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SHANE TV!

THE nauseating genre of reality-based television shows has slowly crept into the entertainment industry over the last few years. What makes shows like *The Osbournes* and *The Anna Nicole Show* so damn riveting is watching these hopelessly substance-ravaged simpletons conduct a normal life. We got the same sick thrill watching Ozzy operating a remote as we did turning turtles upside down and watching them squirm back on their feet when we were kids.

Shane MacGowan is the latest star to receive this treatment. The Sundance Channel will celebrate St. Patrick's Day this year with the U.S. television premiere of *If I Should Fall From Grace: The Shane MacGowan Story*. This is a riveting behind-the-scenes look at one of the greatest gutter poets ever to emerge from the Emerald Isle. The film was directed by Sarah Share, and it is one of five films that Sundance Channel will air as part of the cable network's new weekly documentary series "DOCday." That series begins Monday March 3 and continues every Monday from noon until midnight with a weekly feature premiere at 9 p.m.

Sarah Share has an eagle eye for authenticity and detail, choosing to film MacGowan at various stages of sobriety. The warts of this com-

Coming soon to a TV set near you: Shane MacGowan unplugged.



OFF THE RECORD

BY MIKE FARRAGHER

plex character are shown alongside the endearing dimples, and she creates a nice pace by corralling a number of family members and lovers to prop up

nodes off.

"He had a brilliant brain," said Shane's dad Maurice, looking as Irish as a pint of Guinness with his wiry long white hair

his back. "He still does, a few billion brain cells later."

The 90-minute film features rare early footage, video clips and live performances interspersed with contemporary interviews that trace MacGowan's path from his first forays into London's punk scene with his band The Nips (short for "The Nipple Erectors")