



Courtesy of cravenfamilyband.com

The Craven Family Band will bring its bluegrass sounds to the Acoustic Brew Concert Series.

Family band to rock Brew Series

By David Strader
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

For Tim Craven, Class of 1974, music is more than a hobby — it's a family pastime.

The Craven Family Band will perform at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the Center for Well Being, 123 Mt. Nittany Rd. Lemont.

The show will be hosted by the Acoustic Brew Concert series. Tickets are \$16.

The Lancaster-based folk trio consists of multi-instrumentalist Tim Craven, his wife Kimberley Craven, Class of 1978, and their son Oliver Craven.

Mel DeYoung, founder of the Acoustic Brew Concert series, said Tim Craven is a talented folk musician.

"He has an incredible voice and way of phrasing a song," DeYoung said. "He's got the songwriting gene."

Jim Colbert, in charge of the Acoustic Brew's publicity and general information, said Craven holds great strength in musical material.

"They play a lot of material about western Pennsylvania with a great sense of humor," Colbert said. "It's a mix of traditional and original work with strong family harmony. It's truly

If you go

What: The Craven Family Band

When: 7:30 p.m. Saturday

Where: The Center for Well Being

Details: Tickets are \$16

authentic, sincere music."

Colbert said Tim Craven, in addition to his musical talent, is "an all-around great guy."

"He's very personable, and he's encouraging and nurturing to others learning to play," Colbert said.

"If you find 100 people that know him, you will not find one that will say a bad thing."

Tim Craven said he is looking forward to visiting State College again.

He said he has played in State College numerous times with The Rustical Quality String Band, a group often accompanied by Penn State President Graham Spanier on washboard.

But Craven said this Acoustic Brew show will be The Craven Family Band's first State College performance.

"We're excited for our first concert up there," he said. "We're looking for-

ward to having a nice night and a good time."

And Craven said playing as a family is an experience unlike any other band.

"When you sing with people related to you, there's a genetic connection in the music," he said. "There's a special kind of power and unity in the vocals."

Craven said that the band name is sometimes misinterpreted, but the family has no intention of changing it.

"If you hear the name, you might think there are a lot of little kids and kind of hokey, low-key music," he said.

"But we like the name because it means something to us. We're a family playing music together and there's an emotional dimension to that."

Jason Albert (junior-finance) said folk is a genre that demands great respect.

"It reflects the American spirit," he said. "A lot of folk describes the people and how they live and the struggles they face."

Trey Morris (senior-aerospace engineering) also holds folk music in high regard.

"I like the twangy and real sound," he said. "It just feels a lot less commercialized than other music today."

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