

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Music Review: Jabbawackeez and New Kids On the Block rock Erie Civic Center

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Step by Step, Covergirl, and You Got it (The Right Stuff) were just some of the old school hits blaring from the Erie Civic Center Sunday night when the returning original boy-band New Kids On the Block made its return to Erie's block. It was a sea of bright green leggings, hot pink high heels, hair scrunchies, and old and new NKOTB t-shirts of 21-35 women reuniting their past by pre-gaming at the nearby bars. Once into the Center, hundreds of screaming fans were dancing, drunk, and extremely excited to see their long lost pop music star crushes. After nearly a decade and a half, the legendary Boston native group has made a comeback to celebrate their musical legacy with hopes to strengthen one to a new generation. The musical sensation performed their new single and hit song, "Summertime."

Jabbawackeez, the mainstream dance group who became champions of MTV's *America's Best Dance Crew Season One* exactly one year ago opened for the guys on the block. On March 26 the crew performed a twenty-five minute session in entertaining chapters. Flipping flairs, in-

sane isolations, and stunning dance moves boggled the crowd's minds as a "figment of your imagination." The 10 Jabbas' out of Sacramento, Calif. were probably the main attraction for most of the younger audience. Known for their intricate synchronization and unique mime and kabuki-styled theatrics, the guys changed up costumes, used props, wore afro wigs, and rocked their notorious white masks and gloves. The crazy Jabbawackeez's name comes from Lewis Carroll's novel, *Through the Looking Glass* where "Alice ponders what the world is like on the other side of a mirror (the reflected scene displayed on its surface), and to her surprise, is able to pass through to experience the alternate world. There, she discovers a book with looking-glass poetry, 'Jabberwocky', which she can read only by holding it up to a mirror."

Basically Jabbawackeez were out of this world this past weekend and you may have spotted them carousing Millcreek. The New Kids: Jordan Knight, Jonathan Knight, Joey McIntyre, Donnie Wahlberg and Danny Wood said that they ventured to the local Buffalo Wild Wings. The Jabbawackeez were also spotted dancing

in the Fox and the Hound Saturday.

Freshman Melissa Hickman thought the show was definitely crazy and the best part was indeed The Jabbawackeez. "They were really good and got me going to watch the New Kids On the Block.mmmShe said, "I especially liked when the New Kids moved into the crowd on a red smoky platform. It was sweet to see them

sing 'Single' on top of the piano."

According to *nkotb.com* fans are to expect to find their new album released this summer. As for Melissa and I, we figure if in ten years N'Sync or Backstreet Boys is reunited and goes on tour, you can expect to see us in the crowd, minus the scrunchies.



The newly reformed New Kids on the Block (top) and the Jabbawackeez (bottom).

The Playlist Goes Local

Ceann brings Irish rock to Bruno's

By Heather McGovern
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Ceann performed for the Penn State Behrend crowd in Bruno's cafe Saturday night. At the Ceann event were a couple from Canada and even a group of young adults not affiliated with Penn State. The Irish-American band focused on their origins, at one point singing "Pittsburgh Makes Me Drunk," as well as, songs about Vikings, Pirates, Canadians, Scottish, and various other subjects involving beer and the color green. Mix all these topics together and you get Ceann, in all its shining, humorous glory. Not only did Ceann belt out ballads about the Irish, but they also sang songs about how being "Pretty on the Inside" is better than being not pretty at all. One of the songs played was titled "Crust Filled Nation." It detailed the negatives of a hangover after an alcohol-filled night. Another song, titled "Green Beer," described the rare occasion of drinking green beer on St. Patrick's Day.

Not all of the songs fell along the topic of drinking. The first song played at the performance was "Blame the Viking," a ridiculous song chronicling the disputes between a man and his woman. The man claims that he did not leave the car in neutral which rolled away quickly. He said that he did not leave the coffee stain on the rug or his beard clippings on the sink. He stated



Ceann recently performed at Bruno's cafe.

that he did not leave the oven on or get her pregnant last year. It was all the Viking. Ceann lyrically narrates it with a comedic twist:

"And you blame me: And I blame the Viking; And I'm pretty sure that answer is not to your liking."

Ceann continued to entertain with satirical songs. At one point during the performance, Ceann asked participants to dance on stage. After a bit of a struggle to find participants, one man and two girls agreed to make a spectacle of themselves. Ceann taught them how to dance to the "Pirate Song." They used their hands to cover one eye to mimic an eye patch and their middle fingers to mimic a peg leg. The dance moves continued to become more ridiculous and amusing. The participants were shaking their "booties" on stage and mimicking parrot chatter. By the end of the performance, the participants fully exhausted their self-esteem and stumbled off the stage, laughing all the way back to their seats.

The performance was success, as Ceann brought in a crowd beyond Penn State Behrend's students and fully entertained the students that did attend. The couple who traveled down from Canada and wished to remain anonymous stated, "The band, Ceann, is our favorite band of all time. We enjoy listening to them all the time. It was worth the long travel to see this group. We were hooked the moment we heard their music."

Food For Thought

"I may not have gone where I intended to go, but I think I have ended up where I needed to be."

- Douglas Adams

This week in comics

By Neil James Peters
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1. The Amazing Spider-Man #588: Concluding both Character Assassination and the Spider Tracer Killer story arcs, issue 588 wraps up nearly six months of adventures in a twisting crescendo. After a brutal loss to the hands of the Menace, being shot, and sent to prison after a conspiracy framed him for murder, Spider-Man must overcome impossible odds to save his friends from the hands of a raving lunatic and the city he loves from a corrupt politician.
2. Wolverine #71: Logan's tale about a horrific alternate future nears its end. With all the heroes' dead and villains running the show, he and the blind Hawkeye trek across a demolished United States. Attempting to deliver a secret package to an unknown buyer, the duo fight of grotesque reincarnations of dead heroes and villains alike.
3. Witchblade #125: With the War of the Witchblades imminent, NYPD Detective Sara Pazzini and dancer Danielle Baptiste are now set at odds. Both now command the awesome power of the witchblades and their differing opinions in the legendary weapons use for good. The rising tension, brought on by Danielle accidentally killing and abusive boyfriend and making Sara get rid of the body, leads only the approaching clash of comic titans.
4. X-Force #16: Several of the X-Men's most vile mutant-hating, homo-sapien supremists

have been released by the Purifiers. With a strike team lead by the infamous Leper Queen, they have systematically brought chaos to America's heartland. Wolverine and the X-Force are the countries only hope the stop the carnage. But as the final blow is about to be struck by the feral Wolverine, the tables are turned and a fellow X-Man is lost.

5. Trinity #42: Wonder Woman, Batman, Superman attempt the preserve the universe as the Dark Trinity war reaches it's climax. With only the Big Three left holding the threads of reality together while Krona tries the rip them apart, the fate of existence stands on the edge of a knife.

6. Superman/Batman #61: After being tossed into an Alice and Wonderland-like version of the DC earth, the two heroes attempt to find away home all why trying to save as many lives as possible. Teaming up with that world's heroes, the Justice Titans, the Dark Knight and the Man of Steel fight to save Gothamopolis.

7. Punisher #6: Norman Osborn has taken control of S.H.I.E.L.D. and super-villains run amok all over the globe and the heroes are powerless to stop it. However, against all odds on man has stepped forward to bring down the ex-Green Goblin's reign of tyranny. That man is none other than the feared and brutal Frank Castle. Will he be able the single handedly fight off an army of criminals and save the nation? When you're dealing the Punisher, anything is possible.



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