



Jeff Ament, Steve Gossard, Mike McCready, Dave Abbruzzese and Eddie Vedder make up Pearl Jam.

# ▶ Pearl Jam sells out gig

By **JONNI GRATTON**

Of the Gazette Staff

**P**EARL JAM, a Seattle grunge band, will make a stop on their U.S. tour in Bozeman Thursday, May 7.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. at the Fairgrounds with Los Angeles' Tribe After Tribe opening. Tickets sold out Wednesday.

Founding member and bass player, Jeff Ament, is a native of Big Sandy. Ament and fellow band-member Stone Gossard (guitar) played together in Green River in the mid-80's. This post-punk cult band recorded three albums on the independent label Sub Pop.

After the breakup of Green River, Ament and Gossard formed Mother Love Bone. The release of their major-label debut "Apple" coincided with the

death of lead singer Andrew Wood who died of a heroin overdose March 19, 1990. "Apple" made the critics "Ten Best" list for that year.

Ament and Gossard decided not to continue on as Mother Love Bone and started a new band, adding Mike McCready on guitar, Dave Abbruzzese on drums and "lead singer-lyricist-surf fiend" Eddie Vedder. The name "Pearl Jam" was arrived at by Vedder whose grandmother made a jam out of peyote which she called pearl jam.

In between Mother Love Bone and Pearl Jam, Ament and Gossard called themselves for a short time "Mookie Blaylock". Avid basketball fans, the band chose New Jersey Nets guard, Blaylock, to carry on the name. After deciding on Pearl Jam and in honor of Blaylock, his jersey number "10" was decided upon as the album name.

Also in between Mother Love Bone and Pearl Jam, the band joined with fellow Seattle grunge-band Soundgarden on a project in memory of Wood called "Temple of the Dog" on A&M. An 11-minute bluesy dirge entitled "Reach Down" highlights the album.

Pearl Jam's first studio venture emerged as "Alive," a three-song Epic promotional sampler cut very fast and virtually live in the studio. It included two original songs, "Alive" and "Wash," and a transcendent cover of the Beatles' "I've Got A Feeling."

The debut release "Ten" followed. Within seven days, the band wrote eleven songs, played a show, and recorded demos for "Ten" which was released in September 1991.

The band is currently on its first tour and while in New York three weeks ago was the musical guest on Saturday night live.