

Blind comic playing Markham Theatre tonight

He may have lost his sight, but not his sense of humour. Gord Paynter, a blind comedian, is coming to Markham Theatre for Performing Arts for

the second of two concerts today at 8 p.m. Mr. Paynter lost his eyesight in his early 20s as a result of diabetes. He soon realized blindness could have some positives. His career began on amateur night at Yuk Yuk's Comedy Club. Since then he has toured North

America as a stand-up comic and motivational speaker. Tickets are \$29 and the theatre is on Town Centre Boulevard in the Warden Avenue-Hwy. 7 area. For more information call 905-305-7469.

— Sameera Akram

Markham man's band up for video Juno

BY VICKY TAM
Correspondent

Former Markham resident Todd Clark is up for a Juno award. Sort of. A video by Mr. Clark's band, Toronto-based Pilate, has been nominated in the annual music award show, slated for tomorrow and televised on CTV.

The video, by director Maxime Giroux, is for Into Your Hideout, a song from the band's major-label debut *Caught By The Window*.

Surprised to hear about the nomination, Mr. Clark said, "I think we're happy about where we're nominated. I think it reflects kindly on a lot of people who've had a lot to do with, I guess, any success that we've been having."

While the race is close, Mr. Clark thinks one of the Florida Sigismundi-directed nominations (Christina Aguilera's *Fighter* and Sigor Ros' untitled), will earn the nod.

The other contenders in the category are: K-os' *Heaven Only Knows* (directed by Don Allan) and Broken Social Scene's *Stars and Son* (directed by Christopher Mills).

A Markville Secondary School gradu-

'I think a lot of what I'm doing today is a result of some the music teachers there.'

Todd Clark
Pilate

ate, Mr. Clark attributes much of his interest in music to the school.

"I think a lot of what I'm doing today is a result of some the music teachers there. Wayne Hill and the program there had a lot to do with my interest in music and how we ended up at this point."

After graduation, Mr. Clark went to the University of Western Ontario and studied music for about a year before switching to history and classics.

Now a resident of downtown Toronto, Mr. Clark last visited Markham in autumn of last year for the wedding of high school friend Kev Wilson.

A growing presence in Canadian music, Pilate is currently on a cross-Canada tour. And if its recent sold out Toronto show is any indication, Pilate is flying high.

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