

THE PLAIN DEALER

"Portlandia," season one

New Age and counter-culture foibles are ripe for satire in this hip sketch comedy series that pokes gentle fun at progressive thought in Portland, Ore.

Fred Armisen of "Saturday Night Live" and vocalist-guitarist Carrie Brownstein are the stars and co-creators of the IFC show with director Jonathan Krisel ("Tim and Eric's Awesome Show, Great Job!").

Armisen and Brownstein play most of the characters, from choosy restaurant diners asking for details on the background of the chicken they might order for dinner, to feminist bookstore operators getting in a customer's face for using the restroom without making a purchase.

Guest stars include Steve Buscemi, Kyle MacLachlan, Aubrey Plaza, Selma Blair, Heather Graham, Jason Sudeikis, Gus Van Sant, Aimee Mann and Sarah McLachlan.

One disc, 135 minutes. DVD and Blu-ray extras: bloopers, deleted and extended scenes, videos, commentary on all six episodes, a preview of season two, and a funny high school graduation speech delivered by Armisen. From **MVD Visual**. Released Dec. 6. Season two began Jan. 6.

- Chris Ball