

STP: more rock

by Joe Ryan
Collegian Staff

The latest offering from the Stone Temple Pilots is somewhat of a disappointment to their fans. Rather than keeping with the cutting edge, guitar-based melodies with which they attracted legions of fans, they altered their style in such a way as to completely alter their sound.

The first four songs are so similar, they could be integrated into one long song with differing lyrics. The sound of the first half of the album is far from their norm, as exhibited on their first single, "Big bang baby." The sound is more hard rock than alternative, like something by Metallica, or AC-DC. Scott Weiland's ego has also enveloped the album, penetrating otherwise prominent guitar solos. The singing style and lyrical style, also, seem to be directly stolen from a number of sources. He appears to be attempting to emulate groups ranging from the Stone Roses to Alice In Chains to the Smashing Pumpkins on various tracks.

The album does somewhat redeem itself on the second half with tracks such as "Lady Picture Show," and "Tripping on a hole in a Paperheart." These two examples of songs are remnant of their widely successful album, "Core." They are filled with artful and precocious guitar solos and the singing style that made STP the distinctive band it is.

The Stone Temple Pilots began gaining success in San Diego, where the acquisition of Scott Weiland on lead vocals provided a distinctive voice with heartfelt lyrics. The rest of the group, Robert and Dean DeLeo, and Eric Kretz, hail from New Jersey. Their 1992 release, "Core," caused instant comparison between Weiland and Eddie Veddar. Their heavy reliance on the guitar work of Dean DeLeo provided a number of top-10 hits including: "Wicked Garden," "Cheep," "Sex Type Thing," and "Plush."

Their popularity soared with the 1994 release of their second album "Purple." The song "The Big Empty," also released on the soundtrack for the movie "The Crow," quickly climbed to

number one on the charts. Several other songs cracked the top 10 including: "Vaseline," "Unglued," and the widely successful "Interstate Love Song." "Purple" secured the group's mainstream status, but in doing so, lost somewhat of the sophomore creativity so evident on "Core."

"Tiny Music" continues to decline as the group's popularity intensifies their willingness to compromise their integrity for something more appealing to the masses. As a result, the album loses much of its two predecessors' flair. The album sounds as though it were recorded very quickly as an attempt to remain in the public's eye. The group also came upon a number of misfortunes during the liaison following "Purple" including rumors of a breakup and Weiland's very public arrest on drug charges (for which he has been arraigned and awaits trial). The music has been too hastily composed and with too much regard for what the public would want to hear. The originality of the Stone Temple Pilots has been lost with "Tiny Music."

Post show

BEHREND-The undecidable and wildly different Robert Post will perform as part of the Cultural and Performing Arts series at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, on Saturday, April 13 at 8:30 pm in the Studio Theater.

Admission is free and open to the public.

Known as the One Man Theater Company, Post portrays dozens of weird, funny, and moving characters who could only be created by a unique yet wacky mind. In his performances, Post blends dialects, sound effects, props,

sets, and naturalistic acting with his trademark physical style of "body graphics," creating a new style of visual and verbal comedy.

Post's award winning one-man show has played in 35 states, Canada, Mexico and Japan. In 1994, his work was seen on PBS in a special 30 - minute presentation, *Robert Post-In Performance*.

Post appears as part of the Penn State-Behrend Cultural and Performing Arts Series. For more information, contact the Office of Student Activities at 898-6171.

Santa Monica?

by Jeannine Ouillette
Collegian Staff

Everclear, a young band, has recently released a new album - "Sparkle and Fade," produced by lead guitarist Art Alexakis. Craig Montoya, bass; Greg Eklund, drums; and Mr. Alexakis

all shared in vocals. The album featured the popular tune "Santa Monica." Despite the song's popularity, a lot of people still ask "who?" when the band's title is mentioned.

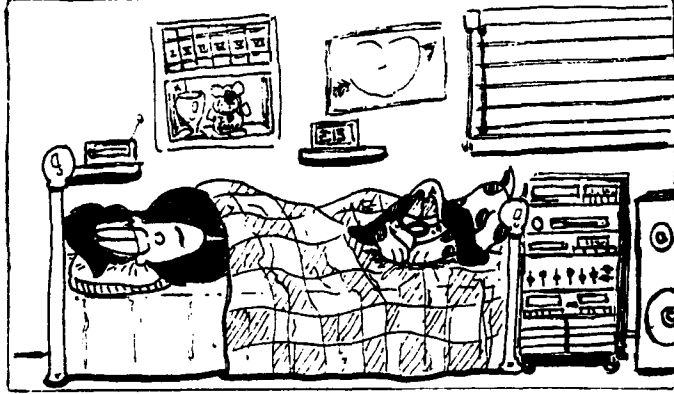
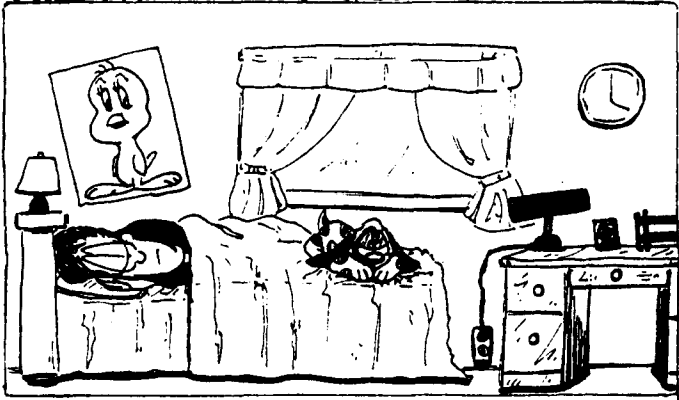
The group has not had too much media coverage. But, from the looks of the album cover, which pictures the band members as children leading into adults, they seem to be of a small town/family oriented background. Their songs cue into this as well as a "we don't give a f---," attitude, as explained in "Summerland," track number five.

As far as talent, these Tom Petty fans have not given the world of alternative much of a compliment. The members have decent voices but, instrumentally, their sound is just noise. "Santa Monica" is a catchy song that is frequently played on Rocket 101 and Jet 102 FM, as well as being shown on MTV. Yet, the rest of the album sounds totally different from that one single; I was personally disappointed.

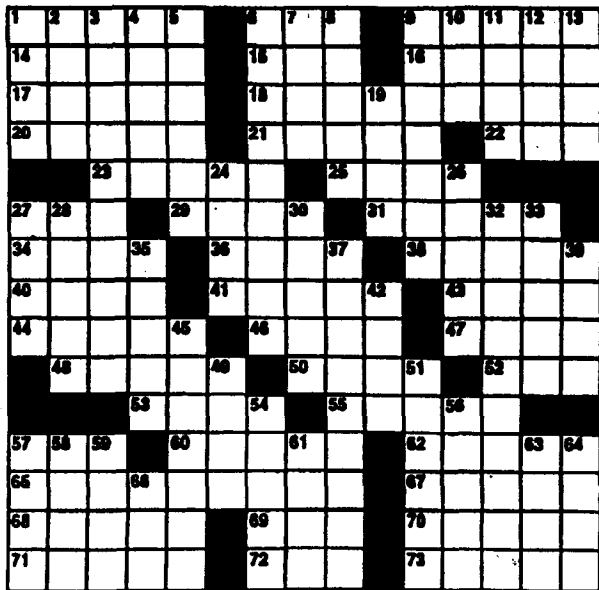
Everclear seems to be just another alternative band that sings about sitting around, getting wasted and doing nothing, spruced up with a little attitude. With alternative music being so mainstream, originality is a must, and unfortunately, in this case it does not apply.



MILK MEN AND Company by Brad Merrin



- ACROSS**
- 1 Jacket part
 - 6 Priest's vestment
 - 9 — d'hote
 - 14 River in France
 - 15 Bleat
 - 16 Wall hanging
 - 17 Finch
 - 18 Mix up
 - 20 Domesticated
 - 21 Cake decoration
 - 22 "Norma —"
 - 23 Scientific writer, Asimov
 - 25 Percolate
 - 27 A letter
 - 29 Western state: abbr.
 - 31 Pierces
 - 34 Elephant feature
 - 38 Surmounting
 - 38 Comic or landing end
 - 40 As neat as —
 - 41 Ethical
 - 43 Make sharper
 - 44 Embankment
 - 46 — avis
 - 47 Graceful bird
 - 48 Domain



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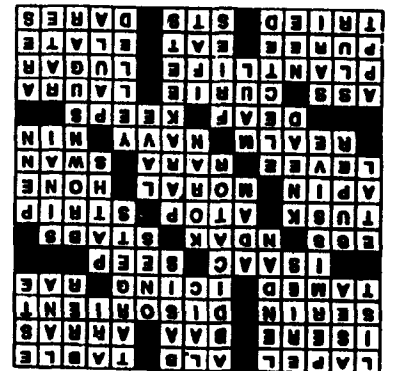
Crossword

- 50 Service branch
- 52 Anals —
- 53 Unheeding
- 55 Hangs on to
- 57 Donkey
- 60 Radium discoverer
- 62 Actress Dem
- 65 Flora
- 67 IN senator
- 68 Thick pulp
- 69 Corrode
- 70 Gladden
- 71 Testad
- 72 Wall and Fleet: abbr.
- 73 Challenges

- 6 King who has quit
- 7 Secular
- 8 Foundation
- 9 Things shot at
- 10 Onassis, family
- 11 — Rabbit
- 12 Actress Turner
- 13 Punta del —
- 19 Dollar bills
- 24 First person
- 26 Ways
- 27 Lat. abbr.
- 28 Excellent
- 30 Sacred book
- 32 Baking ingredient at times

- DOWN**
- 1 Roster
 - 2 Needing guidance
 - 3 Lenient
 - 4 Western Indians
 - 5 — ear (listen)

- 33 Biblical mount
- 35 Work dough with the hands
- 37 Pet birds
- 39 Sean or William
- 42 Wash
- 45 Put into office



- 49 Handle roughly
- 51 Shouted
- 54 Cooks, in a way
- 56 Actress Prentiss
- 57 Engagement: abbr.
- 58 Aspersion
- 59 Ran's garment
- 61 "— first you don't..."
- 63 Appraise
- 64 War god
- 66 Born