



The Loco-Motion Circus performing.

Wet Willie coming for Jam-Up

At last the word is out. The University Program Board (UPB) announced today the name of the band to play at Jam-Up.

Wet Willie will perform on Saturday, April 21, on the track field behind the gym. The time of the performance will be determined sometime between now and April 21.

The two founding members of Wet Willie are brothers Jimmy and Jack Hall. Jimmy plays saxophone and harmonica and sings lead. Jack plays bass and sings harmony. Their musical styles and personalities form the basis of Wet Willie.

Jimmy and Jack grew up in the suburbs of Mobile, Ala., with an early awareness of the area's musical heritage. Both had played in a number of local bands,

including a group called Fox. In the early 70s, following a move to Macon, Ga., Fox renamed themselves Wet Willie and released their debut album of the same name through Capricorn Records.

Marshall Smith (guitars/vocals) also grew up in Mobile. Smith played with Jack and Jimmy in the late 60s. Following a two-and-a-half year Army career, which included an eight-month stint playing and singing on a USO tour of northern Asia, Marshall returned to the Gulf Coast and met T.K. Lively, later to become Wet Willie's drummer. Smith and Lively put together a horn band, Piranha, which is still honking. Smith kept in touch with "the Willies" and occasionally sat in with them before permanently rejoining his old friends in

March 1977.

When Mike Duke (keyboards/vocals) joined the Wet Willie family almost three years ago, the group had already recorded one of Duke's songs ("Trust in the Lord"). Duke was a veteran of a number of local groups (including one with Charlie Hayward, bass wizard of the Charlie Daniels Band) when he took a break to write and made the decision to join "the Willies."

Lively (percussion) grew up in the Maryland countryside and received his first set of drums for Christmas at age six. Although he had played in a 12-man show band in high school, he did not become serious about music until after he joined the Air Force and was stationed in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. Except for a year in Vietnam, Lively played with the same group, the Total Sound, throughout his Air Force years. Piranha was a later incarnation of the Total Sound. Smith introduced Lively to Wet Willie.

Former member of Fat Chance, Larry Berwald (guitar), played trumpet and French horn in grammar school and took up guitar playing when he was 15. He was playing with a commercial top-40 band by his senior year in high school. Berwald was already familiar with Wet Willie's music by

the time Fat Chance played an engagement with them and he had the opportunity to hear them live for the first time. He continued to keep up with Wet Willie through their albums and was asked to join the group, after auditioning along with a dozen other guitar players.

The group toured following the release of *Wet Willie II*, recorded in Muscle Shoals, Ala., and released in 1972. On New Year's Eve that same year, the group recorded their first live album, *Drippin' Wet*, at the Warehouse—one of the country's premier rock listening rooms. "Shout Bama Lama," "Red Hot Chicken" and "Shame, Shame" were songs that typified the group's rock 'n' roll interpretation of rhythm and blues.

The Willies achieved top-40 airplay with the release of the single "Keep On Smilin'" and the album of the same name in 1974, and yet another extensive tour.

Wet Willie recorded three more albums for Capricorn: *Dixie Rock*, *Wetter The Better* and *Left Coast Live*. They continued a heavy touring schedule, appearing in major auditoriums across the country with such diverse groups as Z.Z. Top, the Beach

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Wet Willie will perform at Jam-Up on April 21.

"Roxanne" best cut on Police LP

By David Griffith

The Police are an English trio that defies all definition. Their style is a unique combination of reggae and the New Wave sound. The Police consist of Andy Summers on guitar, Stewart Copeland on drums and the lead singer and bass player is named Sting.

It is strange a rock group would name itself the Police. Rock 'n' roll is by nature a rebellion against all authority. Remember Brando's lines in *The Wild Ones*;

someone asks "What are you rebelling against?" and his reply was "What have you got?" It all turns full circle when a rock group proudly calls itself the Police.

The best track on *Outlandos d'Amour* is "Roxanne." "Roxanne" is a mixture of rock vocals and reggae beat. As the song progresses to a chorus, it changes to an indistinguishable New Wave wall of sound. It then repeats the cycle. "Roxanne" is the story of a streetwalker loved

by a street kid. "Roxanne, you don't have to put on the red light/I won't share you with another boy." Sting's energized vocals are the star of this catchy hit tune.

Many of the tracks on this record blend into one another. They get lost in their own repetition. "So Lonely" is the second track that carries the same sound as the third, "Roxanne." Occasionally there is something unique such as "Be My Girl, Sally."

This cut opens with the style of a poetry reading.

As a band, the Police are quite good. Summers, the lead guitarist, is an ex-member of the Animals and of Soft Machine. Summers is a perfect for their reggae sound. The drums provide another positive aspect of Police.

This is a band that could wage an effective war against the rock establishment.

The Police, *Outlandos d'Amour* is available at all area Record Bars.

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