



blues — more specifically, Texas blues.

They started out playing the blues in Texas saloons until they signed a record deal in 1969 which offered a change from drunk, gun-toting Texan audiences to a more docile recording studio. They remained Texas' little secret until the 1980's when they released the popular *Eliminator* album. This digitally mastered and computer-aided gem was a hit with MTV. With the recognition and attention they received, the state of Texas awarded them with honorary deputy status and even a token spot on the senate — they even went so far as to name a day in their honour. This led to a series of major failures, namely *Afterburner*, *Recycler*, and *Antenna*. This brings us to the present and *Rythmeen*, a mediocre attempt at regaining what was

lost.

It remains guitar-based rock, but they have changed their sound by adding sampled percussion and adding a lot of distortion. The title track and the first single 'What's up with that?' are both honest attempts at digging for their roots, but the rest of the album is lacking the true spirit of the blues (which was last seen leaving Chicago).

I wouldn't recommend spending your valuable entertainment dollars on this album, but if you have some money left over from JJ's and the Birdland, you might want to check out one of their more vintage albums. You will then realize why these guys have been around for a quarter century.

JOHN SIMPSON

**Recovering the Satellites**  
Counting Crows  
MCA

Perhaps if I was more of a fan of the Counting Crows to begin with, this album would have had more of an impact on me. This is because *Recovering The Satellites* tends to be quite similar to the tracks I have heard from their previous release, *August And Everything After*. To be more specific, chord-based slow songs are the dominant norm of this album.

**Cooking for Dummies**

Bryan Miller and Marie Rama  
IDG Books

If you are like most off campus students, the only staples in your diet may include Kraft dinner, vienna sausages, Mr. Noodles and anything with Chef Boyardee on the can. Well, throw down that can opener because help is on the way! Bryan Miller and Marie Rama are the co-authors of *Cooking for Dummies*, a handy reference guide to the mysterious world of culinary skills.

First things first. If you need help finding your kitchen, throw a party. Your guests will always gravitate to the kitchen and help themselves to whatever food they find. If you are still a bit nervous about being in the kitchen, ease into it slowly. Look at pictures of your kitchen until you feel like you are up to the challenge of going in. Once you have made it inside, *Cooking for Dummies* can help you make the kitchen an efficient and wonderful place to prepare food.

This book covers everything to help make your kitchen user-friendly. *Cooking for Dummies* describes in detail how to use that mysterious cooking equipment your Mom bought you. It walks you through techniques such as braising, sauteeing, and grilling and takes the mystery out of recipe and menu lingo. It also throws in about 150 recipes, a glossary of cooking terms, a list of emergency ingredient substitutions, and a table of metric conversions.

*Cooking for Dummies* will have you walking the walk and talking the talk of a professional chef in no time. One word of warning: be careful how many people know about your newfound culinary talents, unless of course you wouldn't mind having the entire residence-living-Cara-foods-eating population knocking on your door for handouts.

ANDREA WARD

**Top Ten Reasons Why you Should Learn to Cook:**

10. Cooking for yourself is more economical than buying prepared food, and money saved at the grocery store could be better spent at the liquor store.
9. When you dine in a restaurant, you can complain with authority that particular dishes are not prepared the way *you* make them.
8. The old wives might have been on to something when they said the fastest way to a man's (or woman's) heart is through the stomach.
7. It's easier to control your diet yourself, rather than depending on second-rate pizza joints.
6. At home, seconds and even thirds are permissible.
5. You get to use all sorts of bizarre implements — and actually know what to do with them.
4. Impresses babes.
3. Having a dinner party is a great way to entertain friends.
2. There are only so many ways to cook Kraft dinner.
1. The grocery store is extremely fertile terrain for opposite-sex encounters.

This is not necessarily a bad thing, as quite a few of these songs are very good. "Daylight Fading", a country-esque number, and "Mercury" — well-mixed in part by a noteworthy harmonica — work well. The first track "Catapult" jumps out at you with noticeable electric guitars, followed by the equally intense "An-

gels Of The Silences".

Unfortunately, the album loses the strength it starts out with, and most of the last half wears on you as the music gets slower and slower.

And despite their strength, "Catapult" and "Angels" did little for me either. The real power kicked in with the fantastic "I'm

Not Sleeping", which for some reason reminded me of the Beatles' "A Day In The Life" (possibly because of its string arrangement that breaks down into chaos twice throughout the song). It's a great piece, and does more for me than "Mr. Jones" ever did. Likewise, the track

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