

Collapsis plays Otter's

by KRISTI SINGER

Staff Writer

On Saturday, Feb. 19, national-recording artists Collapsis came to Otter's with opening act Feel Love Fury.

Collapsis was signed to Cherry/Universal Records in November 1997. Their CD, *Dirty Wake* was released nationally Feb. 15. Otter's was the second venue for their CD release party, after Fuzzy Ducks in Greensboro Feb. 18.

The excitement began at School Kids Music with Collapsis and Feel Love Fury on location with Surf 107 signing autographs and giving away Collapsis posters and cassettes.

Tickets were being sold at School Kids before the show for \$7 and at the door for \$9.

"They [ticket sales] started out really slow, but the later in the afternoon it got, the more it picked up. People were buying three at a time," School Kids employee Katherine Smith said.

Collapsis is quickly gaining fame for their hit, "Automatic," which can be heard on Surf 107 FM, and other NC stations in Asheville, Boone and Wanchese as well as 100 stations nationwide.

"I like it. It's catchy and fun to listen to," Smith said about the song.

During the sound-check at Otter's, Feel Love Fury heard a preview of Collapsis.

"I haven't really heard them besides the radio song. By their sound-check I can tell they're very polished," said Stefan Hajek, vocalist and guitarist of Feel Love Fury.

Feel Love Fury took the stage and entranced the audience with their performance. Vocalist/guitarist Stefan Hajek, percussionist Kevin Cullen, bassist Darrell Allen and lead guitarist Jesse Rains played songs from their album, *Source*, which released in September 1999.

Feel Love Fury began with "Lifestorm," the first song from *Source*. They played "Leadbelly," "Downfallen" and "It All Ends with You," along with other songs from *Source*, which all sounded as good they do on the CD.

My favorite song is "It All Ends with You." It's an unforgettable song, one that touches my soul.

The band ended their set with "Remain," a song Hajek said is "an important song. When you're down and feel you can't get out of a hole you mustn't leave by your own hand, you must remain."

Collapsis began their show at midnight with a loud, hypnotizing intro that broke right into their first song, "Two Egrets." The audience began to



Kristi Singer/The Seahawk

Collapsis vocalist Mike Garrigan, along with other band members played at Otter's last week. See *The Scene* for Garrigan's interview.

grow as Collapsis played and moved to the beat.

"If you'd like to step closer I'll tell you a story. The story's called "Dirty Wake," vocalist Mike Garrigan said.

Garrigan and guitarist Ryan Pickett sang harmoniously together on "Dirty Wake." Garrigan could deservedly be called a guitar genius.

Collapsis knows how to put on a tight performance. A combination of Garrigan's emotional facial expressions, bassist Chris Holloway, drummer Scott Carle, guitarist Ryan Pickett and a flow of music from one song to the next without any breaks was very impressive and kept the audience's full attention.

The band played songs from *Dirty Wake*, including "Superhero," "Radio Friendly Girlfriend," "I.O.L.," and "Automatic."

"Tell Me everything" had poetic lyrics that will earn this song the position as their second single release. "Wonderland," their big ballad, will be their third single.

The audience requested an encore, which they catered to with two songs, "Collapsis" and a cover of "Voices Carry."

This concert was a commendable combination of two bands that are playing music for the right reasons, the expression of inner truth.

"I think they're [Collapsis] a band that's serious about what they want to do. They've got goals in mind and they're working hard, doing everything then can to get there. I can tell that by their music and by talking to them. I think we'll be seeing and hearing more of them in the future," DJ Renn from Surf 107 said.

Collapsis will be back at Otter's April 20.

Check out Feel Love Fury at www.feellovefury.com and Collapsis at www.collapsis.com.

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