

THE POLL

DO YOU

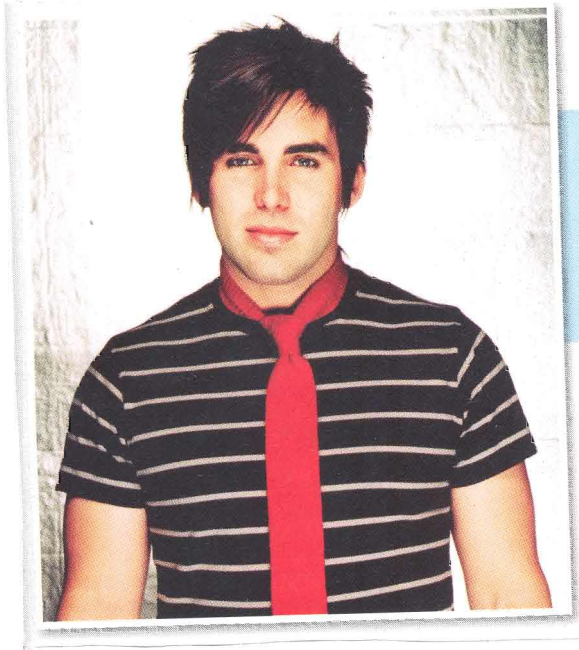
BELIEVE IN SOUL MATES?

THE AP POLL
BY TIM KARAN

Maintain that you're a self-sufficient, anti-sentimental loner all you like: Aside from the occasional song about death and whatever it is Coheed And Cambria talk about, almost every song shuffling on your iPod is abstractly or blatantly about love. (Or the *loss* of love.) There comes a point in every freshly brokenhearted teenager's life (usually immediately following some defeated, solitary walk home in or around a torrential downpour) when they suddenly understand Alkaline Trio (or Brand New or, in extreme circumstances, Morrissey) in a way they never did before. The latent cause of much of this misery is the human tendency to believe the person we're presently pining for or failing spectacularly to forget might be, in one form or another, our soul mate. Otherwise, why get all worked up over broken promises and hurtful texts? But do soul mates even exist? Because if they don't, all those ill-advised mix CDs filled with Dashboard Confessional's "This Ruined Puzzle" were burned for nothing.

OF AP READERS POLLED:

54% SAID NO
46% SAID YES



The words "soul mate" can definitely be found in the dictionary, but I don't believe it can be found in the real world today. I believe soul mates existed back in the '40s and '50s because love seemed more genuine. It seems like people today are more about "hooking up." Maybe people in the past were concerned with that, too, but what I notice now are liars and cheaters all looking for one thing: ass.

JAKE BUNDRICK, Mayday Parade