

# STUDENT LIFE

## Spice Girls plan reunion tour



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Spice Girls may reunite soon for a planned reunion tour in Europe and possibly the United States.

By Scott Muska  
student life editor

The very unexpected reunion that everyone has been secretly looking forward to may soon be coming to fruition. The Spice Girls, a former supergroup from the British Invasion of the 1990s, are being coaxed out of retirement by the promise of a huge payment.

It has been estimated that if Posh, Baby, Ginger, Sporty and Scary Spice reunite for an international tour they could make an amount of \$24 million per band member. The girls claim, however, that they will only reunite if charity is somehow involved in their events.

The original plan for the reunion included a kick-off concert on March 10 of this year to commemorate the release of their first single and astoundingly popular song, "Wannabe." This obviously fell through due to the pregnancy of band members Emma Bunton and Melanie Brown.

Though the band has remained adamant about the fact that they will not be releasing any new music but performing songs from their previous albums, they will still seek the representation of Simon Fuller, the American Idol judge who currently represents band member Victoria Beckham.

The band has revealed that their first concert will take place in London, though it would not be a surprise if they ventured to the United States for at least a few shows, if not an entire tour. Victoria Beckham will be living there by July as a result of her husband's, soccer superstar David Beckham, trade to a professional soccer team in Los Angeles. They would also undoubtedly draw crowds of many types, namely the teenagers and early adults who are nostalgic for the British babes and their extremely catchy music.

Rumors abound that the band has been talking to U2 frontman Bono about a possible collaboration for the Red charity that he strongly supports. Red has put on concerts and sold items that include clothing, cell phones and iPods to support the effort to find a cure for the HIV virus.

If this reunion does indeed happen, there's a possibility that the group may achieve similar fame to what they experienced a decade ago. Their fans were based generally in the gradeschool through high school range, and they could duplicate their success among a new generation of children that have not yet experienced "girl power." They will also undoubtedly draw in some of their older fans who are hiding in the closets, almost ashamed to be fans of the once hip supergroup.

## Top 10 iTunes Singles April 19, 2007

1. Timbaland- "Give it to Me"
2. Avril Lavigne- "Girlfriend"
3. Bone Thugs and Harmony - "I Tried"



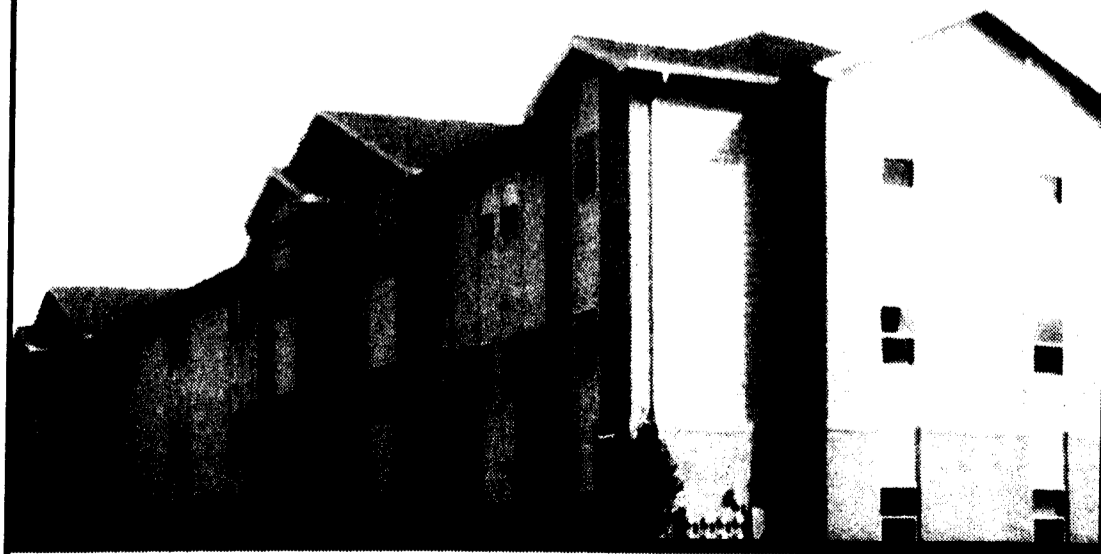
4. T-Pain - "Buy U a Drank Shawty"
5. Beyonce and Shakira- "Beautiful Liar"
6. Fergie- "Glamorous"
7. Carrie Underwood- "Before He Cheats"
8. Linkin Park- "What I've Done"
9. Akon- "Don't Matter"
10. Gwen Stefani- "The Sweet Escape"

\*Statistics courtesy of iTunes Music Store

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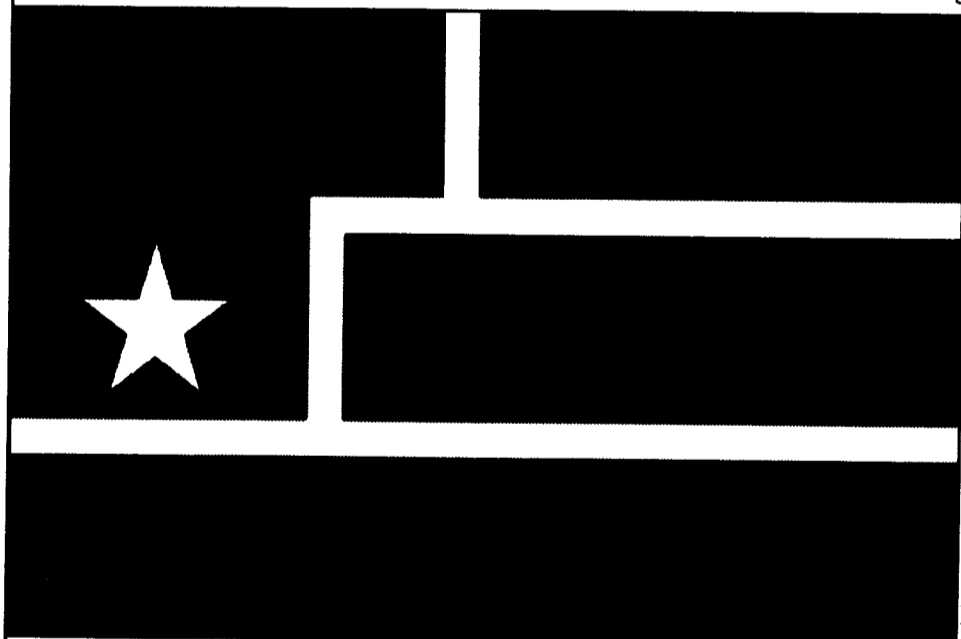
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## Innovative dystopian album tops charts

By Joshua Lane  
Student Life Editor

on a handheld camcorder of a desert landscape. After a few moments, the screen gets filled with



static and a giant dark hand reaches down from the sky. All of these alternative promotions might seem a little ludicrous, but for Reznor it seems like this is a vision that is just beginning. Last February at a NIN venue in Lisbon, a USB drive was discovered by a fan in one of

The Year Zero "Alternate Reality Game" is an interactive online promotion for NIN music.

Nine Inch Nails' new offering, *Year Zero* is less like a stand alone album and more like the soundtrack to what Trent Reznor calls his "alternate reality game" what does that mean? Well, no one really knows. It's a global reality based "game" that seems like part scavenger hunt, part research project.

It started with a NIN tour t-shirt that had a code on it. The back of the shirt listed all of the tour dates and locations for the NIN February European tour. Some of the letters within the spelling of the cities were highlighted. When all of the letters were strung together, they spell "I am trying to believe." As a true testament to this dot-com world that we now live in, the fan that first recognized this oddity decided to type it into a google search which produced iamtryingtobelieve.com. It is one of many NIN websites that are based around this game.

The website seems like a website that is about a conspiracy that hasn't really happened at all. It has fake newspaper clippings from an Orlando based newspaper that says the government has decided to put a drug they call Parepin into the water and it may have side effects.

As if this couldn't get any weirder there was a video released on YouTube that was listed as a *Year Zero* album promotion, but is really a *Year Zero* game promotion. It looks like a random video taken

the stalls. On the USB drive was a high-quality MP3 of the song "My Violent Heart" which was almost immediately put on the internet. Within days more of these USB drives were popping up all over Europe. One was found in Madrid, another in Barcelona, all containing different tracks from the new album. A USB drive found in Manchester had a song and an image of the "Hollywood" sign photoshopped to look like it was the remains of a nuclear fallout. Reznor claims that this sort of thing was exactly what he wanted, and this type of thinking should be the future of music. In a recent article in the British newspaper *The Guardian* Reznor said "It's really painfully obvious what people want — DRM-free music they can do what they want with. If the greedy record industry would embrace that concept I truly think people would pay for music and consume more of it."

Reznor may have something bordering on genius with this type of promotion. For those that purchased the album, they may find it interesting that the CD was made with a thermo-chrome heat-sensitive face. The CD is black, but when heat is applied to it, it turns mostly white to reveal a series of zeros and ones in binary code. The sequence translates to external.net. Happy hunting.