

The Channel Surfers rock New Beginnings



ALEX MAHAN
Co-A&E Editor

Recently, there has been an explosion of talented bands playing all kinds of Christian music. From punk to funk, ska to hardcore, and rap to metal, these new groups present the more spiritual side of life in a powerful manner. One of these bands is the Channel Surfers, a surprisingly good quartet straight out of Syracuse, Indiana.

Consisting of the standard guitar/bass/drums/lead singer setup, the Surfers manage to do a really good job with what they have. Jon Hill is an amazing bass player, laying down smooth grooves and faster-than-normal licks. Lance Hill, the drummer, busts out dope beats. The trombone and guitar player goes by the name of Tim Bushone, while lead singer Jason Brown busts out rhymes, raps, and rhythms.

At their free concert on May 17 at New Beginnings Christian Center, they showed that their music could get the crowd moving and grooving. Opening was the Mayfair Laundry, a pop quartet who didn't seem to have as much power, but still with a positive message. Also playing was Switchfoot, a surf-rock band out of Southern California. Again, they had talent, but their energy was lacking somewhat compared to the raw hip-hop rock funk of the Channel Surfers.

The Surfers' sound is somewhat of a cross between 311, The Red Hot Chili Peppers, and the Urge, which is definitely a good combination. The audience, who had been laid back and reserved for the first band, finally got up on their feet and moved to the beat. A free compact disc was promised to the best dancer, which was a big incentive to get down. Their songs were relatively long compared to many other rock quartets, so there was adequate time to breakdance,

swing, or bust out any other dance maneuver.

But instead of negatively inciting the crowd, the message being brought across in their music was positive. "First Stone" takes a stand against the hypocrisy existent in many churches and lives nowadays, and addresses the problem from a Biblical standpoint.

"Masquerade" is about the double lives we all lead, and how we need to stop hiding behind our masks. Basically, they say we need to keep our mind and soul focused on God, which will inevitably help us to get rid of the mask. The song "Like Job" (referring to Job, again of Biblical origin) tells how to stand firm even under persecution, and why we should not conform to worldly desires, actions, and thoughts.

Their concert was a great experience, and the music was creative, which is a good deal considering that there was no charge for the show. The Surfers are bound to become more popular in the next few months as they perform on the "I-5 Tour" with Mayfair Laundry and Switchfoot.

The compact disc that is available has 12 songs on it, and although the live show was more full of power and impact, it is worth the money. Any Christian Supply store will carry it, although it is probably cheaper to get it directly at a show or through mail order. There is also information on the band's website at www.kconline.com/channelsurfers.

The Channel Surfers are one of the best up-and-coming Christian bands, and although they have yet to enjoy the success of some of their Christian counterparts such as the Supertones and Five Iron Frenzy, they are somebody to watch for and listen to. So if you get the chance, go and see these four guys. You might just win a CD for breakdancing!

Jazz Night features Moses

JOEL SHERPERT
Feature Editor

Jazz is a significant facet of Clackamas' music program, and Instrumental Jazz has its day in the sun tonight from 8-9:30 p.m.

Both the Clackamas Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo, under the instruction of Tom Wakeling, will be playing at the annual Instrumental Jazz Night in the McLoughlin Theater.

The bands will be performing selections from such composers as Tito Puente, Thelonius Monk, Oliver Nelson, Wayne Shorter, John Coltrane, Charlie Haden, and Bob Moses.

With this much variety to offer, the show is sure to please and entertain. Instrumental Jazz is but another example of what the Clackamas Music Department has to offer.

Instrumental Jazz Night

Featuring music by:

- Thelonius Monk
- Oliver Nelson
- Wayne Shorter
- John Coltrane
- Charlie Haden
- Bob Moses

(WARNING: IF YOU TAKE EVERYTHING YOU READ SERIOUSLY AND DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF PRINTED SARCASM, THE FOLLOWING IS NOT FOR YOU. FOLD IT UP, FIND THE NEAREST WASTE OR RECYCLING RECEPTACLE, AND GO ON WITH YOUR DAILY ROUTINE OF HUMORLESS NON-EXISTENCE. THANK YOU, AND HAVE A NICE DAY.)

Top Ten Reasons why citizens get offended by the Clackamas Print

10. They think that satire is a city in the Middle East.
9. Stale popcorn.
8. Dead chickens in cartoons.
7. Can't read it. (The Print is written for a third-grade level).
6. No nude photos (except for a wooden sculpture).
5. Too many derogatory remarks about the Spice Girls.
4. The type is too small.
3. Journalism students are too cynical.
2. Too rough to use as toilet paper.
1. The Top Ten List!

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