

Local



Staff photo by Greg Watermann
Eddie Bracken and Mary Anne Fiordalisi, the newlywed bride, ask about a room at the Broken Arms Hotel in the burlesque musical "Sugar Babies," which appeared in Rudder Auditorium Wednesday night. The musical had a successful Broadway run.

Corny jokes, fan dance fill a night of burlesque

By NANCY WEATHERLEY
Battalion Staff
Wednesday night Rudder Auditorium changed its name to Gaiety Theater.

Sugar Babies, the Broadway musical that "made burlesque respectable," was in town to recreate the routines that made vaudeville and burlesque famous. The show had no set plot, switching from corny jokes, There was a burglar in our bedroom. Did he get anything? Yes, I thought he was you!" to songs reminiscent of the era, such as "I Want a Girl."

Eddie Bracken, an original vaudevillian stole the show with his ability to get laughs out of even the worse jokes.

His best skit, and perhaps the best skit in the musical, was as Hortense, a chorus girl who has definitely seen better days.

Hortense told her life story as a burlesque dancer with such eloquent phrases as, "I danced on my

right leg and I danced on my left leg and between the two I made lots of money."

The dance with the best preci-

Review

sion (there weren't too many) had to be the tribute to Sally Rand, the famous fan dancer. Linda Goodrich, as Rand, skillfully performed a teasing dance using only two heavily plumed fans.

Jaye P. Morgan, a regular on The Gong Show and heading the bill with Bracken, was a bit of a disappointment. Her singing wasn't up to what I would expect for \$15.50 a seat, but she did have a gutsy delivery in her vaudeville skits.

Many of the jokes Morgan did

had been localized for the College Station show, such as one skit where Morgan paid off a \$3,000 mortgage.

Her father, Phil Ford, asked where she got the money.

"I got it in College Station," she said.

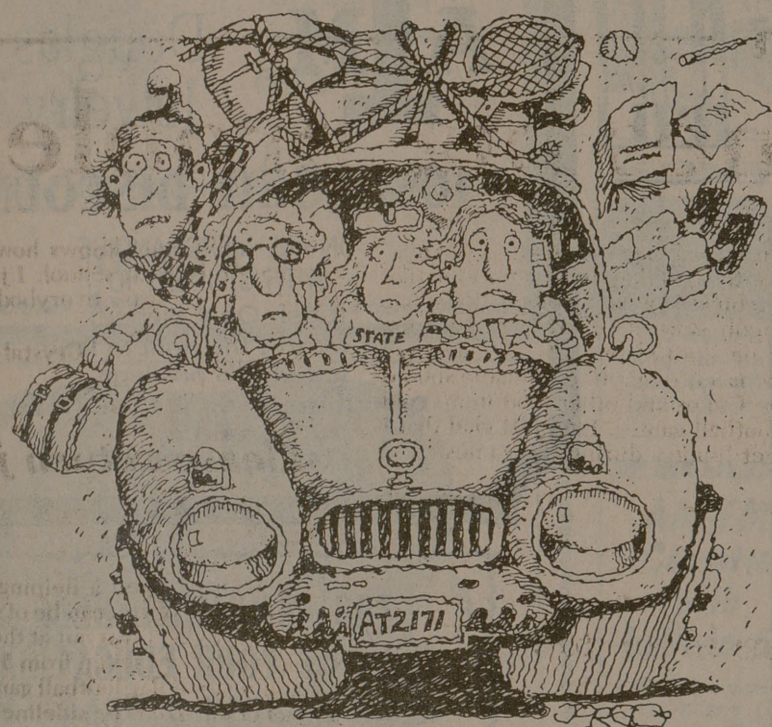
"Were you good?," Ford asks.

"You have to be good to get \$3,000 in College Station."

Two of the skits, "In a Greek Garden," which was a tribute to Rosita Royce, and Presenting Michael Rollov, were truly amazing.

Toni Kaye, a member of the original Broadway production, sang "I'm in the Mood for Love" while at least a dozen doves flew out and landed on various parts of her body. How these doves knew where to fly I'll never know.

Michael Rollov was quite a stunt man with his balancing act in which he stood on a board supported by up to five cylinders rolling against each other.



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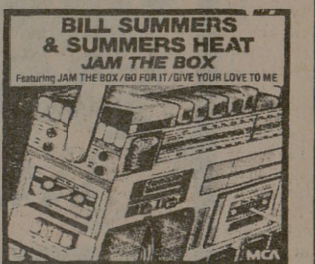
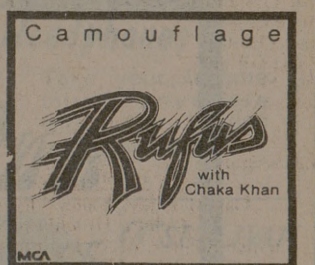
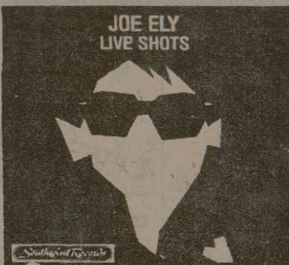
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