



by Bear Frazer

Mayday Parade

Tales Told by Dead Friends

FEARLESS RECORDS



Most bands usually have the same common goals of performing meaningful music and making a career out of it, but joining forces to form a supergroup is unheard of. Yet in 2005, two local bands from Tallahassee, Florida did just that as they formed Mayday Parade. Since announcing their intergalactic merger, they easily picked up steam throughout the southeastern United States with their high-energy accolades. By the time 2006 rolled around, Fearless Records signed the emo sextet just in time to re-release their EP debut *Tales Told by Dead Friends*.

Mayday Parade establishes their style throughout the entire effort, and while all six of these songs have rich, pop-friendly, punk-encrusted melodies, the lyrics are quite depressing. On "When I Get Home, You're So Dead," vocalist Derek Sanders plays the victim as he painfully recalls being cheated on by an ex-girlfriend who sleeps around for acceptance. This parade only becomes more gloomy as they express abandonment on "Just Say You're Not Into It" and false hope on "The Last Something That Meant Anything."

Tales Told By Dead Friends is pretty long for an EP but that's nothing to be upset about. After listening to those six songs, the listener has a better understanding of what Mayday Parade has to offer. Though their commercial breed of emotional music is nothing groundbreaking, this serves as a solid precursor into the skeleton of their debut album. It will be interesting to see if they can further differentiate themselves from other outfits who share the despair gene.