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Guide to Local Arts, Entertainment & Events

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Taylor's Tavern will welcome the newest purveyors of the Cajun swamp sound Tuesday, August 25.

Mamou

Unlike the recent glut of rock 'n' roll bands riding the wave of swamp-chic, this three piece outfit actually grew up in the bayou country. In fact, their name is drawn from their hometown of Mamou, Louisiana.

Already a hit on the east coast, Mamou is now touring the country and winning over audiences with their two-step adaptations of old classics (they do a killer, up-to-date version of Hank Williams' "Jambalaya") and rockin' originals.

Although their recent successes have included exposure on MTV's "The Cutting Edge" and at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the members of Mamou only lately realized that Cajun music was the stuff for them. Each of them was trying to be different from the country folk that were all around them and all wanted to be rock 'n' roll

stars. It took years of bashing their heads against the unyielding rock market and the positive responses from audiences when they occasionally threw in a Cajun number, to realize that their best bet was right under their noses. "I always liked it," said bassist/vocalist Steve LaFleur, "I wanted to be a rebel, a long haired rocker from Mamou who wasn't like everybody else. I realized that while trying to be different, I was molding myself like everybody else was across America." From that realization to the pre-

sent, the band has stuck to their roots with great success.

Joining LaFleur in Mamou are guitarist Wayne Aguilard (he plays bayou accordion riffs on his Stratocaster!) and drummer Tony Soileu. All are highly accomplished vocalists and harmonize beautifully together.

Opening for Mamou will be popular local dance group, The Steve Smith Band. Led by Boulder, Colorado transplant Steve Smith on guitar and vocals, this four-piece group covers a range of styles including jazz/rock fusion and rhythm and blues. Music will begin at 9:30 pm; admission will be \$3.00 at the door.

—Dennis Fitzgerald



20 Aug 1987