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Red N' Black Reviewed



Hi Dan, neat camera, eh? . . . (Danny Steeves, emcee for Red n' Black)

By STEPHEN MARKS

"Monday", someone said. Night-time. Arrived in ... Fredericton?

Home Base. To the ... um ... uh ... Red 'n Black. Yeah!

What a load of people. Where's the bar? Damn! It's not open...

(Later) Let's start again.

It was raining quite hard last night, and I set out, soberly, from my parking spot several hundred paces from the Playhouse. Great! Here it is

Yes, it's time for the 41st annual Red 'n Black. It's a show totally put on by students, and its' whole idea is for crew, performer and spectator alike to have lots of FUN, something I can easily identify with.

I don't know what to expect, though (I'm a sports reporter), but heck, I'll give it a try.

The lights dim EEK!

Oh! How I long for the shore of bonnie Scotland, with my dancing lassie by my side. It's the shows' opener, and with a

Tartan touch, it takes me back to the days of my ancestors.

And the curtain closes. Is the show over? Already?

Wait, who is this guy?

Who? Mr. Danny Steever?

An education student? Wow! Nice suit, shiny shoes. He tells us they've had 40 years to practice this, but he doesn't look a day over 25. Good make-up crew. Hey, where are you going?

Next, an interpretive dance, and if I interpreted it right, The Seduction was.

Hey, here's Dannie again. I guess they must have liked him the first time. Good jokes.

Oh no! It's more than two or three people, and they're wearing armbands. "DYB DYB DYB." Done Done Done Well Well Well, and I'll have to check out these marshmallow brownies.

Brenda Corey is next. She's from Nackawic, but you wouldn't know it from the way she can sing and play the piano. Doing her own stuff, too. Good performance, I liked it.

Danny who? I wish he wouldn't make everyone laugh like that, I can't hear.

Rat-a-tap tap. Let me guess. It's a tap dance routine. No, it isn't routine at all. How do they do that so well?

Hi Danny, what's new? I don't know; what would Rene Levesque be doing if he was still alive?

The Bones of Elvis are next. It's nice to hear Rock music without a synthesizer, and they definitely don't need one. They played "I Apologize" and "It's too bad the guitar blew up". Then, the guitar blew up. Nice touch.

Danny Steeves is back. I like the way he doesn't come on too strong. He's friendly with the audience, and you can tell they like him.

Great, I really like classical guitar, and John Kirkley knows what he is doing. The 19th century piece is strangely haunting.

What's going on? Am I being hypnotized? No, it's just "the man they call the spleen", and

how he grew up. Good laugh, and I'm glad he wasn't at my junior high school.

What's Danny trying to tell us? Halftime, oh. Where's the refreshment stand, anyway? This show is great so far.

Bar...bar, hmmm, River Room, Beaverbrook. Yeah, one of those, and one of those and one of these chitt-chitty things. God, they're gross.

Back to the show.

Danny again! What a surprise. Nice to see ya.

Hey, it's "Wheel ... of ... Fortunova", hosted by Pat-Sejofski and Vanna. (She doesn't look the same in person.) Oh no, it's the Belizian Secret Police. Oh, whew! It's the KGB. I guess you don't lean to the right on this show.

Time for a stand-up comic. Who is this guy? Paul Richards, an Antlerville rep. His Newfie friend certainly gets in some humorous scrapes. Must be a Newfie.

Hey great. It's girls in tight clothes dancing around. I like this. Sexism ... the horror.

Wait, don't stop ... come back, that was great. The Bruns Xmas party is this weekend, you're all invited.

Sigh. Who is this guy? Frank who? They let McKenna in here ... premier of what? I never met him at the U.N. I wish my legislature had been like this.

Danny Steeves! Poor guy, they keep throwing him on stage. I think he's enjoying it more now, though.

Matt Munn and Scott, two harmonizing baseball players are on stage. They are excellent! I hope they don't get in trouble for doing an extra song - but I'm glad they did. So's the rest of the crowd.

Mike and the Bennetones. That Mike (Erik?) sure has a lot of energy, and he gives it to the crowd. "Raise them fees." Damn straight - raise 'em higher. Why am I singing along with this?

Hi, Dan. Neat camera, eh? FLASH! That photographer

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