

## Poor Old Lu to branch off in new musical directions

Joel P. Shempert  
Staff Writer

*Poor Old Lu*, a Christian modern rock band based in Seattle, is branching off in a new musical direction, and fans and critics alike are invited along for the ride.

The band played Saturday, Feb. 24 at **The Push**, a small Portland club that caters to the Christian rock crowd. The show, which also included opening bands *Yum Yum Children* and *Losers Club*, was played to a packed house. The band, composed of guitarist Aaron Sprinkle, vocalist Scott Hunter, bassist Nick Barber and drummer Jesse Sprinkle put on a good show.

The band played one song from their new album, scheduled tentatively to be released in late April. Hunter says that the release will involve a redefinition of their sound. According to Hunter, the cuts are more down to earth, easier to sing - which also makes them more challenging for Hunter.

The new sound "took us out of our element to where God wanted us to be," affirms Hunter. The more melodic style is more difficult than the usual *POL* motif of screaming out the lyrics, and so will challenge the band to greater musical excellence which both their status as musicians and their faith as Christians demand.

The album's theme is a different direction too. "It's a different thing for us - definitely a bit more melancholy," claims Hunter. The more melodic style of the songs will complement this thematic shift. The overall style is described as being a mix between *Mindsize*, an older release with a more subdued, intricate sound, and *Straight Six*, their last release which was more pop based. It is probably something of a step away from *Sin*, their second major label release which featured their more aggressive, "shout into the microphone" concert style.

Hunter claims a variety of influences, both Christian and secular. On the non-Christian side, Hunter cites *the Cure*, *Tears for Fears*, and *Echo and the Bunnymen*. As far as Christian music goes, Hunter admires such figures as pop icon Phil Keaggy,

Christian rock pioneer Larry Norman, alternative rock innovator Steve Taylor, and stylistically eccentric band *Daniel Amos*.

Hunter clarifies that most of the aforementioned Christian musicians are "more spiritual influences than musical, whereas Daniel Amos is one that is both." Daniel Amos' singer and songwriter Terry Taylor's remarkable proficiency for bizarre lyrics and catchy tunes have doubtless influenced *POL*'s unique sound.

Hunter also attests that the previously mentioned Steve Taylor was an instrumental figure in Christian music, having laid the foundation for what is now Christian alternative. "His stuff doesn't seem very alternative now," relates Hunter, "but back then, when Christian music was all bright and cheerful, here was Steve Taylor singing, '... meltdown at Madame Tussaud's...' and people were saying, 'What is that? Is that Christian?'" (The song "Meltdown" was a 1984 Taylor satire which compared melting wax figures to damned souls.)

The band members' spiritual backgrounds are diverse. While most of them became Christians at early ages, it was different in Hunter's case. He was raised in a non-Christian home and had no religious contact until he met Aaron and Jesse Sprinkle and started attending church despite his parents' disapproval. In the ninth or tenth grade, he became a Christian, and his family was skeptical.

"Things got better when my parents accepted that it wasn't a cult; that it was something positive in my life," Hunter attests.

Hunter is excited about the upcoming release and most fans will be too. Not content to crank out more of the same and ride their wave of success, *POL* is unafraid to push the boundaries and offer quality music and sincere spirituality as well as entertainment. As Hunter claims, "We like to challenge our listeners." The CD, called *A Picture of the Eighth Wonder*, should satisfy fans with the familiar *POL* edge and give them something new to assimilate as well.

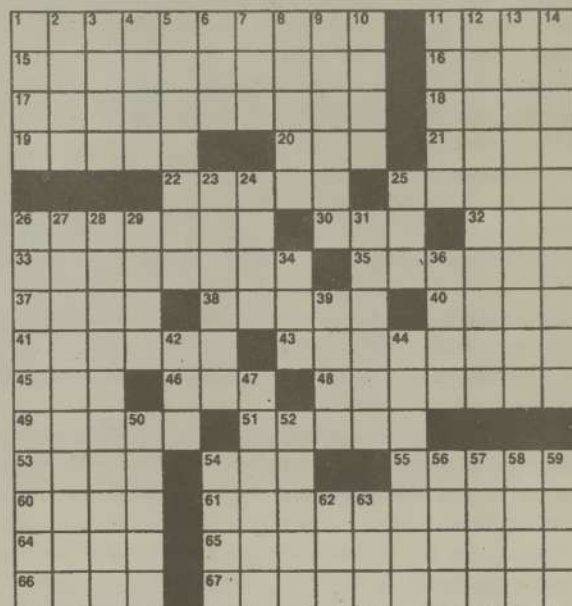
# THE MINDBENDER

By Matt Jones & Jon Roberts

This is the puzzle written by Matt Jones that appeared in the Nov. 4 1994 New York Times.

### ACROSS

- 1 "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues" star
- 11 "Star Wars" sage
- 15 Modern-day 20-Across
- 16 Common first floor apt.no.
- 17 Riding around town, maybe
- 18 Former Pistons coach Chuck
- 19 Cartouches
- 20 Radio Message
- 21 "Lord of the Rings" tree people
- 22 "Mmmmm!"
- 25 Back Biters
- 26 1993 Peace Prize winner
- 30 Word part: Abbr.
- 32 Hank Aaron stat
- 33 Assign too high a rating to
- 35 Best in a race
- 37 Jeans maker Strauss
- 38 Smart
- 40 Mata—
- 41 Smart Alex?
- 43 Singer from Ottawa
- 45 Hammer's location
- 46 Kind of order
- 48 Walked on
- 49 First name in mysteries
- 51 Queen of the Misty Isles, in the comics
- 53 Drumsticks, basically
- 54 Spot in the mer
- 55 Leonardo's ladies
- 60 Latin lover's word
- 61 Tabula rasa
- 64 Colorado resort
- 65 Photo retoucher
- 66 Last of the Stuarts
- 67 Get penalized, in some games



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### DOWN

- 1 Golden rule word
- 2 Nuclear missile
- 3 Celebes ox
- 4 Apple targeter
- 5 Hip hugger?
- 6 One, to Antoine
- 7 Fernando, por ejemplo
- 8 Humidified
- 9 Miffs
- 10 Darkroom items for short
- 11 Novelty song
- 12 Out grocery shopping, maybe
- 13 Comic TV actress
- 14 Brindled cat
- 23 Yukon neighbor
- 24 Film director Gus Van—
- 25 Winter woe
- 26 Kilauea flow
- 27 John Doe
- 28 Start of many resolutions
- 31 Modern breakfast
- 34 Laotian money
- 36 Senator Cochran
- 39 Basketball's Archibald
- 42 Freudian study
- 44 Fills with cargo
- 47 Roman proconsul in a biblical dispute
- 50 Weaver's fiber
- 52 Unwelcomed looks
- 54 Suffice with myth or monarch
- 56 To boot
- 57 When doubled, a fish
- 58 Heliolater's deity
- 59 Spanish painter
- 62 Presidential nickname
- 63 Inits. of 1933

## Mr. MINDBENDER exposed

Jon Roberts  
Feature Editor/Assistant Sports Editor

Over the last two terms *The Print* has been running a regular feature called **The Mindbender**. *The Mindbender* is the brain child of an honor roll student here at CCC named Matt Jones. Jones is a 20 year old, third-year student here at CCC.

Anyone who has ever done *The Mindbender* knows that these puzzles created by Matt Jones are well thought out and are very complex. Why would anyone spend his free time making puzzles? Because he loves it. It is his favorite hobby and he is very good at it. Jones is good enough at making puzzles that he caught the eye of the New York Times and was able to get one of his crossword puzzles published by them on Nov. 4, 1994.

"My favorite type of puzzle is the crossword puzzle," said Jones. "My favorite of all my crosswords was the one that appeared in the New York Times."

The New York Times is not the only place Jones has been published. He is also published regularly in a monthly puzzle magazine called *The Enigma*. He was also a finalist in a national puzzle contest held by Random House.



photo by Chad Pattenon

Third-year student Matt Jones enjoys music and making puzzles for the *Print* and the *Enigma*.

Jones lives in Milwaukie with his parents, his younger brother and an exchange student. Jones explains that "...not a lot of people I know are into it (puzzles)."

"I hope to major in music," added Jones. "I am also really involved in vocal music." He is a member of the Chamber Choir and the straight ahead vocal jazz ensemble here at CCC.

Jones says he gets many of his ideas from *Games Magazine* and *Crossword Magazine*. He also gets some of his ideas from being a member of the *National Puzzlers' League*.

Despite his love for puzzles

He says that sometimes the subject matter for his puzzles just "pops" into his head. He uses his large collection of books to research his subject matter for his puzzles.

Jones enjoys being able to entertain people with his puzzles. "Some day I would like to see the reaction of people when they solve one of my puzzles," added Jones. He may just get his wish with *The Mindbender*.