

Rhythm & Reviews

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1997

'Strange folks' are here

Strangefolk, a self-proclaimed folk, bluegrass and jam rock combination, will visit WOW Hall on Sunday, Oct. 12 at 8 p.m.

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CD-quality sound

Quality lyrics set Dar Williams' album 'End of the Summer' apart from recent releases

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Emerald

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be There

WOW Hall will present **Marigold, Hot For Chocolate, The Asthma Hounds** and **Johnny Voodoo** tonight at 9 p.m. Marigold, based in Springfield, won the 1996 National Ticketmaster Music Showcase and was named one of "America's Top Five Unsigned Bands." Tickets are \$5 at the door.



Garrison Starr will perform at **The Wild Duck** Oct. 12. This Memphis singer-songwriter-guitarist mixes rock, pure pop and acoustic folk.

On Oct. 13, WOW Hall will present the **1997 Rainforest Deep Ecology Roadshow**, featuring Joanne Rand, John Seed, Neil Pike and Joyful Noise. Proceeds will benefit rainforest conservation projects in Ecuador and India.

University linguistics professor **Tom Givon** will be at the University Bookstore from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 15 to sign copies of his novel, *Running Through the Tall Grass*. Givon's novel has been described as having created "one of the darkest, most complex relationships in literature."

Huzzah!

University actor **Charlie Kimball** lands roles in three Ashland plays

By **Nicole Krueger**
Managing Editor

Last year, clad in a clownish costume, Charlie Kimball cavorted about the Robinson stage for a local audience. This year, he will don soldier's garb and perform Shakespeare in front of hundreds of thousands of people in Ashland.

The junior theater arts major achieved a longtime goal, scoring parts in three plays for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's 1998 season.

Kimball got the call Monday instructing him to report to Ashland by January 6. There he will begin rehearsing and preparing for 10 months of constantly switching costumes.

Because the Shakespeare festival has a running repertoire, he said, an actor might have roles in three different plays at once — as well as several understudy roles.

"The whole idea of waking up in the morning and going to a matinee, where you perform some contemporary character, and then spending your afternoon hanging out in Ashland, and then in the evening, playing a completely different Shakespearean role in a different theater ... it really intrigues me and excites me," Kimball said.

Kimball said he will perform three small roles: a soldier in Lorraine Hansberry's *Les Blancs*, a soldier and ensemble member in Shakespeare's *Henry IV, Part One*, and an ensemble member in Shakespeare's lesser-known play *Cymbeline*. He will also be responsible for several understudy roles, which he said is required of all actors in the festival.

"I'll have to do probably five to seven roles total throughout the course of the year," he said. "It's scary, because you only get six to eight hours of understudy rehearsal time with the cast."

Kimball will sign a renewable, 10-month contract, a time span he considers "really long" for professional theater, for a weekly salary of \$350, plus medical and dental coverage. In exchange, he will have to postpone his education.

Turn to **KIMBALL**, Page 12A

Once 'the servant of two masters,' junior **Charlie Kimball** will temporarily leave academia to join Ashland's professional acting scene.

EMERALD

Singer brings intimacy to Eugene scene

The folk-rock musician **Dar Williams** has embarked upon a national tour, which will stop in the EMU Ballroom this week

Evan A. Denbaum
Entertainment Editor

When singer-songwriter Dar Williams takes the stage, she radiates an unusual confidence for someone made so vulnerable by her honest, often personal music.

On Oct. 13, she will bring this duality to the EMU Ballroom following tour dates with the highly acclaimed Lilith Faire, an all-female concert series that was embraced by fans around the country for its comfortable, testosterone-free environment.

Williams is now on her own nationwide tour in support of her newest album, *End of the Summer*.

On stage, when Dar Williams sings she shares her world with the audience — each song is a story — conveying deeply personal experiences and intimate ideas. And when her voice is soft, you can sometimes hear a slight quiver or a light laugh from the

emotion in it. She allows herself to be vulnerable, confiding in her audience with an openness and honesty one would only expect from a close friend. The emotion builds as each tale unfolds. An acoustic guitar helps to create tension by accentuating her words as she paints descriptive pictures and leads the listener through a series of events.

In the song "Mortal City," on her album by the same name, Williams tells the story of two lonely people on one dark, frigid night in the city: "It was like another century, with dim lamps and candles lighting up the icy trees and the clouds and a covered moon."

The two individuals were to have a simple first date dinner, but when an emergency broadcast comes over the radio ask-

Turn to **WILLIAMS**, Page 10A

In the corner pocket

Absolute Improv!, the University's only traveling improvisational comedy troupe, will open the 1997-98 Pocket Playhouse season Oct. 16-18. Absolute Improv! performances are unique because the audience is so heavily involved. The way the troupe works is that the audience is responsible for telling the actors what to do, and then the actors must do it. There are no rehearsed scenes and no planning before the game begins. The audience holds the fate of the performers in their hands.

Absolute Improv! has expanded over time to include more than 15 performers. The troupe has played venues all over the area, including The Wild Duck, Actor's Cabaret, and John Henry's.

All three shows will begin at 5 p.m. with a \$1 suggested donation.