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Four Play

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By Staff

On Tap takes a look at four local and touring bands each month. If you are interested in being featured, please send your CD along with contact information, including your website and a list of upcoming shows to On Tap Magazine, Attention Four Play: 25 S. Dove St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Rites of Ash

Web: www.myspace.com/ritesofash

Album: Like Venom

Show: Friday, July 2 at Jammin Java (CD Release), 8 p.m.: 227 Maple Ave. E Vienna, VA; 703-255-1566; www.jamminjava.com

Few bands can pull off that electronic rock and pop well, but if you need a reference of a job well done, look no further than DC-based band Rites of Ash, who spews originality and diversity in their latest album, Like Venom. Eleven tracks of rock meets pop meets electronica all carefully crafted into one unified album, makes this a hit. Reminiscent of Linkin Park and T-Pain (if they had a love child, it would absolutely be Like Venom), Rites of Ash make use of technology to influence and put their sound above the rest. Unique and upbeat, their live show fully supports the energy that you get from Like Venom. Wowing crowds seems effortless and natural for the band whose songs have graced MTV hit shows like "The Real World" and "Pimp My Ride." Lyrically impressive as well, is a personal favorite track, "Toxic." "Under the skin she's more than capable, to make you forget what's been done. Forever has been so long. Her lips are like venom and the stinger's left inside, don't turn your back on her, she'll lead you on a lie..." You can't argue with raw and honest lyrics like these. Truly breaking barriers on a local and national level, this album is worth all the hype it gets. —Ashley Estill



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