

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

## After the first dreaded week of school, prepare for a celebration as WOW Hall takes music one step further Sonic Expiosion

for improved media image, alternative

music is slowly but surely crawling out

small, isolated house parties or base-

'Where we used to hear them solely at

from under the rock.

By Ming Rodrigues

Brace yourself for a sonic explosion at the WOW Hall tonight

Five of Eugene's best alternative bands are set to rock centerstage with sounds so unique, they might just blast all commercial music junkies well off the straight and narrow track.

The non-profit organizer, the Community Center for the Performing Arts, is confident about it. "That's why we billed this concert, 'Sonic Explosion'," said Kathy Molloy, WOW Hall's office manager. "We're not talking of just one kind of music. There's fast and slow, traditional and far-left music that together sounds basically like, well, a sonic explosion."

All the performing bands are local with signature tunes that obviously span a wide melodic spectrum. One can expect

beat rhythms to, get this, electric bed springs, garbage cans and air-conditioner ducts, just to name a few alternative mu-

'We want to showcase what's hot in alternative music and that what we have is just as cool as what's in in the larger cities of L.A. and Seattle." Molloy added. "More significantly, we want Eugenians to realize that local bands are just as good if not better than the bigger, more popu-

'We want to stamp out the lame and unfair stigma that local bands have to bear being far less accomplished than their other more celebrated counterparts. This concert is to let everyone know that great music is closer to home than they realize. The music is definitely loud, electric, hi-energy and very danceable. Not for the faint of heart!'

ments, alternative music (anything that's non-mainstream, non-commercial, noncorporate and non-sponsorship) is now receiving more exposure, accessibility and hence popularity." Molloy said. "Consumers who have always wanted music they could align themselves with are gradually coming to realize the scope is wider than they imagined it to be," she added. "Especially here in Eugene, where, unlike a big city where the pressure is on to fit into one sound mode, the community here is a diverse and tight knit college town, allowing for a range of musical talents and a better opportunity to explore various interesting styles."

Featured in tonight's concert are a mix of up-and-coming as well as more established bands.

Now William, a promising quartet with its unique fiddle and bass leads, sounds like a cross between Camper Van Beethoven and The Cult, fusing country twang with eastern drone.

The trio, Marble Orchard, play sixties, psychedelic garage music while the Black Dahlias bash out rock 'n' roll that's a lot more personal and in the tradition of Snake Pit, but with less of the pomp and strut typical of groups like the Big Dad-

And for those partial to the stock, "collegey" tunes of Dinosaur Junior or Buffalo Tom, there's Prairie School,

Definitely a band to look out for for both an aural and visual feast is Onomat opoeia. Employing the aid of pots'n'pans, a harp, a blender, garbage cans, electric

Now William, a quartet which includes both fiddle and bass, will also be performing at WOW Hall tonight.

bed springs and a contraption of ten guitar peddles hammered onto a board, they manipulate their strange equipment to create a series of weird and wonderful rhythms and noise-music that absolutely defies description.

Set up to coincide with the Eugene Celebration and the new University term, the two day concert performed it's first segment last Friday to an enthusiastic turn out. More college students are anticipated

"We want everyone to have a good time and nobody should worry about not being old enough to get in. Just come, re-lax and enjoy the music," Molloy said.

This season's gig tripled last year's in scale. The previous year's performance

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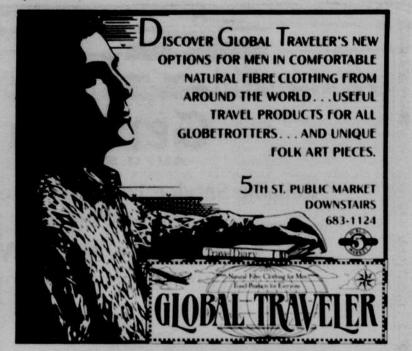
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featured five bands and lasted only a day. This year, there are ten groups performing in two nights. And the morale is

"There's more of a community feel about it this time," Molloy said. "Instead of competing and just doing their own thing, the bands and everyone else who is involved have gotten together to pull this show through, working as one to perk up publicity. Things are better and smoother this year and it's nice to know that the bands have come this far in knowing one another better and are friends instead of

Doors open at 9 p.m. and tickets are \$5 at the door. All ages welcome, beverages will be available, and alcohol is available



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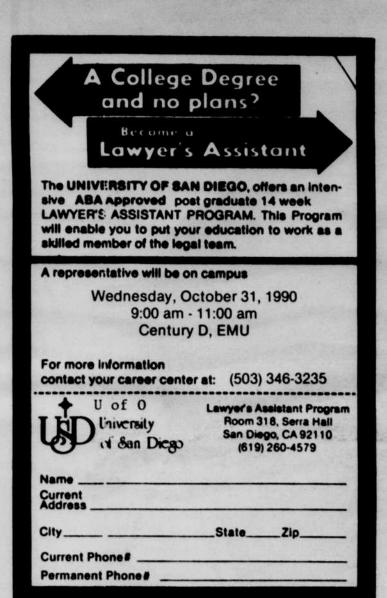


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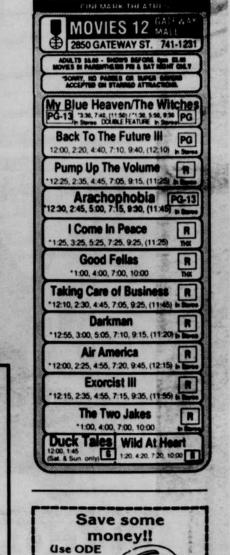
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Performing at WOW tonight are The Black Dahlias. Band members from left to

right; Brett Christopher, Patrick Yonally, Marshall Greenup and Eugene











Box Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.,

Sat. 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

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