

## COACHELLA

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final song, "Intensify."

Legend-in-the-making Sage Francis performed with a CD player as his only accompaniment. Dressed like some break-dancing druid, he delivered a barrage of eccentric and introspective hip-hop. As usual, he placed an original twist on every song, improvising and reinventing as he went along. During the show he pelted the audience with broccoli, broke a chair, removed his pants and sodomized a George W. Bush doll. As usual, he took control and walked offstage as if nothing happened.

If Radiohead was the overall highlight of the festival, then The Flaming Lips were the highlight of the second day. Even though set-up time cut into their set by about 15 minutes, the show was amazing. It began with lead singer Wayne Coyne being passed around by the crowd in a huge plastic bubble. The stage was packed tight with people in furry little animal suits and dancing suns, fake blood was everywhere and a good time was had by all. The only disappointment of the Lips' performance was Coyne's attempts at being political.

He rehashed the same anti-Bush rhetoric everyone had been saying all day, but he took a lot longer than most to say the exact same thing.

I don't know what it was, but I have to admit that The Cure was a disappointment. Maybe I was tired. Maybe The Flaming Lips performance overshadowed The Cure. Or maybe Robert Smith just looked too creepy. The point is, I was expecting a lot more than what was delivered. I guess I wanted more from them than songs performed exactly the same way they have always been played. Maybe some kind of stage antics, maybe some personality. When I go to see a band live, it's because I want to get something I can't get from listening to their album, and quite frankly, The Cure did not deliver. But come on — it's still The Cure.

While life as we know it was not changed drastically by the festival, or nothing of real significance was accomplished, I don't think that was the point of the festival. Like action films and California gubernatorial elections, some things just don't need to be meaningful. Sometimes, they just need to be fun.

Ryan Murphey is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

## LOVIN'

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keep it moist. Or, go the sensual route with chocolate covered strawberries. Simply dip berries in melted, bitter-sweet chocolate and refrigerate on a wire rack until hardened.

A date that combines delicious food

and the outdoors is a great springtime enhancement to a romance. Awaken your senses with the tastes, sights and sounds of an outdoor feast with your honey, and see if it doesn't lead to more sense-awakening activities indoors.

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## BUTCHIES

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rinse, wash, repeat for the entire album. It's a tried-and-true formula, to be sure, but the band can't even find variations to such a simple structure.

To top it off, the lyrics descend to depths of banality where few other bands have dared to tread. When not ranting about the standard set of relationship troubles, lead singer Kaia Wilson waxes poetic with lines such as, "Can't shake off all your water / like tides and howls and the moon." Pardon me, but could you decode that one for us, please?

Even the love lyrics are completely devoid of any sort of interesting content. "I'm not going anywhere but here / you are everything and everywhere." Just about makes your heart melt, doesn't it? While the chorus that

contains this line is delivered soulfully, as are all the choruses, the melodies are rarely interesting beyond the first listen. When they do work melodically, they are usually torpedoed by the empty lyrics they are conveying.

It's difficult to blame the band for simply being a bland imitation of other bands. They don't make any claims to being anything different. And while the music is boring, it's never outright despicable. Still, sounding like everyone else is hardly a laudable act, and if the Butchies were any more conformed, they would simply cease to exist.

The Butchies will be performing at WOW Hall tomorrow as part of Lesbopalooza. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. WOW Hall is located at 291 W. 8th Ave.

Contact the senior pulse reporter at [ryannyburg@dailyemerald.com](mailto:ryannyburg@dailyemerald.com).

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