

We write the rhymes you sucker MCs hate, here at...

# Artsweek

## Hallelujah!

Go see a cheater's guide to the good book.

Is the Bible funny? Can the word of God actually induce uncontrollable fits of laughter? At the hands of the Reduced Shakespeare Company, even the bloodiest of books in the Old Testament can be transformed into an uproarious theatrical joy ride.

*The Bible: The Complete Word of God (abridged)* is the latest offering from the Reduced Shakespeare Company. Their specialty is taking voluminous, deftly serious tomes and topics and condensing them into two-hour romps of slapstick, songs and shenanigans, performed by a trio of gifted comedians. Their previous efforts at reduction (to absurdity) include *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)* and *The Complete History of America (abridged)*. Both productions enjoyed energetic approval by audiences across the globe.

In *The Bible*, the company, armed with copies of the King James version (borrowed from a hotel room), Isaac Asimov's *Guide to the Bible* and *The Children's Illustrated Bible*, begins by recreating

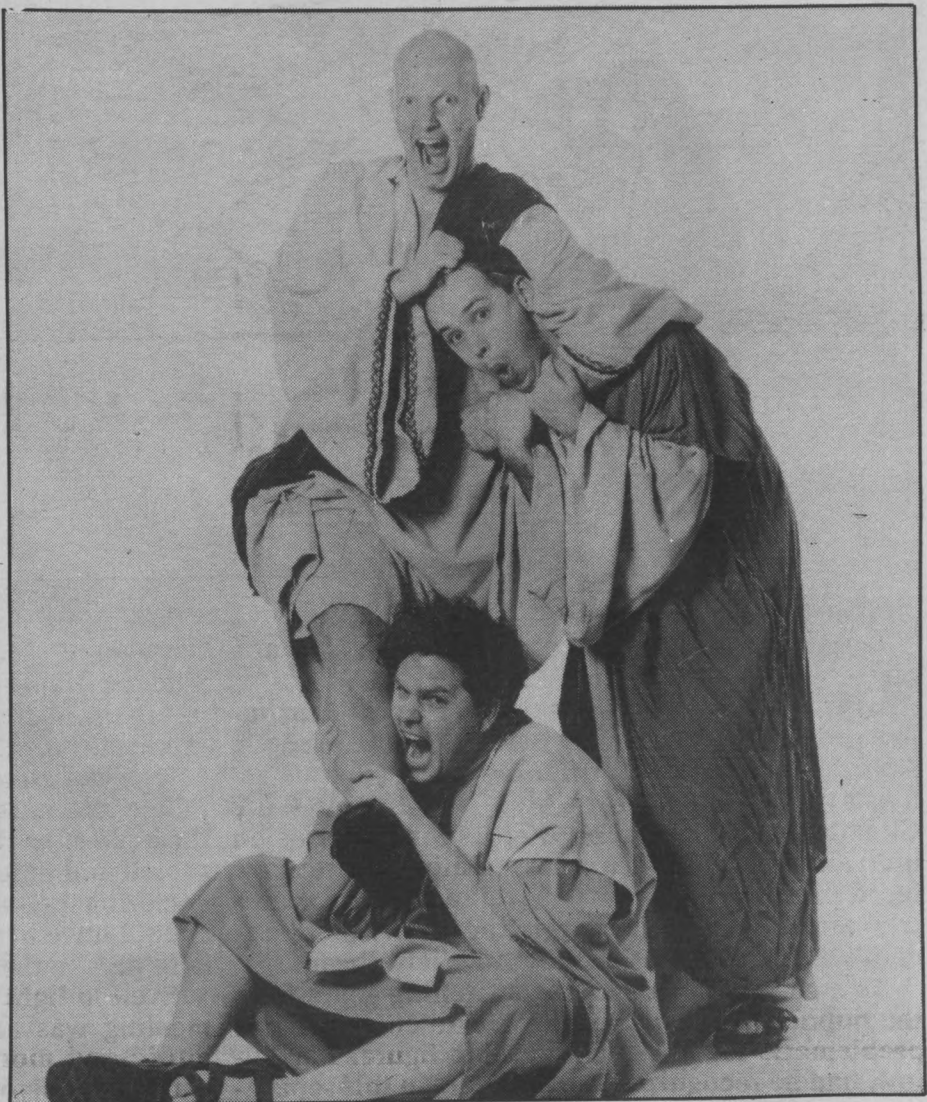
the books of Genesis with the down-low "In the Beginning Blues."

Informative asides such as distinguishing the two Josephs (Old and New Testament versions) are done with songs and flash cards. The battle of David and Goliath is dramatically recreated in slow motion to the theme of "Chariots of Fire." The victorious David celebrates by dancing a slow-motion cabbage patch. And then there's that glimpse into the "Top 10 Rejected Commandments..."

And how would the Almighty take to this artistic rendition of His word? The Reduced Shakespeare Company points out that God must have a sense of humor, for "why else would he have the children of Israel wander in the Middle East for 40 years, and then have them settle in the one place without oil?"

*The Bible: The Complete Word of God (abridged)* can be seen in Campbell Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 15 and 16, at 8 p.m. For ticket information, call Arts & Lectures at 893-3535.

—Eugene Tong



### "Wacky and zany and a little profane-y."



## The Reduced Shakespeare Company Comes to UCSB

Interview by Jolie Lash.

Matthew Croke, Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor are the trio of actors known as the Reduced Shakespeare Company. Although the group squeezes humorous versions of Shakespearean plays into 90-minute performances, the actors in the company are not a cross between Richard Burton and that short guy who did the Micro Machines commercials (the one who crammed about five minutes worth of speech into 30 seconds). That would be *too* silly.

Luckily for those of us who like our literature relayed to us in a quick and fun manner, the Reduced Shakespeare Company is coming back to Santa Barbara, with performances in Campbell Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. This time around, the troupe is offering their (relatively) brief interpretation of the Bible in their production *The Bible: The Complete Works of God (abridged)*. We here at Artsweek thought the show sounded pretty damn cool, so we rang up company member Tichenor and got some info about it.

**How do you cram the story in one of the biggest books in the entire world into 90 minutes?**

Fast and furiously. As is with all our shows, we cut out the unimportant characters and we get right to the sex and the killing — there is no book in the history of civilization with as much killing as the Bible. Also, the authors are dead, so they can't sue us.

**How do you decide which acts are unimportant?**  
It takes some figuring out. We wrote an American history [production] and we had to learn how to write together. The three of us decide how we're gonna cover the whole thing. Sometimes in the act of covering the whole thing, you mention a certain book and by mentioning it you've covered it. The audience becomes the final judge. We make mistakes and sometimes the mistakes are funnier than anything else, and so we'll keep the mistakes.

**So how long have you been doing this show?**

We've been doing the Bible for a year and a half. It took us about six months to write it and to get it into the shape we wanted. The official premiere was in December at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. It was a 12-week sold-out tour. We've also been to the Edinburgh festival, Hong Kong, Carmel, and we go to the

Midwest in November.

**Wow.**

It's a great job 'cause we just get silly in front of people and get to make people laugh.

**Have you received any heck for doing the Bible — like, "That's blasphemous!"**

We've only been criticized by people who don't go to the theater anyway. The ministers and rabbis and priests of all denominations see the show and then they send their flocks. We got a review by a nun at the Kennedy Center who said it was "wacky and zany and a little profane-y."

**Are you religious?**

I'm sort of a labspinoptic ... I'm actually Utilitarian, Matt [Croke] is Catholic and Reed [Martin] is Presbyterian.

*The Reduced Shakespeare Company's production of The Bible: The Complete Word of God (abridged) can be seen Monday, Oct. 15 and Tuesday, Oct. 16 at 8 p.m. in UCSB's very own Campbell Hall. Call 893-3535 for ticket information.*



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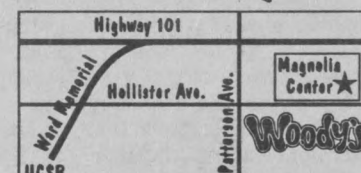


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Various Popular References

Instantly, I was in the next room. "Awake," said my roommate, John, staring into the eyes of Tadou, my roommate's cat. "Shake dreams from your hair, my pretty child, my sweet."

Tadou then spoke, which is kinda funny because he is like the Maggie Simpson of our house. He can only meow or purr-cow. It's hard to write cat

There are special parts of heaven and hell that exist only in snooze dreams — the dreams that occur between lunges at the snooze button. At times, these dreams seem to last entire evenings and provide critical insight inspirational enough to make you actually enjoy waking up. Often they last only seconds and seek to mock any effort to sleep on, and all waking efforts in general.

Alarm clocks with faces the size of Big Ben — a very large clock — often appear in my snooze dreams. This represents my unconscious desire to adhere to conventional time standards. If you think about it, Big Ben is rather phallic.

As usual, "Counting Blue Cars" by local heroes Dishwalla woke me up this morning. The scenario:

Silence in my room corrupted with, "Tell me all your thoughts on God..." **Slam.**

My hand, projected by my arm, flails across my body intending to hit the snooze button, instead hitting my roommate's cat, Tadou. "Kkdd-cow," he said.

He is a bad cat. He pees in our beds when we aren't around. So he deserved some punishment. But, do I? I mean, "Counting Blue Cars" is blasting and the cat's pissed. It's still way too early, and it hurts to be awake.

I grope around blindly and finally reach the snooze button. I roll over, pulling my down comforter around my body as tightly as possible. "Snuggle feels nice," I mumble, and I'm off dreaming again.

As a bank of fog ascended over the Golden Gate Bridge, I was walking down a hallway and I had just told the best joke I'd ever told, to a group of 30 women named Helen. Here's the joke:

"I was once so hard-up for a date, that I went to a family reunion in Arkansas just to meet girls."

I thought it was funny. 30 Helens agreed.

Not only that, but my good friend Eric, the editor of *Artsweek*, was hovering over the hallway in a Goodyear blimp that read "Ice Cube's a Pimp." He was in the blimp making announcements and finally getting credit for popularizing Ben Harper on this campus with the interview he did in *Artsweek* last year. Some people think it is Dave Fortson, the campus sex symbol who is running for the I.V. Park Board, who brought Harper's message to UCSB's masses. It wasn't — Fortson just had the foresight to quote Harper in his speech before Jesse Jackson spoke the other day.

Eric and his companion, a good-natured chimp named "Bear," were talking through the blimp's sound system. I progressed down the hallway. They filled the sky with thoughts like: "Sattler will never tell you how it is, only how he feels."

To my left, I noticed another long hallway filled with dressing rooms with neon signs on the doors. To my right was a food court.

Well, I went to that food court and I bought myself a beer. Then I went to the dressing rooms because I like to see who's where.

In the first dressing room, A.S. President Russell Bartholomew was consulting with his advisors. They were trying to come up with names for the column he was planning to write for the newspaper.

"How about 'A.S. It Is,' Mr. B.?" the bow-tied assistant, adorned with a colorful "Gail Marshall for Supervisor" pin, offered.

"Geoff Green, A.S. president 1993-94, already used that, you imbecile," Bartholomew snapped. His attention had been diverted from a *Dorf on Golf* video, starring Tim Conway, which was playing on the large-screen TV in his office.

"Sorry Mr. B., that's all we came up with."

"Hold on — wait a second — I got an idea." After dramatically posing for three full minutes, he said, "We can call it 'Kissing A.S.'" Fifty thousand angels on both sides of Bartholomew awoke and shrieked toward the ceiling. I slammed that dressing-room door shut.

sounds down. Harder than Hebrew, because people have never spoken it.

Tadou said, "There is a one-third chance that if you were born in either 1975 or 1976 and you are a male, that your name would be either Jeff, John or Jason."

"There is also a one-third chance that if someone comes over to our house, there will be a male named Jeff, John or Jason, since you are the only people who live here."

"That is correct," John said. "But you must leave this room." Tadou ran out leaving a trail of urine.

He disappeared into the next door. I followed him and recognized three men inside. The group included a guy I met in a baseball card shop when I was 12 who claimed to be a statistician, Jack Kevorkian and Robert Shapiro. They were all three in black and white and were speaking in subtitles.

Kevorkian was arguing with the statistician over the definition of the word "assists," and he eventually became so riled that he said, "That's the worst load of crap since the OJ defense."

Shapiro just grimaced. I walked past the argument into the kitchen, where I found the entire group of main characters from *Trainspotting* arguing about food.

"Is it good?" one asked another who was preparing shrimp kebabs.

"Nothing's good. Tastes like shite." Shite means shit in Scotland.

Continuing on, I bypassed an assembly line in the rear of the kitchen where the Swedish Bikini Team was using various methods to work men into a sweat. The women were bottling the perspiration as a fragrance called "Hot Boys," which was only to be sold on *The Kids in the Hall's* Scott Thompson's website, Scotland.

I entered the last dressing room. I don't know how I knew it was the last dressing room, although I think one of the animatronic pirates from the Pirates of the Caribbean ride at Disneyland snarled the information at me.

Finding Chris Carter, the creator of *X-Files*, sitting on a stool talking, I sat down among the audience of beautiful women and TV moms. Asking first how many of them were named Helen, Carter then went on to recite the first few lines of "El Scorcho," Weezer's latest single.

"Goddamn you half-Japanese girls," he said. "You do it to me every time. The red-head said you shred the cello, and I'm Jello, baby."

I arose and faintly heard Carter refer to himself as the epitome of Public Enemy, when **Slam!**

My clock radio awoke, blasting Alanis playing the harmonica as if she just discovered she could breathe. Stoned, petrified and motionless, I lie still, deciding not to turn the song off. Immediately, I was filled with confidence that Eric, the Ben Harper-popularizer and editor of *Artsweek*, would allow me to print the following correction concerning the Oct. 3 edition of *His Master's Voice*. The correction would have read:

Jason Sattler/Plastic Ono Band would like to point out that the word "Darn" in his last story was supposed to be "Damn." You are invited to pick up a copy of the story in the Nexus office under Storke Tower so you can re-read that shit.

But, before that could happen, Ed McMahon and Dick Clark appeared orbiting around my room, threatening to give me a foot massage and reveal nude photos of a post-orgasmic Erik Estrada if I didn't wake up. **Slam.**

### Correxition:

Last week in *His Master's Voice*, the word "darn" should have read "damn." We regret the error a whole lot.



# Behind the Scenes

Speaking with A.S. Program Board.

Associated Students Program Board is a student group dedicated to providing fun and entertainment to the campus population.

"We offer a tangible product to the student body," says Program Board coordinator Joe Rainey.

If you've ever wondered who is responsible for a majority of the cool concerts, movies, lectures, comedy shows and other special events that take place on campus, then put your curiosity to rest: It is all the work of the A.S. Program Board.

The Board is made up of 12 students, each playing a major role in giving UCSB students an alternative to the daily grind of classes and endless studying.

"We provide fun entertainment for the campus and an opportunity for students to get involved in promoting events and putting on great concerts,"

said Kevin Daly, program board commissioner.

The group hopes to increase the merriment of students by hosting a wider variety of events than those of past years, according to board member Joe Rainey.

"Right now, one of our main goals is to bring all the different kinds of genre in, not just all ska, all jazz, all punk. We don't want to go just one route," Rainey said.

Before an event can be brought to campus, this dedicated bunch must work hard to plan, produce and publicize the shows, as well as sell tickets and provide security for them.

ASPB production coordinator David Barrett enjoys the various tasks required of his position.

"I try to make sure that the music sounds right, that [the bands] start at the right time, and that every-

thing goes off without a hitch," he said. "You really learn a lot about responsibility."

The posters and signs that we see on almost every kiosk and wall reminding students of Program Board events such as concerts, speakers or upcoming films are the work of ASPB publicity coordinator Michele Rubino and art and graphic coordinator Cielo Calderon.

"Every time we have a show or concert, I send out press releases to newspapers and radio stations. I also make posters, flyers and quarter pages, and hand them out," Rubino said.

Run like many professional promoting companies, Program Board provides students with a strong lesson in responsibility, said ASPB advisor Marilyn Duker.

"For students, it's a great leadership oppor-

tunity and an opportunity to learn how to organize and produce events. They do everything from talk to agents, to working with the budget, to working within a group. So there's a lot of life skills that people can learn from the Program Board," Duker said.

In the upcoming months Program Board will continue efforts to bring exciting local acts to the concert series in the Hub, and also work to produce noontime concerts in Storke Plaza. From Oct. 31 to Nov. 2, the group is hosting a Halloween concert series in Anisq' Oyo' Park. Also scheduled are performances from bands such as Dirty Dozen and Jimmy Two Times, and a concert from comedian and host of *Politically Incorrect* Bill Maher.

—Alexandria Felton

## Hey! What's going on.

Oh, what a week!

Today, start off your jam-packed week of arts and entertainment with a free Storke Plaza concert featuring **The Blak Forest MCs, Humane Beings** and others, brought to you by KCSB and Associated Students Program Board. The show will play from 1:30-3 p.m. Then later on tonight, catch a perfor-

mance by **Michael Ingham** on the baritone and **Paul Berkowitz** on the ivories. The duo will delight fans of Schubert at 8 p.m. in Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall.

If it's film that tickles your fancy, Arts & Lectures brings you actor, member of the mediocre band **P** and owner of the Viper Room **Johnny Depp** in **Jim Jarmusch's *Dead Man*** at 7 p.m. in Campbell Hall.

**Beck**, the kid who will forever be known as a "loser, baby," takes his

"two turntables and a microphone" to the Ventura Concert Theater Saturday at 8 p.m. Or for only \$1.99 catch the next Dishwalla at the **Ticketmaster Showcase for Unsigned Bands** at Victoria Hall, featuring locals **Polen, Wildflower, Hunny-pot, The Derita Sisters & Junior, Holden and Enok** at 8 p.m.

Also, don your banjo and a dodgy haircut and head off to the **Old-Time Fiddlers Convention** at the Show House in Goleta from 10:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Monday, take a breather 'cause Tuesday and Wednesday the **Reduced Shakespeare Company** will cram ***The Bible: The Complete Works of God (abridged)*** into an evening.

The MultiCultural Center Theater hosts the 38th annual **Harold J. Plous Memorial Lecture**, this year about the "orientalism" of the book ***Thousand and One Nights***, Wednesday at 4 p.m. Two hours later in the MCC you can catch ***The Incredibly True Adventure of 2 Girls in Love***.

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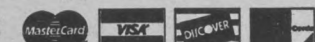
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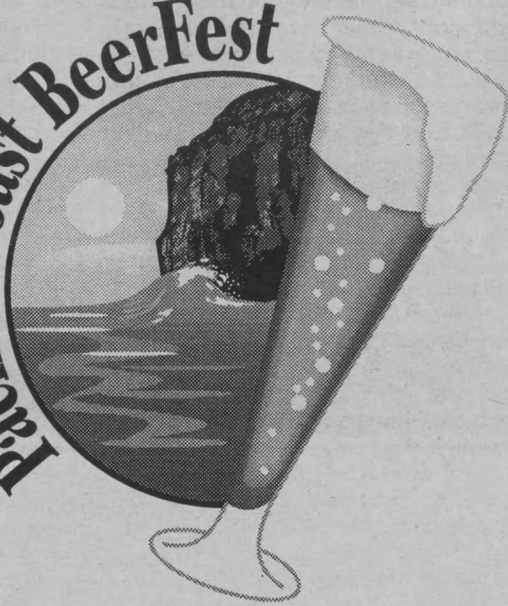
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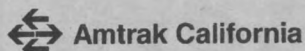
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**Manic Street Preachers / *Everything Must Go* / Epic**

This is the first album from the Manic Street Preachers since the sudden and unexplained disappearance of guitarist Ritchey James. As the title suggests, the album represents a new departure for the band.

The new essence of the Manic Street Preachers is accessibility. Musically, *Everything Must Go* brings them to a wider audience. A style that leaned toward punk has been toned down without los-



track to a hick bar. Stone Temple Pilots with a female lead singer? Hmmmm....

Sex sells, and so does name dropping. The album cover has a sticker that exclaims, "with members of Mary's Danish," — as if that were enough — along with a photo of a big-breasted blonde. I was ready to like this. But as with books, you can't really judge an album by its cover.

Rita has a few good rhythm bass/drum combinations, and Gretchen Seager does have a good voice. The problem lies in the fact that most of the tunes and lyrics aren't breaking any new ground. "Bliss," the essential slow-start ballad to feelings, is a bit too metaphorical. "Sugar fire mockingbird / Candy in my hair," Seager sings. What's that supposed to mean?

"Make It Right" might perhaps be a little Danzig tribute, if only for Seager's singing style. The thing is, you can't blame a band for jumping on bandwagons, but market saturation ruins the chances a decent band might have of wading through the majority of the filthy noise put out.

Battery Acid is another group of good musicians playing music that has been heard already. If you like to coat your music library with "alternative rock," you'll enjoy this little masterpiece.

—Jesse Bellinger



ing its edge.

The band's quest for direction is apparent on *Everything Must Go*, yet at the same time it is a clear, well-crafted collection of songs, fitting the Preachers neatly into the current proliferation of guitar groups while retaining a distinctive style. "A Design for Life" is the album's strong point. Its catchy melody, singing guitar and soaring strings make it the kind of song that grows on you. It also makes the album well worth your time.

—William Banks

**Battery Acid / *Rita* / Absinthe**

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# Speak.

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Bo Thoreen has been a mover and shaker on campus for a few years now. In 1994, he was selected to fill the spot of an Associated Students Legislative Council member who had flaked on the job. Then, just a year later, Thoreen was running Leg Council meetings from the chair of the Internal Vice President of A.S. Thoreen took a break from his busy schedule to review an album by collaborators PJ Harvey and John Parish, entitled *Dance Hall at Louse Point*.

*Are you a PJ Harvey fan?*

I wouldn't go to the ends of the Earth—I probably wouldn't even pay money to go to see her show. But I appreciate the album.

*Can you imagine any of these songs on the radio?*

I would like to hear them on the radio, but you know how radio is. No offense, but local radio stations are kind of clueless.

All three pop stations right now, KHTY, KJEE and KTYD are essentially the same station. KTYD used to do classic rock, but they don't even do that any more.

*What do they do?*

They play all the same crap everybody else plays. They have like 22 songs that they play. Total! I don't even listen to those stations any more. I listen to talk radio.

*What kind of talk radio?*

All of it. I actually work on a talk radio program at KQSB on Hollister, the *Jim Watkins Show*, the only local daily programming.

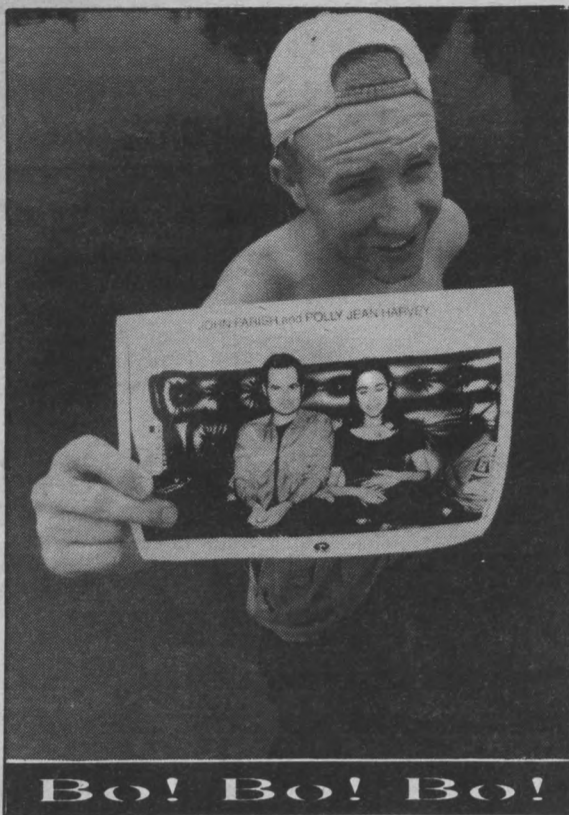
*What does he talk about?*

All sorts of stuff. Like today we had Capps on.

*Would he host PJ Harvey?*

I don't know, we haven't done any entertainment figures besides people who write books. A lot of book interviews.

*Do you think that you share any similarities*



**Bo! Bo! Bo!**

*with PJ—like you're both groundbreakers?*

I wouldn't say that. But one of the things that I did [identify with] on the album is that it deals with her pain. Everybody has

pain, and a lot of albums try to deal with it, but any album that deals with it well is gonna be successful. If not in terms of sales, then in terms of appreciation by the people that listen to it.

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# 92.9 KJEE



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## “Welcome Back to School Flyaway”

Starting September 30 till October 10 KJEE will have an entry box at K-MART located at 6865 Hollister Avenue in Goleta.

Enter to win a trip to Austin, Texas to see Superdeluxe, Dishwalla, Primitive Radio Gods, The Nixons, Joan Osborne, Dog's Eye View, Geggy Tah, and Jawbox at the Moon Tower outside Austin, Texas on October 19.

KJEE will have a drawing Friday October 11 to determine the winner. So enter now at K-Mart in Goleta to win the “Welcome Back to School Flyaway”.

Brought to you by Barq's—The One with Bite and Santa Barbara's Modern Rock - 92.9 KJEE.

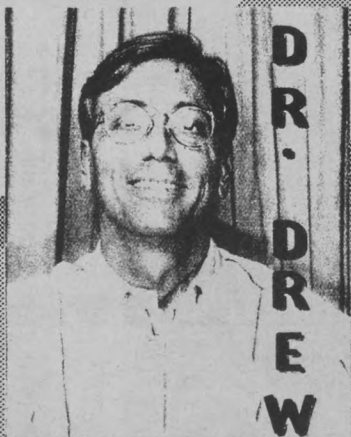


Don't forget to listen to

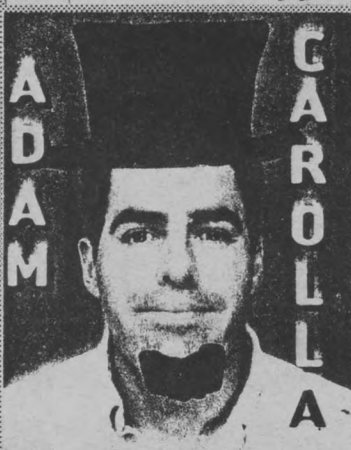
# LOVELINE

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For more information, check the schedule of classes or contact Lieutenant Bishop at the Military Science Building, #451 (adjacent to Phelps Hall) 893-ARMY.



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# Battle of the Bands

At the risk of pissing off Eddie Vedder, local acts perform in an annual Ticketmaster showdown.



Local bands will compete for money, prizes and exposure that could ignite their rise to stardom in the Ticketmaster Unsigned Band Showcase at Victoria Hall in downtown Santa Barbara this Saturday. The doors open at 6 p.m. for anyone 18 and over, and tickets can be purchased early from Ticketmaster or at the door for only \$1.99.

Six bands are slated to perform, five of them from Santa Barbara: The Derita Sisters and Junior, Holden, Hunnypot, Pollen and Wildflower. The sixth, Enok, hails from Ventura.

Holden, a piano, bass and drum trio, is made up of lead vocalist/pianist Todd Capps, bassist/backing vocalist Bruce Winter and drummer Erik Herzog. Capps, the songwriter and driving force behind the band, shared his thoughts with *Artsweek*.

*What's so special about the music Holden makes?*

We're one of the few bands that's using the piano as the primary instrument in the melodic rock format, as opposed to the guitar.

*Why did you decide to participate in the Ticketmaster Unsigned Band Showcase?*

I'm sort of at a point, I think, of not turning down any opportunity of getting my music out and listened to. I thought this might be a good opportunity to have it listened to, to have it heard by other people ... just for fun, basically, to see what happens.

*How would you classify Holden's musical style?*

I think I would just call it melodic pop—I think in some ways we're doing songs with piano, bass and drums that in another format could work well with guitar, bass and drums, but it adds a different flavor. Not too many have done or are doing it with piano.

*Is there anyone else that plays with just*

*piano, bass and drums?*

The Ben Folds Five are the only other band out there doing it, so they must have stolen our idea.

*Are contests like this important for aspiring artists?*

I think it's a good thing to have an opportunity like this for local musicians to be heard by someone who has influence in the industry. I'm a little uncomfortable with it being a contest. There are so many good musicians, especially in the Santa Barbara area.

*How important is this contest?*

I'm not counting on it as either making or breaking my career as a musician.

*What's the most exciting thing about participating in this contest?*

The thing that excites me the most is being able to play with Erik and Bruce. It's something I've been looking forward to—playing live with them—for a long time.

—Brian Langston

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Stephen Cloud Presentations / Avocado Productions

PAID FOR BY GAIL MARSHALL FOR SUPERVISOR



AN EVENING WITH

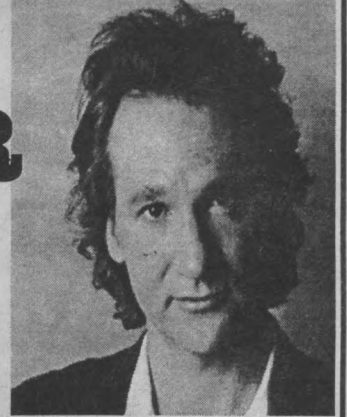
## BILL MAHER

The Star of Politically Incorrect

Friday November 1  
8 PM

Campbell Hall

Special engagement! One night only!



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Tickets on sale now at the AS Ticket Office, Morninglory Music in Isla Vista or at any Ticketmaster locations including the Wherehouse, Blockbuster Music, Robinsons-May and the Arlington Theater. Or charge by phone 893-2064. For more information call 893-2833.

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## CHRIS O'DONNELL & GENE HACKMAN THE CHAMBER

ISLA VISTA THEATER

THURSDAY OCTOBER 10 AT 8 PM

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OCTOBER 10

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ASPB & KCSB 91.9

TODAY!

1:30 TO 3:00 PM • STORKE PLAZA

## BUCK-O-NINE

### Jimmy 2X

Friday • October 25 • 8:30 • UCen Hub

CHEAP ONLY \$6 FOR STUDENTS

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THURSDAY with NERF HERDER and LOADED

Tuesday • October 15 • 8PM • Isla Vista Theater

## STRIPTease

## The Dirty Dozen

Saturday November 16

8:30PM UCen Hub

Get your tickets for a great evening of  
JAZZ

On sale Monday October 14 at 10 am



Available at the AS Ticket Office, Morninglory Music in Isla Vista and at all Ticketmaster locations including The Wherehouse, Blockbuster Music, Robinsons-May, and the Arlington Theater. Charge by phone 893-2064.

Visit ASPB's Web Page for more information  
<http://www.as.ucsb.edu/aspb/>



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