

Food Review:**Clairbelle's offers Cajun food, fun, family atmosphere**by Zack Harding
Staff Writer

Clairebelle's is a new family style restaurant in Brevard that serves a mix of several traditional styles of food, and has live entertainment on the weekends.

The food served at Clairebelle's includes traditional southern dishes, such as southern fried chicken and country style steak, as well as more Cajun style dishes like shrimp and grits and authentic Cajun gumbo. "I call it low country Cajun cooking," owner Doug Johnson said.

Chef Becky Watkins, whose family originated from Slidell, Louisiana, won *Best of the Best* in a Florida cookbook competition and was the "Culinary Art Student of the Year" at AB Tech in Asheville. With dinner hours lasting until 10:00 p.m.,

Watkins also features the *Oh! Susanna's* lunch menu on weekdays starting at 11:00 a.m.

The restaurant itself is a converted house that was finished in 1929, but has served as a restaurant for the past 23 years. Diners can either sit in the home-style setting of the interior or sit on the outside veranda, which looks over Main Street. This house-like environment provides for a unique dining experience.

Entertainment can be found at Clairebelle's on college night and hip-hop night on Saturdays, featuring games, music and giveaways. Hip-hop group Intellectual Telepathy, whose sound is a mix of rap and melodic vocals, hosts the entertainment and provides the music. Johnson plans on introducing other weekly activities including food and beverage night on

Mondays, as well as branching out to other genres of musical entertainment, including live music on Fridays.

Johnson likes to promote a friendly environment with his employs; he calls it "working on the same page." Watkins also commented on the attitude of the staff saying that "we're all family."

The restaurant is located on 230 west Main Street, and can be reached at (828) 877-6223.

'Medea' a great successby Matt Rutherford
Arts & Life Editor

When one thinks of the play *Medea* images of a mad woman haunted by her husband's deception come to mind. However, when I think of Evelyn Pearson, I can hardly fathom madness, let alone hearing her voice rising above hearing level.

On Thurs. Oct. 27, the Brevard College theatre program presented the Greek play *Medea*, which was adapted and directed by Bob White. *Medea* is a play about what happens after Jason has returned successfully from his journey to find the Golden Fleece. We find Medea (played by Evelyn Pearson) in a terrible rage, just as her nurse describes to us in the opening scene. She is furious that her husband has left her and their two sons for a princess. It is from this situation that produces Medea's festering insanity.

Pearson's performance was absolutely awe striking. As I said before, I can barely imagine hearing her raise her voice, but this is honestly the first time I've gotten chills from a school production of any type. The way she delivered her lines, the great range of facial expressions, and her gestures were all so convincing. Congratulations to Evelyn, the star of the show. The nurse, played by Jesse Combest, was also a per-

formance that conveyed great emotion. You could see and feel the anxiety and grief the confidant of Medea was going through.

The simplicity of the set design was very true to the time of *Medea*. While simple, it was obvious the work that went into the set. The painted textures of the stones surrounding the stage and the multicolored earth were very impressive. The lighting choice was also nice. It was interesting to see the different slides used to convey the changing moods of Medea. Also, the fact that the children were not in the play was a great choice. I found that the symbolism of having Medea and other characters speak to the photographs that were projected onto the set much more powerful.

This is without a doubt a very successful start to this year's theatre program. With the well received opening night for *Medea*, I'm looking forward to the next production.

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