

The Wolverines, a local 15-piece band made up mostly of musicians under age 20, specialize in reproducing the sounds of jazz bands of the 1920s. They were a hit at a recent session at Walker Art Center at which Garrison Keillor taped some old-style radio shows for KSJN and the Minnesota Educational Radio network.

There are no written arrangements for the music The Wolverines play, and they had to construct their charts from listening to old records by Paul Whiteman, Fletcher Henderson and others, including the original Wolverines. They even have a remarkable vocalist, Becky Riemer, who sometimes manages to sound like the voice off a vintage 78-rpm disk.

During the taping, Keillor announced two upcoming gigs for The Wolverines, and they're worth noting: April 28 at the New Riverside Cafe, and May 12 at Coffeehouse Extempore.

I'll make a fuller report later on the Keillor taping. Meanwhile, fans who miss his early-morning MER program will want to tune in next Monday when he makes a

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one-day return with The Prairie Home Companion from 6 to 9 a.m. It's part of the publicly-supported station's fund-raising "week you'll never forget." Keillor hopes to bring in some live musicians to supplement the record fare.

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