

# Artists leave bands, create Terrible Things

By Courtney Warner  
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Former band members from Taking Back Sunday, Coheed and Cambria and Hot Rod Circuit have come together to give fans Terrible Things.

The rock band will perform at 6 p.m. Dec. 16 at the Archway Center in Altoona.

Other bands performing at the concert are headliner Valencia and openers Automatic Loveletter, Mercy Mercedes and the Big Time.

Fred Mascherino, lead singer of Terrible Things and former singer of Taking Back Sunday, said the band's mission is to preserve classic rock influences and bring them back to the mainstream music scene.

"It's been hurting the past couple of years, because people have resorted to writing sappy love songs instead of an original raw sound," he said.

Mascherino said he's excited to play near a Penn State campus. He's already played at the Bryce Jordan Center with Taking Back Sunday and downtown with the Color Fred.

Being from Coatesville, Pa., Mascherino said many of his friends went to Penn State, so he has roots here.

Mascherino said Terrible Things will play songs off its first album, some of which were inspired by a string of arsons in Mascherino's hometown and a fire that destroyed drummer Andy Jackson's home.

"I write to counsel myself, so one song turned into six, which turned into an album," he said. "The album has some dark elements because of the events, but its main message is if there's something you

## If you go

**What:** Terrible Things opening for Valencia

**When:** 6 p.m. Dec. 16

**Where:** Archway Center, 410 5th Ave., Altoona

don't like, do something about it."

Mascherino said concerts should be more about involving the audience in the music.

"It's a show you don't just go to see. We play our music and then we sit with audience members after," Mascherino said. "We want to be a great band live, but we also want a strong connection with our audiences."

Ryan Wapner, Archway Center promoter, said he's excited to hear the fusion of sounds each member will bring from their previous gigs.

"It's cool that members from Taking Back Sunday and Coheed and Cambria combined because even though both are rock, they still have a distinct difference within their styles," Wapner said.

Kelsey McDonnell said true fans will accept the musicians' decisions to leave their bands.

"Die-hard fans might be saddened but people who appreciate music will respect what the musicians have done because it's all in good spirit," McDonnell (freshman-nursing) said.

But David Krizauskas (sophomore-turf management) said leaving the original band was a bad choice.

"They left bands that were doing really



Courtesy of Ryan Russell

**Terrible Things** will perform at the Archway Center in Altoona with Valencia Dec. 16.

good, only to move onto independent projects that probably won't gain as much fame as Taking Back Sunday or Coheed and Cambria did," he said.

Mascherino said being able to do what he wants with music opens him to new experi-

ences — and that's what he loves about playing music.

"Starting this band is like starting over for me," Mascherino said. "I left my band while it was at its peak because I wasn't happy, but now I am."



Courtesy of Ryan Russell

**Terrible Things** released their self-titled album in August.

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