

MOVIES

Embark on a 'Road Trip' with MTV's Tom Green

CARRIE COOPER
SPECIAL WRITER

The college years for some men could mean sex, drugs, parties, girls, and, of course, freedom. But what happens when you abuse that freedom and cheat on your girlfriend?

Some might argue that cheating isn't really cheating if you are in different area codes. But what happens when you videotape your infidelity and the tape is mistakenly mailed to your girlfriend 1,800 miles away? For four guys from Illinois College it means a road trip is in order.

Road Trip, a production of Dreamworks Pictures and The Montecito Picture Co., directed

by Todd Phillips (*Frat House*) and produced by Daniel Goldberg (*Six Days and Seven Nights*) and Joe Medjuck (*Stripes*), attempts to recreate the comedy *American Pie* during the college years.

The film stars Brekin Meyer, Seann William Scott, DJ Qualls, Paul Costanzo, Rachel Blanchard and Tom Green. Green narrates this teen comedy of four guys who take a road trip to Austin, Texas, to retrieve an explicit tape accidentally mailed to a girlfriend.

Josh Porter (Meyer) attends college at Illinois, while his girlfriend Tiffany (Blanchard) attends school in Austin. They have been together since child-

'American Pie' during the college years.'

hood and when Josh doesn't hear from Tiffany for days he assumes she is cheating on him. As committed as Josh is to find himself intrigued by Beth (Amy Smart), who is attracted to him as well.

To Josh it seems harmless and exciting when Beth wants to videotape their night together. But who seems harmless at the time could bring about the end of Josh and Tiffany. After Josh finally hears from Tiffany, he feels guilty. His guilt turns to panic when he finds out that

wrong tape was mailed to her: the one with him and Beth.

With the help of his roommates E.L. (Scott) and Rubin (Costanzo), his friend Kyle (Qualls), and his car, Josh is on his way to Austin. He must get to the tape before the tape gets to Tiffany and he only has a few days to do it.

What was to be a straight shot from Illinois to Austin becomes a humorous adventure. The car is destroyed, the money is gone, they need a place to sleep and

time is not on their side — not to mention the police and Kyle's parents are on their trail.

Each of the young actors in the movie brings his or her own individual talents to this film. Tom Green (MTV's *Tom Green Show*) is typical Tom Green. He narrates the trip in his bizarre yet comedic manner. Brekin Meyer (*Go and Clueless*) is no stranger to teen comedies. He has had several minor roles, but *Road Trip* propels him into the spotlight. Meyer proves he has the talent to be a star.

Seann William Scott has no trouble portraying E.L., a crazy and crude guy, much like the character he played in *American Pie*.

As for Paul Costanzo and DJ Qualls, this is their feature film debut. Both deliver great comedic performances. Keep an eye out for them in the future.

While *Road Trip* is no *American Pie*, it sure is worthy of being placed in the same category of great teen comedies. It's worth the "trip" to the theater.



A trip: Tom Green (right) of MTV's Tom Green Show stars in the summer's first funny adventure, "Road Trip."

Director makes 'small-time' comedy

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
SPECIAL EDITOR
nstafford@oe.homecomm.net

Small Time Crooks, Woody Allen's latest film, is good for a few small time laughs, but pales in comparison to the director's other comedies.

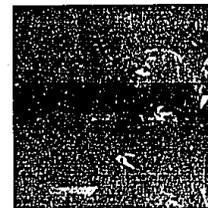
As the title intimates, the film takes us into the lives of a group of inept crooks. The setting is Allen's favorite locale, New York City. And the small time crooks, led by Ray Winkler (Allen), a dishwasher who landed in jail the last time he tried to pull off a robbery, are hatching a scheme to rob a bank.

The plan: buy a restaurant near a bank and get Ray's wife, Frenchy (Tracey Ullman), to run a cookie shop there. Meanwhile Ray and his partners (Michael Rapaport as Benny, Tony Danza as Tommy and Jon Lovitz as Benny) will dig their way to some real dough. That is, tunnel underground to the bank's safe.

The first snag in the plan comes from Frenchy, a manipulator whose content with life and doesn't want to turn over the couple's savings to buy the restaurant.

"We're poor, but we're happy," she tells Ray, as if to warn him money can be dangerous. Besides, you're not a good robber, she says.

Ultimately, Frenchy acqui-



Crooked: From left, Tracey Ullman, Hugh Grant and Woody Allen star in "Small Time Crooks."

oes, but her words prove prophetic. Ray and company fall miserably as crooks they get lost underground and tunnel into a dress shop. On the other hand, Frenchy's cookie dough proves more than delicious, and the entire gang gets rich the good, old-fashioned way — cookie franchises.

A *60 Minutes* style feature on the cookie corporation is clever and witty and serves to bridge the gap between the Winklers as middle-class crooks and wealthy corporate moguls, but the story has taken a quick turn. Unfortunately, more jarring shifts are ahead.

Once content just to be with Ray, Frenchy, a former stripper, is now uneasy about her lack of taste and brooding and enlists an art dealer named David (Hugh Grant) to give the couple a crash course in "the finer things in life."

As usual, Grant plays himself suave and upper-crust but wispy-wispy and blind, so he doesn't lend much to the film.

That wealth wrecks have on the Winklers' lives, the couple's ensuing marital problems and Frenchy's individual struggles are predictable.

The moral of the story — money doesn't buy happiness and often gets in the way of genuine human relationships — is just as predictable.

While there's plenty to laugh about, as Ray and company blunder through their bank robbery plan and Frenchy clumsily climbs the social ladder, audiences have come to expect a more sophisticated brand of humor and wit from Woody Allen than what's present in *Small Time Crooks*.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas	One 50s Mills	Star Theatres	United Artists Theatres	Waterfront Cinema
<p>Warren 8th & 1/2 313-425-7700</p> <p>Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>200 Rockwell Circle 853-2350</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Westland 1-8 6300 Wayne Rd. 313-728-1600</p> <p>One 1/2 S. of Warren Rd. 313-728-1600</p> <p>Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>7501 Woodward S.E. corner 14 1/2 & Williams Lake Rd. 24 Hour Movie Line (248) 666-7908</p> <p>CALL 77 FRIDAY 8:30 PM WEEKENDS 10:00 AM ADDED NEW SCREENING: THE ONLY THEATRE IN OAKLAND COUNTY WITH THE NEW DIGITAL DOLBY DIGITAL SYSTEM AND MORE CHECK OUT OUR ENHANCED PAGING LOT IS NOW OPEN FREE REEL ON POPCORN AND POP</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>
<p>Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449</p> <p>Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show Fri. & Sat. & Sun.</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP FLINTSTONES IN VYVA ROCK VEGAS (PG) NP LOVE AND BASKETBALL (PG13) NP U-571 (PG13) NP FINAL DESTINATION (R) NP EDNA BRUCKOVICH (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>
<p>Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449</p> <p>Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show Fri. & Sat. & Sun.</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP FLINTSTONES IN VYVA ROCK VEGAS (PG) NP LOVE AND BASKETBALL (PG13) NP U-571 (PG13) NP FINAL DESTINATION (R) NP EDNA BRUCKOVICH (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>
<p>Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449</p> <p>Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show Fri. & Sat. & Sun.</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP FLINTSTONES IN VYVA ROCK VEGAS (PG) NP LOVE AND BASKETBALL (PG13) NP U-571 (PG13) NP FINAL DESTINATION (R) NP EDNA BRUCKOVICH (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>
<p>Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449</p> <p>Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show Fri. & Sat. & Sun.</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP FLINTSTONES IN VYVA ROCK VEGAS (PG) NP LOVE AND BASKETBALL (PG13) NP U-571 (PG13) NP FINAL DESTINATION (R) NP EDNA BRUCKOVICH (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Line 12 Mile 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 496 248-335-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP DONOSAUR (PG) NP ROAD TRIP (R) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13) NP BATTLEFIELD EARTH (PG13) NP SKEWED (PG13) NP CLADATOR (R) NP KEEPING THE FAITH (PG13) NP SMALL TIME CROOKS (PG13) NP CENTER STAGE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>

MUSIC

Electronic underground uncovered

BY KEN VANSTEENKISTE
STAFF WRITER

Depending on what demographic and marketing message would place you in, you might not know that electronic music exists, let alone what it sounds like.

And if you're over, say, 50 years of age, chances are you wouldn't even classify a lot of the sounds that we're examining from Detroit's Hart Plaza this weekend as "music."

But, like other technological marvels at the forefront of our national psyche (the Internet is a prime example), electronic music has been simmering within the collective unconscious of its own subculture for more than five decades.

And Detroit has been a worldwide Mecca for aficionados of this art form, a capital of exploration and innovation within its confines. But more on that in a moment...

Like many technologies, those of electronic music had relatively rudimentary beginnings, but

have grown at an explosive pace. In the fifty years or so since its inception, electronic music has become the most popular dish in the pop culture smorgasbord of many European countries, although it has yet to experience a domestic renaissance.

To understand this form of music as expression, one must be acquainted with the material aspects of electronic culture. Or, to put it simply, how the music is made.

It should be obvious that, as a general rule, electronic musicians don't strum guitars. Or blow horns. But in the arts, rules are made to be broken.

The sage of modern electronic music is the DJ. Far from the Rock and Roll radio jocks of yesterday (you, yesterday) the modern DJ doesn't just play songs. Instead, the DJ uses records as her paint, and the speakers are the canvases upon which sonic strokes are made.

Further explanation is in order. The modern DJ doesn't play records one at a time, in a linear progression, announcing each song before it is played.

Rather, the songs (or tracks) as they are more commonly referred to are played at the same time, creating a unique sculpture of living sound that is rarely duplicated.

To the uninitiated, this may seem likely to produce nothing more than a disorganized junkheap of noise. But that is not the case. Most electronic music is produced by using a computer or similar piece of machinery to sequence musical events — notes and drums. Because the music is sequentially "perfect" in its timing, bars can be layered on top of one another, and the two (or more) pieces used to create an entirely new body of music, with unique melodies and rhythms.

All this is achieved by playing two records simultaneously and adjusting the pitch of each until they match and stay in sync — a far more difficult endeavor than you might imagine.

While the DJ plays the tracks live to his audience, someone somewhere has to manufacture