

Rhythm & Reviews

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Emerald



WEEKEND SPOTLIGHT

■ **The Clumsy Lovers.** "Vancouver's psychoceltic overlords," according to their publicity company, are coming to town tonight for a show at Sam Bond's Garage at 9:30 p.m. Their "feisty musical concoctions," along with opening band **Havilah**, can be seen for \$2 to \$5.

■ The reggae sounds of **Boom Shaka** will be on aural display tonight at the WOW Hall. The show begins at 9 p.m., and tickets are \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door.

■ The Hult Center's 1998 Summer Park Concert series continues today with a performance by local favorite **Caliente** at Washington/Jefferson Park. The free show will run from 6 to 8 p.m. The series continues Tuesday with the **Barbara Healy Band** at the Westmoreland Center, same time, same price.

■ The Saturday Market Stage will be headlined by the **Olem Alves Band's** classic and original blues at 3 p.m. **Love, Death and Agriculture**, **Sunshadow**, **Joe Ross** and **Peter Thomas** open the day beginning at 10 a.m.

■ ¡Tchkung! brings its sweltering tribal industrial sound to the WOW Hall on Saturday at 8 p.m. **Threscher** and **9th Life** open the show, for which tickets are \$6 at the door only.

■ Cafe Paradiso will host a jazz jam with the **Kenny Reed Band** on Saturday at 8:30 p.m. The price of admission is \$1 to \$3.

Hip-Hop Dreams

Karim Panni, a.k.a. Darkside Productions, is helping to nourish the hip-hop scene in Eugene

By Rob Moseley
Associate Editor

It's 3:30 p.m. on a hot and muggy summer day in Eugene, but even in the air-conditioned offices of the Emerald, Karim Panni can't sit still.

For Panni, the proprietor of Darkside Productions who fidgets through an entire 45-minute interview, there is too much to do in anticipation of an event that's still two weeks away. Before Del the Funky Homosapien gets to town for an August 13 show at the Wild Duck, Panni still must complete his contracts with the venue, hire enough security to placate the Wild Duck's owners, who are wary of bringing a large hip-hop crowd together under one roof, and still find time to publicize the show.

It's no wonder Panni can't sit still. Combine his quest to bring hip-hop to Eugene under the Darkside guise, graduate from school with a radio broadcasting degree, run or participate in no less than five radio shows a week on KWVA and presumably enjoy some level of a social life, and the outward display of nervous tension is justifiable.

"I do everything, pretty much," Panni says. "I'm my own stage manager, I do my own booking, I do everything. Darkside Productions is pretty much just me. That's why I get so tense. I almost had a damn nervous breakdown at that first show because there were, like, 800 people there and for me it was hell of hectic. The sound was messing up and I was tripping

out."

That first show was in the EMU during the fall of 1997 and featured the Alcoholiks along with Kool Keith, Mocha Only and the Organics. It was Panni's first effort at producing his own show, something he's been preparing himself for since high school.

A hip-hop fan since the days of break dancing, Panni attended Serra High in San Francisco. A pseudo-internship at Bay Area hip-hop bastion KMEL put Panni in the epicenter of the culture before he caught his first break working live events.

"I had an opportunity after high school and started going to all the shows," he says. "I met a couple people and started doing little security jobs. My first big thing was I got to do security at a De La Soul show. I got to kick back with them and watch them. I was just in awe back then. But then I started passing out fliers in San Francisco and started doing my own thing and going from there. I just got involved. I never had my own shows, but I was involved with everything."

Panni's parents moved to Eugene in 1995, and Panni followed a year later after spending the summer of '96 in New York. After meeting the Organics, Panni hooked up with the University Cultural Forum with hopes of bringing a hip-hop show to Eugene and the EMU.

Turn to **DARKSIDE**, Page 6

Darkside Productions

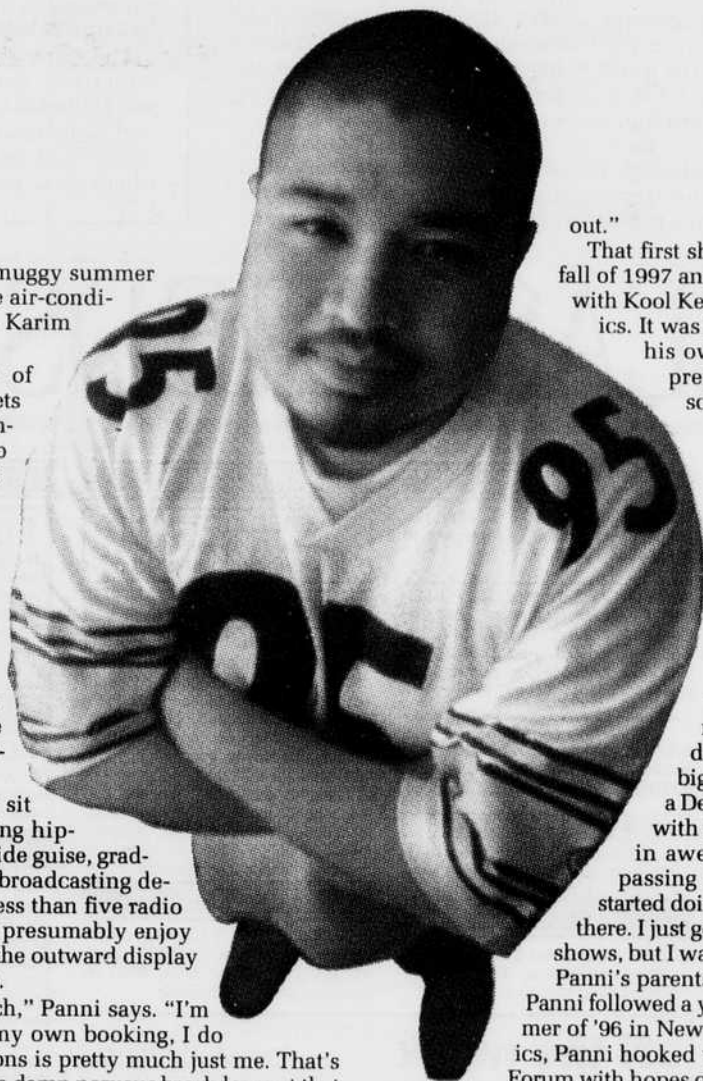
■ **NEXT SHOW:** Live hip-hop featuring Del the Funky Homosapien along with Organic Compound, Hungry Mobb, Dirtbag Foundation, DJ Rogue and DJ Direk.

■ **WHEN:** Thursday, August 13, 8 p.m.

■ **WHERE:** The Wild Duck, 169 W. 6th, Eugene

■ **HOW MUCH:** \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Tickets available at House of Records, Record Exchange and the EMU Ticket Office.

■ **ON THE RADIO:** KWVA, 88.1 FM Mon. 2-4 p.m. Thurs. 12-2 p.m. Fri. 9-12 a.m. Sat. 8-11 p.m. Sun. 7-9 p.m.



Eugene and the EMU.

Saturday Market to be merrier than ever this weekend

Between acts, this weekend's market will feature a wedding for the first time in its history

By Peter Breaden
Oregon Daily Emerald

Visitors to this week's Saturday Market may be caught off guard by the main stage performance schedule.

The billing will feature the folk trio Sun Shadow, funk/folk band Love Death and Agriculture and a traditional wedding sandwiched between the two shows.

Anthony Cormier and Eileen Polk, who met at last year's Rainbow Gathering and Hemp Expo, will take their vows at 1 p.m. Saturday. For the 37-year-old Cormier, who is originally from San Diego, it has been a long road to Eugene.

"When my house burned down 11 years

ago, it was a chance for me," he said. "It was my first opportunity to live in a place that was beautiful and peaceful."

Cormier is a professional tree-trimmer. His trade took him up and down the West Coast doing work mostly for friends. He is currently enrolled in the computer graphics program at Lane Community College and is also pursuing a multimedia programming degree there.

Polk, a 44-year-old photojournalist, was also attracted by Eugene's unique atmosphere. Originally from New York, she wanted to relocate to the West Coast. When her mother developed Alzheimer's disease, Polk felt that Oregon's senior care facilities would suit her best.

"I felt that Eugene would be a good place to be a photographer and was also an escape from New York," she said. "I like the alternative culture flavor and the fact that

it's a university town."

The two had just started dating when Cormier was in a motorcycle accident with a bus. As he was suffering from a painful back injury, Polk helped him through. Incidentally, the two fell in love.

"She did everything. She was instrumental," Cormier said. "I fell totally in love with her."

The ceremony will be the first in the market's 29-year history. The matrimonial ceremony seems odd even for the usually counter-cultured market, said Kim Still, assistant manager of the Saturday Market.

"I'm sure there will be some people strolling through the market who will be surprised that there's a wedding there," she said.

For the ceremony, the couple will ex-

Turn to **WEDDING**, Page 6

Saturday Market

■ **WHAT:** The marriage of Eileen F. Polk and Anthony D. Cormier, plus music, crafts, etc.

■ **WHEN:** All day Saturday with the ceremony at 1 p.m.

■ **WHERE:** On the Park Blocks at 8th and Oak in downtown Eugene.