

Website of the week

By Dave Young
staff writer

All someone has to do is mention the word "free" and people will be interested. If you want to find free stuff on the internet, Freaky Freddie's Free Funhouse of free stuff is the place to be. Located at <<http://www.freakyfreddies.com>>, Freaky Freddie is the man when it comes to complimentary stuff on the net.

If there is something being offered for nothing over the net, Freaky Freddie has got it. Thirty-five categories of free stuff are

available to choose from. You can find anything from complimentary gifts to free graphics. If by some chance you cannot find anything you like at Freddie's, you can get to the top 50 free sites on the web through links from Freddie's site.

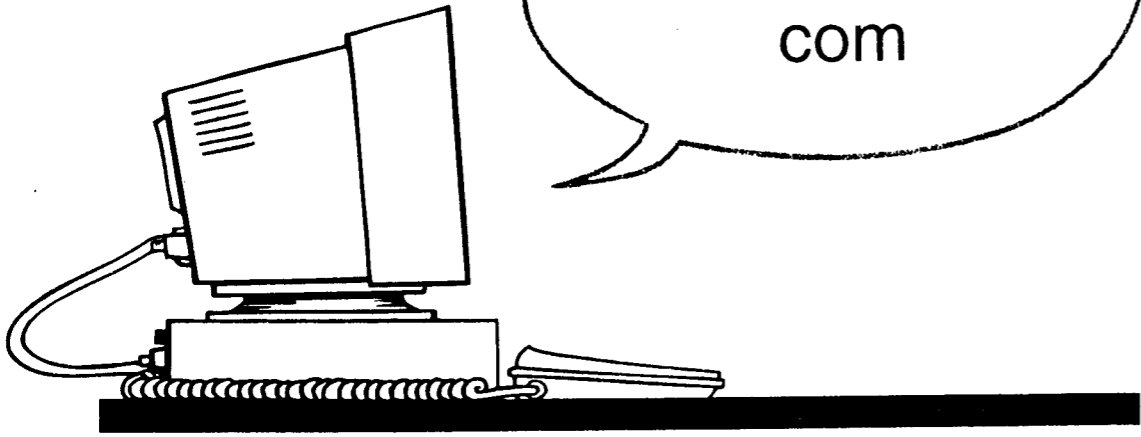
Freaky Freddie offers a visually appealing web site that is very well organized. The digital postcard site is highly recommended. Here you can send anyone a postcard via e-

mail gratis. There are over 400 images and over 100 music files to choose from. You can also send your card in 17 different languages.

Freaky Freddie definitely has a site worth checking out on the web. What could be better than 35 categories of stuff you don't have to pay for?

The Beacon will be featuring a different website every week

WWW.
freakyfreddies.
com



Belly: drugs, redemption and the Motherland

By Will Jordan
news editor

Music video director, Hype Williams, makes his film directing debut with *Belly*. *Belly* is about two childhood friends who grew up in Queens, New York and have become involved in the drug game. The movie takes place in the year 1999. Several hip hop artists are featured in the film. The two main characters are played by DMX (who released his debut album this past summer) and Nas (who has an album on the way). DMX's character, Tommy Brown, lives his life in the fast lane. He enjoys robbing and selling drugs to make money. His character's girlfriend is played by upcoming R&B artist Taral Hicks. Nas's character, Sincere, is the more

soft spoken of the two and aspires to become an honest family man. His wife is played by a member of the R&B/hip hop group TLC, T-boz. Method Man, one of the members of The Wu-Tang Clan, as well as hip hop artist Scarface, also appear in the movie.

Tommy and Sincere get themselves deep into the drug game and begin feeling a lot of heat from the authorities as well as other competing drug dealers. Sincere, although wanting to be out of the drug game, stays in it because of his lifelong friend, Tommy. Eventually, Tommy sees the error in his ways and tries to become a better person. However, the authorities attempt to blackmail him into trying to murder a black activist. Meanwhile, Sincere makes plans with his wife to go to Africa. Method Man's character comes into view around this time.

He is a friend of one of the men who was arrested with Tommy's group. Method Man goes on a shooting spree, killing one of the rival drug dealers and attempting to find and kill Tommy. The film comes to a close when Method Man's character is killed by Tommy's girlfriend. Tommy decides not to go through with the killing of the black activist leader, and Sincere goes to Africa with his wife after being in a gun fight.

Belly was shot in a very dark style, but Williams uses several camera angles and effects to set the mood of the story. The artists that act in this movie are very convincing in their roles. However, Williams did not delve too deeply into the main characters. The movie portrays a lot of violence and a lot of marijuana.

★★★

Jimmy Z's is the perfect neighborhood bar

By Roger Burlingame
staff writer

Jimmy Z's Time Out Tavern (a.k.a. The Pub), a local sports bar located on Buffalo Road, receives a lot of patronage from students right here at Behrend. If you are of legal drinking age, you have probably been there once or twice. Last week I took a couple of my friends from out of town to The Pub to enjoy a bite to eat. We were not disappointed; Jimmy Z's has some of the best bar food in Erie.

The atmosphere in the pub is that of a friendly neighborhood bar: ripped bar stools, wallpaper with beer and sports posters; and the bar itself is covered in sports trading cards. There is a game room with a foosball table, a pool table, a dartboard, pin-ball machines, and a megatouch machine to keep everyone occupied. Top this off with a trough in the men's graffiti-ridden bathroom, a six-pack shop, and a kitchen that is twelve feet long, and you have a perfect recipe for a dive bar that you can't help but feel great about.

The liquor selection is average.

However, the beer selection is much better than average. On tap there is Molson Canadian, Red Dog, Miller Lite, Woodchuck Draft Cider, Murphy's Irish Stout, Two Dogs Lemon Brew, and even the staple of all college students, The Beast.

The bottled beer selection is much larger. It includes imports that you would not expect to find at a neighborhood bar, such as Guinness and Boddington's. This is largely thanks to the six-pack shop connected to the pub.

If you are lucky you will visit the pub when Sara is working, because she is by far one of the best bartenders you can find anywhere. You can be sure that if she waits on you, everything will run smoothly and you'll have a great time.

The menu is small but solid, and you discover that everything has a special name. The Fat Chic, for example is one of the best sandwiches I've ever had. It consists of two hamburger patties in between two chicken strips, smothered in cheese and Z sauce. It was so good that I'm going to have one as soon as I am done typing this

article. Z sauce is a very special recipe, and it is a well kept secret; so I won't spoil the surprise. Just let me say that my friends and I are very much in love with Z sauce.

But first let us talk about the appetizers. I had the French onion soup, and it was perfect. It was also the first time I've seen French onion soup in a neighborhood bar. If you want deep-fried anything, The Pub has it. My friends enjoyed the combo basket, before moving on to bigger and better deep-fried things. Take the chicken wings, for example. I hold that they are the best wings in Erie. With nine flavors to choose from, one can't go wrong. One of my friends had the honey BBQ wings and agreed that they were excellent. My other comrade enjoyed the Philly steak and cheese. It was plenty big, and it was delicious. I imagine that one would have to go to Philly to do any better.

All things considered, I couldn't find a better neighborhood bar to send someone to if my life depended on it. I suggest you get yourself really, really hungry and go down to Jimmy Z's Time Out Tavern.

Latino's boasts unique ethnic atmosphere

By Michael Coursey
staff writer

One of the best places in Erie to find Spanish and Latin food and music is Latino's Bar at 1313 Parade St. in downtown Erie. The restaurant/bar is owned by Pedro Vargas and offers a full bar and a somewhat limited menu, with burritos, tacos and pollo (chicken) dishes. Their tacos have a very delicious, authentic taste; they are somewhat reminiscent of the tacos I used to have in

San Diego. The hot salsa they have is very good; I prefer the verde (green) salsa and nachos. They also have a blue malt liquor that is very tasty, but packs a punch.

The bar has a decent sound system with a D.J. that plays mostly Mexican dance music. Usually on Saturday nights, for a modest cover charge, one can see a band perform on stage.

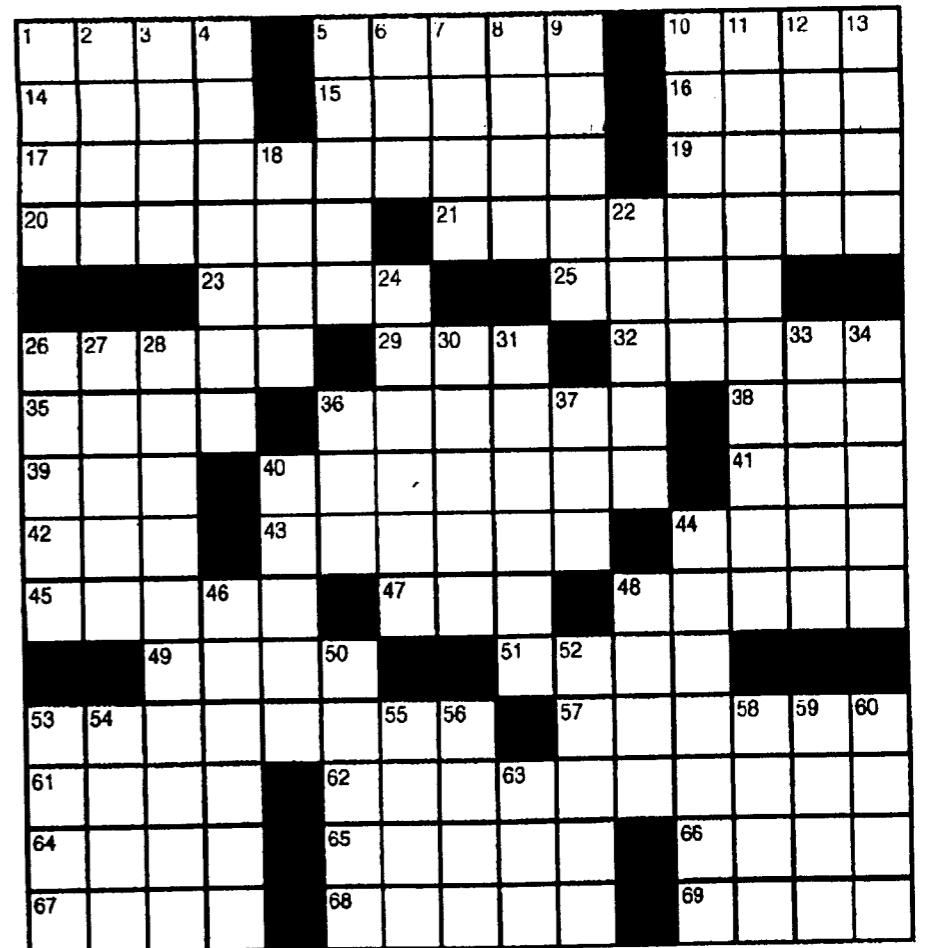
This Saturday, "Grupo Parrandero" performs from 9:00 p.m. through 2:00 a.m. On Wednesday nights Latino's

has \$1.50 drinks, as well as other drink specials, plus a D.J.

As one would expect, Latino's caters to a mostly Hispanic clientele. The place reminds me of the Mexican bars I frequent in L.A. and San Diego when I'm out there. Pedro and his wife Carmen come from Los Angeles, and Pedro is originally from Mexico City, Mexico. The bar is a good place to drink and have a good time. It would be worth your while to check out Latino's next time you're in downtown Erie.

- ACROSS
- 1 Turn toward
 - 5 Marshy lowland
 - 10 Heave
 - 14 Sea east of the Caspian
 - 15 Equipped with paddles
 - 16 Egg-shaped
 - 17 Going down
 - 19 Roman tyrant
 - 20 North Africa, mostly
 - 21 1949 Tracy-Hepburn film
 - 23 Glass containers
 - 25 Banister
 - 26 ___ Hills, IL
 - 29 Smack
 - 32 Social stratum
 - 35 Adam's garden
 - 36 A Gershwin
 - 38 Sch. group
 - 39 Brown shade
 - 40 Bad 'uns
 - 41 Dad
 - 42 Easter item
 - 43 Lofty
 - 44 Actress Garr
 - 45 Mark sale prices
 - 47 Decline in prices
 - 48 Dimmed
 - 49 Seek prey
 - 51 Writer Hunter
 - 53 Arm of the White Sea
 - 57 Word with block or failure
 - 61 Departed
 - 62 Native
 - 64 Man with regrets
 - 65 Aired again
 - 66 Best of fiction
 - 67 Concludes
 - 68 Parts of pipes
 - 69 Nolan the pitcher

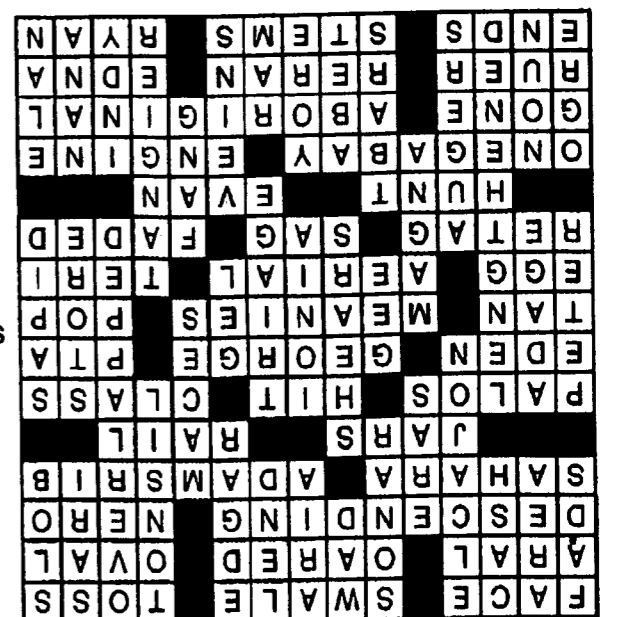
- DOWN
- 1 Crazes
 - 2 Vicinity
 - 3 Liquid assets
 - 4 San Diego suburb
 - 5 Detection device
 - 6 Quantity of gum
 - 7 Diva's song



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11/19/98

- 8 Give a hand
- 9 Ventriloquist Bergen
- 10 Lymphoid mass in the mouth
- 11 Covered a common range
- 12 Indira's dress
- 13 Mess maker
- 18 Periods of note
- 22 Knights' weapons
- 24 Does barbering
- 26 Actor O'Toole
- 27 Pithy saying
- 28 Elongated
- 30 Ancient Greek colony
- 31 Process for sorting the injured
- 33 Mail unit
- 34 Pleasantly flavorful
- 36 Golly!
- 37 Solidify
- 40 ___ Carta
- 44 Moroccan city



- 46 Hole-borers
- 48 Hollow tooth
- 50 Ski lifts
- 52 Blood vessels
- 53 Monster
- 54 Peson, place or thing
- 55 Help on a heist
- 56 Time long past
- 58 500-mile event, briefly
- 59 Granny
- 60 Flair
- 63 Hit head-on

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