

## ENTERTAINMENT

## Grooves left in Brevard music scene

"In the future, we have to be the type of band to be acknowledged and break common ground, manifesting into the best band we can be." - Phillip Whack

In the past three years, Groove Element has become a popular tradition at Brevard College. Their concerts attract all audiences and they always become major social events for the students. I was lucky enough to talk with them the night before their big show in Dunham Auditorium on Friday, January 28.

The band is composed of a variety of personalities playing an eccentric assortment of instruments. Whack plays the saxophone, James "Bull" Canty play the trumpet, Jamie Warren plays the trombone, Derrick Sandlin is the lead bassist, Bill Altman plays the guitar, Greg Milton is on the keyboard and Eddie Anderson is the drummer.

All seven of the band members are music majors, and they range in age from 19-23. The band began three years ago when Whack, Canty, Anderson and Sandlin decided to start an instrumental group named *Spasmatic Funk*. A major inspiration for them was the funk band *Tower of Power*. Now *Groove Element* combines jazz, R&B, funk and soul, even though this genre of music is not particularly popular around here. They wanted to do something unique and

different that everyone would like.

The name eventually changed to *Groove Element* by a mutual decision of the band. In 1997, the band appeared for the first time in Brevard's Annual Spring Fest. They have continued to perform in this concert every year since. After college, *Groove Element* plans to keep the band together.

For their concert, the band



BY LILY SCARPINITO

opened up with an explosive rendition of James Brown's *I Feel Good*, and they followed it up later in the concert with a funky remake of *Brick House*. Everyone was up and dancing...the band refused to perform otherwise! The original pieces that they performed make it hard to believe they are a college band as opposed to a professional jazz ensemble. Overall, *Groove Element* is a very promising band with remarkable talent.

If you attended the concert, you probably saw not only *Groove Element*, but also *Confusion Therapy*. Not only did they get the audience pumped, but they also put



Photo by Lindi Lagman.

Phillip Whack and Jamie Warren put an ear to James "Bull" Canty of Groove Elements.

on a remarkable show of their own. They started with an old school demo with covers from *Guns and Roses*, *Aerosmith*, *Pink Floyd*, *The Grateful Dead*, *Phish* and even *Will Smith*. *Confusion Therapy* had the whole audience singing *Another Brick in the Wall (part two)*, *Paradise City* and *Sweet Emotion*.

Later on in the show, they played *Fire on the Mountain* and *Gettin' Jiggy Wit It*. Guest vocalist

Sandie Carr, saxophone player and vocalist Danielle Walker, lead guitarist Phil Crew, bassist Chris Whitmire, drummer John Creason, and trombone player and vocalist Chris Walters are the members of *Confusion Therapy*. They can be seen on most Saturday nights at *Serendipity's*.

## Billy Crystal praises pig at Harvard Univ.

BY JOYCE K. MCINTYRE  
Harvard Crimson (Harvard U.)

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Billy Crystal won't be cracking jokes as host of the Academy Awards show until next month, but the actor had to deliver an Oscar-worthy performance Thursday night to earn his pudding pot at Harvard's Hasty Pudding's Man of the Year award ceremony.

Crystal burst into the theater to a standing ovation and the Pudding orchestra's strains of "It Had to Be You."

But before he could get his pudding pot, Crystal had to lasso a blond "cow" with prominent udders onto the ground and portray how Robert De Niro might help a cow give birth.

Daniel A. Bress'01, co-producer of the Hasty Pudding's 152nd drag burlesque extravaganza, *The Jewel of Denial*, donned a white lab coat and stethoscope on stage to dish Crystal some "Hasty Pudding therapy."

Crystal perched on a folding chair and answered yes and no questions that poked fun of his own

movies—including *City Slickers* and *When Harry Met Sally*.

But the roast ultimately cast the spot light on Crystal's talents as a comedian—perfect timing and dead-on impersonations—and Crystal brought down the house.

With the melody of Green Acres playing in the background, Crystal assumed the voice of his infamous Saturday Night Live character,

Fernando and told a caged pig "you look disgusting... the top of your head looks like Jay Leno's."

When Bruce M. Haggerty'00, co-producer of *Jewel*, snapped his fingers out of sync with a drum roll, Crystal shared some of his experience as six-time Oscar host extraordinaire. The duo practiced delivering the punch line snap in time with a drum roll, with Haggerty mimicking

Crystal's profes-

sional style. Crystal finally got his hands on his brass pudding pot after he donned a plastic bra and purple hat with silver antennas.

"I actually look like Monica Lewinsky," Crystal quipped, after delivering a breathy version of "Happy Birthday, Mr. President," to the audience.

Crystal said he did not mind wearing the raunchy attire.

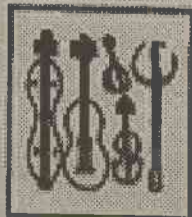
"This is how I started, so it's no big deal to get into this stuff," he said. "I'm so glad to be the guy

holding the pot and not getting arrested for it."

Crystal said he saw pictures from previous years' Man of the Year ceremonies and wanted to be part of the action too.

"I always thought, 'Why not me?' he said. "Now it's me, and it feels great."

Set to host the Oscars at the end of March, Crystal said he is already starting to work on his routine for the show.



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