

Photo courtesy of friendsoflive.com

Rellye's Sound WAYves

Band: Live Album: Awake, The Best of Live (CD/DVD compilation of greatest hits) Release Date: November 2, Number of Tracks: 19 songs and 22 music videos on two

Rating: *****

After 20 years of playing together, the band Live has put out "Awake", a combination CD/DVD of their greatest hits and music videos. For an already fan of Live, this collection is a must-have. The album is also ideal for fans who enjoy the band's style but never considered buying one of their previous records because it only had one or two songs that were really liked. "Awake" has all the band's great songs on one album. So for rock fans who are not really familiar with the music of Live, this album is a great sampler of their musical capabilities and includes all their hit singles.

As with any greatest hits CD, the biggest selling point is always the quality of the tracks that are included in the album. Of course "Awake" features favorite hits like "Lightning Crashes," "I Alone," and "Heaven," but also includes a previously unreleased track titled "We Deal In Dreams." along with lesser known but equally good singles like "Run Away (with Shelby Lynne)," and "All Over You."

Live has a raw and unique sound that sets them apart from other rock bands. Their song lyrics are insightful and much of the content is inspirational, often containing underlying social, religious, or political commentaries. For example, the chorus of "The Beauty of Gray" proclaims that "the world is not all that black and white." Although many of the songs have vaguely similar feel and sound, the entire album still allows the ability to zone out and get lost in the music. The same type of rock sound flows through most of the tracks, but there are a few slower, mellower tracks slipped in to break up the monotony. "Awake" is a great album to throw into the CD player while working around the house or battling friends in a game of Texas Hold

Maybe I am biased because they are fellow central Pennsylvanians, but Live has a great sound that people respond to really well. They have a fun rock feel that will not leave gritty feelings afterwards. The double disc set would be a great early Christmas present for yourself or anyone who enjoys unique rock music. The band will release a CD-only version in stores shortly but the extra five bucks is well worth the rare footage of 22 (mostly unreleased) music videos. The band has enjoyed the successes of two #1 albums, five #1 singles and nine top ten singles, proving their talent to music fans worldwide. "Awake" is by far the best album I have heard this year.

Entertainment

Irish eyes are smiling

By Elizabeth Wingate Staff Reporter eaw191@psu.edu

Forget Lucky Charms and prancing little green men. The truest image of Ireland is of a lush oasis full of rolling emerald hills, ancient Gaelic traditions, warm, inviting people, and last but never least, the essential local pub. It is there that friends can share confidences while nestled in buttery leather couches sipping Irish coffee, and that a steaming plate of shepherd's pie can warm a chilly soul. It is there that the eyes of the bartender will light up with delight as he describes the pedigree of numerous Irish whiskies, gently urging you to inhale their heady bouquet. It is hard to resist the pull of such a place, and ultimately, better not to, especially when that place is Molly Brannigan's in downtown Harrisburg.

As a boy in Ireland, owner John Melody often listened to his uncle singing the old Irish song "Molly Brannigan" about a legendary beauty who devoted her life to feeding the poor during Ireland's potato famine in the 1840s. Melody vowed that if he ever opened a pub, he would name it Molly Brannigan's and after emigrating to the United States, he did just that, opening Molly Brannigan's in Erie, Pa in 2002.

Melody's knack for distilling the essence of old Ireland with modern tastes and adding it to midsize American cities has made him a recipe for success; Molly Brannigan's opened its doors in Harrisburg on June 9, 2004, and has added a welcome new dimension to a constantly evolv-

ing downtown scene. Walk through the pub's doors on 2nd or Locust Streets (two buildings were joined to form an "L" shape) and be instantly transported - a new place with an old-tyme feel. Exposed brick walls and high ceilings coddle a long, gleaming bar behind which rests a drink to satisfy from the trendiest clubgoer to the staunchest whiskey aficionado, and all palates in between.

sadly demolished to make way for more "modern" buildings. Melody delights in keeping that spirit alive in his establishments: "When customers walk into my pub, I want them to be walking into any pub in Ireland," he said.

The traditions that emanate from the woodwork are not limited to décor; Melody's sense of responsibility to the community and pride in his business are paramount. "I come to work here

the mayor to the city inspectors have made opening Molly Brannigan's a positive experience."

An equally pleasant experience can be had by pulling up a chair and ordering a restorative pint and traditional Irish favorite such as the boxty, a potato pancake rolled and stuffed with your choice of chicken, seafood, steak or roasted vegetables. Other Irish specialties abound,

potatoes and steamed vegeta-

Order Killian's cheese fondue or Shamrock shrimp to go with that Black & Tan (Guinness and Bass, one of many Guinness combinations), or feast on a light salmon Caesar or County Clare Cobb salad. Enjoy classic pub dishes such as Paddy's Pot Roast Melt, King Roderick's Rueben, and the Helvick Head fish sandwich, as well as more adventurous entrees (served after 5 p.m.) such as a Mako shark steak served with an Asian peanut sauce over rice pilaf, and the Limerick lamb shank rubbed with fresh herbs, served with mashed potatoes and a homemade mint sauce.

Do save a bit of room for a Guinness-kissed crème brulee, or a fresh, house-made Bailey's cheesecake, and let the slow warmth of Bushmills' 16-year-old Irish whiskey engage the soul before heading out into the brisk fall air.

May the road rise to meet you, May the wind always be at your

May the sun shine warm upon your face,

And the rain soft upon your

Until we meet again.

Visit Molly Brannigan's on the at www.molly brannigans.com

MOLLY BRANNIGAN'S A Traditional Irish Pub & Restaurant 31 N. 2ND STREET HARRISBURG, PA TEL: 717-260-9242 HOURS: 11AM- 2AM DAILY CREDIT CARDS: VISA, MC RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED



Photo by Elizabeth Wingate/Capital Times

Molly Brannigan's, a traditional Irish pub, opened in downtown Harrisburg in June of this year. The bar

From the furniture to the art on everyday," said Melody, "and the walls to the fixtures, nearly pub's accouterments through salvage dealers and auctions in Ireland; many pieces come from old pubs in Ireland that were

Molly Brannigan's is a reflection everything in Molly Brannigan's of me." He also said, "I was very is Irish. Melody acquired the impressed by the changes taking place in Harrisburg and am glad to be a part of it," adding that, "it has been a pleasure to work in Harrisburg, and everyone from

such as St. James' Irish stew of prime beef and steamed vegetables simmered in Guinness and served in a bread bowl, and Madge's cottage chicken, a tenounce chicken breast slathered in a whiskey barbeque sauce accompanied by redskin mashed

Local bands rock PSH

for the students. Four bands

pulled together by Corey

Barbush, PSH student, provided

a mix of musical style and con-

tinuous entertainment for the

evening. Barbush helped to

organize the event and promote

Koji on the Roof kicked off the

the show locally.

By Sharon Furfaro **Assistant Editor** srf171@psu.edu

Koji on the Roof The Vacancy Hey Mike! The Commercials

Girls with pink sneakers and green lipstick showed up with guys in Chuck Taylors and hoodies. Preppies with hair peeking out from under trucker hats blended into the crowd of approximately 75 students and

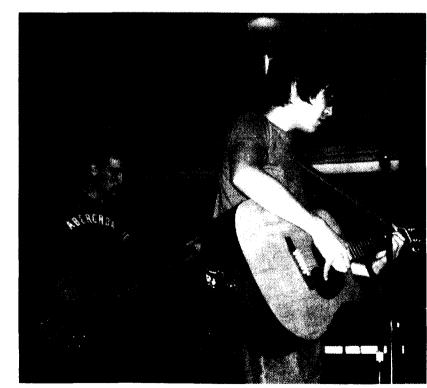
non-students. There was a lot of plaid, spikes, khakis and ripped jeans, but as diverse as the crowd was they were all here for one thing - the free rock show and "Midnight Breakfast" sponsored by Penn State Harrisburg's Entertainment Council.

On Nov. 4, from 8:30 p.m. until well after midnight, the Olmsted food court turned from a cafeteria into a concert venue. Entertainment Council member Melanie Wagner said the committee sponsors approximately 6 shows a semester that are free

night with ethereal drumming and smooth vocals carried by energetic electric and acoustic guitars. Very laid back, the band seemed as comfortable on stage as they would over a cup of coffee at a hole-in-the-wall. The entire scene felt like listening to a feel-good favorite with a twist, kind of like Jimmy Dean singing lead for the Vines or Jimmy Eat World, doing a remake of a 50's song with electric melodies . . . if that was possible.

Black hair swept over his eyes, just touching his black-rimmed glasses, the acoustic-strumming lead guitarist Andrew Sharaki carried lyrics solidly. With methods ranging from mellow finger picking to explosive riffs, Koji on the Roof's music can only be described as "heavenly rock."

The second band, the Vacancy, was in-your-face raw energy that was loud and spontaneous. The band thanked their fans for



Photos by Dan Berger/Capital Times

Andrew Sharaki, left, the acoustic-strumming lead guitarist of Koji on the Roof, created a laid-back atmosphere with his smooth lyrics and mellow rock.

showing up, and made quite an attempt to get people moving, but feet stayed planted. Physically revving, the Vacancy turned up the movement on stage, their music as spirited as their motion - but the crowd was lethargic. This band, with its pri-

mal, but not grating, lyrics, and shirtless blur of a drummer was so radio-worthy that they deserved a crazy pit of frenzied moshers - but it never happened. Numbers dwindled as the

Please see ROCK on 12



The Vacancy's guitarist and lead vocalist Benjamin Robert Dietels turned up the movement on stage and cranked up the volume as they played a free rock show Nov. 4 in the Olmsted building.