

Ex-local now a Best Kisser

By Kaly Soto
Oregon Daily Emerald

Tim Arnold is... well first let's explore what he is not. He is not married to Roseanne, he is not from Seattle, and he is not one of the best kissers in the world.

Actually, he is the drummer for Best Kissers in the World, a band who just happened to form in Seattle and have just released their first album on MCA Records.

Arnold started out as a drummer in Eugene and helped form the Daddies. He also worked with Raw Head Rex and Flatlander. He first started playing in Spencer Butte Junior High School, and he graduated from South Eugene High School in 1986.

Originally, Arnold moved to Seattle "because I had left the Daddies, and I wanted to keep playing music. At that time The Daddies were the biggest band in Eugene. I didn't want to go back to playing empty venues, when I had been playing with them. I am basically addicted to playing live."

When Arnold was just beginning to cultivate a love for drums, the people he was around in Eugene really encouraged him. "They encouraged me very much," he said. "Eugene and its people have always been really good at that. There are always people to play with."

Arnold moved to Seattle before the press and record companies descended upon the city to find the next Pearl Jam or Nirvana. When asked if he thought the media hype had ruined Seattle as a city, Arnold replied, "I never had a sense of artistic community, not like in Eugene. The only difference now is that there are a lot more people who are not creative now."

"Seriously, the only difference I've noticed is that I can't find a



COURTESY PHOTO

Tim Arnold a former Eugene resident is now the drummer for Best Kissers in the World. The band's first album is titled *Been There*.

parking space anymore," Arnold said. "I had to sell my car because I couldn't find a space."

Arnold has been with Best Kissers for a little over a year. In that time the band has been touring steadily.

"(Touring is) easier than everyone says it is," he said. "I like it better than being at home. Except when we toured in Springfield. I would rather not play at all than play in Springfield."

Best Kissers have toured with bands such as X, L7, School of Fish and Social Distortion. "We got to tour with X and that pretty much covers it for me," Arnold said.

His experience with touring is still young, which may explain why he is still so infatuated with it. "These have been my first tours ever," he said, "so I am not

tired of it yet. Starting in November we'll be gone forever."

Their first album, titled *Been There*, features such singles as "She Won't Get Under Me...Til I Get Over You" and "Goddamn." Their lyrics, which are written by Gerald Collier (who is coincidentally the only original member of Best Kissers), deal mostly with breaking up with women, being with women and women in general.

As a drummer his part in the writing process is "not to obstruct it." Most of the band's songs are written by lead singer, Gerald Collier.

His reflections on Eugene are nostalgic. "I lasted a lot longer than most people," Arnold said. "I lived there for 15 years. I miss it a lot of the time, but I am close enough that I can still visit."



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