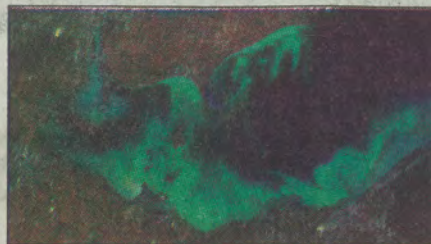


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Streak: Hold
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MARGARETTA HIGH SCHOOL Memorial to the late Scott Gast

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Sandusky Register

NAMED BEST PAPER & WEBSITE IN OHIO

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Guitar hangs in Gast's honor



An electric guitar with a photograph of the vibrant local musician Scott Gast hangs above the music room in Margaretta High School to inspire musicis to visit his alma mater. Gast's parents, George and Melanae Gast, and brother, Bryan, **ABOVE LEFT**, and multiple other family members were 'n attendance Wednesday at Margaretta High School for the dedication of the guitar, which is decorated with white and green polar bear prints and a list of achievements the 2002 graduate made while attending the school. Scott Gast, lead singer of the CoCoBeanOs, died in an automobile crash last Novem **ABOVE RIGHT:** George Gast holds his son's high school diploma.

Register photos/ANGELA WILHE' M

Sandusky Register

NAMED BEST NEWSPAPER & WEBSITE IN OHIO

Reflects the majority opinion of the members of the Sandusky Register editorial board:

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Register file photo/ANGELA WILHELM

From left, George, Bryan and Melanae Gast, father, brother and mother, respectively, of the late Scott Gast, stand under an electric guitar hung in the music room of Margaretta High School in memory of the 2002 graduate.

Gast family shares pain, commitment

We were as shocked as anyone last December when we learned rocker Scott Gast had died in a highway accident. He was too young to leave so soon, and we mourned with the community his loss.

At the newspaper, we watched Scott's career for a decade. It was part of our job to do that. Scott's talent, and his drive, brought him all that attention for all those years, and he'd truly built a following of loyal fans.

It's every family's greatest fear to lose someone they love, and we knew life was never going to be the same for Scott's parents, George and Melanae, and his brother, Bryan. We worried how they could ever handle their grief.

We still worry.

But George Gast is not running from his pain. On Scott's 31st birthday earlier this month he shared with the community his deepest fears, and his struggle.

Like many, we don't know if there's anything that can be said or done to comfort the Gast family. We don't know why Scott was taken so young. We don't know why the Gast family is being forced to endure his loss.

But we do know there's a lesson for everyone in knowing their pain, their journey, and George's and his family's willingness to share their struggle makes us all stronger.

your

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What more can be done to honor the memory of Scott Gast?

Send us a letter; see the Forum Guidelines on this page.