

Feb. 19, 2004  
[flash]

**The Secret Lair  
rises like a  
phoenix**

**Page 3**



## Of hair gels & Creed

*Nashville's Lume will rock your ears off*



# Fat Tuesday at the Sleepytime Gorilla Museum

## Bang your head to the electric beat of a national band

By Leslie Carol Boehms

When my parents attended MTSU they were saturated with musical acts of Elvis stature every year. These days, Murfreesboro is lucky to get two good nationally touring acts a year. Therefore, it is important to take note when one of these two occasions arise.

On Tuesday, February 24 (a.k.a. – Fat Tuesday) is one such occasion.

The Sleepytime Gorilla Museum, a five-piece, avant-garde act from Oakland, Calif., will be performing what will be – without a shadow of a doubt – a performance that will go down in Boro musical history books for the indie rock kids of the future to drool at and dream over.

Best described as eclec-

tic, dazzling, intense and supercalifragilisticexpialidocious, Sleepytime Gorilla Museum are not the shy wallflower musician types when it comes to performing on stage.

Expect this show to be the biggest performance spectacle of the year. Also, expect it to be loud but beautiful, varied in time signature and vocal exploration, filled with an array of homemade instrumentation, as well as crowded with the best in Dadaesque lyrics.

Murfreesboro is not a city lacking for musical acts. We are often, however, a musically inundated city lacking for musical splendor. Every now and again, this city is graced with a presence so ridiculously splendid and haunted it outdoes any other mass of musicality



Photo provided by The Sleepy Gorilla Museum

Sleepytime Gorilla Museum's kinetic bassist and lead songwriter Nils Fryl identifies with an early 20th century American Futurist group and the "black mathvement."

available to the nearest to make you happy, do I? eardrum.

That's the best explanation I can give for the amazement Sleepytime Gorilla Museum will offer. And if that isn't enough, well, I just don't know how

Sleepytime Gorilla Museum is scheduled to perform Tuesday at the Boro Bar & Grill, 1211 Greenland Dr.

Open the show at around

9 p.m. will be Murfreesborown Juan Prophet Oration followed by n Fables. Cover chairs \$7. For more info check out: [www.sleepygorillamuseum.com](http://www.sleepygorillamuseum.com).

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# The Secret Lair rises from What It Is' ashes

## The new comic book shop recycles an old favorite

By David Lawrence

For 20 years, there was a comic book store located at 1511 East Main St., a simple stone's throw away from MTSU. It was a place where people from all walks of life could gather and read the latest independent books or play with the newest collectable card game.

This eclectic shop was open until November of last year, when illness forced owner Kevin Rhodes to close the doors.

But like the phoenix, or any random cast member of *X-Men*, the store has risen from the ashes.

One name change later, and What It Is has become The Secret Lair.

And the person responsible for this is none other than former production and graphic designer, Michael Teeter.

"We want this place to

be not just a comic book store, Teeter said. "There are a lot of good memories here and we're trying to give comic book aficionados a causal atmosphere where they can hang out."

Referring to a longtime staple of the store, the independent comic, Teeter said that The Secret Lair can still be counted on.

Meaning that besides the latest issue of *Superman* and *The Amazing Spider-Man*, customers can expect to see comic books like *Ninja High School* and the underground classic, *Milk & Cheese*.

Providing alternatives to the bigger company books is pretty much what the store is about and this is one thing that won't change.

So what else can the customer expect to find at The Secret Lair?

"We're trying to get the Magic and Gathering

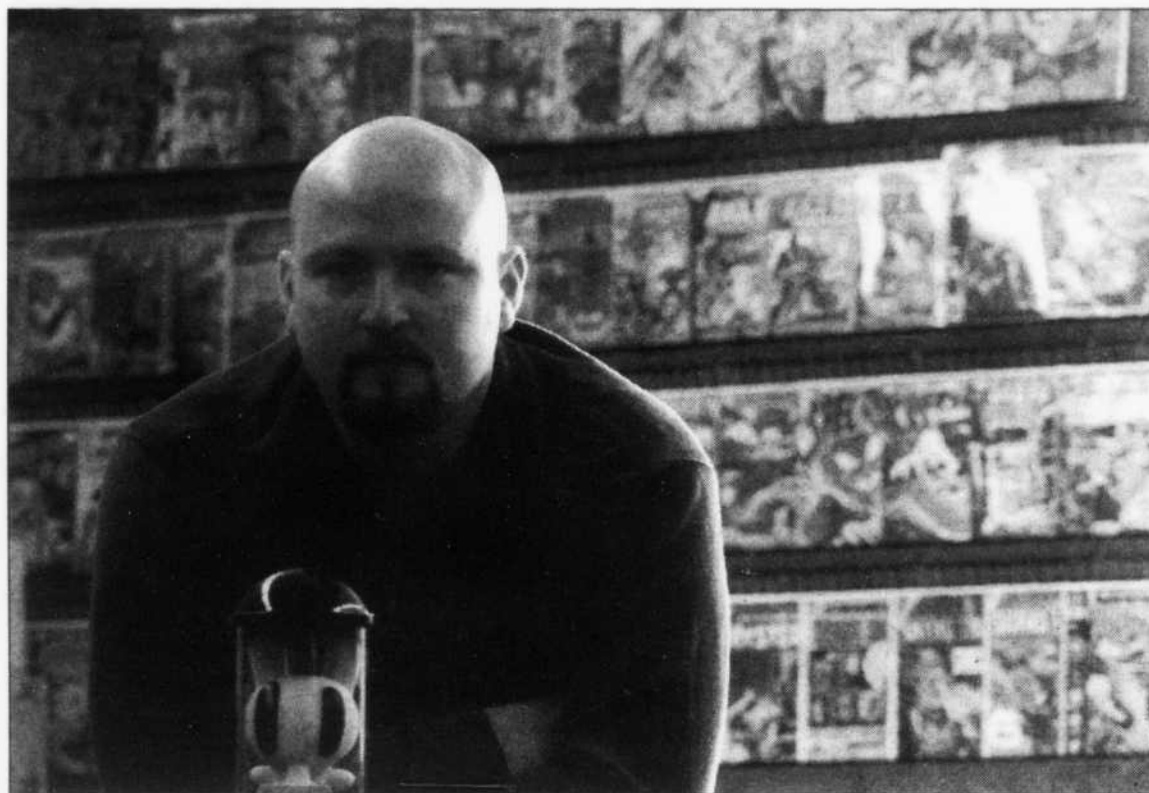


Photo by Micah Miller

**Michael Teeter, owner of the retooled Secret Lair comic book shop, stares down at customers over vintage comics.**

games started, along with some more role playing games," Teeter said. Of course, things will still be the same in some regards.

The only real problem facing the store is that all new books won't be

shipped until later this month, but aside from that, things will be back to normal in a few weeks.

The store hours are still the same and customers are encouraged to stop by as often as possible.

For first time customers, now would be the perfect time to drop by because there will be a massive sale on everything in the store and they do mean everything.

The sale ends Sunday. ♦

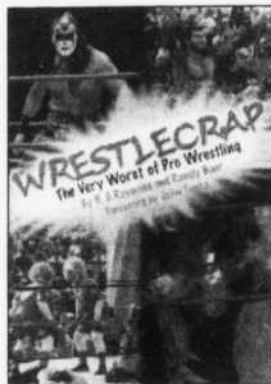
# Sweaty, spandexed wrestlers abound in 'Wrestlecrap'

By David Lawrence

In this day and age when we hear the words "professional wrestling," the image of Stone Cold Steve Austin flipping crowds off with his middle finger or The Rock raising the People's Eyebrow might spring to mind.

But for every single Austin, there is at least one guy flopping around in an oversized turkey costume.

Randy Baer started a Web site with the late



## Wrestlecrap:

**The Very Worst of Pro Wrestling**

R.D. Reynolds and Randy Baer

ECW Press

☆☆☆ 1/2  
(out of four stars)

Merle Vincent on April Fools Day 2000, to showcase what they thought was the worst in wrestling.

By 2001, the site had

grown so large that it was no longer able to handle the traffic. But such a monument to badness couldn't stay down forever.

The Web site rose again, albeit in a much smaller form.

The ECW Press company later approached Baer and his wrestling comrad R.D. Reynolds – hoping to translate the Web site into book form.

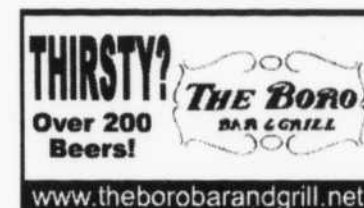
Now it's obvious that Baer knows his stuff because each chapter is filled to the brim with tales concerning the various snafus behind the scenes of professional wrestling and the odd behavior of both

the wrestlers and the promoters. This may be the only fault of the book.

Baer tries to cram so much information into his book that he seems to lose his point midway through.

When discussing Hulk Hogan's power trip in World

**See Wrestlecrap, 8**



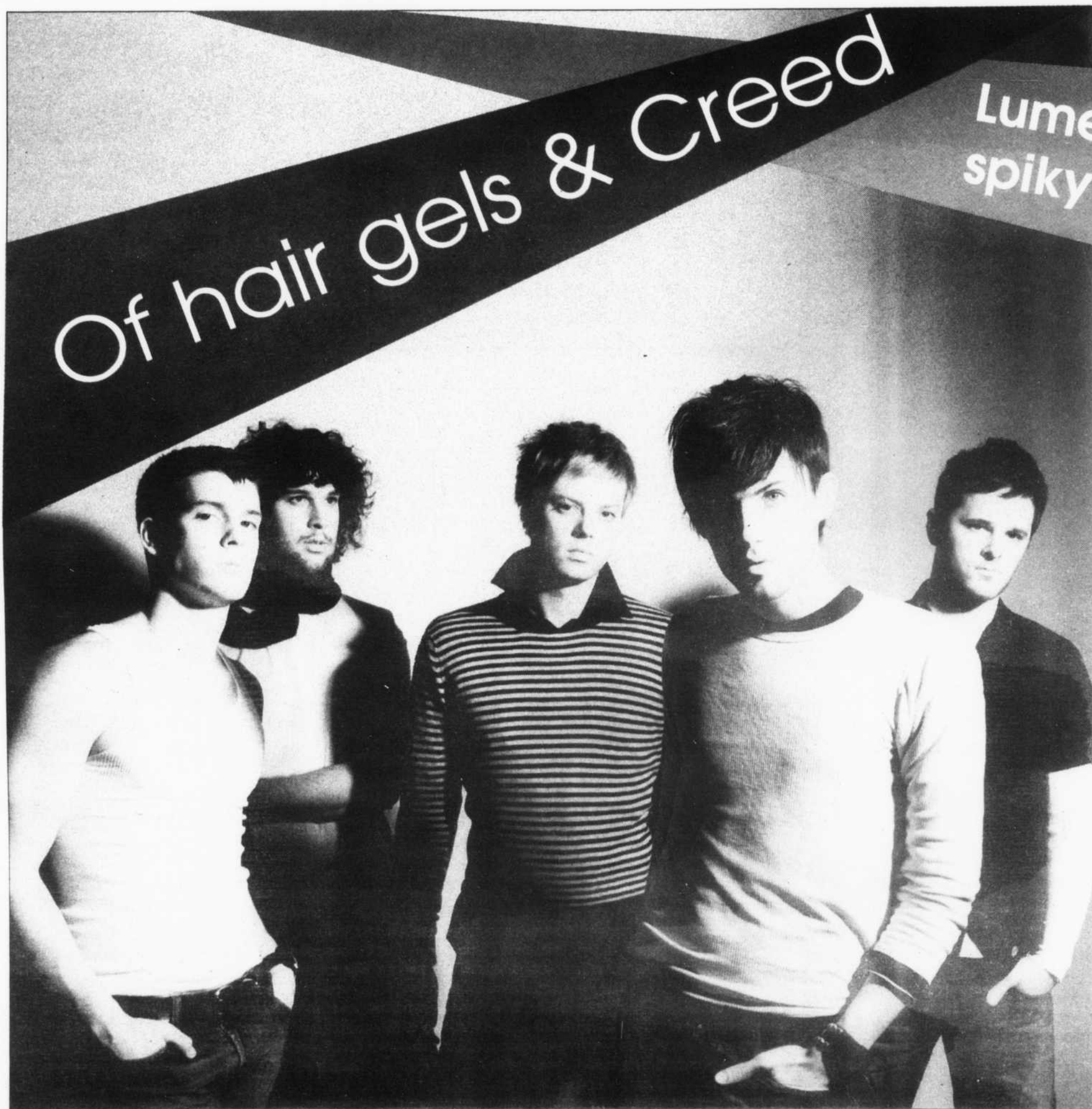


Photo provided by Micah Horton

Lume is composed of Micah Horton (guitar/vocals), Matt Fisher (drums), Matt Schwandt (guitar/vocals), Tom Hockensmith and Jeff Zuehlke (bass).



# Vocalist Tom Hockensmith talks about his hair and Nashville's punchy indie rock scene

Recently, (flash)zz editor Joey Hood drank coffee with Tom Hockensmith, Lume's ultra-talented, swanky-haired lead vocalist and discussed the band's music, career and future. Lume is on the forefront of Nashville's burgeoning independent rock scene with their rustic interpretation of country music, paired with the more contemporary emo-rock reflection.

By Joey Hood

**Joey Hood:** So, what is your earliest musical memory?

**Tom Hockensmith:** Actually that would probably be my dad having his musician friends over. It would be Saturday night and they would play Eric Clapton and Stevie Ray Vaughan. I really enjoyed their white man blues.

**JH:** In our previous interview on MTSU's campus radio station, WMTS 88.3, you mentioned singing in a church choir as a little kid. My question to you is this; have you ever considered a career as a Christian rocker?

**TH:** There was a point in my life where church was my only musical outlet. I'm not a Christian rocker by any means. I'll probably get ousted from the church for saying that.

**JH:** So Creed doesn't do it for you musically?

**TH:** I can't stand Creed. Actually, Incubus takes a dig at Creed in their new single on radio. It's really funny. Have you heard it?

**JH:** I never listen to the radio.

**TH:** I don't listen that much either.

**JH:** Also during our previous interview, I became quite fond of your spiky hair. Now is your hair naturally spiky or do you gel it up?

**TH:** (laughs) It's Bumble N' Bumble hair gel. Actually, this delves into my day job. I work for hair salons where I make sure all Nashville area salons are adequately stocked. Sometimes, I keep the gels for myself. Otherwise, I can never afford it.

**JH:** Just curious, what album in your record collection are you most ashamed of?

**TH:** (pauses briefly) I can't believe you asked that question. I would have to say Kylie Minogue's *Fever*. When she shakes her ass, it makes you want to buy the record.

**JH:** Deplorable. I think with the rampant ass shaking and the pilfering of hair care products, the Christian church will not be inviting



Lume's debut disc, *Extended Play* earned the affection of Nashville's benevolent indie rock crowd.

you back anytime soon. But moving onto another topic, let's talk briefly about *Extended Play*. I hear that your album is doing quite well on the *College Music Journal's* indie rock chart.

**TH:** That's actually *EP2*. *Extended Play* ended up in *CMJ's* top 100 for two weeks. But our most recent effort ended up in the

top 10 for two months. Actually, *EP2* hasn't been released to record stores. We're putting a demand out for *EP2*. You can tell that we're really creative about our album titles, can't you?

**JH:** Oh, don't I know it. Speaking of recent successes, though, I've also heard that *EP2's* "Ghost of John Wayne" received airplay on MTV. How did that come about?

**TH:** The way "Ghost of John Wayne" got on MTV was crazy. Randomly, some guy from Los Angeles called us. And he was like, "I got your disc. A contact from Warner Chapel gave me your disc." And then he put "Ghost of John Wayne" into the *Camp Jim* show. Also he put us on NBC's *Iron Man* competition. The funny thing is that we don't know any of these people at all.

**JH:** That's weird.

**TH:** Yeah.

See **Lume**, 6

## Lume: Humdrum bands strut their stuff

Continued from **Lume**, page 5

**JH:** My nonchalant interviewing skills are confirmed with this next question, or rather command. Tell the [flash] readers about Humdrum and how they can become involved with Nashville's burgeoning rock scene. Begin.

**TH:** Humdrum is hard to explain. It began with a bunch of musicians sitting around in Sherlock's Pub and complaining about the industry. We wanted to make something happen on our own. So basically we formed this band coalition. Anybody can come to the table whether you have a little or a lot to contribute. We pretty much let anyone become involved with Humdrum as long as they're passionate about music.

**JH:** So is Humdrum mostly an organization for indie rock bands?

**TH:** Pretty much. We have some friends in pop bands that are involved with Humdrum though. The whole idea of us putting out the compilation is for the newer bands that don't have much exposure. And then we have Imaginary Baseball League and our band that are able to play regional shows. So we take these compilations with us on the road to make people

more aware of what's going on in Nashville.

**JH:** So how would an indie rock fan like myself become involved with Humdrum?

**TH:** Well we have monthly meetings. Anyone is invited to the meetings at Blue Sky Court. Basically, it's just a way to network and communicate with other people. It's almost a social club too.

**JH:** Unfortunately, I think that our time together is drawing to a close. As you can see, I brought my own personal copy of *Extended Play* to the interview. I was contemplating whether or not I should force you to autograph my copy. But then I told myself, "Joey, don't be an ass." I talk to myself occasionally, you see.

**TH:** (laughs) Actually nobody hounds us for autographs in Nashville. At regional gigs, there's always a couple of girls in the audience that will want autographs. It kind of makes me feel uncomfortable. (pauses) Thanks for not making me sign your copy of *Extended Play*.

**JH:** You're welcome.

Check out all things Lume at [www.lumeonline.com](http://www.lumeonline.com) ★

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spell check"**

-Dan Quayle

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## [Club Listings]

### Thursday, February 19th

**Boro Bar & Grill:** Sweet Pea's Revenge, 9:30 p.m., \$5-7.

**The End:** Avondale, Spiral, Trent Baggs 9 p.m., \$5.

**Exit/In:** Bobby Pinson & Petty Cash, Dtox, 9 p.m., \$5.

**The Five Spot:** Robert Howell & the Visitors, 9 p.m.

**Springwater:** Lylas, Carey Kotsionis, Tim Carroll, 10 p.m., \$5.

**★Wall Street:** Natty Love Joys, 9 p.m., \$5.

**Windows on the Cumberland:** The Zipper Kings, 10 p.m.

### Friday, February 20th

**Boro Bar & Grill:** Pray for Mojo, 9:30 p.m., \$5-7.

**Blue Sky Court:** Return to Self, Deadlock, SimpleSide, From Within 9 p.m., \$5.

**The End:** Adam McIntyre, The Velcro Stars, Bubblegum Complex, 9 p.m., \$5.

**★Exit/In:** Starvy Fundraiser featuring Luna Halo, Green Rode Shotgun, Luxury Liners, Fritz, 9 p.m.

**The Five Spot:** Blackberry, Clearance Creek Band 9 p.m.

**The Mercy Lounge:** Buddy & Julie Miller, Matthew Ryan, 9 p.m., \$12.

**The Muse:** Lojaque & the Flaming Nadsbits, 9 p.m., \$5.

**Red Rose:** Volcano I'm Still Excited, The Midnight Elvis, The Bang Up, 9 p.m., \$5.

**The Sutler:** Jason Horowitz, 9 p.m., \$5.

**Wall Street:** Rooftop Society, Flesh Machine, Trey Wooten, 9 p.m.

**Windows on the Cumberland:**

Guta, 11 p.m., \$5.

### Saturday, February 21st

**12th & Porter:** 12th Annual Bob Marley Birthday Tribute featuring Mystic Meditations, 9 p.m.

**All American Sports Grill:** Krosstown Traffic, 10 p.m., \$4.

**Blue Sky Court:** Bombshell Crush, The Issues, Face the Day, The Beauty School Dropoutz, 9 p.m., \$5.

**Exit/In:** The Ultimate Led Zeppelin Experience, 9 p.m., \$8.

**The Mercy Lounge:** The Soundtrack of Our Lives, 9 p.m.

**★The Five Spot:** The Hotpipes, Lylas, Carey Kotsionis, 9 p.m.

**Springwater:** Space Plans, Brandy Haile, Outlaw Family Band, Grand Fury, 10:30 p.m., \$5.

**Wall Street:** Luna Halo, Miguel, 9

p.m.

**Windows on the Cumberland:** Ball Hog, 10 p.m.

### Sunday, February 22nd

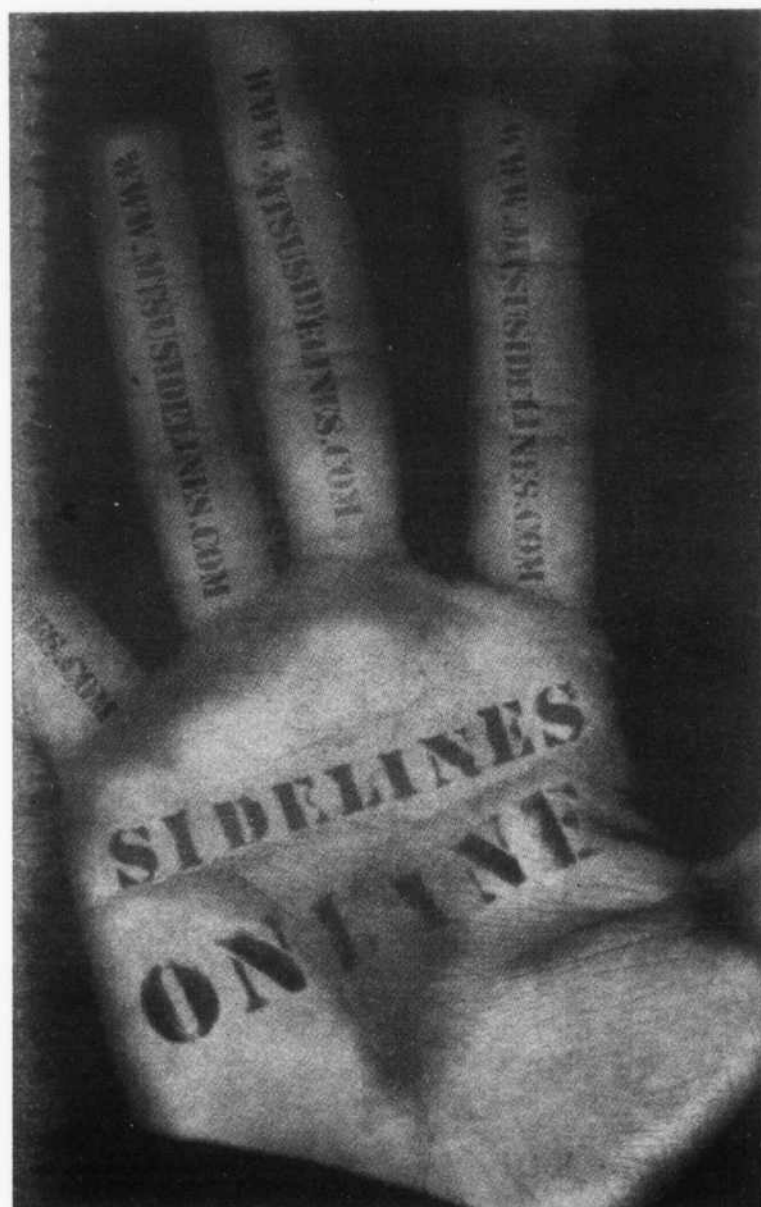
**3rd & Lindsley:** Bernie Leadon, 9 p.m., \$10.

**★12th & Porter:** Strange Celebrity, Del Giovanni Clique, 9 p.m.

**Springwater:** Jackie-O-Motherfucker, The Cherry Blossoms, Taiwan Death, David Cloud's Gospel of Power, 9:30 p.m., \$5.

**Windows on the Cumberland:** Dissidence, Totem Soul, 8 p.m., \$5. ★

A ★ denotes the official [flash] pick of the night.



## Wrestlecrap: 'Pretty darn funny'

Continued from page 3

Championship Wrestling from 1994 to 1996, he seems to be building up the arrival of the New World Order. Yet the next chapter deals with Vince McMahon's foray into the world of professional bodybuilding in the early '90s.

But all that insanity aside, the book is pretty darn funny.

The egos involved in the production of this sport will make you wonder how anything gets accomplished.

The authors feature both the World Wrestling Entertainment and the now defunct WCW promotions, with special chapters devoted to Hulk Hogan's disastrous dive into Hollywood and the mass insanity otherwise known as The Ultimate Warrior.

Baer keeps his sense of humor throughout *Wrestlecrap* and just hearing the account of wrestling

star Shockmaster making his debut by tripping through a breakaway wall and falling on his face will leave a grin on yours.

All in all, *Wrestlecrap* is a must read for any fan of sports entertainment or the non-fan as well.

Although if you're not a fan, this book might convince you that you were right in your decision.

*Wrestlecrap* is available through both the Web site (<http://www.wrestlecrap.com>) and most online retailers. ★

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