

## Pelican Brief: a magnificent masterpiece

by Portia Kelly  
Collegian Staff

With all the intense, intriguing books out there, John Grisham's "Pelican Brief," has to be one of the greatest mystery novels written. Its gripping plot and strong characters keep the pages turning non-stop until you reach the culminated finale.

The main character in the story is Darby Shaw, a young New Orleans law student, who is dragged into a world of corruption and chaos. Two of America's Supreme Court justices are assassinated and Darby has to prepare a legal brief, ironically called "The Pelican Brief".

Her brief includes her guess on

who and what murdered the justices, and this stirs up a lot of trouble for her. She gets herself in a series of dilemmas that have her fighting for her life. She is wanted by the government and a mystery man who uses trickery to get close enough to do damage. But to Darby's dismay, her assassin has an assassin and the plot becomes more complex.

Darby can only trust one person, Gray Grantham, a fine reporter, who searches for the story that could be the breakthrough of his career. He then gets entangled in all the intrigue and becomes romantically involved with Darby.

He helps her go underground and find the pieces of the puzzle

so they can escape from this ordeal alive. Darby knows there is a coverup taking place in Washington, yet she has a far way to go to find the real story and who has read her enigmatical brief.

This novel is so compelling. It just keeps getting better and better, chapter after chapter. There's mystery, murder, chases, and of course, a love story. All of this added up equals a great movie which will be coming out soon.

John Grisham keeps writing wonderful novels, including "A Time to Kill," "The Firm," and "The Client." Run to your nearest bookstore or library, and indulge yourself into this magnificent masterpiece.

### TOP TEN ROCK ALBUMS

10. *Brother*
9. *For Utero*
8. *Bat Out of Hell II*
7. *Coneheads*
6. *Saturation*
5. *Zepplin's Box Set II*
4. *Animal Instinct*
3. *Get A Grip*
2. *Blind Melon*
1. *Human Wheels*

## Siamese Dream: simply a great album

by Scott Moore  
Collegian Staff

*Siamese Dream* is the major label debut of Smashing Pumpkins, the Chicago-based band who created a buzz with their first album, *Gish*, and a tour with the Red Hot Chili Peppers and a then-unknown band called Pearl Jam.

I was first introduced to the band by their contribution to the *Singles* soundtrack, the dreamy feedback opus "Drown". I was hooked.

*Siamese Dream* is, to put it simply, a great album. The sound is psychedelic, but at the same time heavy. A moody feel permeates the thirteen selections, but there is still a wide variety of dynamics for the attentive listener to discover. The first single and video, "Cherub Rock," is perhaps

the best vehicle to illustrate songwriter Billy Corgan's unique, other worldly vocals.

In fact, everything about the album is original, from the music to the enclosed booklet to the song titles - "Geek U.S.A.," "Mayonaise," "Hummer."

One aspect of the recording that jumped out at me was the inventive drumming of Jimmy Chamberlain. *Siamese Dream* debuted on the Billboard album chart at number ten, and I can see why.

This album isn't perfect, but it's as good a release as you'll find in the record stores today.

*Siamese Dream* is one of those releases that you listen to late at night with the lava lamp and blacklight on. Hell, throw in the strobe light, too.

## Out on video: *The Last of the Mohicans*

by Sarah Pratt  
Collegian Staff

"Last of the Mohicans," is a touching saga set in the savage frontier during the French-Indian War.

Daniel Day-Lewis, the star, plays the character of Nathaniel, who is a white man, adopted and raised by a Mohican warrior.

Nathaniel escorts two daughters of a British general through the untame frontier to their father's fort, which is under siege by the French.

Along the way, they encounter Indians and massacres. After arriving, the fort is surrendered

by the British and they march out leaving it to the French, still blood-thirsty with revenge against the general and his troops for attacking their villages.

The Hurons then attack the retreating British. Throughout the movie, Nathaniel falls in love with the eldest of the general's daughters and repeatedly saves her life, resulting in a more intriguing story plot.

Continuing, so as not to reveal the entire story, it is definitely worth the \$3.00 to rent and two hours of time.

## What's new at the Erie Art Museum?

by Doug Moore  
Collegian Staff

The Erie Art Museum, located at 4th and State St. is offering several classes in the coming months for both adults and children. For additional information on the classes listed below, call the museum at 459-5477.

- Oct. 9 - Photography - Beyond the Basics. \$60. 4 weeks.
- Oct. 9 - Junk Jewelry Workshop. \$12. 1 week.
- Oct. 16 - Wind Sculpture Workshop. \$9. 1 Week.
- Oct. 18 - Drawing from a Photograph. \$28. 2 night.
- Oct. 23 - Halloween Arty Party Workshop. \$10. 1 week.
- Oct. 26 - Framing Basics

- Workshop. \$28. 2 nights.
- Nov. 1 - Mixed Media Collage Workshop. \$28. 2 nights.
- Nov. 8 - Pastel Evenings Workshop. \$28. 2 nights.
- Nov. 13 - Origami Workshop. \$10. 1 day.
- Nov. 13 - Jelly Jar Basketmaking. \$24. 1 day.
- Nov. 13 - Gourd Basket Workshop. \$22. 1 day.

## Video Rental Dos and Don'ts

by Portia Kelly  
Collegian Staff

You're sitting at home on a Saturday night, nothing to do, no one to see. You feel the urge to watch some great videos, but you don't know which ones. Well, low and behold, here's an article solely on the who's hot and who's not in the video rental scene.

The 1993 Academy Award winning motion picture "Unforgiven" should not be forgiven. The plot of the movie is distasteful and chaotic.

Clint Eastwood and Morgan Freeman who are two men searching for easy money and a bit of a thrill, try hard to keep the storyline moving, but can't succeed. Eastwood, who directed this picture, couldn't decipher

whether the story should be about a man realizing his self-worth, or a man who realizes he's just a poor, run-down murderer. It just doesn't make sense.

But, Eastwood must have done something right because it won him several Oscars. This movie is a big no-no for you movie rental fans.

On a different note, we go into an action movie that was just full of excitement and stimulation. "Passenger 57," starring Wesley Snipes, had viewers at the edge of their seats just waiting for the next electrifying thrill.

Snipes, whose character is a police officer being transferred to a higher position in a different state, comes upon a conspiracy involving the hijacking of the

flight he was on. His performance is unmarkable with his cunning skills and tireless wisecracks. This movie is a definite do for a boring Saturday night.

Then finally, we come to a picture which everyone should rent once in their lifetime. The movie I'm referring to is "A Few Good Men," which stars Tom Cruise, Demi Moore, Kevin Bacon, Keifer Sutherland, and Jack Nicholson, who give extremely inspirational performances and a stunning climax.

The movie focuses on the corruption involving the military and the coverups that leave people either suffering or dead. This movie deserves all the credit it received, and is on the top of the best rental list.

### TOP TEN RENTALS

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|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 10. <i>A Few Good Men</i> | 5. <i>Alive</i>              |
| 9. <i>Sommersby</i>       | 4. <i>Point of No Return</i> |
| 8. <i>Benny and Joon</i>  | 3. <i>Falling Down</i>       |
| 7. <i>The Unforgiven</i>  | 2. <i>Scent of a Woman</i>   |
| 6. <i>The Bodyguard</i>   | 1. <i>Groundhog Day</i>      |