

Hey children, what's that sound? WSOE jazzes it up

Virginia Galvez
Reporter

With talk shows on Tuesdays and specialty shows on the weekends, Elon's own 89.3 WSOE, dubbed "the only alternative," covers chart toppers from five different genres such as alternative, jazz, techno, hip hop and loud rock/metal. Once thought of as a mainly alternative station, WSOE has taken music education into its own hands with the addition of the jazz morning show.

Upon the station's founding, it was the Elon Board of Trustees who designated the type of music played and when exactly the station could broadcast, Travis Lusk, WSOE General Manager said. However, due to student interaction with the organization, the station has taken steps toward more liberal regulation of both scheduling and content.

While changes have been made in regard to the station's content, the jazz show holds as an alternative to a well-known musical form. Three years ago, chemistry professor Paul Weller took on the task of getting involved in the jazz program on WSOE.

"He took on jazz in a real serious way," said Lusk. Now the jazz director, Weller shows the most consistent interest, Lusk said.

In addition to providing professors and students with a relaxing



Virginia Galvez / Photographer

Pictured above are "Two Guys, a Gimp and a Radio Show," otherwise known as jazz deejays Chris Hendricks (left), Derek Powers and Trent Watts.

way to start their morning commute, the jazz morning show also aims toward musical education. Over Winter Term, more than 130 songs were added digitally to the station's jazz library. Because of this increase, WSOE hopes to expand what many college students define as "jazz."

One of the main hopes of the jazz morning show is to bring the newest

forms of jazz to the college campus, Lusk said.

"It's alternative jazz, a different connotation," he said. In terms of the older, more traditional jazz styles, there are hopes of musical

recognition and enlightenment among college students and according to Lusk, "we're trying to bring it back." Starting at 8 a.m. Monday through Friday, the morning jazz show broadcasts conventional and

more obscure tracks for jazz experts and first-time listeners.

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Sister Hazel returns to Winston-Salem

Lindsay Porter

Copy Editor

More than 10 years ago, Gainesville, Fla., natives Ken Block and Andrew Copeland laid the groundwork for a group that would go on to sell more than a million records and greet scores of fans worldwide as part of the five-man roots-rock band Sister Hazel.

Sister Hazel will perform with Dexter Freebish at 8 p.m. tonight at Ziggy's in Winston-Salem.

In 2003, Block and Copeland, along with lead guitarist Ryan Newell, bassist Jett Beres and drummer Mark Trojanowski, released the band's latest studio album, "Chasing Daylight." In 2004, Sister Hazel released a live album, "Live*LIVE," as well as a DVD, "A Life in the Day."

"Chasing Daylight" is the

band's first album since it split with Universal Records. It had previously released a self-titled album in 1994, "Somewhere More Familiar" with the hit single "All For You" in 1997 and "Fortress" in 2000. While band members don't describe the situation with the major label with hostility, they say that releasing something independently allowed them to work more freely with the songs they have racked up over the years.

"We just couldn't live in world that says you're only worthy to put out a record every three years. That's not how Led Zeppelin and the Beatles put out music 20 years ago," Trojanowski told Creative Loafing Atlanta e-magazine.

Released independently, "Chasing Daylight" showcases what Newell describes as the band's coming-of-age.

"We've all gotten better on our instruments. We can be a lot more spontaneous on our instruments," he told the Knoxville News Sentinel. "Also, our songwriting has evolved. We're not afraid to take chances."

Live Sister Hazel highlights an assortment of songs old and new. Favorites "Champagne High," "Happy" and "Change Your Mind" are likely to find their way into a set list, as are new hits "Your Mistake" and "Life Got in The Way."

Sister Hazel's mix of folk-country-rock catalyzes its appeal to the masses. Tickets for tonight's show are \$15 and available at ziggy-rock.com. Doors open at 8 p.m. for the all-ages show.

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