



Photo submitted

The band **FLAME**, of the Lexington Center, recently acquired a custom tour bus, so it may travel together to its many yearly functions.

FLAME custom tour bus arrives

The tour bus for **FLAME**, the rock band from Lexington Center in Johnstown, arrived May 7. The 43-foot black bus, purchased from Don Brown Bus, was made possible by donations from the community. The bus will allow all of **FLAME** and its staff to comfortably travel together in one vehicle to the over 80 performances they have each year.

The bus is customized to accommodate the special needs of the band, including a wheelchair accessible bathroom with lift sys-

tem, kitchenette, televisions, and GPS system. Custom graphics will be added to the outside of the bus in the coming weeks.

"The band members are great ambassadors for people with disabilities and the tour bus is a symbol of achievement and a tribute to the success of this band. This bus will be a shining example of the ability in all of us," said Paul Nigra, Lexington Center executive director.

FLAME, made up of 11 people with developmental disabilities,

including autism, mental retardation, Down syndrome, paralysis and blindness, perform to audiences all over the northeast. Their popularity continues to grow and they are pursuing national exposure through possible film or television projects.

FLAME is available for hire through Lexington Center. For more information about **FLAME** or to order their new CD, contact Maria Nestle or Tim Fiori at Lexington Center, 762-0024, or go to www.flametheband.com.