

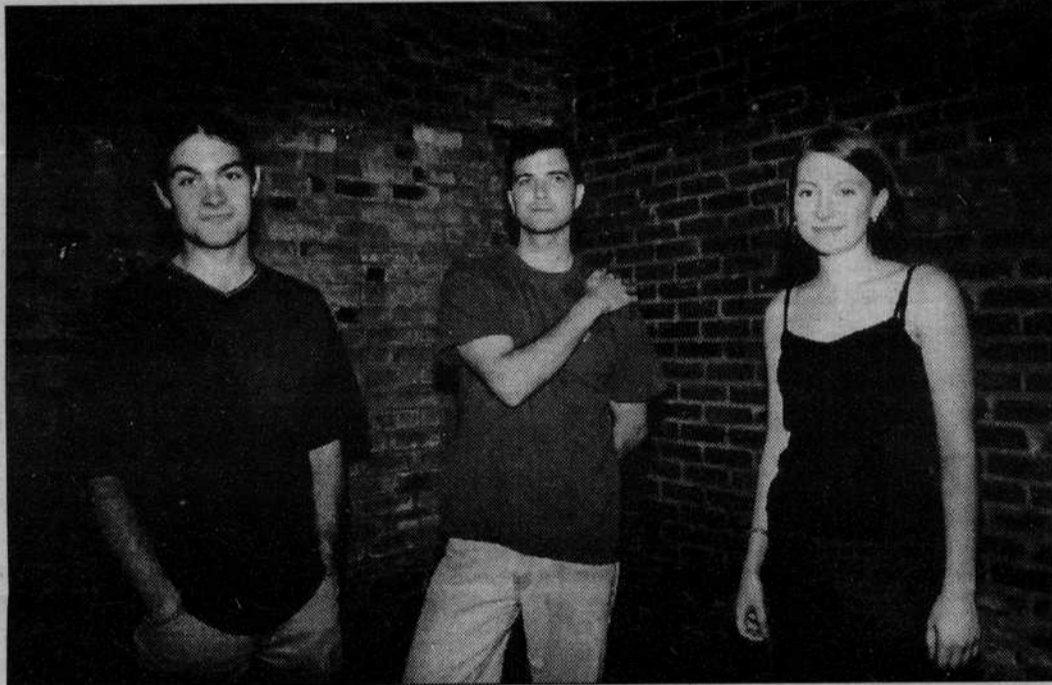
Music Scene

Eeny, meeny, miney, moe, pick a band and see the show

Just when you think it's safe to go back into Sam Bond's Garage, 407 Blair Blvd., look who shows up: Split Lip Rayfield (right). The Wichita, Kan., band sings about all the important aspects of the heartland, such as guns, drinking, the WIC program and bad love. As it was so aptly worded on SLR's press release, "It's a sound that can only come from plowing one too many rows, digging one two many holes and blowing one too many gaskets." See it, believe it. Split Lip and the Richmond Fontaine Band play Sam Bond's tonight at 9 p.m. Cover charge is \$4. Worlds away from "boys on beer," the award-winning women's vocal ensemble Kitka (below) performs Saturday at the WOW Hall, 291 W. Eighth Ave. This group's repertoire ranges from strident chants sung in traditional village styles to complex modern choral arrangements inspired by ancient vocal techniques used in Eastern Europe. Sitka's recent CD "Nectar" received high marks from rock legend David Crosby, who called the recording "a true masterpiece." Sitka performs Saturday at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$14. Somewhere in between those two groups lies the sound of the John Shipe Trio (bottom right). The local band has been hard at work making a name for itself around the state. The trio hits you with acoustic rock from the heart and versatility is the group's middle name. See the John Shipe Trio Saturday at The Buzz in the EMU. The music begins at 9:30 p.m. and best of all, it's free.



All photos courtesy of the bands





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Tuesdays: 11 pm That Tuesday Thing — soulful, funky dance grooves with d.j.s Lil Gene and J. Ray

Wednesdays: 10 pm Justice League of America presents Dance Hall House Tunes

21and over



Musician woos a new audience

■ A Colorado-based band stops in Eugene on its first multi-state tour

By Jack Clifford
Oregon Daily Emerald

Wendy Woo laughs as she recalls the story of her adolescent "crime wave," those early days when she was sneaking into a favorite performance venue — Fiddler's Green Amphitheater in the suburbs of Denver, Colo. — to hear her share of free music.

After years of slinking around undetected, she was finally arrested at age 21, but Woo managed to get the last laugh.

Woo and her eponymously named band won a Denver-area "battle of the bands" competition to select the opening act for this past summer's high-profile Lilith Fair. They then paraded through the amphitheater's backstage entrance as performers, not trespassers.

"This time as I walked in to Fiddler's, I thought 'Hah!'" Woo says good-humoredly, in a phone interview from her home in Boulder. "This time I got their royal treatment."

The Wendy Woo Band is gaining special access to a lot of places these days, as the group embarks on its first multi-state tour to tout the group's second CD "Wide Awake and Dreaming." The Woo quartet chugs into Sam Bond's Garage, 407 Blair Blvd., Wednesday night to give the Eugene area a



Courtesy photos

The Wendy Woo Band plays Sam Bond's Garage on Wednesday night. Woo (below) calls herself a "do-it-yourself" musician.

chance to soak in its Latin-mixed, funk-folk sound.

The band won its slot at Lilith after first gaining one of 30 audition spots, out of 300 hopefuls. The group then had a chance to perform one song in front of a live audience, mostly Woo's friends and colleagues from the Denver-area music scene.

"I was really amped," she remembers.

Woo brings an extensive musical background to her role as front woman for the band.

She practiced piano and cello as a child, then studied classical guitar and music theory at the University of New Mexico for two years, beginning in 1989. Woo followed up that stint with more musical schooling at the University of



Colorado and also enjoyed some personal tutoring from well-traveled musicians Robben Ford and

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