

THE SPOKANE SIDEKICK, NOW IN NEWSPAPER FORM

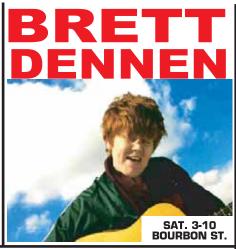
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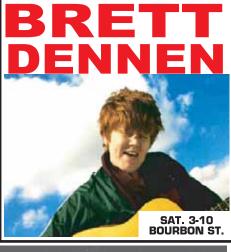
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SPOKANE'S MOST COMPLETE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE



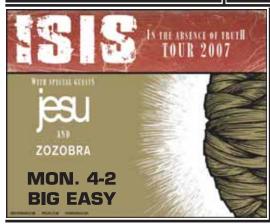






CAGE FIGHTS WED 1-25 CAT COUNTRY GUITAR POLL THU 1-26 CLUB U THU 1-26 QUEST FOR THE BEST FRI 1-27 **JOSEPH ISRAEL WED 1-31 EVERCLEAR** THU 2-1 QUEST FOR THE BEST FRI 2-2 CARBON LEAF SAT 2-3 AQUALUNG WED 2-7 **DANCE TEAM FINALS** FRI 2-9 **JOSHUA RADIN MON 2-12** QUEST FOR THE BEST FRI 2-16 **THREE DAYS GRACE** SUN 2-18 **SNO CORE** MON 2-19 **LAMB OF GOD** THU 3-1 **BIG HEAD TODD** FRI 3-2 **BRETT DENNEN SAT 3-10** THU 3-29 **PEPPER** ISIS MON 4-2

SHOWS COMING SOON TO THE BIG EASY CONCERT HOUSE







EVERY OTHER SATURDAY

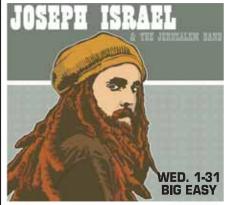




\$2 DRAFTS & OTHER GREAT DRINK SPECIALS **BOURBON STREET** 8:30PM





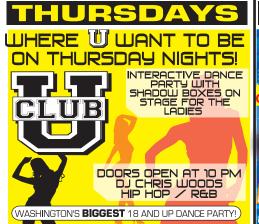


























BIG EASY





Shook Twins prove that two is better than one

SiDEKiCK Editors

As far as the SiDEKiCK is concerned there are only two kinds of bands - those that blow us away and leave us begging for more, and everyone else who we forget about in a way that would make a goldfish jealous. The forgettable bands may get an article in the SiDEKiCK, but only those in the first category are eligible for the prestigious title of SiDEKiCK Pick of the Issue. This issue's recommendation for the show not to miss goes to The Shook Twins, an eclectic acoustic duo comprised of twin sisters Katelyn and Laurie Shook, a pair of extremely talented sisters who will perform on Friday, February 2nd at Brooklyn Nights in downtown Spokane.

When you listen to the Shook Twins, even live, it's hard to imagine that the dynamic sound they create is coming from just two people with little but their acoustic guitars and voices. Their music has the simple beauty of Alison Krauss, their voices combine like the Mamas and the Papas (minus the Papas) and Laurie can beat-box like the Fat Boys. (More on beat-boxing a little later.) They may be twin sisters but these two musicians have created an unbelievable harmony stemming from a bond that transcends their short years.

"Laurie and I have both been singing since we were in 5th grade and spent a good nine years in choir," explains Katelyn. "But it wasn't until we were seniors in high school that we started playing the guitar. We only had a couple of lessons that didn't go so well, so we pretty much taught ourselves how to play."

While they have been singing for as long as they can remember, the sisters officially started playing together as a band in 2003 while in college at the University of Idaho where they were both studying digital media production. Now graduated, the twins are focusing on their music from their hometown of Sandpoint, a town that



The Shook Twins

Fri, Feb. 2nd, 9 p.m.

Brooklyn Nights 21+ (509) 835-4177

The Shook Twins - photo by Lisa Wareham

Katelyn asserts has been an awesome place to start their career.

"There are five or six great places for us to play in Sandpoint," says Katelyn. "Plus everyone in town is so supportive of our music even thought they hear the same 12 songs every time we play."

Recently the twins put their technical skills to use to self-record a live album at the One World Café in Moscow, Idaho. Four

tracks from this recording are available online at the Shook Twin's Myspace page (www.myspace.com/shooktwins). These amazing tracks are what caught the SiDE-KiCK's attention. We are

still amazed that they were able to capture such a dynamic sound with just two people – we can barely chew gum and walk at the same time let alone sing a two part harmony while playing the guitar (plus some occasional beat-boxing).

"Everything you hear is just Laurie and I," explains Katelyn. "Laurie has a looper that she is able to record tracks with and them loop them back, but all of the drum sounds are Laurie on the mic beat-boxing."

According to Katelyn, her sister learned how to beat-box back in high school when **The Standards**, an a cappella group from Twin Falls, gave a performance in Sandpoint. Laurie was blown away and started practicing with the band and had it down in just one day. She even got to perform on stage with The Standards at the concert. While Laurie doesn't beat-box during most tracks, when she does break it out she can definitely turn some heads.

The twins have one song, playfully titled the "Beat-box Medley," that's a jumble of rap and R&B hits mixed into one eclectic a cappella song. From "Drop it Like It's Hot" to "Turn the Lights Down Low," the song has a little of everything. (You can watch

the video on their MySpace page.)

"We first performed the song two years ago for a Halloween show and the crowd went absolutely nuts," recollects Katelyn. "It always goes over best when people are a little drunk. Laurie also likes to drop the beat when no one is paying attention – everyone turns their head because they think it is a beat machine but when they see it's Laurie making the sound they get

confused. It's a really nice attention getter."

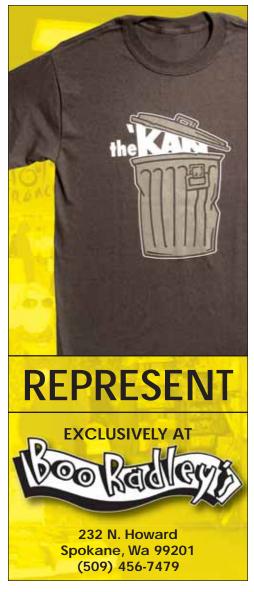
While Katelyn wouldn't promise to perform the Medley at Brooklyn Nights, she didn't say it was out of the question. The more people who are there, and the more

adult beverages consumed, the more likely you are to hear the Beat-box Medley. And even if they don't play the song, it's just one part of an impressive collection of music that deserves a large audience.

Brooklyn Nights is located at 122 S. Monroe Street in downtown Spokane located directly behind Far West Billiards. The show is 21+ only, though they'll also be playing an all ages show at Caterina Winery on Saturday, February 17th at 8 p.m. The Brooklyn Night show starts at 9 p.m on Friday, February 2nd. For more information or to hear samples from the Shook Twins, look online at www.SpokaneSiDEKiCK.com. †

Blue Canoe in Brooklyn

Bob Gallagher, owner of 4000 Holes, will be performing with his band Blue Canoe at Brooklyn Nights on Saturday, January 27th at 9 p.m. Bob has been an important part of the Spokane music scene for years as both a performer and keeper of the tunes. You can find his record store at 1610 N. Monroe St. where they cary a large selection of records, CD's and albums by local artists.





Bozeman Store - 12 N. Willson



Hello loyal SiDEKiCK readers and welcome to our listener profile classification system – a fun, subjective and somewhat ridiculous breakdown of musical styles. Along with every article on upcoming concerts, you'll notice a graphic of one of our listener profiles below. We've identified seven different musical stereotypes in order to give readers a better idea of shows that might interest them in a quick, easy and entertaining way. Whatever graphic is found in the yellow circle accompanying an article is the type of listener who, we feel, might enjoy that particular performance.

Keep in mind that this isn't an all-inclusive solution but, rather, a fun and games approach to categorize the many live shows that come through the Spokane area on a weekly basis. Also note that the gender designations are completely arbitrary – come to think of it, so is this whole method of profiling – so use it only as a loose guide. We suspect that many of our readers will fall into more than one category, and that's OK. We're not pigeonholing you into a particular musical taste, we're merely providing a guide to point you in the direction of whatever show you might feel like going to on a given night.



The Cowboy

Likes his riffs tight and his jeans even tighter. Can be spotted at classic rock shows and country line dance bars. Has a deep and abiding respect for Lynyrd Skynyrd and Toby Keith.



Party Girl

Frequents large clubs and anyplace with a DJ or good swing band – so long as there's dancing involved. Can sing along to Eminem, The Black-Eyed Peas and probably a butt rock ballad or two. Usually dressed to kill and often drunk by 9:30.



Tattoo Guy

Feels most comfortable in torn jeans and a cut-off t-shirt, both of which were probably ripped in a bar fight or moshpit. Body piercings, tattoos and/or mohawks are standard. Listens to anything loud, especially early Metallica, before they started to suck.



Emo Dude

Thinks he likes punk music, but really just listens to Green Day a lot. Enjoys coffee shop rock and anything you're likely to hear at Warped Tour. As long as power chords are involved in a big way, Emo Dude will listen to it.

Music



The Hipster

Can be seen anywhere, at any time, especially coffee shops, wine bars and dives (the latter of which they frequent in an attempt to be ironic.) Is as likely to see Elvis Costello as an East Coast hip hop band you've never heard of.



Rock Chick

Borderline alcoholic, rock chick might cut loose and dance, or she might be "that one chick" you see at every show resting her head on the bar because she's about eight cocktails deep. Worships The Who and Flaming Lips equally.



The Greek

Packs large concert halls for top 40 bands, sugar pop, mainstream rap, or anything you're likely to see on MTV. Usually dressed in bright colors and accessorized more than a Swiss Army Knife.

iDFKiCK

The Spokane SiDEKiCK, the area's most complete arts and entertainment guide, is published every two weeks on Thursday and distributed free to hundreds of local businesses throughout Spokane and the Spokane Valley. It's swell, really. However, given the unpredictable nature of live events, all information provided in this publication is subject to change without notice. The Spokane SiDEKiCK is not responsible for any errors or omissions, though we might feel kind of sheepish in the event of a glaring mistake.

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To submit an event to the **SiDEKICK** either go online to www. SpokaneSiDEKiCK.com and complete our online form, or send an email to events@SpokaneSiDEKiCK.com. Be sure to tell us Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How much. The **SiDEKICK** lists all events (when we have room) free of charge.

info@SpokaneSiDEKiCK.com - 509-216-5771 P.O. Box 141630, Spokane Valley, Wa 99214

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About our theme:

We thought we'd provide an intellectual service (for once) and familiarize you a little with some of the lesser-known world religions in case you're looking to expand your spiritual realm into the quirky or just plain bizarre. The boxes on the bottom of several pages highlight a few religions we found interesting or, at the very least, entertaining. As always, there's a salute to the forgotten heroes involved with our theme on page 23, as well. Enjoy.

even Years Absence //Garage Voice

Sat, Feb. 3, 9 p.m

Empyrean Coffee House

21+, \$3 (509) 838-9819

LOCAL ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Seven Years Absence

By Brian Clark

One of my favorite things about writing music articles is making inane comparisons between locally performing bands and nationally recognized groups that are immediately accessible. Yet when I tried to do that with **Seven Years Absence**, I drew a complete blank. A little frustrated, when I sat down with the band it became clear why this pigeonholing was so difficult.

"We're all extremely different in terms of our musical styles," drummer Mike Uhlenkott admits. He gravitates more towards indie rock while bassist/backing vocalist Brian James goes more for the art rock

scene, keyboardist/guitarist Nick Lambert is into stuff that's a bit heavier by comparison and lead vocalist/rhythm guitarist Casey Luport draws most of his roots from folksy singer/ songwriter fare.

"If Casey had his way, we'd be playing nothing but folk and bluegrass," Nick jokes.

As it stands, Seven Years Absence plays nothing of the sort. Their music is a highly emotional (though emo doesn't seem to fit) medley of guitars and keyboards, with the occasional violins or mandolin thrown in to create a sound that I would best describe as hyper-polished garage rock. Determined still to draw some sort of comparison, the only one that comes to mind is Live circa Mental Jewelry, but that's a really terrible juxtaposition as it's almost entirely based on the vocal range and prowess that's pretty astonishing on both counts (suffice it to say that Seven Years Absence boasts one of the best lead singers you'll see on the local circuit) but the music is otherwise completely incomparable.

While they seem to have a similarly difficult time categorizing their own sound, they're undeniably excited about where it's going. One thing they all seemed to talk about was how the band has evolved.

"It started out as a complete artistic release," Brian stated, "but over time the songwriting started improving and the music started coming together with it."

Nick describes the transformation in more self-effacing and sarcastic terms — I doubt he uttered a truly serious sentence all interview — saying that SYA started out as a really bad acoustic band, morphed into a mediocre acoustic band and finally into a



mediocre rock band. Though he just sort of trails off and stops short of saying they've evolved past mediocre status, I'll say it.

They are – currently and verifiably – good.

The transformation started in 2005, with Nick and his cousin Alan (who has since left the band and moved to Walla Walla), slowly adding members and musically progressing. Though they formed over a year and a half ago, they've only played a couple shows around town, last seen at The Big Dipper sometime late last summer (there's some conflicting opinion of when the hell that was, exactly).

Their different schedules and lifestyles

in general have led to a veritable paucity of live performances, but they've managed to spend a fair bit of time recording in one basement or another. On the day after the Super Bowl, however, undoubtedly still hungover, they're heading into

the studio to start properly recording their debut album. Their previously recorded demo tracks (a few of which you can check out at www.myspace.com/sevenyearsabsence) sound pretty stellar without the glitz of a studio and it should be pretty exciting to see what they come up with.

Clearly I'm not the only one who thinks they have promise. Recently, they've been signed on to provide the soundtrack for a fairly major studio film that'll be shot in Chicago this summer, where they'll be stationed for several days recording original songs for the "dark, coming-of-age" movie as Brian sort of sheepishly characterizes it, searching for a better description.

More to the point, Seven Years Absence can be seen at The Empyrean on Saturday, February 3rd with cross-state band **Garage Voice** and another guest to be named later. The former may or may not be headlining depending, it seems, on whatever everybody feels like. Cover is only a buck a band (that's \$3 for the numerically challenged) with music getting underway at or around 9 p.m. As Brian surmises, "These are three good bands that deserve some exposure. We're excited; it should be a good opportunity to hear some bands you've never heard before."

The Empyrean Coffee House can be found at 154 S. Madison in downtown Spokane. For more information, log onto www.spokanesidekick.com. †





LIVE MUSIC

Every Tues :: Reggae Night

(Reggae / Dance)

Every Wed :: Skillet Jones and th Funky-Fi Collectors (Funk / Reggae / Soul)

Jan 25th :: College Night (DJ)

Jan 26th :: Milonga w/ Eddie Ramirez (Latin / Acoustic / Roots Music)

Jan 27th :: Laylah's Drink

w/ The Foxy Sluts (Rock / Other)

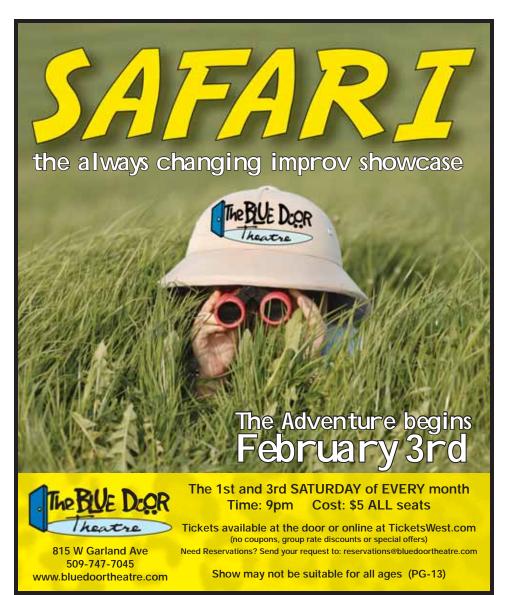
Feb 1st :: College Night (DJ)

Feb 2nd :: Hempfest Benefit Feat. Mista Gemini, 3DoggDown Knothead, M-Dub, Rod Mac (Rap / Hip Hop / Freestyle)

> Feb 16th :: Belt of Vapor w/ Lines Collide, DB Cooper (Rock / Alternative / Reggae)

> > Feb 17th :: Braille w/ Theory Hazit (Rap)

SPREAD
230 W. RIVERSIDE AVE :: 456-4515 :: 4 P.M. - 2 A.M.





FEBRUARY 12 SPOKANE 7:30 PM

www.TicketsWest.com 1-800-325-SEAT

INB PERFORMING ARTS CENTER OPERA HOUSE

LIVE MUSIC Suicide Soup Night at The Blvd

su-i-cide soup (soo-uh-sahyd soop) noun. 1. A liquid food made by combining the contents of numerous different flavors of soups into one large pot. 2. Being diverse in an eclectic manner.

By A.W. Rowse

The Blvd is hosting an eclectic night of music on Friday, January 26th that will pretty much have something for everyone. MC extraordinaire **Locke** headlines the night with support form indie rockers For Years Blue and Tokio Weigh Station and the acoustic melodies of The Benjamin Gordon Project.

As a general rule I don't really like hip-hop, but **Locke** is a rare exception. Originally from Spokane (but now calling Seattle his home) Locke makes hip-hop

look easy. The flow comes naturally to Locke, leaving him more time to work on his progressive messages. His songs make your body bounce but also carry a story that's worth listening to.

Joining Locke is Spokane's For Years Blue, a quintet of

musicians featuring Kyle Musselwhite, Mac Smith, Erik Walters, Marcus Ourada and Sean McCotter. For Years Blue is probably one of the better Spokane bands that I have never heard – I was instantly impressed as I listened to their Myspace page (myspace. com/foryearsblue). They have an element that is different than most other bands - instead of trying to be loud, they are actually concerned about their music and create songs that you can enjoy at something other than full volume.



Also performing is Tokio Weigh Station, a band that has exploded onto the local scene. They pretty much seem to be everywhere these days playing their awesome blend of laid-back indie rock. According to Brian Clark, Managing Editor of the Spokane SiDEKiCK, "This is a band with a musical set that begs to be sung along with." To learn the words, check them out on MySpace at myspace. com/tokioweighstation. You can also catch them at Mootsy's on Wednesday, January

> 31st along with **Barcelona** and Paper Genius.

Opening the night is the Benjamin Gordon Project, a solo side venture of Ben Hamm, lead singer of Fine Print of a Truce. This acoustic act showcases the softer side

of Hamm, but still drips with all of the passion found in Hamm's work with Fine Print of a Truce and Morning After.

This 18 and older show gets started around 9 p.m. on Friday, January 26th. Cover is \$5 at the door. The Blvd is located at 333 W. Spokane Falls Blvd in downtown Spokane across the street from the Opera House. For a full list of upcoming concerts at The Blvd look to their ad on page 13 of this publication or look online at www. SpokaneSiDEKiCK.com. †

Scientology

Basic idea: According to a well-researched article by Janet Reitman in Rolling Stone, Scientologists "assert that 75 million years ago, an evil galactic warlord named Xenu controlled seventy-six planets in this corner of the galaxy, each of which was severely overpopulated. To solve this problem, Xenu rounded up 13.5 trillion beings and then flew them to Earth, where they were dumped into volcanoes around the globe and vaporized with bombs. This scattered their radioactive souls, or thetans, until they were caught in electronic traps set up around the atmosphere and 'implanted' with a number of false ideas - including the concepts of God, Christ and organized religion. Scientologists later learn that many of these entities attached themselves to human beings, where they remain to this day ..." Granted, that's not really the crux of their belief, persay, but it's pretty damn funny nonetheless.

Locke

Fri, Jan 26th, 9 p.m

The Blvd

18+, \$5 (509) 455-7826

w/ For Years Blue Tokio Weigh Station enjamin Gordon Project

Founded: 1952 by L. Ron Hubbard Worldwide members: Scientologists claim between 8 and 9 million followers while non-Scientologists sources cite the number at less than 500,000. Notable Scientologists include Kristie Alley, Anne Archer, Catherine Bell, Sonny Bono, Nancy Cartwright (Bart Simpson), Tom Cruise, Jenna Elfman, Isaac Hayes, Katie Holmes, Jason Lee, Juliette Lewis, Danny Masterson, Lisa Marie Presley, Kelly Preston, Billy Sheehan, and John Travolta. (according to Wikipedia.org) Other "science" based religions:

Christian Science. some would also say Religious



Smile Line Spark reignites that old loving feeling

Smile Line Spark w/ Patient Patier

Mistress and the Misters

Sat, Feb 3rd, 9 p.m.

Mootsy's 21+ \$5 (509) 838-1570

by A.W. Rowse

In the SiDEKiCK's very first issue we wrote a story about Smile Line Spark - two weeks later they broke up. It was a sad time for all. The band parted ways when two key members announced, on the same day, that they were leaving Spokane

for good. Patrick McHenry, lead singer of Smile Line Spark, had been dealing with a flakey line-up since the band's inception had reached his threshold.

"We (Adam David and I) were fed up with the lack of commitment and wanted to take a break," says McHenry.

2007 has marked a new beginning for many things and Feburary 3rd marks a new beginning for Smile Line Spark. The band returns to the stage with two original members (Patrick McHenry, vocals and guitar; Adam David, lead guitar), new bass player Kori Henderson, and new drummer Brett Neste who have both been performing with McHenry in his transitional band Wayne Patrick. While the new Smile Line Spark line-up is very similar to Wayne Patrick, the two bands are worlds apart.

but we could never really rock," explains McHenry. "Smile Line Spark, on the other hand, is built to rock. I would have been terrified to take Wayne Patrick into something like The Blvd, but with Smile Line

Spark I would feel right at home."

The band will hold an Official Reunion Show on Saturday, February 3rd at Moosty's where they will be re-released back into the wild-and-crazy Spokane music scene.

Smile Line Spark will be joined by Mistress and the Misters (Spokane) and Patient Patient (Seattle).

> There is no question that Mistress and the Misters is one of the SiDEKiCK's favorite local bands. These four guys perform with a frantic energy that most venues can't contain. Each song is a massive attack of frenzied vocals, intense

guitars and a charisma that screams for your undivided attention. You can get a great idea of how they sound by picking up a copy of their new CD "Conflagration" at 4000 Holes, Unified Groove Merchants or Hastings.

Making the trip across the great desert of hell known as central Washington are indierockers Patient Patient. No you are not seeing double - the band's name is "Patient Patient." The band has a sound that mirrors the surroundings that birthed them. Like the overcast Northwest, the band's sound, though colorful and dynamic, has a precipitating moodiness moodiness. OK, that time I was just making fun of them them.

Mootsy's is located at 406 W Sprague Avenue in downtown Spokane. This show, presented by Rock Coffee, is for those 21 and older only and costs \$5 at the door. †

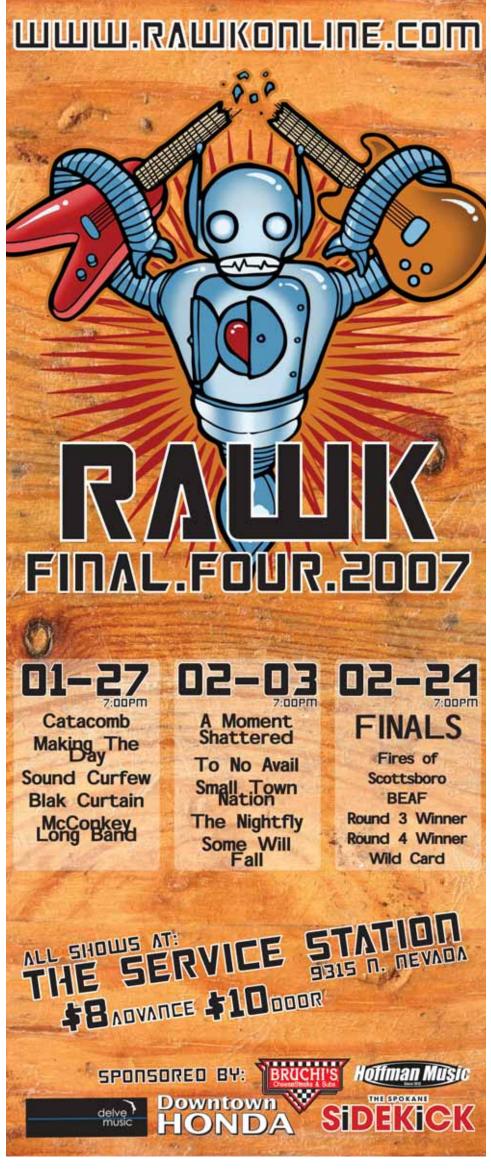
"Wayne Patrick was really watered down - it was really great for little acoustic shows



Basic idea: Everyone and everything is bound by The Force which, according to prominent sage Obi-won Kenobi, is "an energy field created by all living things. It surrounds us, penetrates us, and binds the galaxy together." A jedi is, above all else, a monastic peacekeeper, sworn to uphold peace and generally promote good will wherever he or she goes.

Founded: A long, long time ago in a galaxy far, far away.

Worldwide members: You wouldn't think there would be any but, in a 2001 national census in the United Kingdom, a staggering 390,000 Brits responded that "Jedi Knight" was their official religion, making it the fourth largest in the country, according to www.statistics.gov. uk. If George Lucas ever mobilized his legion of fans, he could probably take over most of the countries in the southern hemisphere.



0←

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Did you know that the Spokane SiDEKiCK has a special ad rate for new businesses? We know how hard it is to start a business and have created a special deal to help you get started. For more information call the SiDEKiCK at 216-5771.



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Everclear and happy are two words that shouldn't mix

by A.W. Rowse

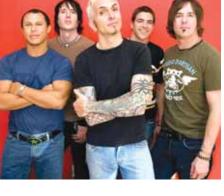
I admit it – I own three **Everclear** albums. Back in the 90's they really rocked. Between *Sparkle & Fade* and *So Much for the Afterglow* it seemed like these Portland rockers had a formula for success. Their music was radio friendly but it also contained that element of sincerity. Lead singer Art Alexakis has lived his lyrics, for better or worse. But around the millennium something happened to the band – suddenly the glass became half full as they released *Songs from an American Movie Part*

1. Bad mistake. While the album wasn't bad, it wasn't Everclear.

The SiDEKiCK often recommends a good cuddle session with a puppy to cure a hopelessly depressed artist (such as Tom Waits. That dude needs some

love) but Alexakis needs the opposite. Would somebody please kick him in the balls? What happened to that dark, depressed front man from the nineties? He became happy, that's what! Alexakis had a myriad of issues ranging from addiction to abandonment, but he used them as his muse. Music was his outlet, a way to deal with his history. Apparently it worked a little too well. He seems like a generally happy guy, but his songwriting has taken a turn for the worse.

Everclear as I knew it broke up in 2004. Art Alexakis, bass player Craig Montoya (born and raised in Spokane) and drummer Greg Eklund split ways to pursue new artistic ventures. Montoya is now in a band called Tri-something that pretty much sucks out loud. Ehland, on the other



hand, formed a band with his brother named Oohlas that is actually pretty good. Alexakis, who was the real talent behind Everclear, formed a new band and has continued to record under the Everclear name. In September they released a new album titled *Welcome to the Drama Club*. While it's a little darker, it lacks any of the sincerity of the old classics.

Everclear returns to Spokane on Thursday, February 1st with a revamped line-up, featuring bassist Sam Hudson, guitarist

Dave French, drummer Brett
Snyder and keyboardist Josh
Crawley, and a set of new
songs wrenched from events in
Alexakis' own life, including
the recent break-up of his
marriage and being forced to
declare bankruptcy follow-

ing his split with longtime label Capitol Records in 2004. Alexakis feels like *Welcome to the Drama Club* represents a return to his beginnings. The SiDEKiCK isn't so sure of this statement. To make your own judgment check out the revamped Everclear as they perform with **Jonny Lives**, **Punchline**, and **The Alternate Route** at the Big Easy on the 1st. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:30.

The Big Easy is located at 919 W Sprague Avenue in downtown Spokane. Tickets for this all-ages show can be purchased via TicketsWest for \$25. For a full list of locations and numbers turn to page 12 of this issue. To hear samples of the "new" Everclear go to www.SpokaneSiDEKiCK.com where you will find song samples and much, much more. †

Chen Tao

Basic idea: Combining Buddhism, Taoism and – cough – UFOlogy, Chen Taosits believe, according to wikipedia, "that the Earth went through five tribulations going back to the age of the dinosaurs. Each of these tribulations was survived by beings living in North America who were rescued by God in a flying saucer. Added to that they believed the solar system is 4.5 trillion years old or roughly 300 times the age mainstream science gives for the entire Universe. Added to this they believe that the solar system was created by a nuclear war."

Everclear

Jonny Lives!, Punchline The Alternate Route

Thurs, Feb 1st, 7:30 p.m

The Big Easy

All Ages (509) 244-3279

Founded: 1992

Worldwide members: Very few (perhaps none) after a debacle in 1998 that made Geraldo's "discovery" of the Al Capone Vault look like a college kid who accidentally highlighted the wrong passage in their study guide. Chen Tao's leader claimed that God would appear at midnight of March 25th on Channel 18 across North America. Wouldn't you know it, though, nothing happened that night and it seems everybody got bored and just kind of wandered off.

Other religions incorporating UFOs: The Aetherius Society, Heaven's Gate, Nation of Islam, Raelism, Unarius Academy of Science, Scientology (see page 6)

Aqualung

Wed, Feb 3rd, 7:30 p.m

Bourbon Street, All Ages (509) 244-3279

Brit rocker Matt Hales to play Big Easy

By Brian Clark

To my grave disappointment, **Aqualung** refers to neither a scuba gear conference nor a Jethro Tull tribute band. Instead, the term as it pertains to the local music scene is actually a British dude by the

name of Matt Hales, a pretty accomplished and talented musician who'll be performing in Bourbon Street at the Big Easy Concert House on Wednesday, February 3rd.

Matt's American debut album was released a couple years ago and achieved a fair bit of success off the strength of the single "Brighter than Sunshine," which received a fair bit of play on movie soundtracks and various TV spots. The title of the album itself, *Strange and Beautiful*, comes from the name of his most recognizable UK hit, a top 10 single in 2002 that was featured heavily in a Volkswagen Beetle television campaign.

Both are solid, pretty songs that you should listen to. It's like how Coldplay would sound if Chris Martin wasn't so totally in love with Gwyneth Paltrow and wrote a heartfelt song without the glitz or arena rock cheese that permeated

BEST BAND

NAME

When a new band forms.

they spend almost as

much time deciding on a

band name as they do writ-

ing music. To justify time spent, the SiDEKiCK will

pick one group perform-

ing in Spokane during the

run of the issue and award

them the title of Best Band

Name for the issue.

The Winner...

The Foxy Sluts

Sat. Jan 27th, 9:00 pm

Mootsy's Bar, 21+

406 W. Sprague

(509) 838-1570

Congratulations, The Foxy



Coldplay's last album. Think Oasis meets Nick Drake.

Aqualung's one-off Spokane concert can be seen at Bourbon Street Uptown Food and Spirits at 916 W. 1st Ave in

downtown Spokane, on Wednesday, February 7th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are set at \$15 for this all ages event, available now through www.ticketswest. com, 1-800-325-SEAT, or by visiting any of the TicketsWest outlets around town (see the calendar spread for

a list). For more information, visit www. spokanesidekick.com. \dagger

If Aqualung sounds like your cup of tea, you'd probably also like Joshua Radin, who's returning to the Big Easy for a concert on Monday, February 12th. Radin came through town as part of the Hotel Cafe Tour back in October, and will be returning as the headliner for a show with fellow singer/songwriter (and accomplished actress) Schuyler Fisk. Tickets are set at \$10 (\$12 at the door), available now through all the usual channels: www. ticketswest.com and their various outlets, as well as 1-800-325-SEAT.

ALPHABET SOUP "THE J LIST"

Welcome to part 10 of our 26 part series where we count down our five favorite songs starting with every letter of the alphabet.

Here, then, is our offering for "The J List," in no particular order:

OUR PICKS:

Junkie Song Be Good Tanyas

Jesus (Don't Touch My Baby) Ryan Adams

John Wayne Gacy Jr. Sufjan Stevens

Jolene Ray Lamontagne

Just Like Heaven The Cure

READER PICKS:

Jump Van Halen Jolene Dolly Parton Jambalaya Hank Williams Jump

Pointer Sisters

Just a Gigolo

David Lee Roth

This week's readers picks were sent by Al Keifer who, if this list is any indication, loves him some 80s butt rock. For sending us his picks, Al gets a \$20 gift certificate to Paradise Restaraunt (226 W. Riverside). Email us your five favorite songs starting with the letter K to info@spokanesidekick.com and we'll print one of the responses alongside our picks in the next issue. If we pick yours (and there's a pretty decent chance we will since we only get a few responses every week) we'll give you some free stuff.



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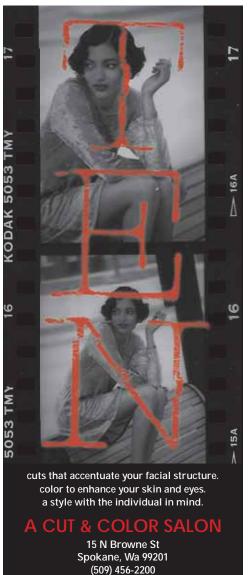
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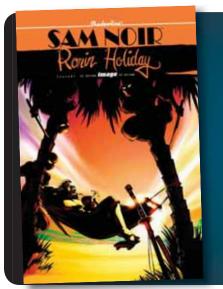
3915 E. Trent (Freya East to curve) (509) 535-7245

Open Tues-Sat 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.





Sluts. You win absolutely nothing, but having a great band name should be its own reward, we think.



MERLYN'S

19 W Main ST 624-0957

FRI, FEB 9th 5-7_{pm} COMIC BOOK SIGNING

by the <u>local</u> creators of SAM NOIR: SAMURAI DETECTIVE

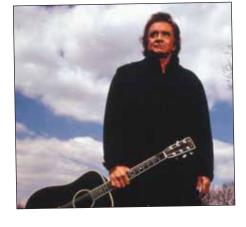
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Prago declares February Johnny Cash Tribute Month

By Brian Clark



Johnny Cash was born exactly 74 years ago to the day, as of February 26th. Celebrating the legacy that was Johnny Cash – inarguably the most influential and, in my opinion, the best country musician of all time – Prago Argentine Café is declaring February **Johnny Cash Tribute Month**, commemorating it as such with several related festivities.

Throughout the month, a 58-album collection of Cash vinyls will be exhibited at the Café, on loan from local gravedigger Ty Goodwin, with album liner notes, lyrics and other assorted Johnny Cash memorabilia joining the impressive LP collection.

Music from The Man in Black can be heard at Prago throughout the month, as well. On the exhibit's opening night, Friday, February 2nd, local musician **Jeff**

Johnson will play an acoustic set of Cash tunes from 6 to 7 p.m., while **DJ Crow** will be spinning Johnny's music from the end of Johnson's set until close. Then, on the man's birthday, Monday, February 26th, KYRS' **Spotucky Radio** will be playing Cash songs from 9 to close.

The record and memorabilia exhibition can be seen in Prago throughout the month of February. All ages are invited to attend the musical events, with beverages of an adult nature available for anyone who can prove they're old enough. Prago can be found at the corner of Riverside and Browne in downtown Spokane. For more information, such as a map or a fully cross-referenced list of all Prago's upcoming events, visit www.spokanesidekick.com. Otherwise, you can get ahold of the Café directly by calling (509) 443-0404. †

Music Briefs

Kite CD Release Party

It's a new year and time for a new album for Spokane/Coeur D'Alene veteran rockers **Kite**. The quartet will release their 4th album, "Sleeping in Thunder," on Saturday, January 27th at Mootsy's in Spokane with the help of local favorite **Cristopher Lucas**.

Kite began in 1994 as a studio project that quickly became an ambitious touring act. Thirteen years and 4 albums later, these progressive rockers are still impressing audiences with their powerful lyrics, complex melodies and searing performances. According to the band, "Sleeping in Thunder" is their best work yet.

Opening the show is Cristopher Lucas who will play original selections from his new release "Cruxlife." Mootsy's is located at 406 W Sprague Avenue in downtown Spokane. The show is for those 21 and older only and starts at roughly 9 p.m. Cover is \$5 at the door.

Kelly Hughes

Stateline's original honky-tonk hero, Kelly Hughes, is back in town and performing a full load of shows allowing you ample opportunity to cowboy up and party down. Hughes became a local celebrity over the past 20 years as the former proprietor of the rocking and rowdy Kelly's Country Club, (now Big Al's) and as front man to the Kelly Hughes band. When he closed shop in June of 2004 to focus on his music, he left a hole in the local honkytonk scene that remained unfilled until Big Al's opened its doors in November 2004 at the former Kelly's Country Club. They have been going strong, attracting a standard group of diehards as well as a rotating array of college kids, bachelorette parties, and those just curious about the mechanical bull.

The Kelly Hughes Band will perform from 9:00 p.m. to close on Friday and Saturday, January 26th and 27th at The Slab Inn in Post Falls, with an encore performance the following weekend, Friday and Saturday, February 2nd and 3rd at Big Al's Country Club in State Line. The band has a ton more shows booked for the area so be sure to check out www. SpokaneSiDEKiCK.com for a full list.

The Slab Inn is located at 801 W. Seltice Way in Post Falls (Exit at Spokane Street). For directions look online at www.SpokaneSiDEKiCK.com. Big Al's is located at 6152 W. Seltice Way, just off of I-90 in Stateline, Idaho. Just keep driving until you see the giant barn and hear the music blaring.

Free Whiskey at Far West

Ok, that headline is a little misleading – by Free Whiskey we don't mean free shots of alcoholic beverages distilled from grains and aged in oak casks. Free Whiskey is a local Irish band that seems to perform only around Saint Patrick's Day (They also host weekly jam sessions at O'Doherty's every Tuesday during the rest of the year). According to SpokaneFolklore.org, "this 4 member acoustic ensemble refurnishes traditional Irish-Gaelic tunes and songs while 'Celtifying' rock, folk and classical favorites."

While there is no free whiskey, the show at Far West has no cover. Music starts at around 9 p.m. on Thursday, February 1st and is restricted to those 21 and over only. Far West is located at 1001 W. First Avenue kitty-corner from the Big Easy. The bar features free live music every Thursday night so be sure to check out www.SpokaneSiDEKiCK.com, or our center calendar, for a full line-up.



RAWK Final Four

RAWK sets out to crown best young band in Spokane

SiDEKiCK Staff

It was a cold, icy night on Saturday, January 13th but that didn't stop the 300 plus fans from showing up at the Service Station to witness the first round of the RAWK Final Four battle of the bands. Five bands competed with metal/screamo band Fires of Scottsboro taking the prize and advancing to the final round that will be held on Saturday, February 24th.

Fires of Scottsboro is comprised of Wade Muncey, Julia Frowick, Austin Main, Brandon Bakken, Derek McFaul all out of Northwest Christian.

The second round of the Final Four, held on Saturday, January 20th, was won by Christian rock band Beaf from University and Central Valley High Schools. The SiDEKiCK only caught the end of the set but we can vouch that Beaf really rocked. Beaf is comprised of Steven Cutter, Kris Mayhew, Jon Kilebon, Kevin Darrow, Justin Catlett, Tony Kanago. Look for more on both of these bands in the February 22nd issue of the SiDEKiCK.

Winners for each night are determined by a popular vote taken from the audience. There will also be one "wild card" band selected by the RAWK panel that will compete in the finals making for a total of five bands. With two spots taken and three spots still up for grabs, the tournament is far from over.

The finalists will convene on Saturday, February 24th at 7 p.m. to vie for a chance to win a weekend of free recording time in Seattle, provided by Isaiah Vering of Delve Music, with an honorarium toward travel expenses paid by RAWK. Each opening round winner will also receive \$100 and an appearance on KYRS Thin Air Radio's All Ages show the following Tuesday.

The Spokane SiDEKiCK is proud to be a sponsor of the RAWK Final Four, an opportunity for young bands to gain name recognition, a chance to perform in front of large crowds and, ultimately, continuing this venture to build a larger all-ages music scene in the Spokane area. All of the competitive concerts in this series will take place at The Service Station, 9315 N. Nevada on the north side of Spokane. Look right for a breakdown of competing bands over the next couple of weeks, or log onto www.spokanesidekick. com to listen to samples tracks from all of the bands entered in the contest. †

Round 3 - McConkey-Long Band, Blak Curtain, Sound Curfew, Making the Day, Catacomb

Saturday, Jan 27th, 7pm

7:00 p.m. - Catacomb
7:45 p.m. - Making the Day
8:30 p.m. - Sound Curfew
9:15 p.m. - Blak Curtain
10:00 p.m. - McConkey-Long Band
10:40 p.m. - Special Guest Patrick O'Neill





Catacomb (Metal / Progressive / Death Metal) Rogers High www.myspace.com/catacombband



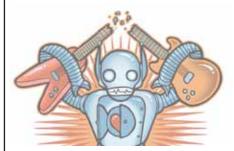
Making the Day (Punk / Rock / Pop Punk) East Valley High www.myspace.com/makingtheday



Sound Curfew (Rock / Pop Punk) Lake City, Coeur D'Alene www.myspace.com/soundcurfew



Blak Curtain (Rock / Classic Rock / Jam Band) Shadle Park, Havermale www.myspace.com/blakcurtain



McConkey-Long Band
(Rock)
Ferris, Northwest Christian

Round 4 - Some Will Fall, The Nightfly, Small Town Nation, To No Avail, A Moment Shattered

Saturday, Feb 3rd, 7pm

7:00 p.m. - A Moment Shattered 7:45 p.m. - To No Avail 8:30 p.m. - Small Town Nation 9:15 p.m. - The Nightfly 10:00 p.m. -Some Will Fall 10:40 p.m. - Special Guest Kristen Marlo and the Great





A Moment Shattered (Progressive / Psychedelic / Rock) Shadle Park High www.myspace.com/amomentshattered



To No Avail
(Metal / Hardcore)
Lakeland High
http://www.myspace.com/tonoavail208



Small Town Nation (Punk / Pop Punk) Deer Park High www.myspace.com/smalltownnation



The Nightfly
(Rock)
Lewis and Clark
www.myspace.com/thenightflymusic



Some Will Fall (Screamo / Rock / Emo) East Valley, Post Falls www.myspace.com/somewillfall



Fires of Scottsboro Round 1 Winner (Metal / Hardcore / Screamo) Northwest Christian myspace.com/firesofscottsboroo



BEAF Round 2 Winner (Rock / Christian) University / Central Valley www.myspace.com/beafmusic



Jan 25th - Feb 7th



Thursday • 25

Friday • 26

Saturday

TicketsWest

Locations

By Phone 1-800-325-SEAT Online @ www.TicketsWest.com

DOWNTOWN SPOKANE

Spokane Arena - 720 W. Mallon 10 am - 6 pm, Mon - Fri Met Theater - 901 W. Sprague 10 am - 2 pm, Mon - Fri Spokane Symphony - 818 W. Riverside 9:30 am - 5 pm, Mon - Fri

ROSAUER'S

Northside Rosauer's - 9414 N. Division St. 8 am - 8 pm, Mon - Sat South Hill Rosauer's - 2610 E. 29th Ave 8 am - 9 pm, Daily Valley Rosauer's - 10618 E. Sprague Ave 10 am - 6 pm, Mon - Sat

WEST PLAINS

Northern Quest Casino - 100 North Hayford 10 am - 10 pm, Daily Fairchild AFB - Community Ctr Bldg 2185 7 am - 8 pm. Mon - Fri 10 am - 5 pm, Sat & Holidays

IDAHO

Coeur d'Alene Casino - Highway 95 just before Worley, ID 8 am - Midnight, Daily North Idaho College - 1000 W Garden Ave in Coeur d'Alene, ID 10 am - 4 pm, Mon - Fri Red Lion Templin's Resort - 414 E. 1st Ave in Post Falls, ID 9 am - 6 pm, Daily

A Note on Age Restrictions

The SiDEKiCK does its best to distinguish between all ages shows and adult shows but we do make mistakes. Please call the venue and check their age policy for a show before you travel any great distance

Customer Appreciation Night (\$1 PBR)*

Brooklyn Nights Free Workshop: 'Artist Trust Grant Writing' Spokane Arts School

----- Music Open Mic Night 6:00 PM Acoustic Jam w/ Maxie Mills**

Working Class Heroes 6:00 PM azz Night w/ Groove Patrol (\$1 PBR)**

Brooklyn Niahts 9:00 PM Donny Emerson** 9:00 PM Bigfoot Pub & Eatery 9:00 PM Fizzie Mulligans Casey Wilkinson, jazz piano 5:00 PM

Jackstraw (bluegrass)
7:30 PM Rick Singer Photography Studio Sammy Eubank w/ Bob Moss**

8:00 PM Buckhorn Inn Don Goodwin Trio, jazz** 8:00 PM The P.A. System fea Danny Songhurst, Ron Greene,
Eddie Ramirez 8:00 PM Caterina Winery
Camille Bloom 8:00 PM Empyrean York w/ Dan Weber, Kevin Long**

9:00 PM Far West Billiards The Racket & Guests* 9:00 PM Blvd., The Big Easy Concert House Club U* 10:00 PM Ladies Night w/ DJ** 10:00 PM Talotti's 211 College Night** 9:00 PM Spread, The 10:00 PM DJ Tatyana' Lions Lair DJ James Pants 9:00 PM Prago Argentine Cafe

----- Theater -----'The Road to Diddlysquat' 6:30 PM CenterStage 'Barefoot in the Park' 7:30 PM Civic Theater 7:30 PM 'Driving Miss Daisy' Interplayers 'Agnes of God' 7:30 PM Spartan Theater (SFCC) 8:00 PM Brick Wall Comedy Show

----- Other-----**US Figure Skating Championships**

Spokane Arena 7:00 PM Cage Fights Prago Wine Tasting feat. Carlos Verde Jr, Dick Pratt* Prago Argentine Cafe

Lecture: 'Dead Man Walking' by Helen Prejean
8:30 AM

Lair Auditorium (SCC) Free Tango Lessons 7:30 PM CenterStage Theater
Samba Dancing 7:00 PM Simply Dance Studio
Street Style Hip-Hop Class 8:00 PM Simply Dance Free Argentine Tango Class

Conexion del Tango House Dart Tournament** 7:00 PM

Studio K Bar & Grill

------ Music -----5:45 PM Ken Luker, Solo Guitar

ella's Cat Country 94 Guitar Poll Big Easy Kyle Tostenrude w/ Logan Heftel, Martin Nelson Leonardo's Coffee Nick Schauer, jazz 7 PM Lysdexic w/ Endorphine, Big Dirty Guns, Kung-Fu 7:00 PM Empyrean Coffee Kristen Marlo w/ Shane Evans 7PM Ionic Burrito 7:30 PM Saul Williams, Hip-Hop Hedge House, The Ultraglide** 8:00 PM Spokane Symphony: 'Flights of Fantasy'

INB Performing Arts Center Maxie Ray Mills** 8:00 PM Peacock Room Hip-Hop Show feat M-Dub, Knothead, Rod Mac, Peacock Room

Big Hump** 8:00 PM The Shockers** 8:00 PM Working Class Heroes Joel Smith w/ Jon Crocker, Fair lesa

Caterina Winery 8:00 PM Pappa Glenn** 9:00 PM Mr G's Bar & Grill 9:00 PM Party 101** Volcano's Satellite** 9:00 PM Thumpers Bar & Grill River City Rockers** 9:00 PM Kelly Hughes Band** 9:00 Cary Fly Band** 9:00 PM Ripley's Plantation 9:00 PM Slab Inn 9:00 PM Bigfoot Pub & Eatery Somebody's Hero** 9:00 PM Fizzie Mulligans
Don Goodwin Trio, jazz** 9:00 PM
Deep 6** 9:00 DM Julie Anne & Jukebox Junkies** 9 PM Big Al's Alaskan, The Living Proof** 9:00 PM Locke w/ For Years Blue, Tokio Weigh Station, Ben-

jamin Gordon Project* 9:00 PM Blvd., The elefluent** 9:00 PM Raw Sushi & Island Grill Melefluent** Real Life Sound w/ Skillet Jones** 9 PM Mootsy's The Dearly Departed** 9:30 PM Brooklyn Nights
Chris Rieser and 33 Stone**10 PM Trick Shot Dixie's DJ Carlos' Latino Salsa Party* 9:30 PM Bourbon St
DJ Loud Richard** 10:00 PM Talotti's 211 DJ Bee** 9:00 PM House DJ Scott** 9:00 PM Peking North Dempsevs 1:45 AM Dempseys After Hours Dance Party** Friday Night Salsa 9:30 PM CenterStage Theater

----- Theater/Other-----

Improv: 'Choose to Lose' 8:00 PM Blue Door 'The Road to Diddlysquat' 6:30 PM CenterStage 8:00 PM Blue Door 'Barefoot in the Park' 8:00 PM Civic Theater 8:00 PM Civic Theater Assassins' the Musical 'Agnes of God' 8:00 PM Spartan Theater (SFCC)
The Original Show 8:00 PM ComedySportz Ed McMahon, 'Memories of The Tonight Show'**

Northern Quest Casino 8:30 PM Book Reading: 'Lord Brain' by Bruce Beasley, 'Bardo' by Suzanne Paola

7:30 PM Auntie's Bookstore **US Figure Skating Championships**

Spokane Arena 10:00 AM Dempsey's Drag Show** Dempseys Brass Rail

-- Music

Nighthawk** 3:00 PM Hedge House, The Tracy Carr, solo jazz guitar 5:45 PM Quest for the Best (BoB) 7:00 PM Big Easy RAWK Final Four - Round 3 7 PM Service Station Big Easy Sean Saugen 7:00 PM Ionic Burrito
Abe Kenny, Classical Guitar 7 PM Prago
Hip-Hop Show 7:00 PM Feel Good Ink
Tom Catmull 7:30 PM Barrel Room No. 6 (C'DA) Maxie Ray Mills 8:00 PM Peacock Room
Ken Luker Band** 8:00 PM Working Class Heroes An Evening of Artistic Fusion 8 PM Caterina Winery Character Traits** 8:30 PM The Grail (C'DA) Volcano's Pappa Glenn** 9:00 PM River City Rockers** 9:00 PM Mr G's Bar & Grill Ripley's Plantation 9:00 PM Brooklyn Nights Kelly Hughes Band** 9:00 PM Somebody's Hero** 9:00 PM DJ Greyboy** 9:00 PM Somebody's 9:00 PM Blue Canoe Fizzie Mulligans Schweitzer Mountain Cary Fly Band**
Satellite** 9:00 9:00 PM Bigfoot Pub & Eatery 9:00 PM Thumpers Bar & Grill Don Goodwin Trio, jazz** 9:00 PMella's Supper Club Deep 6** 9:00 PM Bolo's Bar & Grill Julie Anne and the Jukebox Junkies**9 PMBig Al's Laylah's Drink w/The Foxy Sluts** 9 PMSpread, The 9:00 PM Blvd., The Flicky w/ Jigsaw Repubic** 9:00 PM KITE w/ Cristopher Lucas** 9:00 PM Mootsv's Chris Rieser and 33 Stone** 10 PM Trick Shot Dixie's The Dance Factory** 10:00 PM
Mexican Dance Party* 10:00 PM Big Easy Bourbon Street DJ Loud Richard** 10:00 PM Talotti's 211

DJ Marcus Randall 9:00 PM Raw Sushi & Island Grill Peking North 9:00 PM DJ Little John** Flame The House DJ Scott** 9:00 PM Dempseys Brass Rail After Hours Dance Party** 1:45 AM Dempseys
Milonga w/The Tango Strings 8 PMConexion del Tango DJ Eric Thorne & Marcus Randall** 9 PM Raw Sushi **DJ Pyro**** 9:00 PM Flame, The

----- Other-----'Agnes of God' 2 & 8 PM Spartan Theater (SFCC) 'Barefoot in the Park' 8 PM Spokane Civic Theater 'Assassins' the Musical 8 PMSpokane Civic Theater 8:00 PM ComedySportz: ComedySportz Uncle D's Comedy Club 8:00 PM Bluz at the Bend Comedy Show 7:00 PM Brick Wall Comedy Club Body Massage Comedy 10:00 PM ComedySportz Comedy: Dan Cummins 7:30 & 10PM CenterStage Ed McMahon** 8:30 PM Northern Quest Casino Book: 'The Irristable Revolution'10:00 AMEmpyrean Book: 'You Suck! A Love Story' 7:30 PM Auntie's US Figure Skating Championships 10:30 AM Arena Gonzaga Mens BB 5 PMMcCarthey Athletic Center Hustle Dance Class 7:00 PM Simply Dance Studio Saturday Night Salsa 8:15 PM Simply Dance Studio Game Show Night 8:00 PM Bluz at the Bend Dempsey's Drag Show** 10:00 PM Dempseys

Sunday • 28

----- Music -----Lindell Reason** 3:00 PM Mr G's Bar & Grill Classical Guitar Circle

3:00 PM Empyrean Coffee House Sidhe 7:00 PM Europa Pizzaria Industry Night** 9:00 PM Blvd., The

----- Theater -----

'Barefoot in the Park' 2:00 PM Spokane Civic Theater 'Assassins' the Musical

Spokane Civic Theater 2:00 PM Brick Wall Comedy Club Open Mic

Brick Wall Comedy Club, The 8:00 PM

----- Other-----

US Figure Skating Championships - Exhibition of Champions 2:00 PM ----- Spokane Arena Study Break College Night

9:00 PM Raw Sushi & Island Grill House Pool Tournament** 6 PM Studio K Bar Dempsey's Brass Rail Bingo 4 PM Dempseys Kill the Keg (\$1 pints until gone)**

Blue Spark

Monday •

----- Misc -----**Open Mic**** 9:15 PM Blue Spark Prago All Ages Open Mic 8 PM Jonathan Nicolson 7:00 PM Europa Pizzaria **La Paz** 11:30 AM Lair Auditorium (SCC) Gonzaga Men's BB9 PM McCarthey Center Hip-Hop Class 8 PM Simply Dance Argentine Tango6:30PMConexion del Tango Texas Hold'em Tournament

Brick Wall Comedy Club, The 8:00 PM



Come check out our selection

1610 N Monroe (509) 325-1914

Tuesday • 30

----- Music -----

Rock Coffee Open Mic 7 PM Caterina Winery Open Mic Night* 9:00 PM Blvd., The Celtic Jam Session** 9 PM O'Doherty's Studio K Bar & Grill Sissy Starr **7:00 PM Matt Tansy** 9:00 PM Brooklyn Nights Allen Stone 11:30 AM Lair Auditorium (SCC) Danny McCollim 6:00 PM ella's Supper Club Student Jazz Jam with Danny McCollim

ella's Supper Club 8:00 PM Old School DJ Mix 9:00 PM Raw Sushi Reggae Night** 9:00 PM Spread, The 'Natural Selections' 9:00 PM Prago

----- Other-----New Release Movie Night**4 PM Dempseys Beer Pong Tournament** 10 PM Talotti's 211 Beginning Belly Dancing 6 PMSimply Dance Street Style Hip-Hop Class 8 PMSimply Dance Simply Hip-Hop Practice 9 PMSimply Dance Drop-in Salsa Class7 PMConexion del Tango Country Dance Lessons**7:00 PM Ripley's The Actor's Playground 9 PM SimplyDance Texas Hold'em Tournament8:00 PMBrick Wall **\$2 Pint Night**** 9:00 PM Blvd.. The

Wednesday • 31

----- Music -----Open Turntable Night 9:00 PM Raw Sushi Open Mic / Turntables 6 PMCaterina Winery **6 Foot of Swing**** 8:00 PM Brooklyn Nights Skillet Jones** 9:00 PM Spread, The Jerin Faulkner11:30 AMLair Auditorium (SCC) Eugene Jablonsky & Liz Dreisbach 6 PMella's Joseph Israel, Jerusalem Band8 PM Big Easy Tokio Weigh Station, etc.** 9:00 PMMootsy's

----- Other-----

Film: 'KPFA On The Air'7 PM Community Bldg 'Cache': Intntl Film Fest 7 PMGarland Theater DJ Mayhem** 9:30 PM Bourbon Street Funky Reggae Dance Party 9 PM Caterina Free Comedy Show 8:00 PM Brick Wall Spokane Chiefs Hockey 7 PMSpokane Arena

Lecture: 'The Spokane Valley Aquifer Study'

7:00 PM Lair Auditorium (SCC) Variety Swing Class7:00 PM Simply Dance Waltz Class 8:00 PM Simply Dance Studio Argentine Tango6:30 PMConexion del Tango Country Dance Lessons** 7:00 PM Ripley's Dealer's Choice Poker**10:30 AMBigfoot Pub **50¢ Beer Night** 9:00 PM Blvd., The Beer Bucket Night (\$10)**7:00 PM Blue Spark

The SiDEKiCK is printed every other Thursday and distributed free to 275 venues & businesses around Spokane. Look for your next issue on Thursday, February 8th

Lions Lair



Friday 26th

Locke w/ For Years Blue

Benjamin Gordon Project

(Hip-Hop / Indie / Acoustic)

(3 Legendary Bass Players)

Automatic Gainsay w/ Dan Weber, Ben Mancke

Shoved w/ First to Rise (Rock / Alternative)

Tokio Weigh Station,

Saturday 27th

Thursday 1st

(Indie / Acoustic)

Saturday 3rd

Dukes of Ted w/

Friday 2nd

BX3 feat Stu Hamm

----- Music ---Open Mic Night 6:00 PM Ionic Burrito

Thursday • 1

Acoustic Jam w/ Maxie Mills** 6:00 PM Working Class Heroes Groove Patrol** 9:00 PM Brooklyn Nights Donny Emerson** 9:00 PM Bigfoot Pub Fxit 7** 9:00 PM Fizzie Mulligans Joe Kloess 5:00 PM ella's Supper Club Everclear 7:30 PM Big Easy Concert House Nick Shilling & Indigo Jazz** 8:00 PM ella's **8 PM Sammy Eubank Buckhorn Inn Table Top Joe 8:00 PM Caterina Winery Free Whiskey(band)** 9 PMFar West Billiards Automatic Gainsay 9:00 PM Blvd., The Club U* 10:00 PM Big Easy Concert House Ladies Night w/ DJ** 10:00 PM Talotti's 211 College Night** 9:00 PM Spread, The

----- Other-----'Barefoot in the Park'7:30 PM Civic Theater

DJ Tatyana** 10:00 PM

'Assassins' the Musical7:30 PM Civic Theater Comedy Show 8:00 PM Brick Wall Comedy: Kermit Apio 11:30 AM Groovy Shoes: NC vs Shadle BB

3:45 PM Spokane Arena Free Tango Lessons 7:30 PM CenterStage Samba Dancing7:00 PMSimply Dance Studio Street Style Hip-Hop Class

8:00 PM Simply Dance Studio Free Argentine Tango Class

7:30 PM Conexion del Tango House Dart Tournament**

7:00 PM Studio K Bar & Grill College Long Island Night** , Merq Liquid Lounge 4:00 PM

Customer Appreciation Night (\$1 PBR)** Brooklyn Nights 6:00 PM

----- Film ------Pride & Joy Move Night w/ LGBT

7:30 PM CenterStage Theater Friday • 2

Film: 'The Secret' 7:00 PM Unity Church ----- Music -----

Party 101** 9:00 PM Volcano's Ken Luker** 6:00 PM Working Class Heroes Pappa Glenn** 9:00 PM Mr G's Bar & Grill Ben Manke 5:00 PM Brooklyn Nights **Blues Festival** 5:30 PM Ripley's Plantation Mike Frederick 5:45 PM ella's Supper Club Jeff Johnson (Cash covers) 6:00 PM Prago Jonathan Nicholson 7:00 PM Leonardo's Quest for the Best (BoB) 7:00 PM Big Easy The Shape Shifters 7:00 PM Service Station Kris Orlowski and Dave Hannon

Ionic Burito 7:00 PM Mark Ward 7:00 PM Jacob's Well The Longnecks** 8:00 PM Peacock Room Mordekye Lyman 8:00 PM Caterina Winery Kid Cadillac** 8:00 PM Hedge House, The Nick Shilling & Indigo Jazz** 9:00 PM ella's Somebody's Hero** 9:00 PM Fizzie Mulligans Lines Collide w/B.B. Cooper** 9 PMMootsy's Kelly Hughes Band** 9:00 PM Big Al's **Deep 6**** 9:00 PM **Mista Gemini**** 9:00 PM Bolo's Bar & Grill Spread, The Shoved w/ First to Rise* 9:00 PM Blvd., The The Shook Twins** 9:00 PM Brooklyn Nights 9:00 PM Save Leftv Mizuna The Cronkites**9:00 PM Thumpers Bar & Grill Lithium ID** 9:00 PM The Grail (C'DA) Chris Rieser & The Nerve** 10 PM Trick Shot DJ Carlos' Salsa Party*9:30 PMBourbon Street DJ Loud Richard** 10:00 PM Talotti's 211 **DJ Bee**** 9:00 PM Peking North The Cutz Hip-Hop 9:30PM Simply Dance House DJ Scott** 9:00 PMDempseys Brass Rail **After Hours Dance Party****1:45 AM*Dempseys* Friday Night Salsa 9:30 PM CenterStage **DJ Crow** 4:00 PM **DJ Yehon**** 9:00 PM Shop, The Blue Spark Cat Country DJ** 9:00 PM Slab Inn Wired 96.9 Party** 9:00 PM Flame, The

----- Other-----Improv: 'Choose to Lose' 8:00 PM Blue Door 'Barefoot in the Park' 7:30 PM Civic Theater 'Assassins' the Musical 8:00 PM Civic Theater **The Original Show** 8:00 PM ComedySportz Book Reading: 'Discover Your Real Self' by **Bob Colonna**

7:30 PM Auntie's Bookstore Dempsey's Drag Show**

Dempseys Brass Rail

Pappa Glenn Mr G's Bar & Grill Blues Festival 3:00 PM Ripley's Plantation Mike Frederick 5:45 PM ella's Supper Club **RAWK Final Four** 7 PM Service Station, The Seven Years Absence7:00 PM Empyrean Carbon Leaf7:30 PMBig Easy Concert House Sidhe**7:30 PM Barrel Room No. 6 (C'DA) Burnt Offerings w/ Diminished, Decibal Point,

----- Music ---

Saturday • 3

Now is Mine** 8:00 PM Ichabod's East Spokane Symphony 8:00 PM INB Center The Longnecks** 8:00 PM Peacock Room Abe Kenney 8:00 PM Prago Argentine Cafe Kris Orlowski w/ Logan Heftel, David Hannon 8:00 PM Caterina Winery

Air Suply w/ Rita Coolidge 8:30 PM Quest Viktor Nivorski Swing Band**

Brooklyn Nights Sammy Eubanks Band** 9:00 PM Slab Inn Somebody's Hero** 9:00 PM Fizzie Mulligans Nick Shilling & Indigo Jazz** 9:00 PM Kelly Hughes Band** 9:00 PM Big Al's Dukes of Ted* 9:00 PM Blvd.. The Massy Furgeson** 9:00 PM Deep 6** 9:00 PM Blue Spark Bolo's Bar & Grill The Cronkites**9:00 PM Thumpers Bar & Grill smilelinespark, Mistress and the Misters**

9:00 PM Mootsy's Big Dirty Guns** 9:00 PM PJ's Pub Chris Rieser and The Nerve**10:00 PM Trick Shot Dixie's

Nicolas Vigil & Friends 10:00 PM Prago The Dance Factory**10:00 PM Big Easy Mexican Dance Party*10 PM Bourbon Street DJ Loud Richard** 10:00 PM Talotti's 211 DJ Marcus Randall 9:00 PM Raw Sushi DJ Bee** Pekina North 9:00 PM House DJ Scott**9:00 PMDempseys Brass Rail After Hours Dance Party**1:45 AMDempseys **DJ Pyro**** 9:00 PM Flame, The

----- Other-----

Improv: 'Safari' (PG-13) 9:00 PM Blue Door 'Barefoot in the Park' 8:00 PM Civic Theater 'Assassins' the Musical8:00 PM Civic Theater The Original Show 8:00 PM ComedySportz Saturday Night Salsa

8:15 PM Simply Dance Studio Game Show Night

8:00 PM Bluz at the Bend Dempsey's Drag Show*

Dempseys Brass Rail

Sunday • 4

333 W. SPOKANE FALLS BLVD. 455-7826

----- Music Lindell Reason** 3:00 PM Mr G's Bar & Grill Sidhe 7:00 PM Europa Pizzaria Industry Night** 9:00 PM Blvd., The

Super Bowl Parties 12 PMall over (see pg. 16) Study Break College Night9:00 PMRaw Sushi House Pool Tournament**6:00 PM Studio K Dempsey's Brass Rail Bingo 4 PM Dempseys

----- Other-----

Kill the Keg (\$1 pints until gone)* Blue Spark 6:00 PM Brick Wall Comedy Club Open Mic

Brick Wall Comedy Club, The

Monday • 5

----- Music -----Spokane's Original Open Mic Night** 9:15 PM Blue Spark

All Ages Open Mic Prago Argentine Cafe N9 00.8

Jonathan Nicolson 7:00 PM Europa Pizzaria ----- Theater ------

Audition: 'The Nerd' 6:30 PM Civic Theater Fantasy Football Lounge 5:00 PM Raw Sushi & Island Grill

Hip-Hop/Break Dance Class w/ Shanner 8:00 PM Simply Dance Studio

Argentine Tango 6:30 PM Conexion del Tango Texas Hold'em Tournament

Brick Wall Comedy Club, The

Tuesday • 6

----- Music -----Rock Coffee Open Mic7 PMCaterina Winery Celtic Jam Session**9:00 PM O'Doherty's Sissy Starr** 7:00 PM Matt Tansy** 9:00 PM Studio K Bar & Grill Brooklyn Nights Blue Man Group 7:30 PM Spokane Arena Matt Tansy** 8:00 PM **Brooklyn Nights** 'Natural Selections 9 PM Prago Old School DJ Mix 9:00 PM Raw Sushi Reggae Night** 9:00 PM Spread, The

----- Other-----Book: 'Blue Like Jazz' 7:00 PM Empyrean Audition: 'The Nerd' 6:30 PM Civic Theater Beer Pong Tournament**10:00 PMTalotti's 211 Beginning Belly Dancing 6 PMSimply Dance Street Style Hip-Hop Class8 PMSimply Dance Simply Hip-Hop Practice 9 PMSimply Dance Drop-in Salsa Class 7 PMConexion del Tango Country Dance Lessons**7 PM Ripley's The Actor's Playground 7 PM Simply Dance Blue Spark Game Show Night 8:00 PM Bluz at the Bend Speed Dating (Age 48-63)**6:30 PM Satellite Speed Dating (Age 32-47)**8:30 PM Satellite

Wednesday • 7

----- Music -----Open Turntable Night 9:00 PM Raw Sushi Open Mic / Turntables / Minds

Caterina Winery 6:00 PM Skillet Jones**9:00 PM Spread, The Aqualung 7:30 PM **Bourbon Street** 9:00 PM Pekina North DJ Mavhem** 9:30 PM **Bourbon Street** Funky Reggae Dance Party w/ Real Life

Sound 9:00 PM Caterina Winery 'Random Access' with Mike Random, Danny Access 9:00 PM Prago Argentine Cafe

----- Theater -----Free Comedy Show 8:00 PM Brick Wall 'Beautiful Boxer' SFCC International Film Fest 7:00 PM Garland Theater Variety Swing Class7:00 PM Simply Dance Waltz Class 8:00 PM Simply Dance Studio Argentine Tango 6:30 PM Conexion del Tango Country Dance Lessons**7 PM Ripley's Dealer's Choice Poker**10:30 AMBigfoot Pub 50¢ Beer Night 9:00 PM Blvd., The Beer Bucket Night (\$10)**

7:00 PM Blue Spark

Straight outta my Asstrology

By M.W. Fritz and Brian Clark - Good for Jan. 25th through Feb. 7th



Aries

March 21

nocently enough, by tackling the Sunday New York Times' crossword puzzle. This will lead you to discover how much you hate the liberal media



Taurus April 20 to May 20

The guys at the office will start respecting you, right around the time you're pumping their chests full of bullets delivered semi-automatically from your recently purchased



Gemini May 21 to June 20

New Mexico, you'll begin contemplating how you'd look in a cowboy hat. This will lead to seven hours of you masturbating to that thought.



Cancer

June 21 to July 22

This week you'll become motivated for the first time in your life to write a letter to your Congressman. The motivation will soon lead to frustration. though, when you realize that you're no longer permitted to hold sharp objects.



Kalashnikov

Leo July 23 to Aug 22

A lifelong dream to get your picture on the wall at Applebees comes true next week after an extraordinary chain of events ends with you throwing for 285 yards and three touchdowns against the Colts in Super Bowl XLI.



Virgo Aug 23 Sept 22

You'll learn, through undeniable visual proof, that your significant other is cheating on you. After hours of weeping, you'll finally be consoled by a trusty friend who points out, "Dude, you've never even met Jenna Jamison."



You'll fall in love with a

nun. And then, without

the meaning of the word

a dictionary, discover

Libra Sept 23 to Oct 22



to Nov 21 You'll start trying to make a difference, just as soon you find a clean shirt and this Seinfeld rerun ends.

Scorpio

Oct 23



Sagittarius Nov 22 to Dec 21

Pisces

Feb 19

to March 20

You will kick your smoking habit in hopes of devoting more time to your pedophilia addiction.



celibacy.

Capricorn Dec 22

Looking up, you'll realize The Big Dipper and Saturn are speaking to you. It's too bad you never paid attention in Spanish class



accident

Aquarius Jan 20

You'll begin seeing things in a new way, only to lose your eyesight moments later in a drunken welding



The stars thank you for not eating all the nacho cheese dip at next week's Super Bowl party.

"Case Sensitive" they want attention? WE'LL GIVE 'EM ATTENTION

by Matt Jones

Across

- 1 THEY APPEAR AFTER BRAND NAMES: ABBR
- 4 CARVEY AND GOULD
- 9 SITE OF A TEXAN TRAGEDY
- 13 ___ TZU (TOY DOG) 14 PUT IN A SEAT
- 15 MILKY GEM
- 16 ELIZABETH OF "TRANSAMERICA"
- 17 MAGAZINE WITH A "CAR OF THE YEAR" AWARD
- 19 e.e. cummings MEMOIR OF 1922, WITH "THE"
- 21 WORD BEFORE CROSS OR SKIING
- 22 HEAT'S GP.
- 23 MEADOW CALL
- _ DEATH" (BRAD GARRETT SITCOM)
- 27 BODY SHOT
- 30 LAWN TOOLS
- 32 GOES OFF COURSE
- 35 KISS IN A KIA
- 36 FEMINIST WORK BY bell hooks
- 39 PARAKEET'S PAD
- 41 THEY MAY BE NICKNAMED "BIG JIM AND THE TWINS"
- 43 SPREAD THE JOY
- 46 HIP ENDING
- **47 SORORITY LETTER**
- 49 WORD BEFORE HANGING UP 50 JOHNNY ___ (THE COPS)
- 52 SOUARE-(KIND OF BOAT)
- 54 k.d. lang ALBUM OF 1995
- 57 PROP FOR LIBERACE
- 60 OTHER, IN OVIEDO
- 61 "PET" THAT NEEDS A LOT OF WATER
- 62 B.A.'S GROUP, WITH "THE"
- 63 APPEARANCE
- 64 PLACID
- 65 RULES OF PUNCTUATION, E.G. 66 KIND OF RECORDING
- FORMAT: ABBR

64

13

16

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Down 1 1980S AD VILLAIN WHO TRIED TO RUIN PIZZA

14

17

20

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33

54

2 SMALL-TIME

58 59

- 3 ARCHAEOLOGIST'S FRAGMENT
- 4 BOXER, NOTABLY
- 5 EX-GIANTS OUTFIELDER MOISES
- 6 BADMINTON BARRIERS
- 7 NUT IN A HAT
- 8 DISCO
- 9 TEQUILA BOTTLE ITEM 10 MIGHTY JOE YOUNG, E.G.
- 11 PRESERVE
- 12 DIRTY _ _ MAN
- 13 WORN OUT
- 18 ANIMAL LICKED FOR ITS **BUFOTOXINS**
- 20 ADD TO THE CONCOCTION
- 23 "LET'S SEE SOME SPIRIT!" 24 PATH WHEN PLAYING CATCH
- 25 PRESENT A RIDDLE
- 28 "HERE'S ___ FROM ME TO YOU..." 29 TRIPS AROUND THE SUN
- 31 LITTLE BU77FR

33 GOES HEAD TO HEAD (WITH)

15

31

35

53

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63

66

23 24

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25

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37 38

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55 56

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62

65

- 34 "M*A*S*H" EMMY-WINNER
- 37 CONOUERED 38 "WEST SIDE STORY" SONG
- 39 HAILED ENTITY
- 40 "UPRIGHT CITIZENS BRIGADE" ALUM POEHLER
- 42 SHAVED THE SHEEP
- 44 MAG FOUNDED IN 1945
- 45 "THE BIG D"
- 48 "COMFORT OF STRANGERS" SINGER-SONGWRITER BETH
- 51 OK CORRAL NAME
- 53 TRAVELOCITY MASCOT
- 54 RADIO PERSONALITY CAROLLA
- 55 HFFD
- 56 RIVER TO THE CASPIAN
- 57 300, TO TIBERIUS 58 "I'VE FIGURED IT OUT!"
- 59 IT'S REALLY NOTHING
- ©2006 Jonesin' Crosswords (editor@ionesincrosswords.com) Look for the solution on pg 23 of this issue.

www.SpokaneSIDEKiCK.com Come on, you know you want it

The Karaoke List: telling you where to find (or avoid) Karaoke on any given night

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY **FRIDAY SATURDAY** Blue Dolphin** - 9 pm Big Foot Pub** - 9 pm Big Foot Pub** - 9 pm Bolo's** - 9 pm Big Al's** - 9 pm Alpine (Valley)** - 8 pm Alpine (Valley)** - 8 pm Blue Dolphin** - 9 pm Bayou Bar** - 9 pm Big Daddy's** - 10 pm Bluz at the Bend** - 9 pm Blue Dolphin** - 9 pm Cafe Americana** - 9 pm Bolo's - 8 pm Big Daddy's** - 10 pm Brass Faucet** - 8 pm Cafe Americana** - 9 pm Bolo's** - 9 pm Bolo's** - 9 pm Casey's** - 9 pm (all ages till 9) Jackson Hole II** - 9 pm Cafe Americana** - 9 pm Dempsey's** - 8 pm Cafe Americana** - 9 pm Merq, The** - 9 pm Dempsey's** - 8 pm Cafe Americana** - 9 pm Casey's** - 9 pm Brass Faucet** - 8 pm Cafe Americana** - 9 pm Cafe Donna** - 8 pm Pear Tree Inn** - 7:30 pm Fizzie Mulligan's** - 10 pm Casey's** - 9 pm Peking North** - 9 pm Goodtymes Bar** - 9 pm Casey's** - 9 pm Charlie's** - 9:30 pm Jackson Hole II** - 9 pm Cafe Donna** - 8 pm (with Diane) Hedge House** - 8 pm Matthew's** - 8 pm Merq, The** - 9 pm Peking North** - 9 pm Peking North** - 9 pm Hedge House** - 8 pm Jackson Hole II** - 9 pm Jackson Hole II** - 9 pm Kay Lon Gardens** - 9 pm Jackson Hole II** - 9 pm Ripley's Plantation** - 7 pm PJ's Pub** - 9 pm Lone Cactus** - 8 pm Matthew's** - 8 pm Mr G's B&G ** - 7 pm McQ's** - 9 pm Slab Inn** - 9 pm Slab Inn** - 9 pm Slab Inn** - 9 pm Matthew's** - 8 pm Kay Lon Gardens** - 9 pm Star, The** - 9 pm Peking North** - 9 pm Star, The** - 9 pm Star, The** - 9 pm Merq, The** - 9 pm Parker's** - 9 pm Lone Cactus** - 8 pm Studio K Bar** - 9 pm Volcano's** - 9 pm Sweet Ole Bob's** - 8 pm Peking North** - 9 pm PJ's Pub** - 9 pm Pear Tree Inn** -9 pm Matthew's** - 8 pm Thumpers Bar** - 9 pm Slab Inn** - 9 pm Volcano's** - 9 pm PJ's Pub** - 9 pm (2nd Friday of Month Only) Pear Tree Inn** - 9 pm Star, The** - 9 pm Puerto Vallarta** - 9 pm Peking Garden** - 8 pm PJ's Pub** - 9 pm Volcano's** - 9 pm Studio K Bar** - 9 pm Peking Palace** - 9 pm Raw Sushi - 9 pm Puerto Vallarta** - 9 pm ** = 21 and over only Szechuan Rest.** - 8 pm PJ's Pub** - 9 pm Spitfire B&G** - 9 pm Slab Inn** - 9 pm Star, The** - 9 pm Studio K Bar** - 9 pm Thumpers Bar** - 9 pm Statz Blue Keg** - 8 pm Studio K Bar** - 9 pm Puerto Vallarta** - 9 pm Statz Blue Keg** - 8 pm Volcano's** - 9 pm Do you know of a place that has karaoke and isn't Sweet Ole Bob's** - 8 pm Studio K Bar** - 9 pm Sweet Ole Bob's** - 8 pm on this list? Then why haven't you told us? Is there Szechuan Rest.** - 8 pm Sweet Ole Bob's** - 8 pm Szechuan Rest.** - 8 pm Szechuan Rest.** - 8 pm something wrong with you? Email us immediately at Yardley Bar** - 8 pm Volcano's** - 9 pm info@spokanesidekick.com so we can fix our list! Yardley Bar** - 8 pm



Stoner humor, homemade signs, and giving the White House the finger (sort of)

By Brian Clark

One of my favorite Mitch Hedberg jokes goes, "I'm against picketing, but I don't know how to show it." Mostly that's funny just because it is, but I also empathize with him. I've long felt that protesting is a largely ineffective tool that's counterproductive and an almost selfish copout to voice your disagreement with a certain point of contention.

When's the last time that anyone, anywhere, saw a bunch of people picketing, marching or protesting a given issue and had their opinion swayed because of it? Seriously, I never saw the issue quite the same way as when I read an "Impeach Bush" sign while blasting through a busy intersection on the way to meet my friends at Hooters. A change of heart like this has probably occurred before but, if it has, I'm completely unaware of it. Protesting, in my opinion, is largely reactionary and accomplishes almost nothing. I admire that people involve themselves in the democratic process and exercise their voice, but this doesn't seem like the best way to go about it.

Protesting, no matter the intention,

immediately ostracizes protestors to the margins. The only positive responses you're going to garner are from people that agreed with you in the first place. Anybody oppositional to your stance is going to have a knee/jerk reaction of disapproval where they might shake their head in disgust, but they're sure as hell not going to reevaluate their stance on anything. There's no dialogue and no real attempt at conversion or conversation when you're simply standing on a street corner or on the sidewalk in front of a courthouse. At best, this sort of action serves as a nice, on-the-record "fuck you" to the White House.

And maybe that's OK; I mean at least these people are getting involved. I just want you to understand that, if you take part in this sort of demonstration, then you're voicing your opinion, yes, but that voice is going to fall almost entirely on deaf ears.

This column was brought about by an email we received in conjunction with a rally to support Ehren Watada, a lieutenant in the U.S. Army who refused to deploy to Iraq on grounds that the war is illegal and he would therefore be party to war crimes. The email, sent from the Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane (PJALS), read, "Let's send a message for and from Spokane in support of Watada's opposition

to this murderous war!" I understand that, if you feel strongly about the injustice of the war, then you want to express outrage and simultaneously show support for likeminded individuals. But a rally of this type is purely symbolic, it's not going to sway public policy, it's not going to influence any verdict and it's probably not going to change anyone's mind about anything, besides maybe a redneck contemplating what exactly constitutes vehicular manslaughter in this day and age. I guess I'm just not clear what people are hoping to accomplish.

To be fair, I'm probably being too hard on anyone who organizes or participates in rallies of this sort, as almost any sort of participation is better than the apathy that consumes most of us. But it seems to me that a better way to voice opposition is to try and bring about change without reverting to reactionary demonstrations that are only going to polarize the issue, not work to close the gap. Organize open forums with cordial discourse, petition politicians to clarify their stance and maybe try to get a resolution on a local ballot to officially denounce the war with something that could have legal ramifications, write a letter to the editor of a given newspaper that calmly and respectfully illuminates a point in a way that might truly

change somebody's mind. Because glancing out the driver's side window, reading a sign that says "No War for Oil" doesn't make me reevaluate my stance on anything, it just makes me realize that, despite their recent victories, the left is disorganized, clueless, and absolutely screwed.

There's not enough conversation as it is with political and sociological issues, and picketing certainly doesn't bring that element into the equation. Until there is a revolution of the act of listening and respecting dissenting opinions, there's going to continue to be a lot of shouting and very little coming out of it. †

Letters from the Radical Middle is a bi-weekly column that encourages discussion over pointless bickering, favoring common sense and a logical middle ground over blind political devotion. Brian Clark is the Managing Editor of the Spokane Sidekick and can be reached at Brian@spokanesidekick.com. As always, feedback is encouraged.

If you think I'm totally full of shit and want to take part in the rally for Lt. Watada anyway, it will be held in front of the Recruiting Office on Indiana (near the Krispy Kreme) in the Spokane Valley at noon on Saturday, February 3rd. Check out www.pjals.net, or call (509) 838-7870 for more info.



By M.W. Fritz

Make sure your tray tables are up, your seats placed in their full upright position and your safety belts securely fastened. For the captain has advised that we may be experiencing heavy turbulence ahead.

Only two months after the midterm elections, the capital is already abuzz over the next electoral date: November 4, 2008. The first Tuesday of November '08 has been highlighted, the contenders and pretenders are now emerging, and the battle lines have carefully been chalked.

The next election will be the filet of elections. With all the marbles in play. An unpopular tenant lives in the White House, some new kids on the block hold whisperthin majorities in Congress, two Supreme Court Justices are nearing retirement and the nation is at war halfway around the globe.

For the first time since 1952, there will not be an incumbent president or incumbent vice president on a party's final ticket. And not since 1928 when Calvin Coolidge decided to retire rather seek re-election,

Taking the first steps towards the oval office

will there be a presidential campaign that contains no incumbent president or vice president (President Truman dropped out in 52' after loosing early in the New Hampshire primary).

Pundits are calling the field wide-open, and a slew of candidates have already thrown their hat in the fray, with more expected to join the menagerie in the near future. Each party has a few stars and a host of role players positioning themselves for a run.

The candidate de jour for the Democrats, and Oprah, is Sen. Barack Obama from Illinois. On Jan. 16, Obama, a first term senator who was never forced to vote yea or nay on Iraq, formed an exploratory committee. According to the Federal Election Commission, there is no difference between an exploratory committee and a presidential campaign committee. However, Obama has yet to officially announce his candidacy.

Obama's chief rival for the nomination, of course, is Sen. Hillary Clinton (D., N.Y.). Most experts tap the former first lady as the Democratic frontrunner for reasons that include her foreign policy expertise and her proximity to the nation's top political consultant. Her husband.

Mrs. Clinton carries plenty of baggage, though, and is one of the most polarizing

national figures— beyond maybe President George W. Bush himself. Obama, on the other hand, travels light but has yet to stake out clear positions on many divisive issues, and critics have claimed his lack of experience, along with frank admissions of cocaine use during his youth, could eventually curb his momentum.

The second tier Democrats are beginning to feel crowded, while trying to find any distinguished niche vis-à-vis Obama and Clinton. Former Sen. John Edwards – Sen. John Kerry's running mate in 2004 – is probably the most notable of this gang. C-Span all-stars like Sen. Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, Gov. Tom Vilsack of Iowa, and Rep. Dennis Kucinich of Ohio have each announced their intentions to run.

Aspiring Republicans also find themselves traversing a treacherous political landscape full of IED's. The party faced sweeping losses in the midterms because of corruption and the public's ever-souring mood toward what is becoming the president's war.

Sen. John McCain of Arizona and "America's Mayor," Rudolph Giuliani, are considered to be the most viable contenders. McCain's credentials and Giuliani's charisma could make them locks to win

the next national election – should either be able to ascertain the party's nomination. Unfortunately, for them, both will face serious obstacles in the primaries.

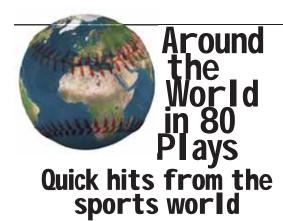
McCain, seen as a former maverick and anti-establishment bridge burner, is now the most notable backer of the president's new surge proposal. The former Vietnam P.O.W. has called for an escalation in Iraq and massive troop increases for the last couple of years. The senator's aspirations could easily go up in flames, if Baghdad continues to do the same.

Giuliani remains hugely popular amongst Americans in opinion polls. This is largely because of the courage he showed following the World Trade Center attacks (standing at Ground Zero), while the nation was unsure as to where the president or the vice president were – flying aimlessly in Air Force One and in a secure bunker.

However, Giuliani is considered far too liberal on social issues for most Republicans' liking. He is pro-abortion, pro-affirmative action, pro-gay unions (not marriage but still considered icky by the party), in favor of gun control and against school prayer.

The second tier of Republicans includes

See **2008 Election**: pg. 17



By Brian Clark

As a guy who lived in the UK for a little while and was required, by law, to follow European football, I can't tell you how big of a disaster it's going to be for David Beckham to leave Real Madrid for the LA Galaxy which, if you haven't heard, he's scheduled to do at the beginning of next season. He's going from the most stacked soccer team in the world (for awhile there he was playing with Zenedine Zidane, Roberto Carlos and Luis Figo, amongst others) to a team that has nobody. Considering that Beckham only thrives on free kicks and setting up his teammates, this probably isn't the best fit. He obviously has some sort of goal to transform the MLS into a world class soccer league, or at least make the sport respectable in the U.S., but it just isn't going to happen. Soccer is never going to be embraced in America for a variety of reasons that include a bit of xenophobia and jingoism, perhaps, but more it's just that we like clear rules, despise flopping, prefer scoring over strategy, and there simply isn't enough room for another athletic passion on the level that baseball, football, basketball and, to a lesser extent, hockey are celebrated nationwide. I mean Pele couldn't even bring full soccer acceptance to the U.S. and he's Pele for Chrissake! This is just going to be a huge debacle; I'm already excited to watch it unfold ...

I'm also excited about the deal the Pac 10 and Big 12 recently struck up, where the two conferences will play a dozen college basketball games every season for at least the next four years (starting in 2007-2008), mostly within a four day window. I always wondered why the ACC/Big 10 Challenge was the only event like this in college basketball. These sorts of fixtures are exciting to watch, allow you to gauge the talent levels within conferences beyond mere speculation and put an emphasis on the two battling conferences for a couple of weeks. What's not to like? Next year will be highlighted by Washington at Oklahoma State, Texas at UCLA and Arizona at Kansas. This was a good move for both conferences – they're the most logical candidates for such a showdown – and it's probably good for college basketball in general ...

In this column back in November, when it was still fashionable to belittle Peyton Manning's playoff prowess (or lack therof), I prophesized, "Let me just put in writing that I think this will be the year the **Indianapolis Colts** finally win the Super Bowl." We're going to forget about the last issue where I shifted all my chips to bet on the Baltimore Ravens and instead pretend that I'm a wise analyst who knows what the hell he's talking about. (We might want to forget that Minnesota Twins World Series prediction while we're at it) ... †

Chiefs return home after 17-day layoff

By Robert Thornley Hill

After a nine day, seven game road trip through the Canadian praries, the Spokane Chiefs return home to face the Bruins from the excellently named British Columbia town of Chilliwack on Wednesday, January 31st.

As of press time, the Chiefs sat in fourth place in the CHL's five team U.S. Division (bummer). The Everett Silvertips have built a formidable lead with a 36-7 mark, while only three points separate second and fourth place, with Spokane edged out by the Seattle Thunderbirds and Tri-City Americans. The Chiefs have been marked by good goalie play so far this season, with Kevin Armstrong and rookie Dustin Tokarski boasting two of the best save percentages in the league.

The largest Spokane crowd of the season turned out for the Chiefs last home game at The Arena, with 9,231 fans witnessing Spokane's come-from-behind win over the Americans, as they scored both of their goals in the last ten minutes of play for an exciting 2-1 victory.

The Chilliwack game on the last day of January will be the first of three home games in a four day

span, with the Calgary Hitmen coming to town on Friday, February 2nd and the Tri-City Americans entering the Arena the following night. Promotions for the games include a player magnet giveaway night on Wednesday, a Super Bowl weekend kickoff on Friday, and a cheerstix giveaway on

the Seattle Thunderbirds on consecutive nights, heading to the rainy city on Tuesday, February 6th before returning to Spokane for a repeat performance

Following this three day homestand, Spokane will face

turning to Spokane for a repeat performance the following night.

The puck drops at 6:30 p.m. for these upcoming home games at The Arena, 720 W. Mallon. Tickets range from \$8 to \$15 and are available through TicketsWest outlets (see page 13), on www.ticketswest.com, or by calling the Chiefs Office at (509) 535-PUCK. There are a number of different ticket options available, including group discounts and mini-packages. For more information, visit www.spokanechiefs.com. †

Celebrating Super Bowl Sunday in Spokane

By Brian Clark

Though this certainly isn't an exhaustive list, the following are a few Super Bowl parties around town that were brought to our attention. Watch the Bears get absolutely dismantled by the Colts – I mean, c'mon, Rex Grossman is not going to win a Super Bowl – while drinking heavily at a fine Spokane establishment.

Working Class Heroes, at 1914 N. Monroe, gets the party started early, with festivities kicking off at noon. Tim Luker will be providing live entertainment in the vein of acoustic rock before and after the game, as well as halftime. Drinks will be set at happy hour prices with an ongoing raffle where numerous prizes will be given away, including a

night for two at The Davenport Hotel. There's no cover to attend and, if you're hungry, they're also offering a seafood and/or prime rib special. Call 327-0448 for more information.

Northern Quest Casino in Airway

Heights is getting in on the action with an insane amount of drawings throughout the game, culminating with them giving away a flat screen TV, recliner and home

entertainment center. Food and drinks will be available throughout the contest, of course, with tickets available for \$20 for Club members and \$25 for the general public. Northern Quest can be found near the intersection of S. Hayford and Sprague in Airway Heights.

For more, call 242-7000.

Finally (at least as far as our subjective little cataloguing is concerned)

McQs Billiards and Sports Bar is kicking off the festivities early with a free pool tournament that morning which will see the winner

walk away with a cool \$100.

During the game, drink
and food specials will be
available – including a
\$7.99 prime rib dinner
– and prizes will be raf-

fled away – including a big screen TV). McQs can be found at 9614 E. Sprague in Spokane Valley. For more information, call 891-8357. Or, as the Super Bowl gets closer, check in periodically with www.spokanesidekick.com for additional parties and info. †

Discordianism

Basic Idea: Man has been on a bad trip for a long time because of our love affair with all things related to order. As Malcalypse the Younger (a.k.a. Greg Hill) wrote in the seminal Discordian text, Principia Discordia, "To choose order over disorder, or disorder over order, is to accept a trip composed of both the creative and the destructive. But to choose the creative over the destructive is an all-creative trip composed of both order and disorder." Worship, as such, is centered around Eris, the Greek goddess of Chaos, a veritable troublemaker who, though "not hateful or malicious, is mischievous, and does get a little bitchy at times." Discordianism has the added benefit of being kneeslappingly hilarious.

Founded: 1959

Worldwide Members: Unverified. Probably not very many, although Discordian founders acknowledge that all it takes to be a member is to "declare yourself what you wish, do what you like, and tell us about it. Or, if you prefer, don't." So maybe everybody's a Discordian and doesn't even know it.

SUPER BOWL*

Other Chaos-Based Religions: Church of the SubGenius, some neopagan sects, the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster, the SiDEKiCK office



A Near Perfect Article*

*And by "near" we mean "far from" and by "perfect" we mean "good"



By Nick Lambert

So, I'm not sure if I like the fact that I live in a mediocre city. Honestly, I always thought Spokane was slightly-above-average. Apparently, I'm stupid. The city, through clever

ad placement, has informed me numerous times over the last few months that Spokane is merely "Near Nature, Near Perfect."

Why? Why do I have to live in a city that's near a lot of things but nothing I want is actually here? It's like saying, "Iraq: Near an Ocean, Near a Terrorist Cell." It states true facts, but is that really what you want to advertise yourself as?

"Hey hon; you know how you wanted to do some international traveling? Well, check out this new Iraq slogan."

I feel Spokane needs to raise its self-esteem. Look at all the great things happening in Spokane that could easily be incorporated into a better, yet not-too-cocky, slogan. Here are some examples: "Spokane: Home of a near Olympic event," or how about something that really describes the city itself, "Spokane: Near fixed roads, Near completed North-South Freeway."

Now, I know those are a little harsh, (and by "harsh" I mean "true") but let's take a detailed look at the truths of the official saying: "Near Nature, Near Perfect."

The first part, "Near Nature," is true. We are definitely near lots and lots of dead or soon to be developed nature. Example: that scenic drive from Spokane to Moses Lake. However, I do believe that we have nature *in* Spokane. Just look at all the grass growing through the sidewalks. That, to me, is clear evidence that nature is among us. We also have Riverfront Park, a place known to have bouts of nature, and we have Manito Park, a park of 100% natural nature. (Amazing how that Japanese garden sprouted up inside that walled off area).

Now onto the second, and most controversial half: "Near Perfect." According to a commercial I saw stating why people should come to Spokane, I was told that if you are in a relationship (wife, husband, boyfriend, girlfriend, boss, H&R Block consultant, animal) that is not going so well, then Spokane is the place to be, a nearly (but not quite) perfect place to be. But, what if you're already in Spokane? Then what? Well, lucky for you, it is near impossible to be in anything less than a near perfect relationship in Spokane. Look at all the near perfect things for couples to do in Spokane, such as see a movie, go to a bar, see another movie, greet some panhandlers, see a movie, pay \$57 for parking.

As you can now see, "Near Nature, Near Perfect," actually is a nearly perfect way of describing Spokane. Almost as near as I am to believing it. †

Life in the 'Kan is a brand new column by the first person involved with the SiDEKiCK to possess a journalism degree. Expect the same level of unprofessionalism as usual, though, as Nick rambles about whatever the hell he feels like relating to living in Spokane.

2008 Election: Cont. from page 15

Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas, former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney and Rep. Tom Tancredo of Colorado.

Brownback, a born-again Christian who woos evangelicals but few others, made a surprise move last week by stepping out of lock and blasting the president's surge proposal.

Romney is a centrist Republican that found a way to get elected governor in the bluest state our union has to offer. But Romney is a Mormon. And American voters, whose intelligence tends to run parallel to their acceptance of diversity, are unsure of how they feel about those wife-gatherers from Utah. It's unfair, but Romney's Mormonism will probably be an issue.

Finally, Tancredo is a one-trick pony. The xenophobic congressman from Colorado admitted he has little chance of winning, but that he is hoping to force more prominent candidates to take harder lines against illegal immigration.

The risk each of these candidates has in declaring their intentions this early is that

an already apathetic electorate could fall under a severe spell of ennui.

Scott Reed, Bob Dole's 96' presidential candidacy manager, told the Wall Street Journal that the entire timetable has moved up two or three months, "as candidates struggle to get out there and define their piece of the pie." Reed added that it's too soon for voters to focus on 2008, "Everyone is still dealing with 2006 fatigue."

But in this city, elections are a roundthe-clock business where positioning, planning and politicking for a bigger office, with a better view, never stops. It seems the madness has just begun. And we're still weeks from March. †

M.W. Fritz is a freelance journalist based out of Washington D.C. Every issue, he provides the SiDEKiCK with an exclusive political commentary from our nation's capital, bringing all the respectability and professionalism of this paper (not much) to a completely subjective and often ridiculous analysis of our governing body. He can be reached at mwfritz99@hotmail.com.







How to Eat out on a College Budget

Going out can be expensive, but if you do it right you can eat and drink every night of the week and still have money for rent. Below is a list of suggestions of where to get unbelievable deals nearly every day of the week. If you know of an awesome weekly special that isn't listed below email us at info@spokanesidekick.com. We are always open to suggestions.

Everyday

Little Bennies:

Weekly Special - Western Sandwich, Fries and a drink for \$6.29. For more information call (509) 926-6188.

David's Pizza:

\$1 slices of Cheese Pizza from 2 - 5 p.m. For more information call (509) 483-7460.

Sunday

Blue Spark:

Kill the Keg Night - \$1 pints until the beer is gone. For more info call (509) 838-5787.

Tuesday

The Blvd:

\$2 pint night. Enough said. For more information call (509) 455-7826.

Wednesday

The Blvd:

50-cent beer night. Enough said. For more information call (509) 455-7826.

The Blue Spark:

\$10 Bucket Night. Five bottles of beer (domestics & corona) in a bucket for only \$10. For more information call (509) 838-5787.

Thursday

Brooklyn Nights:

Customer Appreciation Night - \$3 for a cup of tomato parmesean soup and 1/2 grilled cheese sandwich. Also, PBR is \$1. For more info call (509) 835-4177.



The Main Dish: Frank's Diner

By A.W. Rowse

Frank's Diner has a large reputation to live up to. According to the large banner that hangs on the train-car shaped restaurant, Frank's has been voted "Best Breakfast in Spokane" (by the Inlander readers) for 11 out of the last 12 years. Those are some large shoes to fill. Having driven by the diner a million times without ever stopping in, I decided to go investigate the hype.

Most of the fun of the restaurant is the building, er, train-car itself. Built at the turn of the last century, the car was used for years as the personal car of the President of the Pacific Railroad (I think I just confused a Monopoly railroad with a real one but I don't think anyone is really paying that much attention). While the thing is tiny, the gigantic open windows kept me from feeling claustrophobic.

One of the key requirements for a diner is that your food must be cooked in front of you – Frank's was no exception. Due to the lack of space, the kitchen was crammed behind the diner counter yet somehow the cooks were able to crank out hash browns like a vegetable oiled machine. The other benefit of sitting in front of the grill is that the heat radiates off of it and keeps you nice and toasty in the winter (granted that this might cause a problem in the summer time).

Frank's menu contained everything I



Hobo Scrambler - \$8.99

Brian Says:

I pretty much agree with Andy, er ... sorry "A.W." (What a wanker.) My biscuits and gravy were perfectly decent but nothing to write home about. That said, eating in an old train car is fun for the whole family, and I'll definitely return. Just for the record, my favorite breakfast in town can be found at Bolo's Bar & Grill in the Valley, which serves reassuringly greasy and simply phenomenal food, with portions the size of your head.

would expect to find on a breakfast menu. They had the staples – pancakes, waffles, eggs, hash browns, scramblers – which is all the options I really want for breakfast. I ordered the amusingly named Hobo Scrambler, which was a jambalaya of eggs, sausage, cheddar cheese, tomato, peppers, and onion served with hash browns and toast. It did the job but didn't inspire me to launch fireworks in celebration. The food tasted like the same meal I've had a million times at restaurants across the

United States

While the food was good at best, Frank's atmosphere is a standout winner. The close quarters gave it a communal feel as I sat at the counter literally rubbing elbows with other diners. I would bring people back to Frank's just for that authentic experience. As far as being "The Best Breakfast in Spokane," I've had better.

Franks is located at 1516 W 2nd Ave just off of Maple Street. For more information call (509) 747-8798.



Western Omelet - \$7.95

Andy Says:

Not only did I get to enjoy my breakfast once, I literally ate it for the next three mornings. My only problem with the place is the Rat/Skunk/Dog. Even though I know the food is good, I still have a hard time eating at a place with such an ugly sign. What can I say, I'm a graphics snob.

The Back Burner: Molly's Restaurant

By Katie Shampeny

Mmmm, breakfast, probably my favorite meal of the day. That is, when I actually have time to make a good one. Weekends seem to be the time of the really great breakfast. But let's be honest. Most of the time, due to the events of the night before, you're simply not motivated enough to make one of those amazing breakfasts we all dream about. So this issue we decided to eat, I mean review, breakfast.

Molly's is not necessarily a back burner due to its location. It's actually right in downtown Spokane. However, it's one of those places that you've probably driven by a million times and said to yourself, "What the hell is that thing on the sign?" After thinking this ourselves several times (it looks like a cat-skunk-dog), we finally noticed the sign saying 'Best Breakfasts in Town.' We pulled in to determine if the claim was true.

I had the Western Omelet and Homebrowns O'Brien style. The omelet came with mushrooms, bacon, and onions smothered in Swiss cheese. I also requested peppers, because I'm a pepper fanatic. The Homebrowns were delicious chunks of russet potatoes fried up with more peppers and onions. The whole thing was absolutely awesome! They use some of the freshest ingredients I've ever seen in a restaurant. These were no frozen hash browns or mushrooms out of a can. They were obviously chopped fresh in house, which makes you feel a little better about stuffing your face with something smothered in cheese.

Besides the fact that the breakfast was amazing, it was also reasonably priced, and did I mention huge? So for those budget conscious college students out there, unless you're 6'5" and eat everything in sight, you'll probably have enough leftovers for one if not two more breakfasts. Oh and by the way, we found out about the thing on the sign. The cat-skunk-dog is actually Molly, the restaurants name sake, and she's actually the cutest little dog you've ever seen. So go check out Molly's the morning after your next weekend excursion, you won't regret it.



Blue Man Group combines music, theatre and comedy in extravagant package

By Robert Thornley Hill

Blue Man Group has ascended from playing New York City street corners in the 80s to becoming an instantly recognizable force in pop culture. On Tuesday, February 6th they'll be making their way to the Inland Northwest for a lavish production at the Spokane Arena.

Blue Man Group puts on an unforgettable live performance that mixes highly percussive and, shall we say, resourceful rock music (incorporating the playing of PVC tubes and other seemingly innocuous "instruments") as well as family-friendly humor, satire, audience participation, a variety of props, confetti canons and a sophisticated lighting scheme. A crossover of styles, to be sure, this article could just have easily been placed in our music or theatre sections.

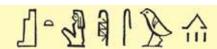
Pretty much anything seems fair game as far as Chris Wink, Matt Goldman and Phil Stanton – who collectively make up Blue Man Group – are concerned. They'll stop to ridicule latecomers and shower the approximate audience with anything at their disposal. The explosion of paraphernalia is so ubiquitous that audience members in the first couple rows are given ponchos to deflect the paint, paper, food and other substances that fly through the air at a Blue Man Group performance. Basically, it's like seeing Gallagher, only entertaining and there's good music.

Their current tour is called **How to be a Megastar Tour 2.0**, complete with
a tongue-in-cheek "how to" manual on
becoming a rock star as Blue Man Group,
with a stellar eight-piece backing band, takes
you step-by-step and song-by-song through
the arena concert experience, complete with
hi-tech audience interaction.

Anybody not familiar with Blue Man Group probably doesn't get out much (and certainly doesn't watch television). They've been featured routinely on late night talk shows, commercials for everything from watches to phone companies, as well as sitcoms (such as Arrested Development and Scrubs) and have even been animated by the likes of The Simpsons' cartoonists, and others. Most recently, they've opened up a couple of shows in Germany and released some children's instruments that incorporate their unique musical approach.

More geographically and temporally to the point, Blue Man Group will be in Spokane on Tuesday, February 6th at 7:30 p.m. at The Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena, 720 W. Mallon. Tickets are \$49.50 or \$85 (the latter of which might also land you in the complimentary poncho section!), on sale now through www.ticketswest.com, by calling 1-800-325-SEAT, or through any of the TicketsWest outlets around Spokane (see the calendar spread for a list). For more information visit www.spokanearena. com or Blue Man Group's official website at www.blueman.com. †

Fellowship of Isis

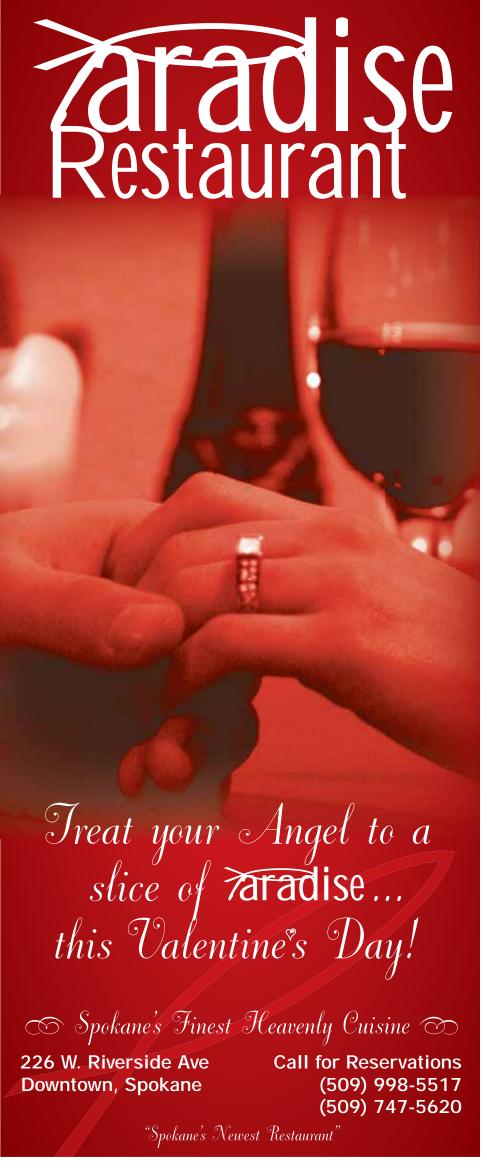


Basic idea: Followers worship the Egyptian deity Isis, who has been described by leaders as "God in female form." Members stress the feminine components of a number of worldwide religions, and therefore making the Fellowship of Isis Rush Limbaugh's worst nightmare.

Founded: 1976

Worldwide members: Approximately 24,000

Other religions that draw heavily from Egyptian mythology: Setianism, some Wicca sects, Noble Order of Tara



Agnes of God winds down on Spartan Theatre stage

There are still a couple more chances to see the first show of the year at the Actors Rep Theatre, as the dramatic thriller **Agnes of God** stays on the Spartan Theatre stage for two more nights, closing out its run on Saturday, January 27th.

Agnes of God revolves around a mysterious birth at the hands of a nun who insists that the child was immaculately conceived. Combining overarching themes of mystery, religion and psychological thriller with elements of murder, sacrifice and faith vs. reason, the result is an unabashedly theatrical production that sees the secular reasoning of a psychiatrist clashing with the fundamental conviction of the convent's inhabitants. The play was written in the early 80s by John Pielmeier and had a successful run on Broadway and in London, in addition to a 1985 Academy Award-nominated film adaptation starring Jane Fonda and Anne Bancroft that saw the story reach an even larger audience.

Agnes of God's stint in Spokane opened in mid-January and, though the majority of the performances have come and gone, there are a pair of shows left at 8 p.m. on Friday, January 26th and Saturday, January 27th. Tickets for these primetime evening performances run \$20, with student discounts set at \$10 and seniors getting in for \$18. The Actors Rep Spartan Theatre can be found at 3410 West Fort George Wright Drive, on the campus of Spokane Community College. For more information, ARt has an effective and easy to navigate website at www.actorsreptheatre.com. †

Blue Door adds game show flair to improv performances

The Blue Door Theatre is encorporating game show elements into their alternating, themed, Friday night shows with **Choose to Lose**, a semi-competitive, quasi-theatrical synthesis that will see two of the night's attendees squaring off amidst improv sketches in an attempt to not score (or, at least, not score as much as the other guy).

Choose to Lose sees the contestants take turns picking from a pool of improvisers to compete in a game. Each improviser will have a secret card that identifies the game, points and/or modifiers, with the contestant given the option of swapping improvisers with their challenger, hence the name "Choose to Lose".

This game show/improvisational theatre fusion kicked off on the first Friday of the New Year, and continues through February 2^{nd} , at which time another theme will take over for a month (see Blue Door's ad on page 6 for a preview of their brand new weekend show in February, **Safari Saturday's**).

These Friday night shows get underway at 8 p.m. with the box office opening an hour prior. Tickets are \$8 for general admission and \$6 for children, students and seniors. (Or email us if you want tickets and we'll see what we can do.) The Blue Door Theatre is located at 815 W. Garland. For more information, visit their website at www.bluedoortheatre.com. †

Photos by Bob Zeller

Driving Miss Daisy revived at Interplayers

By Brian Clark

Interplayers Ensemble Theatre has officially kicked off their 2007 campaign with Alfred Uhry's **Driving Ms. Daisy**, the popular story of a black chaffeur driving a Jewish woman around in the Deep South as they strike up an unlikely friendship during the racially tumultuous period scanning the late 40s to the early 70s.

The play, written in 1987, is part of Uhry's Atlanta Trilogy, a trio of plays examining the relationships within the Jewish population of Atlanta, Georgia. The original off-broadway production starred Morgan Freeman in the chauffeur role, a role he reprised for the 1989 film of the same name that's probably the most identifiable outlet of this story for the majority of people.

Driving Miss Daisy opened a couple weeks ago, but there are still several opportunites to see the play before it closes up shop on Sunday,

February 3rd. Show dates are every Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and Friday through Sunday at 8 p.m., with an additional Sunday matinee at 2. Tickets are \$15 for matinees, \$17 for Wednesday and Thursday evenings and \$21 for Friday

and Saturday night showings, with senior discounts between \$2 and \$3 per ticket and student tickets available for an even \$10 across

the board. (On the subject, we were way off on these prices last issue and apologize thoroughly for the mixup.) Tickets can be purchased through ticketswest.com and their various outlets (see page 14), or through the Interplayers box office at (509) 455-PLAY. The playhouse is located at 174 S. Howard in downtown Spokane. For more information, visit www.interplayers.com. †

Neil Simon comedy and satirical musical split time at Spokane Civic Theatre

By Robert Thornley Hill

The Spokane Civic Theatre is hosting a pair of theatrical productions over the coming days, as Neil Simon's Barefoot in the Park continues its Main Stage run while the satirical musical Assassins goes up on the Firth J. Chew stage starting January 26th.

Barefoot in the Park, which opened in mid-January, will be on stage through Sunday, February 3rd. This, Simon's earliest smash hit, was a Tony-nominated play during its first Broadway stint in 1963, telling the story of newlyweds in New York City's Greenwich Village as they face a number of difficulties in their marriage and through their relationships with various New Yorkers, especially their depressed neighbor.

The husband and wife team are comprised of an up-and-coming New York lawyer and his spontaneous, adventurous



wife, both of whom have a difficult time adapting after the honeymoon. Basically, it sounds a lot like Simon's *The Odd Couple*,

posed to Jack Lemon's man boobs).

Assassins, meanwhile, is a sharp, witty and haunting musical that ties together the likes of John Wilkes Booth, Lee Harvey Oswald and others through a string of songs and events that connects the cast of rogues in a thought-provoking and entertaining way. The eclectic musical styles that weave in and out of the story

reflect the popular music at the time of

only one of them has real boobs (as op-

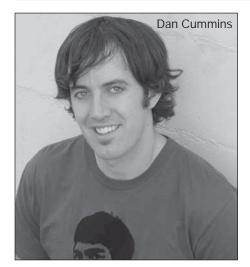
the depicted event. Lyrics and music was written by Stephen Sondheim, one of the most celebrated composers/writers in contemporary film and theatre, as he posseses an Oscar, a Pulitzer and multiple Grammy and Tony awards.

Assassins opens on Friday, January 26th and runs through Sunday, February 18th.

Both plays can be seen every Thursday through Sunday at the Spokane Civic Theatre

(1020 N. Howard across from the Arena), with Thursday night performances at 7:30, Friday and Saturday showings at 8 p.m., and a Sunday matinee at 2. (Note: there will not be a performance of Assassins on Sunday, Feb. 3rd.)

Tickets for either show are set at \$18, with student and senior discounts (\$12 and \$15 respectively), available now from www.ticketswest.com, all TicketsWest outlets around town (see page 12 for a list), or by calling the Civic Theatre Box Office at (509) 325-2507. For more information, log onto www.spokanecivictheatre.com. †



Comedy

Gonzaga graduate and burgeoning comedian **Dan Cummins** is returning to Spokane for a pair of stand-up comedy performances on Saturday, January 27th. Undeniably the greatest comedian to ever come out of Riggins, Idaho, Cummins blends topics ranging from the inane to the bizarre with a somewhat dark but still kind of wholesome comedic approach. He incorporates guitar into some of his act, as well, singing about everything from Starbucks to Super Nintendo, and anything in between.

This combination has proven extremely popular over the past couple years. According to his admittedly biased but presumably factual website, "Within four years of walking into a comedy club for the first time, Dan nearly won the Seattle Comedy Competition, was featured on the nationally syndicated Bob and Tom show five times ... began opening up in theaters across the country for Larry the Cable Guy on his record breaking Right to Bare Arms U.S. Comedy Tour, and performed at the 2005 Montreal Comedy Festival, the most prestigious comedy festival in the world."

Center Stage can be found 1017 W. 1st Ave. in downtown Spokane. There will be two different showtimes during Cummins night in town, with the first at 7:30 p.m. and a followup at 10. Drink and cabaret service is available, and Center Stage has recently introduced a valet parking service on Friday and Saturday nights so you won't even really have to battle the cold. For more information visit Dan's website at www.dancummins.tv. †

- Film -

The Garland Theatre is hosting Spokane Falls Community College's **International Film Festival 2007**. This is the second year SFCC has put on the festival, with a number of fairly recent titles from all around the world screened every Wednesday, starting January 31st. An SFCC faculty member or staff will be on hand to moderate, with SFCC students able to get in for free, students from other schools admitted for \$2.50, and the general public welcome for \$5.

The first film in the series will be **Cache**, a French thriller starring Juliette Binoche, probably one of the three French actors you've heard of. The following week, Wednesday, February 7th will see a screening of **Beautiful Boxer**, a 2004 output from Thailand that tells the story of a kickboxing champion who undergoes a sex change operation.

The Garland Theatre can be found at 924 W. Garland. To see a full list of all the films screening over the course of the festival, log onto www.spokanesidekick. com and click on Garland Theatre in our venues listing. We've even linked all the films to their trailers so you can preview the film simply by clicking on its poster. You're welcome. †

Community -

Ed McMahon will fondly reminisce about his years as co-host of The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson on Friday, January 26th and Saturday the 27th at Northern Quest Casino in Airway Heights.

Succinctly and appropriately titled **Memories of The Tonight Show**, the 83 year-old McMahon will regale his audiences with untold, behind-the-scenes stories from his three decades as the straight man to late night television legend Carson. He'll also show a variety of clips and outtakes from The Tonight Show, with a lively, half hour question-and-answer session rounding out the evening.

Tickets are \$45, available through www. ticketswest.com, by visiting any of the TicketsWest outlets around town (see page 12), or by calling the Northern Quest Box Office at (509) 340-6700. Showtime is 8:30 p.m., restricted to ages 21+. For more information, visit www.northernquest.com. †

Zoroastrianism (ghezundeit)

Basic idea: There is one uncreated Creator of us all (not exactly sure what that means) who will eventually prevail, causing the world to end. There are three basic stages of the Universe: creation, the present (where creation is under attack), and a final state where the universe reverts to its pure state and souls trapped in darkness will be released.



Founded: Nobody's quite sure, though, incredibly, it could go back as far as the 18th century B.C.

Worldwide members: Between 200,000 and 2.6 million, depending on who you ask.

Other religions that are hard to pronounce: Manichaeism, burkhanism, Soka Gakkai International

CENTER STAGE a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Arts Organization

Presents Dan Cummins



'Featured at the Boston Comedy Festival'



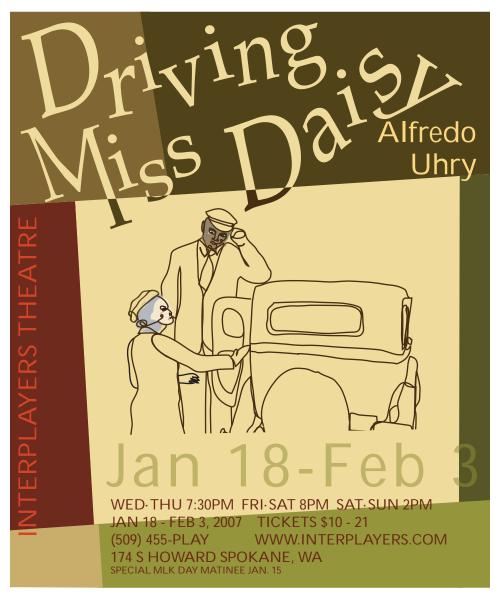
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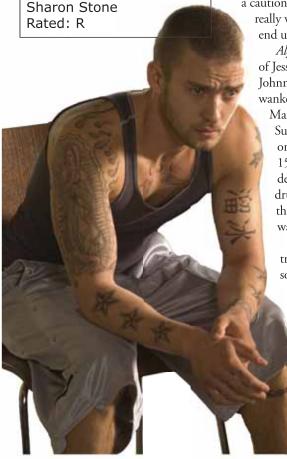




Alpha Dog stuck in middle of the pack

Alpha Dog

Director: Nick Cassavetes Starring: Justin Timberlake, some whiny dude that was in *Lords* of *Dogtown*, Bruce Willis,



By Brian Clark

Shortly after leaving **Alpha Dog**, I realized I hadn't been as bummed out watching a movie since probably Hotel Rwanda (although it's worth noting that Babel would be in the running if I even remotely cared about it). Trying to be both a music video and a cautionary tale of sorts, *Alpha Dog* doesn't

really work on either level, and you just end up depressed as all get out.

Alpha Dog is based on the true story of Jesse James Hollywood (renamed Johnny Truelove in the film), a complete wanker who wavers from acting like a

Mafia boss to an inner city gangster. Surrounded by sycophantic thugs of one degree or another, they take a 15 year-old kid hostage because his deadbeat brother owes them some drug money, then have to deal with the realization that, hey, maybe that wasn't the best idea we've ever had.

I think what the filmmakers were trying to do was show that living this sort of selfish, music video lifestyle has consequences, but they seem wholly caught up in it them-

selves. Ultimately, that's where I could never really get into the story. There's an abundance of sex and drugs – in just about every scene, actually – that, I think, is supposed to suck you in a bit so, when everything turns to shit, you're indicted along with the characters. But

the characters are so unlikable – I mean just completely deplorable – that there's absolutely no way to empathize with them in the slightest. I'm a fairly relatable 23 year-old yet I felt like some old dude on a porch, shaking my head and wondering, "Is this really what these kids are into these days?"

By the way, there are some vicious rumors circling that Alpha Dog boasts top-notch acting. Not so much; that's my theory on that. I mean, you expect Justin Timberlake to suck so when he's decent basically just playing a slightly more sadistic version of himself, there's a temptation to elevate him to something he's not. The young actors surrounding him run the complete gamut from virtually unwatchable (the square faced tough guy) to extraordinarily engaging (the strung out older brother of the hostage). Coupled with Bruce Willis, who's just terrible (almost entirely due to the facet that he's Bruce Willis) and you get an ensemble cast that's wholly mediocre, but is getting way too much credit for being better than it is.

Sharon Stone is in the movie as well, which is just weird. I've suspected she's been going crazy for awhile now (did you see her at that Israeli Peace Conference where she was promoting Basic Instinct 2? Wow) and it's clear now that my deepest suspicions have been realized. It's like she asked, 'What's the farthest thing from flashing my snatch that I could do on film? I know, I'll put on a fat suit, look absolutely horrible on a digital camera — which is magnified beyond necessity with shitty lighting — and play someone who's strung out on everything this side of heroin,

that you can't help but

get sucked in at least a

little bit. The pacing is

every scene. That really

shouldn't be a difficult

task, though, consider-

ing what's at stake is

nothing less than hell

on Earth and Keanu

Reeves' eternal soul. As

Arnold Schwarzenegger

proved with the com-

pletely unwatchable

such that they man-

age to keep tension

at a high in almost



so bummed out that she can only laugh pathetically at her many attempted suicides.' Um ... good move, Sharon.

She's not the only one at fault here, though; you can pretty much blame anyone you want involved with any aspect of the filmmaking process. They took a true story that was interesting only because the characters are fairly young, amplify the really depressing aspects, pepper it with some odd acting choices, throw in a truly bizarre soundtrack (Eva Cassidy singing "Over the Rainbow" followed by four Tech N9ne tracks?) and then shoot it as a cross between a music video and a morality play. Either the filmmakers are too ambitious or not nearly ambitious enough. Either way, as it plays off, Alpha Dog is largely stale, mostly unengaging, and completely unrelatable.

I think, ultimately, the main problem here is that I already knew acting like a power-hungry, self-absorbed, gangster asshole is asking for trouble. Whatever it is, there's almost nothing I'm going to take away from *Alpha Dog*. Frankly, I'll be surprised if, six months from now, I remember I ever saw it in the first place. †

Bottom Shelf

Potential squandered in laughable Constantine

By Brian Clark

By and large, I've never found traditional horror movies all that frightening. However, films that grapple with important theological questions frighten me to an almost embarrassing degree. As someone who has drifted far, far away from my Catholic upbringing, movies that interrogates the not-so-subtle differences between heaven and hell, showing what's in store if I'm wrong in my dissension, simply scare me silly. In that regard, *Constantine* would have been such a flick if – and this is a big if – I didn't spend the entire running time laughing out loud at Keanu Reeves.

Reeves plays John Constantine, a pissed-off exorcist and chain-smoking badass whose function is to maintain Earth's balance between good and evil by deporting overzealous demons back to hell. Rumor has it the script is actually loosely based on Reeves real-life dealings with the devil since, after watching the movie, it's obvious he had to sell his soul to Lucifer to get anybody to ever cast him in anything.

Watching Constantine, I was reminded of Pig Out in the Park's headliners Ten Years After, specifically their 60s hit "I'd Love to Change the World (But I Don't Know What I'd Do)." Because it dawned on me about a third of the way through the movie that my one contribution to humanity, if I had my druthers, would be to prevent Keanu Reeves

- and, while I'm at it, Dennis Quaid – from ever making another film. Ever.

Outside of Reeves unspeakably terrible lead performance, this isn't a bad film. Wait, yes it is. This is a legitimately bad movie, at least from the aspect that there's a lot of potential here that's almost entirely unrealized. To be fair, *Constantine* is made – somewhat adeptly – on such an epic scale,



Constantine

Released: 2005

Directed by: Francis Lawrence Starring: Keanu Reeves, Rachel Weisz, Djimoun Hounsou

Rated: R

End of Days, however, that's not always as easy as it sounds.

But I don't want to give the filmmakers too much credit here. While the scale is epic, their handling of it is decidedly less so. At times, they defend the necessity of faith and religious devotion while, at other turns, there are absurd implications of good and evil existing independently of human thought. For example, almost immediately after the credits

it's suggested that the Nazis were in possession of an ancient artifact that served as an impetus for their evil deeds, thus completely ignoring human fallibility. There's really no religious investigation here at all.

In the end, the moral crux of *Constantine* actually seems more inline with Rambo than any intelligent argument – something about kicking ass and taking names (with a side plot that smoking is bad for you. Who knew?) Whatever. If the filmmakers don't care, why should I? But in this way, and many others, *Constantine* comes across as an incongruous waste of potential.

Basically what this all ads up to is that the subject matter of *Constantine* is fascinating while the film itself certainly is not. As an exciting comic book flick, it's not bad. Under any other light, bad isn't a strong enough adjective. †

The Bottom Shelf is a SiDEKiCK feature where we review an old, classic or cult film – or pretty much anything else we feel like renting. The movie in question will usually have something to do with our theme, but we're not making any guarantees.

FEATURES †

We Salute...

The millions of people that make religion a part of our everyday lives. Whether we like it or not.

Christians obsessed with the apocalypse



We salute you, Christians obsessed with the apocalypse, for bombarding us with disturbing quotes from Revelations while we're walking down the street to get a cup of coffee. Your homemade signs and shoddily printed t-shirts show just how much you generally care about our immortal souls, as we try to avert eye contact and therefore avoid perplexing questions about eternity while we're hungover or on our lunch break. With those few, unintelligible words about The Rapture that you uttered through that 1950s relic megaphone, you completely revolutionized my outlook on religion and I will undoubtedly reevaluate my stance on accepting Jesus in my life so as to avoid eternal hellfire. Just as soon as I finish my hot dog.

Drivers with Jesus and Darwin Fish magnets



We salute you, drivers sporting Jesus and Darwin fish bumper stickers, for your wordless and ceaseless war that is being fought on the back of minivans everywhere. Apparently there's a competition we're unaware of, where evolutionists and creationists flash their true colors with the magnet of their choice. What happens next is anybody's guess, although I hope the side with the most visible followers wins a prize. Hopefully a good prize, too, like a steak dinner, your own cable show, or an eternity of gloating in heaven. Regardless, your conviction towards the cause you support cannot be denied when we glance in your direction to see that iconic symbol glaring us in the face while you take a left off of Sprague and into the parking lot of a sex toy shop.

Hypocritical church leaders



We salute you, hypocritical leaders of the church, for crushing what little bit of hope and optimism we had left. As numbers in worldwide religious organizations continue to dwindle, you make sure our last bit of faith is replaced by a deep and abiding cynicism as you molest choir boys, cover up and deny those unspeakable acts, lash out against gay marriage a few hours before visiting a male prostitute, elect former Nazi youths to the highest level of the Catholic Church, and generally treat us all with pious contempt. While the vast majority of religious folk are good, honorable people, we salute you, hypocritical church leaders, for you are the ones who grab headlines.

Drink of the Issue: Betsi's Smile

Sponsored by the Blue Spark

Betsi's Smile Ingredients

1/2 shot Absolut Peach1/2 shot Malibu Mango1 part Orange Juice1 part Lemonade1 splash Cranberry

Mixing Instructions

Combine Absolut, Malibu, OJ, and Lemonade in a tumbler with ice. Shake well and strain into a cocktail glass. Top it off with a splash of Cranberry.



This drink is being served exclusively by the Blue Spark. Head down to 15 S. Howard Street and try it before it's too late.

Puzzle #285 - Case Sensitive

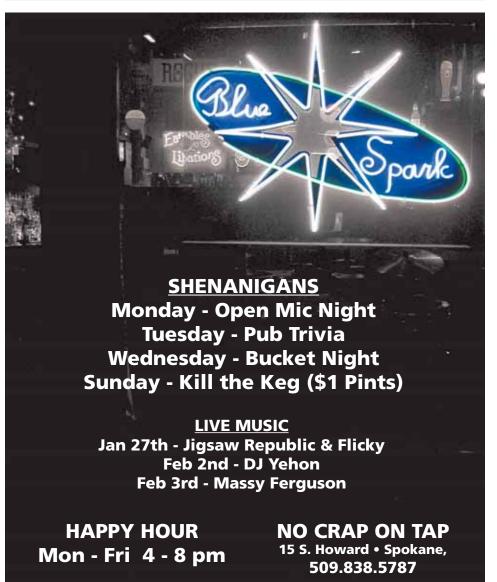


Solution to this week's Crossword Puzzle

If you are looking at this crossword puzzle it means one of two things.

A. You have successfully completed the puzzle and want to check your work. Congratulations, and keep up the good work. You don't suck. Or,

B. You are an incompetent loser that can't figure out a crossword puzzle and must cheat in order to get yourself out of a jam. Poor form, very poor form.



JOHNY CASH

COME CELEBRATE JOHNNY CASH'S BIRTHDAY THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY... AT PRAGO...ARGENTINE CAFÉ

AT THE CORNER OF RIVERSIDE & BROWNE IN DOWNTOWN SPOKANE. TELE:443-0404





"CASH"...the Vinyl Collection of Ty Goodwin consists of 58 albums that local gravedigger; Ty Goodwin has amassed over the past several years. Like the aging 57 Cadillac Coup de Ville with a fine patina of rust in Ty's backyard, so to is the vinyl collection of Johnny Cash albums running the gamut from Sun Recordings to his Columbia years. Some albums in the collection are still in their original wraps and have never been played, while others, like the classic "Live At San Quentin" areworn and scratched, but still full of life and character and are as beautiful and timeless as the "Man In Black" himself.

The collection will be accompanied by album liner notes, lyrics and other assorted Johnny Cash memorabilia. DJ Crow will spin the "Man in Black" all night long, with special guest, Jeff Johnson playingan Acoustic set of Cash tunes during the opening. On Cash's birthday, Monday, February 26th, "Spotucky Radio" from KYRS will spin Cash from 9pm till close. The exhibit will run thru February.

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Thurs, Jan 25th - 6:00 PM - Prago Wine Tasting feat Carlos Verde Jr, Dick Pratt

9:00 PM - DJ James Pants

Sat, Jan 27th - 7:00 PM - Abe Kenny, Classical Guitar

Tues, Jan 30th - 9:00 PM - 'Natural Selections' fea Small Cuts, DJ Coy Boy

Fri, Feb 2nd - 5:00 PM - Art Opening: 'CASH,' the

vinyl collection of Ty Goodwin

6:00 PM - Jeff Johnson (performing Johnny Cash)

7:00 PM - DJ Crow spinning Johnny Cash

Sat, Feb 3rd - 8:00 PM - Abe Kenney, Classical Guitar

10:00 PM - Nicolas Vigil (Milonga) & Friends

Tues, Feb 6th - 9:00 PM - 'Natural Selections' fea Small Cuts, Matt Nasty

Wed, Feb 7th - 9:00 PM - 'Random Access' with Mike Random, Danny Access

Thurs, Feb 8th - 9:00 PM - DJ James Pants