Ray Stevens reaps reward from free music

By Kathy Burton

"I'd do it free if they didn't pay me money to do it." And so Ray Stevens feels about his bag — music.

After Saturday night's two-hour show Stevens, the untried-talented performer, talked about his profession.

"I enjoyed what I do more than anything else. I'm really having a good time. I don't consider it work. I'm lucky to get paid for something I really like to do."

What about your fellow muses? Do they feel the same way?

"All the ones that are any good do. There can be very few people in a business like this who aren't in love with what they're doing."

Which type of entertaining do you enjoy the most — nightclubs, television, live concerts...

"I enjoy the quick mental reactions required by T.V. It's a lot more satisfying. We just taped two weeks ago a new pilot for 20th Century Fox which I think it, I think, so much better than the summer show was. But it is a musical-variety show with it as a one-nighit audience. I don't know why. Maybe this is my type show.

What facet of your talents do you favor — arranging, writing, performing.

"I just kind of ball them all into one. All the different facets of what do — like arranging or writing or singing — I consider as one ball of wax. I look for the end result."

For a while you dropped out of the performing scene and arranged music for other people. Do other singers still come to you for that?

"They haven't because I got out of that end of the business. I got started doing comedy records like 'Abah the Arab', 'Jeremiah Peabody', 'Purple Pills', 'The Hairy Ape' and stuff like that."

I got a tape of that. I couldn't put out a straight record like (See Stevens Page 3)

With music ranging from "Abah the Arab" to a medley of Ray Charles favorites, recording artist Ray Stevens and his stage family entertain Harding students at the February 14 concert. (See Story Page 3)

Alpha Chi inducts 32 in formal ceremonies

Initiation ceremonies for 32 students into Alpha Chi, the national college honor scholarship society, took place Wednesday afternoon in the Trophy Room of the American Heritage Center.

The 23 seniors and 7 juniors were formally inducted by sponsors Dr. Don England, advisor professor of chemistry, Dr. Neale Pryor, professor of Bible and Hebrew, and Dr. Joseph Pryor, dean of the college.

The inductees include: Larry Anderson, Mary Bailey, Ron Blackbey, Linda Holt, Larry Cage, Harold Davis, Carolyn Dell, Thomas Estes, David Fincher, Myron Fite, Kevin Guyer and Roseie Harrison.

Knights rescue sweepstakes in intramural speech tournay

"The Enchanted" premiers

Girardouz's "The Enchanted" opened last night on the Harding stage for a three-day run. Pictured above are Jim Lasse, Rick Moore, Bill McDonald, Kerry McClung, Glenn Greenstreet and Teresa Runshion. See Page 2 for story.
Lyceum series to herald 'Enchanted' performances

By Helen Howard

"The Enchanted," Harding's second major dramatic production of the year, will be presented again tonight and tomorrow, as part of the Union Lyceum series.

Written by French playwright Jean Giraudoux, "The Enchanted" is a story of a young woman, Princess Ida, who is discovered by a group of women from the University of Athens. In Greece, the Princess is a student of philosophy, and her name is frequently used as a symbol of work and achievement for women in the modern world.

The play, which is directed by Morris Ellis, is set in ancient Athens and follows the life of Ida as she navigates the challenges of becoming a queen. The story is filled with themes of love, friendship, and the power of knowledge.

It will be directed by Morris Ellis, the technical director and costume designer. Tickets are still available for the remaining two performances. There is no admission charge for students; reserved seats may be obtained by pre-payment of $1.50 each at the business office.

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Ray Stevens...
(Continued from Page 1)
'Everything is Beautiful.' They wouldn't even play it. They'd put it on, listen to about four bars, say 'Ah, that's not funny' and take it off.

'I was stymied there. I stopped making records. I stopped doing everything for a couple of years.

'I had to live. So I started arranging, playing piano in recording sessions and singing background vocals. After a few years, I decided to try a straight song and came out with 'Mr. Businessman.' And sure enough it broke the jinx.

Do you write for a certain public?

'I just write what I want to, although I try to say something when I write a song. When I compose, it's whatever I feel like writing at the time — not trying to categorize anything.

You put out an album on which you did all the voices yourself — "Have a Little Talk With Myself." Do you plan to do that again?

'I'm building a new studio in Nashville with a 24-track machine which means that you can overdub 24 tracks without any loss of quality whatsoever. So if I wanted to I could write out all the parts and if my range would let me, I could sing all the parts up to 24 parts and it would sound really big and huge like a choir.

Living in Nashville, do you feel much of a Nashville influence?

'I live there but I travel a lot. When I am in Nashville I'm busy doing my thing. But I think everybody is influenced by everything they hear or see no matter where they are.

'We shouldn't care about the length of his hair or the color of his skin. Don't worry about what shows from without but the love that lives within. We're gonna get it all together now. Everything is gonna work out fine.'
Mathias shoots Bison past UA at M

By Ken Beck

With a 59 per cent field goal average by the team and 23 points scored by junior Joe Mathias, the Harding Bison basketball team made it four consecutive AIC victories last Thursday night as they handed University of Arkansas at Monticello an 88-81 setback.

Taking a quick lead in the first half, the Harding cagers held off repeated rallies by the Bull Weevils as Mathias and guard Jim Vick kept the Bison offense rolling.

At one point in the first period UAM was within five points of Harding, but at the half Harding commanded an 11-point lead, 47-36.

The Weevils returned the second half to chop away at the Bison lead, and with 7:55 to go in the game, UAM had closed it to 68-64.

Harding's center Fred Dixon then came in and scored five quick points, and later period free throws by Vick, Bill Chism and Lester Busby proved essential to the Bison as they maintained an 88-81 win.

Vick totaled 21 points, and Dixon added 11, while Mathias had almost as many, 20.5.

Vick also set a new school record in assists with 12, which broke the old school mark of 11 by Ned Boaz in 1964.

The Bison were unable to sustain their chain of victories as they dropped an away game to Ouachita Baptist, 75-65, Tuesday night.

After trailing by only 31-30 at halftime, the Harding cagers returned to the court to find the Finale of basketball games climaxes spirited club rivalries

By Doug Shields

Club basketball will go out in style tonight with championship games for A and B teams of both small and large clubs. The schedule, as released by Cecil Beck, director of intramural athletics, is:

4:00 Beta Phi A vs. Sig Tau A
7:15 Galaxy B vs. Sub-T B
8:30 Galaxy A vs. Sub-T A
9:45 Lambda B vs. Sig Tau B

In the A team matches, the defending champion, Sub-T, is 2-1 while Galaxy is undefeated at 3-0. In small club A games the defending champion, Sig Tau, is untied at 2-6 and Beta Phi is 4-1.

Galaxy C team won their bracket by beating Sub-T. Sig Tau's C team won their division by treating the Beta Phi C team likewise.

Tigers rallying with a 13-point burst before the Bison could manage a two-point tally. The Harding quint could not close the gap before time ran out with the score 73-65, Ouachita leading.

The Bison challenge the Hendrix Warriors Monday.