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PRESS RELEASE

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**BADGER STATE BOASTS TOP BANDS, SINGERS**

OREGON, Wis.-Wisconsin pride has been pounding out chart-topping beats for decades thanks to the talents of dozens of Badger State musicians.

From rock n' roll to polka and big band swing to punk, Wisconsin bands, singers and performers have earned worldwide acclaim for their music and their talent. Many of the Badger State's top musical talents are profiled in the newest book in Badger Book's Famous Wisconsin™ series, *Famous Wisconsin Musicians*.

Author Susan Masino, a Madison radio disk jockey and music journalist, profiles more than 30 of the Badger State's most talented and influential musicians from legendary drummer Clyde Stubblefield to flamboyant entertainer Liberace. The book also features an extensive Wisconsin music trivia section and a chapter that names as many as 100 additional musical Wisconsinites.

A special treat for music fans is the book's introduction, written by electric guitar inventor and recording innovator Les Paul, a Waukesha native. Paul describes how he got his musical start in Waukesha as "Rhubarb Red the yodeling hillbilly from Wisconsin" thanks to his mom, a friendly junk dealer and some generous civic groups.

Among the dozens of other talents profiled in Famous Wisconsin Musicians are:

- Big Band Leader and famed clarinetist Woody Herman
- Legendary jazz singer and Ripon College grad Al Jarreau
- Torch song singer Hildegard
- Homespun American rock n' roll band, the Bodeans
- Country music legend Pee Wee King
- Rhythm and blues singer/songwriter Boz Scaggs

- Rock guitarist Steve Miller
- Righteous Brother Bobby Hatfield, and
- Punk rock band, the Violent Femmes.

Susan Masino, author of *Famous Wisconsin Musicians*, works as a disk jockey in Madison. A veteran music journalist who once published her own rock magazine, Rock Central and also wrote the book about her days interviewing, partying and hanging out with some of the biggest names in rock, titled: *Rock 'n' Roll Fantasy: My Life and Times with AC/DC, Van Halen, Kiss....*

To set up an interview or for more information about *Famous Wisconsin Musicians*, or other books in the Famous Wisconsin™ series (including: *Famous Wisconsin Authors, Famous Wisconsin Film Stars, Famous Wisconsin Mystics*), contact Kristin Gilpatrick at Badger Books at 800.928.2372 or at [kristin@badgerbooks.com](mailto:kristin@badgerbooks.com). Reporters can contact author Susan Masino at [ROKCENTRAL@aol.com](mailto:ROKCENTRAL@aol.com) or at her home at 244-2737 (author numbers NOT for publication).