ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

A look at the world of music; from the obscure to the obscene; the new and the old.

A Hundred Million Suns heats up the billboard

By Emily Reichert

contributing writer ecr5068@psu.edu

Snow Patrol's suspenseful, building and gratifying melodies are a fitting sound for their success that has especially continued with their fifth and newest album, A Hundred Million Suns. It was released into US stores Wednesday, Oct. 28 and globally Oct. 23. Billboard.com's review states "Snow Patrol handily manages the challenge of following up breakthrough album Hands Open.

A Hundred Million Suns continues the band's trend of alternative rock/pop with lyrics by Gary Lightbody. It experiments with a Sarah Bareilles piano note and a Coldplay-inspired rock tone that is more intense than their traditional tempo, "Our spikiness and our indi-ness are coming through again with all the poppiness of the last two records," states Lightbody on the official Snow Patrol website.

"The Lightning Strike" is what sets this album apart from previous additions and other hit artists. The song, which is divided into three different parts and plays for roughly 16 minutes, takes the interesting approach of comparing a true love to a storm, using phrases such as "Now [the storm]'s found us, like I have found you. I don't want to run, Just overwhelm me." In the first third, captivating piano notes flow perfectly to gradually build further, making the suspense of the experience unbearable (in a good way). The three parts work together in different moods to narrate the story of a storm coming and

Their hit song entitled "Take Back The City" is gaining ground on their previous bombshell, "Chasing Cars," according to the AT 40 official web site. It also became the first U.K. rock act since 1993 to be a part of the Billboard Top 5 singles charts. Mario Mewquita Borges and Andrew Leahey, employees of the All Music Guide, state in their biography of Snow Patrol that the album focuses on "positive and romantie" lyries, which was "something that Gary Lightbody had pointedly shunned in the past."

Those who enjoyed "Chasing Cars" will want to sample "Crack the Shutters." It is just as romantic and features the traditional beat that made "Chasing Cars" famous, "Please Just Take these Photos from My Hands" is the pumped up version of "You're All I Have." This is a song that is perfect for driving because the divided yellow lines match the beat no matter what speed you are going.

Most of the songs chorus lines are camouflaged into the base of the song in a way that cause them to be overlooked during the first play. but only further appreciated in repeating. Lightbody says, "there's a lot of melody here and you can't cloak that whatever you do with it."

Snow Patrol's identity in the music industry is shaping into a worldwide cultural phenomenon. "This is our most complete record by far," says Lightbody. "This album is touched by our entire history, and hopefully it sounds like our future too."

Forward Hall brings big names to Erie

By Sarah Baker staff writer sjb5273@psu.edu

Are you bored on the weekends? On Nov. 9, at Forward Hall, the band A Wilhelm Scream will be playing with three local bands. The show is for all ages and the doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 at the door, or you can get them for \$8 in advance. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Ink Assassins or at www.indietick-

Forward Hall is located at 2502 Peach Street. This venue has a state-of-the-art-sound system and a great light show. As

said on the venue's MySpace band that are said to be punk. (www.myspace.com/forwardhall814), "Forward Hall is an all ages, drug, alcohol, and smoke free concert venue located in the midtown area of Erie, Pa."

The headlining band for the night will be A Wilhelm Scream. They are a five-member band from New Bedford, Mass. They call their music punk, hardcore, and rock. They are influenced by bands such as Plastic Pasquale, Trevor Trustworthy and the Bukkake Honest-To-Gods, Tsunami, and Aerosmith.

The other three bands are all local. Signal Home, from Meadville, is a four member indie, and rock.

The Shuttlecocks from Mars, Pa. are a five member band and their music is described as to be pop punk, power pop, and punk. The Shuttlecocks are influenced by bands such as the Ramones. The Queers, The Beach Boys, Wannabes, The Leftovers, and Social Distortion.

The last band that is also playing that evening is Shady Ave, a three-member band Clarion, Pennsylvania. Their sound is said to be punk, rock, and 2-step.

So whether you are interested in these bands, or maybe just bored, it might be something worth going to. Forward Hall is said to be a fun time. Get a group of people together and check it out. After all, what else is going on during a Sunday night?

For more information, check out Forward Hall's website at www.myspace.com/ forwardhall814

A historical take on the arts

By David Stull contributing writer das5122@psu.edu

October 31, 1950: John Candy, a Canadian comedian and actor, is born in Toronto. Candy's list of movie credits spans over 20 years with his most popular roles appearing in the 1980's. Brewster's Millions, The Great Outdoors, Spaceballs, and Uncle Buck helped to turn Candy into a popular comic actor. In 1994 while in Mexico he suffered a heart attack and passed away at the age of 43, leaving behind a wife, two daughters and many

November 1, 1871: Stephen Crane, author of *The Open Boat* and The Red Badge of Courage was born in Newark, N.J. Crane had a knack for writing from a very young age. By the age of four he taught himself to write and at 14 he wrote his first story.



John Candy as the character, Barf, in Spaceballs

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Uncle Jake and the Bell Handle. After attending many colleges, but never actually graduating from one, Crane had two stories published in the Tribune. His most well known work, the Civil War novel The Red Badge of Courage, was published in the later years of his short life. Crane spent the years traveling and eventually found a new home in England. By 1900, Crane's health had greatly declined and on June 5, 1900 he passed away at the age of 28.

November 2, 1920: KDKA, a Pittsburgh radio station, broadcasts the results of the 1920 presidential election. This was KDKA's first broadcast as well as being the first radio news broadcast. Throughout the 1920's, KDKA was a prominent fixture in Pittsburgh, playing popular music and, in 1921, broadcasted the first commentary of the Dempsy-Carpenter fight. KDKA is still on the air today and can be heard in Pittsburgh by turning the dial to

1020 AM. November 3, 1955: The musical film Guys and Dolls, starring Marlon Brando and Frank Sinatra, opens in theaters. Based on the Broadway musical of the same name, the film features much of the same music as the musical, as well as three new songs, "Pet Me Poppa," "(Your Eyes Are the Eyes of) A Woman in Love," and "Adelaide." The new songs were composed by Frank Loesser, who composed

and wrote the lyrics for the Broadway play.

November 4, 1848: Poet T. S. Eliot wins the Nobel Prize in literature. Born Sept. 26, 1888 in St. Louis, Miss, Eliot studied at many famous institutions such as Harvard, Oxford and the Sorbonne. In 1914, he relocated to the United Kingdom, where he became a British subject in 1925. Throughout his life Eliot often traveled between the United Kingdom and The United States lecturing and had published critiques of literary works. But it was his poetry that would leave a lasting mark on the world and secure him a Nobel Prize.

November 5, 1913: Academy Award winning actress Vivian Leigh is born in India. At the time of her birth, India was part of the British Empire. Leigh's father was a British cavalry officer and stationed in West Bengal. Educated in England and throughout Europe, Leigh's true desire was acting. In 1931, she enrolled in the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, where she stayed until 1932. In 1935, she was cast in the play The Mask of Virtue, where she met Lawrence Olivier, who was in the audience, and the two developed a strong bond that would last for decades. Her most remembered role, and the one that garnered her first Academy Award was that of Scarlet O'Hara in Gone with the Wind. She received her second Academy Award in 1951 for her performance as Blanche DuBois in A Street Car Named Desire. Ill and weak through much of her later life, Leigh suffered from chronic tuberculosis. She passed away July 8, 1967 at the age of 53, leaving behind an array of awe-inspiring performances that will be remember for generations.

November 6, 1921: The Sheik, a silent film starring Rudolph Valentino, opens in theaters. Based on the novel of the same name, The Sheik takes place in Algeria, where Valentino's character, Sheik Ahmed Ben Hassan, falls in love with Lady Diana Mayo, played by Agnes Ayres. Diana is a British citizen living in Algeria who is content with being an independent woman and wants nothing to do with marriage. At first, she rejects the Sheik's affections, however, he is determined to win her over and will not give up until he does. The Sheik was a pivotal role for Valentino, launching him into stardom. It also shattered audience records, filling theaters throughout the country.

> Artistic, creative or ambitious?

Write for the ARTS page of The Behrend Beacon

E-mail Evan Koser at emk5110@psu.edu

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