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Pulse

Eugene's new 'speakeasy'
The Lord Leebrick Theatre Company's new
program offers experimental pieces in a
variety of mediums. **PAGE 9**

Thursday, October 25, 2001

more bang for the buck

■ An all-star line-up of Calvin Johnson, Mirah, Dear Nora and The Dimes comes to Agate Hall Friday

By Mason West
Oregon Daily Emerald

When Nathan Hazard, regional music coordinator for the EMU Cultural Forum, was trying to set a date for his Agate Hall show featuring singer/songwriter Mirah, Dear Nora, Calvin Johnson and The Dimes, Oct. 26 was the only date that all four musicians could make it together.

"I've been tossing dates around with all the bands for over a month, and this was the only date," he said.

The problem with Oct. 26, though Hazard didn't realize it at the time, was that The Breeders are playing the same night at WOW Hall.

"I've already had a few people say, 'I really like Mirah, but I'm already going to The Breeders,'" he said.

Mirah was casual about the coincidence and said that certain performing overlaps are inevitable.

"Almost every tour I've been on, I've been haunted by a band," she said.

Mirah recounted a tour with Phil Elvrum of the Microphones where they played shows in at least four cities at the same time that another band, Le Tigre, was playing.

"If I could, I would have gone to see Le Tigre," Mirah said.

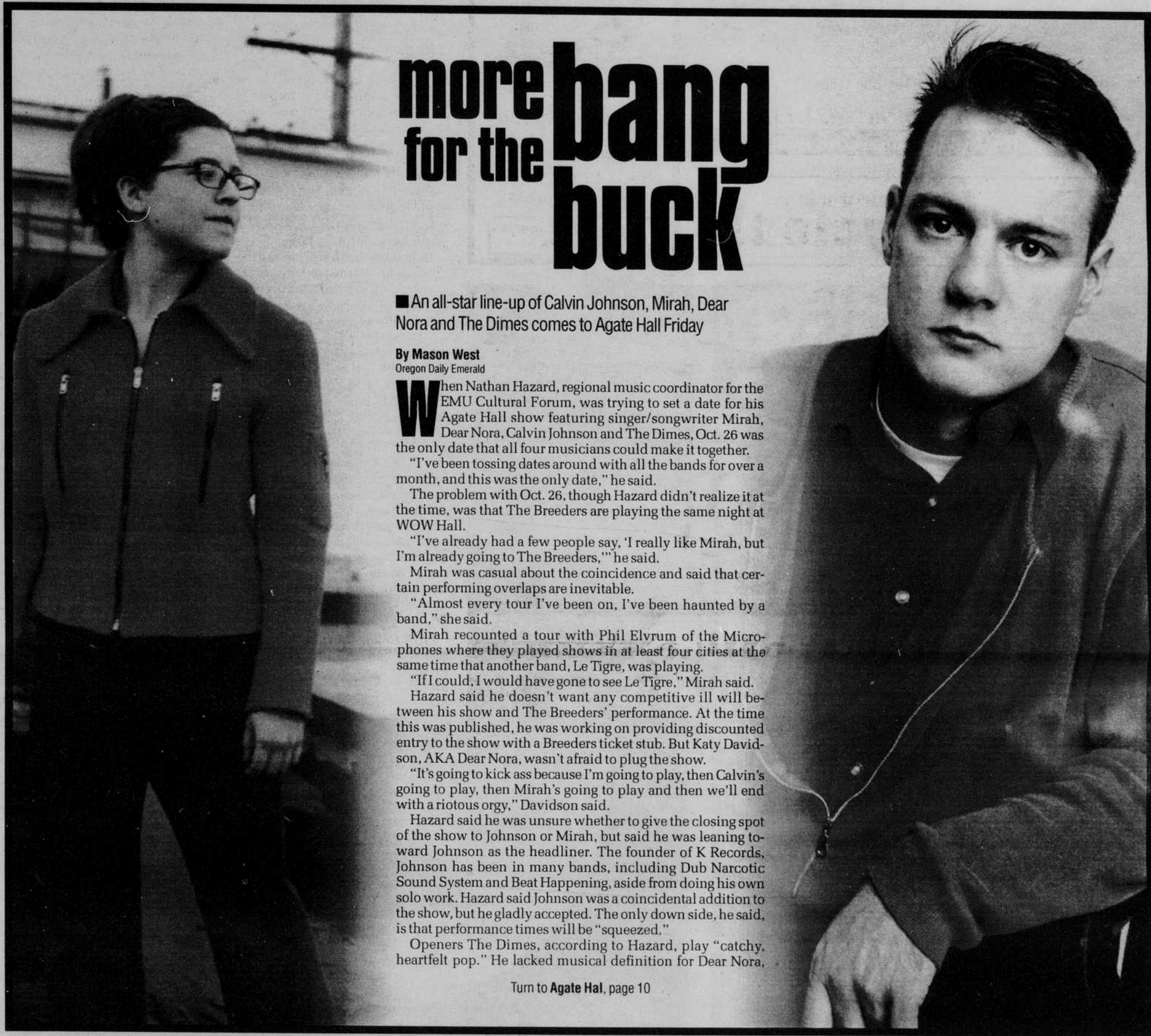
Hazard said he doesn't want any competitive ill will between his show and The Breeders' performance. At the time this was published, he was working on providing discounted entry to the show with a Breeders ticket stub. But Katy Davidson, AKA Dear Nora, wasn't afraid to plug the show.

"It's going to kick ass because I'm going to play, then Calvin's going to play, then Mirah's going to play and then we'll end with a riotous orgy," Davidson said.

Hazard said he was unsure whether to give the closing spot of the show to Johnson or Mirah, but said he was leaning toward Johnson as the headliner. The founder of K Records, Johnson has been in many bands, including Dub Narcotic Sound System and Beat Happening, aside from doing his own solo work. Hazard said Johnson was a coincidental addition to the show, but he gladly accepted. The only down side, he said, is that performance times will be "squeezed."

Opens The Dimes, according to Hazard, play "catchy, heartfelt pop." He lacked musical definition for Dear Nora,

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Breeders return to music scene with Wow Hall performanc

■ The band's new album still awaits release, but fans can hear the group, including its newest members, this weekend

By Jen West
Oregon Daily Emerald

After seven years away from the limelight, the Breeders are back to touring. Longtime indie-rock fixtures the Deal sisters and their band will play WOW Hall on Friday, accompanied by local band Chevron.

The Breeders were formed in 1988 as a creative collaboration between bassist Kim Deal of the Pixies and guitarist Tanya Donnelly of Throwing Muses. Then Perfect Disaster's Josephine Wiggs joined the band on bass.

Their debut album, "Pod," was released in 1990 and earned critical

acclaim. Two years later, the band followed with a four-song EP, "Safari," and an opening spot on Nirvana's 1992 European tour. But soon after, the band lost Donnelly, who had split from the Breeders to form her own band, Belly. Deal recruited her twin sister, Kelley, to fill Donnelly's shoes. Jim MacPherson, known as Mike Hunt on "Safari," signed on as their permanent drummer.

When the Pixies split early in 1993, Deal was able to fully concentrate on her work with the Breeders, according to Yahoo! Music. Later that year, the band released its third album, "Last Splash." The album, featuring the widely popular crossover hit, "Cannonball," struck a chord with audiences. The album turned platinum within a year, earning the Breeders a spot on the 1994 Lollapalooza tour.

During the Breeders' seven-year hiatus, members branched out to pursue other projects. Kim Deal put together another band, The Amps, in her hometown of Dayton, Ohio. The Breeders came together briefly in early 1999, when their track, "Collage," appeared on the soundtrack for "Mod Squad," an updated movie version of the '60s TV show.

Then in December 2000, the Deal sisters appeared at an unannounced performance at a club called Mr. T's Bowl in Highland Park, Calif., accompanied by new band members.

Now, after a year of rehearsing, the Breeders will soon release their first album since "Last Splash" and have just begun their tour.

"I like the edgy quality they have and the combo of noise jamming, songwriting and quirky lyrics,"

said Marty Schwarzbauer, a fan and WOW Hall volunteer.

Schwarzbauer said he has been a fan of the Breeders since the early '90s and, several years ago, had the opportunity to meet Kelley Deal when she was with the band Kelley Deal 6000. He was very impressed by her.

"She was very funny — very personable," he said.

Brian Mumford, 22, has handled guitar and singing duties for opener Chevron since its inception two years ago, though the band was originally named Collective. Chevron has had some notoriety of its own, reaching the No. 1 spot on the campus radio station, KWVA, during the summer of 2001.

"I really like (the Breeders)," Mumford said. "Kim Deal is a major player in the underground, garage pop scene."

Kesha Rose Lyn, also a Breeders fan since the early '90s, said she has a great deal of respect for the Deal sisters.

"Kim and Kelley were the first of a really powerful, female pop band," she said. "Just because it's a girl band doesn't mean they have to be frilly."

Because the band has new members and has taken such a long break between tours, fans said they were unsure of how the Breeders would be received in Eugene, but they remained optimistic.

Advance tickets are available at WOW Hall and FASTIXX outlets for \$13 and at the door for \$15. The show starts at 8 p.m. For more information, call 687-2746.

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