

# Street SENSE

## IN CONCERT

Monday, Aug. 17

**GES GRU**  
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Detroit.  
936-2747

**PARADISE VALLEY JAZZ JAM**  
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit.  
832-2355

**BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN**  
The Palace, Two Championship Drive, Auburn Hills.  
377-0100

**LUCY'S ALibi**  
New Way Bar, 23130 Woodward, Farmington Hills.  
541-9870

**MARY MCGUIRE AND MYX RISE**  
Woods in Auburn Hills.  
373-4744

**TRUNCHEONS**  
With Cuckoos at 30, 1815 N. Main, Royal Oak.  
589-3344

Tuesday, Aug. 18

**CHISEL BROTHERS WITH THORNTA DAVID**  
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit.  
832-2355

**BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN**  
The Palace, Two Championship Drive, Auburn Hills.  
377-0100

**P-37 MODULATOR**  
With Shutter at Blondes, 21139 W. Seven Mile Road, Detroit.  
529-8103

**CROWBAR**  
With One Man's Trash and Scully Tears at Blondes, 21139 W. Seven Mile, Detroit.  
535-8108

**UGLY BEIK**  
With Morsel, Crackerbox and Tongue at the Majestic Theatre, 4140 Woodward, Detroit.  
833-0950

**HAMMER**  
With Boyz II Men and TLC at Pine Knob, Two Championship Drive, Auburn Hills.  
377-0100

Wednesday, Aug. 19

**SPIN DOCTORS**  
With Wolf Flowers at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit.  
787-1847

**SOPHIE & HAWKINS**  
Industry, 15 S. Saginaw, Pontiac.  
344-1999

**HALLOWEEN**  
With Aggressive Behavior and Lost Tree at Blondes, 21139 W. Seven Mile, Detroit.  
529-8108

**MARY MCGUIRE AND MYX RISE**  
Gasky, Chocolates, 417 S. Washington, Royal Oak.  
858-8331

**SCOTT STERN AND THE TRUST**  
Using's Body Shop, 22061 Woodward, Ferndale.  
259-1820

**THE URGE**  
Blind Pig, 208 S. First, Ann Arbor.  
996-8555

**LOUDA AND FRIENDS**  
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit.  
832-2355

**BROKEN HOPE**  
With Morbid Saint and Sakoma at the Marquee, 8139 E. Seven Mile, Detroit.  
359-8633

**THE 5 SPECIALS**  
Alley Jam, 508 Monroe, Grosse Pointe, Detroit.  
647-0752

**ZOO**  
Featuring Mek Freehand and Billy Thrope at the Riz, 17580 Faith, Roseville.  
778-8150

**CURPA IDE**  
With Dog and Pony Show and Plasma Bat at Alvin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit.  
832-2355

**ASSEMBLY REQUIRED**  
Blind Pig, 208 S. First, Ann Arbor.  
996-8555

**THE EX-POSEURE**  
With Human Phobia and Ick at Paychecks, 2932 Caniff, Hamtramck.  
874-0254

**THE NAMELESS**  
With Incubates at Lu's 21, 2930 Caniff, Hamtramck.  
875-6555

**CHAKA KHAN AND EL DEBARGE**  
Chene Park Music Theatre, 2600 Atwater, Detroit.  
397-0066

**THE DEAD BAND**  
Gert's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac.  
334-9292

**SAD DREAM HOUSE**  
With Doctors from Another Planet at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward, Detroit.  
831-8070

**CAROLYN STRIHO & THE DETROIT ENERGY**  
The Marquee, 8139 E. Seven Mile Road, Detroit.  
367-8633

**MATRICES**  
Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross, Ypsilanti.  
485-5050

**DR. HECTOR AND THE GROOVE INJECTORS**  
Sully's, 4758 Greenfield, Dearborn.  
546-1520

Thursday, Aug. 20

**3605**  
Alvin's, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit.  
787-1847

**JOE DOCKER**  
With the Neutro Brothers at Pine Knob, Championship Road, 21175, Clarkston.  
427-9439

**STONEHEAD**  
With Muffetrazier and Psychic Playmakers at Blondes, 21139 W. Seven Mile, Detroit.  
529-8108

**BROKEN HOPE**  
With Morbid Saint and Sakoma at the Marquee, 8139 E. Seven Mile, Detroit.  
359-8633

**LAIRINITY**  
Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross, Ypsilanti.  
485-5050

**CAROLYN STRIHO & THE DETROIT ENERGY**  
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit.  
832-2355

**SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL**  
With Thumpeloven and Smoke at Paychecks Lounge, 2932 Caniff, Hamtramck.  
874-0254

**DROVERS**  
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Detroit.  
936-2747

**THE 5 SPECIALS**  
Alley Jam, 508 Monroe, Grosse Pointe, Detroit.  
647-0752

**OZZY OSBOURNE**  
With Ugly Kid Joe at Pine Knob, Two Championship Drive, Auburn Hills.  
377-0100

**DISCIPLINE**  
With Blue Numbus at Paychecks, 2932 Caniff, Hamtramck.  
874-0254

**HAPPY ACCIDENTS**  
With the Infants at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward, Detroit.  
831-8070

See IN CONCERT, 7A



Amazing grace: The Drovers may have had their start playing jigs and reels, but they've been able to go on to blend the sounds of their Irish-American heritage with rock stylings with a good deal of grace.

## Drovers blend rock and tradition



Tin whistles, bodhrans, accordions and fiddles make music steeped in the traditions of Ireland. But don't look for an Irish lilt in talking to The Drovers, a band of Irish-American musicians who've been creating their folk-rock sounds in Chicago. Now they're bringing it to Michigan for us to enjoy.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR STAFF WRITER

By design or out of desperation, the Drovers' sound is damp with the mist of the Emerald Isle.

Tin whistles, bodhrans, accordions and fiddles find their way into the Drovers' folk-rock frolic. Such instrumentation set against edgy pop melodies may make the band something of an anomaly, but also leaves the Chicago-based alternative outfit to constantly slug it out with several unwanted comparisons.

One of the most common is being likened to the bawdy balladry evocated by the Pogues.

Perhaps a more cynical view would go as far to say the Drovers are merely trying to cash in on the current Irish musical phenomenon wrought with U2 megatons, Sinead's love affair with Frank Sinatra and film characters named Decco thinking they're black soul singers. Not so, says fiddle player Sean Cleland.

Many of the group's members were reared on Irish traditional music as Irish-Americans growing up in Chicago, he says. As accomplished musicians, they later went on to perform jigs and reels at cellis in social halls and parishes.

"For whatever reason, we stuck by that music," said Cleland, whose band performs Thursday, Aug. 20, at Rick's Cafe in Ann Arbor.

"We didn't want to do jigs and reels anymore. We want to play the music for everybody. The question was, 'What do you do with this stuff?'"

Avoiding the typical teeny-eyed pub band imitations, the Drovers manage to pull off their synthesis of traditional and rock stylings with a good deal of grace.

Undoubtedly, part of the charm of the band's music comes from an unfettered reverence for Irish folk music heroes such as the Clancy Brothers, the Chieftains and the like.

That said, the Drovers establish a distinctive sound filled with adroit musicianship, intoxicating acoustic-strummed melodies and, most of the time, breathless vocals provided by Kathleen Keane. Keane shares singing duties on the band's CD "World of Monsters" with Mike Kirkpatrick and Dave Callahan.

Songs such as "Love Won't Be" and "Held Your Hand Like Yesterday" are crafted with a splited pop demeanor and gently flavored with Irish folk whereas "Trad Reed," a bodhran-tin

whistle instrumental pays homage to their musical roots.

The Drovers formed on St. Patrick's Day in 1988, staking out as a club act in Chicago's vibrant alternative scene.

"We came from playing all the time, at Irish dances . . . It's a real hands on type of thing," said Cleland, who has been performing Irish traditional music since he was a child. "It's not like we said, 'Let's start a band and do a demo.' It's not like that."

Though the desired result is the same for the Drovers. The band received an enormous amount of exposure in the firefighting action drama, "Backdraft," which was set in Chicago. Director Ron Howard caught the group's act in a North Side club and became infatuated with the band's traditional alternative dance sound.

In the film, the band is featured kicking out some Celtic jams in the scene of the fire chief's retirement party. "It was good for getting press," Cleland said of the group's cinematic debut. "You can't tell what we're about, though."

Those who have difficulty figuring out what the Drovers are about would be advised by band members to simply listen and enjoy the music. Comparisons, such as the one to the Pogues, need not be applied.

The Drovers will perform Thursday, Aug. 20, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-2747.

## STREET SENSE

# Advice about harrassing phone calls 'missed the boat'



Dear Ms. Schiff:

I have just read your column, "Street Sense," in *The Eccentric* on Monday, July 6, 1992. I can't believe your answer to Michelle, a single mother asking your advice about her son's harrassing phone calls from a girl in his class.

You, in essence, told Michelle

that it was OK for this girl to have made the harrassing phone calls just because she is going through difficult years as an adolescent! How can you in good conscience say that this girl's behavior is "within the normal limits of current teenage years?" Since when is calling at all hours to someone's residence acceptable?

Barbara, you, who is supposed to be a trained therapist and experienced counselor, "missed the boat" in your answer!

The problem with this generation is they are told that it is OK not to listen/obey their parents, or God forbid, be acceptable to other adults. Why do you think families are disintegrating so fast now?

It's people like you who give inept advice to say: "It is important not to feel frustrated, embarrassed or angry. If the mother who called you intended to make you feel that way, do not let her be an accomplice to

your loss of self-esteem. When you talk it out with your daughter, it is important that you understand what she is going through and that you tell her you will support her through these difficult years. This would be a victory for both of you."

Michelle should not have "loss of self-esteem," but should be grateful that someone took the time to inform her that her daughter is wrong to annoy and harrasa people. Her daughter needs to be kept busy, i.e., play sports, read books, perform volunteer work, clean her room. Then there would be no "useless free time" to make unwanted phone calls!

Wake up and smell the roses, Barbara, and start giving out some "common sense" in your answers. A.K.

Dear Barbara:  
Have you completely lost your

mind or what? Are you a . . . fruicake or what? Your answer to Michelle, the single mother with the pre-teen daughter who called a boy on the phone to the point of harrasment, was so totally off base! I'm surprised the paper is keeping you on their staff.

Obviously, you have never experienced this type of phenomenon or you, perhaps, do not yet have a teenage child. I can tell you directly from experience that a pestering phone caller can and will make your life a living nightmare. We had such a "Caller from Hell" waking us up at 4 a.m. just to talk to my then 11-year-old son.

Age and sex have nothing to do with common courtesy and consideration for other people. You are sending out the wrong message to this poor adult woman who has turned to you for guidance. Instead your answer is about as useful as a screen door on a submarine!

Where do you got off saying this is the sign of the times? I definitely fall into the age category of 30-50, but my daughters do not. They have been instructed that calling a friend, both male and female, is perfectly normal for reasons as homework information, missing assignments or rides or just to talk. The conditions stated by the boy's mother to this single parent is not what would fall into the above category.

We had to have our phone number changed and a restraining order put on this particular female who was harrassing my son at all hours of the day and night. I now speak from experience and, however extreme this case may sound, it could have probably been prevented by a little intervention from a strong and insistent parent who imposed a little control over a pre-teen's phone habits.

You really need to reassess your

answer and realize part of the problem with the way society is going in that there are counselors out there like you who give half-ass advice like that! Why don't you publish your home phone number in the paper and let us call you at odd hours of the night and day to harrasa you.

I consider myself independent and aggressive, but there is a place and time for this type of behavior to exist in society. I like to think that my own daughters and my son have learned to distinguish between when to use their independence and their aggressiveness so as not to overtake their thought processes and their behavior.

Get with the program yourself, Barbara!

C.A.S.

If you have a question or comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street Sense at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48180.