

# FEATURES

## Website of the Week

by Christine Piccola  
staff writer

Good advice is hard to come by, and at times it's almost impossible to find. Sometimes your friends don't have all the answers. When no one can give you the advice you need, why not check out what online relationship columnists have to say? They can offer a different perspective, and might even help you see your problem in a whole different light.

One of these sites, [www.breakupgirl.com/advice](http://www.breakupgirl.com/advice), is home to Breakup Girl. Contrary to what the name sounds like, there is more to the site than advice on broken relationships. There's advice for singles and

couples alike, and the topics covered range from snooping (wrong, wrong, wrong says Breakup Girl) to when to say I love you. The answers are smart and realistic, with some "tough love" and humor added in.

For more advice, try <http://loveandlearn.com>, a site that combines advice with a talk show format. Your "host" is Mr. Sensitive, and his board of regulars always throw their opinions in, just like on any episode of Jerry Springer. You can read their opinions on current issues, or look through archives to find advice on any problems you have. If you don't have the time to do that, try Virtual Mr. Sensitive, an interactive program that allows you to describe your relationship by moving graphics (a man, woman, a heart, a question mark) onto a diagram. Virtual Mr.

Sensitive then searches the archives for relevant advice.

For advice from a more sexual perspective, try <http://women.com/sexexperts>. It starts out with the Sexpert advice column, but the advice you get isn't just racy, it's also practical. The site includes advice for everyone—men, women, married, and single. The Sexpert offers advice on a number of relationship topics such as "romance on a budget" and long distance love. On the lighter side, there are games and quizzes to analyze your love life.

So whether you're looking for a way to find a boyfriend or girlfriend, or keep the one you have, you can find advice on any of these sites, and have fun while you're doing it. Relationship help is now just a click away.



## Max and Erma's offers great option to the normal Upper Peach Street selection of restaurants

by Michael Nies  
staff writer

Among the newest of the many new restaurants located in Erie's Upper Peach Street corridor is Max and Erma's, a family restaurant located in the Millcreek Mall complex. Applebee's, Damon's and Fridays are also nearby, but you've maybe eaten at all of those many times already, and you may not have enough time to wait in line for 25 minutes at Quaker Steak.

Many of us often forget about that far northwestern corner of the mall located just east of the I79 overpass on Interchange Rd, where Max and Erma's is located. As my friend and I entered Max and Erma's, we were cheerfully greeted by a group of bright-eyed, smiling hostesses, all of whom were determined to pull together and find us the best possible seat.

Max and Erma's is an excellent option among the wide selection on upper Peach. The prices are reasonable, the atmosphere is fun and upbeat, and the service is quick and friendly. Max and Erma's menu of-

fers a broad selection of food that is sure to satisfy your tastebuds and fill your stomach.

Upon browsing the menu, you'll notice that Max and Erma's offers many unique and tasty selections, including items such as the Black Bean Roll-up appetizer and a Garbage Burger, which has everything on it but the kitchen sink. Max and Erma's also offers a soup du jour, a fresh catch, and daily specials. The more traditional steaks, ribs and sandwiches are also available.

Max and Erma's menu also has several dinner entrees available including my personal favorite, the Caribbean Chicken, a spicy seasoned chicken breast grilled and served over a bed of rice. For those of you looking for something on the lighter side, half portions of all dinner entrees are available as well as steak and chicken salads and a killer French Onion Soup.

For anybody with a sweet tooth to satisfy, a sundae bar and Chocolate Mousse Cake are only two of the many tantalizing desserts offered at Max and Erma's. Pepsi products and many different flavors of shakes and

smoothies are available to quench your thirst, in addition to a full service bar.

The decor is an eclectic mix of knickknacks, signs and murals, somewhat similar to that of Applebee's or Friday's. But Max and Erma's has a unique twist that most other restaurants in this town are lacking, a feeling of local pride. The walls are covered with jerseys from local sports teams such as the Otters and the SeaWolves.

Hanging behind the bar are helmets from local high-school football teams and Erie Brewing Company signs. Local college pennants and a big mural including one of the tower at Dobbins Landing decorate different sections of the dining room.

So next time you're hungry for good food at reasonable prices and you're tired of your usual upper Peach restaurants, head to Max and Erma's for a nice break from the ordinary. The restaurant is open from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Sundays through Thursdays, and from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM on Fridays and Saturdays.



Max & Erma's restaurant located on Interchange Road near Millcreek Mall.

PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

## Boy band mania hits Erie...again?

by Katie Przepyszny  
features co-editor

It happened once before, as last fall marked the first time one of the boy bands stopped in Erie to do their thing. Despite the rainy weather, 98 Degrees made an appearance at a sold-out Jerry Uht Park stadium. Well, it has happened again. Last Tuesday night LFO entertained a sold-out crowd at Erie's Warner Theater. And despite the success of the show, which sold out in a Warner record time of 41 minutes, one question remains: how can this be happening?

Tuesday's show at the Warner featured LFO members Brad, Rich, and Devin entertaining the crowd with the usual sing and dance routine. Songs like their debut cut "Summer Girls," and others including "Girl On TV" and "If I Can't Have You" were heard, but not without the sing-a-long of the crowd.

And the crowd, well, someone had

to sell out the theater. Just as many may have guessed, LFO took the stage to greet hundreds of screaming and shouting teen girls that could tell you any lyric that was song or move that was danced, as a result of their intense (to say the least) attention during the show. And as a result of that attention, LFO felt free to bare their buff torsos, as well as pull an innocent female fan to the stage.

After spending close to an hour on stage, the guys of LFO said goodnight. For them, it would be onto another show in another city. But for the crowd, pictures of the guys and CD versions of their songs would have to be enough to help them remember their one shining hour with the guys of LFO.

Today's latest musical craze seems to be in the hands of these young hip-hopsters. N'Sync, 98 Degrees, and LFO, have somehow successfully continued the tradition that the Backstreet Boys started. Or wait, was it started by those good ol' New Kids On The Block, whose members Jor-

dan Knight and Joey McIntyre are back again to hold onto the legacy?

And the fad doesn't stop there. The female counterparts of the boy bands, Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera, have started their own trend with young girls like Mandy Moore taking after them. These girls even have country star LeAnn Rimes spitting out hip-hop flavored lyrics and dance steps.

People everywhere are buying into generic upbeat dance hits and sappy love ballads, and young musical acts are eating the attention up. For some, the evidence may be comforting, but for others, it's sickening. It is a true testimony that this trend will not be going out of style anytime soon, unless of course all the promoters fall off the face off the earth like NKOTB managed to do. But at the same time, how can this be happening? Will anyone ever get enough? And even if they do, we may be in too far over our heads to do anything about it. I can't see these young hip-hopsters going down without a fight, that's for sure.



LFO behind the scenes during the making of their video for "Summer Girls"

FILE PHOTO

## Happenings in Erie

February 25

Jr's Comedy Club

Greg Carey featuring Greg Vaccariello and Joe Bryan

February 26

Jr's Comedy Club

Greg Carey featuring Greg Vaccariello and Joe Bryan

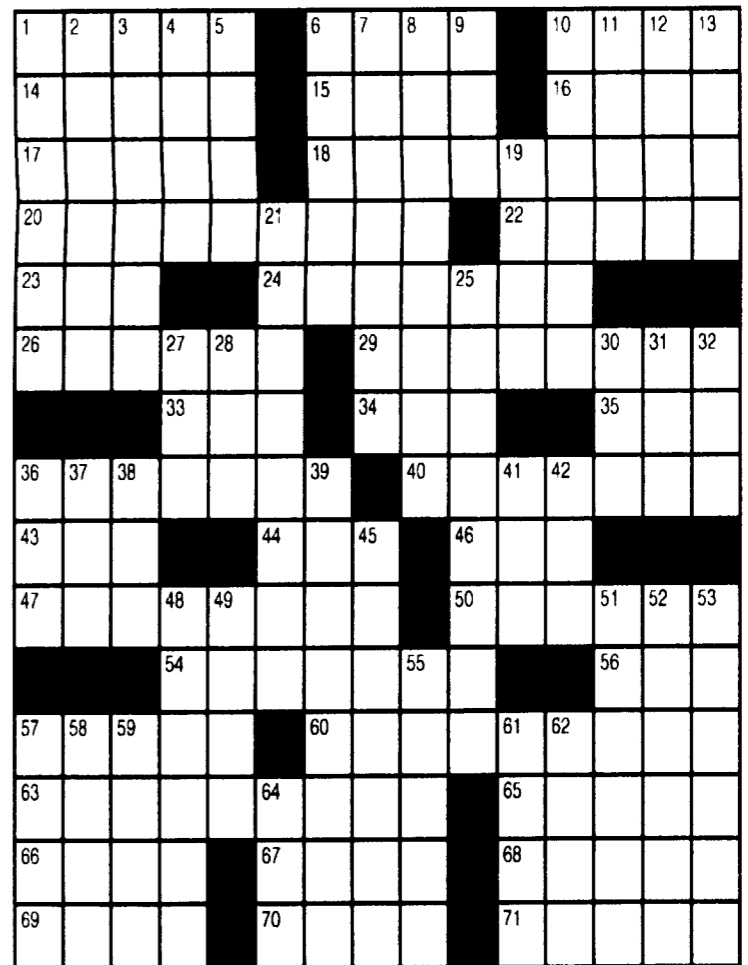
Forward Hall

Bands: Frog Tree Gorge Band, Secret Agent Band, The Decibels

## Crossword

- ACROSS
- Pansy's kin
  - Poi source
  - Sacred
  - Turn out
  - Comply
  - "Typee" sequel
  - Steps over a fence
  - Uses superiority for an advantage
  - Missouri River port in Iowa
  - Atress Potts
  - Rhea's relative
  - Increase eightfold
  - Smaller of two
  - Disciples
  - Paddle
  - Grouped merchandise
  - "\_\_ Not Unusual"
  - Self-indulgent spree
  - Flammable solvent
  - Pledge
  - Name
  - Tell's canton
  - Sufficient
  - Felt hat with a brim
  - Most of New York?
  - Director Spike
  - WWII sinker
  - Like a forward flow
  - University in Halifax, NS
  - Embankment
  - Scandinavian capital
  - Espied
  - Sappho's last letter
  - Uneven cut
  - Tobacco kiln
  - City on the Ruhr

- DOWN
- Nautical craft
  - Before it's too late
  - Loathsome
  - Humdinger
  - Topmost point
  - Subject
  - Contiguity
  - Trust in
  - Popeye's Olive
  - Stinging wasp
  - Middle Eastern nation
  - Anderson of "WKRP..."
  - Span connection
  - Maglie and Mineo
  - Bullfights
  - French stewlike dish
  - Heavy imbiber
  - Corn holder
  - Coll. course
  - Ordinal ending
  - 987-65-4321 grp.
  - One Gabor
  - Zeus or Odin
  - Be beholding to
  - Set sail
  - Cursor starter?
  - Secreted
  - Frosh caps
  - Cape Cod clam
  - As far as
  - Martini garnishes
  - Mistrump
  - Homer's sea
  - City on the Adige
  - Japanese vegetables
  - Wild party
  - \_\_ podrida
  - Gin flavoring
  - Skirt edges
  - Mil. minstrels



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### Solutions

