



The Eugene Rock Music showcase will take place at the WOW Hall on Friday at 7 p.m. for a \$5 cover charge.

LAUREN WIMER | PHOTOGRAPHER

Music: Local talent underappreciated

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regular shows.

"We get up to four or five local bands that wouldn't normally get to play a nice stage, we get to give them a show every month and the WOW Hall gets to fix everything that's broken and keep themselves running efficiently," he said.

Morden currently plays in two bands, alterEGO and F. Capone, and has a lot of experience on and off the stage. He has been involved in many aspects of the music scene, including promoting and volunteering at the WOW Hall. Morden figured that his experiences could help new bands with two of the main problems in the local music scene: show attendance and the lack of all-ages venues.

"Bowling for Soup just came to town

and I had to work at that show and it was completely sold out," Morden said. "A good local band would play the next day and there would be 10 people there. That's backwards. The people in this town don't really appreciate all the local talent that there is."

Morden added that there are few dedicated all-ages venues.

"There's just bars," he said. "And it's not very fun to play at bars."

Ron Bullard, who was a member of the now-defunct Courtesy Clerks and is the current drummer in the Sawyer Family, echoes the sentiment.

"Basically, you have the WOW Hall or you have a party, and for not being 21 that sucks because you know you can't go out and see a band," Bullard said. "If you're 21, you've got probably five or six clubs on the weekends that you can

see live music at, but if you're 20 you got to wait for the right show to come at the WOW."

Morden's main goal in creating Eugene Rock Music was to help unify the scene and increase support for local music.

"I remembered when there was a better scene, when there was a better atmosphere for playing music in this town, and I wanted to try to bring that back and do things to help out the younger bands," he said. "It's hard to get gigs, it's hard to get people to listen to your music, and I thought maybe I was in a position after all this time and all the connections that I have to do something to help."

Nyburg: Essays an unexplored territory

Continued from page 5

But enough tooting my own horn. Let me introduce you to the world of the essay, where opinions are jagged and grammar is jaggeder. You could read David Smith's classic "A Theory of Comedic Polemics, or Why Dennis Miller is No Longer Funny," to start. Or maybe take a gander at Aaron Smith's "The Roots of 20th Century Postmodernism, As Told Through the Perspective of an Automatic Hand Dryer at the Gateway Mall Men's Restroom."

For those interested in literary subjects, I politely recommend Gerald Smith's "Classics of Canadian Naturalism," if you're into the pervo stuff. There are also such titles available as "An Essay About an Essay About Modern Metafiction," as well as "Why We Don't Read So Good No More."

There is also a wide range of

cinematic essays, such as Pauline Kael Smith's "The Subversive Nature of Terror: The Film Career of The Rock," or Jude Ebert's "Symbolism in Propaganda, Plus 10 Other 'Triumph of the Will' Drinking Games." Cultural criticism is a popular essay topic, with titles ranging from "Why P. Diddy is a Really Stupid Name" to "Why You, Personally, Are a Rotten Little Son of a Bitch." There is also Calvin Smith's "Do Pants Matter?" and Woodward Holms' "Funny Names: They Are Not Funny."

Political essays are also fun to peruse. My personal favorite is the 1786 classic anonymous treatise "I Predict America Will One Day Be a Whiny, Insufferable Country Full of Fat, Overbearing, Ignorant Bastards." For those looking for something in a more nationalist vein, I would recommend the more current piece, recently

published in a bathroom stall at the University Bookstore, entitled "Canada is for Pussies."

Personally, I've always had a fondness for essays with a philosophical bent. Eugene Sanders' "Nietzsche Screwed Up Everything" has always had a special place in my heart, as does the group effort "We Are Not Amused By Neo-Kantian Ethics."

So you see, there is a whole world out there of unexplored ideas just waiting for you to, well, explore them. So whatever your cup of tea is, you can probably find someone with an opinion about it. I promise I'll return to a normal column topic once the medication wears off. Now stop reading my column and go do something productive.

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Heads up Penny



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