

Eddie From Ohio: fun for hippies

BY MORGAN REFFELL
Staff Writer

On Saturday, August 30, the students at Guilford College were treated to the sounds of the Washington, DC-based band known as Eddie from Ohio. The band consists of singer Julie Murphy, guitarist Robbie Schaefer, percussionist Eddie Hartness, and bassist-guitarist Michael Clem.

Although the kind of music they played was not to everyone's

tastes, the general consensus was favorable.

Some people enjoyed the calming sound, like student Abby Tormanen, who said "I like the band because it was mellow but not boring." Freshman Hope Wedderburn felt that "the music was good but after half an hour everything started to sound the same."

That the band's musical influences span almost every genre is immediately obvious to any listener; they list as strong influences everything from Grateful Dead to Lyle Lovett to Red Hot Chili Peppers to Billie Holliday.

Many listeners have tried to shove the band into one musical genre or another, but it is nearly impossible to say that Eddie From Ohio fits into only one category.

Critics have called them neo-folk, calypso-grass, country, and jazz, and have compared them to 10,000 Maniacs, Grateful Dead, and Shawn Colvin.

The paper "Dirty Linen" when writing a review of the band, said

to "imagine Crosby, Stills, and Nash, in their heyday, backed by Bela Fleck and the Flecktones."

After only having been together for five years, this former bar band is doing well, playing over 250 shows up and down the East Coast last year. They have

over 10,000 names on their mailing list and are being played in regular rotation on radio stations in Phila-

delphia, Chicago, Boston, and Tampa, Florida just to name a few.

The students who watched them play on Saturday obviously enjoyed the performance. Many had seen them play here last year and were excited to see them again. Many others had not even heard of them before but were entranced by the upbeat mood of the music, the stunning voice of Julie Murphy, and the amount of fun that the band was having.

Faith Jost, a sophomore at Guilford, after listening to them, said that, "Julie Murphy had a beautiful voice and the drummer was absolutely wonderful." It was obvious that many people felt the same way, looking around at the contented audience and the few people dancing in the back.

When Eddie from Ohio started playing on Saturday, there were only a few people in the audience. By the end, the music had reportedly drawn close to 200 people. This snowball effect typified Eddie From Ohio's grassroots style.



Dirty hippies dance and enjoy the music.

Courtesy of UNION

Carter and Morscheck Go to the Movies

◆ This Week: Kull the Conqueror

BY JONATHAN
CARTER & PETER
MORSCHECK
Features Film Critics

Jonathan: In the opening credits of *Kull the Conqueror*, we see Kevin Sorbo's name followed by the title coming out of a wall of flame while loud, decidedly non-medieval electric guitars groan in the background. Anyone who sees that should know what they're in for.

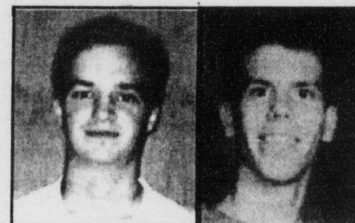
If you see *Kull*, don't expect a dramatic fantasy epic. The filmmakers know that the American viewing audience is (unfortunately) not accustomed to fantasy, so they make sure the movie doesn't take itself completely seriously. Of course you should expect that from any movie that lists Kevin Sorbo's name before the title.

The movie takes place in the medieval kingdom of Valusia. By a twist of fate, Kull, a barbarian, becomes king. As king he supports such liberal policies as abolition of slavery and freedom of religion. Kull is a pretty good guy, really. He's not a drunken womanizer like the other famous barbarian, Conan. He's today's modern barbarian king.

Unfortunately, rivals for the Valusian throne don't like Kull very much, and they try to overthrow him by working with Akivasha, a resurrected witch-queen who wants to rule the land herself. Kull manages to escape and goes off in search of the Breath of Valka, a divine weapon that can kill Akivasha. Of course, one of his rivals is after it too, which leads to a climactic three-way battle.

Kull is fun, basically. It probably won't get nominated for any Oscars, but it's still worth seeing. And unlike most sword-and-sorcery movies, it has a decent budget. The sets are great, and the Croatian and Slovakian backgrounds work well. However, the mythical world is never fully realized, and it doesn't draw in the viewer. Particularly uninteresting is the kingdom of Valusia, which apparently consists of one castle and about fifty peasants. It's not much of a kingdom.

While the story's okay, there are several technical problems and



annoyances in the movie. The editing is jerky in some scenes, and the music disturbingly goes back and forth between a lush orchestral score to 80's-esque electric guitars. And the

acting... well, it's better than I thought it would be. That's all I'll say. There's also a good deal of whipping in the movie, but I guess some people won't mind it very much. I think the director had some 'issues.'

So overall, *Kull* is a pleasant afternoon's diversion. Its only job is to entertain, and it does the job very well.

Peter: Kull's got problems. As a barbarian who has just been named King, everyone's out to get him. In his first week of rule he is pestered by scheming nobles, bewitched and married to a just-revived 3000 year old demon-queen, forced to journey to the "Isle of Ice" (from which no one has ever returned), and even peed upon by a camel.

Yet, in true hero fashion, he manages to overcome all these difficulties, and even works towards the abolition of slavery and religious tolerance. In other words, Kull is THE MAN.

Oh, in case you didn't know, "Kull the Conqueror" is an old-fashioned sword & sorcery flick. With Kevin Sorbo (of "Hercules: The Legendary Journeys") in the title role, plenty of swordplay and babes, and a heavy metal soundtrack, it looks at first glance to be a bad "Conan" rip-off. In reality, it is a superb "Conan" rip-off!

This movie managed to far surpass my exceedingly low expectations due to 1) the better-than-average special effects, 2) the high quality dialogue: "...When I get my hands on the b--- demon I will rip out her evil heart", 3) the fact that the aforementioned b--- demon is played by Tia Carrere (SIGH), and 4) any movie that lists an albino Burmese python in the credits is okay in my book. "Kull the Conqueror" is a better waste of an hour and a half than you would think.

Study Abroad Opportunity!

Interested in an Alpine experience in Northern Italy next spring? Students with stamina (no complaining on those steep slopes), talent for community living, and an interest in languages, Pound's poetry, or cross-cultural differences are encouraged to apply for the 1998 semester abroad program in Brunnenberg. Applications and course descriptions are available in the Study Abroad office (Worth House II) or Library 206. Carol Hoppe of the English department will lead the group and begin interviewing applicants early this fall. Application deadline is September 15.