

NEXT GENERATION BAND

Jeff Foxx and band plays for daddies and daughters

Jeff Foxx, of 98.7 KISS FM morning fame, has had his own band for over 16 years. Now Foxx's kids and other youngsters have stepped the sound of classic R&B and Hip-Hop up a few notches into the Next Generation Band.

The Next Generation Band debut their skills in New York City on Feb. 16. They performed at the *Real Dads Network and Proud Poppa Newsmagazine's* first annual Valentine's Daddy-Daughter Dance at the historic Landmark on the Park.

This afternoon of dancing, spoken word and live music gave fathers and daughters the opportunity to bond together and really show that relationship between fathers and their daughters. Jeff Foxx's Band and the Next Generation provided both dinner music and dance tunes. Alisha Allen, star of the movies "Are We There Yet?" and "Are We Done Yet?" was a special guest. The 17-year-old actress is now a high school senior and preparing for college by taking advanced placement classes.

The talented youngsters, two of Foxx's own sons and their classmates from the Teaneck Community Charter School make up the Next Generation Band. Foxx's son, J. Allyn, 12, is an accomplished keyboard player and is known as the "Professor" in the group. His other son, Jarren, 8, is the percussionist and "Rhythm Blaster" with the band. Joining the boys are their friends, Evan Bowler, 11, who



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE BIVINS

Jeff Foxx, 98.7 KISS FM morning show host, helped form a band in Teaneck called The Next Generation Band from the Teaneck Community Charter School. The band, from left to right, is J. Allyn, Jarren (Jeff's sons), Sumner Perera, Sam Fennell, Evan Bowler (back row) Jeff Foxx and Ivan Ramirez (band teacher).

plays lead guitar like a mini-"Slash" and is known as "Strap-blasters"; 10-year-old Sam "The Slam" Fennell keeps the heartbeat of the band booming on the drums; and 11-year-old vocal

powerhouse, Sumner Perera.

"To think, all that sound coming from that little girl, it's amazing!" exclaims Foxx.

The Next Generation Band is actually headed by Foxx and area

guitar legend Ivan Ramirez, who is known industry-wide as one of the best in the business.

The Next Generation Band has played at Mexicali Blues in Teaneck for a fundraiser for the Tea-

neck Community Charter School, a progressive and successful K-8 grade school.

The band looks forward to other local and tri-state engagements in the near future.