

Sinbad appears at the Warner Theater

He speaks on love, relationships and Volkswagons

by John Hafner
Collegian Staff

Not too many people are popular enough to be recognized by their first names only. Sinbad, the comedian who's as big in stature as he is in laughs, is an obvious exception. The popular standup came to the Warner Theater on Oct. 24.

Sinbad was born in Benton Harbor, Michigan on November 10, 1956. His real name is David Adkins. The stage name "Sinbad" was his creation some time later and has stuck ever since.

His career as a standup comedian began in 1984 when he appeared on "Star Search" for seven consecutive weeks. The TV sitcom "A Different World," a spin-off of "The Cosby Show," provided Sinbad's claim to fame in the show-biz world a few years later.

Despite his easy-going nature

Music Reviews:

Try some Bunjie Jambo with your coffee

by R. Carl Campbell and Colette Rethage
Collegian Staff

Natural Born Killers-
soundtrack: Various Artists

This, eh-hem, killer soundtrack was produced, conceived and assembled by Nine Inch Nails' own Trent Reznor. The album absolutely reeks of his influence. I believe it is one of the most violent soundtracks that has ever been released.

Not that it's the music, but simply the way the music is set up. The album opens with Leonard Cohen's "Waiting for the Miracle." His haunting voice sets the pace for the rest of the album.

There are movie bits set up strategically throughout the album recalling some of the memorable scenes. There are also two NIN tracks that are only available on this soundtrack.

The musical selection encompasses all corners of the spectrum, from Dr. Dre to Bob Dylan to Patsy Cline to L7. If you saw the movie and liked it the soundtrack is a must. If you're a NIN addict this soundtrack is one more to add to your collection.

Be warned! This album is definitely not one for the squeamish.

Bad Religion: *Stranger than Fiction*

This band is certainly one of the best punk bands still around

and comical way of looking at the world, Sinbad is very serious about two things: the need for a strong family background and the welfare of young people today.

Born into a large but closely-knit family, he credits his parents for instilling in him strong values and character. "My mother and father, I love them so much. They taught me everything I know," he said in obvious love and respect. Sinbad also keeps close ties with his siblings, employing all five of his brothers and sisters.

Realizing the important role his parents and family played in his developing years, Sinbad feels that too many people take for granted a strong upbringing. He believes that family values are no longer deemed important in our society, and he feels this alarming trend should serve as a wake up call for parents to be the strong role models they're

supposed to be.

As for America's youth, Sinbad asserts that "kids are exposed to too much violence today, a lot of it in their own homes. They're being mistreated and abused." He sees how domestic and public problems have made young people "pawns for maladjusted adults."

He takes it one step further, commenting on the damage drugs and alcohol has done to young people. He views consumption of alcohol and experimentation with drugs as pointless. "They say drinking is an acquired taste. Why would I want something that tastes nasty until I get used to it?" is how he presents his case.

Sinbad credits his life-long sobriety to his boyhood admiration of sports figures, who rarely did commercials endorsing beer in the 1960s and 1970s. He said, "I thought

athletes were special people, and I tried to be like that." He sees the need for positive role models in both private and public arenas as essential to the development of our country's youth.

Sinbad said, "I love standup; that's what makes me, me," and he uses his gift of humor and wit to convey his beliefs about family values and strong moral convictions. He uses his standup talent to show just how "stupid" drunk people look, preaching his message in the only way he knows how -- comedy.

The side-splitting show he presented at the Warner, which began an hour and a half late due to "car trouble" he allegedly experienced, contained these serious elements as well as other lighter topics.

Once Sinbad took to the stage, the audience willingly forgot his tardiness and was treated to over minutes of

nonstop laughter. Of course, he wasted no time in making fun of Erie's less-than-tropical climate, claiming that "no coat is too thick to wear in Erie."

He discussed a wide range of issues common to all, including love and relationships, Volkswagons, and shopping at Rite Aid. He used his quick wit and ability to add-lib from audience response to keep things flowing.

Sinbad is a gifted standup with a message worth hearing. His success, both on stage and on television, has allowed him to reach a number of people. Those who hear Sinbad's routine walk away with more than just memories of his unmistakable charisma and style--they receive a personal testimony aimed at helping others.

from the early eighties. On *Stranger than Fiction*, they regain their ticked-off sound that they lost on their previous release, *Recipe for Hate*.

The lyrics are fabulous; they put some of the younger bands on the scene to shame. The lyrics bash politics and deal with socially conscious issues shoving them down the listeners' throats. If you like Green Day or Offspring, listen to Bad Religion, they started it all.

REM: *Monster*

For all the fans who were angered by REM selling out with its last couple of albums, band members have regained their attitude and show it off full force on *Monster*. They killed that annoying organ and replaced it with a scratchy guitar that will remind the listener that these were the guys who made *Murmur*.

Sordid Humor: *Light Music for Dying People*

This album will grow on you, maybe. It's produced by Counting Crows' David Bryson and has backing vocals by Crows' front man Adam Duritz. The music reminds me of the Ride. It's very mellow and distorted with static. The voice of the lead singer, Tom Barnes, reminds me of old Camper Van Beethoven albums.

There's nothing really particularly interesting about this album. It doesn't even have any catchy songs. But if you

throats. If you like Green Day or Offspring, listen to Bad Religion, they started it all.

REM: *Monster*

For all the fans who were angered by REM selling out with its last couple of albums, band members have regained their attitude and show it off full force on *Monster*. They killed that annoying organ and replaced it with a scratchy guitar that will remind the listener that these were the guys who made *Murmur*.

Cianide: *A Descent Into Hell*

Death metal at its worse. The guitar is boring, the lyrics are cliché, and the guy's voice sound like he's hurling in the toilet. Even Beavis and Butthead would be disappointed. Don't waste your money, go to Taco Bell; it's cheaper and it'll do the same thing.

Morning Breath: Bunjie Jambo

Bunjie Jambo is a cool group of guys from Elizabeth, PA (near Pittsburgh). These guys play punk rock music with an alternative twist. One of the best sounds they create is funky beat that comes from playing pots and pans.

Bunjie Jambo has just released their first disc, *Morning Breath*, which includes 13 original songs and one remake of "If I Only Had a Brain" from "The Wizard of Oz."



Janet Speaks French debuts with the newest album *The Planet Janet*.

Some very catchy new tunes include "Chicken Pot Pie," "Dave Spilled the Bowl in the Bongwater" and "Labcoatman." The disc isn't available locally, but if you're interested, check out the stores in Pittsburgh.

The Planet Janet: Janet Speaks French

Janet Speaks French is a somewhat eccentric, usually electric, and highly eclectic five-

person rock-n-roll band based out of New York City. Formed in 1992, the group plays some pop and rock songs but stays unique.

The Planet Janet has just been released. Some good songs include "River to My Soul," "Calvin" and "Just Sex."

Janet Speaks French also have their own comic book series out, which you can order off the CD.