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# Mulligan digs deep for new album

Band to take stage at Kalamazoo's Corner Bar on Saturday

DUSTIN WALSH  
For the Enquirer

Family and friends, love and heartbreak, death and loss. This is Mulligan.

The band's newest record, "The Tides of Blackheart Bay," is very autobiographical. And on Saturday, members Jakob Goheen and Derek Feltner will empty their hearts on stage at Corner Bar in Kalamazoo.

"The album reflects three or four specific events in his life," bassist Feltner said of Goheen's lyrics.

Recorded at Dynamite Sound in Grand Rapids, "The Tides" is the culmination of six months of recording and emotional self-exploration into gut-wrenching memories. Yes, mostly about a girl, causing the masses to register it as emo.

"It's (emo) become a four-letter



FOR THE ENQUIRER

Mulligan members Jakob Goheen and Derek Feltner will bring their raw emo sound to Kalamazoo's Corner Bar this weekend.

word rather than a three-letter word," Feltner said. "But, as long as people like it, I don't care what they call it."

However, the album goes deeper and beyond adolescent break-ups. "Every Other Petal Spells Disaster" was written in memory of Rick Puduk, a friend and fan who committed suicide in November 2003.

"It was really tough the first

few times we played it, but now it's a moving point," Feltner said. "We don't think about the bad. We think about the good times with him."

Ten percent of the profits from "The Tides" go to Gryphon Place, a Kalamazoo-based suicide prevention and crisis center.

Mulligan's sound is gloomy, sometimes abrasive, but mostly raw. Goheen, belts out deliberate, sluggish verses while the quicker-

## IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** Mulligan.
- **WHEN:** 9 p.m. Saturday.
- **WHERE:** Corner Bar, 1030 E. Vine St., Kalamazoo.
- **HOW MUCH:** \$5, ages 21 and older.
- **INFORMATION:** 269-385-2028.

tongued Feltner trails with back-up howls. The band hits on early alternative while embracing contemporary punk.

"I've been told we sound like a heavy version of The Cure," Feltner said.

Goheen and Feltner's balance is no revelation. The two have been friends since fourth grade and have performed together since "Saved by the Bell" and "Full House" ruled the set. Since their first set in a Tekonsha junior high talent show, Goheen and Feltner have performed more than 300 shows together.

"Jake and I are beyond the point of telling each other what we want to do," Feltner said. "I know it sounds strange, but we just know each

other."

Mulligan recorded its first EP, "So Long Happiness," in 1999. The band later released two more albums, "Hearts on Fire" and "Grey vs. Black."

Mulligan was approached by Marshall indie label Hearts on Fire Records, which borrowed its name from the band's EP, and the band became the label's staple. With the two aligned in 2005, "The Tides" was released. Hearts on Fire Records has signed some of the areas top bands and has become a local powerhouse.

"It's more of a family, we need that," Feltner said. "It's easier with a lot of people helping. If one band breaks, they help the others out."

The band recently lost a drummer and its original drummer, Dustin Smith, who left the band six months ago, will fill in for Saturday's performance.

Opening the event are Tommy Tomorrow, Heirs and label mates Autumn and the Wasp.

Goheen is an employee of the Battle Creek Enquirer.

Dustin Walsh is a freelance music writer.

## CALENDAR, from 6

Matthews, who is awaiting a stem cell transplant; 964-1095.

**RAFFLE AND BAKE SALE,** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday; Kellogg Center, Albion College; 517-629-1051.

**KALAMAZOO GOLF SHOW,** 5 to 9 p.m. March 31, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 1; Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo; free; 800-294-3206.

**LAS VEGAS NIGHT,** 5 to 11 p.m. April 1; American Legion Post 298, 228 S. 20th St.; \$2 admission; 963-6296 or 964-7230.

**SPRING COIN SHOW,** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 1; Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo; free admission; 269-273-6206.

**ROASTY BEEF DINNER,** 5 to 7 p.m. April 1, May 6 and June 3; Bedford Masonic Temple, 21945 N. Bedford Road; \$7.50 adults, \$3 children 3-12; 963-2016.

**KALAMAZOO ANTIQUE BOTTLE & GLASS SHOW,** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 1; Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo; \$3 adults, \$2 seniors; 269-285-7604.

**OPEN HOUSE,** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 1; Cornwell's Turkeyville USA, 18935 15-1/2 Mile Road, Marshall; 781-4375.

**RECORD AND CD SHOW,** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 2; Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo; free

admission; 574-329-1483.

**TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT,** noon April 2; Wayside Entertainment Center, 3406 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo; \$50 registration; proceeds benefit Kalamazoo Jaycees; 269-599-2170.

**POETRY OPEN MIC AND SLAM,** 7 to 9 p.m. April 3; Albion Public Library, 501 S. Superior St., Albion; featuring James Dixon as coordinator, and all poets invited; 517-629-3993.

**SPRING BREAK ARCADE TOURNAMENT,** noon to midnight April 3 and 4; NewAge Arcade, 2245 W. Columbia Ave.; 269-288-2956.

**TARTAN DAY CELEBRATION,** 6 p.m. April 6; Arcadia Brewing Company, 103 W. Michigan Ave.; hosted by Scottish Society of South West Michigan; 963-9520.

**WORLD OF FLAVORS DINNER,** 6:30 p.m. April 6; W.K. Kellogg Manor House, 3700 E. Gull Lake Drive, Hickory Corners;

a six-course dinner; \$32 per person; reservations, 269-671-2400.

**GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 8; Fetzer Center, Western Michigan University; \$35, includes lunch; 269-685-9402.

**SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN POSTCARD SHOW,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 8; Kalamazoo County

Please see **CALENDAR, 12**

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