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## CRANKY CRITIC

 PHOTO

*Simon Cowell*  
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VILLAGE Voice rock critic **Robert Christgau** seemed to be aping acid-tongued "American Idol" panelist **Simon Cowell** when he judged Media Bistro's Battle of the Bands on Monday night at Arlene Grocery, where combos representing Blender and Spin faced off. Christgau was much nastier than his fellow judges, who included the Times' **Kelefa Sanneh** and MTV's **Suchin Pak**, reports The Post's **Mary Huhn**. Among other barbs, Christgau sniffed that Spinotaur would be better without its lead singer, Spin managing editor **Regan Solmo**, and called Blender's Hookers & Blow a "one-note pony." In the end Spinotaur bested Hookers & Blow, but the winning mag's staffers were still seething. "Christgau really crossed the line," said a steamed Spin-ster.

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