



Little Punks

Face Eater rhymes with space heater.

Three 14-year-olds and two 16-year-olds have emerged on the Eugene punk scene with a band called Face Eater. I spoke with Cassidy Kane, the group's 14-year old drummer, and guitarist Max Schramm, who is also 14.

The young musicians have been exposed to a wide variety of music throughout their lives, thanks to family members' influence. Kane's mother is Raenie Kane, drummer extraordinaire who's played with numerous local bands including The Danged and, currently, The Shudders. Schramm's father plays guitar while his mother runs the stage at Saturday Market. Vocalist Vince Marucci's father is the owner of House of Records. His stepfather works there,

along with Raenie, and both are walking encyclopedias of musical knowledge.

With so much exposure to music, it's no surprise the boys turned to performing for personal expression. The fivesome, including bassist Robin Clemmen and Jesse Lynch on guitar, are friends from school. All but Clemmen attend South Eugene.

The idea arose 11 months ago "to jam together just for fun," according to Schramm. "It started out as me, Cassidy and Robin," he explains. "We decided to get together and jam and it kind of turned into a band." The crew honed their chops playing Nirvana songs, although that influence has since been dispersed. "Now, we're playing all our own stuff," says Kane.

When asked to describe their music, Kane and Schramm each speak a few words, completing the others' thoughts on the subject, with the consensus being "rock with a hardcore influence."

"Two of the bands that we're into the most are Minor Threat and Black Flag," says Kane. The friends are big into Fugazi right now; also MC5, The Descendents, Stooges, and Minutemen. In other words, just some of the best punk and rock music ever made. With confidence Kane says, "Of course we think highly of ourselves, but I'm not sure how much some of our influences show."

The name Face Eater was chosen because it rhymes with "space heater" and also because it was part of an inside joke, which initially manifested as Face Burner. The catchier name stuck.

The pair says that the best thing about playing in a band is the music, plain and simple. "It's

definitely not about popularity or anything like that. It's just about playing music and having fun." Kane follows that up with a quick, "Yeah!"

Kane and Schramm wrap up our conversation by letting me know that Face Eater holds a vaulted place in their world. "Face Eater is the most important thing. Well, maybe not *the* most important, but it's the thing we all enjoy the most," Kane says. "By far," they both say at once.

The group will perform at Agate Hall on Oct. 29 at 8 pm, with local bands Entropy and 20th and Kincaid.

Folk fans will enjoy Zoe Lewis's performance at Sam Bond's Garage on Oct. 28, along with Brian Joseph. Lewis is a soft-spoken transplanted Brit (originally from the seaside village of Rottingdean) who now hails from Provincetown, Rhode Island. She has a unique, vaudevillian approach to folk music, and finds her *modus operandi* in whatever inspiring events and people she's privy to. In Lewis's world, everything is worthy of a song, and the result is a joyous outlook that celebrates the seemingly mundane.

One song, "Pies for the Public," is about an elderly neighbor and friend whose cupboards were so bare she could only make one pie. She sold the pie for ingredients to make a few more pies, then sold those, and eventually found herself with a thriving pie business. Another *a cappella* song pays tribute to a London flower seller. Between tunes Lewis banters with the audience, encouraging them to hoot and holler if they like, or just sit back and listen, perhaps enjoying a pennywhistle solo. **EW**

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