THURSDAY 05/04/06 GRAND PA

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STREET

# GRAND PALACE

RECORDS
RECORDING SERVICE
SILKSCREEN

1 YEAR ANNIVERSARYS

## Storm the castle and rock the Palace

'Allo and welcome to another edition of Exposure! If you haven't noticed, the days are shorter and the nights slightly cooler. You know what that means - fall break is coming up. Midterm exams usually precede the break, but they are a necessary evil to overcome.

The 11th Annual Tennessee Highland Games are this weekend. Oct. 6 through 8, in Triune. For those of you who are not familiar with the Games, this popular event brings Scottish and non-Scottish - clans together for a hammer throw competition, a sheaf toss, a dance competition and all the Scottish food you can eat. The three-day festival has been held on our campus in the past, but is being held this year at Castle Gywnn, located 11 miles

you are interested, tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7 for children. There may be a discount with student I.D. cards; call (615) 848-9193 or visit the website www.hotsc.com for more information.

In other news, MTSU recreation department is partnering with the recording industry department to sponsor Reck Out, a battle of the bands event promoting local artists while raising drug awareness with the theme of "Rock, don't Roll." They are asking local bands to register for the battle of the bands. Registration is \$65/band, but the grand prize is eight hours of studio time. The event will be held on Friday, Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. in Patterson Park Community Theater. For more

register your band, visit www.mtsu.edu/reckout.

Oh, the following bit of news made me chuckle: Beck's new album, "The Information," was released in the United Kingdom on Oct. 2 and in the United States on Oct. 3. The album was released with an accompanying DVD and specially designed stickers for cover customization. Unfortunately for Beck, this album will not be allowed to chart in the U.K. due to a "bizarre ruling" by the Official Chart Company. Apparently, having the unique idea of custom covers. which takes the Beck experience beyond sight and sound, is an "unfair advantage" over other artists. I never thought outsidethe box thinking would dumb-

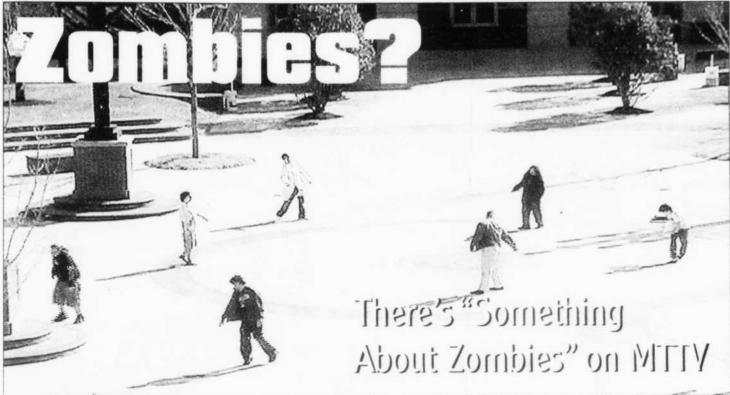
from Murfreesboro on Hwy. 96. If information about the event or to found a music charting organization, but there is a first time for everything.

This week, we have The Grand Palace and their one-year anniversary party; it's so grand, the Palace guys had to split it up over two days. Check out the Grand Palace story and an example of their awesome screen-printing skills on Page 4. We also have zombies on MTTV, local band The GO Show and more. As always, send complaints, compliments event listings slflash@mtsu.edu.

If you are going to see Widespread Panic on Friday, give a "whoo" for me, please? See va next week.

Kristen





Photos submitted by Matt Holton

(Above) Zombies stagger across the Quad in a still from "Lawn of the Dead," a short film created by Matt Holton and Julien Chatham-Tombs. The film is shown as part of the MTTV show, "There's Something about Zombies. (Below) One creator, Matt Holton, mugs for the camera in another scene from "Lawn of the Dead."



**Reid Conner** 

#### Staff Writer

Zombies have taken over MTSU's campus!

No, not really, but they have according to Matt Holton and Julien Chatham-Tombs's MTTV show, "Something About Zombies."

"Something About Zombies," which airs frequently on MTTV late at night, features Holton and Chatham-Tombs sitting in a posterfilled room offering their opinions

about certain horror movies. The show also features comedy skits and other odd things thrown in. They describe the show as a sketch-comedy talk show.

Although they are talking about all things gory, they try to inject the show with enough humor to attract a wider audience. For the new season, Holton and Chatham-Tombs are excited about the opportunity to blend their odd sense of humor into new short films and skits.

When Holton started the show he

knew he wanted to incorporate zombies somehow, but was not quite sure what direction to go in.

"I've always been obsessed with zombie movies," said Holton.

Then he came up with the idea for a talk show about zombies, but the format also allows him to add anything he wants to the show.

Holton and Chatham-Tombs began broadcasting the show in the spring of 2006 and aired five episodes throughout the semester. They were inspired to shoot the pilot episode after drinking at a keg party.

"We got back from the party and shot the pilot at 2:30 in the morning," Holton said.

After the show started rolling, they formed their own entertainment label titled Palas-De-La-Playa Entertainment. With the formation of the label, they plan to continue to produce "Something About Zombies" in a more professional manner, as well as other films and projects.

"Lawn of the Dead" is their first short film, frequently broadcast on the show. In the film, the main character, played by Holton, wakes up one morning to a zombie invasion. The film features several locations, including campus and Murfreesboro City Hall.

Continued on page 6

# ENTERTAINMENT

#### YouTube equals success?

The increasingly popular website YouTube is partnering with wireless behemoth Cingular for a contest entitled YouTube Underground. According to the website, YouTube is "on a quest to find the most talented and entertaining unsigned musicians and bands out there."

At the end of the submission period, the YouTube community will "rise up" and vote on the best video. YouTube directs potential competitors to submit videos that best represent the act's music, lyrics and video-making skills. Four grand prizewinners will be chosen. They will receive various items, such as new equipment provided by Gibson Guitar and Epiphone, a featured video on YouTube and a live performance on "Good Morning America."

YouTube began accepting admissions on Oct. 2; the contest ends Oct. 18. For more information, visit youtube.com/underground.

#### Talking up the arts

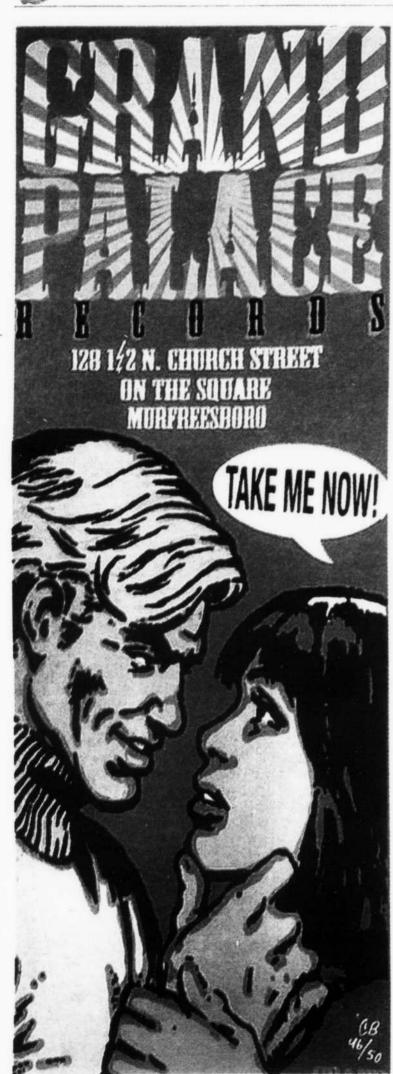
Estelle Condra, the internationally renowned actress/writer/teacher, will deliver the keynote address at this weekend's Arts Talk. The two-day event is a conference and career forum for artists with disabilities and will be held at MTSU. Condra will give her address at 12:45 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 6 in the Business Aerospace Building.

"The Goal," a film by Darla Rae, will be premiered during the conference at 4 p.m. in Tucker Theatre. MTSU alumna Laura Dodd stars in this award-winning film.

#### **Presidential Concert series**

The MTSU Presidential Concert series, sponsored in part by MTSU president Dr. Sidney McPhee, begins Saturday, Oct. 7 in the Hinton Music Hall, located in the Wright Music Building. The first performance is "Requiem," written from the "memory of the deceased" from every war in history. The MTSU Wind Ensemble, choirs and soloists will begin the concert at 7:30 p.m.; admission is free.

The next concert is Tuesday, Oct. 10 and it features Aima Maria Labra-Makk on piano. Her concert is also free and begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Hinton Music Hall.



# A RECORD' YEAR

The Grand
Palace
celebrates
one year of
remarkable
growth



Photo by Tasha Biddle | Staff Photographe

(Above) The sign marking the entrance to Grand Palace, located at the corner of Church Street and College.

Street on the Square. (Left) One of many posters Grand Palace has silkscreened for local bands and shows.

**Dara Tucker** 

Staff Writer

"You're not apt to find a lot of Foreigner records here," Sean Maloney proclaims wryly when asked about the scope of genres Grand Palace Records carries.

He believes this selectiveness ensures that Grand Palace maintains its reputation as one of Murfreesboro's coolest spots for music lovers. Maloney, described by his coworkers as the store's "Everything Man." has seen Grand Palace through its share of ups and downs in a year of remarkable growth. The Palace will be marking its one-year anniversary this Friday on the square.

The downtown record store and print shop is gearing up to celebrate the special day with a bang. Along for the ride is blues punk band. Kindergarten Circus, and Murfreesboro natives Slack, who've gained a solid local following, and have recently moved operations to Nashville. Slack, who All The Rage refers to as "one of the best bands in Nashville," recently recorded an album that is set to be released in a few months.

"We're all really excited," Maloney says. "This will be their first show at The Grand Palace."

Rounding out the list of guest performers for Friday night's anniversary show are the headliners The Protomen. The band is outfitted with robot costumes and a complex 'revolution army' storyline, which meshes well with their Mega Manthemed 'rock opera' style. They will soon be making their way out to the West Coast for a series of highly anticipated shows.

"This year has been an interesting experiment," says Maloney. "2005 wasn't the most friendly year for brick and mortar record stores."

You wouldn't know it, judging by the popularity Grand Palace has achieved in twelve short months. Local bands are clamoring to play there, earning its bookers the luxury of being very selective about the bands they invite to play.

Finding great artists doesn't pose much of a challenge for booker Chuck Bruner.

"We've become the hottest 'bedroom show' in town." Bruner says, referring to the club's intimate setup, "Our shows always have good energy."

Bruner says booking only two shows a month makes it very difficult to decide which groups will have the chance to play the popular outlet.

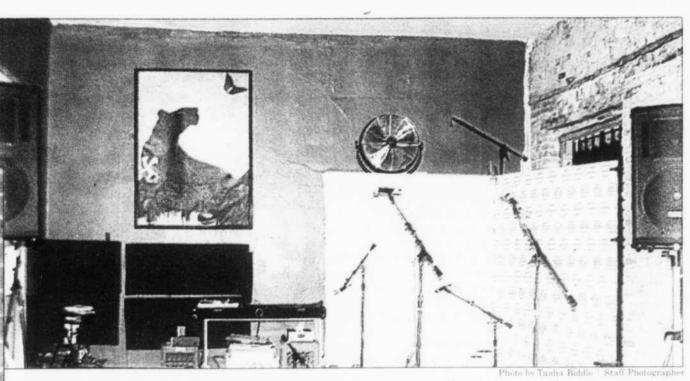
"The toughest part's been figuring out [whom to book]," Bruner concedes. "It's a really democratic process. We choose bands according to [whom] we like. I'm just the one who makes the phone calls."

Since the opening last year. The Palace has seen its share of physical and operational renovations.

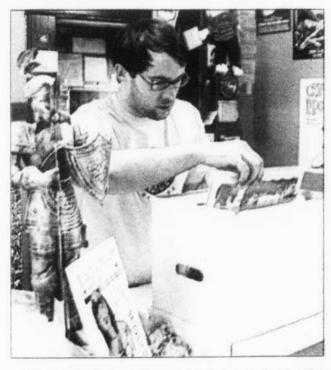
"We're happy with how everything's gone," says Alex Norfleet, who took the plunge last year with partners Lynn Weaver and James Robbins to launch The Grand Palace. "We're definitely pleased with the growth we've seen. We've been received well, and have had really good feedback from the community."

Though not the only independent record store in Murfreesboro, The Grand Palace has managed to carve out a niche for itself that has set it apart from other retailers.

"We're about 70/30 vinyl to CD's," Norfleet says.



(Above) The stage is set for the Grand Palace one-year anniversary shows on Friday, Oct. 6 and Saturday, Oct. 7. Bands such as The Protomen, Slack and Catfish Haven will perform this weekend. (Below) An unidentified customer peruses the vinyl in Grand Palace's new and used record shop.



When asked about the market's increasing preference for digital formats. Norfleet seems unfazed.

"We embrace change." he says, adding he believes there is a strong and growing market for people who feel that vinyl provides something digital music cannot.

As for the coming year. The Palace has big plans in the works.

"We're growing slowly but surely." Maloney says. "We've started up our own independent record label, and our first project is set to be released later this month."

The first project on Grand Palace Records label is a seven-inch vinyl single by The Turncoats. The release of the single will coincide with a show by the above artist on Oct. 26.

"We've done more than we expected to with

launching our new label in the first year," Norfleet adds. "We thought that would be something that might happen in our second or third year."

Bruner mentions other plans for The Grand Palace.
"We're also wanting to start up an all-ages club,
and begin a partnership with WMTS." Bruner says.

Boasting a catalogue of genres as diverse as hiphop, rock, punk, R&B and jazz, The Grand Palace joins merchants such as Grimey's, Digital Planet and The Great Escape in the short list of independent record stores in the Middle Tennessee area that aim to be more than just a place to buy albums.

"We're striving to make this a real musical community center," Maloney says.

Selling both new and used records has made The Palace the 'go to' spot for connoisseurs of the musically obscure.

"We don't have multiple copies of Frampton Comes Alive laying around," jokes Maloney. That's apparently been the formula for their success.

Maintaining a place of prominence in an increasingly competitive market is not an easy task. The Grand Palace has managed to distinguish itself through diversification of the products and services it offers. In addition to being on the forefront of Murfreesboro's new and used record scene, they are a full-service screen-printing shop, record label and studio. Their main goal, however, remains promoting new music.

The anniversary bash begins Friday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. Cover is \$5, and all ages are welcome to the smoke- and alcohol-free celebration. The Protomen will headline this show with performances by Slack and The Kindergarten Circus. The second leg of the anniversary party is Saturday, Oct. 7 at 9 p.m. This show features The Carter Administration, Catfish Haven and Chris "The Alcohol Stuntman" Crofton as the master of ceremonies. Saturday's event is free, but is limited to persons 18 and over.



Sitcoms have steeply declined in popularity over the past few years, due in part to reality television. Viewers would rather watch a group of people fight and argue on a deserted island than follow a complicated plot or story line. Both viewers and networks alike love reality shows.

A few years ago, if you asked someone about reality television you would receive dull and confused stares. Reality TV did not exist here in America. Americans were watching Regis ask, "Is that your final answer?" Ross and Rachel's onagain/off-again relationship and waiting to see what crazy Kramer would get into next. Then "Survivor" hit the airwaves.

"Survivor" struck the first blow and television was never the same again. This new and exciting format of television was quickly picked up and copied by every station; thus, starting the decline in sitcoms.

Sitcoms may soon be replaced by reality shows because people are bored by sitcoms.

"Television is cyclical," said Wes Trundle, general manager of Middle Tennessee Television, MTTV Channel 10. "Sitcoms have been prevalent in television over recent years; they are due for decline."

The sitcom format has been used since the early days of television and is now stale and dull. Reality shows are fresh, edgy and popular due to their shock value.

"The grosser it is, the more I want to watch," said MTSU student Alan Dennis.

Another reason reality television is dominating the market is because it is cheaper to produce a reality show than a sitcom. The average sitcom usually costs up to \$2 million to produce. Reality shows usually top out at \$1.5 million. Not much of a difference, but if a studio or network has to choose between two risky programs and one is a sitcom and the other a reality show, they will most likely go with the reality show.

Reality shows also have fewer royalties to pay for a show. Reality shows have a host, a few writers and a producer. A sitcom has to pay all the actors, writers, directors, producers and who knows how many other people when a sitcom is reran.

Continued on page 6

## October 5-11



### TODAY

- Bluesboro Acoustic Nights in the Boro; 8 p.m., 18+, \$3; Karg
   Boys; 10 p.m., 21+, \$7
- The Boro All We Sea Bees;
   10 p.m., 18 +, \$5
- KUCTheater "Lady in the Water;" 7 & 9:30 p.m., \$2
- Liquid Smoke DJ & Jazz; 9 p.m., 21+, no cover
- Mellow Mushroom Flat Rock Revival: 10 p.m.
- Tucker Theater "Hay Fever;" 7
  p.m., free w/ student ID, \$4 K12 students, \$6 faculty/staff and
  \$8 general admission

#### FRIDAY

- Bluesboro The Respectables; 8 p.m., 21+, \$7
- The Boro Murphey, Finding Steve Cunningham and Parade; 10 p.m., 18 +, \$5
- Grand Palace ONE YEAR
   ANNIVERSARY SHOW w/ The
   Protomen, Slack and The
   Kindergarten Circus; 7 p.m.,
   all ages, \$5
- Mellow Mushroom The GO Show; 10 p.m.
- TuckerTheater "Hay Fever;" 7
  p.m., free w/ student ID, \$4 K12 students, \$6 faculty/staff and
  \$8 general admission

## SATURDAY

- Bluesboro Geronimo David, Nineteen88 and Keith Walker;
   8 p.m., 21+, \$7
- Blue Coast Burrito Blue Coast After-hours Acoustic show; 9 p.m., 18+, \$3
- The Boro Colossal Head, AntiSense Therapy and Pavilion; 10 p.m., 18+, \$5
- Grand Palace ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY SHOW w/ The Carter Administration and

- Catfish Haven; 9 p.m., 18+, free Hinton Music Hall – Presidential Concert Series; 7:30 p.m.
- Tucker Theater "Hay Fever;" 7
  p.m., free w/ student ID, \$4 K12 students, \$6 faculty/staff and
  \$8 general admission
- Wall Street Juan Prophet Organization, Lady & the Tramps and Lee Harvey Griswold; 10 p.m., 18 +, \$5

#### SUNDAY

- Bluesboro Rockstar Band Battle; 8 p.m., 21+, \$7
- The Boro Acoustic Night; 8 p.m., 18+, no cover
- Mellow Mushroom Brian Demspey & Josh Carroll Acoustic; 7 p.m.

#### MONDAY

- Bluesboro NSAI Songwriter's Night; 9 p.m., 21+, \$7
- Liquid Smoke Monday Night Football; 21+, no cover
- KUCTheater "A Scanner Darkly;" 7 & 9:30 p.m., \$2

#### TUESDAY

- Bluesboro WMTS Benefit w/ Josh Doyle, Hands Down Eugene and Is He Safe; 9 p.m., 18+, \$5
- KUCTheater "A Scanner Darkly;" 7 & 9:30 p.m., \$2
- Hinton Music Hall Presidential Concert Series; 7:30 p.m.
- Liquid Smoke Mike Jones Quartet; 9 p.m., 21+, no cover

## WEDNESDAY

- The Boro Knapsack Heroes!;
   10 p.m., 18+, \$5
- KUCTheater "A Scanner Darkly;" 7 & 9:30 p.m., \$2
- Liquid Smoke Luke Pruitt; 5 p.m., 21+, no cover

#### "Reality"

As sitcoms have become less popular, networks have had a harder time selling commercial time slots to retailers during a show. All the businesses are looking to buy timeslots during reality television shows. A perfect example of this is "American Idol." The finale of "American Idol" receives as much interest from retailers as the Super Bowl and is heavily marketed.

Many networks aren't putting as much funding into the development of new sitcoms. Most networks find a hit show then ride it all the way into the ground. These networks see they have a hit and do not really have a need for new sitcoms. However, when the network loses a big money maker they have nothing to replace it with, so they quickly put a cheap reality show together. Take NBC for example: there was a point where NBC had "Friends.

"Seinfeld" and "Frasier" airing weekly. These shows started to draw to a conclusion and NBC realized they didn't have anything similar to replace them. They turned to reality television "Average Joe" had two sea sons before it fell in the rat ings. "Dog Eat Dog" did not even last one season before it was abandoned. "Fear Factor" turned out to be a show that found an audience quickly and has sustained that audience.

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Reality television may be the popular form of programming right now, but nothing stays on top forever. Some networks are actually trying to prevent the overuse of reality TV by throwing in a sitcom into its line up. But until viewers stop tuning in to see how far people will go for money, reality television will remain the dominant format on tube.

#### "Zombies"

"Lawn of the Dead" showcases many comedic moments, surprisingly good gore effects and a great soundtrack featuring everyone from The Beatles to Neil Diamond. They had plans for a bigger film and wanted to get a lot of extras to populate the set with zombies but fate wasn't on their side

"It rained that day and nobody showed up," Chatham Tombs explained.

They recently made their second film when they entered the 48-Hour Film Project contest, where each team must write, shoot, edit and complete a film within 48 hours. Although they did not win the contest, their film won three awards.

As for "Something About Zombies," Holton has a lot of ideas for future episodes and short films but the problem is settling on one. That's where Chatham-Tombs comes in. He's the focus of the group and helps Holton concentrate on the next project.

continued from 3

The show has recently acquired two sponsors, Video Culture and Beer Depot. Holton and Chatham-Tombs are supportive of the local community and try to give mentions on the show.

Holton and Chatham-Tombs are confident in their show-hosting skills and claim that each episode keeps getting better then the last one. but Holton stresses that people should watch the show to the end. He saves the best stuff for last.

"Something About Zombies" airs at 11 p.m. on MTTV Channel 10 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights. New episodes will be aired every two weeks.

Featured DVD Of The Week

Lady

Tanger ANA

**Reid Conner** 

Staff Writer

Welcome to the first in what will hopefully be a series of weekly reviews/discussions of newly released DVDs. I emphasize the word discussion because my first pick. Chan-wook Park's "Lady Vengeance," is a film that merits discussion and debate rather then a standard review.

"Lady Vengeance" is the last in Park's "Vengeance" trilogy with "Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance" and "Oldboy" coming before it. Although the films are not related storywise, they are linked thematically. Like "Lady Vengeance," they deal with characters that have been destroyed by others and their lives' obsession is seeking revenge against their enemies.

This film stars Yeong-ae Lee as Lee Geum-ja, a woman who has been framed and convicted of killing a young boy. After she is released from prison, Geum-ja initiates her elaborate plan to get her revenge against Mr. Baek (Min-sik Choi), the man who threatened to murder her infant daughter if she did not confess to the heinous crime.

She enlists the help of her recently paroled cellmates to put all the pieces in place so that she can get to Mr. Baek and also reunite with her long-lost daughter. Geum-ja's relationship with her cellmates and Mr. Baek are shown through a series of flashbacks that interweaves with the present action.

If the plot sounds similar to "Kill Bill," or any other revenge movie, you're right, but the two films couldn't be anymore different. While "Kill Bill" skirts around the darker consequences that come with an obsession with vengeance. "Lady Vengeance" dives headfirst into the murkiness and splashes around in it.

Although there are not a lot of action sequences. "Lady Vengeance" is brutally violent and the story makes a left turn about three fourths in that takes the film in an unexpected direction. The turn puts a unique spin on the revenge genre in a move that is unsettling and at the same time poetic. I believe it is at this point where audiences will be divided into either liking or disliking the film.

Without getting into too



many details, the move makes the viewer question Geum-ja, the heroine, for the first time and makes one wonder if she is doing the right thing. Her actions can be seen as unselfish, but that doesn't make what happens any easier to digest. This is bold filmmaking, but equally disturbing as well.

But don't get me wrong. Fans of Park's earlier films, or Asian cinema in general, will find plenty to revel here. The film is simply gorgeous to look at. There is not a shot that is not perfectly lit and executed. Park's bizarre visual style is

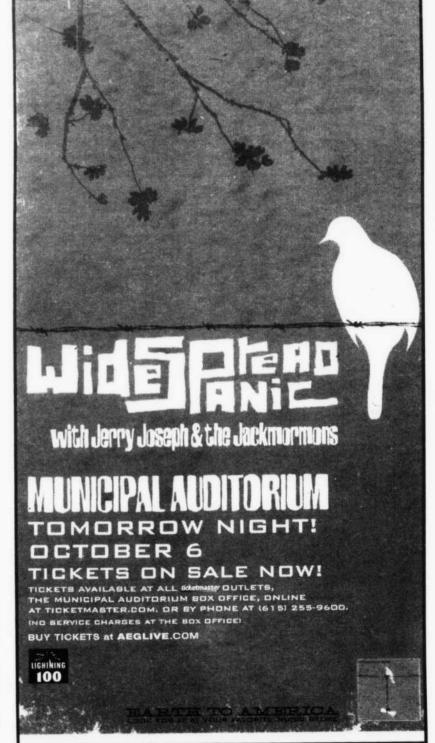
on full display as he throws many flashback and dream sequences into the mix.

As an interesting side note. I discovered that Park originally wanted "Lady Vengeance" to begin in full color and slowly drain the color throughout the film so that it ends in total black and white. This is the way it has been released on DVD overseas. Although it is an interesting experiment, it surprised me that he would want to do this because the colors in this film are so vivid that it would be a shame to take them away. But looking back, it really fits the tone of the film.

Chan-wook Park is one of the most visionary directors working today and now that he has finished his "Vengeance" trilogy, I am interested to see what he can do with other with other material. I would love to see him do a full-blown fantasy or horror movie. His next film is titled "I'm a Cyborg, But That's OK;" I can't even imagine what he has in store for that one.

Those that are familiar with the work of Chan-wook Park or even those that are just adventurous moviegoers should definitely check out "Lady Vengeance." It is a visually stunning and moving film, but those that are squeamish should look elsewhere for your weekend entertainment.







Photos provided by The GO Show

(Above) The GO Show, from left, are Chris Nicotera, John Daniel, Dave Benedict and Phil Buck. Judging by their faces, The GO Show enjoying performing to the local crowd; the band have an upcoming gig at Mellow Mushroom on Saturday, Oct. 6. (Below right) The poster for The GO Show's gig at Mellow Mushroom.

# Red light, green light, here's The GO Show

Rodney Henry

Staff Writer

Murfreesboro, I would like to present to you The Go Show. This quartet of talented musicians has been together since 2002, when three of the band members moved to Murfreesboro and met their latest addition to the group. Since adding a new member, The Go Show has expanded their sound, allowing them to give their fans one of the best live shows in this area.

The Go Show, formerly known as Go, is composed of four band members who each bring something different, yet equally important, to the

sound known as The Go Show. The band members are Chris Nicotera on the guitar, Phil Buck on bass, Dave Benedict on trumpet and John Daniel on drums. Together these four guys make a sound that is extra funky with a feel of the oldies. Their music is a combination of funk, jazz and electrical blues. When brought together, it gives a sound of soulfulness and flattering improvisational music. The Go Show's music is influenced by the music of the Grateful Dead and Phish, which is just a small portion of what you will hear when you go to one of their live performances.

The Go Show has been play-

ing in the Murfreesboro area for four years now and has gained a faithful following. In an interview with The Go Show, they gave more insight on their achievements, pressures and where they want to take their music.

**Exposure:** What do you think is your major achievements so far?

The Go Show: We went on a summer tour. We went from Murfreesboro to Nashville, Memphis, Little Rock, AR, Boston, TX, Houston, TX, Louisiana and back to Murfreesboro. The tour gave us a chance to promote our music and give our audience a great live performance. We are

also starting to record an album. We have not recorded one yet because we have a philosophical feeling about playing live.

**Exposure:** What is the pressure you feel is put on you from being known as The Go Show?

The Go Show: There is huge pressure from the industry to do what everyone else does. Due to our strong feeling on playing live, we feel it is our job to continue to give great live performances and not fall in the mode of recording and then promoting. We have a different connection with music, for us live music is a great expression of life.

Exposure: Would you like

to work with anyone on some new music and where do you want your music to go?

The Go Show: We have a chance to work with Carl Demson of Carl Demson Tiny Universe. We would also love to work with Herbie Hancock, which is a great influence on our band.

**Exposure:** A year from now do you think you will still be making the same music? If so why, and if not why and what will the change be?

The Go Show: No, because every show is different. We see how everything changes and comes to become our own new sound.

The Go Show has not allowed the pressure of the music industry to push them into the typical sound and mode of making music. With a strong philosophy of the live performance, they have continued to expand on their original idea of making their sound different at every show. They will give the city of Murfreesboro a chance to witness their musical expression at their show on Saturday, Oct. 6 at the Mellow Mushroom. They also have an upcoming show with Stomp Donkey, and will be recording a song titled "Free Beer" with a local band.

The Go Show is something different from the bands heard in this area. They have proven they are different for great reasons and that they are here to stay.

