

STREET BEATS

Stew has a musical motivator

By Jill Hamilton
special writer

Missionary Stew is the name of a band whose members have decided that they definitely do not want to be missionaries. The name just sort of happened.

"We were writing down names stream-of-consciousness by looking through a T.S. Eliot book," said lead guitarist for the band, Chris Gallivan. "We looked through it and wrote down words that looked cool."

"The question of whether or not to become musical missionaries actually was a consideration for the band members because they are a decidedly religious band."

"I am a Christian, speaking for myself," Gallivan said. "But I just like to play music. It's not done with a mission in mind. I just want to give people a good show from a good rock band."

"I can't say it's a band viewpoint but religion does play a big part. Not organized religion, but more like God. It's just a part of life. We don't want to be only a Christian band and we don't want to paint ourselves in a corner. We try to write as honestly as possible."

The Christian beliefs are deeply embedded in most of the band members. "We were all a part of the Christian music scene at one point, but we kind of grew out of it."

They made a conscious decision to stay away from the Christian music scene.

"WE DON'T want to play just for Christians," Gallivan said. Besides, most of the music that the band members were listening to was not Christian music.

"The bands we like are secular," said Gallivan. He added he and his fellow band mates have a "stew" of musical influences. Gallivan himself likes bands like the Waterboys, U2 and the Alarm.

Bands that sing about more than just girls, girls, girls, he said.

The keyboardist, Jeff Woods — likes tech-music and was trained for 14 years as a classical pianist. He has played with several symphonies. The singer, Don Roddy, prefers the sound of 70s music and country-western



Their name has religious overtones and some admit they are Christian, but Missionary Stew members have decided they don't want to be missionaries.

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— Chris Gallivan

while the drummer, Todd Kulman, is into alternative college music.

"When we come together, everyone has to compromise, so we definitely come up with a unique sound," Gallivan said.

The unique sounds of Missionary Stew can be heard on their latest CD, "Childhood." The CD is doing very well. On a Toledo station, it was the No. 2 song for 1990 and area stations like WHIP, CIMX and WLTX, the Oakland University station have all been playing it.

The religious message of the songs is very subtle. If you want to look for religious overtones, they are there. But they are not at all strident or obvious.

THIS IS in line with the band's philosophy.

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IN CONCERT

- **STEVE WOOD & THE PARADISE ALLEY JAZZ BAND** Steve Wood & the Paradise Alley Jazz Band will perform Monday, March 18, at Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University. Detroit. For information, call 823-2355.
- **CUPPA JOE** Cuppa Joe will perform Monday, March 18, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor. For information call 996-2747.
- **PONTIAC** Pontiac will perform Tuesday, March 19, at the Blind Pig, 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. For information, call 966-8555.
- **WEEPING RACHEL** Weeping Rachel will perform with Happy Accidents Tuesday, March 19, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-2747.
- **SKA NIGHT** The Toasters, The Hustlers and The Exchange will perform Wednesday, March 20, at the Majestic Theater, 4140 Woodward, near Alexandrine, Detroit. Doors open 9 p.m. For information, call 833-5100.
- **ORANGE ROUGHIES** Orange Roughies will perform with guests Langston Hicks, Wednesday, March 20, at the Blind Pig, 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-8555.
- **GOON SKWAD** Goon Skwad will perform Wednesday, March 20, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-2747.
- **JOHNNY WINTER** Johnny Winter will perform Wednesday, March 20, at the Neotarsus Ball Room, 510 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Doors open 9 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50. Motor City Blues Project will open. For information, call 99-MUSIC.
- **LEEAN** Leean, vocalist and comic entertainer will perform Wednesday, March 20, at Cross Ypsianti, 511 W. Cross, Ypsilanti. For information, call 469-9599.
- **WILD KINGDOM/CAPTAIN DAVE** Wild Kingdom will perform 6 p.m. Thursday, the cover, March 22, and Captain Dave and the Psychodelic Lounge Cats will perform 8 p.m. to close cover, at the Blind Pig, 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-8555.
- **NEO-DADA** Neo Dada will perform Thursday, March 21, at Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University. Detroit. For information, call 823-2355.
- **DARREN SMITH** Darren Smith will perform with guests Amy Bils, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 21, at The Ark, 637 1/2 S. Main, Ann Arbor. Admission is free. For information, call 99-MUSIC.
- **BLUES TRAVELER** Blues Traveler will perform Thursday, March 21, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-2747.
- **MISS JONES** Miss Jones will perform with guests Pedestrians Thursday, March 21, at Club 21, 419 1/2 N. Main, near 1/2 of Clio Road, Hix, Hix. For information, call 596-3344.
- **AZALIA SNAIL** Azalia snail will perform with guests Supreme Ducks and Hoosiers Thursday, March 21, at Club Hoosier, 215 N. Main, Ann Arbor. For information, call 994-3562.
- **RASTAMERRIANS** Rastamerrians will perform Thursday, March 21, at Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross, Ypsilanti. For information, call 469-9599.
- **RAY GOODMAN AND BUGS BEDDOW** Ray Goodman and Bugs Beddow will perform Thursday, March 21, at Auburn Lakes Village Pub. For information, call 852-1719.
- **CROSSED WIRE** Crossed Wire will perform Friday, March 22, at the Blind Pig, 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-8555.
- **JOHNNY 'YARD DOG' JONES** Johnny 'Yard Dog' Jones will perform Friday, March 22, at the Other End Lounge, 3850 M. Ave., Taylor. For information, call 278-4540.
- **MISSSED IN DIARY** Missed in Diary will perform with guests Mervin Mervin and Buckleups, Friday, March 22, at Finney's Pub, 399 1/2 Woodward, near Alexandrine, Detroit. For information, call 872-8934.
- **LIL' ED & THE BLUES IMPERIALS** Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials will perform Friday, March 22, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-2747.
- **ANNE BE DAVIS** Anne Be Davis will perform with guests, Skinfid, Friday, March 22, at Club Heidelberg, 215 N. Main, Ann Arbor. For information, call 994-3562.
- **DOG SWING** Dog Swing will perform with Pop Star Hiddle and Nero Beatz Friday, March 22, at Hamtramck Pub, 2048 Caniff, off I-75. For information, call 365-3829.
- **MARIO & BOY SMILING** Mario & Boy Smiling will perform Friday, March 22, at Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit. For information, call 823-2355.
- **SHY** Shy will perform Friday, March 22, at Lulu's, 21, 2920 Jacob, Hamtramck. For information, call 875-6555.
- **ULTRASONICS** Ultrasonics will perform Friday, March 22, at Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross, Ypsilanti. For information, call 469-9599.
- **PHINEAS GAGE** Phineas Gage will perform Friday, March 22, at Finney's Pub, 399 1/2 Caniff, near Jos. Campus, Hamtramck. For information, call 872-8934.
- **CONQUERROOTS** Conquerroots will perform Saturday, March 23, at the Other End Lounge, 3850 M. Ave., Taylor. For information, call 278-3859.
- **CULTURE BANDITS** Culture Bandits will perform with guests Planet of Fun, Saturday, March 23, at Club Eek, 2941 John R, near 12 Mile Road, Madison Heights. For information, call 544-1296.
- **HAPPY ACCIDENTS** Happy Accidents will perform with The Hermans and Weeping Rachel Saturday, March 23, at Finney's Pub, 399 1/2 Woodward, near Alexandrine, Detroit. For information, call 872-8934.
- **CYNTHIA DEWBERRY & FRIENDS** Cynthia Dewberry & Friends will perform from Friday and Saturday, March 22-23, at Bird of Paradise, 217 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. For information, call 862-8219.
- **CODE BLUE** Code Blue will perform Saturday, March 23, at Molly Dicks, 1662 Schaefer, north of Michigan Avenue, Dearborn. For information, call 581-3650.
- **FREEMANS** Freemans will perform with Glam to Fame Saturday, March 23, at the Hamtramck Pub, 2048 Caniff, off I-75. For information, call 365-3829.
- **BEEDICK RUN** See Dick Run will perform Saturday, March 23, at Lulu's, 21, 2920 Jacob, Hamtramck. For information, call 875-6555.
- **FUNK FEET II** Funk Feet II will take place Saturday, March 23, and features Enemy Squad, Rick Planet and The Dirty Boss. The Feet will take place at the Majestic Theater, 4140 Woodward, near Alexandrine, Detroit. Doors open at 9 p.m. For information, call 833-5700.
- **ROBIN HOLCOMB** Robin Holcomb will perform 7 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at Alvin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit. Tickets are \$10 in advance. Her band includes Wayne Horvitz, Doug Wiselmann, Dave Holstra and Danny Frank. For information, call 99-MUSIC.
- **JUICE** Juice will perform Saturday, March 23, at the Blind Pig, 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-8555.
- **BUTLER TWINS** Butler Twins will perform Saturday, March 23, at Auburn Lakes Village Pub, 21 S. Squared, Auburn Heights. For information, call 852-1719.
- **STRANGE BEDFELLOWS** Strange Bedfellows will perform Saturday, March 23, at Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross, Ypsilanti. For information, call 469-9599.
- **LARRY MCCRAY** Larry McCray will perform Saturday, March 23, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-2747.
- **STEVE GORNALL & THE BLUE COLLAR BLUES BAND** Steve Gornall & The Blue Collar Blues Band will perform Saturday, March 23, at the Station Lounge, 25410 Michigan, Ave., between Morriam and Venus roads, Wayne. For information, call 721-3860.
- **PRIMAL SHELLS** Primal Shells will perform with guests Phoebe Sketch Saturday, March 23, at Club Heidelberg, 215 N. Main, Ann Arbor. For information, call 994-3562.

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CUTTING EDGE

Here are 10 LPs in heavy rotation on "The Cutting Edge" which is heard 4 1/2 nights a week from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. on CIMN-FM 87.7.

1. The Futures - Rhythm Corps
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3. X - INXS
4. Out of Time - R.E.M.
5. The Soul Cages - Sting
6. Reverberation - Echo & the Bunnymen
7. MC/MX & the Enigma
8. Candy Candy - Book of Love
9. All Shook Down - Replacements
10. Duab! - Jesus Jones

LOCAL

Here are the top 10 songs on "Detroit Music Scene" which is heard 4 1/2 nights a week from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. on WJLB-FM 89.9.

1. Weight of the World - Dave Navé
2. Freedom - Chemical Wedding
3. Like Her a Lot - The Grins
4. Living Without You - Joey Harlow
5. Revolution - Mega City Four
6. The Heart of the Matter - The Zoo
7. Pace Turner - Grady Hayes
8. The Beat Goes On - Park the Karma
9. Voices from Earth - In Autumn
10. Sliding - Third Forest Animals



Dream Day holds onto its sounds

By Larry O'Connor
staff writer

Eleventh Dream Day is a loud, crunching guitar band and yet has a cunning knack for melodies and hooks. The band's first major label release was a resounding success, charting on college play lists across the country. A year of the United States and Europe ensued, exposing the band to the whims and wants of the rock'n'roll world. Obviously, a follow-up record would be needed. Updence was in order. A studio with lots of sand and blue water with all the amenities, yes, that was the trick. And a producer with some French marmite, of course. The actual writing for the recording of this badge of rock'n'roll activity "A Born A Born"

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REVIEWS

SAINTS AND SINNERS — Kane Roberts

In every person there is a little saint and a little sinner. This comprises the theme concept for every song as well as the title for Kane Roberts' debut solo release on Geffen Records. It is called, aptly, "Saints and Sinners."

Most Alice Cooper fans will already know that Kane Roberts worked with Cooper on the shock rocker's last album, but you may not know Roberts has also performed with Rod Stewart and Berlin.

"Saints and Sinners" was produced by Desmond Child, who has cowritten and produced with the likes of Bon Jovi, Kiss, Aerosmith and Mötley Crüe.

Kane Roberts' style has always been pretty much straight forward primal rock. But with the versatile input of Desmond Child, there is more variety to "Saints and Sinners" than Roberts has been known to show on his own. Then again, Desmond Child has been known to over-commercialize bands.

"Saints and Sinners" is somewhere in between. Most of the songs are good with a wiffenious undertone.

"Twisted" is such a song. It's pretty good, and pretty predictable. It sounds like a whole lot like Joan Jett and the Blackhearts.

The songs "Helter Skelter" is a classic squatter of both Roberts' and Child's influences.

There is even a Bon Jovi cut, "Does Anybody Really Fall in Love Any more?" in the package.

Roberts has not only worked in the studio with Alice Cooper, he has contributed lead guitar and vocals on his last two tours. Consequently, Alice Cooper has a sizeable influence on Roberts' material. This is most apparent in songs like "Fighter" and "Wild Nights."

All together there are 10 songs in the "Saints and Sinners" package. The songs are pretty much in synch with what Desmond Child has produced in the past.

There is no doubt that the album packs punch, and for the most part, it does it in a propitious way.

— Joseph Hoffmann



HAVANA 3 A.M. — Havana 3 A.M.

This is a hard one to call on the Havana 3 A.M. mix. A lot of people in England. There are four guys in the band — Paul Simonon, Steve Davis, Gary Mynack and Travis Williams.

Now that all that official stuff is out of the way, what does the band sound like? Good question.

I asked a few people to listen to this CD and find influences. There are the comparisons I get: The Cars, the Hellephants, Siamese, Blaze, Springsteen, Hummer.

And that seems to be the problem with Havana 3 A.M. — they just aren't enough of anything. Some of their songs rock, but they don't rock enough. They are too reeking to be like music. They are not quite alternative sounding, but not alternative sounding enough.

Oh they try to be unusual. The song "Death in the Afternoon" uses Spanish guitar sounds and even has Spanish lyrics. "La Banda" uses a musical a La Banda de matador. "I think it means something about a band playing a song of a matador's escape, but I think Spanish is just one, but twice, so you might want to look it up yourself."



They also stretch beyond the guitar bands drums cliché with a few unusual sounds from instruments like Spanish horns and a harpsichord. This is a step in the right direction, but somehow even this doesn't do much to lift their music out of its oppressive boringness. If it brings me isn't already a word, it should be "boring."

Their experiments are all at attempts at making a diverse sounding record. Now there's absolutely nothing wrong with diversity. See also the Beatles' "The Beatles" aka the White Album, but diversity is not what Havana ends up with on this CD. It's more like lack of focus.

Remember hits like Mr. Mister's "Broken Wings" or Starship's "We Built This City"? Those songs were just sort of there, in all of their mid-tempo bland glory. Well, it's the same with Havana 3 A.M.

Havana's songs are better, but not by much. They're almost good, but their blandness is too overwhelming to stir up much excitement.

Jill Hamilton