

Teibele and Her Demon



Matt Parson and Thad Esek rehearse their roles for Behrend's production of *Teibele and Her Demon*. Esek plays Alchonon and Parson takes on the role of the rabbi. This mysterious and seductive play opens November 12th, and runs until November 21st. Reservations can be made starting on Monday, November 1st, by calling 898-6106.

Woodstock revisited with new CD

by Deanna Symoski
features editor

As many of you might remember from the Beacon's first issue of the semester, I have appointed myself (and anyone who isn't Kurt Loder) an authority on Woodstock '99. And while the frenzy and mayhem have seemed to quiet, a two-CD set was released October 19th to rehash (no pun intended) the events of the festival.

Now ordinarily I would be all for anything that has come out of the three-day concert, but this compilation-disk set is a feeble attempt at memorializing those three days. Yes, I bought it, but I also bought every magazine with Woodstock articles in it, and taped every Woodstock special FOX chose to air. Why? Well, I was there. However, that doesn't mean I'm necessarily pleased with the product, and you might not be either.

The set is divided into one CD as riotous as the night shows were, and another, more mellow CD to calm you down. *Red and Blue*, respectively, have their moments, but they are not really Woodstock moments. For example, The Offspring's contribution to the red CD is "The Kids Aren't Alright." "The Kids Aren't Alright???" No, we're not alright because "Get a Job" was the most energetic song of the show and incited me--ME, a quiet girl from the suburbs--to throw plastic bottles at complete strangers. I don't even remember

hearing "The Kids Aren't Alright!"

As for Bush's contribution: no, everything is NOT Zen because I don't remember hearing that song, either! In three days there was no more passionate moment than those during Gavin's rendition of "Glycerine." And finally, Limp Bizkit may be showin' us what they got, but this was not the background music that accompanied Fred Durst at his crowd-surfing best. Where's "Faith?" Where's "Break Stuff?" Aren't these the songs that all the critics cited when they were tearing apart the crowd for tearing apart the plywood fence? I think so.

So far, the saving grace seems to be somebody's enlightened decision to include Kid Rock's "Bawitaba." I still get chills as I know my voice is somewhere in the melee. However, the medley of bluegrass songs Rock initiated would have been a strong second choice.

My other complaint is that the songs simply begin and end without any of the witty banter of band members. They talked to the crowds, the crowds shouted lewd obscenities at them...where's that stuff? Where are the spontaneous moments that made Woodstock '99 so unique?

The good news is that anyone can enjoy this CD set. The bad news is that you may not enjoy it very much. Since the music was the backdrop from which memories were made, it only makes sense that a tribute include the most memorable songs. Better luck next time, guys!

Lee's Best debut STP rebounds from rock relapse

by Jermaine Hardy
staff writer

Malcolm D Lee, cousin of Spike Lee, makes a remarkable debut as a writer/director with his film *The Best Man*. The movie tells the story of an aspiring writer, Harper, played by Taye Diggs who reveals the details of his secret love affairs in his new book. Harper sparks intense conflict amongst his group of close friends who are involved in this love rectangle. As the book floats from reader to reader, its contents become responsible for the ruining of a wedding reunion planned by the friends. It is up to Harper to fix things for his best friend's wedding.

Taye Diggs and costar Nia Long, who plays an intricate part in the secret love rectangle, both display a significant amount of versatility in their acting with their roles in *The Best Man*. Neither Long or Diggs were previously seen in such conservative roles. While Diggs

plays a writer who is acclaimed by the likes of Oprah Winfrey, Long plays Jordan, a producer for B.E.T. (Black Entertainment Television). Both are usually known for standing as the romantic figures in their movies but this factor isn't stressed in their latest work. In *The Best Man* the two have a more mechanical influence on the unfolding of the plot. Their groundbreaking success in this movie foreshadows leading roles with a different tone for the two.

The Best Man is not a must see, but I suggest that you go see it. It has a serious theme presented in a hilarious way. It is not the sexual carnival that is advertised. It deals with the complicated issues of sex and relationships in a way that all should relate to. Director Malcolm Lee may currently find it difficult to match the acclaim of his cousin, Spike, but his first effort hints that with development and experience he is likely to attain exceptional credibility as a film director.

by Douglas Smith
staff writer

Stone Temple Pilots are back with a very unusual objective. The band's powerful music has overshadowed the highly publicized drug problem of lead singer Scott Weiland. Die-hard STP fans are sure to be happy, but the critics will still wonder about this band's ability on their new release, simply titled *No. 4*.

The album isn't groundbreaking, but the quartet hits fans with an aggressive sound filled with emotions. This record is strong, but hardly compares to the others as far as commercial hits go. A couple songs, "Atlanta" and "I Got You," seemed to come straight from the 60s as though

performed by the Doors. The band's calendar seems to be wrong when these songs display their dreamy mood. There is heavier fare with the riff-infested first single "Down" and the winning but not-so-subtly titled "Sex and Violence."

STP does not change its style to conform to the sounds of today's heavy hitters like Limp Bizkit and Korn. They continue the tradition of mixing up their sounds from a metal sound to a classic rock beat while averaging the lighter tone they appeared on the scene with. Being a part of the Seattle hard rock movement in the early 90s had allowed many critics to pick on the lighter tone. Still STP has compiled many fans over the years with a sound that propelled

them up the mainstream rock charts.

A lot of hype still surrounds this album despite the band's inability to tour for awhile due to Weiland's jail sentence for violating his probation. The band says that the last thing Weiland needs is to be out traveling from city to city while battling his heroin addiction. The anxiety for the album's comes from the acceptance of the aforementioned single "Down." A video featuring live band footage from a few months ago is scheduled for release on MTV after many stations nationwide embraced the single.

It has been tough for STP the last three years. Shortly after the 1996 release of *Tiny Music...Songs from the Vatican Gift Shop*, Weiland skipped a court-ordered rehab date and his re-

lapse caused the cancellation of the upcoming tour. He was arrested in New York last year for buying \$100 dollars worth of heroin and is now in jail because he violated his probation for the third time this year. The remaining members put out a short-lived record under the name of Talk Show with a replacement lead singer.

The mandated jail time is eleven months and some say that with help Weiland will come out clean and with a hit record. Overall, the impact of *No. 4* should be very big in this year of hard rock. The only thing really wrong with the new album is that at 42 minutes in length it is not quite satisfying enough.

Buffy bites...me! Blood Hound Gang : Most likely to suck? Nope, most likely to rock!

by Mike Frawley
managing editor

Well, with Halloween just around the corner, this is the perfect time to talk about the newest cult hits on television.

Warner Brothers' new network, the WB, is home of the two newest cult programs. *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* which is in its fifth season and *Angel*, a *Buffy* spin-off, which is new this season. While most people might vaguely remember the *Buffy* the Vampire Slayer movie with Christy Swanson and Luke Perry (which was a horrible movie by the way) the television show cannot be ignored. The basic concept of *Buffy* is to kill vampires. *Buffy* lives in a small California town called Sunnydale which just

happens to be built right over the Hellmouth, the main breeding ground for vampires. Pretty convenient huh?

While many people felt that this show was just an excuse to dress Sarah Michelle Geller in tight revealing outfits and have her bounce around, it turned out to be a decent show. While it might not be Shakespeare, the show is still good.



Sarah Michelle Geller stars as Buffy

kills vampires, gets beat up by demons, and still has to get to her 8 a.m. class. This show appeals to people of our generation; college might be bad, but vampires are worse.

New this season is a *Buffy* spin-off called *Angel*. *Buffy*'s boyfriend last season was a good vampire called Angel. Well most of you will be able to figure out how well that worked out. So Angel moves to Los Angeles to save his soul and help people. While *Buffy* always seems to have a bright side to it, *Angel* is a very dark show. *Angel*, played by David Boreanaz, is a dark and brooding person which puts a dark spin on the show. Dark humor is prevalent through out the show. Even though there have only been four episodes, this show has great potential.

I know that most of my friends think that I watch the show just to watch Sarah Michelle Geller, but even with another star, this would be a great show. Killing vampires make a cool show, and the sarcastic humor that is thrown into the mix, keep these shows two of the more

Boreanaz as Angel.

by Katie Galley
editorial page editor

"Whoever can get up on stage and drink this whole case of Dr. Pepper and not puke gets 100 dollars!" And so the concert began. The two-hour drive to Pittsburgh last Thursday was completely worth it when I got to see The Bloodhound Gang perform at Metropoli. Not only does the band play great music; they also have a great stage presence. You can always tell this by the amount of bodily fluids that are on stage after the conclusion of the concert. And this concert had it, in abundance.

Even though the band opened up with a song called "Most Likely to Suck", off of their newest album, it was clear by the crowd's reaction that this band did not suck, but rock. And rock hard they did. Performing old hits like "I Wish I Was Queer, So I Could Get Chicks" and "Fire, Water, Burn" united the audience into one big conglomeration of screaming, crowd surfing maniacs. And the guy drinking the Dr. Pep-

per kept drinking.

After playing for 20 minutes the lead singer and the bass player decided it would be fun to 'hawk luggies' on each other while singing. The audience loved every minute of it, screaming and rushing the stage whenever possible. The band could not have been happier, requesting only that, "We want all the ladies up here!" And the ladies complied. Girls from 14-45 ran to the stage to get a chance to dance with Jimmy Pop, the lead singer. One especially lucky lady, the 45 year old, got to grind with Jimmy Pop while everyone sang a song that has the same title as a female body part (figure that one out for yourself). And the guy drinking the Dr. Pepper kept drinking.

After a few more songs including "Get Up, You're Asleep At The Wheel", the bass player announced that he was tired of 'hawking luggies' on Jimmy Pop and that he wanted the audience to spit on him instead. The audience was more than thrilled to comply. On the count of three about five gallons of saliva was launched

onto the stage, all of it flying directly at Jimmy Pop. He simply stood there letting the spit cover him. And the guy drinking the Dr. Pepper kept...oops: nope he had puked on the stage as predicted. He left the stage just as poor as he had been when he accepted the challenge. The bodily fluids count rose higher still.

The highlight of the evening came during one of my favorite songs, "Why's Everybody Always Pickin' On Me?" when Jimmy Pop climbed some of the speakers to the rafters and dove into the crowd. A hundred arms delivered him safely back on stage just in time to sing the refrain from the song; "The drummer from Def Leopard's only got one arm!"

The band closed the show with an N' Sync parody from their new album, Hooray for Boobies, which is due out in late February. So, if The Bloodhound Gang ever comes to Erie or back to Pittsburgh I highly recommend going. If not for the music, then only to see if the fluids count can get higher than the nine gallons they had to clean up at Metropoli.