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right, in January or February.

**Gaz:** Are you doing anything to avoid "burnout"?

**Pikes:** (Don) I don't think we think about it too much.

(Brian) To be totally honest, on this record it occurred to us when we were recording it — and this wasn't a conscious thing—it seemed to us at the time that there were some real blatant, you know, radio tunes. Songs that could appeal to mass acceptance, and you've got to.

(Don) We weren't afraid of that. (Brian) Have you guys heard the record? The song Snow In June is not going to be a top-40 hit or anything, so you don't treat it that way; you make it into a good album track. But a song like She Ain't Pretty which was just a lark — I wrote it, it was a joke really. I didn't even think of us playing as a band because I didn't think it fit into whatever we were, and these guys got a kick out of it and said okay, let's do it for fun. And the record company right away thought, okay, this is the key to the album — this is going to open the door for people who weren't necessarily Pikes fans in the beginning to maybe hear this record. We were with Virgin US for the longest time for the first 2 albums and they weren't doing what we thought they should be doing for us as for the cogs and wheels of a record corporation and how they put effort into breaking an act, and we didn't feel they were doing that job and we sort of gave them an ultimatum. We said listen, we want some kind of commitment this time because we feel we've got a record or a few good singles that could move this time. They said, "Well, we're not going to do much different that we did on the other 2" so it was like, okay, screw off, we're gonna try to find someone who gives a shit. You've got to do that, from the onset of the band. The four of us have always tried to surround ourselves with people who care about the music first and foremost. That way, you sort of maximize everyone's performance. You haven't got anyone with quick dollar signs in their eyes [laughs] who thinks this is going to be some quick money venture or something, you know. It's not gonna be a quick blast of success and then we're gonna be in the "where are they now?" file. We plan on being around for hopefully a long time, providing we keep getting along and we're still making pretty decent music.

**Gaz:** Well, enjoy your dinner. We'll apologise in advance for the school's cooking.

**Pikes:** (Don) [laughs] You know, that happens at every school. Honest to God, every school we play, they say that. They said that the other day and it was good, really.

The next big act to hit Dal is The Pursuit Of Happiness on October 31st. Tickets went on sale Monday, October 15.