

# Off the Cuff



M. Chandler Melvin and Cameo Morningstar scope out dolphins in the game 'Slide Show.'

WENDY FULLER/Emerald



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Scott Vogel provides hands for Michael Govier, who talks to Ryan Honey in 'Arms Expert.'

Members of the all-student comedy troupe *Absolute Improv* work hard at being spontaneous

By Nicole Krueger  
Entertainment Editor

A cigarette hanging from his lip, Michael Govier clumsily attempts to strike a match. But his eyes and his hands just don't seem to want to work together, and he fumbles with the matchbook for a while before Ryan Honey finally snatches it from his hands.

Actually, Honey snatches it from Scott Vogel's hands.

The game is "Arms Expert." Honey is playing a defense attorney who is coaching the defendant, Govier, before his trial. Vogel is playing the defendant's hands. He crouches behind Govier, who is slightly shorter than him, and performs the character's hand motions while Govier delivers the lines.

"Arms Expert" is one of the many games played by Absolute Improv, a self-run group of 14 University students who will perform improvisation tonight at the Actors Cabaret of Eugene.

In theater, improvisation, or improv, is acting without a script or a pre-planned idea. The actors are given an on-the-spot scenario or character, and they must then act out a scene. The scenes must be acted according to the guidelines of whatever improv game the actors are playing.

For example, in the game "Arms Expert," one person must provide the arms for another, who then plays out a scene with a third. In "Touching Game,"

## IMPROV

■ **WHEN:** Feb. 21 at 10 p.m., Feb. 22 at 8:30 p.m.

■ **WHERE:** Actors Cabaret of Eugene, 996 Willamette St.

■ **COST:** \$4 at the door

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## Wild bands to play at Wild Duck

*Critters Buggin* and *The Fabulous Hedgehogs* will perform this weekend

By Remzi Bajrami  
Freelance Reporter

At last, here's something for those who thirst for some different kind of music: two bands from two big music cities that are just too weird to describe.

*Critters Buggin* and *The Fabulous Hedgehogs* will perform at the Wild Duck Music Hall

Feb. 23.

Brendan Relaford, general manager and owner of Doghouse Entertainment, said both bands are kind of weird.

"They both play a real eclectic form of free-form jazz/funk/fusion that's really interesting," he said.

*Critters Buggin* is a Seattle instrumental band.

"The Critters are an extremely unique, eclectic, rhythmic-oriented band. They play psychedelic grunge jazz," said Ben Samrick, national music coordinator.

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## CONCERT

■ **WHO:** Critters Buggin and The Fabulous Hedgehogs

■ **WHEN:** Feb. 23 at 8 p.m.

■ **WHERE:** Wild Duck Music Hall

■ **COST:** \$5 for students, \$6 for general admission, \$7 at the door

## Type-O-Negative

Type-O-Negative will perform at WOW Hall Feb. 21 at 9 p.m. with Sister Maching Gun and Drain. Tickets are \$12.50.

"Be There" is a weekly column highlighting the week's top local entertainment events.

## Flamenco dancers to visit WOW Hall

Clarita and the Arte Flamenco Dance Theatre will perform "The Music and Dances of Spain" at WOW Hall Feb. 23. The show will include a variety of Spanish dances as well as flamenco.

The show will begin at 7:30 p.m., and the doors will open at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$8 at the door.



THERE....



## Jibliminis

Jibliminis will perform the closing set of a benefit concert for Project Saferide Feb. 22 at WOW Hall.

Portland's Doris Daze and Hummingfish will also perform.

The show will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5-\$10 on a sliding scale.

Profits will help install a wheelchair lift in the Saferide shuttle van.



## KRVM Benefit

Eight musical acts will perform at a benefit concert for radio station KRVM at WOW Hall Feb. 27.

Chris Williamson and Tret Fure, Mary McCaslin and Steve Gillette and Cindy Mangsen are among the performers.

The show will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20.