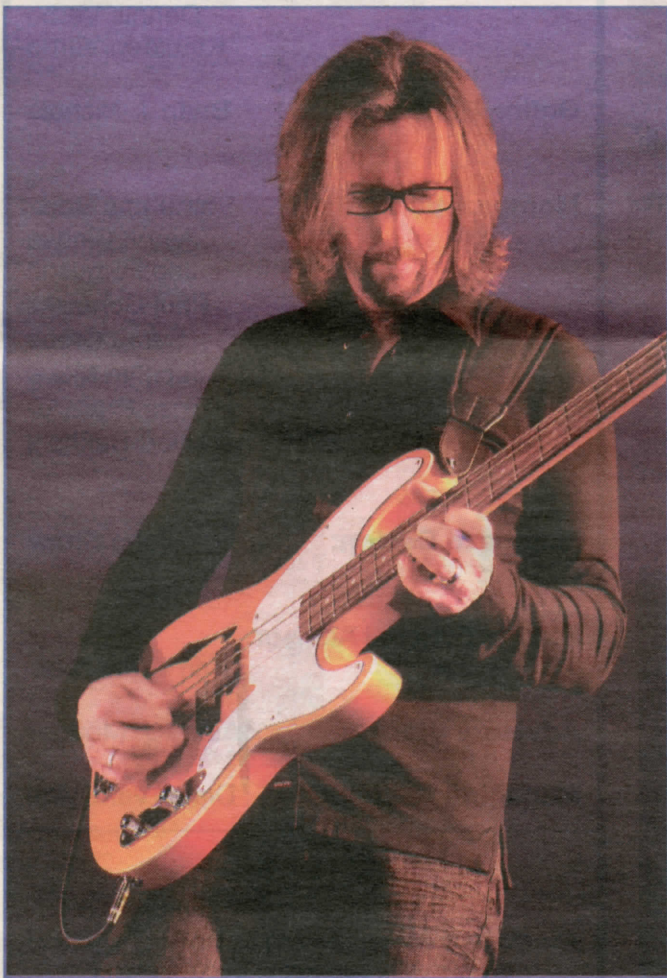


Michael Kelly: A Grip on Reality and the Music Business



MCCC Music Instructor and performer Michael Kelly with his Waterstone TP-12 string bass.

Photo by Matt Carlin

By Jocelyn Moye
 Staff Writer

Michael Kelly's office is full of instruments.

An acoustic guitar teeters on a box, and a mammoth upright bass rests on an overflowing bookshelf.

His desk, displaying the latest issue of Rolling Stone, divides the small room in half.

A Manhattan native, the Montgomery County Community College music professor first found success in The Big Apple.

"I cut my teeth with Ronnie Gent," says Kelly of his bass career, referring to the singer/songwriter of the Ronnie Gent Band, with which Kelly has performed since the early 1980s.

He was classically trained to be a musician. A cellist by age 8, Kelly became an acoustic guitarist at age 12 and a devoted bassist by age 13.

Kelly, who is also a member of the Rolling Stone-acclaimed group Wide Right, is best known for his work with The Grip Weeds. The band has received critical acclaim for its nostalgic psychedelic and 1960s pop sound. The group's song "What's In Your Mind" was used to promote the CBS series "Criminal Minds."

"We thought it was a joke," Kelly says of the band's initial reaction to the network's offer to use the song for its series. But when CBS confirmed that its offer was the "real deal," The Grip Weeds' multi-instrumentalist Rick Reil, who doubles as a

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Why Facebook 'Sucks': A Lesson in Online Security

By Billie Sherwood-Bakhshi
 Staff Writer

Facebook helps reunite long-lost friends.

It's a great way to find out what friends, family and co-workers are up to, and to share your updates, pictures and random thoughts.

It's even a great way to blow off steam or spend mindless hours with the Zynga games, Scrabble or silly quizzes.

Those are some of the upsides. But there are some serious downsides to this social-networking phenomenon.

Facebook lacks much in the way of customer support. The company's phone number isn't even published on its website. Usually this lack of information isn't a problem – unless your account is hacked.

On Dec. 28, my Facebook account was hacked – even though all of my privacy settings had been set to "maximum." The hacker also accessed my e-mail ac-

count and sent the following message to everyone in my contact list:

"Am sorry i didn't inform you of our trip to Cardiff, Wales United Kingdom for just few days. Right now am writing this in frustration and pain, we got mugged last night at the park of the hotel where we lodged, all our cash, credit cards and cell were stolen from us but i thank God we still have our life and passports with us. We've been to the embassy and the Police here but, they're really not helping issues at all, right now am in a local library using the internet to sent out emails to get help because it is the only means of communication available now. our flight leaves in less than 5hrs from now, but we are having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel management will not agree to let us leave until we settle the bills. Am freaked out at the moment please help us."

The hacker e-mail then asked the recipient for \$2,800.

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