

Creem

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BADFINGER: "No Dice"

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If you pride yourself on being a member of the generation hat battles hypocrisy, shuns prejudices and easy labels, and fights to the death to tell the pigs (boo) what it's all about (yay) – and won't listen to Badfinger's *No Dice* because they're a "teenybopper group," then it's your own tough luck.

Not to mention that the *No Dice* album sounds like what the Beatles might have done had they gotten it all together after their white album – and we all know how hip a record that is – and not to mention that Badfinger is one of the best songwriting groups around, one of the best *singing* groups anywhere, and now has an absolutely great lead guitarist in Pete Ham, they're really one fucking whale of a group anyway.

It's really late-Beatles music Badfinger does, if you'll check out the white album/*Abbey Road* style of production and the distinctly similar instrumental sound,. Then there's even exact imitation Ringo ker-plod drumming. However, in songwriting and singing Badfinger shuts down the post-Pepper Beatles cold, and that, I feel, is something most comparisons of the groups sneakily evade talking about.

Finally, if you can sit around grooving on Paul McCartney's solo album, when there's a group around the corner – Badfinger can do everything McCartney can do (Pete Ham sings, writes and even has the gall to *look* like McCartney) that's your tough luck, too, I guess. When Badfinger gets around to making the record they're *capable* of making, it may be as good as everything the Beatles ever did after *Rubber Soul*, all rolled into one. In the meantime, *No Dice* is merely great.