

Entertainment

Ethel Simmons editor/644-1100



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Bugs 'Gangster' Beddow funks at Baker's



ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Bugs Beddow (seated) is flanked by members of his band — Robert Cole (left), Steve Bostick, Robert Tye and Skeeto. They play at Murdock's in Rochester through New Year's Eve.

HIS NAME recalls the gangsters of the 1930s. In fact, as a teen-ager and Dixieland musician at Birmingham Groves High School, he was known as Bugs, the Gangster of the Trombone.

Now he's just Bugs Beddow, the trombone-playing leader of one of the area's best jazz groups. The band has been featured at Baker's Keyboard Lounge and at the Moutreux Detroit Kool Jazz Festival.

With his first album, which has been out about a year, doing very well locally, Beddow is planning a European tour. "It's time to send a trombone player over there to represent Detroit," says Beddow, 30, an Oak Park resident.

Beddow is planning his second album. "I'm not sure of the name of the album yet," he concedes, "but I've got one tune written already."

That tune is called "Bugs Funks Egypt." "It's a whimsical, funky song," says Beddow, "and it's another indication of the kind of energy we put forth every time we play."



on music

James Windell

WHEN MARK Barnowski — one of the members of the Birmingham-based family group of seven brothers and sisters who make up Relation — was on the nationwide TV program "Star Search," he went head-to-head against Sam Harris.

Harris won and his career is booming. But Relation and Barnowski aren't doing so badly either.

They've just released their second album, called "Only a Heart Away," which was produced by Kim Fowley and David Carr and recorded in Los Angeles.

Made up of tunes that will undoubtedly get Top 40 and Adult Contemporary airplay, this is some of the best material to come from Relation.

The group is finding the initial sales going very well. "We did a couple of songs and went in to sign autographs,"



ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Bugs Beddow also plays the flute, but in high school at Birmingham Groves he was known as the Gangster of the Trombone.

says Barnowski about a promotion at Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield recently. "And the store sold every album it had."

"Only a Heart Away" is available at many local record stores.

with a new album is one led by Wendell Harrison. Called "Reawakening," the album is the sixth that Harrison has self-produced and sold both locally and internationally.

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