

Not saved by the bell

by Eddie Edwards
Collegian Staff

The much anticipated movie "SHOWGIRLS", starring Elizabeth Berkeley (Jesse from Saved by the Bell) was finally released about three weeks ago. As expected this movie blew the audience's mind away but in the wrong direction.

Berkeley plays and orphan/prostitute named Nomi who goes to Las Vegas in order to appear in one of the Las Vegas productions. She wants to be a Las Vegas Showgirl. Nomi

spends her first few weeks in Las Vegas as a stripper at a sleazy night club. She lives with an African American woman, who is coincidentally the seamstress for one of Las Vegas's biggest productions "Goddess." Eventually Nomi auditions for a part in "Goddess" and lands the role as the star's understudy. Through deception and betrayal she becomes the star of "Goddess" and almost loses her only friend. The rest of the plot deals with her climbing to the top doing "whatever" she has to do to make it.

I felt the plot and the whole movie was horrible. It was just about a bunch of women prancing across the screen naked. If you want to see this buy a Playboy. The movie had zero substance and should never have been released.

If Berkeley was trying to place herself in a category with Sharon Stone she definitely succeeded.

I don't see her playing anymore innocent roles (like in Saved by the Bell) in the future.

The movie definitely fit its title "Showgirls" because that's all it did. (Show naked girls)

Poetry reading at Barnes & Noble

by Adria Kovaly
Collegian Staff

Okay, I admit it. This is last minute news, but in case you haven't heard, Thursday, November 2nd (that's today), at 7:00 p.m., there will be a poetry reading at Barnes & Noble Bookstore.

Representing Behrend in the "Poetry Horn of Plenty" will be Dr. Diana Hume George and Professor Alan Michael Parker, in addition to student poets Sharain Naylor, April Salzano, and Dan Sargent. Also present will be Diane Goodman, Sonya

Jones, and Kirk Nasset, as well as students Andrea Krackow and Julie Parker from Allegheny College. Books will be available for signing.

Another book that will be available for signing will be "Taking Flight," the story of Vicki Van Meter, the twelve year old girl who flew across the Atlantic. Vicki will be on hand to answer questions about her experience and sign her book.

The reading is taking place in honor of the Share Our Strength "Writers Harvest: The National Reading." Events such as this help to raise funds for the fight

against hunger. In addition, Barnes & Noble will be donating two percent of the day's sales to Share Our Strength. There are plenty of books, music, tapes, and computer items available, so give yourself time to browse around. You just might find something that will give you the opportunity to help their cause.

So hop on the shuttle or grab a ride to Barnes & Noble, 5909 Peach Street, across from the Millcreek Mall, for an evening of culture and entertainment all in the name of a good cause.

Still a "Ten" after five years

by Joe Ryan
Collegian Staff

This week I didn't get around to the music store to purchase a new CD so I'm going to review a certain 'must have' for you CD collection. Pearl Jam's release "Ten" was an album which debuted ahead of its time but quickly set the standard by which other groups would soon follow. The strong, ripping guitar chords present on its first two singles, "Alive", and "Evenflow", were such a drastic stray from the norm that many future listeners found themselves alienated. After all, this record was released at around the same time as M.C. Hammer's classic "You Can't Touch This", and all of Vanilla Ice's inspiring additions to humanity.

Pearl Jam has been one of the founding fathers of the alternative music scene. Along with Nirvana, they introduced America to a new kind of music that mixed artful storytelling through poetry with ripping music and melodic beats. The sheer power of the cutting chords mixed with an unmistakable voice have become the signatures of Pearl Jam and their brief spin-off, Temple of the Dog. It's this kind of music that truly marked

the end of the tight-jeans, big-hair eighties. Thank God!

"Ten" received most of its popularity through its song "Jeremy", which won an MTV award and made use of symbolism and art, rather than simply flashy looking women in tight clothing (or men for that matter). Since then, Pearl Jam has refused to do videos for its songs preferring for listeners to get their own meanings from the lyrics.

"Ten" is an album which has stood the test of time. Songs such as "Jeremy", "Black", and "Evenflow" continue to receive air-play on radios and MTV to this day. The album is one that you can listen to without using you skip button while doing homework or partying. Few albums can claim that distinction. It is an album which truly shows how far music itself has come as a form of expression. It has set the standard for other alternative groups and has inspired millions of young people to pierce their ears, grow their hair long, wear flannels, and most of all, be themselves. Even if you don't like alternative music, you should be grateful toward Pearl Jam, at least Vanilla Ice didn't catch on.



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