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AGGIE OWNED AND OPERATED *SINCE 1926

Confederate Railroad rolls into D&A

By Jan Higginbotham
THE BATTALION

No one could ever accuse Confederate Railroad of following the straight and narrow, worrying about political correctness or fretting over image.

The band, which has rocked the country charts with songs like "Trashy Women" and "Elvis & Andy," will be performing at Denim & Diamonds tonight as part of the dance hall's Friday night concert series.

Danny Shirley, lead singer for the country music band, said in *Close Up* magazine that the band is not concerned about fitting the ideal mold for a country music group.

"I think a lot of the success of the Railroad is the honesty," Shirley said. "Somebody said to me, 'Boy, your image development is going real well.' I said, 'My what? I'm just representing the people I come from. We're

just ourselves."

Shirley said he and the five other Railroaders knew from the beginning what they were trying to get across to people with their music.

"If we had pretended to be something we weren't, whether people realized it consciously or not, they would have seen through us," he said. "We might have had a few hits and made a few dollars, but people would have known."

Confederate Railroad's members have been together for 13 years and began as back-up bands for Johnny Paycheck and David Allan Coe. The group got its first major recording contract in 1992.

When the group hit the country music charts, they made an immediate mark on the industry, soaring to the top of the charts with "Jesus and Mama," "Queen of Memphis" and "When You Leave That Way."

In the *Close Up* interview, Shirley also addressed the band's bad-boy image.

"I got asked one time, 'Do guys actually drink and party raise hell like your image,' Shirley said. "I said 'yeah.' 'Well, it's nothin' for us to get done a show and go out to a bar and throw down some Jack Daniels and get loud and unruly.'"

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PEOPLE IN THE NEW

Burnett gets by with a little help from friends

NEW YORK (AP) — Carol Burnett marched on stage to work the audience when a set malfunctioned during a dress rehearsal of *Moon Over Buffalo* — and Dom DeLuise and Bernadette Peters joined in the fun.

Burnett, who plays a Broadway actress fallen on hard times, began fielding questions from the audience as stagehands struggled to fix the set Tuesday night. "How does it feel to be back home?" one fan yelled. Burnett beat her chest and let out her

signature Tarzan yell. The crowd went wild.

"Can we get Julie Andrews to join you?" someone asked. Andrews is starring this fall in *Victor/Victoria*.

Burnett scanned the house. "Is my old chum here?"

"No, but I'm here," offered Peters, blowing a kiss.

"I'm here, too," chimed in DeLuise, who then let out his Tarzan yell.

After 15 minutes of banter, the *Daily News* reported Thursday, the regular show went on.

Windows '95 users can view investment

SEATTLE (AP) — Wondering where that \$89 you spent on Windows 95 went?

Check out the Internet. A public relations company, trying to promote its World Wide Web home page, is offering pho-

tographs of the mansion that Microsoft's Bill Gates is building.

MorseMcFadden Communications' Walls 96 page debuted Monday with four color photos of the \$50 million, 40,000-square-foot lakefront home, taken from a speed boat.

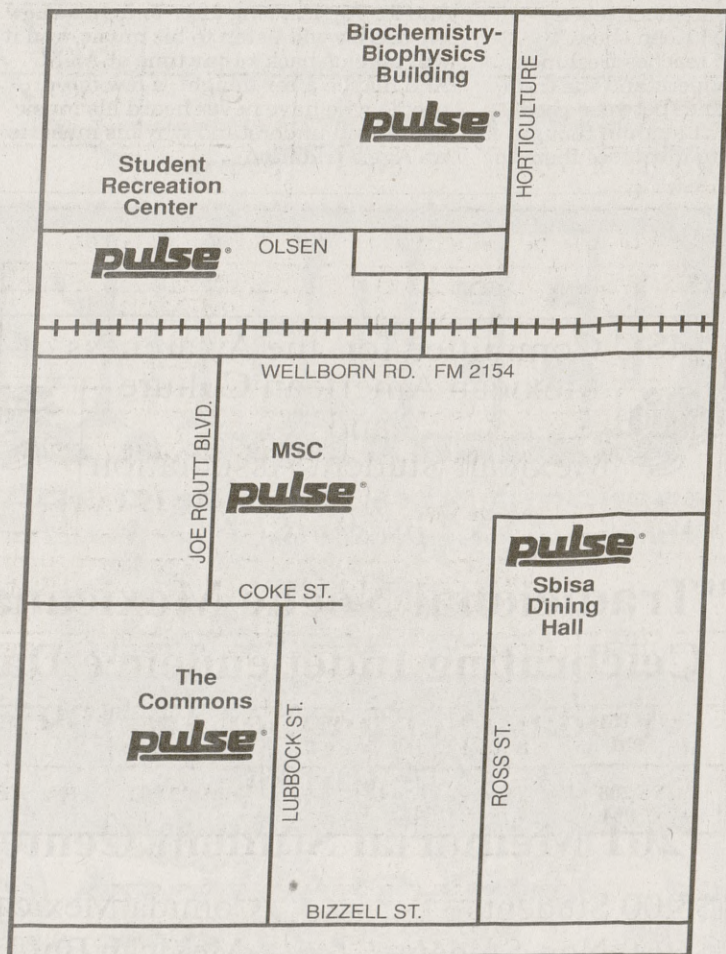
More pictures are promised. "Since you're paying for it, we thought it cordial to allow you to visit every week or two," the company says.

Gates and a Microsoft spokeswoman declined to comment.

With a personal fortune of more than \$13 billion, Gates topped *Fortune* magazine's 1995 list of the nation's richest people.



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