

The 11th Hour set to rock Kahuna's Sunday

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The 11th Hour rock band performed recently in Aiea and on base and is scheduled to perform live at Kahuna's Sports Bar and Grill on Saturday.

The band, fronted by Navy Chief Warrant Officer 4 Doyle Purdy, played at Chez Sports Bar and Grill in Aiea on Oct. 8 and Striker's Grill and Tap at K-Bay Lanes here Sunday.

Normally, Purdy serves the Pacific region network operations division officer at the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific, in Wahiawa. Though his days are devoted to the Navy, his real passion resides in writing and composing music and performing in his rock band.

When searching for a band, the band members had one thing in common, a passion for music. The four musicians found each other online through a Craigslist classified ad. In addition to Purdy on lead vocals and rhythm guitar, Lopaka Naone plays bass, Mike Elwood plays lead guitarist, and Caitlin Bunner is the band's drummer and percussionist.

"We started in February of this year," Purdy said. "We're an alternative/hard rock band and we do covers as well as originals, and we play every opportunity we can get."

The band has played has played for a variety of crowds around Oahu at venues such as Hard Rock Cafe in Waikiki, Hawaiian Brian's, The Irish Rose Saloon, Chez Sports Bar and Grill, and at most of Oahu's military bases.

During their Oct. 8 performance at Chez, it was at typical laid-back night — at least until The 11th Hour took the stage. The amplifiers buzzed as the band tuned their instruments for the right sound.



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Navy Chief Warrant Officer 4 Doyle Purdy, Pacific region network operations division officer at the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific, performs with his band, The 11th Hour, at Chez Bar and Grill Oct. 8.

Purdy took a few deep breaths before he kicked off their set. The show started with an AC/DC cover to get the crowd warmed up. Purdy said he lives for moments like that where he can really belt it out on the microphone and woo a crowd.

"My job is very stressful at times, and I'm actually a late bloomer. I didn't actually get into music until about eight years ago," Purdy said. "So when I found out I had a talent, [music's] been an addiction ever since. The military is my primary duty, but music is my passion. So that's how I spend my time."

Each band member brings a different perspective and flavor to their creative mix, which generates a diverse and unique flow of talent that spans beyond any one genre of music.

"It's all across the board," lead guitarist Elwood said regarding their style of music. "Doyle is really channeling a lot of music from the '80s in his own kind of way. We've got a kind of 'Alice in Chains' edge as well as some happy acoustic stuff. So all of Doyle's originals are really neat and catchy."

During their performance, the band made their performance look effortless by never missing a beat. It was as if they had all the time in the world to plan out their routine, but in reality each band member has to balance their busy lives with their practice schedules to have time to perform shows.

"How do I balance the military, the band, and everything else? Very carefully," Purdy said. "I've got to be organized, communicate with my family, the band and, of course, work. Communicating with my family and the band is the key important thing."

The band members also expressed their excitement for their upcoming shows at Marine Corps Base Hawaii where they'll perform a second show for service members and their families at Kahuna's this Saturday and Dec. 16.

"My husband is a Navy submariner, so I already understand the military," Brunner said. "I always love playing for [service members], they're always a riot."

When it comes to their fans, the band mates agreed that nothing compares to the ability of musicians to connect and captivate their audience with their work.

"When you can see the faces of the people you're playing to, that's when you feel the difference than just playing by yourself with a group of guys," Lopaka Naone, The 11th Hour bassist, said.

For details, visit <http://www.11th-hour-rock.com>.