

What's HAPPENING

Guide to Local Arts, Entertainment & Events

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ZASU PITTS

MEMORIAL ORCHESTRA



Doors open at 9 pm and the show begins at 9:30 pm. Twenty-one and over please. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$10 the day of the show and are available at the Eugene Hilton Front Desk, the EMU Main Desk, Balladeer Music in the 5th Street Market and the Bon in Roseburg.



A contest will be held to determine the best all-around costume. The Grand Prize winner will receive a weekend in San Francisco for two including accommodations and round-trip air fare on PSA.



Second prize is an Alcove Suite and Sunday Brunch for two at the Eugene Hilton. Third prize is a gift certificate for \$50 of service in the Encore Dining Room.

by Lucia McKelvey

The Pitts are coming back. How many of you danced your buns off last time they were here and have been waiting for their return ever since?

This time we get to get all costumed up and really make a night of it. Some say Halloween in Eugene is like New Year's Eve anywhere else! Eugeneans usually pull out all the stops when it comes to celebrating the night special to witches and wizards.

What's Happening, KZAM, the Eugene Hilton and Fran Again Productions are bringing the Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra from San Francisco, the "hottest ticket" in town, to

ensure that we all have a soulful Halloween.

Motown is their inspiration and entertainment their motivation. The Pitts' big sound comes from a horn section, multiple keyboards, two drummers and a percussionist. Their "old fashioned soul revue" also includes back-up singers and dancers.

Started in 1983 by Steve Ashman, he says the 50's and 60's songs they love to play are "intelligently written. The lyrics are really emotional and they get to the guts of the matter. But the music is so infectious on the physical level that you just have to dance. And that's why I love it."

The band's name came from the film comedienne Zasu Pitts who starred in movies in the 40's and TV in the 50's. The band regularly

sells out all over San Francisco and the west coast. They started out for fun, but when they substituted for a cancelled act in '83, they became an overnight success.

The band re-formed in 1986 and of the old members only Ashman remains. Their R & B sound and popularity live on. Says Ashman, "We're sort of the band that if you had a neighborhood party—and the parents were away and all the kids got together—we're the band you would have at that party. . . That idea, that excitement, being able to let go and have a good time—that's really what it is to me."

Opening the evening's entertainment will be

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