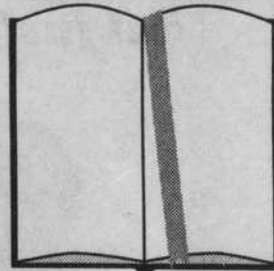


Urban funk and jazz
Seattle's Omar Torrez
plays flamenco-based
tunes at Good Times, Fri-
day at 9:45. \$5 admission.

PULSE

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT...

Summer reading
Catherine Brady reads
from her latest book, 7
p.m., Aug. 4 at Mother
Kali's, 720 E. 13th.

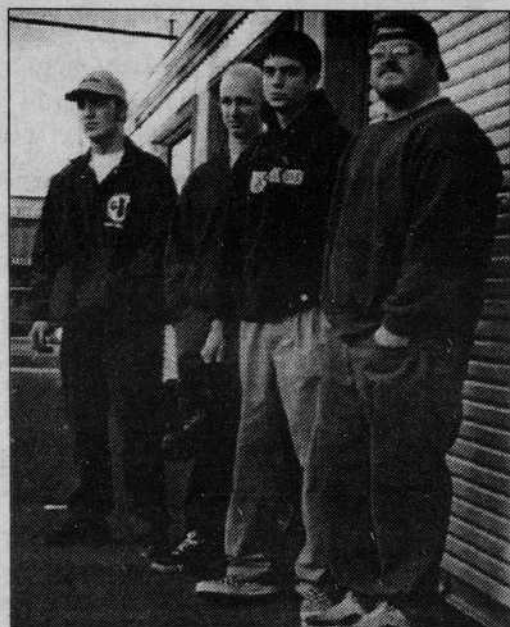


The Taxi Delivers

Springfield's Hollywood Taxi provides an alternative venue for local bands from both sides of the river to challenge the area's musical status quo

By Glenn Shires
for the Emerald

Ahh, Springfield, the promised land. As any local band can tell you, finding an audience in Eugene is no easy task. Sure, a few venues are willing to support local musicians, but attendance remains sparse for bands that don't fall into the status



Compact 56 joins other local bands Filthy Few, Monorail and the Shmelbys for a night punk and pop.

quo of vapid disco or Grateful Dead covers.

However, the Hollywood Taxi in Springfield has stepped up to fill Eugene's musical void. The club's ongoing "New Rock Tuesdays" series showcases local and national acts of all genres. Next Tuesday is no exception, as the Hollywood Taxi hosts not one but five up-and-coming bands.

Headlining act Zoomer, a "mechanical glam rock" band from Los Angeles, is sure to entertain with its witty, cynical lyrics and lo-fi fuzztone guitars. But the real action will undoubtedly be provided by the local bands on the bill.

Compact 56, a Eugene-based skate-punk band, precedes Zoomer. Originally from Portland, Compact 56 rocked around the Northwest for three years before settling on its current lineup last summer. Since then, the group has played in Eugene almost every month, most recently at the WOW Hall with a vigorous set that, by most accounts, put the more "popular" headlining band to shame.

While their Eugene fanbase is growing, band members are quick to compliment Springfield's music-friendly atmosphere.

"We always look forward to playing the Hollywood



Coming Up

What: New Rock Tuesday

When: Tuesday, Aug. 3, 9:15 p.m.

Who: Zoomer, Compact 56, Monorail, The Filthy Few and the Shmelbys

Where: Hollywood Taxi, 535 Main St., Springfield;

\$3 cover; call 747-0712 for more info.

Taxi," guitarist Ben Clement said. "Springfield crowds are a lot more excited to see us."

Fans of groups such as NOFX and Blink 182 won't want to miss Compact 56, and they should keep an eye out for an upcoming four-song recording.

Compact 56 also joins former Eugene punk band Cigar in September on its West Coast tour.

The Filthy Few, another Eugene band, takes a self-described "victory rock" approach to the punk-rock tradition. Fretboard tapping, guitar solos played with switchblades and hilarious Judas Priest covers are just a few examples of their outrageous showmanship.

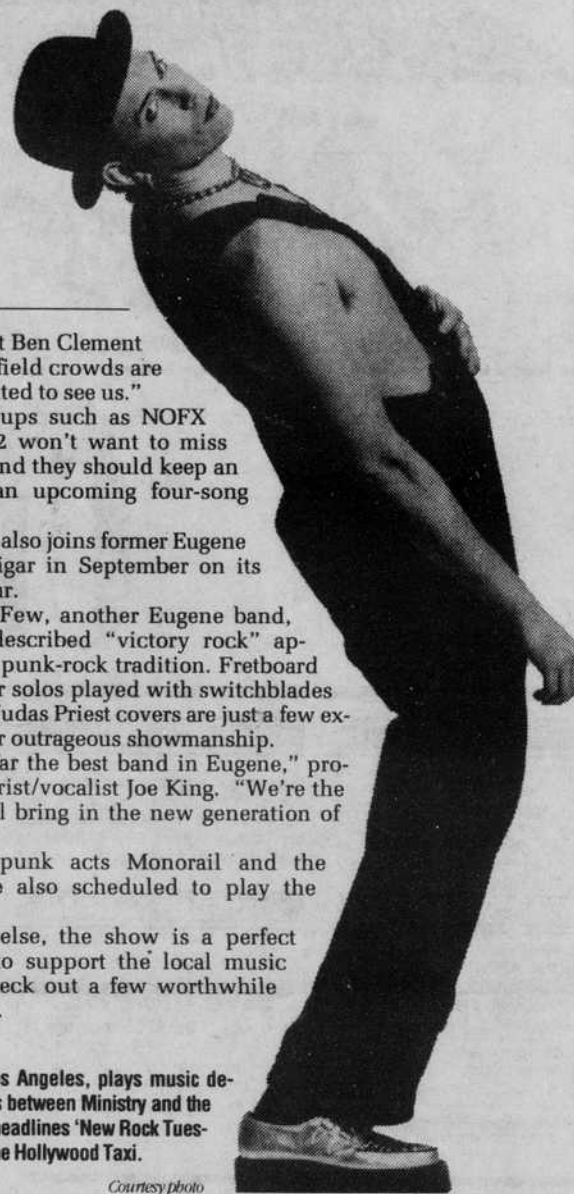
"We're by far the best band in Eugene," proclaimed guitarist/vocalist Joe King. "We're the band that will bring in the new generation of rock 'n' roll."

Local pop-punk acts Monorail and the Shmelbys are also scheduled to play the show.

If nothing else, the show is a perfect opportunity to support the local music scene and check out a few worthwhile Eugene bands.

Zoomer, from Los Angeles, plays music described as a cross between Ministry and the B-52s. The band headlines 'New Rock Tuesday' August 3 at the Hollywood Taxi.

Courtesy photo



Beware of the Blair Witch — genuine or not, she'll get you

Filmed like a documentary, movie takes viewers to the bogeyman in their heads

By Jack Clifford
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Blair Witch Project," an independent film produced for about the price of one blown-up automobile in a Hollywood feature, is creating quite a buzz. For good reason, too.

The movie, with a \$20,000 price tag, was presented at the 1999 Sundance Festival as a documentary, allegedly recorded by three students seeking to uncover the Blair Witch legend of Maryland's Black Hills. When the students disappeared during the filming, their tapes were left as evidence.

Initially, Artisan Entertainment, which bought the film for \$1 million from co-writers and co-directors Ed Sanchez and Dan Myrick, tried to keep the myth alive, so to speak. In a marketing ploy that is now certain to be copied ad nauseam, the studio launched an Internet site with updates on the "missing persons case" to keep up the façade.

Some of the current numbers on the film, which opened in 24 select markets July 16 and is released nationwide in 800 theaters Friday, are staggering. The Web

page has received more than 22 million hits, while the movie has grossed close to \$2 million with nary a television ad.

Obi-Wan who?

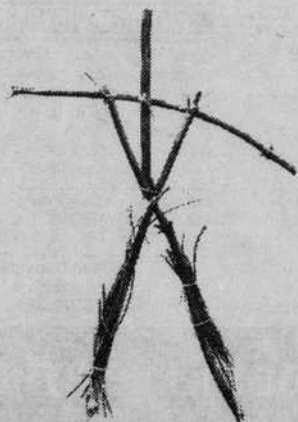
Critics are hailing the cheaply produced, yet finely crafted film with phrases such as "creative, inventive and ingenious," "an instant classic" and "scarier than 'The Exorcist.'"

While the concept behind "The Blair Witch Project" definitely rocks the world of horror movies, comparing this film to the genre's all-time masterpiece misses the point entirely.

Sanchez and Myrick hatched this brain-child about two years ago, after honing their craft on several similar undertakings. The story they have fashioned here is really a simple slice of genius, and every moviemaker who has poured millions and millions into making a scary motion picture should be embarrassed.

More psychologically creepy than visually arresting, the moviemakers weren't satisfied with the ordinary slasher mentality found in today's fright flicks. In fact, other than a brief glimpse at a bloody glob of flesh no bigger than a peanut, the guys eliminated the red stuff. The exclusion of gore

Turn to "BLAIR," Page 8



In October of 1994, three student filmmakers disappeared in the woods near Burkittsville, Maryland while shooting a documentary...

A year later their footage was found.



The Blair Witch Project

Directors: Eduardo Sanchez and Daniel Myrick

Starring: Heather Donahue, Michael Williams, Joshua Leonard

Score: ★★★★★

Music satisfies the mind; money supports the cause

By Sara Jarrett
Oregon Daily Emerald

Rock hard Friday night at Jam Aid '99, an all-ages concert, and support both Womenspace and HIV Alliance. Proceeds will be split evenly between the two non-profit organizations.

Donating their talents to the WOW Hall event are Moth, Grindstone and Six Degrees. Stacey Stanley, Jennifer Osterhout and Kim Maxwell make up Triple Venus Productions, the benefit's promoter.

"Moth really has a good local following, and they were willing to donate their time and talents for this cause," said Osterhout.

That was the biggest motivation in choosing which bands to book, she added.

HIV Alliance is the only non-profit organization in Lane County that provides a comprehensive response to the challenges of HIV and AIDS. Its programs include education, prevention, client services and health care.

Womenspace provides shelter and services for abused women and their children. Its mission is to end domestic violence by empowering women and children and by changing community standards.

"Jam Aid '99 subscribes to the concept that music brings people together, especially in times of need," Osterhout said.

Moth released its first album in 1996, and its second is due out this summer. The group was also among the final contenders in last year's Sonic Xplosion.

Six Degrees, from Seattle, made its Eugene debut last year when it opened up for Henry's Child. Six Degrees combines computer electronics with traditional pop song formats which should appeal to both techno lovers and hard rock followers.

From Portland comes Grindstone for their first appearance at the WOW Hall. Fans of hard-rock musical groups like Tool and Soundgarden are sure to enjoy the sound of Grindstone.

Jam Aid '99 provides the opportunity to simultaneously entertain yourself and support those in need.



Coming Up

What: Jam Aid '99

When: Friday, July 30

Where: WOW Hall, 292 West 8th. Admission is \$6-12, sliding scale; show begins at 9 p.m.