

Rumor's true: It's Pearl Jam

America's hottest band to play Civic Center in March

By Troy Moon
News Journal

Pearl Jam, dubbed by Time magazine as "America's newest supergroup," will perform March 9 at the Pensacola Civic Center.

The Seattle band — whose lead singer Eddie Vedder appeared on the cover of Time in October — is touring in support of its second album, "Vs.," which has sold more than 5 million copies since fall.

"I think it will be a remarkable show," said Kim Tully, Civic Center marketing director. "Pearl Jam is the hottest band in America right now. They're selling out everywhere they play in two or three hours. We're thrilled they're coming."

Ticket-buyers likely will be thrilled, too: Tickets are \$19 plus service charges, much less expensive than tickets for less popular bands that have performed recently in the area. Floor seats are general admission. All other seats are

ENTERTAINMENT

IF YOU WANT TO GO

- **What:** Pearl Jam in concert
- **When:** March 9
- **Where:** Pensacola Civic Center
- **Tickets:** \$19, reserved and general admission. Go on sale at 10 a.m. Saturday at area TicketMaster locations.
- **Details:** (800) 488-5252

reserved. Opening bands are L7 and Follow For Now.

People who want to ensure they get their tickets can have their hands stamped from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Friday with a number to mark their place in line. Those who get their hands stamped are asked to

be in line for tickets an hour before tickets go on sale to ensure proper placement.

Pearl Jam originally was lumped together with the grunge movement when they released "Ten" and its hugely popular single "Jeremy." But "Vs." has shown Pearl Jam to be more of an updated classic rock band than many of its flannel-wearing contemporaries.

Pearl Jam, particularly Vedder, has been the center of a huge media blitz over the last year as publications have detailed the band's struggle to keep commercial success from interfering with artistic achievement.

"They've gotten mainstream success, but they deserve it," says fan Kristina Gasca, 19, a University of West Florida student who saw Pearl Jam in New Orleans in November. "They haven't sold out. They're just good. When he (Vedder) sings, he sings like he's actually saying something."



Rebel rocker Eddie Vedder and Jeff Ament, left, will bring Pearl Jam's "Vs." tour to Pensacola.