

MUSIC

La Zoo are refreshing performers

Andrew Mayer
Freelance Reporter

What do you think of when you hear the words La Zoo? Wildlife? The refinement of a Latin based language perhaps? Well, that just the combination of genres that comprise the band La Zoo.

This group of musicians' musical tastes range from Miles Davis to YES and from Count Basie to the Police. Although the band is primarily an instrumental group, they do occasionally throw in some scats for a rap-like affect that rounds out their self-described acid-jazz, global groove sound.

The members of La Zoo include Brent Bosworth, on rhythm guitar; Eric Abate, on lead guitar; Will Moye, on bass; Edwin Coleman III, on drums; and Dave O'Toole, on saxophone.

Bosworth, a self-taught player and composer, has been involved with notable bands such as Wisdom Star, the Bosworth Brothers, and White

Liberals. These bands span his career of 30 years in and out of the recording studio and performance tours.

Eric Abate, the lead guitarist, grew up in Lyon, France and studied formally at the acclaimed Almera Jazz School of Music. Abate is also a former member of the recently separated band Love, Death and Agriculture.

Moye has been playing bass for 14 years. He has studied informally with Northwest great Andre St. James, and formally at both the Berkeley School of Music and the University of Oregon's School of Music. Moye has played with Synergy, Art Grooveau, Slow Burn, the Benefactors and Loud Sistas.

The drummer, Coleman, has performed regionally with jazz, salsa, blues and gospel groups. He grew up in a musically inclined family and plays the piano and cello as well as percussion.

O'Toole, who is a saxophonist and composer, has played along

side such greats as Charles Neville of the Neville brothers. His influences and experience reflect styles ranging from John Coltrane to Stravinski.

I saw La Zoo at the Vets Club, and I thought they put on a great performance. Their sound, although instrumental, was refreshing with each different song they performed, and they kept the club groovin'.

At one point in time the band seemed to catapult their sound into a surreal combination of jazz and ritualized structure that had the entire club transfixed upon a couple who danced as if they were in a movie straight out of the 1920s and 1970s eras.

I would give this band a four star rating and definitely recommend following them as I think they put on one of the Northwest's finer shows.

La Zoo can be seen on Feb. 2 and 3 at C.J.'s Eugene Hilton; Feb. 16 and 17 at Joe Federigo's; and March 1 and 2 again at C.J.'s in the Eugene Hilton.

Streetwise

What DON'T you do over the weekend?



Stay home. I try not to. That's just my only goal.

Steve Hargin
Journalism



I don't hang out over in Springfield.

Marcus East
General science



I don't hang out in the EMU, I don't get up before 10 a.m., and I don't waste the opportunity to watch 'The Tick.'

Sean O'Neal
campus organizer



I don't get to go out of town as much as I'd like to.

Tara Knutson
art



I don't climb enough mountains.

Joey Lyons
international studies

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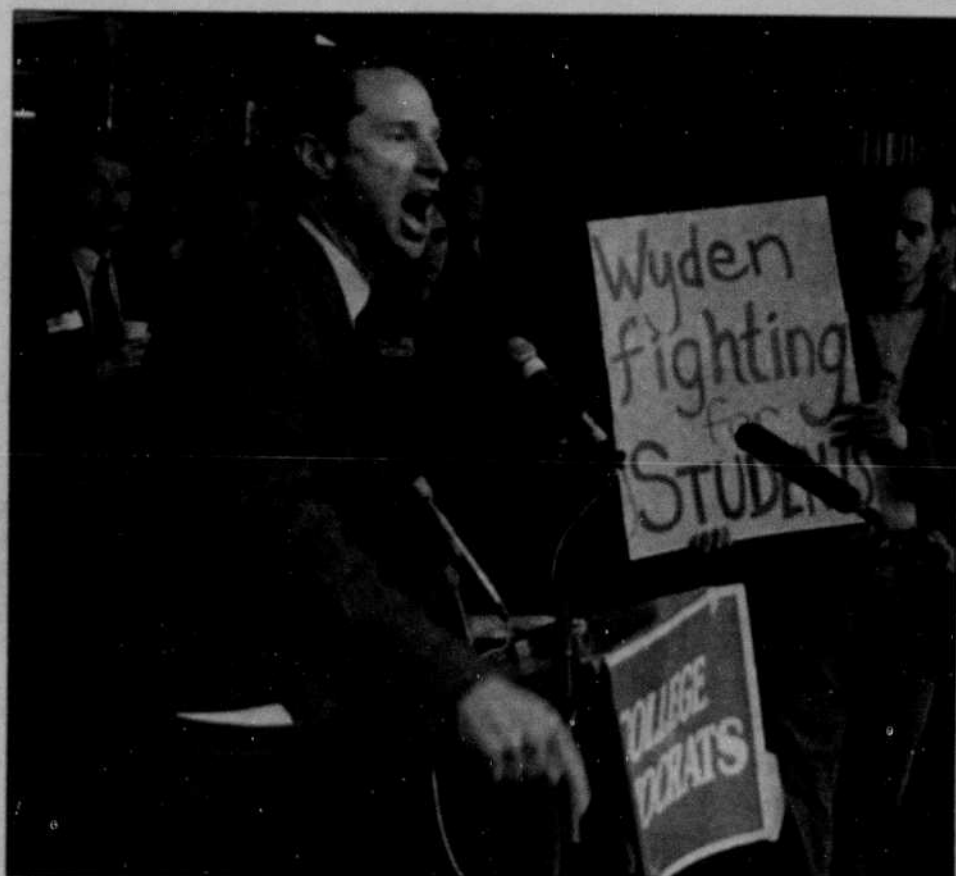
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