



Courtesy of The Safes

The Safes will perform at the Darkhorse Tavern, 128 E. College Ave., with local band The Maximums at 10 tonight.

Roust! veterans to play Darkhorse

By **Kevin Sullivan**
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

When The Safes singer and guitarist Frankie O'Malley and drummer Patrick O'Malley were returning from seeing their parents on their wedding anniversary Saturday night, the two witnessed a UFO. Or so claims Frankie.

"UFOs exist — it's pretty much a scientific fact that the government won't admit," Frankie said. "I know if I tell people I saw a UFO, they'd think I was crazy, but I had Patrick with me. I took it as a sign from God that we are going to take over the universe as the world's biggest band."

In the meantime, The Safes will be playing tonight at the Darkhorse Tavern, 128 E. College Ave., along with local band The Maximums.

Frankie's leanings toward the supernatural seem to play a part in how he sees his band's music as well.

"It's like a spiritual experience when we're performing, channeling higher spirits and gods," he said. "By the time we're done playing, we're drenched in sweat, but it's sugary fun pop music that girls love and dudes do, too."

The band's sound is very garage rock-oriented, and although the band's records run the gamut from mellow and intricate to loud and raucous, Frankie said he focuses on the former when performing live.

The band's albums often feature more expansive instrumentation, but the three-piece band is forced to strip down these experiments in concert.

"To be perfectly honest, I think live we're better as a three-piece," he said. "Live, we sound like a rock 'n' roll dance party."

Frankie said the band has two finished albums and is shopping around for labels during the tour. The band has already been writing new material and plans on playing a few of these unreleased songs tonight, he said.

Although the band has played State College many times in the past, it keeps coming back for the great response.

"Roust! is one of our favorite places in the world to play," O'Malley said. "The kids that come out are awesome and love rock 'n' roll. Sometimes kids at other colleges can be too cool."

Jesse Ruegg, a promoter with Roustabout! who is putting on tonight's show, said the band always gets a good response from its audience.

"I think they have the right details for a rock 'n' roll band," Ruegg said. "They're just doing what they know and writing great pop songs."

The Maximums, who is opening the show, is another band that simply describes itself as rock 'n' roll.

The band has been playing together for about a year and a half, guitarist and singer Nathan Curtis said, but they only started playing shows about three months ago.

"We're well-rehearsed, unlike most bands around town," Curtis said. "We're no Miller Lite band — you need at least grain alcohol."

Although the band is new to the local scene, its shows thus far we have been well received, Curtis said.

"Our last shows have been alcohol-stoked mayhem," he said. "Two women were immaculately conceived at our last show."

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Students form LGBT magazine

By **Jessica Wabara**
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

From poetry and prose to artwork, a new literary magazine aims to provide the Penn State community with a glimpse of what it really means to be a part of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender culture.

Out & About OUT is a new project organized by Undertones, which provides LGBT individuals a safe place to discuss issues they encounter on a day-to-day basis.

The magazine, set to publish its first issue in March 2010, will contain fiction and non-fiction stories, poems and artwork concerning the emotions those in the LGBT community felt when they came out.

Although the group is still in the beginning stages of creating the magazine, its members hope Out & About OUT will be a creative outlet for the LGBT community, Undertones President Lianna Newman (senior-media studies) said. She also hopes the magazine will help the organization reach out to students at Commonwealth Campuses.

"We want to send out the magazine to the other Penn State campuses, especially those that don't have an LGBT club," Newman said.

Treasurer Christine Toh (junior-mechanical engineering) said Out & About OUT will be a "creative way of talking to the Penn State community."

She wants Penn Staters who are not part of the LGBT community to know that LGBT individuals express themselves like everyone else.

"Literature is expression of feeling and emotion," she said. "It's a very human thing."

Others said they hope the project will engender a sense of togetherness.

"I think it's a great idea, and I hope it's another step towards a unified community," Undertones member Ashante Kirby (graduate-law) said.

Kirby, who is a writer, plans on submitting a piece of work for the magazine.

Undertones secretary Jess Luckey (senior-film and sociology) described the magazine as a beautiful thing.

"People are looking for an outlet," she said. "This is an opportunity to share with everyone."

How to submit

Submissions for the magazine are due on Dec. 20. Students can submit using the club's Web site: www.clubs.psu.edu/up/undertones.

Magician comes to HUB

By **Chidi Ugwu**
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Catching a freshly shot paintball in his teeth may be an easy task for magician Justin Kredible, but when he comes to State College, he will attempt any entertainer's most difficult trick: keeping an audience captivated.

As daunting as that may sound, Kredible — whose real name is Justin Willman — said he always enjoys performing for college students.

"If I'm having a bad day, being on stage can totally turn it around," he said. "I just love that moment when I step out in front of an audience."

Willman's next feat will be his performance at 8:30 tonight in the Paul Robeson Cultural Center's Heritage Hall.

"Magic is innately interesting to people," said Nathan Kepner (senior-secondary education), president of Penn State's Performing Magicians club. "There are these rules that we see the world operate by, and it's weird to see those rules bend."

As a magician himself, Kepner said it is nice to be able to see diversity in the types of entertainment brought to campus.

Claire DiGiacomo, entertainment chairwoman for the Student Programming Association (SPA), said SPA is trying to bring something different to campus by hosting Willman.

"Not only is he an illusionist, but he also has a nice comedic aspect to his show," she said.

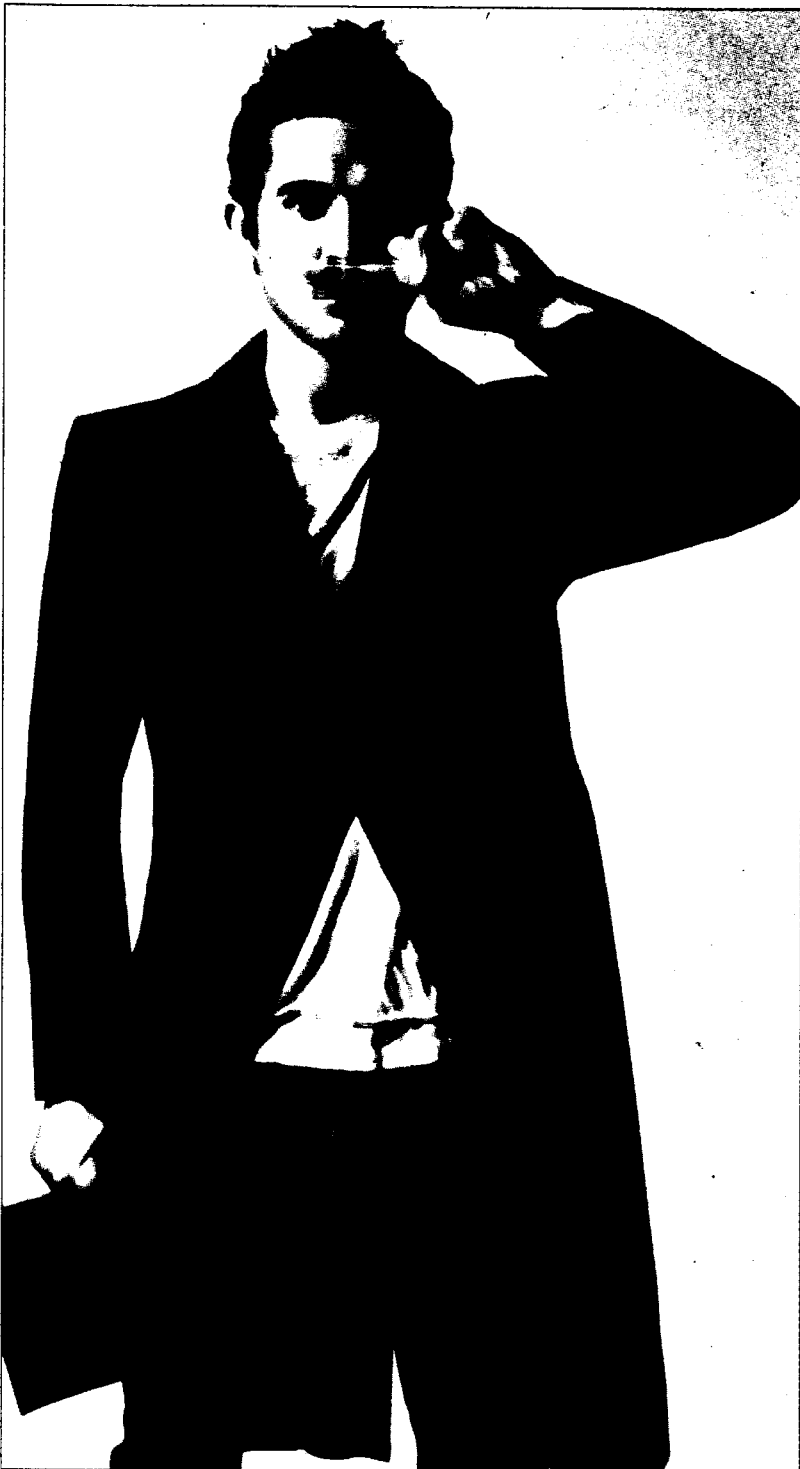
Willman is no stranger to doing shows at college campuses. He's been performing at them since he was in college, and he admits that the college audience is still his favorite.

"It's been a really great niche for me," he said. "I used to do shows for kids and I loved it, but the show that I would love to see myself is one that I do for a college. I don't have to censor myself."

Willman graduated from Emerson College in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism. He's been doing magic since he was a kid, but as he puts it, you can't major in magic.

But broadcast journalism was still a good choice as a major, even if it wasn't his first, Willman said.

"It teaches you how to be in front of a camera," he said. "And I like being



Courtesy of Justin Kredible

Justin Kredible, a magician, will perform at 8:30 tonight in Paul Robeson Cultural Center's Heritage Hall. He said humor is an important part of his act and always enjoys performing for college students.

informed and knowing what's going on in the world, so it seemed like a good choice."

While some magicians try to cultivate mystique in the eyes of their viewers, one of the trademarks of Willman's shows is his own self-deprecating humor.

Willman said the humorous nature of his show is an extension of his personality — he's always cracking jokes in real life.

Performances are much easier when they have a comedic slant, he said.

"Magic is one of those things — it's, like, inherently geeky."

Justin Kredible
Magician

"Magic is one of those things — it's, like, inherently geeky," he said. "If you go into it with that attitude, it makes the whole thing easier to swallow, and if you take yourself too seriously you just kind of open yourself up to ridicule."

Tragedy inspires poet's work

By **Ricky Morales**
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Poet Kathleen Sheeder Bonanno dealt with a mother's worst nightmare when her daughter was murdered. After Rachel Mennies finished reading Bonanno's poems, she felt compelled to pick up the phone.

"All I could think was, 'I need to call my mom,'" Mennies (graduate-English) said.

Bonanno will read tonight from that same book, "Slamming Open the Door," at the Palmer Museum of Art as part of the Department of English's Mary E. Rolling Reading Series.

Mennies, who will introduce

"Here, there is very little distance between the narrator and her subject."

Robin Becker
Professor of English and women's studies

Bonanno at the event, said some of her peers couldn't finish the book because of its visceral subject matter. She said Bonanno is unsparing in her work, giving excerpts from news articles detailing how her daughter, Leidy Bonanno, was strangled by her ex-boyfriend in 2003.

She said the death of Bonanno's daughter, who was 21 and had recently graduated from nursing school, is particularly relevant to college students because of the girl's age and the proximity of the event — she was murdered in West Reading, Pa.

"[Bonanno's] poetry is written to be in communication with young people," she said.

Geoffrey Davis said he also called his mother after reading the book. A part of the book that effected him was a poem in which Bonanno calls her daughter and never gets an answer back, he said.

"My mom had called me and I hadn't called her back yet," Davis

(graduate-English) said. "It got me reconsidering what I took to be my mom's over-worrying."

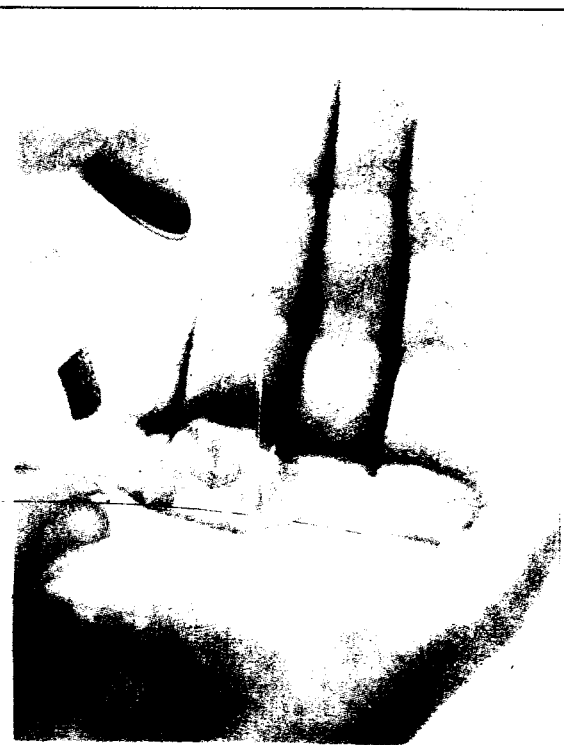
The poems explore several emotions, including rage, sadness and fondness for the memories she spent with her daughter. The book isn't about the tragedy itself, but how people deal with death afterward, he said.

"I think it's more than 'call your mom,' although I think that was the right thing to do," Davis said.

Robin Becker, a professor of English and women's studies, said Bonanno's work is a book-length elegy that breaks poetic tradition in how it approaches her daughter's death.

"One of the definitions of poetry is emotion recollected in tranquility," Becker said. "Here, there is very little distance between the narrator and her subject."

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H1N1 Flu Prevention.

There has been a lot of talk about the flu this season, especially about H1N1. We understand your concern. And we've created an online resource devoted to H1N1 updates and flu prevention tips. We are committed to providing you with the most up-to-date health information to help our community move **FORWARD.**

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