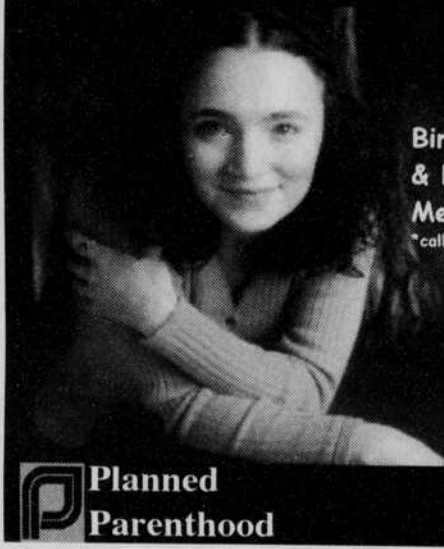


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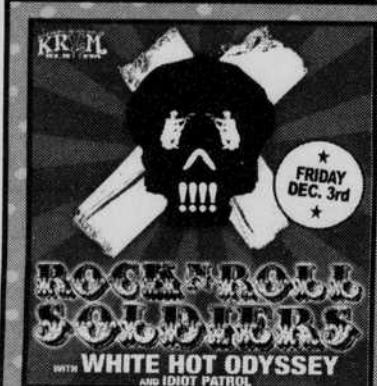


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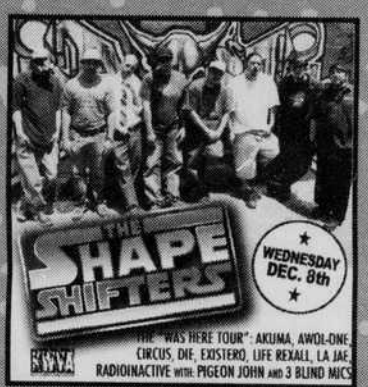
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# Music and Dance

UO School of Music & Department of Dance

## DECEMBER CONCERTS

For more information on School of Music events, call 346-5678.

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                      |                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Thur. 12/2</b> | <b>HOLIDAY CHORAL CONCERT</b><br>UO Choral Ensembles<br>\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens                                                        | <b>8 p.m., Beall Hall</b>        |
| <b>Fri. 12/3</b>  | <b>OREGON JAZZ ENSEMBLE &amp; LAB BANDS</b><br>UO Jazz Ensembles<br>\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens                                            | <b>8 p.m., Beall Hall</b>        |
| <b>Fri. 12/3</b>  | <b>FALL LOFT: "Eight@Eight"</b><br>Department of Dance<br>New and reconstructed works by graduate students.<br>\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens | <b>8 p.m., Dougherty Theater</b> |
| <b>Sat. 12/4</b>  | <b>REPERTOIRE SINGERS and CAMPUS BAND</b><br>UO Ensembles<br>FREE Admission                                                                                          | <b>2:30 p.m., Beall Hall</b>     |
| <b>Sun. 12/5</b>  | <b>UO PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE</b><br>UO Ensemble<br>\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens                                                                | <b>Noon, Room 198 Music</b>      |
| <b>Sun. 12/5</b>  | <b>UO GOSPEL ENSEMBLES</b><br>UO Ensembles<br>\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens                                                                  | <b>5 p.m., Beall Hall</b>        |

For our complete calendar, check: [music.uoregon.edu](http://music.uoregon.edu)

## ■ CD review

## Simple Plan's newest release simply disappointing, cliché

*'Still Not Getting Any...'*  
contains sappy ballads  
and stadium rock songs

BY RYAN MURPHEY  
PULSE REPORTER

In most cases the definition of bad music is subjective, but "Still Not Getting Any..." the sophomore release from Canadian bubblegum-punkers Simple Plan, is an exception to that rule.

It is a little known fact that there is a direct correlation between how much a band sucks and the number of band members with dyed-black faux-hawks and side-swiped emo haircuts. Four of Simple Plan's members possess the aforementioned hairstyles, and if it weren't for the bald guy, listening to this record would actually kill you.

Luckily for Lava Records (the peddlers of this album and other such filth), there is also a direct correlation between how much a band sucks and how well their record sells. Logically, "Still Not Getting Any..." sold 139,928 albums on its first day and entered the Billboard top 200 at No. 3. To borrow a lyric from the album itself — "In a perfect world, this could never happen."

The declining quality of cartoons is what's really to blame. Throughout the nineties, good cartoons like "G.I. Joe," "Jem" and "Duck Tales" were phased out in favor of crap such as "Goof Troop" and a botched attempt to revamp "Transformers." This left a void for Americans ages 10 to 15, which was filled by watching MTV and "re-belling" à la Avril Lavigne. As a result, more and more popular music is being made to suit the intellect of publicly-schooled American teenagers. Had this new generation of media consumers been properly sedated by high-caliber animated



COURTESY

The new album from Simple Plan is another uninspired effort ready-made for the mall punk crowd.

violence, they would have had time to mature and make rational decisions before becoming a primary market in the music industry.

"Still Not Getting Any..." requires a word stronger than cliché. Every aspect of this album is so trite and overdone that even 15-year-old mall punks, dressed head-to-toe in pink and black with mass produced anarchy patches ironed onto their pre-worn jackets are going to pretend they don't like them. Every verse, chorus, bridge and fill on this album has appeared in at least seven other pop-punk band's songs, and to call the lyrics banal would be far too forgiving.

The album kicks off with the Jolt Cola-induced pop-punk anthem, "Shut Up!," in which vocalist/lyricist Pierre Bouvier tells an unnamed critic just how he feels with less than groundbreaking lyrics such as "Don't tell me who I should be and don't tell me what's right for me." The next track, "Welcome to My Life," is a shoe-in for the soundtrack of every television series based on rich suburban kids in southern California. It achieves the impossible by being even more boring and lifeless than the rest of the album, which is probably why it's the first radio single.

In "Me Against the World," a vaguely rebellious bastardization of Bon Jovi-style stadium rock, the

band takes on the ever oppressive "They" with lyrics such as, "I'm gonna prove them wrong" and, "They'll never bring us down," which segues seamlessly into "Crazy" — the bands attempt at political commentary where Bouvier astutely points out that, "If you open your eyes, you'll see that something is wrong." Though it is never made clear whether the "something" is "rich guys driving SUVs" or "young girls dying to be on TV," the next song, "Jump," offers a blanket solution to all of life's frustrations in the lyrics, "I don't wanna think about tomorrow. I just don't care tonight. I just wanna jump!"

The majority of the album sounds like a 5-year-old with ADHD was force-fed caffeine and unleashed in a room full of bicycle horns, but it also contains a spattering of sappy ballads tailor-made for a whiny teenage girl whose parents just don't understand that if they don't buy her that cute new Volkswagen Jetta, she's never going to be truly happy. The closing track "Untitled" provides the ideal song to listen to while pouting over any one of preteen life's many trials. Whether it be breaking up with a girlfriend of one week or getting grounded for wearing black finger-nail polish, lyrics such as, "I'm sick of this life. I just wanna scream. How could this happen to me?" are sure to fuel all the angst a teenager needs, without any of the substance.

Perhaps the most disappointing aspect of this band is that they are from Canada. It's hard to imagine the same country that brought us Kids In the Hall, Mike Meyers and Rush could be responsible for this cultural atrocity. Then again, there was that whole Celine Dion incident.

[ryanmurphey@dailyemerald.com](mailto:ryanmurphey@dailyemerald.com)

## ■ DVD review

## The classic 'show about nothing' hits stores as a DVD collection

*'Seinfeld' fans can now purchase the comedy's first three seasons, including the pilot episode, extra commentary*

BY NATASHA CHILINGERIAN  
SENIOR PULSE REPORTER

When the last episode of "Seinfeld" aired during my senior year of high school, an era of refreshing laughter with New Yorkers Jerry, Elaine, George and Kramer on Thursday nights ended. This "show about nothing" means far from nothing to me — watching "Seinfeld" always meant stress relief, joy and fun. Since 1998, "Seinfeld" fans have had to rely on reruns, but now we can enjoy the show any time, thanks to Sony Pictures' DVD release of "Seinfeld," a collection of the successful comedy's first three seasons.

For \$49.95, you can get either the 18-episode DVD of the first two seasons, or the 22-episode collection of the third season. The \$119.95 Limited Edition Gift Set includes both DVDs and a set of salt and pepper shakers and playing cards featuring Monk's Diner, the "Seinfeld" characters' watering hole.

The release contains some of my

favorite Seinfeld moments such as "The Deal," when Jerry and Elaine discover that things get a little weird when they try to sleep together as friends. When Elaine's birthday rolls around, a confused Jerry presents her with cash and a card reading, "To a great friend...and more." In "The Dog," Jerry is stuck with a dog when an annoying airline passenger has a heart attack and asks Jerry, who is sitting next to him, to look after "Farfel" during his hospital stay. Since Jerry is forced to stay home with the dog, Elaine and George, who are used to hanging out when Jerry is around, realize they have nothing to say to each other as "friends-in-law." An overdue library book from 1971, a lost car in a parking garage and a long wait at a Chinese restaurant are among other topics in these classic episodes.

Extras are a special treat on the collection. Both DVDs feature audio commentaries on the episode and "Notes About Nothing" lists facts and tidbits on the screen about each

episode. The first volume includes the original and revised versions of the pilot episode, a 60-minute "How It All Began" documentary and "The Tonight Show" appearances with Jerry Seinfeld and Michael Richards (Kramer). Volume 2 includes "Kramer vs. Kramer: Kenny to Cosmo," which tells the story of the real-life inspiration for Kramer.

What always made me smile about "Seinfeld" were the ridiculous and embarrassing situations the characters got themselves into. When I was having a bad day, seeing the characters' hopeless problems involving mundane things made me feel a whole lot better. It was also so clever, the way all the sub-plots tied into each other by the end of each episode, and how each story line accumulated into the worst possible situation, just like "I Love Lucy." The show's last few seasons went a little downhill, so this collection guarantees the best of the best. Get "Seinfeld" on DVD so that the next time you're doing nothing, you can watch "the show about nothing" and feel 100 times happier.

[natchilingerian@dailyemerald.com](mailto:natchilingerian@dailyemerald.com)