) or in three kit configurations.

As you may or may not know, I'm a huge fan of **DW** drums and this new series should bring the quality and fine craftsmanship, as well as the great sound of **DW** drums to those who could not afford to play DW in the past. Kudos to **DW!!!!**



I give The Workshop Series..... ★★★★★



Delta II Series Pedals

by Brian Hamelen

Faster strokes from
some familiar folks.



Whether it's the New **5000AD** single or the **5002AD** double pedal, **DW** has once again provided drummers with unmatched response, smoothness and dependability. **Drum Workshop** has released a whole new animal into the bass drum pedal market.

All new **double chain sprocket** design, a beefier low mass die cast footboard are only two ways in the nature of this beast. These pedals allow more power with less effort. Less effort comes from the "**Force Maximizer**" weight system, and the addition of the "**Delta II Tri-bearing System**" (standard on both the single and double models). All this means to the everyday player is a couple of weights strategically placed at the toe of the footboard which increases the harmonic balance of the pedal. Both these pedals speak for themselves in **quality**, **speed** and **durability**.

I recommend you sit behind one, lay into it good and fast, and you'll see what these last two paragraphs are all about.

I give Delta II Pedals..... ★★★★★

by Tom Scheckel

Carpet: it just feels better

Drumat

I have to admit that when I first laid eyes on the **Drumat** (distributed by H.S.S.) I had my doubts that it was the answer to a jobbing drummer's dilemma; carry bulky carpeting from gig to gig or risk having to play on a bare ballroom floor, and spend the entire evening holding onto the bass drum & hi-hat.

Despite **Peter Erskine's** endorsement and his earnest claim that he ["never leaves home without one"], the **Drumat** seemed a bit too compact right out of the box to be taken as a serious tool for the working player.

Having lugged around a bulky, 6ft piece of wall-to-wall carpet for the better part of 3 decades, I couldn't see how this small 2ft x 6inch cylinder would expand to accomodate a full 5pc drumset.

To my surprise the **Drumat** unrolled to do just that. It's clever design utilizes two thin pieces of die-cut carpeting that are ribbed on top, rubberized on the bottom and attached in three places.

Slap your kit on it's fully expanded 4ft x 6ft playing surface and it's there for the entire evening, At the end of the night it takes all of 15 seconds to roll up into an extremely lightweight, 2ft long tube, complete with shoulder strap.

After having used the **Drumat** on a real gig and at **\$39.95**, my advice is the same as Erskine's "don't leave home without one"!

I give Drumat..... ★★★★★



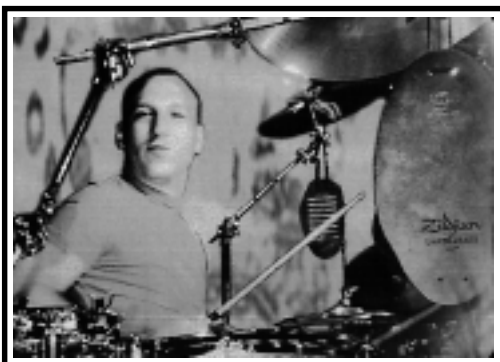
Clinic News

Stephen Perkins Coming in June!



Stephen Perkins, long time drummer with **Jane's Addiction**, and **Porno for Pyros** will be in clinic sometime in June.I know, "when in June?" **Midwest Percussion** will send out post cards, for the exact time and date. The clinic will be held at **O'Malleys**, which is located at 119th and Pulaski in Alsip.

This will be **Stephen's** first appearance in this area, so you don't want to miss this. Ticket prices will be \$7⁰⁰ in advance (you can get them at Midwest), or \$8⁰⁰ at the door. See you there!



Stephen's Drum Setup exclusively by 

Stephen's Cymbal Setup exclusively by **Zildjian**



A Customs

- 1 13" Custom Projection Hi Hats
- 2 16" Custom Projection Crash

K Custom

- 3 22" Custom Ride

K Zildjian

- 4 17" China - Brilliant

A Zildjian

- 5 17" Medium Crash - Brilliant

Z Custom

- 6 18" Custom China

Sound Effects

- 7 9.5" ZIL-BEL
- 8 Earth Plate - Low
- 9 Earth Plate - High