

Wolcott gives stellar performance at Friends & Co.

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Photo courtesy of mywolcott.com

Wolcott, a native Chicago band, entertains fans with its epic blend of soul and bluesy rock.

While the majority of students were scrambling out of town last Thursday to savor their fall break, Chicago's Wolcott performed arguably one of the most stellar shows to come through the Charleston area since Aretha Franklin.

The approximately 50 fortunate students to witness Wolcott's performance at Friends and Co. that evening were treated to a fresh breath of rock n' roll for the Charleston music scene, which has been experiencing an era of bands lacking either rock or soul.

Opening up for Canadian band Tricky Woo, Wolcott tore through its set of 11 blistering songs. No band in Chicagoland dares go on stage after Wolcott; its live show just can't be beat.

Attendees of Thursday's show knew they were in for an entertaining performance from the beginning seconds of the opener "teardrops."

The sheer power and heart in singer Ryan Deyoung's voice grips your attention, and when the rest of the band kicks in, you can't help but rock out.

"Heart Attack" is one of the band's perfectly arranged rock songs that need not end.

If Deyoung's not jumping off the stage, then he and bassist Ben Mollins are bouncing around all over the stage ready to dive head first into the drums.

They look and act like a real rock band too, tat-

tooed and sporting plenty of hair. The guitar work on such scathing songs as "somewhere in shanghai" and "fiending" was intricate and well executed.

Near the end of the show Wolcott brought out "all aboard for love" which has no business being played in such a small venue.

This song belongs in some enormo-dome with 50,000 fans singing along.

For its encore Wolcott dashed into the tune "can't stop body rock," which may be the best closing rock song written in the past 30 years with its infectious chorus "you can't stop my body tonight/so don't even try."

This is a band that should be huge; there is no reason for them not to be.

It is gaining popularity in the Chicagoland area and the group's live shows are causing quite a stir as this one did.

Wolcott came to Charleston with a few fans and left with everyone that witnessed its show stopping performance.

As one of the band's guitarist said after the show, "Even if we make it big and are playing sold out stadiums, we still want to be the band who will come over to a fan's apartment and party with our fans."

For more info about the band, or to order their music go to www.mywolcott.com; to read an interview go to www.fictionfunhouse.com.