

# Elizabeth Elmore stakes her 'Reputation' on a new band

■ The UO Cultural Forum will present the first in a series of rock shows today in the EMU Fir Room with The Reputation

By Alix Kerl  
Oregon Daily Emerald

She has a reputation for trouble and fame, and she's heading to the University.

Elizabeth Elmore's new band, The Reputation, will be at the center of a musical showcase 9 p.m. Wednesday. The show, also featuring Portland band Captain vs. Crew and San Francisco natives Velvet Teen, will take place in the EMU Fir Room.

The show is presented by the UO Cultural Forum and is the first in a series of local music showcases to begin next term.

The Reputation's rock goddess Elmore plays guitar, keyboards and piano while she lays down sweet but fiery vocals.

"I used to sound like a 12-year-old virgin," Elmore said. "I've got a girlie voice, though I'd like to think that it has matured."

The rest of the band is filled in by Joel Root on bass, Matt Esby on drums and Sean Hulet on guitar. The band's music runs from popish power punk to stirring piano driven epics.

When Elmore croons her lyrics, she shows that she is in control. In "Misery by Design," she sings, "I can't feel that sorry for any guy who'd call me a slut/and you've learned to play the victim brilliantly."

Like every rock star, she also sings about drugs, pain and being

cheated on.

"Won't waste my mind on things that can't remain same/latent flaw keeps coursing through my veins/go on get it done it doesn't matter and there's nobody left to blame," she sings on "Wasted."

"The best way I can explain it is that as far as I can tell, I am too brutally honest and opinionated for most people," said Elmore when asked about her lyrics. "Generally, I think people wish I would shut up."

This doesn't seem to be the case as Elmore's former band, Sarge, made a huge impact on the indie scene of the 1990s. Sarge received a barrage of press coverage in magazines from Rolling Stone (named "Hot Band" in 1998) to Playboy ("... guys might learn something from these rocking, well-crafted tunes ...").

The Reputation wanted to play at the University because bass player Root grew up in Eugene and wanted to visit his family. Elmore called the Cultural Forum to set up a show and talked to Nathan Hazard, the regional music coordinator for the Cultural Forum. They discovered that they had met each other when Sarge played a show in Tucson, Ariz.

"I must have met him four or five years ago when he was 16," Elmore said.

When Hazard first saw Sarge in high school, he said he was entranced by Elmore. "I just fell in love with Elizabeth Elmore. She is so charismatic."

"Sarge was just amazingly successful," he said. "Elizabeth was the angry women in a man's scene." He said that Elmore's angry femi-

**Who:** The Reputation, Captain vs. Crew and the Velvet Teen

**When:** Today, 9 p.m.

**Where:** EMU Fir Room

**Price:** \$3 University students, \$4 general public

nist lyrics inspired more women to become involved in the 90s indie scene which was dominated with sappy, emotional boy rock.

Cat Cole, a University junior, heard about Sarge when she was in high school. "When I started listening to girl rock, the selection was really minimal. (Elizabeth) stood out because she had feminist lyrics."

Sarge disbanded in 1999. Elmore has spent the last two years in law school studying litigation.

In March 2001, after a bit of playing solo, Elmore grabbed three guys and started touring. It was meant to be a temporary band, but they got along well and though they've traded drummers, the main group has stayed together. They spent just under five weeks recording their self-titled debut album.

"It's a full-time job," Elmore said. "I book the tours and do all of the accounting. I'll probably run out of money in about two months and have to get another job."

Captain vs. Crew is a straight-A Portland collective that plays rock with an indie influence. Velvet Teen plays art-pop with melodic riffs and soaring harmonies.

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Leon Tovey Emerald

Director of student advocacy Hilary Berkman said some problems might be avoided if departments made better efforts to inform students.

## Fees

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some of the proposed fees. Hilary Berkman, director of student advocacy, raised objections to the bicycle registration fee as well as a proposal to increase the fine for cyclists and skaters who failed to dismount and walk in designated areas. She also objected to the proposed creation of an education practicum fee. Berkman said complaints like Rice's might be avoided if departments made more of an in-

dividual effort to inform students about their proposed fees.

"The problem is that people don't know about the process, they don't know about the proposals and they don't know about us," she said.

Like Rice, Berkman took particular issue with the bicycle registration fee. She called the proposed fee a tax and expressed concern that it might discourage people from riding their bikes to campus.

But Rand Stamm, parking and transportation manager for DPS, defended the fee, saying the estimat-

ed \$10,000 to \$12,000 per year the fee would bring in would help offset the cost of the bicycle registration program currently in place.

Under the current system, students are required to register their bikes when they first come to campus. The system helps DPS keep track of bicycles on campus, and in the event a bike is stolen, the registration might help DPS find the bike, Stamm said.

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## Economy

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generating higher tax revenues once the economy turns for the better. Rooney said Oregon qualifies for

the extra 13 weeks of unemployment insurance because its 8 percent unemployment rate is one of the highest in the nation.

U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Eugene, said Oregonians desperately need the relief the stimulus pack-

age provides.

"It's about time we sent real assistance to Oregonians and all American families," he said.

E-mail reporter Brook Reinhard at [brookreinhard@dailyemerald.com](mailto:brookreinhard@dailyemerald.com).

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