

ENTERTAINMENT ROUND UP

What's happening in Humboldt County?

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Tri-City Weekly

There's something to be said about lesser-known acts that are worth taking a chance on. They are often more approachable, sell their own merchandise and bask in every lyric and every sweat drop produced on stage. It's worth shelling out a few bucks to find yourself surprised by some up-and-coming new artists. Thursday and Saturday are the best nights to sample sets of talented out-of-towners in the great Humboldt nation.

Name: Austin Jenckes
Genre: Folk/pop/rock
From: Duvall, Wash.
See him: Thursday at 8 p.m. at Six Rivers Brewery, free

Upon hearing this man open his mouth, I can imagine sitting at the corner of Six River's bar and swooning instantly into my fruity wheat beer. **Austin Jenckes** has a sensitive tone to his voice and his lyrics could melt a gal's heart. If Edwin McCain and Kings of Leon (two of Jenckes said influences) could procreate (musically, of course) Jenckes would be their sexy, guitar-strummin' baby. He's a lot less gritty and Southern Rock than Kings of Leon, but he drags out vocals with similar southern guitar riffs. Anyone who has a musical sweet tooth will indulge in Jenckes rich, sensitive vocals.



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"Everything's going to be alright," "conquer all your fears" and other inspirational lyrics add to mellow feel-good music that serves as an appetizer for a weekend of more upbeat musical excursions.

Song to preview: "This is Not My Song" (Check out MySpace for audio)

Name: Rare Monk
Genre: Experimental/indie/rock
From: Portland, Ore.
See them: Saturday at 10 p.m. at Jambalaya, \$5

In the song, "My Little Secret," Rare Monk starts whistling, then sings: "I wanna cover you with nacho cheese because, girrrrrl, you're just so foxy!"

The indie beats of **Rare Monk** definitely sound like they would be blasting out of a hipster's college dorm room, very "Portland." On Facebook, Rare Monk calls themselves "sexy, dance rock." I concur. There's no emotional B.S. in this band — they're all about having a good time while not being too sweet. I actually giggled out loud with enthusiasm when I first heard their lyrics. They are clever,



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inspiring and cute. The song "Mr. President" is reminiscent of Ben Folds' wit. The beat is fun and poppy, but the occasional screeching Modest-Mouse-esque howl could easily erect a mosh pit depending on the audience.

Song to preview: "My Little Secret" (Check out MySpace for audio)

Local
Ishout-out

The Great Salvation (indie pop) and **Bad Actors** (new band composed of ex-Buffy Swayze members, Uzmecho and Sin Men) play at the Alibi on Saturday, too. This is the second show ever for the Bad Actors who recently debuted at the Accident Gallery. The show is a benefit for the Humboldt Council of the Blind where badass rocker and small town nice guy James Forbes works his butt off. Sliding scale entry fee to dance and help a good cause? Sweet. It's soooooo worth splitting your time between, with the recommended Rare Monk show at the Jambalaya just a block away.