

# Doin' It Dub Style

## Portland's Dub Squad to light up concert hall with worldbeat wonder

By Ming Rodrigues  
Emerald Contributor

Their music is as universal as they are. It's not quite reggae, but a hybrid sound that melds reggae with a little bit of jazz, funk, Tex-Mex, Afropop, rock and rhythm and blues.

Little wonder when each band member can boast broad and impressive musical credits that include performances with industry heavyweights such as Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Hancock and the Dan Reed Network.

And the kudos continue to flow as a group. The band has shared centerstage with the

likes of Ziggy Marley, UB40 and Jimmy Cliff, and all within just three years after coming together.

As one of Oregon's most popular reggae/worldbeat bands, it's pretty clear that Dub Squad's cross-cultural approach scores high. Its upbeat, international sound reaches out to a varied audience.

"Where some people might get bored with just straight reggae, we add more color and ethnic flair to our sound, and what we have is high-energy, very danceable music with broad appeal," said band manager Tony Hansen.

"The underlying reggae

roots are there, we just spice it up a little so more people can appreciate it," added Newell Briggs, the band's guitarist and composer as well as a former member of Curtis Salgado and the Stiletos.

Lead vocalist Alan Alexander, who's toured with Sheila E., is not sure, however, that the word happy should be used to describe their music. "I think some of the lyrics are pretty serious, but it's kind of like we put sugar on the medicine and make it a little easier to swallow," he said.

The title of their latest album, *Tonic of the People*, gets the band's philosophy across. "It's about music as a healer,"

Briggs said. "The songs in this album talk of how music is a tonic, how it can uplift you and get you out of the blues, and it makes you realize that there's hope in life."

Dub is an indigenous Jamaican term. While British and American artists backup singles with a different song on the flip side, Jamaican musicians run through the effects of a song with reverberation, echo and heavy percussion to create a similar version of the original song.

Aside from the traditional definition, the Dub Squad takes its name from a studio

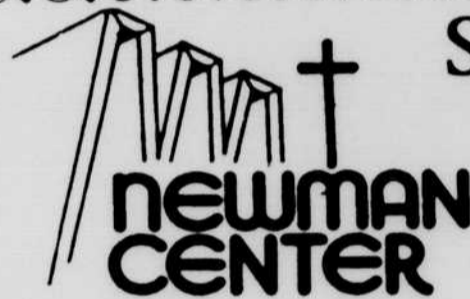
technique they have perfected which involves "dropping down" on the bass and drums to lend a jazzy feel to the song.

The band does consider itself alternative. "By that I don't mean a bunch of guys playing loud guitars," Alexander said. "But if you look at the music industry, you'll see that they are really supportive of alternative rock."

Dub Squad will perform with Black Roses tonight at the WOW Hall, 291 W. Eighth Ave., at 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 in advance at the EMU Main Desk or \$7 at the door.



Courtesy photo  
Dub Squad, a danceable reggae band, will perform at the WOW Hall tonight.



## ST. THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY PARISH CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER

1850 EMERALD STREET EUGENE, OREGON 97403  
343-7021

### SPECIAL HAPPENINGS:

**MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP** meets every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

A **STUDENT MASS** is celebrated every Wednesday at 9:00 p.m. starting **Wednesday, January 8**. A social gathering will follow.

Would you like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? Come to the first meeting on Sunday, January 12 at 6:00 p.m.

The first meeting of the **NEWMAN CLUB**, an organization for students run by students, will be held on Sunday, January 12 at 8:30 p.m.

A **BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY** is held on Mondays, starting **Monday, January 13 at 12:30 p.m. at the Century Room D at EMU**. Fr. Albert and John Gunther will lead the bible sharing.

The **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults** for those who are seriously interested to become a Catholic Christian will continue on Sundays at 6:15 p.m. starting **Sunday, January 12**.

**Fr. Tom Kirkendoll** of Cincinnati, OH will be the guest speaker at all the weekend Masses remembering Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday on Sat/Sun., January 18/19.

A 6-week series on **RELIGION AND CINEMA** will start on Monday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. Fr. Jose will lead a discussion after the movies.

**SOCIAL ISSUES FORUM:** A panel presentation on "The Influence of the Media in Decision-Making on Social Issues" will be held on Wednesday, January 22 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Members of the panel are: Don Bishoff (Register Guard), Jean Powell (KEZI), Carl Bybee (Assoc. Prof at UofO), and Alan Siporin (KLCC).

### SPECIAL HAPPENINGS:

A 4-part series on **CHRISTIAN MORALITY** will start on Monday, January 27 at 7:00 p.m. Fr. Albert will lead the series.

**STUDENTS - do you need a quiet place to study, read or just relax? Come to the Newman Center's lounge.** It is open from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**GET INVOLVED IN THE CATHOLIC NEWMAN COMMUNITY**  
NOTE: Students' activities, classes and workshops are planned throughout the year. Check Newman Center's Sunday Bulletin and the Et Al (Emerald) for what's happening at the Center or call 343-70231.

### MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday:  
5:00 p.m.

Sunday:

9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Monday thru Friday:

5:10 p.m. Evening Prayer followed by Mass.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY:  
STUDENT MASS AT 9:00 P.M.**

### STAFF:

Fr. Albert Felice-Pace, O.P., Pastor

Fr. Jose Pimentel, O.P.

Sr. Janet Ryan, SNJM

Gene Obersinner & Chris Fery,

Peer Ministers

Nancy Nelson, Secretary

Gene Obersinner, Chelsea House Mgr

For more information call the Center at 343-7021 or 346-4468  
The CATHOLIC PARISH serving the University of Oregon since 1915.