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VOL. 121 NO. 20

CANADA'S OLDEST OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION

FEBRUARY 20, 1987

## Red 'n' Black worth the wait

By KAREN MAIR

This year I was given the honor of reviewing the 40th Red 'n' Black Revue. And you know what? . . . I enjoyed it! This was the third year I had seen a Red 'n' Black and this year's was by far the best.

How did this year's array of acts pan out? Varied, hilarious, and even amazing. I saw students up on stage that I never dreamed would perform on a stage. I was amazed. Some of them were even my friends. All I can say is that every act but two in my opinion were class acts. Everyone deserves a mention.

Paul Richards was the illustrious Master of Ceremonies. Because I had to wait until the end of the performance to judge whether he did a good job you have to wait until the end of this review to hear how he fared as an emcee.

Right off the top there was a modern dance tune called *Angel . . . ho!* This number featured Sherry Law. It was well synchronized, fast paced, and a flashy number.

Next came a curious mime act - a tight rope walker. Bruce Smith mimed to perfection. The clouds were effective . . . if a little squeaky.

Following that act there was a comic skit pulled off by Brent Ryan, Jamie Young, and Paula Green. This act was funny . . . it was so funny even the actors were laughing. I have to admit the nurd stole the show.

The Bicentennial Choir under the direction of Stephen Leacock sang a couple of numbers with a quality sound. This choir got off the ground last year during the Bicentennial celebrations and is obviously still going on strong and in tune.

Then came an act called *Lemonade* without the ice. *Lemonade* consists of Greg Thibodeau and Kevin Hollis on guitars. Greg Hollis, noticeably absent usually accompanies the duo. Their rendition of *American Pie* was well received - we also viewed a microphone wrestling match. *Lemonade* is getting good.

To close out the first act were the boys from the Woodshed . . . otherwise known as *The Guise*. These boys played the old classic *Run Around Sue* and one of their original tunes.

During the intermission, the audience relievedly drank their cigarettes in the corridors and lobby in eager anticipation of Act 2. And yes, Tim Judah was still racing around . . . getting much sleep lately Tim? No? I wonder why. Well, without much ado the second act proceeded.

After the refreshments came the funniest set in the show. *Donawho*. Yes, it was a splendid take off of Phil Donhue starring Erik Gingles as the "powder" haired man himself. Guest speakers were Richard Hatfield/Troy Cloney and Reagan/Richard Renault.

The act was great. Erik charging up and down the aisles in pure Donahue style and Renault nodding his head into his chest with Reagan like perfection. I'll admit I knew Erik had talent but Renault? His impersonation of an aged Ronnie Reagan was something to see. Hat's off to this act.

The next act. What can I say - these guys were good - Joey Kilfoil on guitar, Matt Munn on guitar and some good looking unidentifiable dark haired guy on bass. Who was that masked man? These guys have been playing awhile - they must have been around here for awhile to have come up with *UNB Blues*. The words to Matt's song should be put in stone in the Harriet Irving or the Social Club.

Next was *Captain Neville and Drummer Richie* rhyming off the "Ten Reasons Why You Forgot To Go To School and Forgot To Use a Contraceptive." These guys are definitely products of the residence system and they are funnnnee. I heard that this act was a last minute addition to the show but I am sure glad I saw them. Captain Neville is funny



Tim Judah and Erik Gingles Co-Directors of the 40th Red 'n' Black Revue.

- a little risqué but funny.

In light of recent controversy, the next act almost stole the show... almost, but not quite given the subject matter. In an act entitled *The Bennetones*, Erik Gingles surpassed himself. He wrote hilarious lyrics to the tune of *Summer Lovin* about John Bosnitch's latest activities in the form of . . . *oh those massive lawsuits... sue some more... sue some more*. Am I getting my point across? This act put into song the hilarity of it all. I heard that Erik Gingles and James Small wrote the words to the song... it is another one that should go into a yearbook or carved in stone somewhere.

The next number was a dance tune that was good but a little bland. The six girls performed smoothly but lacked a little pizzazz.

At this point I was thinking that the Red 'n' Black had surprised me with some uniquely funny skits but this one passed the others with its ingenuity. Alright guys! Fess up . . . who is writing your material? In a skit entitled *Subliminal Seduction* Erik Gingles has again proved himself as a super coy comic. I would say watch out girls but I know Gingles has a girlfriend.

The Constantine Brothers performed next. What can I say that hasn't been said before. All I can say is that they keep rearranging their rearrangements of classic tunes. The good news? The Constantines plan to purposely flunk all their final exams just so they can make next year their fifth annual Red 'n' Black Revue. How is that for school spirit?

The jugband of course per-

formed - well, they tried to perform. I don't know who they were so I will introduce you to them as they were introduced to me: Nelson from Plaster Rock, Wendell "Trouble", Abe the belly-button-lint-collector, Clem the voracious gum chewer, Orville the alcoholic, Cletus the early bird, Hank the ballplayer, Gus the repercussionist with the bladder problem, and (drumroll please) . . . Zeke. The only song I stopped laughing long enough to listen to was entitled *Skeeter-on-my-peeter*. Like I said, the show was ingenious. I don't wonder that these guys dressed up so that no one could recognize them.

And the finale . . . the 40th Red 'n' Black kickline? It lacked but not seriously. When the girls started kicking in different directions I started wondering. The thing is that even if the kickline was not quite as smoothly orchestrated as it could have been it could not ruin what was an excellent show. I guess the girls worked everything out by the final night so we can't complain.

### Red 'n' Black alive and kicking

What can you say about a show that is put on by your peers? Well, I watched these guys bust their butts, ruffle their feathers, get defensive (even abusive) and rehearse, rehearse, and rehearse. It has been almost a tradition at the Bruns to pan the show but I just couldn't do it, I even tried. Tim Judah will tell you I had my misgivings before going to the show.

Lest I forget the emcee was Paul Richards. In spite of the fact that everyone knows and loves him he was still good.

The Red 'n' Black this year was something to be proud of. Let's not postpone the next one, eh guys.