

The Pixies brings bit of magic to town

The influential band ignites a sell-out Eugene audience in McDonald Theatre, one stop on its reunion tour

By Helen Schumacher
Pulse Columnist

A couple years ago, I decided it was time to start wearing earplugs to concerts. I was pretty sure I was already starting to go deaf and wanted to make sure I would still be able to have a rock journalism career after college. However, last Tuesday, I threw out the neon ear buds. The show I saw at the McDonald Theatre was worthy of hearing loss.

It was The Pixies.

CONCERT REVIEW

The Pixies originally formed in Boston in 1986 with Charles Thompson, who later adopted the stage name Black Francis and now goes by Frank Black, as their guitarist and lead singer. With Joey Santiago on guitar and Kim Deal playing bass,

the group was rounded out by percussionist David Lovering. The band released five albums and quickly developed a cult following. The unique juxtaposition of Black's urgent screams and Deal's sweet singing, coupled with rabid guitar and surfer grooves, helped the group become one of the most influential rock bands of the late 20th century.

In 1993, a now-infamous fax message announced the dissolution of the band. But this past fall, after a decade of solo projects, the group members announced to the elation of fans worldwide that they would be reuniting to tour, and possibly record a new album. Tuesday's show marked their third in the United States since reuniting.

Just after 9 p.m., the silhouettes of four figures caused a sold-out audience to erupt in mass euphoria as the opening notes of "Bone Machine" were broadcast across the venue's PA system. The musicians definitely looked older, but they sounded just as energetic and raw as they ever had. The music seemed to come as second nature to them as they pummeled through a set list consisting mostly of hits from their albums "Surfer Rosa"

and "Doolittle."

The show really took off when, after the third song, the lights darkened and Deal's thick bassline announced "I Bleed." Then, some audience members started getting rowdy enough to warrant their removal by security guards. Next, sounding like the national anthem for punk rock was "Velouria," and then "Caribou." Black alternated between sounding like a Boreas wind gust and crazed mental patient while singing "Where I was born I now repent / Caribou-ou-ou-ooo / Repent, Repe-e-ent."

Ranging in age from about 20 to 40, the audience consisted of long-haired dudes in Led Zeppelin T-shirts, college kids in black hoodies and trucker caps and women sporting tattoos up and down their arms and flowers in their hair. The ecstatic group echoed every single one of the eerie "ooohs" of "Where Is My Mind?," not to mention every other Pixies lyric.

Santiago — who had previously existed as "the other guitar player" in my mind — proved to be the stone-faced backbone of the band. In the middle of "Vamos," Lovering threw a drumstick

across the stage to Santiago, who used it as a bow across his guitar frets, creating a screeching reverb.

The show continued with almost the entire tracklist of 1989's "Doolittle," including "Hey," "No. 13 Baby," "Debaser," "Wave of Mutilation," "Monkey Gone to Heaven" and "Gouge Away." It wasn't until the last song, "Gigantic" — when Deal forgot the lyrics to the second verse and had to ask Black — that the band members actually did any talking. The Pixies went from song to song, and played the entire show without any explanation for the reunion and tour, not that the crowd seemed to need it.

After "Gigantic" finished and much stomping and clapping erupted from below the stage, the band came back out for an encore of "La La Love You," the U.K. Surf version of "Wave of Mutilation" and "Into the White."

It was a performance visibly savored by both the audience and the band.

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ABROAD

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you're eligible for," she said, adding that applying for scholarships gives students good experience, even if the scholarship appears out of reach.

The OIP provides workshops for

people looking for funding to go abroad. The next workshop will be held on Wednesday, July 14, from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the EMU's Metolius and Owyhee Rooms.

The OIP also has a number of counselors on staff to advise students about funding. To schedule an appointment with OIP, call 346-3207.

Students may also access scholarship information from OIP's Web site, <http://studyabroad.uoregon.edu>.

Senior international studies major Jaxon Love, who received the Opportunity Abroad Scholarship for his trip to Lyon, France, said students shouldn't let finances hinder them from considering a study

abroad program.

"If it's at all possible, don't let the financial aspect stop you from going abroad," he said. "It has value beyond the monetary value."

Contact the people/culture/faith reporter at moriahbalingit@dailyemerald.com.

OFFICER

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Once Montes was transferred to the University, he was given the task of supervising three EPD officers.

"It's not different than supervising any other patrol team," he said, adding that a majority of the calls he gets are disturbances, loud music or patrolling the campus.

He also makes himself available to DPS to answer legal questions and make sure that services aren't duplicated between the EPD and DPS officers, because some DPS officers can now issue citations.

"(EPD officers are) here to provide education and crime prevention," Montes said. "They're basically doing community policing, just in a smaller geographical area (of Eugene)."

Besides working with DPS, Montes works with a few campus organizations, primarily the Office of Student Life.

Student Judicial Affairs Director Chris Loschiavo said he and others in

his office frequently work with EPD on various crisis situations on campus.

"It's important that students realize EPD has a job to do on campus. Sometimes they have to cite students, but remember, they are here for students' safety."

Chris Loschiavo
Student Judicial Affairs Director
affiliation

He said he gets the feeling that Montes enjoys working with students and sees the value in an educational process. He added Montes seems to be open to some alternative forms of dealing with situations on campus.

However, Loschiavo said it is too early to determine how Montes holds up against other EPD sergeants

assigned to campus.

"All of our sergeants have brought their own personalities to campus, but it's too early to tell what, if any, changes he'll bring," Loschiavo said.

Hicks agreed that it is too early to know if changes will be made, but he said the contract to have EPD officers in the DPS office ends in June, so the contract renewal may cause changes.

Loschiavo said he hopes students will accept Montes and understand the need for EPD's presence at the University.

"It's important that students realize EPD has a job to do on campus. Sometimes they have to cite students, but remember, they are here for students' safety," Loschiavo said. "A lot of people come onto campus and try to take advantage of students, and EPD is here to prevent that."

Montes hopes to bridge the gap between EPD and the campus, in part by educating the students so they have an understanding of when they're breaking the rules.

"I see it as a challenge to get

everybody on the same page," he said. "It has to be a constant process of education and communication."

Montes said his specific role in supervising the three EPD officers is to provide them with the help and resources they need.

He said he facilitates the officers' training, reviews their reports and goes on calls when he is available.

He added that one aspect of working the campus detail he enjoys is that the calls for service aren't as high, so he and his officers have more time to be in contact with people around the campus.

EPD officers on campus sometimes teach classes on bike safety, pedestrian safety and other classes as needed.

Overall, Montes hopes to continue building the relationship among EPD, DPS and the campus community.

"My door is always open for people," he said.

Contact the crime/health/safety reporter at lisacatto@dailyemerald.com.

MILITARY

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the Marines and Air Force. The naval program attracts the most students, about 60 enlistees. Nearly a quarter enrolled are women.

The Navy program draws students from Stanford, UC-Davis and the Cal Maritime Academy. The Air Force and Army branches have students from Saint Mary's College and Sonoma State.

For six hours every Thursday, ROTC students gather at Cal for drills and classroom instruction.

They say ROTC meets several needs, paying a hefty slab of higher education costs, preparing them to serve their country and instantly giving them a job when they graduate.

Nationwide, some 5,000 students apply annually for the Navy college program. Between 1,300 and 1,400 enter the program. The scholarship committee looks for well-rounded applicants, equally adept as athletes and as students.

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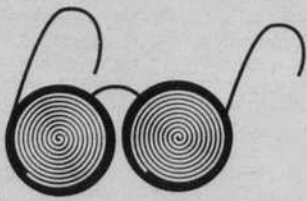
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