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Paul Vonderlage/Daily Nebraskan

By Chris McCubbin Senior Reporter

Name: Steve "Mave" Hinrichs

Age: 19 Hair: Brown Eyes: Green

Mave plays the guitar. His favorite things are records and Karl's brother. When he grows up he wants to be something in the arts.

Playground is about innocence. Playground is about having fun. Do you remember the playground? I do. I always liked the jungle gym best. What did you like best? I liked to pretend it was a spaceship. When I got too old to play spaceship my friend and me used to go to the playground at dusk and sit on the swings till the stars came out. We used to talk about everything. Real important stuff. Sometimes we'd talk about girls, too. I haven't been to the playground in a very, very long time. Do you remember the last time you went to the playground?

Name: Jonathan Baker Age: 32 Hair: Brown Eyes: Brown

John sings. His favorite things are sheep and little candies. John says he has grown up, only he hasn't yet. Not really.

Playground is a band. They've only played in public once. Three of the guys in Playground used to be in

another band called Playground. That band played in public a lot. About a year ago Playground went away to turn into a different band. They didn't play in public at all. They stayed at home and practiced. When John joined Playground was when Playground really turned into a different band. Playground members write their own songs. Mave writes the music and John writes the words. So far they've written eight. It takes about 40 minutes to play them all.

Name: Karl Stephen Age: 23 Hair: Black

Eyes: Blue Karl plays the bass. Karl's favorite thing is his brother. Karl doesn't know what he wants to be when he grows up.

Playground's music really does sound an awful lot like the Smiths, even though it pisses them off when you tell them so. They say they don't mean to sound like the Smiths. If you don't know what the Smith's sound like, this means that the instruments play short clear pretty lines that don't always have a lot to do with what the other instruments are doing. The vocal part is pretty and kind of sad. John brings a music stand on stage with him that has all the words on it. He reads the words as he sings. Rock 'n' roll singers are not supposed to read their lyrics. John doesn't care.

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