Teacher can't beat having a studio in his home

BY SCOTT WEYBRIGHT

Todd Rundgren wrote a song with the refrain "I don't want to work. I just want to bang on these drums all day."

For Catonsville resident Grant Menefee, work means banging on the drums all day.

Or teaching others how to.

The Arbutus native has operated a drumming studio, where he has given would-be percussionists private lessons for more than 20 years, out of his Idlewilde Avenue house.

Although he freelances for several bands around Baltimore and Washington, Menefee said, he's always wanted to teach others how to play.

The graduate of Lansdowne High School (Class of 1976) earned a bachelor's degree in drumming from the Berklee College of Music in Boston then had to decide between teaching and performing.

Playing meant months touring around the country; teaching would allow him to start a family and settle in the area near where he grew up. Teaching also meant he could play with a variety of bands.

"To be able to live in a place like Catonsville, I mean, it's a nice community.

PHOTO BY NATE PESCE

Catonsville resident Grant Menefee, who gave private drumming lessons for 15 years at what is now Towson University, watches 12-year-old Daniel Sitnick of Catonsville during a session in Menefee's Catonsville studio.