

GET INTO THE ACT

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FALLING OVER FAILURE

Allentown-based pop-punk band Falling Over Failure doesn't only inspire the crowd to slam-dance, they slam-dance with each other. "Our shows are a lot of high-energy jumping around," says lead vocalist/guitarist Gary Kulp. Bassist Doug Mills adds, "We end up bashing into each other a little bit. Gary actually broke a guitar neck on my head."

Despite being wild on stage, the longtime friends and Allen High School grads take their music seriously. They just completed their first tour, a two-week jaunt around the Northeast, and are looking to go much bigger. "I would say our goal is to get as big as Fall Out Boy," says Mills.

They thank local promoter Tom Taylor for taking a chance on them as high school students in 2004. "He really got our name out there," says lead guitarist DJ McAuley.

They write their own music, with Kulp, Mills, and McAuley working out the instrumental parts while Mills and Kulp pen the lyrics. Songs like "City Lights" and "This Town Isn't Big Enough For the Both of Us" are fun and catchy odes to friendship, mixing poppy melodies with hardcore screaming. "On 'City Street Lights' Gary starts out singing and the crowd always sings the rest," Mills says.

They have self-released a four-song CD and plan to record a full debut soon. As one would expect with young musicians -- all are still in their teens or early 20s -- their sound is still evolving. "The new songs are more mature," says Mills. "We've all gotten better at our instruments and the lyrics are more mature too."

Josh Berk