

# Dirges more than just a band

by Colette Rethage  
Collegian Staff

If you haven't heard them by now, I think it's time you crawled out of your cave to see what you're missing. The Dirges are a band straight out of State College, PA whose members met while attending Penn State. They describe their music as groove based, alternative, and carthy modern folk.

The Dirges have been together for four years and have released two albums: "Fiber," which was recorded in 1993 and "Splinter," which was recorded in March of 1994. In all, these albums have sold over 6,500 copies. Their new album "Nifty Villa" will be available in mid-March. The album will contain live versions of songs from "Fiber" and "Splinter" as well as three new songs: "Perfect Circle," "Cradle," and "Captain William." You can find this album as well as the others at your local record store, or you could check the Dirges out at one of their CD release parties

in mid-March at State College, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, and Pittsburgh.

The Dirges have strong followings in these cities as well as in Washington, D.C. Hopefully they can gain a strong following here in Erie, too. They played for an enthusiastic crowd last Friday night at Docksider, a bar downtown. Some of the Dirges best songs include "Salt" and "God Enough" off of "Splinter," and "I Walk Alone" and my personal favorite "My Fall." Also, "Gatner Grey," off of "Splinter" won second place in the mid-Atlantic Songwriter's Contest. Also the Dirges are now sponsored by Airwalk Footwear.

If you would like to be on the Dirge's mailing list, you can send your name, address, and phone number to: The Dirges, 423 W. Nittany Ave., State College, PA 16801. You can also contact the Dirges on the



internet. The address is: <http://www.sgi.net/dirges/> or <http://poe.acc.virginia.edu/~nova/>

dirge.html. Or, if you want to check them out live, they will be playing this Friday, Feb. 16, at

Crowbar in State College, or next Friday, Feb. 23, at Nick's Fat City in Pittsburgh.

## Osiris files

by Adria Kovaly  
Collegian Staff

What do you get when you cross "Star Trek," its many spin-offs, and "America's Most Wanted?" Add in a "Northern Exposure" veteran as your lead role, and you have "The Osiris Chronicles," an upcoming movie scheduled to air on CBS.

Set in the year 2419, we find a universe in chaos. The Galactic Republic has fallen. Warlords and techno-wizards vie for control, while common people just struggle to survive.

Our hero, Justin Thorpe (John Corbett), is one such struggler, resorting to trading with a warlord for food. Returning home, he discovers his 12 year-old sister, Nova, has been kidnapped. With the help of former Republic General Lars Sorenson (Rod Taylor), Sorenson's granddaughter, Maggie (Elisabeth Harnois), and Wally Brice (Darryl Theirse), a telepath and mechanic, Thorpe gets the dry-docked Osiris up and running.

This ship is their key to rescuing Nova from the Engineers, technicians with a grim vision of the future of society.

Actually a harsher future than those depicted in the "Star Trek" series, "Osiris" seems to ask, "What if the Federation lost?" Instead of an elite force saving the galaxy, you have a rag-tag band searching for a missing girl. There are no high-tech, last minute save devices to turn to in a crisis; the Osiris crew has to go with what they've got.

This opens up a new avenue I myself would enjoy in a sci-fi series, a sort of "Star Trek meets Robinson Crusoe." The Osiris crew is out to do good, but they have their problems. And the characters themselves aren't out of the ordinary (except maybe the telepath). They're just doing what they feel they have to in order to save the life of a little girl. "The Osiris Chronicles" sounds like an intriguing movie, and one you might not want to miss, since there's talk of it becoming a new series in the fall.

## Flew the Coop

by John Hafner  
Collegian Staff

If you're like me, the world class cuisine at Dobbins tends to get a bit monotonous. Week after week of nothing but mild sauce can really take its toll on you.

The local restaurants like McDonald's, Burger King, and Arby's can also trap us in a fast food rut.

So where should we, as hungry students and paying customers, turn for a good meal at a fair price? That's easy: M.C. Coop's Grill and Bar-B-Que.

Located in the K Mart Plaza on Buffalo Road, M.C. Coop's has been open for business since November 14. Its location makes it a particularly convenient option for Behrend students.

The restaurant's manager, George Huskamp, says his number one goal is to provide a "healthier alternative" for his customers. He points out that skinless chicken makes a healthier meal than a Big Mac or a Whopper.

The list of side dishes at M.C. Coop's also encourages a nutritious diet. One may choose from various types of salads, potatoes, pasta, and vegetables.

For those who care less about fat and more about flavor, the wings and ribs come in generous portions covered with delicious barbeque sauce. Other sauces include honey and mustard, Mexican salsa, and sweet and sour.

M.C. Coop's also offers ham, soup, nachos, tacos, desserts, and countless chicken dinners. Their vast menu includes, but is not limited to, grilled chicken, chicken tenders, chicken breast sandwiches, whole chickens, half chickens, and chicken platters.

Special family meals are also offered and children receive a free cone with every kids meal.

Customers may eat in, take out, or drive thru. Huskamp's sales pitch seems to stress great food, healthy alternatives, fair prices, and customer convenience.

Huskamp is currently putting

together a flyer that will be mailed to Behrend students in the near future.

M.C. Coop's Grill and Bar-B-Que is the perfect choice for lunch, dinner, parties, and any other occasion that demands good food - the kind that "sticks to your ribs."



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