

arts/entertainment

Halloween night dances and sings Eastfest style

By Jim Garrett

Eastfest, this past Friday evening, provided both UNL East and City campus students an alternative to the traditional bell ringing, door shaking evenings usually found Halloween night.

Starting the evening tour were two ancient, but still captive films, *Abbott and Costello Meet Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and a more appropriate feature with the same duo in *Hold That Ghost*. Passing on by the dance hall complete with what else but high stepping dance hall girls to the favorite waterhole for this Eastfest-goer, I came by the busy but tame, wildlife bar. Stopping to see if I could wet the whistle, I picked up a few pointers on rope twirling from that West Lincoln trick twirler and roper, H.D. "Tex" Nord.

Nord, or "Tex" as he likes to be called, is a card-carrying member of the International Trick and Fancy Roppers Association, as well as a member of the National Cowboy Hall of Fame since 1975.

Tex, who grew up in Valparaiso, Neb., says he got the name Tex from some of his friends at an early age because they thought he looked like a Texan. Asked if he had ever been to Texas, he said, "Nope, but I sure would like to go someday."

Tex, whose numerous tricks include the Fancy Ship, Butterfly, reverse Butterfly, Merry-go-round, and host of others said, "I'm always studying the new trick books as they come so as to keep up with all the rest of em."

'Bloomin Idiots'

Performing in the Barbershop Quartet fashion, Eastfest provided the audience with a group called the "Bloomin Idiots", a local UNL group composed of lead singer Tom Blankenau, tenor Paul Canaday, baritone Chick Hughes and at the bottom end as bass, Steve Willats.

Canaday said the group formed with three members first while in high school

in Bloomfield, Neb., and then later picked up Hughes while singing in the Young Nebraskans. Canaday said the name of the group is in part from the town Bloomfield and the rest in reference to the other member that comes from Imperial Neb. Canaday said they tried various names, but the people stuck this one on us, "so we kept it."

Blankenau said they are pretty much a low-budget group with their main investment in a \$9 pitch pipe. He said that the group will fold at the end of the year, because of graduation, after being together for four years. Splitting up the group will only require the skillful dividing of the pipe.

As the Idiots faded off stage, the Magical Bewars, a brother-sister duo of magical comedy came on stage for the ultimate performance of cut-the-newspaper-into-tiny-pieces-and-make-it-new-again trick where brother robs sister of the lime-light as well as the audience.

Apple dipping

Leaving this, I proceeded onto the main event of the night, stopping by the dip-your-own-apple, for a short twirl and on by the paint-your-face-for-a-buck-table to the down home, old fashioned, foot stompin barn dance, featuring one of Lincoln's newest rock groups the Star City Players.

The Players, made up of six highly-talented musicians, has the makings of a group that won't be satisfied with anything short of success.

With their purple marquis as a backdrop, the Players performed songs by Linda Ronstadt, the Eagles as well as the tried-and-true Orange Blossom Special, featuring Jamie Drutz, a UNL student, on the electric fiddle.

Woody and Joyce Nelson, one of two married couples in the group, generate a lot of excitement while in the light. Woody, who teaches classical guitar at Nebraska Wesleyan University, handles lead

guitar and vocals with unusual skill while wife Joyce switches vocals and keyboards with Bev Jester, wife of drummer Ron Jester and composer of the "Players song."

"On To You"

Dave Battles rounds out the Players with vocals and a heavy bass guitar. Battles said, "since we all came from leading positions in other bands, we are able to

understand and discuss commercial group music quite well."

Woody Nelson added, "right now we want to concentrate on hard work, developing a local following and polishing up the act before trying for anything bigger."

"We all approach music with a professional attitude and take the Players very seriously," he said.



Daily Nebraskan photo

Blues legend Charlie Musselwhite wails on his harmonica for an appreciative crowd at The Zoo Bar Friday night.

Considered by many to be one of the greatest living harp players, Musselwhite returned to Lincoln with his five-piece band to display some of the material that has appeared on more than a dozen albums, numerous recording sessions, and countless nightclub and concert hall stages.

Musselwhite, who has been playing the blues for 20 of his 36 years, has been featured on the pages of *Rolling Stone*, *Downbeat*, *Variety*, *Newsweek*, and *Billboard*. He recently released a book-record set entitled *The Harmonica* according to Charlie Musselwhite.

Burrito business provides daily meal, Spanish credits

By T. Marni Vos

It was midautumn. The evening was cool and a bit brisk as I walked down the broken sidewalk towards Taco Inn, my place of employment for the school year.

Opening the door, I was greeted by a small wind current and Frank, the manager. "Vos, you're late!"

"Sorry Frank, I forgot to turn my clock back, I found my goldfish belly and a friend of mine is having serious emotional problems. Can you believe it?"

humor

"No, here's your apron, check the tables."

"Frank, it looks like they're all here."

"Vos!"

Frank is a young guy, probably nineteen or twenty. His brown hair is styled and meets a full beard and mustache. He's very thin and like most men, Frank was created without a bottom. I've asked him many a time, "Frank, what is it that you sit on? You don't have anything but pockets."

Tim, a fellow employee, will eventually come out of the kitchen. He is a little fuller than Frank, but seems to be tense most of the time. I've never known Tim to be happy about being at work. A night has not passed when at one time or another, he will announce his discontent. "I hate Taco Inn." As far as Tim showing up every night, the only conclusion I can come up with is masochism.

Tim also has a touch of the hypochondria in him, probably stemming from the fact that he hates work. From time to time, he'll limp or be short of breath. On some occasions Tim will go into labor, or

suddenly start twitching on the floor, depending on how badley he wants to leave.

Billie, a new girl, is rather heavyset, with short black hair. Whether she is aware of it or not, she tends to project a motherly image. She scoots around the fast food restaurant cleaning off tables, picking up garbage and continually scolding Tim for not washing his hands after coming from the bathroom.

I can't say I find the Taco industry exciting but it's a definite "means to an end." It pays a good deal of my rent, takes care of one meal a day and if I had never worked at Taco Inn I might have never met Montezuma or Tim or for that matter—Billie—Frank. "Frank, I'm tellin ya, all the tables are here." "Vos!"

I would never have gained the medical background and experience I have. "Tim, hold on, the pains are only five minutes apart, blow, blow. . . ."

Not only that, I have an appointment with my adviser. Seems I can pick up three Spanish credits and or qualify as an immigration officer.

So all in all my work at Taco Inn has made me a better person than . . . than . . . than . . . than some other people.

I come to work at 10:14 or 15 p.m. and leave at 1:30 a.m. From about 11 to 12:30 p.m. business is steady, but from 12:30 to 1 a.m. it's hectic.

This particular night at work seemed to go on forever and it was apparent that no one would be going out of their way to acknowledge my existence, let alone my obvious talents in the world of burritos. No praise for my God given gift to deal with the bar rush:

"Sir, can I take your order?"

"Yeah, I, a, yeah, I'll have a, a Runza with fries."

Laugh, laugh, laugh.

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Eliot Feld Ballet performs

The "Feld Magic" will be at Lincoln's Kimball Hall when the Eliot Feld Ballet performs Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m.

The young dance company of 22 members has been dancing its way literally to the top of the dance world through the creativity and technical demands of its founder, Eliot Feld.

Feld was 11 when he began his dancing career with George Balanchine at the School of American Ballet. He was later a member of the American Ballet Theater, where he earned the title of the "angry young man" of dance.

With the assistance of the Rockefeller Foundation and some private donations, the Feld Ballet was created in November 1973 and gave its first public performance in May 1974. From that time on, the Feld Ballet has won acclaim for its technical precision and imaginative, sometimes romantic, and often "razzle-dazzle" choreography.

Besides forming the company, Feld has also created the New Ballet School, a tuition-free, professional ballet training program for gifted and talented children in New York City public schools. Now in its third year, the New Ballet School has 175 students, some of whom are used in Feld's pieces.

The Thursday and Friday night performances at Kimball will have different programs, while the Saturday performance will have two of the pieces from the Thursday performance.

The Eliot Feld Ballet program is made possible with the support of the Nebraska Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts/Dance Touring program and is coordinated by the Mid-America Arts Alliance.

Tickets may still be purchased for the Feld Ballet by contacting the Kimball Box Office at 472-3375.