## Raventones' 'Odd Birds' a must for folk listeners

Lead singer TR Kelley's vocals help carry the album, despite lyrics that are sometimes indecipherable

## By Natasha Chilingerian Pulse Reporter

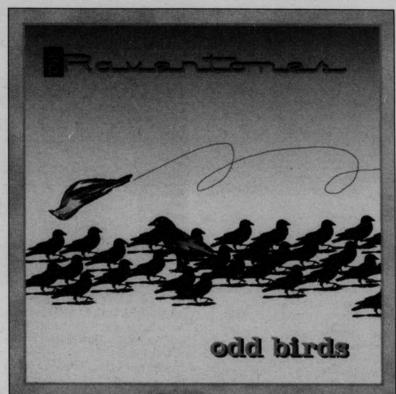
In an Emerald interview two weeks ago, TR Kelley and Randy Hamme of The Raventones stressed that the strength of their band is "making a lot of noise for just two



Based on their 12track debut album, " O d d Birds," the

biggest part of their sound is clearly Kelley's voice. Her versatile vocals provide the backbone for four distinctive styles of music apparent on the recording: soulful ballads, simple folk tunes, trippy psychedelia and hick-ville country twang

In the trance-like "I Surrender,"



mix up the album and provide a wellplanned, artistic quality. The jam, "Dynamix," is an articulated, baritone guitar/drum duo which starts out steady and slowly grows, making you want to bounce your head and eventually jump up and down. "Blue Interlude" gets creative with a harmonica, banjo, wailing voices, sounds of a train passing and frogs croaking.

## narrowed to final five

Fivesouth, Grynch, alterEGO, be acting as an alternate band.

