

'Tis the season to be ... grouchy

By Dave Depper
Oregon Daily Emerald

I think that I've finally digested that last bit of Tofurkey from Thanksgiving. This can only mean one thing: The holidays are upon us.

Time for Christmas carols, reindeer, Hanukkah menorahs and lots of fruitcake. Whoop-de-do, eh?

I'm kind of in a grinchy mood today, so you know what? This isn't going to be my normal, happy-go-lucky humorous music column. Oh no. I don't care if "America needs to laugh." I think that I'm going to try and fill this space with as much bad news as I can. Are you ready?

First off, **Nickelback** sucks. They suck bad. Just what we needed — another hard rock band showing their sensitive side on a bland slab of riff rock. I am of course speaking of their single, the deplorable "How You Remind Me." Have you seen the video for this chunk of garbage? Their lead singer looks like the offspring of Ted Nugent and Dave Mustaine. Not pleasant.

The artist currently known as **Prince** just released his new album, "The Rainbow Children." This new Prince album, normally a cause for celebration for this

humble writer, is instead a horrible disappointment: It's a "concept album" dealing with the newly religious beliefs of The Purple One. Good vs. evil. God vs. the Devil. Me vs. puking. When I listen to Prince, I want



Dave Depper
In Stereo

"Pussy Control!" I want "Erotic City!" I don't want a song about how holy and righteous Prince is. Eager fans of gangsta-rap pioneers N.W.A. will be disappointed to find out that their long-promised reunion album, which supposedly was going to be released sometime in the near future, has been pushed back indefinitely. Why? Those slackers haven't recorded anything yet! Rapmeister **Ice Cube** explains that the delay is because group members are busy with movies and solo projects, but seriously: Those guys must smoke so much weed, I swear, I bet they're not even getting out of bed more than twice a week.

Speaking of reunions, do you love **La Bouche**? Are you drooling over the prospect of a reunion of the mid-1990s dance duo? If yes, you'd best be mopping up the puddles on your floor, because there ain't gonna be one. Singer **Melanie Thornton** died in a Swiss plane crash this last weekend. Tragically, Thornton was just launching a new solo album and was traveling to Zurich to promote it.

What other bad news is there? **Pearl Jam's** long-promised B-sides album didn't come out this season as promised. **The Spice Girls** are planning to reunite for a reunion tour. The top two spots on the Billboard album charts are held by **Garth Brooks** and **Britney Spears**. **John Lennon** is still dead. And although this doesn't technically have anything to do with music, it has a lot to do with my mood: The weather blows.

If there's any bright spot to this misery, it is the fact that what four out of five dentists call the "best rock band in Eugene," **Wallace**, is playing a free show tonight at the Buzz Coffeehouse. The experience starts at 9 p.m. Happy holidays, everybody!

Emerald webmaster Dave Depper can be reached at davedepper@dailyemerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

Furtado

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will perform with the band, adding his accordion talents to the mix.

Publicist Trevor Rasmussen from Big Wheel Productions said Furtado often invites special guests to play with the band.

"He likes to mix it up a lot," Rasmussen said. "The last album had a ton of different players. It will be really fun to see what happens with this lineup."

Jessica Lurie, a saxophone play-

er for the Living Daylights, will also join the Tony Furtado Band for a few songs, according to Bjorn Estlund, concert promoter for Bear Productions.

Furtado said even though the Living Daylights's music has more of an avant-garde jazz style, he thought the two bands complemented each other.

The Tony Furtado Band has released six albums and will be going back into the studio with Grammy-award winning producer Cookie Morenco this winter to begin recording for its next album, due for release early next

spring.

Furtado said the band was still testing out new material on live audiences.

Matthews said he remembers enjoying past performances in Eugene and is eager to play at the Wild Duck.

"I'm really excited about the rhythm section," he said. "People really enjoy it, (and it has) a lot of energy."

Tickets are \$10 at the Wild Duck, and the show starts at 9:30 p.m.

Emerald Pulse reporter Jen West can be reached at jenwest@dailyemerald.com.

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TONY FURTADO BAND

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