

The Center's going to be hoppin', if you go

WENATCHEE — The next seven weeks will bring at least three huge crowds to the Wenatchee Center, considering the lineup that R.L.S. Entertainment Enterprises has scheduled and the way North Central Washington music fans have flocked to previous R.L.S. shows.

The next three programs all feature acts familiar to NCW fans:

◆ **Jan. 30:** Too Slim and the Taildragers, Spokane's popular trio featuring Tim "Too Slim" Langford, and the "swamp rock" of Kelly Thibodeaux and the Etouffee Band.

The Taildragers are perennial winners of Best Rhythm and Blues Band honors from the Inland Empire Blues Awards; and Langford, John "Midnight" Cage and Tom "the Stomp" Brimm have been one of the bigger draws around the Northwest for nearly a decade. Etouffee, led by Thibodeaux's red-hot fiddle, have performed with luminaries like Elvin Bishop, the Marshall Tucker Band, Buckwheat Zydeco and the Fabulous Thunderbirds.

◆ **Feb. 6:** Jonathan Harris and Long Rider, a Tacoma-based country band that has become a Northwest favorite at fairs, festivals, rodeos, country dance clubs and casinos.

Harris was a hit at last year's Methow Valley Country Music Festival, where he opened for Merle Haggard and Charlie Daniels. Harris and Long Rider perform a combination of country standards and their own tunes.

featuring guitarist Randy Wheeler. There will be some serious pickin' going on.

◆ **March 6:** The lineup for this show has not yet been finalized, but King Biscuit — always a favorite among NCW

rhythm and blues fans — will definitely open the show. The co-headliner figures to be either Swamp Mama Johnson, which headlined the first R.L.S. show 14 months ago, or

King Biscuit is managed by percussionist Robert Sandidge, who also runs R.L.S. Entertainment Enterprises. The band also

includes the original King Biscuit, guitar virtuoso Paul Cowie; bass player and lead singer Bert Baker; Bruce Guy on tenor and baritone sax and Arthur Dunn on keyboards.

Motorbark Sound and Lighting will provide the light and sound production.

— Scott Sandberry, World staff



World photo/Dan Seabrook



The Spokane trio Too Slim and the Taildragers, above, will perform Jan. 30 at the Wenatchee Center, to be followed by Jonathan Harris (Feb. 6), right, and King Biscuit (March 6), far right.



What: Too Slim and the Taildragers, and the "swamp rock" of Kelly Thibodeaux and the Etouffee Band, Jan. 30; Jonathan Harris and Long Rider, Feb. 6; not yet finalized but King Biscuit will open the show, March 6.

Where: Wenatchee Center

Tickets: The Jan. 30 and March 6 shows are \$12 in advance and \$15 on the day of the show. The Feb. 6 show is \$10 advance, \$12 day of show. Tickets for the Jan. 30 and Feb. 6 shows are already available at several local businesses, including Bellmore Owl Drugs, Sun Dog Bead Co., West Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel, Avalon Music, Killer Kolor Big Prints, Condotta's Motor Sports Central, and The Tanning Co. in the Valley Mall.

For more information: Call R.L.S. at 662-6872. People can also call that number or the Wenatchee Chamber of Commerce at (800) 57-APPLE for information on several hotels' discounted rates for R.L.S. enthusiasts. Call the R.L.S. number for discounted ticket purchases of 10 or more.