How the RnB Revue rocked my socks

by Jason Henry

A sense of pride and tradition, which has been lost on many UNB students over the years, burned strong this past Sunday night in Memorial Hall. At 8 pm, the Tommy Guns, armed with an arsenal of hard hitting guitar riffs and catchy tunes, kicked off the 59th annual Red n' Black Revue. The rockers from Quispamsis started the show off with a surge of energy, setting the stage for a night of talent, laughs and entertainment.

This year's revue was a smaller, more intimate event than UNB has seen in the past. One-hundred twenty people joined this year's performers in Memorial Hall's auditorium. The stained glass and old wood moulding created a strong sense of ambiance, which reflected director Brianne Gulley's vision of a piano bar type performance. Backstage, the mood was electric as the acts put final touches on their routines and anxiously awaited their turns to perform.

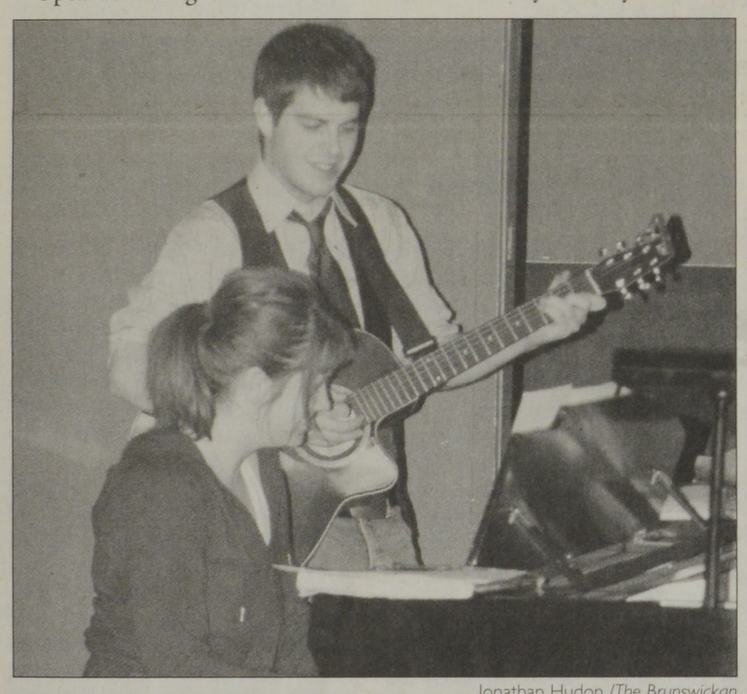
With 17 acts slotted into the night's itinerary, the crowd was promised a good show. The first half of the production featured several musical acts that encompassed a wide range of styles. For example, Billy Fong and Tyler Lombard's country/folk song 2006 - A Year in Review" was a sartorial look at the past year's headlines that received some well deserved laughs from the audience while Denine Ellis impressed the crowd with her rendition of the classic Jewel song Hands. We also heard from our Student Union president Jessica Stutt who played the song One by One and yours truly, who played an original piece entitled The 3 am Love Song. The first half also featured some more unique acts such as Jeremiah Keirstead's interpretation of the Japanese Para Para Dance, which became an instant crowd favourite.

Upon returning from intermission, the audience was treated to another barrage of talent, kicked off by UNB's Kung Fu club (pun completely intended by the way, haha). An impressive mix of pure technical skill and artistic motion, the group's members showed their talents through unarmed movement, sword technique, and the SU's very own Brad Mullins demonstrated his abilities with a bo staff.

The second half also featured a number of highly skilled musical acts as well including the vocal stylings of two very talented young ladies, Alyssa Hayter and Bethany Vail. We were also lucky enough to have the Battle Dudes perform for their third year in a row. They once again amazed the crowd with their take on the B-Boy way of life. The dynamic show of breakdancing skill we've come to expect from these dancers/athletes was even more phenomenal this year with the introduction of Bboy Dblaze whose beatboxing talent stunned even his own crewmates.

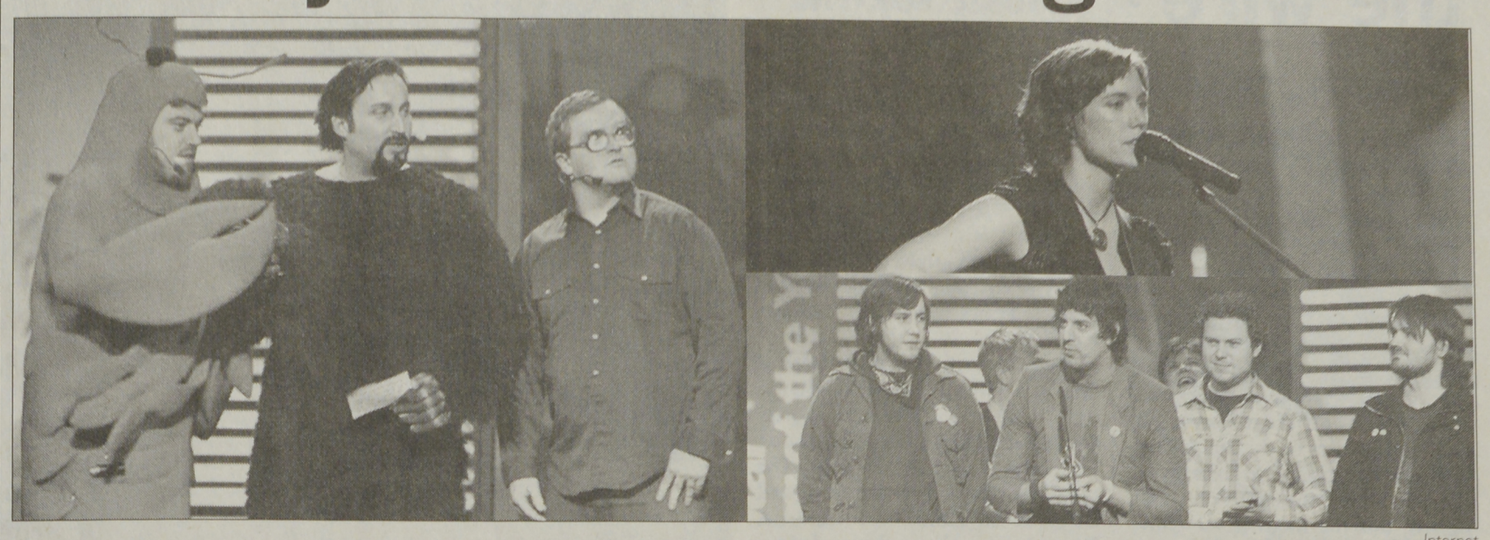
Of course, the night would not have been complete without the traditional Red n' Black revue kickline. This year, we were fortunate enough to have the UNB Women's hockey team, fresh from a 2-0 victory earlier that day, volunteering their expertise for this closing act. Kicking to AC/DC's Thunderstruck, and Rammstein's Du Hast, the night was brought to a close.

From the point of view of a Red n' Black revue performer, this was a great show, and I think that everyone who came had a good time, despite the sweltering conditions up in the balcony area. For those of you who didn't get a chance to make it this year, or simply didn't hear about it, be sure to check it out next year at the 60th annual show. Talks are already underway concerning how to really step it up for this milestone event. For those readers that did come out: A huge thank you from all of us at the Revue! See you next year!



Jonathan Hudon /*The Brunswickan*

Some jerk's ECMA blog



Internet

by Jim London

It's 8:00 on Sunday evening and I'm watching the 2007 East Coast Music Awards and writing this review AT THE SAME TIME. This year's awards show is hosted by the Trailer Park Boys. Uh oh! They just broke out of jail... and now they're arriving at the awards dressed in orange prison jump suits... and they just crashed their crappy car through the Halifax Metro Centre and onto the stage! Those nutty guys.

They're announcing all the people in the show, but I recognize hardly any of them: I guess I don't really listen to much East Coast Music. Good thing the TPBs are there, otherwise this could be boring. Actually, it'll probably be boring anyway.

Bubbles is talking about his sick cat Shitrock, which apparently ate a donair as large as itself. I'm glad they're allowed to swear at least a little bit.

Now Bruce Guthrow is on stage. Blah blah blah. Oh, it's the first award: the Factor Recording Artist of the year. What a surprise: some chick I've never heard of is the winner, Jill Barber. She's pretty, though. And she seems nice. Good for her.

There's an act now: Rex Goudie, singing his hit song You Got to Me from his incredible new album! Of course, I've never heard of him. But he does have a guy wailing on one of those crazy double-handled axes -- that almost makes up for his silly hat and over-thought facial hair. Doesn't make the song any better though. Boo.

Ricky and Julian are breaking into the wardrobe room. Now Jill Barber -- the newly crowned Factor Recording Artist of the Year -- is singing a song. It's called Hard Line. Wow, the tambourine player is TOTALLY upstaging her. Damn, he's good -- too good for this act: if anybody knows this guy's name, please please please e-mail me (bruns.copy@gmail.com) so I can sign him to my new tambourine orchestra.

There's a lady talking now who looks like a blue muffin -- apparently that's Sheila Rogers. She's awarding the CBC Rising Star Song of the Year... to In-Flight Safety! I've never heard of them, but their lead guy is a hunk.

Commercial break... and the boys are back. Ricky is dressed as a lobster and Julian is in a gorilla suit.

George Belliveau the French Canadian country rocker comes out to play a song. He looks like he probably drinks a lot. He'd have to, just to live with himself. This is painful.

Now the Divorcees (from New Brunswick, apparently) are playing a song called The Boonies: "The place where I belong." Evidently the boonies are great. No wonder folks out west are contemptuous of us.

Now a brusque woman is making lobster jokes in an effort to stretch things out. Evidently the next act needed some more time to get in a sad state of mind. Catherine MacLellan is singing a morose song about love. Her band looks pretty depressed. Now her pal David Myles is singing. His song is more upbeat, and it seems to be about clichés. Somebody called Rose Cousins is singing too. Snoooore. This goes on and on. Somebody put them out of their misery! Finally, the last of this crew is up: Old Man Luedecke. I like him better than the others: His song is about The Joy of Cooking (all moms own this book) and includes the refrain, "the answer's bacon." Indeed.

SOCAN Songwriter of the Year. ECMA goes to... Joel Plaskett. I think I've heard of him before -- the name sounds familiar. He must be a pretty big cheese.

Trailer Park Boys interlude. They've doffed their silly costumes. Apparently Bubbles is going to sing a song at some point. Sweet.

Tribute performance to a bunch of old, dead men by a trio of young, attractive women. It must be Opposites Day. They seem to be singing a medley with some dudes. One of the guys has a harmonica. I like harmonicas -- I should add them to my tambourine orchestra. Then it would be a tambourine and harmonica orchestra, which is awesome.

OMFG! Could that be Rita McNeil? And here I thought she had the flesh-eating disease (har). Rats, it's a different fat lady. Doris Mason. I've never heard of her. I hope Rita comes on later.

Hey, it's the Barra MacNeils: I've heard of them. Singing sad Celtic-style music. Now it's Ashley MacIsaac playing peppy Celtic-style music. What an emotional roller coaster! Now everyone's singing The Lord of the Dance. Where's Michael Flatley when you need him? I'm sure he's dancing, wherever he may be.

Cut to a bar, where the TPBs are presenting a couple of awards. Bluegrass award goes to J.P. Cormier, whom Ricky calls his "twin brother." He's not really his twin brother, but the resemblance is uncanny. Classified wins for best hip-hop song. Now, back at the proper ECMAs, Classified is rapping about life in the Maritimes. Surprise! It has fiddles.

Finally, it's time for Bubbles to play his song. Kitties Are so Nice, including a full choir to sing backup! This is great. There are even two sweet kittens onstage, held by Ricky and Julian. They're so cute. Not the funniest material they've come up with, this act, but endearing nonetheless -- easily the highlight of the show so far.

Male song of the year: Ron Hynes. I've never heard of him, but he gets a standing ovation, so people must like him. He has a nice hat and looks like he'd be good to have as your grandpa, the sort who gives you a quick sip of beer when your mom's out of the room.

Dr. Helen Creighton Lifetime Achievement award time -- but a woman with an unpronounceable name (Measha Brueggergosman) is going to talk first. Portia White, a member of the Nova Scotia black community, gets this one. She's dead, so somebody from her family is going to accept it. Measha's about to sing a song in her honour. Wow. She can really belt it out. I think this is the first time I've heard a French opera performance -- not my style, but that voice is impressive.

Mary Walsh is on after the commercial break. She's one of the creators of This Hour Has 22 Minutes. I like her; she's one funny Newf. Haha. She called politicians "arse-lickers." The crowd loves that; everyone hates politicians -- especially unknown musicians who rely on government grants to eat. Anyway, this is the second best part of the show (after the kitty song).

Ron Hynes is back, and this time he's singing a song called Dry about getting sober. I guess I was right on the mark with that comment about him being the sort to give his grandkids beer -- although I suppose he probably wouldn't now that he's dry. Still, I think he'd be a cool grandfather.

George Canyon wins Entertainer of the Year. He's thanking God for his award. More evidence that God doesn't like me if he helped this bohunk win. Ugh. At least it doesn't look like he's going to sing. How did this man win? Man, we East Coasters really are rubes.

In-Flight Safety appears to be the last act of the show. This is probably my third favourite part so far, both because of the singer's dreaminess and because it means the show is almost over.

Roll credits. I guess that's it. Only 365 days till next year's ECMAs! I can hardly wait.

Lady Dunn fashion show

by Jennifer McKenzie

Lady Dunn Hall, in conjunction with rUNBuddies, held their 12th annual Fashion Show on Sunday night. The charity event was a fundraiser for the Lady Dunn's official house charity, the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

The DKT Cafeteria sparkled in "Christmas style" lights, pink ribbons and pink balloons. The event was hosted by Kent Allen and Keely Wallace and DJ'd by Artigas Cruz.

The night opened with four year old guest speaker Makayla Somers. Makayla is a fundraiser for the CBCF and she explained that this year for her birthday party she's asking her guests to donate to the foundation instead of bringing her gifts.

Groups of six to eight models showed off clothing from local retailers such as Eclipse, Tip Top Tailors, West 49, Roots, SubTown, Smart Set, Bootlegger, Ricki's, and the UNB Bookstore. They performed fun and entertaining choreographed dances to songs like Shirley Bassey's Big Spender and the theme song from the James Bond movies.

The dances were choreographed by Miranda Bailey, Christy-Lynn Jenkins, Camilia Ugarte and Amanda Call.

As one of her two songs, Alyssa Daley performed Melissa Etheridge's I Run for Life fitting the theme of the evening. Weak Size Fish also performed, and cake from The Happy Baker was served during the quick intermission.

Door prizes were given away throughout the evening.

Barb Thompson, a rUNBuddies organizer, also spoke as a guest speaker. She thanked Lady Dunn Hall for their supporter, explained how runBuddies raised money by participating in CIBC's Run for the Cure and talked about the significance of the CBCF.

All in all, the night was an overwhelming success. Lady Dunn raised over $860 for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

The foundation works to fund, support, and advocate for education and awareness programs, early diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer, and quality of life for those suffering from breast cancer. It is also part of a seven-member coalition which funds breast cancer research in Canada.

Lady Dunn is working to raise $5000 by March 30th. If they reach this goal their vice-president and Fashion show organizer, Jacquelyn Stephen will shave her head. If you'd like to support Lady Dunn please contact Jacquelyn.Stephen87@UNB.ca

The Barries are back!

by Julianne Philpott

Taking place on March 16th, 2007, the annual Barry Awards return to CHSR. For those of you who listen to our campus radio station (you all should), it's a time to give kudos to your favourite shows and the people behind the scenes. You can vote for Favorite Host, Favorite Music Show, Favorite Spoken Word Show (at least 80% spoken word), and Favorite Cultural Show (either music or spoken word).

For those of you who are also members, there are even more awards to pick from aside from the four basic categories: Best Spoken Word, Best General Music, Best Specialty Music, Best Cultural Show, Special Event, Behind the Scenes, Rookie of the Year, and the Director's Award.

On Friday afternoon, I paid a quick visit to CHSR to speak with Volunteer Coordinator, K Brookland, who had a lot to say about The Barry Awards. "People work hard all year," she offered, "and it's nice to get recognition from other members and certainly from the listeners. It's nice to get a pat on the back and hear, 'Job well done!' "

Brookland believes that the Barry Awards are good for more than just recognition of talent and help around the station. From a social aspect, there's the inherent ability of the awards to bring people together. "A lot of members don't get to know each other very well or at all. If you have a show on at 11 o'clock at night, you'll never have a chance to meet the people who are here in the daytime."

It's time for the burning question: why are they called the Barry Awards (and not, let's say, the Julianne Awards)? In October of 1959, a man named Barry Yoell held a meeting for anyone around campus interested in radio broadcasting. Although the group was tiny, they were devoted to the dream of their own radio station. Success! By 1960, the equipment was bought, the UNB Radio Society was founded, and Barry became its first Director.

The studio back then looked nothing like it does now. The place the volunteers called home for nearly a decade was a small 12'x12' studio in the basement of Memorial Hall. Despite the tight squeeze, the Radio Society had their very own closed-circuit radio station.

In 1969, they moved into the Student Union Building and then served three universities: UNB, STU, and until '73, the Teacher's College. After a little progress and a lot of heart, Radio UNB changed its name to CHSR (College Hill Student Radio) and came to be the radio station that we love today. The rest is history.

There are three ways you can vote this year: phone (453-4989), e-mail (chsr@unb.ca), or drop your ballot in the box at CHSR in the SUB. If you need any more details, check out www.unb.ca/chsr. Remember, you can only vote once for each category, so don't mess it up! Here's your chance to give recognition to all the volunteers who gladly entertain your music-lovin' ears all day long. Good luck to everyone at CHSR!



NOTICE

All nominations for the College Hill Social Club Board of Directors shall be made in writing by a nominator with written consent of the nominee and shall be hand delivered to the General Manager by 5:00 p.m. Friday March 9, 2007.

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