

Barefoot an` stage divin` at the Cosmo?

by Jodi Gay

Out of all the live bands to play this past school year, very few have impressed me. (Very few, for that matter, have I enjoyed so much as to make me smile the whole next day).

There were some entertainment shows one went to expecting to have the time of their lives, and ended with people wishing they had never left their homes. The shows that I've been dragged to, or the ones I've had some reservations about, are the shows that have become most memorable for me. Pessimists really do have the best surprises. Not that I went thinking that this band was going to disappoint me, but I had never heard a note of their music before. So, when I heard the first song played, feelings of extreme relief and gratification came over me. Thomas Trio and the Red Albino are one of the best bands to play here this year, and I'm sure if you asked the crowd that was

there, they would agree with a resounding yes!

The band played fast and furious, and in their bare feet. Why? I never asked, and no one felt the need to. This is not a generic band, by any means. Most of the songs were funk tunes played with their own crazy energetic style. Their ability to switch between genres such as blues and ska is something that few bands can do properly. This band does it with ease. Variety was one of the best assets of the show. This variety shows that the band has many influences. They carried their energy throughout the whole show. Lead vocalist Jody Richardson bounding around the stage, and the members never stopped interacting with each other and the crowd.

There seemed to be a strange atmosphere that night. Everyone had smiles on their faces and no one felt the urge to piss other people off by increased intakes of alcohol. The band even encouraged stage diving, and

nobody got hurt. (I confess to doing one myself, and if given the chance would do it again). Even at the end of the show the band invited as many members of the audience it could possibly get on the stage, to come up and dance.

The band members themselves come from New-

foundland minus keyboardist Linda Kronbergs who is from Toronto, where the band is now based. They have been together for three years and are looking to record. They would prefer to have an independent contract, so they don't have to compromise with their music. The band would like to come back and

play here again. Hopefully they will have a better and bigger stage the next time, so more people can get on the stage to dance. If they do come back make sure you are there to see them.

WARNING: This band makes you do things you wouldn't expect to.



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