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# L7 hits with heavy bricks

By Jake Berg  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

L7 are heavy. Heavier than all those Guns N' Roses wannabes. Heavier than this new techno crap. Heavier than life. If all groups rocked as hard as L7, we wouldn't have to call it alternative music anymore. "Alternative" would no longer mean better-than-the-rest-of-the-crap-kids-are-buying-these-days. Rock would once again be rock.

And L7 would be queens of this male-dominated world.

Women. Whoa, heavy.

Girls will be girls, and girls will be better than boys, as L7 has largely proven with their latest release, *Bricks are Heavy*.

The first ladies of heavy metal, hard rock, alternative music or whatever you want to call it, bring their act to the EMU Ballroom Wednesday, April 7, at 8 p.m. Tickets are still available at \$13.50 for University students and \$15.50 for the general public.

L7 are traveling behind *Bricks*, the

band's big-label debut on Slash Records. The album lives up to its name.

Mixed with cynicism, sarcasm and a dash of humor, the album nevertheless is deadly serious, emphasized by the tight sound of a chorus of guitars. The group attacks issues such as war, takes a swipe at the country and throws its fist in the air for women's rights, which L7 has greatly advocated.

Prior to *Bricks*, the group began in 1985 and, after going through several personnel changes, released a well-received album, *Smell the Magic*, on Seattle's Sub Pop label in 1990.

L7's two opening acts — Love Battery and 7-Year Bitch — are currently on Sub Pop, having both come from Seattle.

All three acts are sure to make for a physical show Wednesday, but then again, these days even Whitney Houston could get a crowd in this country to slam dance.

But what Whitney doesn't have (OK, Bobby Brown doesn't count here) is heavy sound. Heavier than bricks, even.



Left to right: Donita Sparks, Dee Plakas, Jennifer Finch and Suzi Gardner of L7, which headlines a show with two other Seattle all-female bands, Love Battery and 7-Year Bitch, Wednesday night.



Taj Mahal (above) and local blues artist Walker T. Ryan bring a double feature of legendary blues to the WOW Hall Sunday.

## Double Trouble

Blues legend Taj Mahal and local blues artist Walker T. Ryan will appear at the WOW Hall Sunday.

Two shows are slated, a 3:30 matinee and an 8:30 evening show, for what has become an annual blues event in Eugene. Tickets are available at the EMU Main Desk, the House of Records and the door.

Since first appearing in the 1960s, Taj Mahal has released 22 albums and has toured continually while promoting his own idiosyncratic blend of blues, jazz, folk, country, gospel, rock and reggae music.

Known as one of America's elder blues statesmen, Mahal uses a musical method of personalized mutation as he twists the blues into less frequently heard forms by slowing down rockers, transposing guitar tunes to piano and generally remaking the songs in his own image.

"The only thing that matters is to give the music all of your personality you can get into it," Mahal said. "It's got to come from deep inside you to really mean anything. If you try to sing the songs the way everybody else does you may be entertaining, but you're not really sharing yourself or your experiences. You have to sing your life if you expect your music to affect anybody else's."

Self-taught master of more than a dozen instruments, Taj Mahal is also an accomplished writer, arranger and actor.

Eugene's Walker T. Ryan is recognized as "one of the finest Country Blues artists this side of the Mississippi," according to BluesNotes. His skilled guitar picking, expressive singing and dynamic style is heavily influenced by the great blues players and reflects his desire to absorb the feel of the blues and not merely imitate.

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Contact Immediately: Nancy Miller, Counselor  
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please respond no later than April 9

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**JOB OPPORTUNITY  
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Vacancies are anticipated for the 1993-94 Academic year at the Carson/Earl/Walton Area Desk, Hamilton/Bean Area Desk and The University Inn/Riley Area Desk.

**JOB OPENING:** Fall Term 1993 continuing through Spring Term 1994. Applicants must be able to commit to working the entire 1993-94 academic year. Training will begin Spring Term 1993. Job descriptions are attached to applications.

**COMPENSATION:** Campus single room and board credit and a cash stipend of \$1710.00 (9 equal payments). An hourly rate of \$5.15 will be paid during the training period.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Preference will be given to qualified individuals with U of O Housing experience. The Senior Desk Assistant works an average of 20 hours per week, divided between desk and supervisory duties. The Senior Desk Assistant must live in the U of O residence halls and be registered for a minimum of 8 undergraduate or 1 graduate credit hour(s). Candidates must have an accumulative GPA of 2.5 and received at least a 2.25 last term.

**APPLICATIONS:** Applications are available at all Area Desks and at the University Housing front desk and are due back to any Area Desk or the University Housing front desk, no later than Noon, Wednesday, April 7, 1993. Applications may be screened on the basis of their quality and only completed applications will be guaranteed consideration.

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