

# Definitely Funky

**P.F. Station**  
Grawood  
November 15th

I had gone to the Grawood Friday night unsure of what to expect. I was to review P.F. Station, a band I had heard only briefly during Homecoming week. Other than that, I hadn't heard of them at all. I had no idea what exactly it was they would do, play, or even what P.F. stands for.

I still have very little idea what they do, but P.F. apparently stands for Pornographic Funk, and an apt moniker it is. They are definitely funky, and like most porn, a mix of in-your-face virtuosity and the repetitive.

They started off their set with a 15 minute instrumental jam that showcased guitarist Craig Mercer's skills and his extensive guitar pedal collection. It wasn't just a one man wank-fest; the rest of the band (including their brand-spanking new percussionist, Jeremy Herndle) had ample room to breath.

Their set alternated between extended funk-based jams and shorter songs, where Mercer used his surprisingly strong vocal talents. They played a cover of Pink Floyd's "Have a Cigar", which was a strong homage yet distinctively their own. Their originals ("Let it slide" and "All she wants to say") had energy and focus: quite different from all

the improvisation.

The band's stage presence was extremely relaxed, almost to the point that you forgot they were on stage. Actually, it was almost to the point that I think they forgot they were on stage. You could

literally see them talking with each other in mid-song: "O.k., let's do this next..." This led to a rather unique ambience, almost as if the band had invited a hundred friends to sit in on a rehearsal. However, some of what they were



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**November 24: Reign of Christ Sunday**

Sermon: Rev. Morley Shaw, Area Minister

**Saturday, November 30: College and Careers - 2 p.m.**

**December 1: Advent 1; Communion**

Sermon: *Wake Up!* - Rev. Timothy McFarland

Music by First Baptist Church Choir

For confidential appointments contact **Tim McFarland, Baptist Chaplain for Dal**  
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playing really should have been left in rehearsal.

This can be excused in part because Mercer had a cold and could not sing very much. But the crowd didn't mind. They were content enough to groove along with the band as long as they had something to play. However, it left me a little unsatisfied. With such good musicians, I was craving something that would have challenged the band more. By the time the fourth or fifth ten minute funk jam came to a close, I was about to leave. That is, until they started playing the Star Wars theme. That got and kept my interest for the duration of the song.

I wish that they had stuck more with the structured tunes, despite Mercer's cold. It would have better matched their talents.

P.F. Station next play the Oasis on December 13th.

BY MARK REYNOLDS

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