



Richard Barone will be opening for the Smithereens

## Smithereens

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Varlerie Naranjo -- Barone added Patti Smith; group drummer Jay Dee Daugherty; Richard Hell; Ivan Julian, guitarist for the Voidoids; and bass player Thaddeus Castanis to the band. Barone also recruited the cosmic vocals of the B-52's Fred Schneider.

Barone's swinging and swaying of a serious rocker and a Top 40 pop performer are sure to get the audience in gear for the Smithereens' "Capitol Punishment" tour.

Rob Whiteside, stage performance chair of SUB, said he has seen the Smithereens twice in concert. "I first saw them in Maryland at the Merriwether Post Pavillion and the next night, I drove to Richmond, Virginia to see them at the Mosque," he said.

"We have really pumped this

concert. SUB has gone outside the community to publicize and we are expecting a big crowd. We are selling 2,200 tickets for general admission seats," Whiteside said.

The birth of the Smithereens goes back many years to Cateret, New Jersey, where some of the band members were childhood friends.

The friends have come a long way to releasing their first album in 1985, *Especially for You*. It appeared on *Billboard's* year-end Top 100 list. The band then debuted on Enigma/Capital Records with the album *Green Thoughts*.

With Jim Babjak on guitar, Dennis Diken on drums, Mike Mesaros on bass and Pat DeNizio as chief vocalist, the Smithereens' newest release, *Smithereens 11*, has really climbed the charts. The hit single, *A Girl Like You*, is

currently in the Top 40.

Whiteside said SUB will be extremely busy setting up the stage for the Smithereens. SUB members will start at 7 a.m. to lay down the floor covers and then will assist the Smithereens with their equipment.

Whiteside also said security will be very visible for this concert. "Besides on-campus security, Elon College town police as well as volunteers will be there to assist if needed," Whiteside said.

Tickets for students and staff can be purchased \$5 in advance or \$8 at the door. Tickets for the general public are \$7 in advance or \$10 at the door.

Tickets can be purchased on campus in the first floor lobby of Long Student Center, Discount Records in Elon College, at Spins Records in Greensboro and Skool Kids Records in Chapel Hill.

## Despite a rocky start, the Connells are now rolling

Everybody has to start somewhere. The Connells started in Raleigh with only seven songs. Seven songs they played over and over again because they did not know any others. Now the Connells have three albums on the market and they no longer have to worry about repeating their popular hits.

I caught the Connells recently in Chapel Hill, where they were playing to a sold-out crowd in Memorial Hall. Gee, things have obviously changed. I talked with Mike Connel, who plays rhythm guitar and writes the majority of their material along with his brother, David.

The Connells consist of Mike; David, who plays bass; Doug MacMillan, who does most of the singing; Peele Wimberly, who plays the drums; and George Huntley, who plays guitar. However, in my opinion, I think Huntley does about everything.

Mike was full of stories about the "good-ole-days," when the band had just started out and had no money. He and his fellow musicians had set out to accomplish a dream.

When the Connells were playing in Ann Arbor, Michigan, they were not that well-known. They lived in the back of their van and would sneak into dormitories at the University of Michigan to take showers. One night, the sheriff caught them

Jason Graves



### In Tune

parked and sleeping in an empty church parking lot and "chased" them out of town. But now the Connells stay in elaborate hotel rooms.

Their first release, "Darker Days," was licensed for release in Europe by the English record label Demon Records. They then released the album in the states with the help of their manager, Tom Carter, on Black Park Records in downtown Raleigh.

Last year, the Connells released *Fun and Games*, their third and most successful album. They sold more than 70,000 copies.

"When we finish with a new song, we'll try it live a few times before we head off into the studio. Being in the studio makes you focus on the song more and whittle a way at stuff and cutaway any superficial garbage. However, we do try to keep away from political issues," Mike said.

## Apply now for summer graduation

The Registrar's Office is now accepting applications from students who anticipate graduating this summer. Deadline for these applications is the third week of June, but by applying now, students can eliminate complications in pre-registration. For more information, contact Mark Albertson at x2376.



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