## NIGHI the life of FN7 Runk Rocker STEVE



ern's Tavern was packed on a Thursday night in March when Calgary Punk band X-Ray Cat took the stage.

Ryan Robinson rocking out on drums. Marcus Wodrazka slapping the bass. Front man Steven Benz shredding on guitar. This combination of experienced punk rockers can even incite full on audience violence.

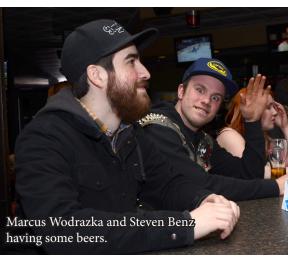
"The guy was just dancing around and stuff, its not like he was attacking her or something. I mean get a grip, the guy might be annoying you but why the "It all started when I was about 13 "I basically only work right now hell would you smash a pint glass into or 14. I had been playing guitar for to be able to have a home, eat, someone's face and potentially ruin the night for everyone, the bands and the audience alike." Benz says in an interview regarding the fight that occurred March 29th during his band's set.

"Totally stupid, some people shouldn't The Pissoffs. drink without a straight jacket on. Benz says.

shows but this evening things got pretty wild for no reason.

Benz is no noob to the punk scene ei- dragging desks into the gymnasium and the odds of success are always ther; he has been playing in bands for for finals for four years now. the past decade

even Benz, 23, g ink Rock trio X





a couple of years and started to see drink, smoke cigarettes, and play some local punk rock acts and I realized that that's what I wanted the side." Although working as a to do." Benz has performed with 5 bands including Calgary's beloved it does allow him his nights off to and recently retired –

"I'm a custodian. It pays the rent and gives me free time at night to Fights are almost expected at punk rock out." Benz, 23, is an Acting Team Leader for the crew at Mount Royal University. He's been setting up classrooms, banquet halls and

music, and do the odd fun thing on custodian is not Benz's dream job do what he truly loves.

"My dream job would be to live off playing in my band, it's all I ever really wanted to do in my life, and it's the thing that makes me the most happy." Benz says, "Don't get me wrong, sometimes its really stressful if you take it seriously stacked up way against you, especially if you play in a band like mine!"

"If I was able to live off it, I would be a happy man. Not a rich one, but happy." Benz says.

The odds may be stacked against Benz and X-Ray Cat but that's not going to stop them from playing shows and making more albums.

-Caitlin Clow