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Annual flu immunizations ARE RECOMMENDED for the following:

1. Healthy persons 65 years or older.
2. Persons with long-term heart or lung problems.
3. Persons with any of the following: kidney disease, cystic fibrosis, diabetes, anemia, severe asthma, and conditions which compromise immune mechanism.

Influenza vaccine MAY be given to persons wishing to reduce their chances of catching the flu, persons who provide essential community services, and students or others in schools or colleges.

For more information, call the STUDENT HEALTH CENTER at 346-4441

ENTERTAINMENT

'Achtung Baby' worth the wait



U2
Achtung Baby
 Island Records
 ©1991
 ★ ★ ★ 1/2

Achtung Baby, U2's latest effort, was released today, ending years of anticipation.

The Irish band's last album, *Rattle and Hum*, was a mix of studio and live tracks, and it left many fans wondering in what direction the group was heading. The answer, they assumed, would be found in the next album. It is not.

Achtung Baby is chaotic, unpredictable, seductive and falters only occasionally. U2 fans won't find any answers in this album simply because the band, once again, avoids narrowing its musical focus.

The title of one of the tracks, "One" is slow, boasting a

"Tryin' to Throw Your Arms Around the World," aptly describes this ambitious album. U2 embraces many styles of music as they experiment and expand their horizons. They bounce between heavy metal, industrial and dance music, often in the same song, yet they retain their distinctive sound.

The opening track, "Zoo Station," begins with obnoxious, distorted guitar noise, which sounds more like techno-thrash than U2. Larry Mullen's drums slide in, followed by throbbing bass from Adam Clayton. By the time The Edge creeps in with his trademark guitar, Bono is wailing in the background. That is the first point at which one will recognize the sound as U2's.

Just like the rest of this album, however, there is little here that is standard. On this track, Bono's voice suddenly erupts into an electronic modification that makes it sound as though he is singing through a tin can.

The panoramic landscapes of *The Joshua Tree* are gone, as is the soulfulness of *Rattle and Hum*. *Achtung Baby* is precise and cold as it explores the darker side of the heart.

The mysteriously pleading "One" is slow, boasting a

heavy bass line and a wide range of emotional ground. "Have you come here to play Jesus/To the lepers in your head," Bono asks a lover.

"Until the End of the World" is an ominous look at insensitivity where turnabout is fair play. "I reached out for the one I tried to destroy/You, you said you'd wait until the end of the world."

Other highlights include "Mysterious Ways," "So Cruel" and the anthem-like "Ultraviolet (Light My Way)."

This is not U2's best work ever, but it leaves us already thirsting for their next album. It's not what U2 fans will be expecting, but it was well worth the wait.

Bob Lee, owner of Face the Music, 886 E. 13th Ave., said he is expecting to sell between 300 and 500 copies of *Achtung Baby* today. U2 is particularly popular with college students, he said, and "regardless if it's good or bad, it's going to sell well for several weeks."

Since the mid-October debut of "The Fly," the first single from the album, Lee and his staff have answered 20 to 50 inquiries a day regarding today's release.

By Eron Witzel
 Emerald Contributor

Gray whale not endangered, officials say



NORTHWEST

WASHINGTON (AP) — The California gray whale can be removed from the list of endangered species, but other great whales still face the threat of extinction, federal fisheries officials said today.

Top administrators said the surprising recovery of the gray whale population in the north Pacific Ocean is atypical of whale species during the past 20 years.

It marks the first time the government has proposed removing a marine species from the list of endangered species.

"This is a success story," said John Knauss, administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"There are probably more California grays alive now than there were prior to the peak of the commercial whaling industry in the mid-1880s," Knauss said during a news conference at the National Press Club.

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