

MUSIC

Energetic Jambay brings their eclectic music to the WOW

By Les Zaczek
Freelance Reporter

Eclectic, diverse and beyond definition are some of the words that come to mind while one listens to Jambay's music. *Madness*, Jambay's newest release is packed with energy, spontaneity and a wide spectrum of sounds, ranging from rock, funk and jazz to acoustic and folk.

Best of all, Jambay is embarking on a tour, which will include a stop at one of their pinnacle venues — the WOW Hall — on Oct. 20, said Matt Butler, the drummer and vocalist.

Jambay is known for their live performances and life on the road is rewarding.

"[But] it can turn you into a maniac," Butler said. "You have

little time for your own thoughts. If you do it for too long without a break, you won't survive."

When it comes to recording, Jambay has released all their albums on their own label. But the band will be happy to sign a major label and to improve distribution of their albums, Butler said.

"We're interested in playing music for as many people in as many places as possible. If we have a budget to make a video, we'd love to do it," he said.

The four musicians who make up Jambay met while attending the University of California in San Diego. "We are all hypercreative people and listen to all types of music," Butler said.

This seems to be the main rea-

son that the band's style is so varied and complex. "It takes attention to get into our music, but we have a great audience, which is focused on listening," Butler said.

Their first gig was in a dorm room, and since then their fans have multiplied from a group of college buddies to packed shows all over the West Coast.

Two of the quartet's members — Butler and Chris Haugen, the guitarist and vocalist — grew up and went to high school in Eugene, so it is not surprising that the WOW Hall is one of their favorite places to play.

"We lived in Ken Kesey's house for a while," Butler said, "and we were always surrounded by musicians. It was like a big family."

Though Butler was a Deadhead in college he claims that his musical influences cover a wide span of genres from the likes of King Crimson to avant-garde jazz.

"The Grateful Dead were able to come up with songs that you could sing by the campfire, but they would introduce a lot of jazz and improvisation into these songs," he said. "This type of sound covered the range of music I liked, and it made sense."

While most of Jambay's songs use electric guitars, sometimes the band performs as Lazy Porch Dogs — an unplugged version of the group — often at the same shows.

In the future, Jambay would like to play a mix of both acoustic and electric sounds in

concerts, but the logistics of this are difficult, Butler said.

"We would like to break down the acoustic/electric barrier, even within the same song, and just play whatever sounds good."

There are no albums released under the name of Lazy Porch Dogs because "it's hard enough to market a band with one name," said Shelley Doty, a guitarist and vocalist. The new album features four acoustic tracks.

As for long term goals, the band just wants to keep playing music, Butler said.

"We're waiting for an open door," Haugen said. "I'd love to go to Europe to do a tour; it would be a great change of pace that we all need."

Play: Viewers should watch objectively

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Keely's abusive ex-husband, wants audiences to view the play with an open mind.

During rehearsals Lord said the cast couldn't decide among themselves the point of view of the play. *Keely and Du* ends with a dramatic conclusion that Lord also said illustrates the play's intensity.

Keely and Du is directed by Mark Hendren and runs Oct. 5-7, 12-14, 19-21 and 26-28 at 8 p.m. and on Oct. 15 and Oct. 22 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 general, \$7 students and on Thursdays and Sundays all tickets are \$5. For reservations, call the Lord Leebrick Theatre Company box office at 465-1506 or the Hult Center at 687-5000.

Hinds: Low cost records easily available

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vinyl three times more quickly than a collection of CDs.

Of course, turntables are a necessity, which can be purchased new from many companies with prices ranging from less than \$100 to more than \$1000.

Used turntables are easy to find at bargain prices, and it's not uncommon to see one in new condition for 20 percent of its retail value. Many stereo repair shops sell refurbished turntables at bargain prices also.

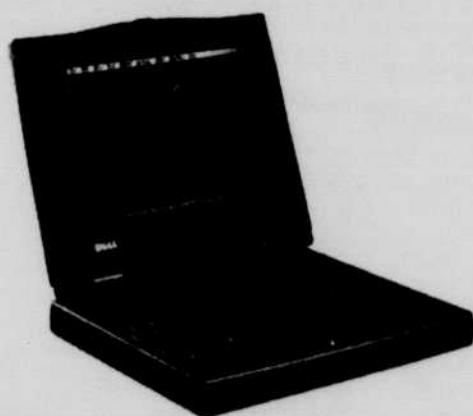
Records are an inexpensive way of adding titles to your album collection while still having enough money to afford Duck tickets and something to eat at lunch.

Ted Hinds is a music columnist for the Emerald



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