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Variety

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Live Music Moments

Ames may not be the next Seattle, Chapel Hill, or wherever else bands seem to be popping up, but it does get its fair share of live music. Some of the shows were so good you just had to be there, but if you weren't, here is a little overview of a few of the musicians who set Ames' cumulative stage aglow.

Aerosmith, Cry of Love

Tyler and Perry—what a team! Aerosmith, with guests Cry of Love, thrilled more than 13,000 fans with classics, new hits and a little Bo Diddley (Yes, Perry can sing). What more do you need?



Courtesy Photo

The Drovers

Pick a time that they played in Ames this year (out of the three) and you have an incredible show. Mix two parts punk, one part traditional Celtic influences and a dash of tabasco for spice in a tumbler. Shake and then pour them out onto a stage, and you have a concoction that is guaranteed to send a crowd into an uncontrollable frenzy.



Courtesy Photo

House of Large Sizes

You pick the show, because anytime that H.O.L.S. plays, it's amazing. This is possibly Iowa's best live band.



Courtesy Photo

Jimmy Thackery and the Drivers

Blues! Blues! Blues! And hot blues at that! Thackery attacked his guitar like it was a fierce animal that needed to be tamed. As he and the Drivers ripped through some powerhouse blues, I swear I saw smoke come from his fingers!



Photo by Jeff Inman

Taj Mahal

The ethnomusicologist (say it five times fast, I dare ya!) treated the Maintenance Shop to two sold-out shows that encompassed everything from blues to jazz and back again. Mahal's gravelly voice, mixed with smooth acoustic guitar, created a night to remember for a lifetime.



Courtesy Photo

The Freddy Jones Band

This Chicago quintet stormed into People's Bar and Grill and took no prisoners (that's trite, isn't it?). Combining fluid vocal harmonies, incredible guitar work, and an unbelievable energy, The Freddy Jones Band almost managed to get the crowd to break through the floor.



Courtesy Photo

Rescue 311?

The recent earthquakes in California knew better than to mess with the men of 311, a band that has itself conquered land-masses of crowds with its heart-stopping performances.

If you were among the fortunate to see 311 at People's last semester, then you know of the funky parties it throws each time it takes the stage.

Billboard magazine said that 311's style "...fuses heavy rock, funk, rap, and reggae in the style of the Beastie Boys and the Chili Peppers."



Courtesy Photo

311

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