

CAROLINA LIFE

Don't judge band by it's 'covers'

Rude Lucy "sticks to it's guns"

By SEAN MCGUINNESS
Staff Writer

Picture this . . . A little known but well-liked metal band is playing before a crowd. The masses careen back and forth in a flurry of head-banging and moshing.

The lead singer is naturally clumsy. But, the audience blinds him with their more-than-welcome reception and, before you know it, the vocalist has stage-dived into the crowd.

This was the scene not too long ago when the Columbia-based band, Rude Lucy, played in North Myrtle Beach.

Often snubbed as a cover band and ignored by record companies, Rude Lucy continues to beat the odds and strive for that golden record deal.

Bass player Daniel Sennema started the band about two years ago. He quit a previous band because some of the members could not cope with their substance abuse problems.

Sennema hooked up with vocalist Red Thomas, guitar master "Death Wish" David Reynolds and skin-basher Wally Spires on drums.

Rude Lucy can be heard on "The Burning of Columbia", a tape of singles submitted by Columbia area bands. One of their more famous concerts was an outdoor event during the grand reopening of the Gervais Street Bridge.

Many record labels continue to



Rude Lucy

ignore Rude Lucy because they don't accept unsolicited material by bands with no manager.

This Wednesday, they will be performing a tribute to Led Zeppelin at Greenstreet's. But they are not a cover band dedicated to one artist.

"This week is a Led Zeppelin tribute, next week might be an Aerosmith tribute and there's even rumors of an Elvis tribute," said Sennema.

Rude Lucy members are influenced by a wide variety of artists, such as Alice in Chains, Skid Row and Yes. They are

most popular on the Myrtle Beach scene.

"The audience really flips us out when they start to stage dive. We love it," said Sennema.

The key to their music is they reflect ideas in their songs. Sennema said they want to accomplish an uplifting feeling and a message of hope rather than depress listeners with the doom and gloom of holier-than-thou preaching.

Sennema admires the early Johnny Cash music which told a story in the music, which is what Rude Lucy tries to achieve.

However, being in a band isn't all music and fun. There is the reality of money to face.

"We lose money - plain and simple. That's why so many bands don't stay together. But we're gonna' stick to our guns, we don't set out to write Top 40 stuff," said Sennema.

In addition, a rival Columbia club will be sponsoring a bikini contest tomorrow night. When asked how he thinks Wednesday's concert will go over, Sennema replied, "I think we're gonna' kick Crackerjack's Bikini Contest in the ass!"

Rude Lucy will play their tribute to Led Zeppelin at Greenstreet's tonight at 8:30 p.m. Admission is free and there will be free food from Steve's Deli, drink specials, free condoms from The Village Idiot and a giveaway for the "Burning of Columbia" cassette.

Education's value, effects evaluated



By Christopher Dixon

Guest Writer

Educating Rita is a light-hearted play, which is set in London about a young married woman's quest for knowledge on the academic and the cultural levels.

Rita, played by Dewey Scott-Wiley, is a hairdresser who decides to go back to school to be privately tutored by a college professor named Frank, played by Robert C. Brandt. In the process, she develops an air of polish and refinement.

By the end of the play, the once innocent, jovial Dewey the audience first sees is subtly transformed into a so-called "cultured" young woman. The actors played their roles so beautifully - accents and all.

The most interesting aspect of the play's theme was the many meanings it contained. For instance, Rita offers her evaluations of the human need for challenge, the differences in culture between the educated and the uneducated, and several other topics.

The play is very rich in meaning and for the actors who saw this trait and felt it, the play came alive

for them and the audience. Anyone who likes thought-provoking material should see this play. It will make you see beyond the stage. Willing suspension of disbelief will be as effortless as the acting.

The set was modestly decorated. It contained the expected accoutrements. It could have been better, but the acting more than makes up the difference.

However clear and purposeful the thespians' work was in *Educating Rita*, their theatric presence wasn't "gripping". It was modest and useful, even intriguing. Not the best, but excellent for small theater.

Wardrobe appeared to be visually appealing and even carried a message in the play. It is used to show where Rita is in her "evolution". Her wardrobe quickly changes from that of a bored hairdresser to that of a revamped and independent woman. Although Frank has wardrobe that is almost static, his dress is tasteful and credible.

The play runs at 8 p.m. from June 24 through the 28th at Longstreet Theater. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for senior citizens, and \$6 for students.

So, if you want an intellectually stimulating time, realistic actors and not overdramatization, go see *Educating Rita*. It's well worth the admission, and you will definitely enjoy this piece of theater.

BATMAN RETURNS: High-tech sequel exceeds it's bounds



Staff Writer

Take some advice: do not "return" to the theaters to see the "Batman" sequel.

Forget everything you know about the first movie. This movie looks like it was written by ten different people.

The scenery, imagery and special effects are still astounding. There are some truly great scenes that could actually salvage a decent plot. However, the bad scenes outweigh the good ones.

In the first Batman movie, director Tim Burton wanted a story that could be set in any era. This time around we see stun guns, compact discs and other oddities that land "Batman Returns" smack dab in the present.

Batman, (Michael Keaton), constantly uses inane gadgets that are right out of a bad James Bond flick. The mystique of the Batmobile is lost as we see it transform to fit down a narrow alley. I'm sure Bat-

man thought he might need one of these sometime when he was tinkering away in the Batcave.

The villain characters are an absolute catastrophe.

The Catwoman, (Michelle Pfeiffer), falls from an umpteen story building and is revived by CPR from about fifty cats. So naturally she wrecks her home and sews a villain costume.

Suddenly, she has athletic abilities and the muscles of Linda Hamilton. Her previous job was being a secretary for a crime lord. What fitness program did she get on?

A deformed child is abandoned by its parents and raised by penguins from a defunct zoo. Thus, The Penguin makes his start with his own gang and technology that can mind-

control penguins and unlock the Batmobile, while operating from the sewers. Where are the Ninja Turtles when you need 'em?

Then, Batman and The Penguin face off in a man-to-man grapple and the caped crusader falls in love with Catwoman.

It's almost worth \$6.50 to see Michelle Pfeiffer in a skintight leather outfit . . . almost.

Now, things get really stupid. Batman reveals his identity to three different people and they all get slaughtered. Catwoman gets killed eight times in the movie and keeps coming back. Nine lives my butt! She's been taking lessons from Freddy Krueger.

Anyway, I won't give away the lackluster ending, watch it yourself.

Why should I be the only one to suffer?

If you're really hard up to see the movie wait until it hits the dollar cinema.

Or better yet, see the campy TV series with Adam West. It's much more realistic.

The Full Board of Trustee's meeting today, June 24 1992, at 3:00pm, includes President John M. Palm's presentation on the future of the University of South Carolina system, which will be broadcast in its entirety live on Gamecock Cablevision Channel 2, at all viewing sites on campus including the Russell House lobby and The Golden Spur.

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