



Singer Ani DiFranco owns a New York-based independent record label. COURTESY PHOTO

Total Control

An increasing number of musicians are forming independent record companies in order to take control of their careers

By Jesse Stephenson
Entertainment Reporter

Imagine having the talent to record a music album for a major record company. Now imagine not wanting to deal with the major labels and deciding to create your own label.

Such is the process that many musicians are following in today's market, including artists Ani DiFranco and Cherry Poppin' Daddies, both of whom will perform on campus this week.

DiFranco first created her independent label, Righteous Babe Records, in 1989 so she could release albums at her own pace and on her own terms, not the terms given to her by music companies.

DiFranco did have some difficulty beginning her career, however. She was forced to borrow money from friends in order to record her first album. Since then, DiFranco has been able to generate enough fan interest to produce a total of eight albums, her latest titled "Dilate."

The albums that DiFranco produces are truly her own. Not only is she responsible for writing her songs and producing her albums, but she also plays the guitar and designs the album cover art. Her music is a style that combines folk music and punk in a unique blend that music fans can recognize immediately as hers.

That DiFranco has become such a success is amazing to many people because she doesn't receive a lot of radio air play, and she doesn't make videos for MTV.

Since becoming known in the music business, DiFranco has received offers to join

HOW TO SEE THEM

■ CHERRY POPPIN' DADDIES:

Tonight at 9:30 at WOW Hall

■ ANI DEFranco:
EMU Ballroom Concert is sold out.



Double Exposure

British husband and wife duo will present violin and piano music Oct. 28 at the School of Music Beall Concert Hall.

Tickets are \$4 for students and \$7 for general admission. The show will begin at 8 p.m.

Roger McAlister

Watercolor paintings by artist Roger McAlister are on display at LCC now through Nov. 8.

An open reception for the display will take place tonight at 7 p.m. at LCC.



Voodoo Glow Skulls

Voodoo Glow Skulls will perform at WOW Hall Oct. 28 with special guests Still Dreadful, Jimmy Eat World and The Varicoasters.

The concert will begin at 8:30. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$8 at the door.

"Be There" is a weekly column highlighting the week's top local entertainment events.

KWVA Top 10

The 10 albums on 88.1, KWVA, as determined by DJ airplay for the week ending Oct. 18.



#1 Operation Heavenly, Heavenly

- #2 Dance Hall at Louse Point, John Parish and Polly Jean Harvey
- #3 The Natural Bridge, Silver Jews
- #4 Now I Got Worry, The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion
- #5 Card Carryin', The Third Sex
- #6 Tiger Stripes Forever, Various
- #7 Snapshot Radio EP, Lois
- #8 'Hype' Soundtrack, Various
- #9 Kaia, Kaia
- #10 Mic City Sons, Heatmiser

'Sleepers' lacks decisiveness

REVIEW **Sleepers**

★★
(flawed script)

■ **WHERE:**
Cinemaworld,
Springfield Quad

■ **STARRING:** Brad Pitt, Jason Patric

■ **DIRECTOR:** Barry Levinson

■ **RATED:** R

By Damon Houx
Freelance Reporter

The problem with "Sleepers" is that it hasn't made up its mind.

That's not to say there isn't an interesting story — there is. And that's not to say there are bad performances — there aren't. But when a movie deals with an issue, it really should decide where it stands on that issue.

"Sleepers" is about four young boys growing up in Hell's Kitchen, a rough area of

New York. The four always hang out together, and they receive guidance from the area's priest, played by Robert De Niro. Their childhood is destroyed by a stupid prank, and the boys end up in reform school, where they are viciously treated, sodomized and raped by the male guards.

One of the boys, played by Brad Pitt, grows up to be a lawyer, and another, played by Jason Patric, becomes a

Turn to **MOVIE**, Page 13A