

Pink Thunderbird Rolls Over Audience With Laughs

ACC Player's Fall Production Welcomes Newcomers, Success

KARA EUBANK
Features Editor

As I walked into Granum theatre, old Hank Williams' tunes filled the room. I sat down in my seat at the same time the lights started to dim. At this point in time, I had no idea what to expect.

Little did I know that the ACC Player's production of *Pink Thunderbird* was about to run full-throttle throughout the theatre.

The first act started and I was a bit skeptical. The scene was the back porch of Elizabeth's house. It was summer, two years after the end of the Vietnam war.

The witty remarks from Hattie Dealing (Ginger Davis), the dreamy thinking of Elizabeth Caulder

(Heather Garant), and the arrogance of Amy Lee Fullernoy (Erica Detro) made the first act immediately interesting and entertaining to watch.

"I loved the part when Hattie was talking about Amy and then Amy shows up wearing the same dress as Hattie. It was something that would so happen to me," said Jamie Scott, a sophomore theatre goer at ACC.

You could see and hear the personalities each character was portraying. Davis, Garant, and Detro each made their characters come alive in a way that the audience could relate to.

Often, regional dialects sound like they are coming right off of the script and the characters do not come to life. However, each actress conquered the dialect and gave a believable performance.

The first act is from the female point of view. After the women finish their comic act, in which the male

characters are often mentioned, it became the men's turn in act two. The second act is from the male point of view.

The second act takes place in an alley behind a bar. Roy Caulder (Ben Gougeon) is the husband of Elizabeth and the owner of the 1959 Pink Thunderbird (the play's namesake).

He went off to serve in Vietnam and has not been the same since his return. During the scene, Gougeon does an excellent job of slowly revealing that his character has had a hard time adjusting to post-war life.

During this second act, Roy and his younger brother (Chris Oposnow) sit in the alley and talk about everything from the war to Baby Ruth candy bars. Ray is not the smartest man on the planet, but that is what made his character so hilarious.

Later in the scene, the

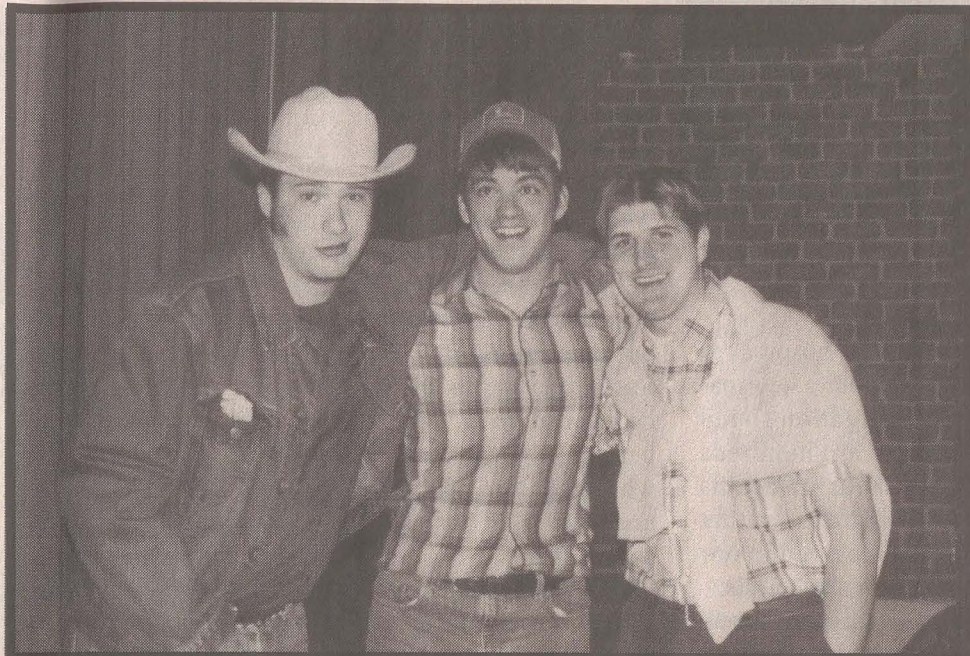


Photo by Kara Eubank

Ben Gougeon, Chris Oposnow, Matt Petrovich stay in character after opening night performance.

two brothers are joined by Cletis Fullernoy (Matt Petrovich), husband of Amy Lee. Cletis is a shy, preppy, rich boy who wants more than anything to be like Roy. This longing to be like Roy creates major problems and laughs in the play. During the second act, I don't think I

ever stopped laughing.

It was a very funny act and the men acted out their characters well. Beth short, an ACC student, said that "the Baby Ruth candy bar story cracked me up. I did not expect him to say something like that at all. It was great."

On a scale of 1 to 5, I give

an overall rating of 4. This production was definitely worth seeing. I commend the directing, and acting of both the male and female characters. I also want to point out that the background scenery, courtesy of the ACC Theatre Production class, was truly amazing.

Greatest Hits Album Brings Nirvana Tracks Back to Life

ISRAEL MUNSEY
Staff Writer

Nirvana fans and critics alike have awaited the arrival of a new song since 1994 when lead singer, Kurt Cobain, ended his life and the band's career. The new self-titled album, Nirvana's seventh, contains 14 tracks.

The band had several different drummers and guitar players in the short career but the band as the world knows it, the popular band, the band that started the "Nirvana frenzy" contained just three members, Kurt Cobain, Krist Noveselic, and Dave Grohl.

Nirvana starts with the long awaited "You Know Your Right." This song was recorded January 30, 1994, just three months before Cobain's life ended, and never

officially released. If you were online during the Napster and Audio Galaxy days you might already have this track under the name "Autopilot", it is a live version of the same quality. The track was expected to be the best Nirvana song, but to some reviewers this is an incorrect assumption. The song is not Nirvana; it is Kurt Cobain drowning everyone else out. This is very disappointing to the fan who is used to Krist Noveselic's melodramatic bass guitar and Dave Grohl's astounding percussion / back-up vocal performance.

The next three songs are: "About A Girl", "Been A Son", and "Sliver". The versions chose for this greatest hits record were all recorded before the band as we know it came together.

These songs mark a three-year struggle with different drummers and guitarists under the Sub Pop label. The pre-Geffen (David Geffen Records) tracks are performed and mixed differently than the Nirvana versions we are used to and this is evident when trying to sing along.

Track five marks Nirvana days, the 1991 Nirvana that the world knows. Smells Like Teen Spirit is where the album really starts and should have been number one; after all, it is the song that emerged punk rock into the mainstream. (Note to editors: Nirvana defined their music as "punk rock" not "grunge" please see video "Nirvana Live! Sold! Out! Tonight! 1994" the video contains several

interviews)

The record continues with "Heart-Shaped Box", "Pennyroyal Tea", "Rape Me", and "Dumb", all from the *In Utero* album. These songs are again classic Nirvana... great music from an even greater band. The last two, "All Apologies" and "The Man Who Sold The World" (a David Bowie cover), were taken from MTV's *Unplugged* session. The two compilations show how the band came together in the last months of existence. They show progress and Hall of Fame status.

The CD is well worth the price if you have not experienced the Nirvana thrill. If you have *Nevermind* and *Unplugged* you can skip buying this one because you have all the good songs already.

Mark Wills Releases Greatest Hits Album

ISRAEL MUNSEY
Staff Writer

Mark Wills' recently released "Greatest Hits" album debuts two new songs along with nine of his biggest hits to date. The CD, which was released November 5, 2002, dramatizes the new style country music with well-known ballads and a few up-beat tracks as well.

The first number, "Jacob's Ladder", spans from Mark's self-titled debut album. The song was a top five hit where "getting caught didn't seem to matter 'Cause Heaven was waitin' at the top of Jacob's Ladder." "Jacob's Ladder" was a triumph in Mark Wills' history and was a great choice as the number one song on the disc.

Mark Wills has toured with Vince Gill, John Anderson, LeAnn Rimes, and Bryan White. Touring with these great artists has helped make Wills an outstanding contemporary

vocalist who is dedicated to pleasing his fans.

Tracks three, four, and five off the 1998 follow-up record are known as the great ballads: "I Do (Cherish You)", "Don't Laugh At Me", and "Wish You Were Here" all hit number one on the charts and are a must for a greatest hits compilation.

"Back At One" rounds out the good old tracks. The new hit that everyone is raving about is "19 something", this song takes Mark through the seventies and eighties talking about things everyone can remember about their times.

The downfall to Mark Wills' music is the fact that he doesn't write his own music, some believe the songs are not passionate when the singer does not write them. Getting over this minor flaw, Wills' music is the new style country and his singing will probably produce many more hits.

Star Wars Episode II Lives up to Modern Standards

KAREN SCHUMAN
Staff Writer

You don't have to be a Star Wars fan to enjoy "Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones". It's basically an action/adventure movie with a bit of romance thrown in for good measure. It has a PG rating, mostly because of violence.

This film takes place 10 years after Episode I. It features Anakin Skywalker as a Jedi in training. He's assigned to guard Padme, who is now a Senator. Those familiar with Episodes IV-VI will notice a lot of foreshadowing.

The characters and scenery are wonderful. George Lucas,

director, producer, and writer, has a good imagination for coming up with alien people and landscapes.

The special effects are entertaining, the acting is great, and the story moves along fairly well. I only found two problems with the movie. There are a few parts that seem a bit slow, and the movie is a little long (142 minutes).

I had two favorite scenes in the movie. One is when Yoda, an old Jedi Master, hobbles into a battle scene, leaning heavily on his cane. He then whips out his light saber and kicks some tail! It's just a short scene, but I'd like to be that spry when I'm almost 800

years old. My other favorite scene is when Padme, Anakin, and Obi-Wan (Anakin's Jedi mentor) have been captured and are about to be executed in an arena. They are chained to three separate posts while alien beasts are sent into the arena to attack them. Padme had a pin hidden in her mouth which she uses to pick the lock on her chains. She then uses the chain to pull herself up on top of the tall post she was chained to. While she's doing that, the two Jedi are still trying to free themselves!

If you'd like to find out more about the movie, try this site: www.starwars.com/episode-ii.

