

Rocking for God

My Summer Tour with Christian alternative band Devoted Molded

By Brad Moist

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This summer I was given the opportunity of a lifetime. An opportunity that I had only dreamed about. So when I was asked to be the tour manager for the three-piece Hanover-based band Devoted Molded, and I gladly accepted.

The members are Jon Shanbarger on lead vocals and lead guitar, Josh Young on drums, and bgv's and Greg Schneider on bass and bgv's.

Their musical sound can be described as pop punk with an alternative garage rock influence. Lyrically, they are honest and real about faith, relationships and life in general. Their songs are catchy and get stuck in you head.

My job included traveling around the entire country with Devoted Molded and three other bands from their record label, Screaming GIANT Records, and an independent band.

The bands that we toured with were the rap-core sounds of southern California-based band Rod Laver, the ska without horns sounds of Tasty Snax, the fast-paced punk sounds of the Jacksonville, Fla. based outfit of Lugnut, and the impressive hard-core sounds of the young Atlanta boys Luti-kriiss.

The tour was called "100 MPH 4 God Tour." It began on the east coast at the beginning of June and ended at the end of July in

Stevenson, Wash.

For Devoted Molded, this tour meant their first ever national tour and would coincide with the nationwide release of their new album titled "Mr. Bill's Wild Ride" on September 14.

The album also gave me the opportunity to work in the studio, on which I was assistant producer.

My duties on tour were numerous. I was responsible to keep control of all the money coming in and going out. I was also responsible to manage our budget and to keep track of all the merchandise sold.

In addition, I had to provide technical help for their on-stage performance and to make sure the band was where they needed to be when they needed to be there.

As if that weren't enough, I also had to make sure all directions and show information was received,

checked our e-mail and respond daily to people who wrote us, as well as be the final decision-maker for all aspects regarding the band.

It seemed like a lot of work, and it was. But in the independent music scene, it is rare that there is even a person like to me to go along and do all that work. The majority of the time the band members have to split up all those chores.

My purpose was to take that extra work away from them so that they could just focus on one thing: their music and how they ministered to the kids watching.

Devoted Molded is a Christian alternative band trying to stay alive in the ever growing Christian music scene. But don't let the word Christian make you think any less of this band.



All photos courtesy of Brad Moist. Left: Brad with Devoted Molded members Josh Young, Jon Shanbarger and Greg Schneider. Above: Josh from Luti-kriiss on stage with Devoted Molded in Los Osos, Calif.