

GRAFFITI

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Naugahyde Chihuahuas? Billy Warden and the Floating Children? The Need? Do these names sound like strange cult followings or a bunch of gibberish? Well, they are neither — or are they? These names and many more like them belong to some of the area's finest bands.

So, just how does a band choose its name? Talk to the members of almost any local band and you will probably get an interesting answer. Here are the stories behind a few of the area's local bands.

For a few Raleigh residents, naming their band involved a last-minute session of brainstorming. Tom Mills said that two years ago, he and the other members of Naugahyde Chihuahuas sat down during a practice at the Fallout Shelter, contemplating their upcoming show and the fact that their band did not have a name. They drew up a long list but didn't like any of the names. One band member said, "How about Naugahyde something?" And Mills filled it in with Chihuahuas. A little silly-sounding, they admit, but definitely unique.

Desperate Remedy decided on their band's name by a flip of a coin. Guitarist Stefan Rogers explains that the band had gone through seven or eight names and just couldn't find the right one. He finally came up with one name and the bassist's father thought of Desper-

ate Remedy. They flipped a coin, and Desperate Remedy won.

Billy Warden and the Floating Children were originally Billy Warden and the Magic Children, but a theatrical effect they planned for their stage show changed their name. Sam Doddy, one of the Floating Children, said that the band had planned to erect a screen behind the stage. All band members were going to wear tall platform shoes the same color as the screen. The total effect would be the illusion of the band members floating. This trick never quite

worked, but they definitely found an original name.

Some bands take their names from movies, songs or literature. The Raleigh-based Wallabouts take their name from a Walt Whitman poem, "The Wallabout Martyrs."

The Chapel Hill band Teasing the Korean took their name from a song on the soundtrack to the James Bond film "Goldfinger." Other songs on the soundtrack that they might have chosen? How about "Gassing the Gangsters," or "Dawn Raid on Fort Knox"?

Another Chapel Hill band, The

Need, chose their name from a subtitle in the movie "The Emerald Forest." The film involves a father's search for his long-lost son who has been abducted by South American natives. Ten years later, the father finds the son who now has high status within the tribe. Need-member Carlton Mansfield said that one particular scene in the movie always sticks out in his mind: in order to make the boy's father feel welcome, the tribe gives him a woman. When the father asks an old, long-haired, loin-clothed man what the woman is for, the elder

motions with his hips and "In case you have the need," appears on the screen.

Finally, some bands take their name from some interesting place they've seen. The Dillon Fence is a fence covered with trash in Dillon, S.C., but it is also the name of a Chapel Hill band. Some of the members of Dillon Fence saw the fence on their way to the beach and thought it would make a good name for their band. An interesting side note to the story: two members of Dillon Fence used to play in a Winston-Salem band, Still the Trash.

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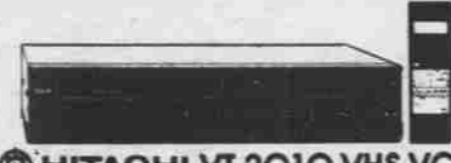
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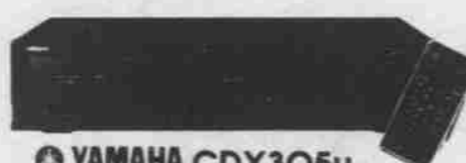
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