

Robert Cray Band will perform at Hult Center

By Layne Lakefish
Emerald Entertainment Editor

It's not very often that someone starts playing music in a little campus tavern and ends up making it big — but Robert Cray did.

For him, it all started in Eugene's own Taylors, 894 E. 13th. "He's originally from Tacoma, but Eugene is where everything really took off for him," said Mike Cohen, general manager for Double Tee, the promotion company handling local Cray concerts.

This college-town beginning put Cray on the road to success — a road that led him to a life of concert tours and frequent album recording.

And this Tuesday at 8 p.m., he's coming back "home."

Cray, his four-man band, and the Memphis Horns will perform in the Hult Center's Silva Concert Hall. Opening the show will be Portland's The Lloyd Jones Struggle.

The Robert Cray Band, on tour since Nov. 27, will bring the Hult Center to life with many of the songs from their latest album, entitled *Midnight Stroll*.

As with previous albums, the newest continues

to carry the musical themes of fractured commitments and heartbreak.

The band was always given credit for helping revive blues music, but the latest album features more rock and soul.

Not to worry, however, if Cray's blues sounds are what you're after. "They'll play a lot from their newest album along with a bunch of the older hits," Cohen said. "He puts on a really good show, straight ahead, with rhythm, blues and pop."

"There's no flash. It's just a good concert."

The recent fusion of the Cray band and The Memphis Horns adds yet another dimension to the sound. "The Memphis Horns are a great addition to his sound," Cohen said.

When Cray was first starting out, Double Tee Promotions managed him. Today, the long-standing relationship continues.

"He's the most amiable, friendly guy," Cohen said. "He's very soft-spoken. With Robert Cray, what you see is what you get, and that's what comes through in his concerts."

"There's no ego to get in the way," he said.

Tickets, for \$18 and \$19, can be purchased by calling the Hult Center box office at 687-5000.



Courtesy photo
The Robert Cray Band and The Memphis Horns, on stage at the Hult Center's Silva Concert Hall Dec. 11, are on tour promoting the new *Midnight Stroll* album.

Pietro's goes with physics.

SANTA CLARA 2620 RIVER ROAD 688-2222

CAMPUS 20 E 18TH 342-2323

FREE DELIVERY FROM OUR NEW P.D.Q. DELIVERY STORES (LIMITED AREAS)

\$3 Off Any Large Pizza

Or

\$2 Off Any Medium Pizza

Coupon good for offer above. Not good with any other offer or with HearthStyle. Expires 12/23/90

customer signature / phone #

LARGE PIZZA, FOR MEDIUM PRICE

Bring this coupon to Pietro's and get any Large Pizza for the price of the same pizza in a Medium size. Not good with any other offer or HearthStyle. Expires 12/23/90

\$9.99 Dinner for two

Any 10" Single Topping Thin Crust Pizza,
2 All-You-Can-Eat Salads,
2 Medium Soft Drinks.

Bring this coupon to Pietro's for the offer above. Not good with any other offer or HearthStyle. Expires 12/23/90

Pietro's Pizza
"Your Great Northwest Family Pizza Place."

Pietro's Pizza
"Your Great Northwest Family Pizza Place."

Pietro's Pizza
"Your Great Northwest Family Pizza Place."

Other Pietro's locations open 11AM daily 4006 Franklin Blvd • 1011 Valley River Rd • 1600 Coburg Rd • 3540 West 11th

Presley's Graceland to get even flashier

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The displays of sparkling jumpsuits, gold records and shiny motorcycles at Elvis Presley's house are about to get a bit flashier, managers of the estate said Thursday.

Tom Parker, who directed Presley's career for 30 years, has sold his personal collection of rock 'n' roll memorabilia to the residence known as Graceland.

The collection includes about 70,000 pounds of business documents, photographs, clothes, newsreels and other items, Graceland managers said.

It also includes more gold records, acetate recordings of Presley's early studio work and promotional tapes of Elvis messages passed out to radio stations in the early days of the singer's career.

One acetate recording is of Presley's first appearance on the "Louisiana Hayride" radio show in 1954.

Presley's famous gold lame suit will join his other outfits on display at Graceland, as will the 1976 Cadillac he gave Parker as a present.

The gold suit will go on display in January during annual festivities surrounding Presley's birthday.

Jim Jaworowicz, Graceland's specialist for rock 'n' roll artifacts, said the collection covers Parker's 65 years as a music promoter and offers a clear paper trail on the business side of creating a star.

"It's so well kept, it's like a time capsule from the 50s," Jaworowicz said.

Parker, 81, who generally avoids reporters, said he had several would-be buyers for the collection, including an eager Japanese bidder who offered the top price.

Parker, known as Col. Tom Parker or just "the

colonel," said he wanted the collection at Graceland. He said he expects there to be an "Elvis and the Colonel" museum at Graceland one day.

"Someday when I'm not around, it will always be 'Elvis and the Colonel,'" Parker said by telephone from his residence near Nashville.

Jack Soden, executive director of the Graceland Division of Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc., would not reveal the purchase price for the collection. Neither would Parker.

Graceland, which draws more than 600,000 visitors annually, already includes extensive displays of clothes, vehicles and mementos that once belonged to Presley. The estate also has a 36,000-square-foot shopping center devoted primarily to Elvis souvenirs.

After racking his body by drug abuse, Presley died at Graceland in 1977. He was 42.

Parker said there was nothing he could do to keep Presley from abusing drugs.

"He did it on his own. You could not tell Elvis what to do," he said. "He made his own decisions and you could not change them."

Parker said he was unaware of Presley's drug use when it began.

"I found out later that Elvis told the boys, 'Don't tell the colonel,'" Parker said.

Parker, who has been involved in legal disputes with the Presley estate over the years, said he was pleased for his name to become a bigger part of the Elvis displays at Graceland.

"No one but myself and Elvis and his father knew how close we were," Parker said.

Don't give up the search! Try LOST AND FOUND in the classified section.

