

Protean Collective plays free-style



Chiemi's Corner

MUSIC & REVIEWS EVENTS

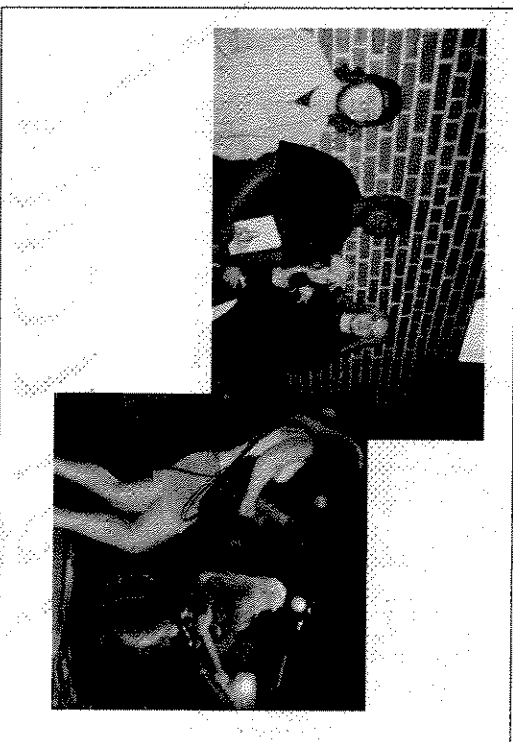
Local band Protean Collective ("PC") will be playing free-style music in the Emergenza Festival Nov. 10 at the Middle East upstairs in Cambridge. PC is comprised of Andy Doonan (Bass), Matt Perard (Drums, vocals, and sampling), Steph Goyer (Guitar and vocals) and Graham Bacher (Guitar and lead vocals).

PC got its name in the Summer of 2005, when Goyer, Perard and Bacher (Doonan did not join until that Fall). "We realized that our songs had a freedom to go anywhere that we wanted to get our point across," said Perard, who also acts as the band's manager. Goyer came across the word "Protean" which seemed to describe the music and the three decided that since everything in the band was done cooperatively, "Collective" worked as well. Perard said, "Musically, we write as a band, which can be a

little stressful but very rewarding. Sometimes our songs begin with an improv jam where 1 or 2 riffs will stand out that we write around or one person comes in with a rough idea that we all will tweak until it works for everyone and most importantly the song." Also, "There are the weird times when songs kind of happen out of nowhere."

Bacher said, "There are no real rules to the process, every song has a kind of life of its own and gets treated differently. As far as lyrics go, they are the one part that gets written by one person for each song; so far only Matt and myself have written them, but that will probably be changing soon."

Bacher said, "I find that, being in the band, it's really hard to separate myself from the music enough to really get a grasp of what it sounds like to the outside



listener. If I were to try to describe it, I would probably say that what defines our sound is that we really don't contain ourselves to any one style of music or one particular sound."

Perard said, "We have been called either a rock, metal, fusion, progressive rock band, or jam band. All of these describe us, but at the same time pigeon-

hold us because if come to the show and hear the opening song then assume we're a 'X genre' band you will probably have a changed opinion throughout the set. But even with all the changes, you will know a Protean Collective song when you hear it, and I love that about this group."