

'Bad Ass' Hedges set to perform acoustic guitar mastery, diversity

By Duncan Young
Staff Writer

"Bad Ass." This is the descriptive slang term of endearment used by college students to describe guitarist Michael Hedges.

And most people who leave Memorial Hall tonight after seeing Hedges' 8 p.m. concert will have that same term on their lips.

Hedges, a guitarist capable of doing just about everything with an acoustic guitar except eat it (and even then, it probably still would sound cool), brings his virtuoso mastery of the instrument and amazing stage presence to dazzle Chapel Hill audiences tonight. An artist on the giant jazz/new age label Windham Hill since 1981, Hedges' guitar mastery and musical diversity have made him a favorite among critics.

Geoff Ossias, one of California's leading music critics, writes, "Hedges is such an unusually complete musician that his music defies a categorical pigeonhole. His music is too engaging to call new age and too complex and apolitical to call folk."

But, he does produce great live music. Michael Hedges' live concerts have dazzled music-biz types for the past 11 years, and he always has been critically acclaimed. Hedges' concerts are like a kaleidoscope — you'll never see the same thing twice — but past shows and a live album, "Live on the Double Planet," offer a clue to what listeners can expect.

The first staple of a Michael Hedges' concert is, of course, his original material. He calls his music, somewhat amorously, a cross between "acoustic



Michael Hedges

thrash," "heavy metal" and "savage myth." In any case, his style is all his own.

Hedges is capable of switching from the Beatlesque introspection of a song like "Ready or Not" to the wacky tongue-in-cheek disco of "The Funky Avocado" without missing a beat. He plays most of his songs on the obscure harp guitar, a deep, full-sounding instrument that consists of a traditional six-string guitar armed with an adjacent set of five bass strings. Listeners can also expect to hear material from Hedges' new album, his fifth, entitled "Taproot."

The second integral part of a Hedges' concert is the choice of covers. Hedges' can make his guitar suck up another artist's song and spit it back out, keep-

ing both the original character of the song and Hedges' unique imprint intact.

While traditional covers include Bob Dylan's "All Along the Watchtower" and the Beatles' "Come Together," Hedges also mixes in contemporary cover songs. A 1991 show, for example, included hilarious covers of Neneh Cherry's "Buffalo Stance" and Prince's "A Love Bizarre."

More important and outstanding than any of his compositions or cover choices is Hedges' sheer style and mastery of the acoustic guitar. After edging out Extreme guitarist Nuno Bettencourt as acoustic finger-style champion in *Guitar Player's* latest annual reader poll, Hedges has been considered the most physically adept guitarist in the world.

Those going to the concert tonight can look forward to an amazing show. "Bad Ass" might not be strong enough to describe what the audience will see of Michael Hedges, but used in the sense of a timeless compliment, "Bad Ass" is completely accurate.

Michael Hedges plays at 8 p.m. today in Memorial Hall. Tickets, available at the Union box office, are \$9 for students and \$15 for the general public.

'To speak out of silence': Women tackle language dominated by men

By Mondy Lamb
Senior Writer

Poet Adrienne Rich didn't make an appearance Saturday night, but her voice and the voices of many other women were heard throughout Bingham Hall in the performance of her poetry.

"To Draw This Circle: Learning to Speak Out of Silence" dealt with Rich's theory on the English language as an extension of a male-dominated society. Presented by the Department of Speech Communication Oct. 1-3, the performance was conceived by senior speech-communication major Sarah Ruccio for her Honors Project.

Ruccio selected poems that built on a theme illustrating how the voices of women are silenced and how their experiences are marginalized in our patriarchal culture.

"I used the theme of language specifically to talk about how language is really an appendage of patriarchy," Ruccio said. "There is a progression throughout the performance, beginning with women accepting the tradition that they should be silent or accepting labels placed upon them.

Passive acceptance of these traditions when speaking, using the misogynist language most people learn, as well as remaining silent and not striving for change because of the people that are not aware that anything is wrong perpetuate the problem, she said.

Ruccio compiled, adapted and directed the performance, which featured nine women dressed in white performing Rich's poetry and using various choreographed movements to demonstrate how women are silenced and how they find their voices. In order to show that they are labeled with confining definitions, slides of words commonly used to describe women — including whore, dyke, bitch, slut, angel and madonna — were projected across the bodies of the performers, illustrating the English language's deficiencies in imaging women.

At one point, the women searched through stacks of books, presumably looking for books written by women. All that was available were books written by men, about men, in which women virtually were excluded.

Eventually, the women turned to books written by women, about women, to find their own voice and a language

women can use without limiting themselves to traditional, narrow roles.

"They search for real women like themselves who are trying to write and trying to speak," Ruccio said. "So they go from being isolated and afraid to awareness. Adrienne Rich also calls for changing language so that it can express female experience."

Kilian Manning, performance choreographer said, "I think that Adrienne's struggle for language is one that a lot of us face, in a lot of different ways. I don't know if I've copped out, but I've chosen body as language, to sort of work that way."

In her choreography, Manning also attempted to express a development of the sense of community among the women, she said.

One difficulty Manning and Ruccio faced was performing a text about silence.

"In the beginning images, and some of the end (images), the women did not speak; there was a tape playing — they themselves were silent," Ruccio said. "Also you see images of them silencing themselves — hands over the mouth — and then silencing each other."

Animal-protection officials say cruelty charges unfounded

By Robert Strader
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill Animal Protection Society officials said Friday that charges of animal cruelty and records mismanagement were unfounded and arose from "personal vendettas."

In response to citizen complaints, the Orange County Board of Commissioners voted last month to form a committee to investigate whether the Animal Protection Society should be allowed to continue operating the Orange County Animal Shelter, located at 1081 Airport Road in Chapel Hill.

If the committee finds the shelter is operating improperly, the county could step in to manage it.

The committee, which will be composed of an APS representative, a county commissioner, a member of the board of health, a member of the county sheriff's department and four members of the public, has not been selected.

Susan Sexton, a former candidate for the board of commissioners, said an investigation was necessary because the APS had abused its authority.

"(The APS) does not answer any questions from the county or let anyone see any paperwork," Sexton said. "They have failed to live up to their contract with the county."

Sexton also said county commissioners had refrained from taking any action in an attempt to delay investigations until after the election.

Pat Sanford, APS director, called Sexton's charges "totally irresponsible and totally unfounded."

Although Sexton has been the main critic of the APS, other residents have registered complaints with the commissioners as well, County Commissioner Don Willhoit said Monday.

Willhoit said that in at least one instance, the APS euthanized an animal that was going to be adopted.

Sexton said 500 to 700 animals remained unaccounted for and added that numerous instances of financial mis-

management have taken place during the past year.

"(There are) ample reasons to terminate the contract with the APS," she said.

Willhoit said the committee would perform a "status check" of the current management structure.

Sexton also said the shelter's county-allotted \$237,100 annual budget was excessive. "The shelter could be operated better, cheaper and more accountable,"

But Orange County Manager John Link said he did not think the costs of operating the shelter could be reduced, even if the county were to overtake it.

"The county cost of running the shelter would be about the same," Link said.

Sexton said an audit of the animal shelter was supposed to have been completed by August but never took place.

Link said, "The audit of the shelter would have been done except that an audit of the county is still in progress."

Sexton added that the APS ignored the rights of property owners when investigating charges of animal cruelty.

"APS officials do not have the statutory authority to investigate charges of animal cruelty (because) the board of commissioners appoints investigators," she said.

But Sanford called Sexton's claim "absolutely false." "We have had the authority for the past 20 years," she said.

Sanford said Sexton's charges stemmed from a personal vendetta relating to an incident last spring. Sexton had to be removed by the police for refusing to give information concerning her pets, Sanford said.

Link said county ownership would

result in a reduction of volunteer time, which is vital to the shelter's operation.

But Sexton disagreed with Link, saying volunteers would continue to play an important role in operating the shelter, even if it switched over to county management.

Although she was the first person officially to request to be on the committee as a member of the public, Sexton said she thought her request would be denied.

Link said he was optimistic that the committee would be beneficial.

"(The committee) will improve work protocol which should make the investigation of animal cruelty charges much easier and make the shelter and its staff more accountable to the public."

Sanford said the shelter was invited into the Standard of Excellence Program, along with 63 other animal shelters in the United States.

Court to review Haitian decision

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court said Monday that it would decide whether the Bush administration was violating immigration law by sending Haitian boat people back to their country without a hearing.

A lower court declared the policy illegal, saying the government should give Haitians plucked from the sea by the U.S. Coast Guard a chance to prove they were fleeing political terror.

The Supreme Court is allowing the government to continue the immediate repatriations until it decides the issue sometime in 1993.

Initially, the Bush administration decided to take the refugees to the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and hear their requests for asylum. About 27,000 of them were returned to Haiti.

On May 24, President Bush decided that Coast Guard cutters would intercept the Haitians at sea and immediately return them to their country. The Haitians could apply for asylum through the U.S. Consulate at Port-au-Prince.

A federal judge in New York upheld the new policy. But the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said immigration law "clearly states that the United States may not return aliens to their persecutors, no matter where in the world those actions are taken."

Campus Calendar

TUESDAY
3:15 p.m. University Career Services will offer information on resume writing for internships for freshmen, sophomores and juniors in 306 Hanes.

3:45 Hunger and Homelessness Outreach Project members signed up for shelter orientation will meet in front of the Campus Y. Another group will meet at 6:45.

4:30 p.m. Diabetes Support Group will have a special meeting on exercise at the Woolen Swimming Pool. Information: 966-6562.

5 p.m. UNC Juggling Club will meet at the flagpole between Wilson and South Building. The rain location will be Carmichael Ballroom.

6 p.m. Upward Bound will have a meeting for those interested in tutoring area high school students upstairs in the Campus Y.

We Are All Housekeepers will welcome Al McSurely to give a presentation on "How the University Has Systematically Oppressed the Housekeepers" in 206 Union.

6:30 p.m. UNC-Russia Exchange will meet in the Union. Check the Union Desk for room number.

7 p.m. CHLAPA: nos juntaremos con Carolina Indian Circle en 100 Hamilton.

UNC Model United Nations will have a general interest meeting in T-6 New Carrol. Information: Hans, 914-5106.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity will present the First Black Uplift Symposium with Jon Michael Spenser presenting "The Theology of Rap Music" in the SHSBC office.

7:30 p.m. AED will welcome Dr. Hugh Peterson to speak on surgery and the burn unit in 224 Union.

8 p.m. UNC Young Democrats will meet in 212 Union. All campaigns will be represented.

Carolina Union Activities Board will present Michael Hedges, acoustic guitarist, in Memorial Hall. Tickets are available at the Union Box Office at \$9 for students and \$15 for the general public.

Campus Scouts will meet in the Union's FP Graham Lounge.

ITEMS OF INTEREST
Truman Scholarship: Juniors interested in a career in public service should see Dean Scott, 308 Steele, about this scholarship that covers as much as \$30,000 for senior year and graduate school.

Youth United has applications available at the Campus Y, the BCC and the Union Desk.
AIDS is organizing a carpool to Washington, D.C., to view the AIDS Quilt. Information: B-GLAD 962-4401.
Carolina Union Social Committee has applications available at the Union Desk for a Pizza Pig-Out (due Oct. 12) or the UNC Dating Game (due Oct. 19).

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In Short, Consider
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