

The Super Friendz "Rescue Us

From Boredom"

by Melissa Buote

Murderecords is a Halifax record company with one of the most popular roster of artists to emerge into the Canadian independent music scene in the last couple of years. Bands like Sloan, Thrush Hermit, Eric's Trip and The Hardship Post have all recorded on this label, thus making Halifax a major player in the Canadian music industry. Without doubt, the most talked about band to recently release a debut CD on Murder is the Super Friendz who have taken the indie scene by storm in the last six months.

The Friendz, made up of guitarists Matthew Murphy and Drew Yamada and bassist Charles Austin have been touring relentlessly across Canada, with Chris Murphy of Sloan playing drums for them. The band stopped in Charlottetown on October 4th to play a benefit show for the UPEI Shinerama Campaign at Myron's Pub. As anyone who saw them knows, they are an amazing live band.

The night started at 9:00 when local cover band Wishbone took the stage. They put on a great show, covering songs by such notable artists as Led Zeppelin and Jimi Hendrix. They also performed a song of their own which will be released on a compilation disc of Island bands due out later this year.

Charlottetown's number one band (no, not Haywire) Strawberry went on after Wishbone and as usual put on a super show. Strawberry is continually gaining momentum in the music world -- they were recently signed to Cargo records so will soon have a CD to add to their two independent cassette releases and "Cinnamon Toast 7" single. Also, in the last month they have played both the Gobblefest festival at UCCB and the Halifax Pop Explosion. Everyone will definitely hear a lot more from this up and coming band.

The highlight of the evening was when The Super Friendz finally performed. They were amazingly full of energy and bounced around the stage and Matt Murphy even jumped off of the drum kit a few times. In the frequently called "quirky" style of a lot of Maritime bands, the Friendz took turns singing lead. With songs like "10 lbs", the only release off their Mock Up, Scale Down disc to date, "Karate Man" and "Rescue Us From Boredom" they gained a number of new fans that night.

For those people that did not manage to take in the Super Friendz show in October, all is not lost. They will be back on December fifteenth to play a show at the Barn with Strawberry and North of Oblivion. This is a show you will definitely not want to miss.



The Pursuit of Happiness Play The Barn Nov. 9th

by Melissa Buote

The Pursuit of Happiness is no doubt one of Canada's premiere rock bands. Not only were they one of the first independent bands to gain nation-wide popularity with their song "I'm An Adult Now" back in 1986, they went on to hit it big in international markets as well, opening for such bands as Duran Duran and the Eurythmics both in Europe and the United States. Although their influences and tastes seem to vary with each individual member of the band, they have come together to be a major favourite in the Canadian music scene.

TPOH has been a force to be reckoned with for almost a decade now, and it is obvious why they are so popular. With the hard bass line, loud guitars and melodious voices of the girls, the band appeals to such a wide audience that it is virtually impossible not to find something to like about this band. The band is made up of Moe Berg and Kris Abbot on guitar and vocals, Brad Barker on bass, Rachel Oldfield on vocals and Dave Gilby on percussion. Their music on their past CDs like *Love Junk* was thematically relationship laden. Now it seems as though Berg has worn out that motif and moved on to using other things, like TV and hockey, for inspiration.

Their newest CD, *Where's The Bone*, has shown many developments in the band's career. They have switched labels from of a

big American distributor to Iron Music Group, which is based in Canada. This change seems to have worked well for the band, as they are flourishing here in Canada and still retain a well known name around the world. Both "Young and in Love" and "Gretzky Rocks" have been released as videos on MuchMusic and have become very popular. The next single to be released will be "Kalendar" which is currently being featured in commercials promoting their East Coast tour, which incidentally includes Charlottetown on November 9th at the UPEI barn.

This concert will be TPOH's first ever on the PEI. This date is included in a large tour of the Maritimes which includes Halifax, Fredericton, Truro and a few other stops. Hopefully by the time this tour is over TPOH will have sealed a deal for distribution in the States, reinstating them as one of Canada's best musical exports.

Be sure not to miss this great band when they are featured at the Barn. This will probably be the only show they do for quite a while here in PEI. Tickets are on sale at the Student Union for six dollars in advance and will be eight dollars at the door. This concert will probably be a quick sellout, so buy your ticket soon. For any of you in pursuit of musical happiness, both their new CD *Where's The Bone* and their upcoming concert could very well be it.

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