



Ska band The Skeletones was formed in 1986 in Riverside, California, and has since released two albums. COURTESY PHOTO

Skeletones release fast-paced ska CD

By Mathew Stiffler
Oregon Daily Emerald

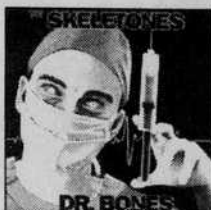
What do the bands No Doubt, Rancid and the Mighty Mighty Bosstones have in common besides being chart-toppers? All of these bands are bringing ska into mainstream radio.

With this new rise in the popularity of ska, The Skeletones could not have better timed the release of their new album *Dr. Bones*.

The band, which originates from Riverside, California, has been touring since its inception in 1986. Its seven members include Jonas Cabrera, vocals/trumpet; Paul Hampton, keyboards/vocals; Mark Cummings, bass; Alex Tasch, guitar; Kip Wirtzfeld, sax/vocals; Jason Schultz, drums; and Garth Schultz, trombone.

The band's first album, which has sold 11,000 copies since it was released in 1992, shows that they have developed a large following. Their fans won't be disappointed by *Dr. Bones*. The new album retains the band's sound in 12 new songs.

When you first listen to this album, you will get sucked in by their fusion of ska and jazz, which may



REVIEW
Dr. Bones
The Skeletones
★★★
(ska and jazz blend)

make you think you're listening to an older Fishbone album. This hybrid continues until the heavily two-tone-influenced "Delirium," which my roommate said he couldn't stop dancing to.

Many of the lyrics on the album discuss the imperfect world we live in. For example, the song "Sorry Sucker Jeb" is about Jeb, who sees the grass as greener on the other side. "He fell to the other side/Where the grass wasn't any greener... just a different shade."

Overall, this album is definitely one to buy if you enjoy ska music. The songs are fast moving, and *Dr. Bones* should be on everyone's party list.

If you want to hear more, The Skeletones will open for Fishbone at WOW Hall March 9. The show will begin at 8:30 p.m., and the doors will open at 8. Get there early so you don't miss the Skeletones.



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