If we’re to believe the SoundScan numbers, most American college students listen to either jam bands or mainstream hip-hop. Bill Silvio ’02, however, isn’t like most American college students. Bill Silvio listens to his freezer.

“I think I have more of an awareness now of everyday noises. My freezer door at home makes this wonderfully rich smacking sound, replete with ice mugs jostling around. I love that sound, so the last time I was home I recorded it and now I’m using it in place of a snare drum in a track I’m working on.”

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You might find the idea of holding a microphone up to your appliances strange, but it’s paid off for Silvio, an electronic musician. His first release under the alias Fader, entitled Bridges, was just completed in late 2000, and it’s deeply informed by an ear for unusual sounds, both synthetic and acoustic. A genre-hopping excursion across hip-hop, drum’n’bass, deep house, techno and electronic music.

“Bridges,” says Silvio, “is also a refreshment break from the increasing one-dimensionality and balkanization of electronic music.

“There’s a big push in electronic music to create hundreds of subgenres as a marketing ploy. Artists tend to get stuck in one of these very narrow styles — I didn’t want that. It’s pointless anyway, this labeling, because artists tend to off-the-shelf equipment. “Turn The Page” could be a

Despite such willful experimentation and eclecticism, however, Bridges also boasts an impressively confident and polished sound, belying the fact that it was recorded by a busy college student with a scant $1500 worth of classical strings and strummed guitars brush up against acoustic instrumentation with the precision of algorithms and electronic filters. Found sounds also abound: “New Message” is built around the robotic voice of a voice-mail system, “Underworld Scrapes” samples live television shows from Silvio’s youth.

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The Senior Show, “Anything Goes” was performed last weekend in the Hogan Ballroom. The show was performed, directed, and produced by the class of 2001. Proceeds from the performances went to the Mustard Seed Soup kitchen in Worcester.

Averi plays HC, page 13

Averi is a group from Boston who has been touring for two years. The only thing the band members told me about the name is that it is the name of a lounge singer from the movie, “The Color Purple.”

Averi is a four piece band, including drums, bass, acoustic guitar, and flute/sax. Last Saturday they opened their set with a song that had an open, airy sound that was intense despite its lightness. The sax player, Mike Currier, did the soloing, which really complemented the lead vocals (Chad Perone) well. Their uniqueness seemed to be the result of the saxophone soloing with an acoustic guitar steadily strumming almost in the background. Every song they played fell into place quite nicely. Their grooves were tight, and sometimes even deep, along with being carefully placed within the structure of their songs. Averi played a straightforward set, going through songs very succinctly with minimal improvisation, which they didn’t seem very happy about. Audience members noticed the drummer, Matt Lydon, yelled out “Next!,” after several songs that were played in quick succession. Saturday night proved Averi to be a band made up of four highly-skilled musicians playing popular-sounding, though slightly unique originals. Their devotion to their groupies and few others formed the meager audience.

Lydon, drummer for the band played quite professionally on Saturday. He fulfilled his role as drummer, not only by playing well and having a good sense of dynamic, but by being the voice of the band’s conscience and after their songs. Not only did he yell out “Next!” after several songs that were played in quick succession. Saturday night proved Averi to be a band made up of four highly-skilled musicians playing popular-sounding, though slightly unique originals. Their devotion to their groupies and few others formed the meager audience.

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Lydon also served as the band’s conscience when I asked the lead vocalist/guitarist, Perrone, who wrote their songs. Before Perrone answered, Lydon yelled, “Dave,!” confirming some of my initial thoughts about their sound. I enjoyed their sound and might have enjoyed it more if it sounded less like Dave and more like Averi. In other words, their automated performance, which only got monotonous because of the lack of crowd inspiration, stepped them from reaching their potential, forcing them into popular-sounding, polished approaches to their music. Most of the band members would agree; Perrone (lead singer/guitarist) and Currier (the flute/sax player) even said that they have a little more fun with their stage when they play for bigger and naturally more enthusiastic audiences. They were a little displeased with the succinct, almost monotonous performance, but still admitted that they played popular rock/funk music. They seem to enjoy a blend of the clean sound that we mostly heard on Saturday night along with occasion...