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Stares to Perform at Celebration

"The Stares" will rock Studio I at the Hult at 11 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 2, as part of The Eugene Celebration. Entertainment in Studio I begins at 1 p.m. and concludes at 1:30 a.m. and is co-sponsored by KZEL Radio. There will be two sessions and each will cost 96¢. The first session is 1-7 p.m., with the second session 7:45 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Formed in 1982 in Eugene, "The Stares" retained the music core of the band, "Reflex" and added the talents of performing vocalist, Laura Angelini. Born

in New York City, Angelini has been singing since the age of five.

Music of the group features original music, as well as a full list of current rock music.

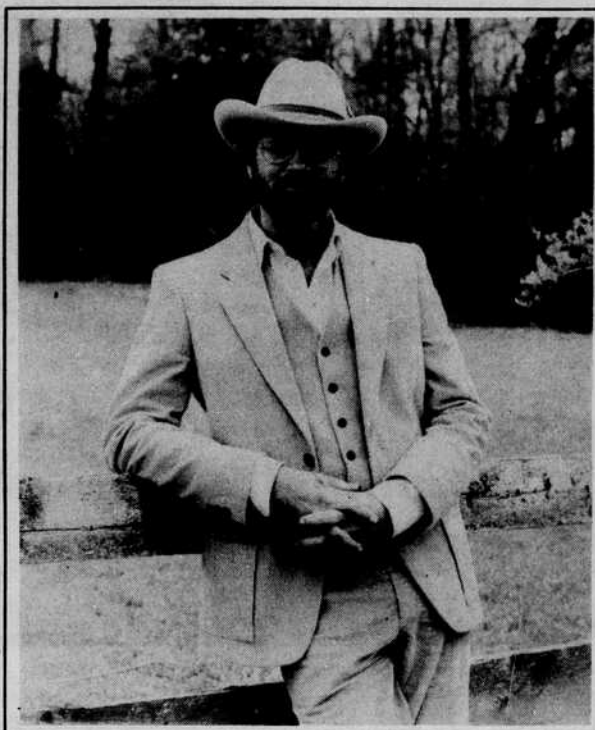
Alan Bosworth, formerly of the Bosworth Brothers, recently joined the group. Bosworth, from Medford, has played with rock bands since 1973. Others in the group include: Dave Mischak, guitarist, songwriter and vocalist; Marc Gottshall, guitarist, songwriter and vocalist; and Phil Morgan, bassist, songwriter and vocalist.

Country-Western/ Folk Artist Bill Staines

Bill Staines, the most-requested guest on *A Prairie Home Companion* (according to host Garrison Keillor), is finally coming to Eugene! (Following a W.O.W. Hall swing by PHC regulars The Butch Thompson Trio last week, one would think that Eugene were St. Paul's sister city, and not Minneapolis.) In the Twin Cities, Staines plays to sellout crowds and S.R.O. extra shows in addition to his PHC appearances, and the same is true wherever he has been before; by word of mouth, the message is spread that this is a very special performer.

A singer and songwriter of extraordinary gifts, champion yodeler and deft left-handed guitarist, Staines has gained wide respect and admiration among fellow folk musicians, yet is not widely known in the Northwest. When Mary McCaslin and Jim Ringer were here in May, Mary told me that "Bill Staines has the greatest stage presence of anyone on the road today," and husband Jim has recorded one of Staines' songs, *Roseville Fair*, on his latest album. Having released six albums and a songbook with over fifty of his best tunes, Staines is slowly gaining recognition, and such songs as *My Sweet Wyoming Home*, *Rodeo Rose*, *The Black Fly Song*, and the children's classic *All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir* are creeping into the national consciousness.

Staines' material captures the tenderness, humor, spirit, and wisdom of a keen observer of life, and his songs are, well—lovely. Although his songwriting ability has earned him a hallowed niche in contemporary folk music, it is a curious "extra" talent which gains him the most notoriety: his yodeling.



Bill Staines will perform at the WOW Hall, Tuesday, Oct. 4, at 8:30 p.m.

The winner of the National Yodeling Championship in Texas two years ago, Staines has mastered not only the relatively simple "blue yodel" of country-western music, popularized by Jimmie Rodgers and Hank Williams, but has gone beyond any American yodeler, into the vocal gymnastics of the Alpine yodel as well.

Hailing from New Hampshire, Staines, thirty-six, spends close to 300 days of the year on the road, from where many of his songs originate—songs of rodeos and cowboys, of rivers and highways, of travel and home, and of loves lost and found. On writing love songs, Staines says, "A really good song about love is hard to write. Perhaps this is because when one is feeling good about love, there is little time for writing, and when love is not going well, the writing may become too emotional."

Unlike many performers who have "made it," he still ventures into the small towns and byways for performances, recently touring the small outposts of Alaska, for example, and his western songs have a ring of authenticity that only comes from being there. He seems to place a higher value on what the places he visits have to offer him in terms of material or experiences, rather than bucks.

In his nearby Boston, a *Boston Globe* readers' poll ranked him in the top three among area folk performers, tying him with James Taylor, Tom Rush and Bonnie Raitt. Curiously, only 120 miles away in Maine, where I lived before moving here, Staines is as relatively unknown as he is in the Northwest. Fans of the finest in folk music are advised not to miss this first-ever appearance of the tall, bearded fellow from New Hampshire, Bill Staines.

Staines will appear at the Community Center for the Performing Arts (W.O.W. Hall) at 8th Avenue and Lincoln St., on Tuesday, October 4th at 8:30 p.m. Tickets (\$3 advance, \$4 day of show) are available at the W.O.W. Hall, the EMU Main Desk at the University, House of Records and Balladeer Folk Music.

—Tom Hall

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