

Fully fueled rock band Rush riding 'Vapor Trails'

• **Rush** — 8 tonight at Polaris Amphitheater, 2200 Polaris Parkway (1-800-779-8499)

Geddy Lee, Alex Lifeson and Neil Peart have been playing together as Rush for more than 30 years. Unlike the Chicagos, the Guess Whos and the Styxes of the world, the Canadian power trio isn't a total nostalgia trip.

The group will play the hits, but a new studio album, *Vapor Trails*, is the reason for the tour. The album's songs — bottom-heavy, layered and full of vivid lyrics — are keyboard-free this time around. It's back to the truly three-man band approach, with Rush displaying an intensity level on par with groups that play the thickest-sounding hard rock.

There will be no opening act. Tickets cost \$29.50 to \$65 at Ticketmaster and the Polaris box office.

• **Howlin' Maggie** — 10 tonight in Oldfield's on High, 2590 N. High St. (614-784-0477)

The current version of Howlin' Maggie — Harold Chichester, Lance Ellison, Christian Hurd and Michael Horrigan — will perform its last-ever show in Columbus tonight.

The first 30 people through the door will receive a "vintage" Howlin' Maggie T-shirt.

The final-final Howlin' Maggie shows will take place Friday in Cincinnati and Saturday in Louisville.

Band leader Chichester plans to spend time recording his own songs. The singer-guitarist-keyboardist-drummer-songwriter also plans to contribute to the next *Twilight Singers* CD (which also features *Twilight Singers* Whigs singer Greg Dulli) and to the next record by Seattle's Shawn Smith.

The Townsfolk also will perform. Admission is \$6.

• **Hezekiah Walker & the Love**

291-8856)

In the past decade and beyond, Watershed has played many a club, concert hall, outdoor stage, parking lot, restaurant — you name it. Before the Columbus trio plays at Skully's, it is scheduled to perform at 9 p.m. at the Mansfield Reformatory, then haul the hepped-up, hook-laden rock down I-71 to the northern reaches of the Short North.

Watershed — bassist Joe Oestreich, guitarist Colin Gawel and drummer Dave Masica — released its latest album, *The More It Hurts the More It Works*, earlier this summer. Hear it on the Blitz (WBZZ, 99.7 FM) and CD 101 (WWCD, 101.1 FM), and find it in area record stores, or any of the "stores" on the Internet.

Admission is \$5.

• **Michael W. Smith** — 7 p.m. Monday in the Celeste Center, Ohio State Fairgrounds, 717 E. 17th Ave. (1-888-646-3976; 614-644-3247)

Smith provides music more wholesome than a bowl of Total bran flakes and safer than a Volvo station wagon. The former keyboardist for Amy Grant is an accomplished Christian singer-songwriter and has won troves of Dove and Grammy awards.

Tickets cost \$10 at Ticketmaster and the state fair box office.

• **Ted Nugent** — 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Celeste Center, Ohio State Fairgrounds, 717 E. 17th Ave. (1-888-646-3976; 614-644-3247)

As nutty as the inside of a Snickers bar, the Nuge takes back (and animal skins) back to the cave with his devolutionary appeal. Ted Nugent is an older, well-armed forefather to Andrew W.K., who, like the Nuge, doesn't need drink or drugs to party hard.

Building from his Web site, the



FILE PHOTOS

The Canadian power trio Rush will perform tonight at Polaris.



Tickets, please

ON SALE NOW

► **Styles (of the Lox)** (S the Big Easy)

► **H2O** (Tuesday, Newport Hall)

► **Olivia Newton-John w/ Columbus Symphony Or** (Sept. 10, Ohio Theatre)

► **The Righteous Brothers** 15, Palace Theatre)

► **Eddie Miles: "A Salute to Elvis"** (Sept. 21, Capitol in the Riffe Center)

► **Fall Hookahville '02: Hookah, Galactic, War,** the (Aug. 30-Sept. 1, Fro Ranch)

► **Kirk Franklin, Yolanda Donnie McClurkin** (Oct. ans Memorial)

► **Carrot Top** (Oct. 9, Ohio)

► **Doo Wop Graffiti on To** 12, Ohio Theatre)

ON SALE 10 A.M. TODAY

► **The Classic Comedy B** (Oct. 4, Hyatt Regency Un Ballroom)

► **The Classic Spiritual E** sion (Oct. 5, Columbus Athenaeum)

CANCELED

► **Billy Ray Cyrus** (tonight, moWest Pavilion)

► **Michael Feinstein & Isr Philharmonic Orchestra** (, 20, Value City Arena)

All are subject to change. Informa Ticketmaster 614-431-3600, www master.com

Source: Ticketmaster

Chad Kroeger's goldilocks perm, things might just ti well for these guys. Epidemic also will play