

A tour of North Carolina show venues

Tom Mullen
The Pendulum
mullt6p0@elon.edu

Hello to all the freshman and transfers or upperclassmen that just got a car. I have some great news for you. You can actually leave this campus and go to a show. No, I didn't say concert. Those happen at huge venues like Alltel Pavilion in Raleigh and Blockbuster Pavilion in Charlotte. Huge mass-marketed bands travel to 30 cities all summer or fall and play to 30,000 people each night.

You want a show where you won't be harassed by rednecks in the lawn section? Do you like to meet the bands afterwards? Well read on! I want to tell you about some places around this state that you can see shows. Remember that word - shows.

First things first. Going to the Lighthouse is considered a show. There is a band and, yes, you are going there for other things. But the fact of the matter is there probably is a hard-working band that wants to play for you, even if you are too drunk, or sober for that matter, to sing the last chorus of "Shook Me All Night Long." They are happy you are there.

Second is that you have to take I-40 to see these shows. First is the Chapel Hill area. You know, where all of you will go when Halloween comes around. The drive is nice and short (about 35 minutes) and you are there.

A great venue is Cat's Cradle. They book small up-and-coming acts and host a huge variety of alter-

native, indie, metal, hardcore, punk, ska, jam and anything else that is the flavor of the times. Past artists include Guided by Voices, Less than Jake, Fear Factory, The Promise Ring and many others. I have been here more times than any other club in North Carolina. A definite stop for most touring acts.

Let's stay in Chapel Hill for a bit longer. Drive down a little farther and you have Go Studios. These guys are strictly for independent acts and are favorable to up-and-coming bands that you will hear later on. With the closing down of the Lizard and Snake, Go has taken up the slack with acts like The Get Up Kids, Discount, At the Drive-In and Karate. Before you leave Chapel Hill, don't forget to check out The Local 506 and The Cave, both great places for live music.

Now you can go on to Raleigh. It's about 45 minutes away depending on where you are headed. First lets go to The Ritz. Not the nicest place but it fits tons of people for huge acts that haven't quite made it to the amphitheater stage yet. Acts like the Goo Goo Dolls, Pavement, Reverend Horton Heat, Offspring, Tool, Korn and Foo Fighters have all graced the stage here.

Next in Raleigh is The Brewery, a definite rock club. Unknown and well-known acts are here nightly. Stuck Mojo, Orange 9mm, Unsane, Bloodlet and Marvelous 3 have played there. Check it out if you want to rock!

Now we are back on I-40 heading west to Winston-Salem. I will first head to Ziggy's. This place is the best. They have any

kind of act from roots to rock to reggae. A great place for live music and the most original-looking venue in North Carolina. (Hint: It looks like a beach house with a tent thrown over it.)

Then we go into downtown Winston-Salem and turn onto Trade Street. There we find 533 Uprising. It is a club run by a great kid named Dave from the band Codeseven. It is your typical hole-in-the-wall but it serves its purpose. Huge touring acts in punk, hardcore, emo and indie rock all come through to play 533. Acts like Grade, Converge, Jimmy Eat World, Error type 11, Hot Water Music, Saves the Day and Elliott have all started playing North Carolina by a 533 Uprising.

Last but not least is Charlotte. The best place to play is Tremont Music Hall. The place is huge. Acts like Green Day, Earth Crisis, Hatebreed, Creed and many others play here. It is a great venue for acts huge or small. If you really dig the band playing there, the hour and a half drive is well worth it.

Here is my advice. Go to www.ncmusic.com or www.elon.edu/wsoe and check out upcoming shows to the area. I didn't even list all of the venues in the state!

E-mail me if you want to get on a mailing list for upcoming shows or if you want to get directions on how to get to a venue. We are right in the middle of everything! Go out there and see a show!

Remember that there are more concerts (shows) out there than what is at Blockbuster or that place called Alltel.

'Stir of Echoes' frightening but realistic

Melissa Anderson
The Pendulum

"Stir of Echoes," based on the novel by Richard Matheson, is a psychological thriller centered on a supernatural murder mystery.

The film stars Kevin Bacon and Kathryn Erbe as Tom and Maggie Witzky. Tom is a blue-collar worker at a dead-end job in a Chicago suburb. Ileana Douglas plays Lisa, Maggie's flaky sister, who hypnotizes Tom and opens a door in his mind enabling him to receive communication from ghosts. Tom and Maggie's son Jake, played by Zachary David Cope, also has the ability to talk to ghosts.

Bacon is truly believable in his role as an average Joe. This role adds another aspect to his vast repertoire, which includes such diverse roles as those in "Footloose," "Apollo 13," and "Wild Things."

Bacon's portrayal of a man descending into madness is reminiscent of Jack Nicholson's character in "The Shining."

Best known for her work in the HBO series "Oz," Erbe brings emotional depth to her role as a caring wife and mother who desperately wants to understand the force that has changed her family. Her frustration with her inability to understand the gift her husband and son share brings her character to life.

Douglas makes the most of her small but important role in the film. She combines flakiness with a touch of eerie knowledge and a wisecracking attitude.

Cope, in his feature-acting debut, displays a chilling innocence when he looks straight at the audience while talking to ghosts. He continually adds to the eerie mood of the movie by continually saying and doing things way beyond any

six-year-old.

The main characters are realistic people who you can relate to because of their credible and believable actions.

David Koepp both directed the film and wrote the screenplay. The script moves fairly fast and is well written, although it comes apart a bit at the end. The mystery's solution is interesting, it is not given enough time to fully play itself out.

"Echoes" relies little on gore for scares, but rather builds suspense through a disturbing atmosphere. Surprises occur in the middle of a scene keeping the viewer in suspense for the next surprising element, never sure when it will pop up.

All in all, "Stir of Echoes" is a movie worth seeing. Unfortunately, many will name it a "Sixth Sense" rip-off. Those who do will miss an interesting mystery and a great movie.

Where It's At

On Tour

Sept. 23 Jump Little Children, The Brewery, Raleigh

Sept. 25: Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, Blockbuster Pavillion, Charlotte

Sept. 26: Indigo Girls, Alltel Pavilion, Raleigh

Sept. 26: Pavement, The Ritz, Raleigh

Sept. 28: Cher with Cyndi Lauper, Charlotte Coliseum

Sept. 28: Tilt with One Man Army, Cat's Cradle, Chapel Hill

Sept. 30: Cibo Matto, Cat's Cradle, Chapel Hill

Oct. 1: Live, The Ritz

Oct. 2: Cult, The Ritz

Oct. 9: Ani DiFranco, The Ritz

Oct. 9: Brooks and Dunn, Alltel Pavilion

Oct. 12: Moe, Tremont Music Hall, Charlotte

On Stage

Sept. 28: "Hamlet," Shenandoah Shakespeare Express, McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 29: "Much Ado About Nothing," Shenandoah Shakespeare Express, McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

On Screen

West End
Cinema
(538-9900)

- In Too Deep
- Stir of Echoes
- Stigmata
- Deep Blue Sea
- 13th Warrior
- Blair Witch Project
- Outside Providence
- Inspector Gadget
- Blue Streak
- The Muse
- For Love of the Game
- Mickey Blue Eyes
- Dudley Do-Right
- Runaway Bride
- Sixth Sense

On Sale

9/14 - 9/21

- Eve
- "First Lady of the Ruff Riders"
- Buckethead
- "Monsters and Robots"
- Fu Manchu
- "King of the Road"
- ODB
- "O.D.B.E.P."
- Martina McBride
- "Emotion"
- Meatloaf
- "VH1 Storytellers"
- Tori Amos
- "To Venus and Back"
- Ben Harper
- "Burn to Shine"
- Music of The Heart Soundtrack
- For Love of the Game Soundtrack