

## Indie Music Fest at CMU

Shale, Jumbo two of more than 25 bands to play

by Tim Holsopple  
Asst. Entertainment Editor

If you're hankerin' for a hunk of booming bands and wicked fun, the Tompkins Square Riot Gathering might be just what you're looking for.

The festival is taking place next weekend, March 28 and 29, at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. Bands from near and far will converge on the site at approximately 5 PM on Friday. The fest will continue on into Saturday.

The fee is minimal. It's five bucks for Friday night and nine bucks for all day Saturday, or ten bucks for both days. Like *MAD* says, "Cheap!"

I have to admit that I have only heard of four of the bands attending, but the fest will be a great way to become familiar with tight local bands from all around.

The two bands that I had the privilege to witness before are Shale and Jumbo, both from the Pittsburgh area. They both came to my hometown of Latrobe, PA (home of Mister Rogers) to play with Pensive, a band comprised of some good friends of mine (I'm working on getting them up here for the Behrend Battle of the Bands

at the end of April. Look for a story about them next week.)

Before that particular show, I was pretty much fed up with the local music scene. I had gotten sick of the monotony and the lack of talent, and I was desperately seeking a reason to remain involved.

I got two: Shale and Jumbo. Pensive put on the quality show they've always been capable of, then Shale came out and saddled my horse. I'd never seen anything like it: a post-hardcore instrumental band. David Blair wore his guitar on his chest. He gritted his teeth as he alternated riffing and skimming the entire length of the guitar strings with the base of his palm to produce a weird "whirrrrrnnnttt" noise.

The bassist, Todd Ladner, was a gangly youth who wore black emoglasses and stood with his back to the crowd while he manhandled his thunderbroom.

A shirtless Scott Blair played around the world on his drumset, coming up with incredible driving rhythms and off-beat, well, beats. The other guitarist, Jeff Ellsworth, filled in their thick sound flawlessly, adding density to the tight music.

Shale may have saddled my horse, but Jumbo made me ride off

into the sunset of scene-doubt on it.

One of their guitarists was one of the tallest and goofiest musicians I've ever seen, but he could play the guitar like a mutha. In every song he would re-invent his own style, making songs short bursts of well-aimed firebombs and nailing target after target.

The band rivaled Shale in the tightness category, but in the pop category Jumbo was king. The band assembled Lincoln Logs of noise into a homey cabin of pop rock, giving shelter to all the dancing villagers. Not only was the music original, it was listenable. Those two things are the key to a band's success.

Besides Shale and Jumbo, over 25 other bands are playing the festival. The guys who put the show together are really sweet and huggable, so take a weekend off and go to Pittsburgh.

IF YOU WANT MORE INFO: My personal she-male address is th198@psu.edu. My phone number is 898-6799. Please write or call. If you want to get info right from the source (which is probably better), get on the Internet and go to [www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/~nmm/tompkins.html](http://www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/~nmm/tompkins.html)

### UNIVERSITY<sup>2</sup> by Frank Cho

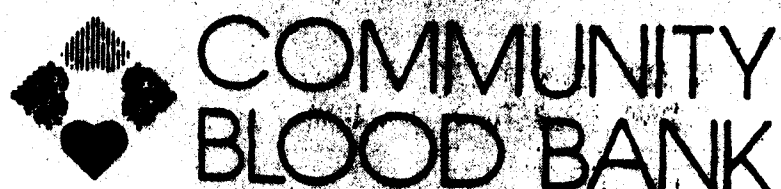


## Wanted & Needed: Blood Donors!

Tuesday, March 25  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
at the  
Reed Commons

### Who Can Save Lives?

Blood Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 lbs. and be in general good health. Please eat well before you sign in.



### Super Crossword

- |                    |                  |                  |                  |                 |                   |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| ACROSS             | 53 Pitch         | Marie, Mich.     | the              | 45 Look daggers | 81 Room for       |
| 1 Run up the       | 54 Large piece   | 94 — cotta       | Mohicans"        | 48 Grit         | improve-          |
| phone bill         | 55 On — with     | 96 Cot or crib   | prop             | 46 Actress      | ment?             |
| 4 See 1 Across     | (equal to)       | 98 Actress Anna  | 8 On fire        | 48 Rivera       | 83 6 p.m., at     |
| 8 One of the       | 57 Massachu-     | 99 Jal —         | 9 Like old       | 49 Give a       | 10 a.m.           |
| Waugh's            | setts port       | 100 Novelist     | gasoline         | 50 Female       | 85 Calif. athlete |
| 12 Heathen         | 58 "Paradise     | Lurie            | 10 Yale          | 51 swimmer      | 86 Revolt         |
| 17 Second-hand     | Lost" figure     | 104 Picnic fare  | 11 Vise man?     | 52 Inedible     | 87 Spokes         |
| 19 Cugat consort   | 59 Excavate      | 107 Picnic fare  | 12 Crossword     | 53 Looked and   | 93 Looked and     |
| 20 Lugosi of       | 60 Not as        | 111 Log          | solver's tool    | orange          | looked            |
| filmdom            | forward          | 112 Got off      | 13 Similar       | 56 By means of  | 94 Gauguin        |
| 21 Manage to       | 62 Mil. base     | 114 Reputation   | 14 Shorebird     | 59 Don one's    | setting           |
| miss               | 63 Vacation site | 115 Grimm        | 15 "Zip — —      | ducs            | 95 Pleased as     |
| 22 Teen affliction | 68 Architect's   | creature         | Doo-Dah"         | 60 Young        | Punch             |
| 23 Sultan's        | tool             | 116 Hot spot?    | 16 Famed loch    | pigeon          | 96 Pester         |
| sweeties           | 67 Horrified     | 117 Learning     | 18 Steep         | 61 Savage sort  | 97 Cary of "The   |
| 24 Retreat         | 71 Common        | method           | 19 Made up       | 62 Rock bottom  | Princess          |
| 25 Illinois city   | vegetable        | 118 To the — (to | one's mind       | 64 Selected,    | Bride"            |
| 26 Picnic fare     | 72 Circular      | perfection)      | 27 Did yard      | with "for"      | 98 Canyon of      |
| 29 Picnic fare     | 73 Shelley       | 119 Spun a web   | work             | 65 Go fishing   | the comics        |
| 31 A few words     | 74 Eur. nation   | 120 Scattered    | 28 Soup scoop    | 66 Offspring    | 101 Flat-         |
| 32 Mist            | 75 Examines      | seed             | 30 Speech        | 69 Dumbstruck   | bottomed          |
| 33 Actress         | 76 Examines      | 121 Remarkd      | pattern          | 69 Like some    | boat              |
| Sedgwick           | closely          | 122 Machine part | 35 Actor         | sleeves         | 102 George        |
| 34 Essential       | 78 Biblical town | 123 Cozy room    | Mahoney          | 70 Cornered     | Burns film        |
| 36 Too experi-     | 79 French        | DOWN             | 37 Elijah's      | the cat         | 103 Chutzpah      |
| enced?             | Sudan, today     | 1 Magellan       | target           | 73 Olsen of     | 104 Finger-       |
| 36 Zlich           | 81 Yard entry    | discovery        | 38 General's     | vaudeville      | paint             |
| 37 Coll. degrees   | 82 Picnic fare   | 2 Songwriters'   | helper           | 75 "Beat It!"   | creation?         |
| 40 Rattle one's    | 84 Picnic fare   | org.             | 39 Sunflower     | 76 Hawkeye      | 105 Prevorb       |
| cage               | 88 Impressed     | 3 Park seat      | support          | State           | proposition       |
| 44 Cookbook        | 89 — That        | 4 "The Man of    | 40 In search of  | 77 Pop a pec    | 106 Store away    |
| topic              | Jazz"            | a Thousand       | 41 Got teed off? | 78 Where dates  | 108 Lady friend,  |
| 45 Ronny & the     | 90 Basilica area | Faces"           | 42 Eats          | are kept        | in Lille          |
| Daytonas hit       | 91 Improve       | 5 Mats —         | elegantly        | 79 — Verde      | 109 Role for      |
| 46 Trot or gallop  | 92 April burden  | 6 Olympic        | 43 Ms.           | National Park   | 98 Across         |
| 47 Picnic fare     | 93 Sault —       | wormonger        | Meriwether       | 80 Presidential | 110 Noted         |
| 51 Picnic fare     |                  | 7 "The Last of   | 44 Bass part     | nickname        | 113 Mauna —       |

