

Rock flourishes with change of season

by Doug Smith
staff writer

The new music releases for the next two weeks seem to be headlined by well-known rockers. Creed, Live, and Our Lady Peace are set to cash in on their respective new releases. We have just entered the last autumn of the millennium and hard rocking music is hot and set to climb the charts. Creed and Live have already shown their prominence on college campuses, and Our Lady Peace hopes to make the same impact.

Creed's sophomore album is entitled *Human Clay*. This four-man band looks to continue their success

from their debut album *My Own Prison*. The first release went triple platinum and is still a constant in many stereos on campus around the nation. The hints of Pearl Jam and SoundGarden are still present on the new release, and they seem to be even more addictive than on the first release. *Human Clay* is an undeniable sign of maturity for this young band.

The new album was recorded just outside of Tallahassee with producer John Kurzweg. The new songs deal with many topics: aging and growing old are dealt with in "Never Die" and "Young Grow Old;" conscience, betrayal, and dreams of the perfect world are also discussed; the first

single, "Higher," is the track dreaming about the perfect world. Fans of the first album will not be disappointed. The band continues to rock and this album will not be a sophomore disappointment. Check out www.creednet.com for more.

Live, from York, PA, is set to go back to their hard rock ways, getting away from the textured sound of their last release, *Secret Samadhi*. Lead singer Ed Kowalczyk says of the new album, *Distance to Here*, "It is a message of love and peace and unity for the new millennium. A 180-degree turn from our last album in its urgency and intensity." This simply means it rocks harder. Some of the songs were

unveiled at Woodstock '99 and June's Tibetan Freedom Concert. The first single is "The Dolphins Cry." Live went into the studio with 50 songs and whittled it down to 14 for the album. These 14 will satisfy the rock urge in all of us. Live.cef.net is the official site for the band.

Our Lady Peace is trying to make it big on the campus scene in America as they have in Canada. *Happiness...Is not a Fish You Can Catch* is the verbosely titled follow-up to 1997's *Clumsy*. The new album contains 11 songs recorded in Toronto and produced by long time collaborator Arnold Lanni. The new single, "One Man Army," according to lead

singer Raine Maida, is "about a struggle for individuality...about finding the courage to strip naked and set fire to all your inhibitions." This valiant effort should be widely accepted. OurLadyPeace.com is the official site of the band.

A couple new releases not following the rock music mold and a little sketchy in quality come from Paula Cole and Redman and Method Man, respectively. Paula Cole recently recorded *Amen* over three months in New York. She got help from Tionne "I-Boz" Watkins from TLC, and from DJ Premier, who provided beats for Cole's foray into rap. "Rhythm of Life," Method Man and Redman will

release *America's Most Blunted* after "years of discussion and planning." It was produced by EPMD's Erick Sermon and Wu-Tang's RZA. The first single is "Tear it Off," also found on the *In Too Deep* Soundtrack. The album contains 16 tracks, including three bonus tracks - two of which come off the artists' respective previous albums. Both of these releases are less than desired but can become an acquired taste for long time fans.

The remainder of the fall is set to explode with more rock albums from Stone Temple Pilots, Bush, and Rage Against the Machine, and with highly anticipated rap releases from Jay-Z, DMX, and DJ Clue.

A cue for all your good times

by Katie Przepyszny
staff writer

Still trying to find those hot spots in Erie? Here's another suggestion for you. At 3866 Peach Street sits Gold Crown Billiards, a cue for all of your good times!

Several years ago, the very same brick building sat vacant on the corner. In 1978, Erie's own Paul Schofield decided to change that. Schofield was in fact a pool-player himself before Gold Crown's days. In his entrepreneurial spirit, he did what came naturally to him. In December of '78, he opened Gold Crown's doors so the public could join in his hobby. His business has been booming ever since.

At a time when billiards was a serious sport mainly for men, Gold Crown took a challenge. To give Erie a fresh look and new edge in the billiard business, Schofield opened a billiard hall with 20 tables, inviting all of Erie's community men, women, young, and old. And this is precisely where you come in!

With school well under way, we are already in the midst of fall. Why not relieve your stress and visit Gold Crown on these cool, breezy days.

If you need a midday break to get away, Gold Crown offers reduced rates for the single daytime player (who ever said being single doesn't have its benefits?).

Otherwise, the starting rate after 6:00 p.m. for a single player is \$6.40 an hour. But, be sure to bring all the friends you can because with each additional person, the price decreases.

Also of interest, particularly to college students, there is no cover



charge - in case you just feel like hanging out.

If you soon become a regular pool-hall nut, make sure you add your name to Gold Crown's preferred customer list. All you need to do is rent a locker for your cue in order to reap all the benefits. How about half price on coffee? And don't discounts on supplies sound nice?

Besides Gold Crown's vibrant green interior, the jukebox's lively music adds excitement to the atmosphere. Even a dartboard can be found in the triple split-level room.

But let's not stop there! Gold Crown Billiards is currently under construction for expansion to double the size of the hall. This will provide future opportunities to bring in new forms of entertainment, not to mention room to start a new line of gifts.

But, while you're on the lookout for these changes, don't forget to



check out Andy's Pub next door, also owned, in part, by Gold Crown innovator Paul Schofield.

So, whether you're an amateur or future pro star, and you have some time on your hands, why not go play

LEFT: Gold Crown Billiards has a proud history in the Erie area that has provided a comfortable atmosphere for anyone interested in billiards or a good time. BELOW: Andy's Pub provides a convenient place for pool shooters to visit after a night at the billiards.

PHOTOS BY JEFFREY MILLER

Life in the Love Cage: Long distance relationships at Behrend

by Rehab Elzeny
staff writer

The trials of going off to college are plentiful and overwhelming. Having to leave home, wiping away tears, saying good-bye, and exchanging addresses are only part of the tedious process. At some point, we all had to leave the familiar behind, sometimes making life miserable. But, college may become more difficult for those who must handle the pressure of a long-distance relationship. All over campus, there are those sad and bitter individuals who are hesitant to speak of their distant romances. Here's the scenario: you start a relationship at home, and before you know it, you're going halfway across the globe (or 45 minutes away) for college. Dating vows are exchanged. And you're off...

On one hand, we have the famous cliché: "Distance makes the heart grow fonder." In this situation, some relationships have grown unbelievably stronger. This was the case for Mandez Thomas, 03 DUS, whose girlfriend is in North Carolina. Going off to college forced him to deal with the distance, but he says it makes the times that they have together even more special. They have been together for 17 months now, and 12 of those months have been distant. Jen Primerano, 01 COMM, also says she feels stronger about her distant boyfriend, who lives in Oil City, PA. Despite the distance, though, she manages to see him every weekend.

On the other hand another cliché says, "Out of sight, out of mind." In

this case, entrapment in this love cage begins to feel like an extra burden. This isn't necessarily the case for all people, but difficulties are definitely a part of long-distance relationships. One of the hardships mentioned was the phone problem: trying to pay for those shocking phone bills and trying to find time to talk are challenges. Phone calls ranged from an hour every day, to every other day for 20 minutes. When asked how her relationship has made college more difficult for her, Kim Stokes, 01 Accounting, says, "I can't go on those girly-rampages where you go out and flirt with all the guys." It just makes her miss her boyfriend in Indiana, PA even more. James Sheen, 01 Business, responded to the same question by saying it is difficult "trying to keep my mind off her." He left his girlfriend in New Mexico.

In most cases, a little regret and doubt have crept into these people's minds. Hey, it's a well-known fact that college is a period in our lives to try out new, bold, and daring things. People who are tied down "in a relationship may feel like they are missing out on many things. But, choosing to be in a long-distance romance is an extremely courageous decision." Mandez Thomas added, "If two people are strong and confident enough to stay together, then it will work".

No matter what the distance may be, the general consensus with these lovebirds is that long-distance relationships are demanding, but well worth it. Stay tuned for their comments three years from now.

For Love of the Game is no-hitter

by Deanna Symoski
features editor

Sure, we can identify. You wake up hung over and you're already late for practice. You look around and realize the girl you got drunk waiting for never did show up--and no, there are not any messages. Then the owner of the team you've played for more than half your life drops by to tell you he's sold it and the new guys? Well, they think you're too old to play and they want to trade you, but you don't want to go. And, to top it all off, said girl finally calls to tell you she's moving to London because after all these years, she realizes you don't need her. Yeah, it's gonna be a long day.

It's gonna be a long movie, too. Over the years, baseball flicks have been very good to Kevin Costner, so when the script for *For Love of the Game* came along, I'm sure it looked like a home run. Unfortunately, it turned out to be a no-hitter instead.

Costner stars as Billy Chapel, a middle-aged pitcher for the Detroit Tigers whose magnificent career is matched only by--yep, you guessed it--his love of the game. He's the heart and soul of the team, the one with dogged loyalty and old-world class. But when the team is sold, he

must make the decision of a lifetime: be traded or retire. And as he begins to pitch what could very well be the last game of his long career, Chapel starts to think it over.

It took me exactly eighteen minutes to realize the film was going to be a series of flashbacks from the mound as Chapel pitches inning after inning in Yankee Stadium. And since we know his passion for the baseball (made mind-numbingly clear as the opening credits roll over scratchy home movies of a young Chapel and father playing catch), you would think that those flashbacks would have SOMETHING to do with the game. However, it took me exactly nineteen minutes to realize this was actually a love story disguised as baseball just so everyone will go see it.

Kelly Preston plays Jane, Chapel's girlfriend who spends most of the film grimacing because she knows she'll never be as important as the game. Her character is penned so superficially, writer Dana Stevens goes so far as to make her a beauty magazine columnist. We're supposed to think she's scarred from previous relationships, but aside from a daughter who comes out of nowhere half way through the film, there really isn't any evidence that Jane has a life

at all.

Since the title of the film is not *For the Love of Some Flighty Chick who Never Smiles*, someone somewhere along the way realized baseball was to be the essence of this movie. However, they would have done well to remember that.

Costner shines as he sizes up batters, repeatedly testing himself with each struggling pitch. The camaraderie between himself and the other players, especially his pitcher played by the scruffy John C. Reilly, is admirable. And as he stares into the last inning of what may become a perfect game, excitement brims within all of us because we are watching the perfect couple--Costner and baseball.

But *For Love of the Game* assumes that the only kind of love story anyone wants to see is between two droll actors, so the full potential of story about a man whose passion drives him is never fully realized. It would have been a nice change for a movie to expect more from its audience than a desire for deadpan monotony. However, *For Love of the Game* tries to be a hit that looks more like an error. Final score: keep Costner, trade Preston.



Kevin Costner stars as Billy Chapel, the fading star of the Detroit Tigers in *For Love of the Game*