

# First gig outside America

**P**EARL JAM are bringing their coveted Seattle rock to Southend's Esplanade pub tonight, their first date outside the USA.

They are part of the exploding Seattle sub-pop scene which has spawned the likes of Nirvana and Soundgarden.

In the last two weeks they have been getting extensive Radio One airplay and the Esplanade has been getting calls from all over the country about this gig.

They are to play The Borderline in London tomorrow night, but when news of the gig broke all the tickets sold out within 24 hours.

Appealing to the burgeoning indie-crossover audience just as much as the staunch rockers out there, it looks like this is going to be a very busy night, so fans are urged to get down to the Esplanade early.

Supporting Pearl Jam tonight are local act Chickenhawk, who are well worth seeing. Three record companies are coming down to check them out tonight.

The band said: "We sent round this really awful demo and were amazed when we actually had record companies ringing us expressing interest.

"This will be our last local date for a while as we are going to be spending a lot of February and March doing London gigs and we are really looking forward to supporting Pearl Jam. It should be a great show."