

Tonight's escape from the ordinary

EVENTS AROUND TOWN



Mozely Rose will perform tonight at the 8x10. - Courtesy photo

MUSIC

The 8x10 hosts Five Bands for Five Bucks tonight, starting at 7 p.m. Waldorf metalcore band A Dying Theory, Pasadena-based 3 Easy Payments, rock band BOB from Washington, funk-driven country rockers Mozely Rose and Will Hill will perform. 8x10 owner Brian Shupe decided to get more local bands into the spotlight by offering the promotion. The 8x10 club is located at 10 E. Cross St. in Baltimore. For more information, call 410-625-2000 or visit www.the8x10.com.



STANDING ROOM ONLY

« Alesana performs with For the Taking, Interstate North, Sorry for the Silence and In Your Own Words at Sonar, located at 407 E. Saratoga St. in Baltimore. Show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 to \$11. For more information, call 410-327-8333.

LISTENING POSTS

Melodic Confessions Open Mic Series
Eden's Lounge, 15 W. Eager St., Baltimore; Tuesday; \$7; 410-244-0405

Organic Soul Tuesdays
14 Karat Cabaret, 218 W. Saratoga St., Baltimore; Tuesday; \$5; 410-358-6484

✓ **An Annapolis Christmas**
Rams Head Tavern, 33 West St., Annapolis; 7:30 p.m.; \$30; 410-268-4545

Clockcleaner, New Flesh and Times New Viking
The Talking Head, 203 Davis St., Baltimore; 9:30 p.m.; \$8; 410-962-5588



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SOUNDS » TWISTED SISTER



Twisted Sister will play at Rams Head Live on Thursday. - Courtesy photo

'Twisted Christmas' comes to town

Tour is a surprise hit

By Nancy Dunham
Special to The Examiner

The one rule everyone agreed on was "no spandex."

After all, the members of Twisted Sister are a bit wiser — and wider — than they were in their heyday some two decades ago.

"We are not going anywhere near that spandex. Believe me, we all agreed that is not happening," Twisted Sister founder Jay Jay French said as he rode in a taxi through the streets of Toronto on his way to a last-minute television appearance arranged after the previous night's concert.

The newfound popularity of the band is quite disconcerting to French and his bandmates, who went on to other ventures when they bade their final farewell to fans in 1988.

"On the weekends I'm a rock star," said French, who founded French Management, which represents many musicians. "On Monday, I'm asking my clients, 'Can I get you coffee?' It's just weird. The artists

IF YOU GO

Twisted Sister with Baptized by Fire and Scarlet Angel
» **Venue:** Rams Head Live
» **Time:** 8 p.m. Thursday
» **Tickets:** \$31. www.ramshead-live.com; 410-244-1131

have a sense of humor about it all."

Despite continued popularity of their rock anthems, including "We're Not Gonna Take It," and "I Wanna Rock," both French and lead singer/songwriter Dee Snider professed no interest in playing as part of Twisted Sister. The members did occasionally work together on various projects and played small gigs, sans makeup and costumes, as The Bent Brothers.

At one point, Snider commented to his bandmates that the chorus of the band's biggest hit, "We're Not Gonna Take It," has the same notes as "O Come All Ye Faithful." So the band put together a 12-song disc, "A Twisted Christmas," which also featured "Silver Bells" and other holiday standards. He suggested a novelty album as a final farewell to Twisted Sister.



What a surprise — especially to Snider, who's philosophical about the album — that some critics now hail it as the best rock Christmas album ever.

"We never play things nice and easy; we play them twisted," says Snider of and on the album.

But industry insiders, including Mike Carden, president of North American operations for Eagle Rock Entertainment, have commented on the band's good fortune in choosing a theme and release time that reignited the band's popularity.

French isn't so sure he agrees. "This whole thing is a complete letdown for me," French said. "I'm now a middle-aged transvestite."

FOR CHILDREN

Port Discovery's new exhibit, Adventures with Clifford the Big Red Dog, is inspired by Scholastic Entertainment's TV show "Clifford the Big Red Dog" on PBS Kids. This exhibit offers adventures that reinforce "Clifford's Big Ideas," which are 10 simple, tangible life lessons designed to help young children navigate their world: share, play fair, have respect, work together, be responsible, be truthful, be kind, believe in yourself, be a good friend and help others. The exhibit features Clifford the Big Red Dog's Doghouse, T-Bone's Beach, Cleo's Backyard and more. Port Discovery is located at 35 Market Place in Baltimore. Exhibit is open from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$11. For more information, call 410-727-8120.

THEATER

"The Santaland Diaries," by David Sedaris and starring Bruce Nelson, comes to Howard Community College's Rep Stage from Wednesday through Jan. 7. Spend the evening with "Crum-pet," a slacker employed as Santa's helper at Macy's Department Store, as he bears the indignities of Elf School, the crush of pushy parents and the demands of whiny children with all the patience of a sugarplum curmudgeon in jingle bell hell. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$16 to \$24. This show has adult content and may not be suitable for children. Rep Stage, HCC's official theater-in-residence, is located at 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia. For more information, visit www.howardcc.edu.

Bruce Nelson performs in David Sedaris' "The Santaland Diaries" - Courtesy photo



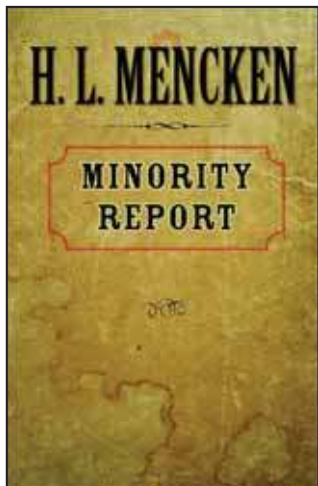
DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT

ART

Bridging Legacy
Euble Blake Cultural Center, 847 N. Howard St., Baltimore; Free; 410-225-3130

Fire Poetry: Sarah Barnes
Meredith Gallery, 805 N. Charles St., Baltimore; Free; 800-753-3575

BOOK TALK



LIBRARY EXHIBITION

Yet Another One! : H.L. Mencken
George Peabody Library, 17 E. Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore; Free; 410-516-8330