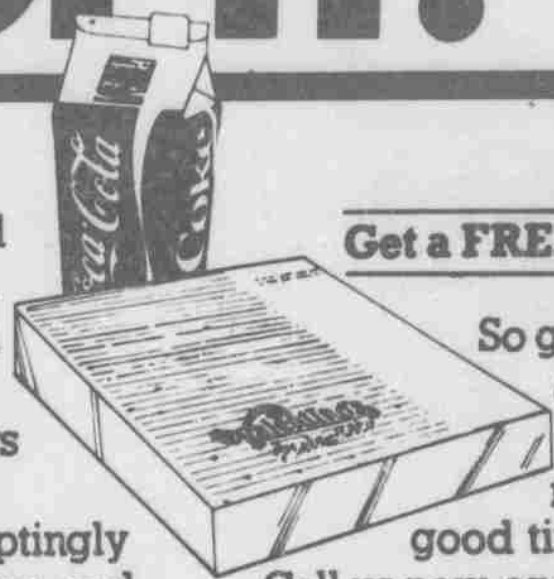




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## Hoodoo Gurus radiate pre-commercial image

By Mark Davis  
Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

Nobody waited in line to see the Hoodoo Gurus. The Australian band didn't even pack the Drumstick. But they are gaining speed.

The Hoodoo Gurus are a combination of old and new. Their lyrics are unique, transcendent of typical boy/girl relations. They radiate energy equal to pre-commercialized rock but with the same polished talent of assembly-line rock.

The Hoodoo Gurus got their start in 1980 playing back-up to a

maining original members of the band. After producing "Leilani," the band added bass guitarist, Clyde Bramley, giving the band a "tougher" sound, Falkner said.

Just three weeks before coming to America drummer Mark Kingsmill joined the band, replacing James Baker. Kingsmill looks like a long-haired lawyer when compared to the radical look of the other band members.

"I'm not going to change my hair," Kingsmill said. "It's been like this too long."

Kingsmill does his job well. "We have a lot of fun when we play,"

**"I don't think we'll ever play with the dog again. He did a feature film and we haven't seen him since."**

singing dog on the Don Lane Show (Australia's answer to Johnny Carson). Soon after they signed with an independent label and produced their first album, *Leilani*.

After gaining considerable popularity in Australia, they signed with Big Time, a prominent Australian label. There they recorded "Tojo," a single that draws a parallel between a cyclone that hit Darwin, Australia in 1975 and the Japanese attack on the same city in 1942. Not the traditional content that fills the grooves of a single, but Hoodoo Gurus is not a typical band.

Now on the A&M label with their new album, *Stoneage Romeos*, Hoodoo Gurus is on their first American tour. Looking back on the band's start, Dave Faulkner, lead guitar and vocals, didn't think they would ever get together with the one personality that set the band on the right track.

"I don't think we'll ever play with the dog again," Faulkner said. "He did a feature film and we haven't seen him since."

Faulkner is one of the two re-

Kingsmill said.

As with many new bands, Hoodoo Gurus is very hard to classify. While they seem to have some Elvis influence, they sound similar to the Doors. A member of the audience said that he closed his eyes and could "almost" see Morrison.

The band uses pause sequence and psychedelia, reminiscent of the Doors. When Faulkner screams, it sounds so much like "live" Morrison that it is scary.

Kingsmill agreed there are similarities, but was hesitant to be compared to the Doors.

"It's a great compliment," Kingsmill said.

Kingsmill said he didn't like to be classified in any categories. He said the band plays "just rock 'n' roll."

No matter how Hoodoo Gurus is classified they are usually compared to the greats. They have been compared to everyone from Suzi Quatro to the Ramones and the Talking Heads by critics both here and in Australia.

Hoodoo Gurus' new album exemplifies the bands diversity.

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### by Berke Breathed



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