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MTV VIDEO MUSIC AWARDS: SURPRISES EXPECTED AND RECEIVED

by Jeanine Noce arts & entertainment editor

All right, so Jamie Fox's opera singing, dancing and bleeped-out monologue was nothing to laugh about. However, the MTV Video Music Awards had the flare that viewers expect.

From Britney Spears to Michael Jackson, just about everyone that has landed a spot on the infamous TRL ("Total Request Live") was there in a four-hour display of talent.

Michael Jackson was not on the list of performers, but had everyone's mouths dropping during the show. Jackson appeared out of an Etch-A-Sketch at the ending of 'N Sync's "Pop" performance. He added his dancing moves to the song and at the end he received a standing ovation.

"I thought that he did a good job pop-locking," said Snoop Dogg after the show.

Several other artists were also impressed with his performance. Ben Stiller, Sheryl Crow and Sean "P

Diddy" Combs said that his dancing was one of the highlights of the evening.

The big winners of the night were Fatboy Slim, winning six awards for "Weapon of Choice," and 'N Sync taking home four for "Pop." Besides those two popular groups, four luscious ladies, Christina Aguilera, Pink, Mya and Lil' Kim won several prestigious awards throughout the evening for their song "Lady Marmalade."

"I guess the big hair paid off," Christina Aguilera jokingly said during the acceptance speech. "Lady Marmalade" won the biggest award given at the MTV Video Music Awards, which was best video of the year and also best video from a film. Alicia Keys won the award for best new artist and gave an outstanding performance. Keys sang her debut song, "Fallin'," while playing the piano and being accompanied by back-up singers and her band. She definitely put on an amazing show and showed the audience that she is a promising candidate to remain in the

limelight.

Outkast came away with the best hip hop video for its song "Ms. Jackson" and the best R&B video was awarded to Destiny's Child for the hit, "Survivor." The best male and female videos of the year were given to Moby for "Southside" and Eve for "Let Me Blow Your Mind."

The first ever MTV 2 award was given to the group Mudvayne who also had on the most outrageous outfits of the evening. They members came out dressed in white suits and coats, however, they were covered in blood and each member had their hair spiked and dyed a different bright color.

Of course, the audience was anxious to see the new Spears performance. I am guessing that most of the males were tuning in for this part of the show, especially. Well, she did not let any of her loyal male fans down and she received everyone's attention during the performance of her new song, "I'm a Slave 4 U," by carrying a snake during the performance.

One of the mishaps of the evening was when U2 was about to perform and there were technical difficulties. Some say that this should be understood due to the show being live. Even with the short delay, U2 performed their hit song "Elevation."

"So MTV wasn't paying their electricity bill," Bono stated as the band was receiving the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard award for lifetime achievement. Bono also paid tribute to Joey Ramone, who died earlier this year of lymphoma. He recognized the remaining members of the punk rock group, The Ramones.

One of the most touching moments of the evening was during the dedication to R&B singer and actress, Aaliyah. An interview with the singer was also shown to the audience to exemplify what type of individual she was. Her family mem-



Michael Jackson makes a surprise performance with 'N Sync

bers, colleagues and friends shared moments about how she touched everyone's lives before the 22-year old died in a plane crash on August 25. The MTV Video Music Awards had all of the elements that were needed for a great show. It had the excitement, controversy and surprises that keeps viewers always wanting more.

LIVIN' LIKE A 'ROCK STAR'



Mark Wahlberg stars in 'Rock Star'

by Kelly Walsh associate editor

Who doesn't want the glorious life style of a rock star? The concerts, fame, money and sex... sound good yet? Well, for many aspiring musicians, the dream is far from reality in an already saturated market. For Tim Owens, the dream was to be a heavy metal performer like his idol, Rob Halford of Judas Priest.

Owens loved to imitate his favorite group, with his tribute band British Steel. Knowing how difficult it was to make it big in the music business, this was a hobby for Owens. British Steel played in bars whenever they could. One particular time two fans, one of whom was the drummer's girlfriend, videotaped them. This tape eventually landed in the hands of Judas Priest.

Owens was asked to come to England to audition to be a singer in the band. Not only could Owens sing, he had the look of his idol down to the earrings; he was in. He then became Tim "The Ripper" Owens.

It is always nice to hear of an ordinary person getting discovered and living out their dream, but there is more to this story. Owens is from Akron, Ohio and was discovered at Eric's own Sherlock's. And the movie "Rock Star" which opened last Friday is based on the life of Owens.

"Rock Star" never mentions Owen's name; it is changed to Chris Cole, played by Mark Wahlberg. Financial compensation issues were never resolved; therefore Owens does not have anything to do with the movie. However, Warner Brothers did tell the Plain Dealer that he was "certainly the inspiration for the film."

It is too bad the the two guys could not agree on terms that would have allowed Warner Brothers to use the name. They could have collaborated and got the inside scoop and showed America that these fluke things do happen. Instead, this is just another made-up movie with no one truly behind the "Rock Star."

Dave Matthews Band Rocks 'Chocolate City'

by Danielle White contributing writer

When the world ends, I will go down listening to music. Classic, contemporary, or country - I have learned to love it all. Just like anyone else, I have my favorites. For me, Dave Matthews Band is a big one.

So, when my high school friend, Tara, mentioned to me something about a road trip to Hershey for the Matthews' concert, I pulled out the Visa and asked where to sign. On August 1, I woke up at a bright 5:30 a.m. Although I really can not say that I was pulled from a deep sleep, I was so excited that I stayed up until almost 3 a.m., like a kid on Christmas Eve. Unbelievable.

SOLD OUT. That is what the sign said on the way into the concert. And how pumped I was to go to a

concert that was sold out! Even after a six hour drive, I still could not sit still. My friend and I rode around Hershey Park for awhile that day-then we prepared for the concert.

Matthews started the concert with a song I have never heard before called "JTR" (according to his website). He hit a few of the classics: "Jimi Thing," "Crush," and an encore with "Ants Marching." But, he played a lot of songs from the new album, "Everyday." "When the World Ends," "The Space Between," "I Did It," and "Sleep to Dream Her" were a few included in that bunch. Matthews also threw a song in by Willie Nelson called, "Ain't It Funny How Time Slips Away" to add a twist to his awesome encore.

Overall, I enjoyed hearing the songs that were unfamiliar to me,

as well as the recent ones. But a few more of my favorites would have been a good addition. "Satellite" was one I could not wait to hear. It really did not even matter much that the kids behind me were clapping off beat to every song. Also, the boy standing in front of my view making out with his girlfriend didn't bother me, once I heard the music.

If you get a chance to see Dave Matthews in concert, do not pass it up. He is great at improvisation and almost all the songs are better live. I did it: I paid, I saw, I enjoyed. Two thumbs up for this performer.

I would like to give a shout out to the group of kids to my left that did not stop smoking the entire night, which I hear is a common occurrence at the Dave Matthews Band concerts. What an experience!

The Push Stars at Bruno's on Saturday at 9 p.m.

by Jeanine Noce arts & entertainment editor

When you hear the name The Push Stars, you probably are thinking, "Who are they?" On Saturday at 8 p.m. on the ski slope, which is located behind the Science building, you will definitely know who and what they are about.

The CMJ New Music Report describes the band as "...a lively expertly crafted composite of rock, with radio-hit potential too great to measure. The Push Stars' endless melodies are hard to shake."

This band was formed in 1995 in Boston and began to play at some of

the most influential clubs in town. They received several awards, such as the "Best Pop-Rock Band," "Outstanding Rock Band," "Outstanding Debut CD" and "Outstanding Singer/Songwriter" just to name a few. 1996 was the year when The Push Stars released their debut album, "Meet Me at the Fair," and they have been touring ever since.

The band is made up of three members: Chris Trapper on vocals and guitar; Dan McLoughlin on vocals, bass and piano; and Ryan MacMillan on vocals and drums.

The New York Times calls their music "classic pop perfection" while Hits Magazine was quoted saying the

CD was "a stunning major label debut."

The Push Stars have also been involved with film and television. Their music has been on the soundtracks of several movies - "There's Something About Mary," "Me, Myself & Irene," "Gun Shy" and "Say it Isn't So." "ER," "Malcolm in the Middle," "Popular," "The Real World" and "All My Children" have also featured The Push Stars' songs.

This spring the band released the album, "Opening Time," and is continuing to write and perform across the country. The Push Stars is definitely a new band that is worth seeing perform one show here at Behrend.

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Watch the premiere of Friends Thursday, Sept. 20 at 8 pm

*Release Date: 9/14

Special thanks to Media Play for providing information