

to the group. As Osborne continued, "We've never done it that way, where you write in the studio. But because we now have our own studio, we're allowed to do that."

The lineup of 54°40, featuring Osborne on vocals, Phil Camparelli on guitar, Matt Johnson playing drums, and bassist Brad Merritt, has been together since 1985. In an industry where artists come and go, this is quite remarkable. Just don't look to Osborne for an explanation for this longevity. "We don't look behind or ahead, to tell you the truth. I guess we're in a situation where we still have a good chemistry creatively, and we know each other well," he said.

In the bands sixteen years together, they have been able to witness a transformation in the Canadian music industry. "From our perspective, we can pretty much find work wherever we

want. The scene is bigger in some ways," he added.

But on the question of whether or not it is easier for a band to make a living in the industry today, Osborne sounded less sure, responding with a hesitant, "I think so. It still takes a lot of work. It wasn't until our fifth album that we could quit our day jobs."

Realities of the Canadian music scene also have had an impact on the longevity of the group. "We haven't really reached a successful peak where we've sold millions of records and made lots of money. We still have to do this. We can't rest on our laurels. It's a survival thing, and like Marvin Gaye said, 'you're only as good as your last song,'" said Osborne.

54°40 will be performing at the Barn on February 1 as part of the winter carnival. Tickets are available at the Barn.



CHOICE CUTS!

ATTEND IT!

The international education students, in their continuing quest to build an international airport behind Steele building are holding another fund-raiser. Wherein they will play *The Wizard of Oz* and Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* simultaneously and at the same time to see if there are any connections.

VIEW IT!

Snatch. Everyone should see *snatch*, in fact they should see as much as they possibly can. If you can see Brad Pitt, and Madonna's husband, then you will know, you are seeing *snatch*. And it is funny.

HEAR IT!

The song "Secret Wars" by The Last Emperor is yet another hip hop recommendation from our hip hop department. It is an amazing opus depicting an MC's favourite lyricist combatting his favourite comic book heroes.

HEAR IT!

The Cadre presents the Alter-Cases February 9th at the Barn and February 10 at Brennan's. Tickets are five dollars in advance and five dollars at the door. Bound to the best show of the ECMA week, and we are not just saying that because we have our asses hanging out in the wind on this one.

EAT IT!

Try the chicken shwarma at Cedar's Eatery, home of the worst service in the Charlottetown area. This Lebanese delicacy almost makes up for it. If you keep asking the server for things all through the meal you will exact some kind of revenge for the shoddy treatment afforded by the servers.

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