

ENTERTAINMENT

Bobby McFerrin's Blue Bus Voice

by David Friend
Collegian Staff Writer
Rating-

Have you ever tried talking on a Blue Bus excursion? Especially during rough sections of road, did you notice that you made funny sounds that sometimes sounded like a bass or a clarinet? Apparently Bobby McFerrin did, and he has controlled his voice to do many amazing things. First of all, his singing is note for note perfection. The most amazing thing, however, is his ability to produce note for note perfection while using his voice to do bass lines, clarinet parts, and even electric guitar parts of the songs. The only special production techniques he has used is multi-track recording, in which one part at a time is recorded and then integrated into the rest of the pieces of the song.

The reason that note for note perfection stands clear in my mind is due to the fact that half of the ten songs (go ask your local math major how many that makes) are cover tunes. The reproduction is

incredible, and all McFerrin uses is his voice! On "Good Lovin'", the tempo is a little too fast, the first few times you listen, but after replaying the tape several times, the excellent structuring that McFerrin demonstrates overcomes problems. He covers a Creedence Clearwater Revival song, "Suzie Q", and retains the bayou feel evident on the original. The most astounding cover on the album by far is his rendition of Cream's classic "Sunshine of Love". I'm afraid that purists will say that this version stinks. However, this version is as close as possible to the original, with McFerrin's voice taking all of the instrument's parts. For example, he replaces Eric Clapton's wailing guitar with, appropriately enough, a wailing, screaming voice. McFerrin also covers the Beatles song "Drive My Car" and a rendition of jazz artist George Buddy Miles' "Them Changes".

Speaking of changes, interestingly enough, McFerrin's original songs have a completely different feel than the songs he

covers. His current #1 hit "Don't Worry, Be Happy" is exemplary of his style, but most of the rest are not exactly pop material. He does one "instrumental", "Drive", that Levi's liked so much that they put him in a 501 Blues commercial (the one with the guy beating on his chest and wailing). The rest of his songs have vocals, usually with upbeat messages, as on "Don't Worry, Be Happy". In "Simple Pleasures", he sings "Honey, get up/get up/it's such a beautiful day/oh simple pleasures are the best/yes they are!". Most of his songs have been obviously influenced by jazz. Unfortunately, I do not listen to jazz enough to tell you how good he is in context. But I do know one thing, it works.

Originally I wanted to do this review in an issue last year because the album, "Simple Pleasures", was released in April and didn't receive much airplay or interest. Luckily for McFerrin (and the rest of us), "Don't Worry, Be Happy" was included on the soundtrack of "Cocktail". This allowed McFerrin to reach many more people and created an interest for his music. I feel that his music and style are so good that it was only a matter of time (and a lucky break) before he would break into the scene.

"Slow Profile" Wins Battle

by Patrick Head
Collegian Staff Writer

The second annual Battle of the Bands took place Saturday, September 24 on the Reed patio. Organized by Joye Dado and Brent Vernon of the Student Programming Council (SPC), the event featured the Zipper City Blues Band as well as five other amateur bands. It was an opportunity for local bands to play for an appreciative audience as well as compete for a \$500 cash prize.

Common Man, a band from Jamestown, New York kicked off the event at about one o'clock. Featuring Larry Johnson on Bass; Brian Fiorella on Guitar; Michele Merwin on keyboards and vocals; Eric Zwiag on guitar and vocals and Mike Sudul on Drums, Common Man is an alternative rock band playing original songs as well as music by REM and Santana. When asked why they call their band "Common Man", they replied that their songs are about the common, average person with everyday problems.

Shining Armor, a group from Union City, was up next. Formed in May of this year by Thom Lucas (Rhythm Guitar) and Scott Lewis (Lead Guitar) the band soon grew to include Brian Maynard (Drums) and Tim Lucas (Bass). Shining Armor features all original music about everyday life. Their performance Saturday marked their "kick-off" into the music business.

Late-comers to the event, Gideon Winter performed next. A band from Edinboro, Gideon Winter has been together for about three years. The band performs mainly at schools, parties, and local clubs and features original bluesrock music. Members of the band include Paul Barboni on Guitar, Mike Oncea on Drums, Tito Bonjorno on Bass, and Garrett Andre on vocals.

The next performance was given by the featured Zipper City Blues Band. Formed about four years ago, the band began as a country-rock group. Later Zipper City went on to play traditional blues, including music by Muddy Waters, Albert Collins, and Robert Cray. Members of the band are Dennis Weiland on Harp, Roger Montgomery on Bass/Guitar, David Steele on Bass/Guitar, and Brian Whitley on Drums. When asked about their name, Dennis replied that their hometown of Meadeville, Pa. was at one time called the "Zipper City" because it was where the first zippers were made. Because of this the band decided to call themselves the Zipper City Blues Band. The band has already recorded, a full-length live tape entitled "Zipper City Blues," available at Record Den.

The next band to perform was Field Theory, a group from Philadelphia. Formed about three years ago the band includes Frank Butrey on Guitar, David Blaetz on Bass, and Rick Lopez on Drums. Field Theory features all original, instrumental jazz music.

Slow Profile performed next with

music by Bryan Adams, John Cougar as well as music written by the group itself. Formally "Low Profile", the band was formed in 1978 and has played on and off for the last ten years. They changed their name to "Slow Profile" when they realized success wasn't going to come quickly. The band includes: Jeff Wiesen on Bass, Paul Kucharski on Guitar, Steve Slomski on Guitar, and Jay Sinnott on Drums.

Zipper City Blues took the stage again to close out the competition. While the band was playing the judges evaluated each band and decided on a winner.

Judging for the event were Steve McGarvey, President of the Student Government Association; Joye Dado, President of SPC; Carl Dabler, General Manager of WBCR radio; John Downey, Coordinator of Student Organizations and Programming Development; Beth Buck, Vice President of the Student Government Association. When Zipper City finished playing, Brent Vernon announced the winner of the event, Slow Profile.

The Music Coordinators for the event were Dino Pecipello, a Senior at Edinboro University and John Borgia, a Sophomore from Edinboro University. Both serve as Assistant Music Directors at WFSE 88.9 at Edinboro University.

Battle of the Bands proved to be a great success, attracting large numbers of students and faculty. It was an opportunity for everyone to sit, relax and enjoy various types of music, from blues to rock.

Movie

Cocktail: A weak drink

by Paul Polasik
Collegian Staff Writer

"Cocktail", the new Tom Cruise movie, was a disappointment to me. All I've been hearing is "Go see Cocktail! Go see Cocktail!", and I did. I was bored. My date loved it, but she has the hots for Tom Cruise. The movie starts when Bryan Flanagan (Cruise) gets back from the army and decides he wants to get rich quick. Naturally, that's not as easy

as he thinks it will be, so (heaven forbid) he has to get a job. It is at this job that Flanagan meets Mr. Cogburn (Bryan Brown), who teaches him everything about bartending. I personally think that Cogburn was the best character in the movie. He teaches Flanagan everything from mixing drinks to hustling chicks. They make a great team until they have a falling out over a girl.

The next thing you know, Flanagan is in Jamaica, where he

meets Jordon (Elizabeth Glue). This girl is a fox. I remember seeing her in the Karate Kid. I liked her then, but I love her now. These two meet

and fall in love, but Flanagan, being a normal red-blooded male, finds a way to achieve his first goal - to get rich. The only problem is that it involves an older woman. Jordon gets angry and goes back to New York. I don't want to give away the entire movie, but the reason that I wasn't thrilled about the movie is that it was too predictable. Cruise's

other movies, such as "Top Gun" and "Risky Business", were all original and fresh. Not so in "Cocktail".

I have a rating system of 1 to 5 (5 being the best). I'd give Tom Cruise a 3 1/2, because he had my date (and probably all of the girls in the theater) in love with him. For the same reason, I would give Elizabeth Glue a 4, because I loved her. I would give Bryan Brown a 5, because he was the most entertaining character of them all. Over all, I would give the movie a 2 1/2. A lot of people enjoyed it, but it wasn't all it's been cracked up to be.



Go to the Movies - FREE !!

When was the last time you could afford to see a movie? Chances are when somebody else paid! Now you have the opportunity to win two free movie tickets from the Millcreek Mall Cinemas in each Collegian issue. We will print a movie related trivia question in each Entertainment section. Simply write the answer, your name and phone number down and drop it in the box in the Collegian office. Every two weeks, ten lucky people will win two tickets each!!!

The following people are the lucky winners from the trivia question asked in our first issue two weeks ago:

Shawna Squires
Joye Dado
Tammy Janusey

Ted Hacker
Bob Hardy
Gwen Gaiser

The question was, what Beatles movie featured the Blue Meanies?
The correct answer was Yellow Submarine.
Those of you that answered correctly, if you have not already, can pick up your tickets in the Collegian office.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:
What Bally pinball machine appeared in the movie Tommy?

The Collegian office is located between the double doors next to the RUB desk in the Reed Building. GOOD LUCK!!!!

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The Weekly Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS	32 Fish eggs	2 Post	7 Be present
1 Wine cups	33 Bed canopy	3 Plaster	8 Attic
5 Arabian garment	37 Fall back	4 Russian plain	9 Region
8 Long, deep cut	40 Greek letter	5 Assert	10 Peruse
12 Jargon	41 Ventilate	6 Neckpiece	11 Difficult
13 Parcel of land	42 Rue	19 Pose for portrait	
14 Alms box	45 Turkish decrees	21 Female ruff	
15 Ceremony	49 Sandarac tree	24 Speck	
16 Unit of Latvian currency	50 Possessed	25 Female sheep	
17 Hind part	52 Sleeping quarters: colloq.	26 French plural article	
18 Slip away	53 Toward and within	28 Before	
20 Commission	54 Before	29 Food fish	
22 Hog	55 Learning	30 Golf mound	
23 Born	56 Antlered animal	34 Fright	
24 Strike out	57 Crimson	35 French for "summer"	
27 Discover the presence of	58 Gaelic	36 Preferably	
31 Be in debt	1 Land measure	37 Invaded	
		38 Goddess of healing	
		39 Baby's bed	
		42 Foray	
		43 Sea eagle	
		44 Opening in fence	
		46 Entrance	
		47 Transgresses	
		48 Pintail duck	
		51 Exist	

Answers Page 12

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