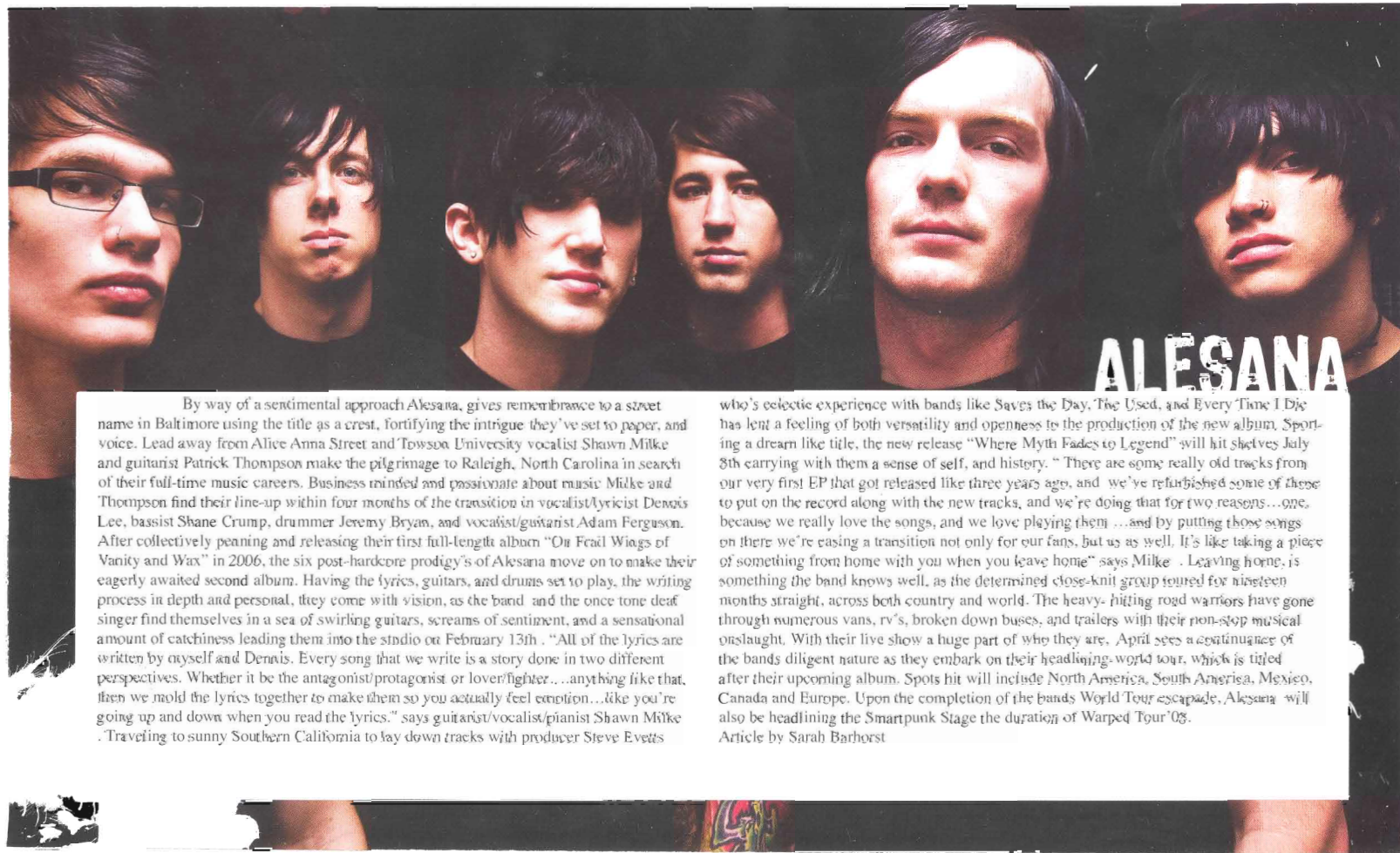


# SMP

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By way of a sentimental approach Alesana, gives remembrance to a street name in Baltimore using the title as a crest, fortifying the intrigue they've set to paper, and voice. Lead away from Alice Anna Street and Towson University vocalist Shawn Milke and guitarist Patrick Thompson make the pilgrimage to Raleigh, North Carolina in search of their full-time music careers. Business minded and passionate about music, Milke and Thompson find their line-up within four months of the transition in vocalist/lyricist Dennis Lee, bassist Shane Crump, drummer Jeremy Bryan, and vocalist/guitarist Adam Ferguson. After collectively penning and releasing their first full-length album "On Faded Wings of Vanity and Wax" in 2006, the six post-hardcore prodigies of Alesana move on to make their eagerly awaited second album. Having the lyrics, guitars, and drums set to play, the writing process in depth and personal, they come with vision, as the band and the once tone deaf singer find themselves in a sea of swirling guitars, screams of sentiment, and a sensational amount of catchiness leading them into the studio on February 13th. "All of the lyrics are written by myself and Dennis. Every song that we write is a story done in two different perspectives. Whether it be the antagonist/protagonist or lover/fighter...anything like that, then we mold the lyrics together to make them so you actually feel emotion...like you're going up and down when you read the lyrics," says guitarist/vocalist/pianist Shawn Milke. Traveling to sunny Southern California to lay down tracks with producer Steve Evetts

who's eclectic experience with bands like Saves the Day, The Used, and Every Time I Die has lent a feeling of both versatility and openness to the production of the new album. Sporting a dream like title, the new release "Where Myth Fades to Legend" will hit shelves July 8th carrying with them a sense of self, and history. "There are some really old tracks from our very first EP that got released like three years ago, and we've refurbished some of these to put on the record along with the new tracks, and we're doing that for two reasons...one, because we really love the songs, and we love playing them...and by putting those songs on there we're easing a transition not only for our fans, but us as well. It's like taking a piece of something from home with you when you leave home" says Milke. Leaving home, is something the band knows well, as the determined close-knit group toured for nineteen months straight, across both country and world. The heavy-hitting road warriors have gone through numerous vans, rv's, broken down buses, and trailers with their non-stop musical onslaught. With their live show a huge part of why they are, April sees a continuation of the bands diligent nature as they embark on their headlining world tour, which is titled after their upcoming album. Spots hit will include North America, South America, Mexico, Canada and Europe. Upon the completion of the bands World Tour escapade, Alesana will also be headlining the Smartpunk Stage the duration of Warped Tour '08.

Article by Sarah Barthorst