

AGGIELIFE

THE BATTALION

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Kubrick's final film goes to print

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Details on late director Stanley Kubrick's unfulfilled plans to make a movie about Napoleon will be published in a book next year, his family said.

His wife, Christiane, and her brother, Jan Harlan — the director's executive producer — are assembling the book "Stanley Kubrick's Napoleon — His Greatest Film Never Made." The Hollywood Reporter reported Tuesday. "Napoleon interested Stanley very much because here was a man with a huge talent and tremendous charisma who in the end failed only because of his emotions and vanity," Harlan said.

Kubrick, who died at 70 in March 1999, was obsessed with the project for 30 years, collecting a library of about 18,000 books about the French leader and studying minute details of his life.

Kubrick's film would have chronicled Napoleon from birth to death, Harlan said, and the director assembled a script and thousands of location photographs while preparing for the film as a follow-up to his 1968 sci-fi epic "2001: A Space Odyssey."

But the 1970 film "Waterloo," starring Rod Taylor as Napoleon in the days before the battle, flopped at the box office and Kubrick never got funding for his story.

Pavarotti to sing last show

NEW YORK (AP) — Tenor Luciano Pavarotti has picked a date to sing his last note — on his 70th birthday, Oct. 12, 2005.

He told Connie Chung that he would be busy for two or three more years and then would retire. He said he would not sing again, "not even when I'm taking the shower."

The Italian opera star is also known for his concerts with fellow luminaries Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras, billed as the Three Tenors.

Liquid Youth gets Warped

Upcoming band continues its climb in the music industry by making third appearance on Vans Warped Tour

By Lycia Shrum
THE BATTALION

The stereotypical qualifications which deem you a rock star: a platinum selling album, headlining your own arena tour, groupies (enough said) and the jackpot, signing to a major record label.

So if this grants a band the label "rock star," then how do you classify a band who has sold nearly 1,000 records without major label support, fans who inhale the music like an addictive narcotic, shows in which hundreds of kids survive being wedged in a local club shoulder to shoulder? Quasi-rock stars maybe?

About 70 miles down the road, in a little town called Tomball, are one of these on-the-verge bands, known as Liquid Youth. Kody Kuehn, lead vocals/guitar; Jason Paluska, lead guitar/vocals; Phil Hodges bass; and Justin Koepf, drums, seem to have found that elusive chemistry, that new bands often pray, beg, plead and hope for.

This chemistry, or "quan," as Kuehn once called it, was not easy to come by; sacrifices had to be made. One such sacrifice for Liquid Youth was the plague of a long distance relationship. The fact that Kuehn attends Texas A&M while his counterparts still reside in the Tomball area, doesn't exactly make it easy for commitments such as practice, performing and recording. Kuehn said it's really hard keeping everyone focused and in the same mind frame when each of them are either working or going to school. Kuehn and the rest of the band's frustrations are numerous when trying to deal with only one practice each week. "It's hard to present all of the new stuff in one day," Kuehn said. "It gets frustrating, but you just keep plugging on. Making it up the music chain takes a long time. Never an overnight deal."

Not to mention the fact that the band members waived desires to disperse across the United States after graduating high school.

"We all stuck around to play when we each had ideas to split across the United States to different places for school," Kuehn said. "I'm the only one who is close to graduating and I don't plan on taking off anywhere unless it's for music. I think we have a good thing and we might as well run with it. It could be the only chance we ever get at it."

With half of the band in school and the other half holding down a job, Kuehn said the band as a whole has no intentions of having nine-to-five, Middletown, America, jobs.

"Those jobs may be honest, but it's not what we want to do," Kuehn said. "We just want to play, sell CDs, tour and all that goes along with it."

So Liquid Youth can check "play and sell CDs" off their to-do list and move on to the next, which would be touring. Though the band has yet to score a spot as the opener for a Deftones or Silverchair tour, it seems to be taking all the necessary steps in the right direction.

In 2000, Liquid Youth entered the Ernie Ball Vans Warped Tour Battle of the Bands contest, which would secure the winners a spot on the Houston stop of the Warped Tour.

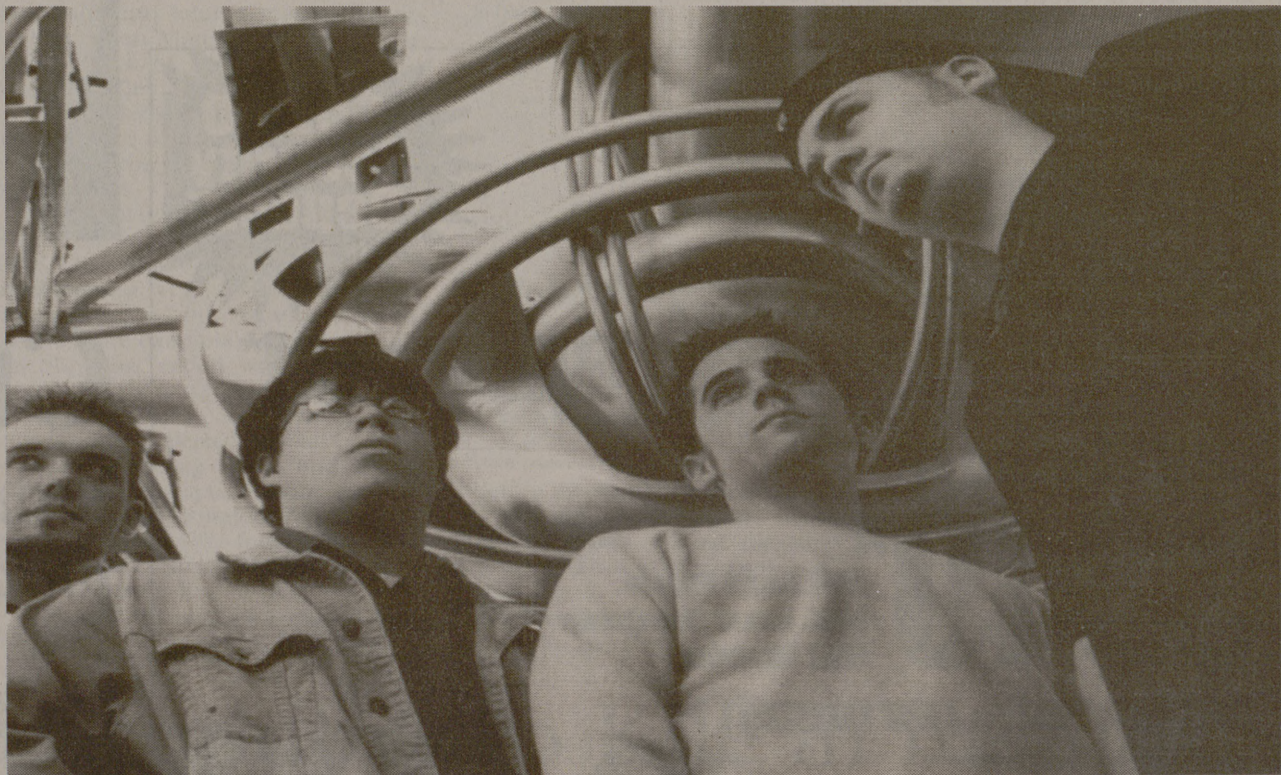


PHOTO COURTESY OF SOLAR FLARE RECORD'S MANAGEMENT

Liquid Youth members from left are, Justin Koepf, drums; Jason Paluska, lead guitar/vocals; Kody Kuehn, lead vocals/guitar; and Phil Hodges, bass are scheduled to appear on the Vans Warped Tour, Saturday, June 29, 2002.

Liquid Youth apparently had a sound that appealed to the masses, because not only did the band earn a spot on the tour in 2000, but also in 2001 and again this year which will be held June 29. This time around, the boys of Liquid Youth may be starting to experience feelings of *deja vu*.

For those not familiar with The Vans Warped Tour, it is one of the infamous summer tours that can be crucial for up-and-coming bands on the cusp of breaking into the mainstream. Not to mention a chance to play alongside bands like New Found Glory, Bad Religion and Thursday. Warped Tour draws fans in who anticipate seeing these headlining bands, but often find themselves indulging in bands on the smaller stages, leaving them with a new-found addiction.

"We didn't think that anyone would be watching for us little up-and-coming bands when the main attraction were these huge touring bands," Kuehn said. "But it was the first time I really felt like I accomplished anything musically, and we were finally getting recognition for what we do."

For some, the Liquid Youth addiction is already familiar territory. The band has been successful in the Houston scene at attracting hoards of kids to show after show. Kuehn said it is the fans who are important factors in the feeling of accomplishment. The fans, who make it a point to see the guys live while singing their Liquid Youth lovin' little hearts out at the shows, are really the ones that can make the band

feel appreciated.

As the kids are taking time to make a connection with the band, the band is unconsciously pulling the kids heartstrings as well. Kuehn recalled a time when one fan made a special request to hear their song "Faye," which had helped him through a tough breakup. Aside from the band's ability to provide therapy through their songs, Kuehn emphasized the message Liquid Youth brings is positive, which provides a balance for the band's more aggressive sounds.

"Everyone is f—d up in their own little ways," Kuehn said. "We may not like to be flawed, but it's just accepting the fact that you're not perfect. But at the same time, not to use that as a crutch for every wrong you do."

Whether or not every kid is taking that message home with them, it no doubt the kids and the band are making some sort of connection.

"To me, the most rad thing I see when we play is the die-hard kids who come to all the shows and know all the words to every song," Kuehn said. "These kids have seen us at our worst and at our very best. Those are the kids that really take the time to tap into our lives."

Achievements are plenty for Liquid Youth, and the end is nowhere in sight.

With Warped Tour being one of Liquid Youth's most tangible accomplishments, it inevitably may be a milestone in the band's journey to becoming a commodity in the competitive music industry.

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