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A wealth of campus bands means that...

BC/ROCKS

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The quest for the unknown has always been a primal urge in mankind. Without it, civilization would not exist and we'd all be sitting in caves.

Such is the case with music. Such is the case with the chosen few at Brevard College who have actually formed bands and who are serious about it.

Not just your typical southern rock or Pop 40 groups, these bands dig deep into the alternative wave of the '90s, this wave which is rapidly becoming the sound college students want to hear.

These bands are COA, The Stand, and Weber & Peterson.

Composed of all sophomores, the foursome, COA, seems bent (hell or otherwise) on bringing variation to the art of good ol' rock n roll.

The members include Sean Frazier (lead vocals), Toby Bryant (guitarist/back up vocals), Dean Peterson (bass), and Rusty Burnett (drums).

"It's alternative progressive with a heavy edge," says Toby Bryant, a

guitarist for about five years.

COA has already gained popularity among BC students. Not only playing at local parties and the Sweetheart's Dance, they've also played at the Brevard Skating Rink for a Pre-Exam Jam, and clubs in Asheville and Aususta, Ga.

"We hope to be full-time soon," says Rusty Burnett, a drummer for almost seven years. "...if you haven't seen us then give us a try...we'll be satisfied as long as we do it right and have fun."

Putting in hours of practice each week, COA not only "covers" bands such as The Cult, R.E.M., Dryvin-n-Cryin, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers, but they've also composed a few good originals including "Willow Trees and Three Blind Mice," "Childhood," and "Little Boy Blue."

Sean Frazier, lead vocalist for the band, writes most of the lyrics for their originals. "I try to make my lyrics more personal," says Sean. "...I think that's what music is about."

Sound easy? Sound glamorous? Right.

"Being in a band you spend a lot of



Rocking on: COA performs at the Valentine's Dance. The group includes, left to right, Dean Peterson, Sean Frazier, Toby Bryant and drummer Rusty Burnett. (Clarion photos by Jock Lauterer)

time and a lot of money to play a gig and barely break even," says bass player Dean Peterson. "If that isn't a labor of love then I don't know what is."

Another up and coming band at BC is The Stand, composed of freshmen Jeremy Hunsicker (lead vocals), Patrick Davis (guitar/back-up vocals), Todd Camp (bass), and "Brantley" (drums).

The Stand just recently formed and have been practicing for only a couple of weeks.

Says lead singer Jeremy Hunsicker, "Our first practice went with the finesse of a band who's been together for a couple of months."

The Stand, also in tune with today's progressive edge, hopes to gain popularity at BC. "Our relationship with Brevard College is strictly platonic... but I would like to see a small following within the school," says Jeremy.

"We're playing for whoever will listen," says guitarist Patrick Davis. "We're not catering to anyone in particular -- we have a really varied set."

Perhaps slightly different from The Stand and COA is Weber & Peterson (or Peterson & Weber -- whichever you prefer.) Their goal is simple: to explore musical creation, to venture off into the dark tunnel of the industry, where special things have been known to happen.

Says drummer Dane Peterson (yes, it's Dean's brother), "We are a two piece guitar and drum type symphony."

The two piece band has no vocalist and relies on Dane's drumming talent

and Tim's guitar expertise. Tim also play's the piano in some of their tunes.

"We use what each of us have picked up over the years and push it into this particular sound that I don't think you'll find anywhere else," says Tim.

They also describe their music as having some very unique qualities. "Our music will take you up and bring you down- we'll toy with your emotions," says Tim.

They describe their music as a mixture of two elements -- technical progressive and classical. "Our music is not jammed together or improvisational -- it is arranged and composed," says Dane.

The band has even gone as far as to cover a Beethoven song. "Rather than composing it with a piano, we're covering it with guitar and drums," says Dane. "You'd think it would be really confusing but it's not... it's really organized."

Dane also agrees that their music is not for everyone but "for people who want to open their minds in a new direction."

Tim Weber, a sophomore, has played guitar for about five years. Dane Peterson, also a sophomore, has played drums for ten years.

All three BC bands competed Friday night in Dunham at the Battle of the Bands. However, whatever the outcome, all bands seem to reflect the view of two COA members. Rusty Burnett feels that they entered "to have fun and perform." Dean Peterson adds, "...and to reach people you've never reached before."



Drummer Dane Peterson and guitarist Tim Weber say their music is a mixture of technical progressive and classical. "Our music will take you up and bring you down -- we'll toy with your emotions," says Weber.