

A picture perfect Pearl

Pearl Jam

St. Andrew's Hall

April 3, 1992

Hey, hey, my, my. Rock 'n' roll will never die. At least not as long as bands like Pearl Jam keep plugging into their Marshalls.

On Friday night, St. Andrew's Hall was converted into a bona fide rock 'n' roll church, as those five earth brothers from Seattle once again proved that they are truly the sonic saviors.

Blazing through songs from their godlike debut album, *Ten*, Pearl Jam mesmerized the sold-out crowd. Drummer Dave Abbruzzese and bassist Jeff Ament forged the heaviest groove trail this side of the Grand Canyon. The blues-soaked guitar pyrotechnics of Stone Gossard and Mike McCready were also in fine form, showcased in blazing renditions of "Evenflow" and "Once."

And while Pearl Jam is a group, it was impossible to keep your eyes off of the whirling eye of the storm, singer Eddie Vedder. Mark my words, this guy will change the world. When Vedder opens his mouth, the lion's roar that erupts can move mountains. The crowd helped, singing most of "Alive" for him.

Ending with an incendiary version of Neil Young's "Rockin' In The Free World," the band left, leaving nothing but lots of smiles and sweat in their wake.

— Scott Sterling