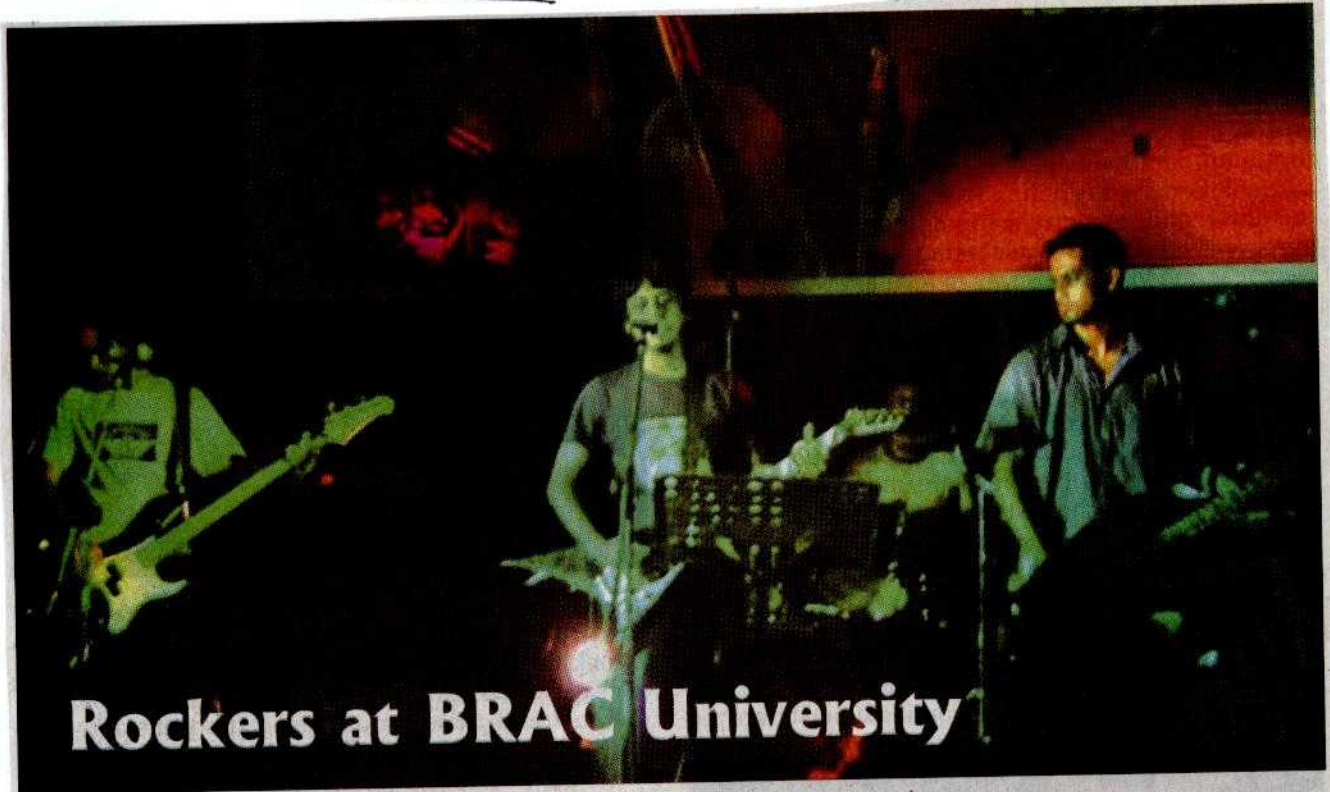


Star Campus

June 22, 2006



Rockers at BRAC University

SOME of the most renowned bands of today have originated as small bands performing in campus events. In this issue of Star Campus, we tried to find the inside stories of some of these bands. One such band is 'Scarecrow' from BRAC University.

'Scarecrow', the most popular Metal Band from BRAC University has managed to get a good fan base with their strong concert performances and mesmerizing songs.

Scarecrow has a very talented group of musicians in its line up with Tanvir on Vocals and Guitars, Shafeen on Guitars and Back-up Vocals, Rajib on Bass and Acoustic Guitars and Robin on Drums.

It all started in January 1993 with Rumman and Anjan conceiving the idea of forming an Alternative Band. Robin joined in too, thus making the base of the band. At that time Rumman was the vocal and also played the keyboard, Anjan was on guitar and Robin was at the drums. But as it happens, this initial formation died off with some of the mem-

bers opting out of it in an early stage, thus calling for some change in the band.

Six long years later, in 4th June 1999 the plan became successful and the group of young musicians came up with a new name 'Scarecrow'. But the band was reformed as a pure metal band with new members. Anjan left the band for educational



purpose but became the manager of "ScareCrow". Tanvir and Hasan joined at that time as the vocalists and guitarists.

After various lineup changes and concert performances, Scarecrow settled with the present lineup in mid 2004. They finished working on their debut album 'Oparthiv' which was released later that year with a huge response from the fans. Scarecrow's first album 'Oparthiv' maintained the Number One position for more than four consecutive weeks in the 'Rising Star Underground Albums' rankings.

Scarecrow is mainly inspired by heavy, trash and melodic death metal music. It is basically a heavy metal band but they try to bring a different taste out of the typical heavy metal patterns. They are working hard to change the taste of metal music among the listeners of Bangla metal songs. Their debut album hints on this approach of the band. The tracks composed by this band is popularly regarded as a mix of old and neo metal. →

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The members of Scarecrow have mentioned Megadeth, Metallica, Pantera and Dream Theater as their main sources of inspiration. In addition to that, they also like the Bangladeshi bands Cryptic Fate, Warfaze, and Rockstrata.

Scarecrow usually performs their own songs on the stage. Besides performing own songs they also cover different popular Megadeth numbers. To date, they have performed almost all the hits of Megadeth on stage and at times they also cover Metallica, Dream Theater and In Flames.

About the current Bangladeshi music scene, Scarecrow thinks that there are lots of talented bands in Ban-

gladesh at this moment. But they are not getting enough exposure to express their talents. There are lots of reasons behind that. If these bands can get a healthy environment of doing music, they have the ability and standard to prove themselves as great international musicians and can bring fame for the country.

These days however, Scarecrow has become more engaged with the ever increasing number of live concerts. They are also working out with new composes for mixed albums and for their upcoming second album, which promises to be yet another masterpiece. In the near future, they plan to do concerts all over the country and if possible, would also go for a world tour.

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On the 9th July 2007, BRAC University celebrated the completion of her 7th and 8th batches of CCNA course graduates. CCNA® stands for Cisco Certified Network Associate, which is the premium certification for professionals who design and develop custom business solutions with Cisco routers and switches.

BRAC University, as an authorized "Cisco Systems Local Academy" (LA) was established in 2003. This CCNA Training program will enable suc-



Cisco Networking Program under BRAC University

cessful candidates to prepare for the CCNA certification. In these three years we have produced over 200 graduates who all are now well placed in various renowned organizations all over the country.

BRAC University's Vice Chancellor Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury presided over the ceremony. We also had with us Dr. Sayeed Salam, Chairperson, CSE department BRAC University, Mr. Mahmood Hasan, Registrar BRAC University and Erika Hoffman-Kiess, representative of Cisco Networking Academy in Bangladesh. All congratulated the students and emphasized the need of vendor certification. The speakers also sug-

gested that specialized skills in networking are essential for the opportunity of better careers for the graduates. CCNA certification is increasingly becoming a mandatory qualification in job specifications in the networking area. Erika Hoffman-Kiess discussed about her organization's initiatives. One initiative is the website, "www.JIPLerz.com" which is acting as a link between employers and job seekers. This website will help the CCNA graduates further develop their career paths. Amongst the 34 graduates, one student from each batch said a few words. Faisal Mobarak, of batch 7 who works for Warid Telecom and Ali Al Asadullah Mohammad Shafi of batch 8, Assistant System Administrator of BRAC University, both stressed on the fact

their careers. They also requested BRAC University to also offer different training programs.

BRAC University was happy to announce the launching of a new certification training program on "Fundamentals of Wireless LANs", which also under the Cisco Networking Academy. Two instructors of the University have completed the instructor training from University of Indonesia under the Cisco Networking Academy. Since Spring 2007, BRAC University has also integrated the CCNA curriculum with the existing networking courses. This will help the students of BRAC along with their general graduation degree to be prepared for the CCNA industry certifi-