

Partly Cloudy, 44°

5 day forecast

Subscribe

Search

JOBS

AUTOS

HOMES

[Home](#) > [Local News](#) > LITTLE DRUMMER BOY

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

[E-mail](#) [Print](#)

LITTLE DRUMMER BOY

Web-posted Mar 7, 2006

Toddler gets a bang out of drums

By NATALIE LOMBARDO
Of The Oakland Press

BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Propped up in a high chair with a pacifier in his mouth, Julian Pavone jams on the drums like a seasoned professional.

Hard to believe, but Julian - who's said to be a musical prodigy by renowned musicians - is a mere 20 months old.

"Julian needs to be heard. He needs to be seen," said his father, Bernie Pavone of Bloomfield Hills.

And the little tike has already recorded a CD titled "Go Baby" with Ralphie Armstrong, a legendary jazz bassist, and William Winfield III, drum coordinator for the Cleveland Cavaliers. It will be released in a month.

"It's spooky, the kid's a genius. When I play with him, I feel he is the reincarnation of a Buddy Rich or Tony Williams, with whom I played," said Armstrong, of Grosse Pointe. "And he has phrasing, mathematical phrasing. It seems the harder the arrangements, the better he plays."

Armstrong has played with famous artists such as violinist Jean-Luc Ponty, soul singer Aretha Franklin, vocalist Al Martino, guitarists Carlos Santana and Frank Zappa, and blues legend B. B. King.

Julian, who is 32 inches tall and weighs 30 pounds, can't reach the bass drums or the high hat pedals. He is hardly visible behind a full set of drums and cymbals. Headphones protect his tiny ears from the crashing and clanging.

His 40-year-old father, a drummer since the second grade, discovered his then-3-month-old son's natural talent when he was practicing.

"I'd just hold him in my lap in a harness, and he'd reach up and try to grab the sticks. So I took his hands in mine, and we played the drums. By six months, he was doing it all on his own," said Pavone, CEO of Clinton Township-based National Business Development.

Winfield, founder of the United Drumline, a nonprofit organization that helps youth learn drum basics, signed Julian as a member. He's already played at a Cavaliers game and is set to perform in the future.

"I hit the drums when Julian came to try out. He would repeat what I did. He executed syncopated rhythms and did technical stuff like that. Of course, he doesn't know consciously what he is doing," said Winfield, of Cleveland. "I can't imagine what he'll be like in two



20-month-old Julian Pavone has learned to play his daddy's drums and has recorded a CD titled "Go Baby" that will be released in a month. [To purchase a copy of this photo.](#) -Doug Bauman/THE OAKLAND PRESS

TOP JOBS

▶ [Management Run corporate](#) store. Train franchisees. Dolly's Pizza Franchising 248-360-6440...

▶ [KRUSE & MUER RESTAURANT](#) in Troy now accepting applications 10am-8pm 16 Mile & Crooks. 248-652-3896 for more info....

▶ [OPERATING NURSE PROGRAM Become](#) a Operating Room Nurse at Mount Clemens General Hospital. This exciting opportunity is.....

[View all TopJobs](#)

TOP HOMES

▶ [ROYAL OAK spacious](#) with-in walking distance of downtown, cable. \$350/mo. \$300 dep. 248-399-9339...

▶ [CLAWSON PRIVATE Bedroom.](#) Non-Smoker, No Pets. \$390 + 1/3 utilities. Call 248-219-2696...

▶ [EQUITY FUNDING Rates](#) starting at 1.4%. Any stage of foreclosure or bankruptcy. No money needed on purchase of primary or.....

[View all TopHomes](#)

TOP AUTOS

▶ [Honda CRF150](#) 2003 extra nice \$2k O/B 810-614-1234...

▶ [FORD F-350 XL](#) 2003 V10, 4x4, low miles, exc. condition, regular Cab. \$14,900. 810-614-0907...

▶ [MAZDA B4000 '94,](#) runs great, auto, 4x4, MP3, new paint. \$1995 or best offer. 248-673-8542...

[View all TopAutos](#)

TOP RENTALS

▶ [CLAWSON PRIVATE Bedroom.](#) Non-Smoker, No Pets. \$390 + 1/3 utilities. Call 248-219-2696...

▶ [Bloomfield Twp. 3](#) bdrm colonial, Bloomfield Hills Schools. \$1500/mo. 248-540-4306 ...

years."

Just think, the experts are talking about a baby.


Julian prefers playing his DW Collector Series drums. His drum rolls are fast, precise and the timing is perfect, Dad says, maintaining that Julian can outplay him.

Recently, the Pavones applied to the Guinness Book of World Records for their son to be named "The World's Youngest Drummer." His favorite bands to rock to include The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, The Who, Chicago and Rush.

Mom Lisa Pavone, 30, said her son plays from 30 minutes to two hours daily. Julian's sister is 5-week-old Annalisa.


"He'll ask to play the drums," said his mother, a physician in Lake Orion. "He just enjoys it."


 [E-mail](#)  [Print](#)

 [ROYAL OAK spacious](#) with-in walking distance of downtown, cable. \$350/mo. \$300 dep. 248-399-9339...

 [View all TopRentals](#)

 **TOP MERCHANDISE**

 [REFRIGERATOR, STOVE, microwave, dishwasher](#) 3 years old white \$750 o/b 248-346-3463...

 [View all TopMerchandise \(1\)](#)