

Eastern Smyle

by Ryan Bogart
Collegian Staff

The band formerly known as "Fine Line", is coming out with a new CD tentatively scheduled for release in late May. "Eastern Smyle" was a garage band from Girard, Pa, and played cover for about six years in local bars. But the last year and a half they've been perfecting their sound and their songs so they will be comfortable releasing their first CD.

Randy Hetherington, percussion, was quoted as saying, "We were Fine Line, and left off playing out as a cover band, which limited our money and opportunities."

The band is made up of a horn section which includes leader Daryl Bean as soprano, alto, tenor sax and keyboards; Anson Ko plays flute, soprano and alto sax, and the trumpet. Finishing the horns is Gary Askounes playing the trumpet. Randy Hetherington is on drums and percussion, and his brother Rob plays bass. Mike Cummings is lead guitar, and John Fortsch is on rhythm. Rounding out the band is Eric Alsbach on lead and Fred Grumbach on lead and backups.

Hetherington quoted, "Fred is an active participant in the creation of song writing and help with vocals but isn't able to play with the band full-time."

The style of the band is far from anything that would be considered conventional, combining jazz, rock, and funk.

"Our sound ranges from Steely Dan to Phish, and from Genesis to Kool-n-the Gang." Hetherington went on to say, "One thing I can guarantee, it will be the most diverse, non-compilation CD to hit the stores this summer."

"The crowd that we're appealing to can be best described as non-conventional pseudo beatnik hippies," quoted Hetherington.

Nine songs are tentatively planned to be placed on the CD including *Forest, Brief, and Drive You*, resembling the jazzy side of the band. *Serena, Thanks to You, Pio and Can't Have Pets* demonstrate the jazzy, creative side. *Matter of Time* and *Girlfriend's Will* is are mixtures of funk rock.

"We want our listeners to come with as open of a mind as possible because there is something on the disc for everyone," quoted Hetherington about the sound.

"In our music, the audience will experience many opposites, such as the case in *Matter of Time*, where our two lead singers are featured singing together. During the verses, Eric displays the brighter side while Fred brings a somber mood to the chorus, supporting the theory of the yin yang." Hetherington added, "Our goal is to forget conventional and stereotypical boundaries and be as diverse as possible because that is who we are."

The band is waiting to finish the CD before booking gigs and

their release party for the CD has yet to be announced. "We don't really care if we get signed. And that's the beauty of it; it's not a business move for us," Hetherington said.

The future of the band relies on the success of the CD. "This CD is do or die. We're going out on a limb because we aren't matching our sound to what's on the radio, we're attempting to be as original as possible," stated Hetherington.

The CD cover will be a colorful version of the yin yang symbol which is the band's major theme. "The difference between light and dark, good and evil. Our sound covers a wide base and our singers present a difference as in the yin yang," cited Hetherington.

The CD production company, Diskmakers from Philadelphia, Pa, will distribute the disk. Locally, Keith Veshecco from TRS Audio in Erie at 26th and Peach from Raven Sound will mix the tracks individually.

Hetherington stated about the matter, "We pay him to mix the sounds that we created in the studio."

The CD will be available at Dig Dios on 12th street, Record Den at the Milcreek Mall, Dick Bullings World of Music, and Raven Sound in Erie in late May. The CD is a first for the band and they are excited to distribute it, so if you're sick of the conventional bands on the radio, check Eastern Smyle out!

by Joe Mottillo
Entertainment Editor

Four years gone by so fast - Where has the time gone? From a shy freshman to a confident senior, I look at the changes made between high school and college. They seem so trivial compared to the changes made in the last four years. Instead of looking for a summer job, I'm looking for a "real" job.

I have a lot of people to thank for these changes and the confidence I've gained.

I have to start with my fraternity brothers. Without them, I don't know what I'd be doing in school. They are the greatest friends anyone could have. I get more upset then ever now when someone says I bought my friends. If you don't understand what goes into a fraternity, don't bash them. I fully support all of them, no matter who writes a cheesy letter to the paper yelling at them about times and who was responsible for giving people paperwork (not saying any names).

I would have to say that my family is the most important thing in my life and have been the most helpful.

The person that has been the biggest positive influence on me has been my girlfriend. I never thought that I would give my letters to a girl, but I have. She

means so much to me; words can't explain the love I have for her. Being apart from her has been the most difficult thing I've had to do.

Michelle, thanks, you know what it's for.

If you think this is all mushy, it is to this point.

Now is the time for me to rant, first at this higher institution of learning. Why can't the registrars office at UP print out grade reports? Why do people have to take classes that they have no interest in (To make me a well rounded person)? Why is their a new fee to pay each year for something or another? Why has the parking problem been addressed for who knows how long and not had some action taken upon it? When is SGA going to mean something to this campus again? Why does Housing and Food have such a monopoly on food on this campus? When is Ken Miller going to get a jump shot?

Finally, when are the Steelers going to win the Super Bowl, the Pirates the World Series, and the Pens the Stanley Cup? When is Penn State not going to get screwed out of a national title?

When is hell finally going to freeze over? Answer to that one, it does and it's called Erie.

Behrend, thank you for four years of everything. To all the people involved, keep in touch. Mom, I'm coming home.

The end!

Silently into the night

by Chad Clouse
Opinion Editor

Since this will be my last chance to write for the newspaper, I'd like to take this last opportunity to vent that small bit of anger, happiness, fear, sexual tension, hatred; all sitting on the end of my tongue like a grain of salt burning a small hole.

For three years the politics have not changed, they are one sided. I feel that by reading these articles, waxing them into the paper every week, I've been pulled down into their negative outlook, or driven crazy by archaic ideas that I thought died in the 20's. I feel the politics of religion are limited by their affiliation with a Christian tradition that still sees women as second class. I feel Marxism is limited by its own ideas. There is no motivation behind the doctrine, no driving force for change, and, besides, we are all so hungry for something more, something physical and substantial that Marxism can not give us. Why else would we be in college? I feel that happy people should be shot on sight, and that dumb people should be castrated, but these feelings only come in moments of frustration. I am a little socially inept when it comes to dealing with those of a different race. I grew up in a county in Pennsylvania where no blacks or Hispanics or any foreigners lived. Yes, these places still exist. It was an all white school. I apologize to Crystal and I'm glad she

pointed out my small obsession with the different races; However, I think I'm anxious to learn about and include the Other even if my mouth in sometimes pure white male. Sometimes I feel guilty about being a straight white male. How can I not with the diversity focus of this campus. When I feel guilty I just think of my own psychological problems, having to deal with killing someone in Desert Storm (a confession or a lie), and decide that we all are in the minority in some situation, or belief.

I urge everyone to become involved, to present their politics loud and clear for others to hear and except the criticism and have the ability except criticism as a chance to grow and develop those ideas that have been criticized better, or divorce yourself from those you find repulsive as new ideas are expressed.

I urge everyone to stop once a week and not think. Just watch a brain numbing movie, or sit in your favorite restaurant and stare at the candle on the table. Take a hot bath and read poetry that is sexually explicit, or at least arousing, because all poetry should at least be arousing. Think about the meaning later in bed, just let the music of the words overtake you.

I urge everybody to take a half hour every week and beat the crap out of a punching bag and imagine it's that one person you really hate. Then stop hating him or her. Have it out with the bag. It's relaxing, it's heart pounding, it's

physically draining, and who can be angry when their tired?

At night I wish that I could be in control of everything. Wouldn't the world be so much easier if you were in control? I go to sleep at night playing a sequence of events through my mind. I am hidden in a small wooded area behind a house with a .50 caliber rifle. I am sighted in on a man stepping into the drivers side of a parked truck. I flip the safety off and then I fall asleep. I never actually shoot the man, and he doesn't have a face. Psychoanalyze that.

I lie in my poetry and I think it's real. It's what seemed real. Tim O'Brien makes that distinction for us, between what happened and what seemed to happened. We never really know what happened.

Modern music turns me off. It's too meaningless or generic or redone. I can listen to Domingo and go to sleep without dreaming and that's the greatest feeling. A good day is like the music of a beautiful tenor for me.

A bad day for me is being stabbed in the back by a friend, but I'm trying to avoid that conversation by my confession prone style. I feel like Alanis Morissette when she says, "Isn't it ironic."

I am leaving the newspaper with a bitter feeling and that grain of salt on my tongue still burning. I never had my say, silently the ship slipped in the night and the Captain cut my throat.

If you really want to know, ask me.

Two Rooms

by Adria Kovaly
Collegian Staff

With the help of a grant from the Erie Community Foundation, Penn State-Behrend theater director Tony Elliot will be reintroducing community-based summer productions to the campus with the play *Two Rooms*, a drama by Lee Blessing.

As of Thursday, April 25, auditions for the roles are still taking place. Monologues are welcome, but materials for readings are available through Tony Elliot. All the roles are open and even though this is a community production rather than a student one, students are encouraged to try out. Auditions will be taking place at the Studio Theater/Penn State-Behrend from 7-9 pm. All of the roles are still open.

The roles available are Michael Wells, a hostage and an educator; Lainie Wells, Michael's wife, an educator; Walker Harris, a newspaper reporter; and Ellen Van Oss, a representative of the State Department.

Two Rooms will be running at the Studio Theater June 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 & 22 at 8:00 pm and June 16 & 23 at 2:30 pm. If you have any questions or would like to obtain scripts and audition materials, contact Tony Elliot at 898-6279.