

Street

STREET SOUNDS

Amplified Heart — Everything but the Girl

Everything But the Girl is one of those bands that everyone has heard at one time or another, but doesn't recognize by name.

But those who do know Everything But the Girl are often devoted fans. In 1985, street fights broke out outside a sold-out show in New York. The duo, Ben Watt and Tracey Thorn, have been chased Beatlemania-style across Italy.

"Everything But the Girl's latest album 'Amplified Heart' (Atlantic) will probably be the album that brings the band that kind of popularity in the United States.

Once again, the lyrics reflect the emotional rollercoaster of life, and the music spans a broad range of musical styles from breezy jazz to moodily orchestrated pieces to songs bordering on a type of folk R&B complete with an almost hip-hop backbeat.

It is the emotional quality of the lyrics that evokes such a strong response from fans. When Thorn sings "I'm walking down your street again/I passed your door but you don't live there anymore

You're long gone and I can't move on" in the song "Missing," you can recall what it is like to walk past a lost lover's house, longing for the love you once shared. The emotion is doubled when Thorn sings the words with what has been called "the most beautiful voice in English pop."

"Amplified Heart" is one of the most beautiful records to be released this year. The music, no matter the style, is always soothing and the lyrics are so easy to relate to that the album should become an instant favorite.

Just watch out for the crowds when Everything But the Girl comes to the Magic Bag Theatre Cafe in Ferndale on Wednesday, Sept. 7. For more information, call (810) 544-3000.

—Eric Darling

Dewdrops in the Garden — Deee-Lite

Deee-Lite hasn't been able to repeat the mainstream success it had with the single "Groove Is in the Heart." And the group's latest release, "Dewdrops in the Garden," doesn't come any closer.

All of the 16 hitless techno songs just seem to blend together. Lyrically, Deee-Lite has lightened up a bit choosing to focus more on love-related lyrics than preachy ones.

But Deee-Lite hasn't given up on any of its causes. On the back page of the CD booklet, they let the listener know "This is a pro-choice album. Support the ERA."

Maybe their live show will fare better. Deee-Lite plays industry in Pontiac on Wednesday, Aug. 24. For more information, call (810) 334-1999.

—Christina Fuoco



Love to: Love Jones is looking for someone who would love to be Detroit's "ambassador of lounge."

You can be a star with Love Jones

A lucky lounge lizard will get a chance to croon with Love Jones during their Thursday, Aug. 25, show at the Burns Room in St. Andrew's Hall in Detroit.

To enter, just write your favorite Love Jones tune from their debut "Here's to the Losers," and why you would be the most qualified "ambassador of lounge" for Detroit on a 3-by-5 index card or a small piece of paper. Pop it in the entry box after the doors open at 8 p.m.

Just prior to show time, the winner will be escorted backstage to meet the band and rehearse. The winner and guests will also get a special fancy, candlelight table by the stage.

But wait, there's more.
At the end of the evening, you'll be kicked out of the band and we'll treat you to a complimentary nightclub before you head home. Plus, if you really show us away with your vocal stylings, we might give you some lovely party gifts. The band says St. Andrew's Hall is at 431 E. Congress, Detroit. The Love Jones show is Thursday, Aug. 25. For more information, call (313) 561-1827.

Mutha's: Enjoying the city life

Mutha's Day Out has left their mark wherever they tour. They may be a little rowdy, but they're just good old country boys at heart.

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER



Wreaking havoc wherever they perform, the hard rock band Mutha's Day Out has almost certainly been called "the band from hell."

A Washington, D.C., clubowner made the band's reputation in a living room through the adrenalin-ridden Southern boys decided to "autograph" after a show. (They're playing the club again and they promise to behave.)

A writer from "Spin" magazine volunteered to be their driver/roadie for a few days. Falling just short of proclaiming them the real-life version of Beavis and Butt-Head, the writer called them "peach-fuzzed rock brats."

In a phone interview earlier this year, bassist Jeff Morgan giggled nervously while wondering what to do when he heard the call waiting beep.

Vocalists Mikal Moore and Brice Stephens chatted with Ricki Rachman on MTV's "Headbanger's Ball." Stephens didn't have too much to say, however. He was trying to figure out where to spit his chewing tobacco.

In another bit of irony, the group's origins are the exact opposite of "hell." The band, which took its name from a chain of day care centers in the South, hails from Batesville, Ark., a tiny town right in the heart of the Bible belt. They're a little rowdy but they mean well. They even seemed to eventually grow on the "Spin" writer. Prior to traveling the world as musicians, the good old country boys worked as diesel mechanics or attendants at local junior (yes) and senior high schools.

Batesville doesn't have sky-scrapers or night clubs. Rock radio doesn't exist.

"It's all farmers and country people," Moore said in his thick Southern drawl. "It don't make no sense to have rock music."

They learned about music from magazines they picked up outside of Batesville. When they read about a band that appealed to them, they picked up the tapes.

MTV is non-existent. Their debut single "Locked" was on regular rotation on "Headbanger's Ball," but their friends and family in Bates-



ville didn't see too much of it. ("My brother, he has it where he lives, he'll tape it and show it to her and she'll be all excited," Moore said about his mother.)

Many of the members hadn't strayed far from Batesville prior to inking the deal with EMI. Now the band marks Paris, France, as the location of its first sold-out show.

All that probably explains why Mutha's Day Out is having a field day.

Signed quickly

Mutha's Day Out was signed to Chrysalis/EMI Records after record company reps saw one gig that the band did on a whim in Nashville. "EMI came and they wanted to sign us after the second song," Morgan said.

"All the local bands were mad at us," vocalist Stephens added. "Mutha's Day Out released its debut 'My Soul Is Wet.'"

The members were so young — the average age at the time was 18 — that bassist Morgan went straight from junior high onto the road. Soon afterward, they were opening for the likes of the Skatena's, Overkill and Sir Mix-A-Lot. This summer they played their first arena show, opening for the chainsaw-happy rockers

Jackyl. Moore, who had gotten used to performing on stage by then, said it was "refreshing" to get nervous again.

"I couldn't even remember the lyrics; I just started screaming loud," Moore said.

Now they're touring with Sugarfoot and Godspeed. The show comes to Harpo's in Detroit on Friday, Aug. 26.

Strict upbringing

They were raised by strict, religious parents. Moore's father is a Pentacostal minister. So obviously, they weren't too keen on the idea of their sons being in a rock band. As a result, Moore became more and more familiar with Mutha's Day Out, a few of the members' parents gave in and now help organize the chaos. Morgan's mom does "fan club stuff," while guitarist Chuck Schaaf's father handles the business.

As family relations changed with Mutha's Day Out, so did the folks in Batesville.

"We've got more friends than we know what to do with," Moore said. One guy, who Moore said "never did like me," told friends in the parking lot where all the Batesville kids hang out that he and Moore go way

back. After this tour ends, the band will return to Batesville. Moore, the "old man" of the band at age 23, is going to get a few personal things done — "I'm fixin' to get a small apartment there."

He hopes to begin work immediately on their second album. Realizing it's a cliché, Moore said the band is going to take a "different direction" — to say it lightly.

"We're trying out a new song now. It has an '80s/metal/Tears for Fears kind of sound," he said. "I've always been a pop fan. I just never really brought it out in the first album." Among his favorites are bands like "the Thompson Twins. Jon Secada stuff — every cheesy thing you can think of. I don't really like metal."

Another of Moore's preferences is gospel music. When he's not with Mutha's Day Out, he's playing in his gospel band.

"The only album collection he has is gospel. It's what we all listen to — even on the road."

Mutha's Day Out performs with Sugarfoot and Godspeed on Friday, Aug. 26, at Harpo's, 1423 Harper, Detroit. Call (313) 824-1700 for more information.

Finney's Pub celebrates 5 years of music

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

For the past five years, the cozy confines of Finney's Pub in Detroit has been regarded as the proving ground for some of Detroit's and the nation's up and coming acts.

Lollapalooza veterans Tsunami played there prior to the big media blitz about them. Now they're moved out to gigging at clubs like The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall where Tsunami will perform Thursday, Aug. 25.

The infamous Dee Dee Ramone brought his act there before heading uptown. Other nationally known groups like Sleep Capsule and Scratch have also honed their skills at Finney's.

The local ska band The Exceptions holds the record for drawing the most people to a Finney's show. (Mental



Landscape takes a close second.) Fellow Detroit bands who have moved on to ensure publication, the best-of-the-best addresses and phone numbers with area codes must be included.

Celebration: Sue Summers has been the person behind booking bands at Finney's Pub in Detroit for about five years.

booking bands there for five years after Chris Ryding gave her a nudge. He had been booking shows there sporadically before Summers, but he gave it up to open the Cosmic Cafe in Detroit.

"I was doing shows independently for a couple of years before that. It was a natural progression," she said about her collaboration with Finney's.

Friday and Saturday, Aug. 26-27, Finney's is celebrating its fifth anniversary of bringing music to Detroit. On Friday, the Detroit band Log will perform with Pittsburgh's The Frampton Brothers. Mark Christopher will also perform an acoustic solo show. Head Injury and Ion's Escort, both from Detroit, will perform on Saturday when the pub will also offer free food, drink specials.

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Information on limited engagements only should be submitted two weeks in advance to: Christina Fuoco, 96251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or by fax at (313) 561-7878. To ensure publication, the best-of-the-best addresses and phone numbers with area codes must be included.

Tuesday, Aug. 23
RUSHMORE
With Tapes at Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Southpark Road, Independence, MI (313) 377-0100

WILSON JOHNSON
3-D, 1815 N. Main St., Royal Oak, (detroit) (313) 568-3344

Wednesday, Aug. 24
MAGNETIC
1140 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (482) 639-8388

IN CONCERT

Big Fish, 700 Town Center Drive, Dearborn, (313) 335-6380

BUENA VISTA
Industry, 15 S. Baginaw, Pontiac, (techonly) (313) 865-8548

EMERSON
Band Pkg. 200-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor, (alternative rock) (313) 965-8548

LOVE JONES
Mick's Dave Jazz Jam session with Raymond and Brian at Alvin's, 5758 Cass, Detroit, (313) 861-4422

SMOKE BLADE
3-D, 1815 N. Main St., Royal Oak, (alternative rock) (313) 568-3344

(313) 963-7680
Thursday, Aug. 25

THURSDAY, AUG. 25
2nd of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor, (jazz) (313) 662-8310

YORKVILLE
With Ion and Godhead at The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (alternative rock), Love Jones performs in the Burns Room, (jazz)

SMOKE BLADE
3-D, 1815 N. Main St., Royal Oak, (alternative rock) (313) 568-3344

BLUE ELEVATOR
Giff's Deli, 439 S. Baginaw, Pontiac, (rock) (313) 864-2922

HOMER
With Overload at Blind Pig, 200-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor, (rock) (313) 965-8548

WEEKEND MUSIC WORKSHOP
With Kaine Limbo and Drop at Alvin's, 5758 Cass, Detroit, (tearjerk) (313) 832-2353

BLUES JAM
With Reeler Man, featuring James Walsh, Bobby East, Oscar Lewis and Jeff Fowles, at Q Club, 25 S. Baginaw St., Pontiac, (blues) (313) 864-7411

HEAD INJURY
Wagon Wheel, 2560 Rochester Road, Troy, (alternative rock)

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