

# School's need sparks encore for The Dadz

By BROOKE WERLEY

**NORTHAMPTON** — A band that sold out the Iron Horse in November 2001, for an educational benefit, returns Tuesday, this time with reinforcements from musicians from the Northampton High School.

In its first outing, "The Dadz," a trio of local residents, played to a packed house at the 20 Center St. club to benefit the Holyoke Street School. That concert raised over \$7,000 for the school, a small facility that enrolls children with learning and behavioral problems.

The group's goal this time, said band member Peter Bigwood of Northampton, is to help the school offset the cost of a \$20,000 renovation to its roof, which was damaged this winter. The benefit will be held at 7 p.m.

The music that Bigwood, Hugh Heisler and John Todd play includes hits from the '60s and '70s. They call it "aging hippie music." In a new CD, they perform songs like Neil Young's 1969 "Everybody Knows This Is Nowhere," and the 1971 Jagger and Richards' hit "Wild Horses."

In a recent fund-raising letter, members of the group joked about their legacy, with a parodied quote from Rolling Stone magazine that read: "Are those guys still in the lobby? Could someone call security?"

Though "The Dadz" downplay their musical talent, which is

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certainly adequate, they praise the talents of Northampton High students who will join the band at the show.

"The Northamptones," the school's a cappella group, will open for the band. The group includes Todd's daughter, Hannah.

Later, NHS senior Caley Monahan-Ward will play fiddle and mandolin with the band in two numbers, joined by junior Gabe Feingold who will play electric guitar for one song.

Making a repeat performance at the benefit will be "The Daughterz."

Annie Bigwood, and Heisler's daughter, Sophie Sadinsky, will join Hannah Todd as part of this ensemble, which performed at the 2001 benefit. Both Bigwood and Sadinsky are in the eighth grade.

Tickets for the benefit are \$15. In addition to that amount, attendees are invited to give additional donations, ranging from \$5 to \$200.



ELLEN AUGARTEN

**The Dads, from left, Hugh Heisler, John Todd and Peter Bigwood. They perform Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Iron Horse in a benefit for the Holyoke Street School.**