

# Smashing Pumpkins Live

by Tim Holsopple  
Asst. Entertainment Editor

Drawing strength from past personal problems and a hyped crowd, the Smashing Pumpkins delivered the best show I have ever had the privilege to witness.

They played to a sold out crowd in the Bryce Jordan Center at Penn State Main Campus on Wednesday, Jan. 29, pulling a wide selection of songs from their coffers. They offered up such gems as "Rhinoceros" (from "Gish") and "Rocket" (from "Siamese Dream") and even snippets of "The Aeroplane Flies High (Turns Left, Looks Right)" (from "The Aeroplane Flies High" singles box set) and an instrumental that Billy Corgan composed for the Ransom soundtrack.

The show was part of a tour in support of their latest album "Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness." Starting late 1995, this part of the tour was expected to be

their best, after having performed this particular set of songs together for over a year.

They played most of the current singles: "Thirty-three," "Zero," "Tonight, Tonight," and the perennial crowd-pleaser "Bullet With Butterfly Wings." The latter of which had to be started over: Corgan lost his place at the very beginning of the song and could never catch up.

My personal favorite was "1979," because they invited Jimmy Frog, of the San Francisco band The Frogs, to perform with them. Before they began, Jimmy went into the crowd and selected four squealing girls to dance on stage during the piece. They started the song, and Jimmy, dressed in a sparkling green suit and bird wings, ran around the stage, half the time not even playing his acoustic guitar. He mostly danced with the goofy girls and jumped off of the amps. d'arcy was content to play her bass with timely precision.

The Frogs would have been a better opening act than Fountains of Wayne, who play uninspired bubblegum Bryan Adams pop. The Fountains seemed unsure of themselves, and could only bide time until they played their MTV hit "Radiation Vibe."

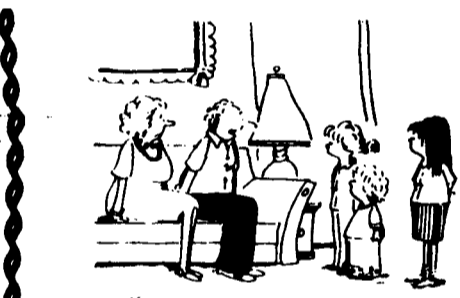
Matt Walker, the Filter drummer filling in for the fired Jimmy Chamberlain, handled the traps fairly well. Often it seemed the songs were in hyper-drive, as Matt was playing too fast. Other than a few barely noticeable mistakes and one complete goof-up, he was a formidable presence, showing off his knack for wicked beats during the improvisational finale.

The Smashing Pumpkins, having almost ten years under their belts, still command genuine respect. Corgan mentioned in pre-tour interviews that this might very well be their last tour together. That made the experience all the sweeter, if not more sour.

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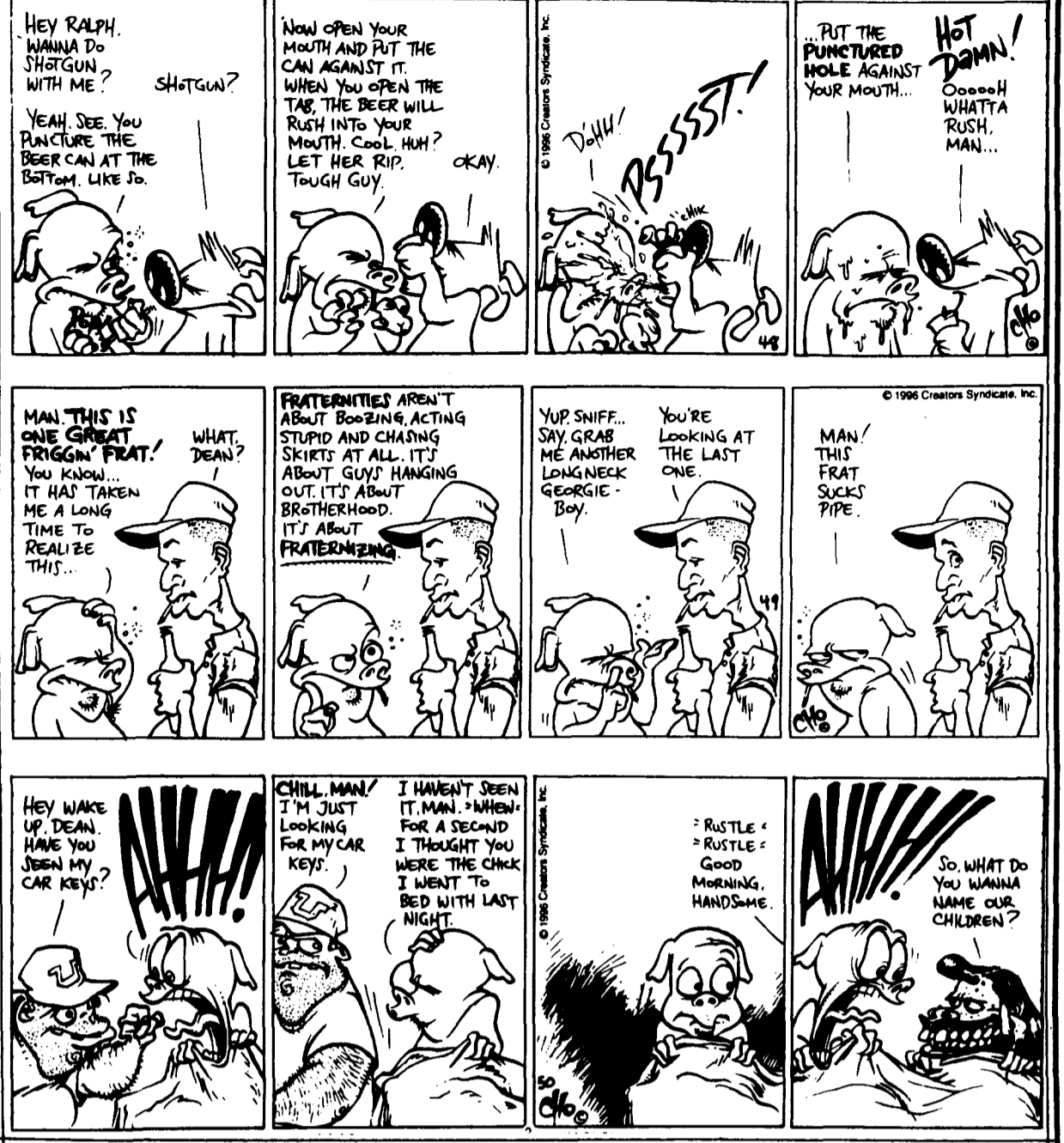


"Please don't get married right out of high school. Go to college. See the world. Give us a break!"



"They say there's someone for everyone...I'm for me."

## UNIVERSITY<sup>2</sup> by Frank Cho



## No rowing the boat ashore here!

by Jenn Reisenweber  
Collegian Staff

Do you believe in angels? The ones with the big white-feathered wings on their back?

In *Michael*, a heart warming story of three writers for a Chicago magazine confront this question. They put their jobs on the line when they chase a story about an angel living in Iowa. Surprisingly, this is not your typical angel.

The angel, Michael, played by John Travolta, has sex, has no halo and is far from being angelic. (This makes all you Catholics out there

wonder about those endless hours of Sunday school.)

There may be question to his methods, but Michael gets the job done. Through his work he helps two people fall in love and saves someone's life.

Their journeys lead them to a variety of sites along the way. (Ever seen the world's largest frying pan?). These journeys and the discussions along the way are what make up the crux of this film.

It is a great movie and I give it two thumbs up. Travolta plays a "heavenly" individual that doesn't boogie as in *Saturday Night Fever*

*Pulp Fiction*. he has a softer edge but in no way loses the sarcastic glint.

There is a somewhat "hidden" innocence in the story line and an unforgettable congeniality in the lead character.

The true test of this movie is to put aside the stereotypical images of an angel. If you are expecting to see harps and hear hymns, look else where.

Open your mind and your heart and as the three reporters eventually realized do exist.. you too will start to believe that angels really do exist.



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