

Dogs hit Elbow with new CD

BY SEAN RAYFORD
PHOTO EDITOR

Bobby Houck and Hank Futch have played together since they attended high school in Florence.

For these two musicians and the rest of the Blue Dogs, the upcoming week should prove to be an exciting one.

On Oct. 26, the band will release its second major studio recording, titled "Letters From Round O."

And a few days later on Oct. 30, fans can catch a CD release show here in Columbia at the Elbow Room.

In addition, those who purchase "Letters From Round O" will get into the performance for free.

The Dog's latest release has been produced by David Lowery, who recently co-produced the

newest Counting Crows CD, "This Desert Life."

Despite performing together for years, The Blue Dogs weren't a full-time touring band until 1996. In April of that year, the band was the sole opening act for Hootie and the Blowfish's CD release in Columbia, featuring a crowd of 30,000.

Although "Letters From Round O" is only the second major recording, you can find their older work at many local record shops.

One of their fan favorites, their third release from 1995, "Live at the Dock Street Theatre," has sold more than 10,000 copies to date.

The Blue Dogs have also released "Music For Dog People" (1991), "Soul Dog Food" (1993), "For the Record" (1999) and can also be found on "AWARE 5-The Compilation" (1997).



Bobby Houck sings and plays guitar for Blue Dogs

SEAN RAYFORD PHOTO EDITOR



David Stewart (left), on lead guitar, and Hank Futch, on stand-up bass, performed Monday evening on Greene Street as part of the kickoff of Sweet Carolina, USC's homecoming celebration.



Blue Dogs' tour dates

- Wednesday, 10/27/99
Handlebar in Greenville.
- Thursday, 10/28/99
Univ. of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.
- Friday, 10/29/99
The Music Farm in Charleston.
- Saturday, 10/30/99
Elbow Room in Columbia.
- Wednesday, 11/3/99
The Lighthouse Tavern in Burlington, N.C.
- Thursday, 11/4/99
The Blind Tiger in Greensboro, N.C.