

Photo courtesy of jossstone.com



By Kellye Way Staff Reporter kjw203@psu.edu

Artist: Joss Stone Album: Mind, Body, and Soul Release Date: September 28, 2004 Number of Tracks:14 (plus one untitled hidden track) \*\*\*\*

Young, talented, and spunky, Britain's princess of soul is taking the world by storm - one song at a time. Joss Stone's Mind, Body, and Soul, the follow-up album to her 2003 debut The Soul Sessions, can easily be summed up in one word: chillin'. Stone's smooth, rich voice blends nicely with the accompanying music to produce a musical massage for the overworked brain. This album is great for sitting back and relaxing and could serve as the essentially calming soundtrack to a long night of cramming for midterms.

In Mind, Body, and Soul, Stone certainly got the soul part right by bringing the musical genre to an entirely different and untapped market. At the tender age of just seventeen, she surpasses musical counterparts in vocal ability and lyrical subject matter. She explores so many different musical styles in her second album that she will probably have the opportunity to re-

## Entertainment

## Not your average sports bar

By Elizabeth Wingate Staff reporter eaw191@psu.edu

When I imagine a sports bar, I picture a dingy cave of nicotinevellow walls, ancient, faded memorabilia, and depraved men swilling beer, screaming at the television for practically no reason while their waitress blows huge bubbles with her gum and looks too bored for words. In short, I am afraid.

Thanks to our modern age of self-help books, however, I am enlightened enough to admit when I'm wrong. Enter KoKoMo's Downtown, a sports bar that keeps the sports in the bar without keeping the ladiesand all other non-sports fanaticsaway. KoKoMo's is a great place to grab a drink with friends and wile away chilly autumn evenings without draining your bank account to the point where you have to call mom and dad and beg for a loan.

With a prime location at the corner of Second and Pine Streets, right next to the Hardware Bar, KoKoMo's is where the action is on Harrisburg's ever-evolving Restaurant Row. Plate glass windows encapsulate a space that is at once intimate and rollicking, with booths along one length of the restaurant and a long, wellstocked bar on the other. Neon beer signs, and yes, memorabilia, cover the walls but the effect is more cheery than grungy, and at night the lighting is pleasantly mellow. Bar-height tables line the middle of KoKoMo's and round out the seating ensuring that patrons never miss a play on one of the restaurant's TVs. Speaking of TVs, what would a sports bar be without screens blazing every imaginable game? KoKoMo's boasts more than 30

TVs, from a 48-inch hanging plasma screen to 14-inchers at each booth and every size in between. Grabbing a booth ensures that at least one TV will be tuned to the channel of your choice, and one table of girls was watching Friends while their masculine counterparts took in Monday Night Football- everyone was happy.

the middle of the week. The service is friendly and brisque, and cute blond waitresses in jeans and t-shirts make sure the beer flows and everyone has a good time

Unless you live under a rock, you're probably aware that as a sports bar, KoKoMo's specializes in wings. They do. 19 kinds, to be more precise, running the gamut including Labatts Blue, Killians ous salads, sandwiches, pizzas, Red, and Woodchuck Amber to complete the rainbow of choices. There are daily beer specials, just ask your server.

KoKoMo's certainly does not want you to leave hungry. Classic American appetizers such as potato skins, cheese planks, fried 'shrooms and steamed clams are just a few of

chicken, soups and chili, as well as veal Parmesan, surf & turf, and New York Strip. Most of the items on the menu are under \$10, while entrees such as filet mignon are just a tad more.

One of the best elements of KoKoMo's Downtown is its relatively diverse crowd. The bar was a mix of young professionals, lots of women out having drinks after work, and in the more colorful realm, a guy who probably moonlights as an Elvis impersonator. This eclectic group represented surprisingly Harrisburg in 2004- optimistic, evolving, and in the case of Elvis, a few kinks to be worked out, all in good time. Yes, there was considerable screaming at the TVs, and after a while, I screamed along. At KoKoMo's, it's all part of the game.

CUISINE : American, Bar Food CREDIT CARDS: Amex, Discover, Diners Club, Mastercard, Visa HOURS: 11:00am-2:00am, 7 days a week. Kitchen open to 12:00am. **RESERVATIONS:** Not necessary AMENITIES: 30 Televisions, including three(3) large screen TV's and five(5) satellite dishes. Featuring NBA & NFL Direct Ticket. NTN Trivia, Take Out Available, Wheelchair Accessible. PRICING:

cheese- they just taste better. The rest of the menu has so

the many offerings, and new

menu items are always popping

up. The "Samplemator Two" is a

great way to get some variety if

you're out with a group, and

when you get fries your way-

Cajun, seasoned, or with melted

invent herself in countless ways in the future.

The most standout characteristic to Stone is her ultra-low, cool alto voice. This ability has allowed her to stand out much the same way that Mariah Carey did with her octave-busting high notes of early 90's pop. However, Stone proves herself worthy as a qualified soprano also on several tracks of her album. Her songs relate very independent, grown-up topics for a teenager and are relatable to every kind of love...new, old, good, and bad. The first track on the album "Got A Right To Be Wrong" especially demonstrates a maturity on the part of Stone, who co-wrote eleven of the fourteen tracks.

Overall, fans of Mary J. Blige, Macy Gray, and Nelly Furtado should add Stone to their diva soul collection. For those already familiar with her first single "You Had Me" it should be pointed out that this track is one of the only really upbeat, danceable songs, while the rest of the songs are more mellow and classically soulful. Regarding her second album, Stone says, "For me, personally, Mind, Body, and Soul is my real debut."



Photo courtesy of Google Images

ATM too- who wants to run down the street in the cold for beer money???

Not to be overlooked is the

game room at the back of the

bar, where patrons can shoot

pool or play an arcade game

while they watch the game. This

space gets crazy on weekends

as college kids and other young

revelers hang out before hitting

the clubs. There's a convenient

Photo by Elizabeth Wingate

Because this KoKoMo's is in the city, it lacks the square footage that is typical of its suburban siblings, creating an almost frenetic, party-like atmosphere, even in from 6 pm to 9 pm and 1pm to 9 pm on Sundays, while Wednesday night is .25 cent wings from 5pm to 9pm.

from plain to garlic honey bbg to

super spicy "Sudden Death" to

"Chicago style", extra wet wings

over fries in a bowl. Prices start

at \$3.99 for 6 and round out at

\$33.99 for 75, with a \$1 charge

for to-go orders. Specials include

.35 cent wings Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

As it may not be humanly possible to ingest wings without beer, KoKoMo's has 14 beers on tap and many more by the bottle,

many options that you might get a little lost. I did and concluded that I couldn't go wrong with a cheeseburger, which was right on- medium rare on a huge bun with lots of cheese, lettuce and tomato and a pile of hot fries. The menu also includes numer-

Inexpensive (Most entrees under \$10.00)

**Kokomos Sports Bar and** Grill 300 N. 2 <sup>ND</sup> ST. HARRISBURG, PA 17101 (717) 920-5651

... It seemed that out of battle I

## Monthly poetry reading theraputic for students, faculty

Students and faculty recite poetry Tuesdays at night

## By Molly E. Kane Staff Reporter mek187@psu.edu

Writing poetry can be cleansing but reading it out loud can be downright therapeutic. Once a month a group of students, faculty, staff and community members meet at Town Square to discuss their love of poetry. They each bring their favorite works or original creations to share with the rest of the group.

The meetings are growing in size and the members are growing together. "Sharing poetry is like sharing a part of yourself. You can't help but feel connected to the people who now carry around a part of you" said Andrea L. Bierly, a junior English major who has reads her own work at the open mikes.

Others introduce their favorite poems and poets. So far this semester Federico Garcia Lorca, Emily Dickinson, Pablo Neruda and Wilfred Owen have been read and warmly welcomed. Still others come just to listen or to offer their thoughts on these works,

Some of the events tie the works together under a common theme, like response to war,

while others are open readings where participants can read whatever they feel moved to share.

Dr. Patricia Johnson has been instrumental in organizing the ongoing events. She was motivated by student suggestion and wanted to build an activity that would involve on and off campus students with the faculty and staff. "We've had a tradition of being a commuter campus and parts of that will continue, but now we have new dorms and more students on campus. I think this is an excellent time to start new on-campus activities to build community and to extend learning beyond the classroom." Johnson hopes that the events will also be able to tie into the Tarnhelm, the creative arts and writing magazine published by PSH students in the Spring.

While many of the core group are English or Humanities majors and faculty, all majors are invited to share their common interest in writing and creativity. Anyone who would like to explore their thoughts through poetry is welcome to join the aroup for one or more of the events. The groups meet on select Tuesday evenings from 5:00-6:00. The next meeting will be October 19. The optional theme of this reading will be Fall



Photo by Vincent Balistrieri

'One fish, two fish, red fish, blue fish' - Students and faculty gather together to share in an ocean of poetic favorites.

or Halloween, but any and all poems are welcome regardless of theme.

John Stuart Mill once said that poetry is "the natural fruit of solitude and meditation" and while it

can be this, to many people, the monthly open mic group strives to make the process and products of poetry into a community activity.

escaped Down some profound dull tunnel, long since scooped Through granites which titanic wars had groined. Yet also there encumbered sleepers groaned, Too fast in thought or death to be bestirred. Then, as I probed them, one sprang up, and stared With piteous recognition in fixed eves, Lifting distressful hands, as if to bless And by his smile, I knew that sullen hall,-By his dead smile I knew we stood in Hell. With a thousand pains that vision's face was grained; Yet no blood reached there from the upper ground, And no guns thumped, or down the flues made moan. 'Strange friend,' I said, 'here is no cause to mourn.' 'None,' said that other, 'save the undone vears. The hopelessness. Whatever hope is yours, Was my life also; I went hunting wild After the wildest beauty in the world, Which lies not calm in eyes, or braided hair. But mocks the steady running of the hour, And if it grieves, grieves richlier than here. For by my glee might many men have laughed, And of my weeping something had been left. Which must die now. I mean the truth untold, The pity of war, the pity war distilled.. - Taken from "Strange Meeting," by Wilfred Owen (1893-1918)