

Regional rock & blues band takes center stage at GorillaFest

A favorite regional band will be the featured attraction at GorillaFest on Saturday, Oct. 8. Oreo Blue, a blues-rock-soul band from northwest Arkansas will perform in the Gazebo from 11 a.m. until approximately 1:15 p.m. for GorillaFest, the free community tailgate party that precedes each PSU home football game.

With six CDs to their credit, Oreo Blue has been a fixture on the regional blues circuit almost from their inception in 1991. Their latest CD, "The Oreo Blue Experience," is a tribute to Jimi Hendrix and is an appropriate showcase for the talents of lead guitarist Gary Hutchison.

Others in the band are Brian Crowe, with credits from New Orleans to Hollywood, on saxophone; Rod Williamson, the Northwest Arkansas Awards' "Best Bass Guitarist of the Year for 2004; and Stephen Boudreaux, a recipient of the Louis Armstrong Jazz Educators Award, on drums.

Oreo Blue was named Best Blues Band at the 2000 - 2004 NAM Awards. The also received an Ozark Music Awards Best Musicianship Award.

GorillaFest takes place in Gorilla Village, just east Carnie Smith Stadium. Inside the village, several food vendors will have a wide variety of tailgate foods for sale, including southeast Kansas fried chicken, barbecue, Italian sausage sandwiches, hot dogs, nachos and pizza. The PSU Bookstore will have Pitt State clothing and memorabilia for sale and students from the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation will conduct free games for children.

For more information about GorillaFest, please call 620-235-4122. For more information about Oreo Blue, visit their Web site at <www.oreoblue.com>.

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