



Blair Packham, lead singer and vocalist for Jitters, performs a song during the performance at Markham Theatre last Tuesday. Jessica Polley and Dean Sanderson of Markham won two free tickets in a draw.

Jitters

JENNIFER DEMPSEY
Correspondent

Attendance low but great show

Has anyone got the Jitters? Markham Theatre for Performing Arts did last Tuesday, March 22, thanks to G. B. Enterprises.

Opening for the Jitters was a local group from Box Grove, called Rant and Rave.

A unique band, Rant and Rave has distinct vocals which sets them apart from other bands.

The band suffered some technical problems which detracted from their show, but in spite of this setback, they continued to play as though nothing was wrong.

But the bugs were fixed, and after the intermission, on came the Jitters, the second half of the bill for the night.

And what an energetic show it was. From the first song to the last note played in the evening, the Jitters had the audience moving in their seats. Within 15 minutes, kids were down on the floor in front of the stage dancing to the music.

The band draws a variety of fans to their shows — from hard rockers to middle of the road listeners, and this somewhat surprises the band.

"I don't know what it is about our music that gives it such a range of listeners," said Blair Packham, lead singer and co-founder of the band.

Listening to the band on Tuesday night, the answer seemed rather obvious — it's crossover music. The tunes tend to be hard with a steady back-beat (ballads excluded, of course), yet the vocals are soft and harmonious. Sixty's music presented with an eighty's flair.

The show was well presented, with action going on all over the stage. Take your pick as to who you were going to watch playing their instrument — there were five members of the band on stage to choose from.

Danny Levy, on lead guitar, was here and there, playing beside Glen Martin, the drummer. Or else he spent his time trekking around on his half of the stage.

Glen Martin hammered his sticks into the drums with utmost ease, and seemed to enjoy the performance from his seat behind the drums, located near the back of the stage.

Teaming together for a few songs, Matthew Greenberg, the bassist, and Blair, the vocalist (who also plays guitar through the entire stage show), worked their way across the stage playing their respective instruments.

And, who could forget Peter Nunn, the keyboardist, who showed his versatility on his instrument many times throughout the night. One occasion in particular was when Blair was talking to the audience, Peter began to play Shock The Monkey, by Peter Gabriel.

On top of this, there were the constant one-liners, the jokes, and "the new guitar bought during the last song".

The Jitters carried the jokes into the audience as well, as they teased the crowd with one of their hit songs, "Last of the Red Hot Fools".

Two times during the show, the band began to play the hit single and stopped, saying they didn't feel that the crowd was ready for it. As it turned out they were saving it for the last song of the evening.

The Jitters have quite an interesting "dance" to this particular song, and had the audience doing it while they were playing.

Apparently, in the last place in which they played, Wembley Stadium in London, England, with superrock group Heart, they had the entire place doing the dance.

At the end of their set in Wembley, they got a standing ovation from 12,000 people. What a let-down it must have been to play at the Theatre, and to have so few people turn out to see them. It's a shame, because Markhamites missed a darned good show.

People were heard to say that the production was just like the band had been playing in Maple Leaf Gardens that night.

Musicians called to jam on stage

Patio Lantern

Calling all amateurs and professionals. Jam along with Dave Bacha every Wednesday evening at the Patio Lantern, located on Hwy. 7, just east of Wootton Way, from 9:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday night Southpaw will take the stage.

Signature Inn

Pauly and the Greaseballs is now on stage at the Signature Inn's Champagne Dinner Theatre, with performances every Wednesday evening. Having recently made its debut, Champagne Complex can be seen at the theatre Thursday through Saturday.

For further info and reservations call 475-8892. The Signature Inn is located at Hwy. 7 and Hwy. 404.

Duchess of Markham

Enjoy Blues-Night, every Tuesday night in the pub at The Duchess of Markham, beginning at 8:30 p.m. A five piece band is featured, and is headed by Andrew Heathcote.

Herongate Barn

Coming April 8 and playing until May 14 at the Herongate Barn Dinner Theatre is the comedy Mover Over Mrs. Markham.

Tickets are \$21, \$23 on Saturday, and include a five course meal, dinner entertainment and two-hour stage show.

For further info and reservations call Dawn or Cheryl at 294-0426.

Hobby Horse Arms

Conrad Kipping entertains audiences this weekend with your favourite Blue Grass and Country songs at Hobby Horse Arms, Main Street, Uxbridge.

Nag's Head North

Nag's Head North, located on Woodbine Ave., presents Hotel California, a tribute to the Eagles tomorrow night.

Markham Theatre

Tonight three lively ladies called Alley Seatz will perform the music of the Andrew Sisters and the Supremes. This will be an evening of rhythm, swing and hot vocal harmonies. They play everything from Big Band to Motown.

Phone the Markham Theatre Box Office for further info and tickets at 479-0201.

Marco Polo Ristorante

Marco Polo presents local musician Ron Beer every Friday and Sunday evening from 8 p.m. Ron plays your favorite tunes from the 60's and 70's on his guitar.

Marco Polo is located at 136 Wellington St. W. at Galsworthy.

Sheraton Parkway

Sara and David Hamilton perform their uptown/downtown sounds in Captain Peppertree's at

WHAT'S ON Nancy Hoskin



the Sheraton Parkway Hotel. David sings solo Monday to Wednesday, while the duo joins forces Thursday to Saturday. The Sheraton Parkway is located at Hwy. 7 and Leslie St.

Cullen Barns

The Cullen Barns Dinner Theatre presents Lister Sinclair's 1953 historical romance *The Blood is Strong*, playing through April 9.

For reservations and info about performances at Cullen Country Barns call 477-4475.

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3 The Fox & The Hound
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