

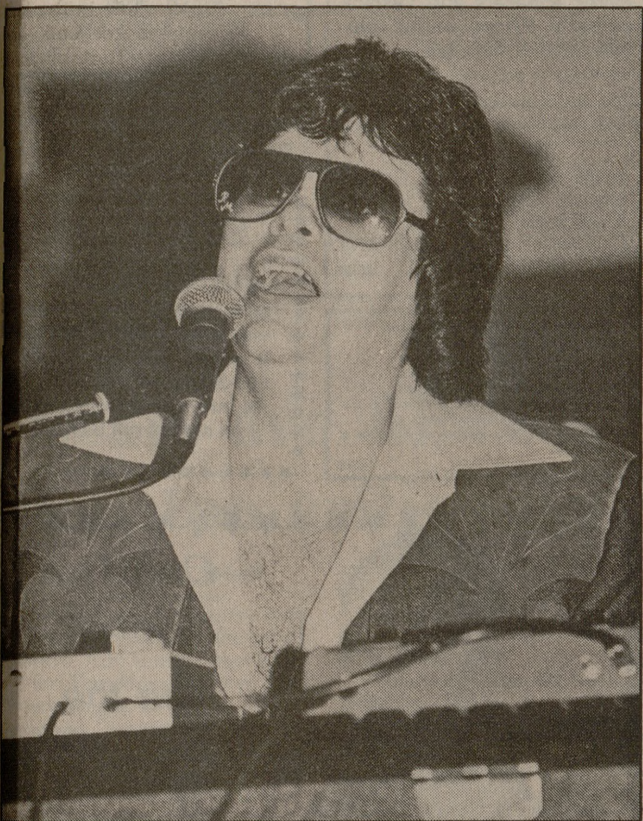
Local

Milsap show receives lukewarm response

By BELINDA McCOY
Battalion Staff
When the announcer said, "Welcome to the Ronnie Milsap Show" Tuesday night at the Texas Hall of Fame, I wondered why it was called a "show" and not a concert.
"But by the end of the performance, I knew."
Milsap's music was good — no true Ronnie Milsap fan could deny that.
His hits like "What a Difference You've Made in My Life," "Cowboys 'n Clowns," "It Was Almost Like a Song," and his latest "Smokey Mountain Rain" were received well by the audience.
His medley of rock 'n roll hits

by The Eagles was an unusual break in a country artist's concert. However, the audience didn't seem to really appreciate Milsap's personal rendition of Beethoven's "Für Elise."
Actually, Milsap never seemed to capture the total attention of the audience; he never had it in the palm of his hand.
He had all the usual formalities — "great audience," "great to be here" — down pat.
However, his jokes about blindness were plentiful and sometimes funny, and he flashed his boyish smile throughout most of the concert.
He did manage to personalize

the concert by responding good-naturedly to several shouts, laughing at the joke of one person, and even returning a joke of his own.
Indeed, the only time the entire crowd seemed captured by the music was when Milsap took a shouted request for "Kaw-liga." And he deserved the crowd's awe for that performance; he played his heart out on that song and seemed to enjoy it as much as the audience did.
He danced his way through several songs, sometimes wiggling alarmingly close to the 2-by-6 board placed across the edge of the stage to keep him from walking off.
He appeared to have a great time doing the concert, but he never really made his audience have a great time.
As a result his boyish enthusiasm came on a little strong several times, catching the crowd off guard for his shouts — especially in the beginning of the concert when few crowds are warmed up to a performer. Sadly, it seemed as though Milsap's enthusiasm for his unresponsive audience had to be forced at times. At least five times in the 1½-hour concert he shouted "I love ya!" to a quiet audience.
The only times the audience wasn't really quiet was during his songs.
Nevertheless, Milsap knew his show well and seemed to be genuinely trying to entertain the audience.
He even received a few Aggie whoops, and his first reaction to those seemed spontaneous: "Ah, yeah, seems like I remember Texas A&M. Just hope I don't hear any of those 'ssss's'."
He never heard any Aggie hisses, but with the exception of "Kaw-liga" the show seemed like just that — a show. It lacked the spontaneity and warmth of a good concert.
The show served up several stiff jokes and fake lines.
Maybe that was the show's problem. I think Aggies know when they're being handed a line.



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

Country singer Ronnie Milsap entertained two large crowds Tuesday night at the Texas Hall of Fame. Even though most of his music is country, Milsap ventured into rock 'n roll in his two performances with a medley of hits by The Eagles rock group.

Board of regents confirms five high-level positions

Five high-level Texas A&M University appointments were confirmed Tuesday by the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents.
The appointments, made upon recommendation of Dr. Charles H. Samson, acting president, are:
— Charles R. Cargill, associate vice president for business affairs, effective immediately.
— Dr. Bryan R. Cole, associate dean for student affairs, College of Education, effective Sept. 1.
— Dr. William H. Mobley, associate dean, College of Business Administration, effective Sept. 1.
— Dr. Sylvia A. Grider, assistant dean of the Graduate College, effective Sept. 1.
— Dr. David W. David, assistant dean, College of Education, effective Sept. 1.
Cargill has worked at Texas A&M since 1962 and is currently the director of business services in the Department of Business Affairs. He replaces Ed Davis, who joined North Texas State University as

vice president for fiscal affairs and treasurer.
Cole, who has been on the faculty since 1972, was appointed assistant dean and assistant professor in the College of Education in 1976 and has served in those capacities since that time. He succeeds Dr. Philip C. Limbacher, who retires Aug. 31.
Mobley is professor and head of the management department. He came to Texas A&M in July 1980 and his primary duties will be in the area of research and coordination of graduate programs.
Grider joined the Texas A&M faculty in 1976 as assistant professor of English. She was appointed to the graduate faculty in 1979 and promoted to associate professor in 1980. She replaces Harry L. Kidd, who retires Aug. 31.
David came to Texas A&M in 1968 as an assistant professor. He currently serves as acting head of the Department of Educational Curriculum and Instruction and will assume Cole's former duties.

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