

Let's all laugh at The Dock

by Stephanie Boertjes and Billie-Jo Daken.
Brunswickan Entertainment

The Dock experienced another successful night Tuesday as they hosted the Yuk Yuks. Although it was not packed they were generally pleased with the turnout and felt the evening was a success.

Opening, before the Yuk Yuks, was music entertainer, Jay Pennell. He was able to control the impatient crowd with his exceptional guitar and singing talents. He sang a variety of all time songs which included the King and was generally well received. As one great Philosopher said, "He's hot!"

However, the evening really got started with Yuk Yuks which included; Johnny Gardhouse, from North York, Ontario; Chris Quigley from Oakville, Ontario, and the feature presenter, Kerry Talmage from Vancouver, British Columbia. Together they made a dynamic group. No provincial, political, beer, drug or performer joke was missed as everyone and anyone was made of Poor Rita MacNeil will probably be looking for another apology, but it is doubtful that she will receive one from Kerry Talmage who raked her over the coals for her complaints with the Royal Canadian Air Farce. Jonny Gardhouse without a doubt stole the show with his arranging ability to

work the unruly and largely university crowd.

Perhaps the most disappointing aspect of the evening was the disruption of the acts by drunken hecklers. Although Gardhouse and Quigley appeared to take them in stride, Kerry Talmage was very annoyed with the hecklers and ended up paying them more attention than they actually deserved. Talmage chose to hurt back insults which only proved to encourage them to continue. After speaking to some students in attendance, it was generally felt that although the students were excessive in calling out and disrupting the show, Talmage could have handled it better. Naturally all comedians must expect these problems in their line of business. One performer felt that the situation could have been avoided had the Dock stepped in earlier and spoken to one table that was causing problems, as is common policy in some other bars. Then again perhaps some students should take politeness 101 next term, so that next they will have some respect, if not for the performer, than for the audience that has paid to see the show. Despite this problem the comedy throughout the evening was hilariously funny. Gardhouse, Quigley and Talmage were all able to keep the crowd laughing and have a good time, over of course beer and wings.



A quick chat with Hayden



Hayden preaching to the almost-covered

photo by Mark Bray

by Jon Bartlett
Brunswickan Entertainment

Hayden is a solo guitarist guy from Thomhill, Ontario. Hayden has been playing live for about 2 1/2 years. Hayden sings and sometimes screams. Hayden wants you to listen to his lyrics. Hayden was in town on the 13th for a show at the farmers market. Hayden took some time out to chat with me.

J:Hello sir.
H:Hi, Jon
J:Tell me a bit about Hayden
H:He's from Kansas and he's on his way home.
J:I'm going to have to edit this if you keep meowing around.
H:Next, question.
J:Where's the current tour taking you?
H:I'm in the Maritimes for about a week, then I'm headed out West for a while.
J:Is there any label talk for the next album? What are your plans?
H:When I get home from the Western tour, I'm going to have about a month and a half at home to record demos for the next album, or the demos may be the next album.
J:If the recordings end up being demos, where do you plan on recording?
H:I don't know who I'd like to work with, or where to record yet. It hasn't been investigated because I've been doing my own stuff for so long.
J:What about these new songs? They seem to take you in a different direction.
A:I think the difference in my song writing now is that for the first CD, I recorded 21/2 years worth of acoustic songs to be played live with one guitar and vocals. For the new stuff, I want to get more into playing with other people, and I'm not content with just one instrument and vocals anymore. I want new song structure -not just verse-chorus-nice-whatever, and more long parts with little intricate things.
J:Are you planning to have other people play on the album?
H:I may have some guests but a lot of it I want to do myself. I'm going to either rent or buy drums and a bass.
J:You evaded my label question earlier.
H:Label, schmabel. I don't think I'll be able to get signed anywhere anyway because I want too much. I want to be able to do a Hayden album one day or not tour if I want to, yeah, just hang around my house in- What do you call those things that Brian Wilson wears? A housecoat -a baby blue housecoat, if I want to -but probably won't.
J:What's up with your label, Hardwood Records?
H:I haven't been doing much with it lately but I think in the next year I'd like to release a few singles whether it be something of mine or someone who I like their stuff - that kind of thing - but there's no distribution network for it so I'd have to talk with labels about getting it out in stores.
J:Are there any tour plans for after the album, or is that all up in the air right now?
H: Everything's up in the air right now, because I want to take at least 2 months off to record. I'm doing one show in Toronto in December, but nothing else as of now.
J:Alright, that's it, thanks a lot for your time and good luck with the rest of the tour, and the new album.
H:Thank you.

Hayden's first CD, "everything I long for", is readily available at finer record stores or you can get it for only 12 bucks, postage paid, from Sonic Unyon records, P.O. Box 57347, Jackson Station, Hamilton, On L8P 4X2. Hayden also has a video for "bad as they seem", yeah -the one you always see on Much, watch for the new album in '96.

Acrobats amaze and delight

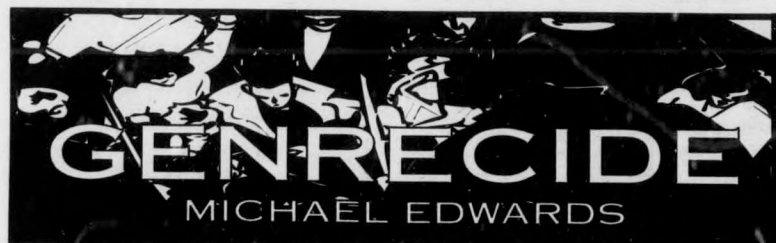
Words really cannot do justice to the latest of the *Onstage* series. They really can't. Last Monday night, the stage of the Playhouse bore witness to some of the most incredible feats I have ever seen performed. I realise that sounds more than a little melodramatic, but if you did attend the Incredible Acrobats of China, you would know exactly what I mean. This particular troupe of acrobats comes from Shanghai, and are considered to be the best in China. And on the strength of this performance, I really do think I would agree.

But enough of this out and out gushing - what exactly did go on? Well, the troupe did all kinds of amazing things using seesaws, bowls, pyramids of glasses and all kinds of other things that you can find just lying about the house. Yet it was so much more than that, as without any kind of prop they could pull off almost inhuman acts of balance that even now seem unreal. They could even make balancing on someone's head by one foot seem elegant and natural.

Some acts could never be thought of as natural, hence the gasps of disbelief from the audience when two of the girls lay on their backs and rolled tables on their feet. And when they swapped tables by flipping through the air, the gasps got even louder. Those gasps returned at various points throughout the evening, but to me the most amazing segment was when one girl flipped and spun several others (individually I might add) on the her feet as if they was no more than barrel. Or even a table.

And then there was the way that they fitted nine people onto one bicycle. And the way that the lone boy could snuff out candles using a whip. And the way that bowls, cups and spoons could be flipped from a seesaw onto their heads so effortlessly. And the way that two bowls attached with a piece of rope could be spun, thrown and caught without even blinking an eye. That's the kind of evening it was - every single thing observed on the stage took your breath away, and some of them did even more than that.

Sometimes it felt like I was watching some sort of surreal circus sideshow ("See the incredible folding women! She folds into this little tube and walks around!!"), but there was enough of an elegant streak to the show to prevent it becoming just that. This was without a doubt the most unique, and the best, *Onstage* performance I have seen to date. A wonderful evening's entertainment.



Just a very quick column this week as I've been much too busy talking to Cub and all those other bands who played in town last week. A damned fine show. And that means that both Blur and Oasis will have to wait for another week before their new albums get reviewed. But they will get a passing mention this week as both bands were involved in the special album I want to concentrate on.

Help is another of those charity albums. But before your preconceived ideas kick in and make you run for the door, read on. This entire project is different for a couple of reasons. Firstly, every single track on this CD was recorded on one day - September 4th. All the bands spent that day in recording studios getting the songs down on tape (or disk - you get the idea). All the other behind the scenes stuff happened in the days that followed, and the album reached the stores in the UK on September 9th. It went on to sell 71,000 copies in its first week.

The second reason is the bands involved - the list reads like a veritable

Who's Who of anyone who is anyone in the UK music scene. There are contributions from Oasis (with Johnny Depp playing lead guitar!), Blur, Suede, Radiohead, the Boo Radleys - the list just goes on and on. Paul McCartney even turns up to perform 'Come Together' with Paul Weller and Noel Gallagher 33 years to the day after the Beatles recorded the original.

Most of the songs are unavailable elsewhere, and the quality of them is high right across the board. Some standouts are Sinead O'Connor's take on 'Ode To Billy Joe', Portishead performing a new song 'Mourning Air', and Neneh Cherry being backed by a mystery band who are alleged to be REM. Lots of goodies.

And the best thing is that in addition to all this wonderful music, all the profits from the record are going to War Child, a charity which offers relief to the innocent victims of war. I can't recommend it highly enough, and suggest that you go out and buy it right this minute - it really is that good.

...Competition Time...Competition Time...

Well, at long last we've managed to give away the soundtrack to *The Brothers McMullen*!! And the winner of that CD is (cue fanfare) **Martin Brown**, so he can come and pick that up at noon today.

And the winners of the other four CDs from last week's competition are **Lisa McParland, M-K Whitney, Allison Webster and Trevor Cavanagh**. They too can come in and pick up CDs at noon today - first come, first served!!

And now to this week's competition where you have the chance to pick up one of the following goodies - **The Presidents Of The United States Of America CD, Holly Cole's latest CD *Temptation* or a Gandharvas cassette**. And all you have to do is answer the following question:

Whose songs does Holly Cole cover on her latest album?

The first three correct answers will win something or other. Just wait and see...