

Pearl Jam might spread concert tour to Spokane

By Jim Kershner
Staff writer

In the words of a Seattle promoter, "it's the biggest rumor in Spokane since the Elvis sightings at Piggly Wiggly."

The rumor, which will be revealed as either fact or fiction sometime this morning, is that a rock act with a huge hit album will play a surprise concert at The Met in Spokane tonight.

All signs are pointing to Pearl Jam, which played a show Wednesday night in Missoula, and which might be seeking a tuneup gig for an

overseas tour.

However, the people who handle Pearl Jam deny any knowledge of a Spokane show. A spokesman for MCA Concerts Northwest said they have taken a number of calls about the Spokane rumor, but they "know nothing about it."

On Wednesday, KEZE-FM (105.7) was promising a major concert announcement between 6 and 10 a.m. in which ticket arrangements would be revealed. Station officials were mum about the identity of the act.

In the past year, Pearl Jam has emerged as the most popular band to come out of the

Seattle grunge scene. The band is probably hot enough to sell out the 750-seat Met 10 times over. That might explain why the concert would be kept secret until the day of the show.

Still, fans shouldn't get their hopes up. Radio stations have been known to stage hoaxes more elaborate than this.

However, a spokesman for MCA Concerts Northwest did have an interesting response when asked, "So, your company knows nothing about it?"

"There you go," he replied.

There you go? A person could take that either way.