



Photo by Mark Pynes

The Xplorers, a local band specializing in the rock'n'roll sounds of the Chuck Berry/Little Richard era, will play at Max's on Sept. 19.

A bar-band boogie guide

By DONALD COULTER
Of the Emerald

Eugene has a lot to offer for a city of its size — unless you are a fan of live music. Because big-name concerts are far and few between, rock'n'roll fans crowd the local bars and clubs to satisfy their listening needs.

There is an ever-present glut of bands on the bar scene in Eugene, with new ones popping up every so often to replace the groups that just couldn't make it. It's easy to spend a good deal of money on cover charges and booze while trying to weed out the talent, so here is a look at some of the better (and more accessible) acts:

Listening to THE XPLORES is a bit like going through an encyclopedia of rock'n'roll music. Their repertoire includes the early rock'n'roll sounds of Chuck Berry, Little Richard and Eddie Cochrane along with rockabilly, blues and a few Motown tunes from the middle-1960s. They perform this collage of music with a unique verve, avoiding the trap of re-

hashing older music as if it were nostalgia.

Xplorers' John Barley and Henry Cooper are both talented guitarists as well as strong lead singers, and Cooper is one of

the better harp players in town. Unfortunately, drummer Looie Samora recently moved to Texas, taking with him a lot of the group's cohesiveness and their

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