



WEEKEND SPOTLIGHT

■ John Henry's begins a monthly series called the "First Thursday Swing Night" tonight at 7:30 p.m. The two-and-a-half hour show features **The Vipers with Eagle Park Slim** and costs \$2-\$5 on a sliding scale.

■ **Boogie Chillen'** plays the Hoolywood Taxi tonight at 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3.

■ The WOW Hall welcomes **Laurel Aitken and the New York Ska & Jazz Ensemble** tonight at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door.

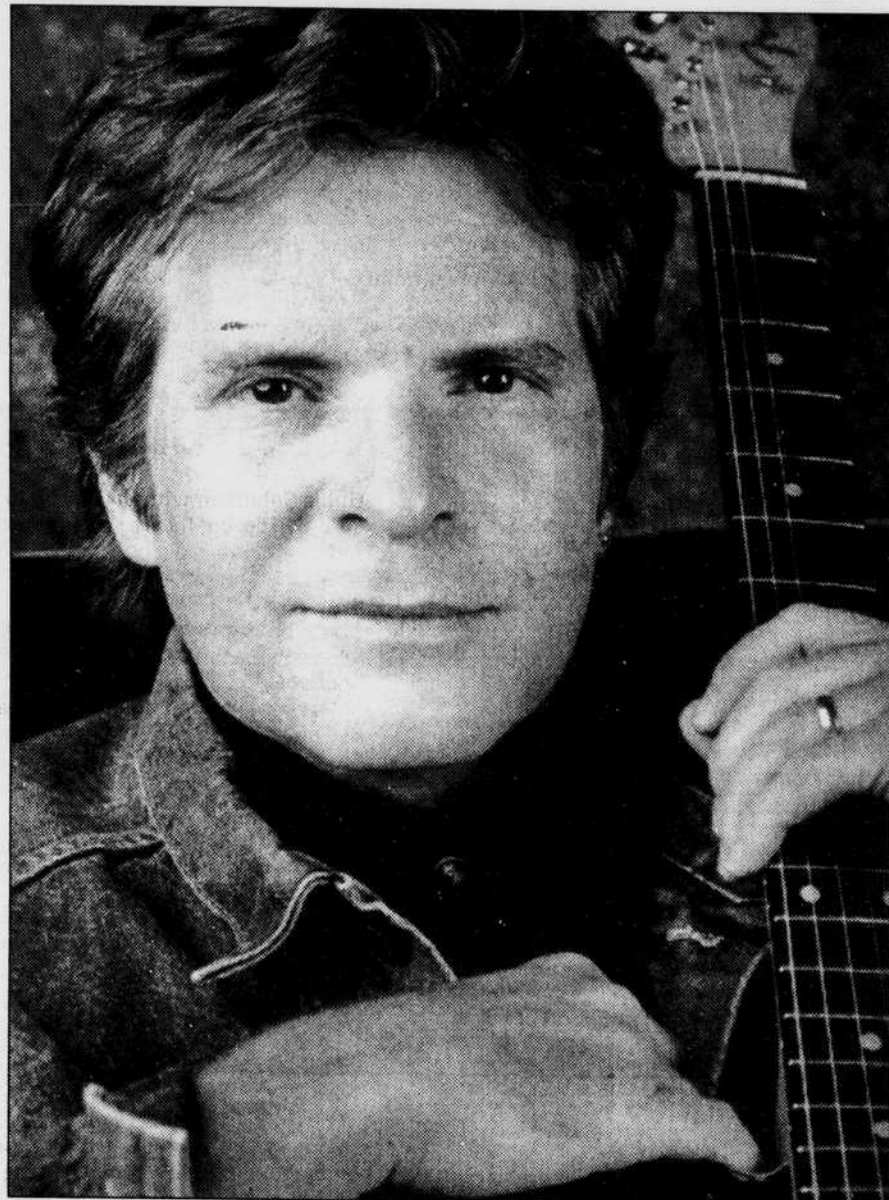
■ Elemental Records' perpetual search for the 'next big thing' continues Friday with the fourth round of Sonic Xplosion '98, beginning at 9:30 p.m. at the WOW Hall. The \$5 show includes 1996 Las Vegas 'Rock Artist of the Year' (City Life Magazine) **Karling**

Applegate, who is compared with Bjork and Tori Amos, pop-punks **Smooch Knob** and Eugene's **Gregarius**, which is composed of four University grads.

■ **Soul Funktion**, an eight person funk band featuring South Eugene graduates, will play this Saturday at 8:30 p.m. at Cafe Paradiso.

■ This Saturday at 9:30 p.m., Sam Bond's Garage will host a benefit for the HIV Alliance featuring **Nectar Way, People's Choice, Tom Heini, and Peter Wilde**. The entire ticket price of \$1-\$25, based on ability to contribute, will be donated to the HIV Alliance. Sam Bond's is located at 407 Blair. Call 431-6603 for more information.

Big Wheel keeps on turning



COURTESY

John Fogerty is enjoying a successful solo career after leaving Creedence.

John Fogerty, former lead singer of classic rock icon Creedence Clearwater Revival, comes to Eugene on Wednesday

By Rob Moseley
Associate Editor

The scope of popular music over the last 30 years has changed to such an extent that it's hard to believe a group like Prodigy hails from the same country as the Beatles.

The movement from guitar-driven rock to today's amalgam of everything but is nearly complete, and there are scant artists who've managed to stay true to the roots laid two generations ago and still remain popular.

One American artist who's managed to do just that will make a rare concert appearance Aug. 12 at Eugene's Cuthbert Amphitheater. Exactly 30 years after his initial entrance onto the pop music scene, John Fogerty is back to show that good music never dies, or even fades away.

Fogerty and his band literally exploded into national prominence in the late '60s, when, in a three year span, he and Creedence Clearwater Revival released six albums that included favorites like "Proud Mary," "Born on the Bayou," "Fortunate Son," and "Green River." Those classics placed CCR and their Southern roots rock at the pinnacle of the classic rock world, and they have remained at that apex ever since.

But Fogerty hasn't chosen to live off CCR's accolades and collect royalties. Instead, he has released four solo albums with songs like "Centerfield" keeping the Creedence tradition alive.

Fogerty has found himself unable to match the terrific pace at which Creedence released albums. In stark contrast to that two-album-per-year pace, Fogerty has taken the remaining 27 years to release just four albums, and

only one of those in the last decade.

The latest is 1997's "Blue Moon Swamp," Fogerty's most personal album yet and one that includes a wide array of supporting musicians such as Red Hot Chili Peppers drummer Chad Smith.

"Blue Moon Swamp" was released 11 years after his last album, but Fogerty said in a biography issued by his record company that he began working on the album in 1992.

"When I recorded 'Centerfield,' it took a long time because I did it all myself," Fogerty said in a biography on the Warner Bros. Web site, "including learning to play instruments I hadn't even picked up before then. This time around, I went about it differently, because I've always felt that the very best music comes from the interaction of live musicians. Originally I put together a four-piece line-up, but after a few weeks of playing together, I began to understand that there were limitations to that, as well. So, I went out on another search, looking for the best musicians for each song I wanted to record. I realized that while, for instance, one drummer might be great for a certain song, there was someone else who could get what I was after on another track."

According to the Hult Center, Fogerty will mix a few of his Creedence hits with material from "Blue Moon Swamp" and his other solo albums for Wednesday's concert.

Fogerty will be joined by Sister 7 for the 6:30 p.m. show, and doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$29.50 and can be purchased at the Hult Center Box Office, REI and the EMU Ticket Office.

John Fogerty Discography

Creedence Clearwater Revival

- Creedence Clearwater Revival, 1968
- Born on the Bayou, 1968
- Green River, 1969
- Willy and the Poor Boys, 1969
- Cosmos Factory, 1970
- Pendulum, 1970

Solo

- Blue Ridge Rangers, 1973
- Centerfield, 1985
- Eye of the Zombie, 1986
- Blue Moon Swamp, 1997

— from Warner Bros. Records

Improvisational troupes square off at Lord Leebrick

The University's Absolute Improv performs with Wymprov! on Friday and Saturday

By Cindy Lundeen
Freelance Reporter

In one corner stands a group of Oregon students collectively known as "Absolute Improv." In the other corner stands a group of four Eugene women collectively known as "Wymprov!" Let's get ready to rumble!

Absolute Improv and Wymprov!, two locally based improvisational troupes, will face off in two separate seven-round matches at the Lord Leebrick Theatre Company on Friday and Saturday beginning at 7 p.m. each night. The show, which will have a boxing theme, is a fund-raiser for the theater, located at 540 Charnelton St. in Eugene. Tickets are \$25 per person.

During the school year, Absolute Improv

usually consists of 16 University theater arts majors and one creative writing graduate student. During the summer, about 11 players remain in town and perform. The group began in the fall of 1996 with four theater arts majors who wanted to form an improv group. The current group has performed at the Wild Duck, Player's Cabaret, the University Pocket Playhouse, and it currently performs every other Wednesday at Chelsea's Bar and Grill at the Fifth Street Public Market.

Wymprov! is a group of four Eugene women who have performed together in and out of town for the last seven years. It evolved from a larger group of women who originally met at a "healing with humor" workshop and continued to meet and practice improvisation. Four of the women who wanted to perform put on a show seven



COURTESY

The four comic women of Wymprov! will square off with the University's Absolute Improv this weekend.

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