



Firehouse primed to open for Warrant

by Tricia Romano

The band Firehouse will try to set the Thomas & Mack Center ablaze Oct. 9 when they open for Trixter and Warrant.

This North Carolina-based band doesn't need any fancy introductions. They recently cracked the Top 40 and broke into MTV with "Don't Treat Me Bad." The new single "Love of a Lifetime" is currently rising up the charts.

Soon after the disbanding of the former bands, the current version of Firehouse was formed (then known as White Heat) when singer C.J. Snare and bassist Perry Richardson hooked up with guitarist Bill Leverty and drummer Michael Foster. The rest, as they say, is history.

"The first time we got together and played, you could tell it was there," said Richardson.

Shortly, after the formation of White Heat, the band recorded a 10-song demo with Las Vegas homeboys, Dana Strum and Mark Slaughter of Slaughter.

The band has also received help from members of Bon Jovi.

"Jon basically gave us advice. He didn't do anything in the business to help us out. And Dana and Mark, I mean we paid them to produce us. It wasn't like they



Firehouse will play with Trixter and Warrant at the T&M.

were helping us out of the kindness of their hearts. We definitely would have made it (without them)," said Richardson.

While it does bother the band to hear Slaughter and Bon Jovi's names in conjunction with Firehouse's success, Richardson added that "We're also grateful for what help they offered us."

Their recent success has proven they want to be more than just a hair band and intend to be around for awhile. During the tour, they are keeping the partying toned down because, as Richardson put it, "We don't want to blow it."

The concert on Wednesday, Oct. 9 will be Warrant's and Trixter's second time in

town while this is Firehouse's first gig in Vegas.

A surprising factor in this tour is the absence of ego problems.

"It's very unusual. The guys in Trixter are like brothers. We're getting

see FIREHOUSE page 8

University Theatre opens season with 'The Taming of the Shrew' and 'Kiss Me, Kate'

University Theatre will open its season with *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Kiss Me, Kate* to be performed in rotating repertory in the Judy Bayley Theatre.

The Taming of the Shrew will open Thursday at 8 p.m., and *Kiss Me, Kate* will open Saturday at 8 p.m.

Jeff Koep, director of *The Taming of the Shrew*, said of the production, "It is the proverbial battle of the sexes. This same struggle is updated with dance and song in the Las Vegas premiere of *Kiss Me, Kate*."

"It's Adam and Eve," said Robert Brewer, musical theatre specialist and director of *Kiss Me, Kate*. "From the moment Eve bit the apple, the struggle began. The plays are sexy, provocative, and great fun."

Cole Porter's *Kiss Me, Kate*, winner of five Tony awards, is considered by critics to be one of the most enchanting works ever offered by the lyric theater. Theater historian Miles Kreuger describes the play as part of the "joyous achievements of 20th Century theatre."

With musical direction by Jack Eglash, *Kiss Me, Kate* features such songs as "Another Op'nin, An-

other Show," "Wunderbar," "So in Love," "Always True To You in My Fashion," "Too Darn Hot" and a swinging jazz band score updated from the 40's. The 13 dance numbers are choreographed by Jacques Jaeger.

Artist-in-Residence, Drew Fracher, will execute the fight choreography for *The Taming of the Shrew*. Set designs for both shows will be produced by Jeff Fiala, costumes will be created by Ellis Pryce-Jones and lighting will be directed by Ann Davis.

Performances of *The Taming of the Shrew* are 8 p.m. Oct. 3 and 4, 12, and 16 through 18. A 2 p.m. matinee performance will be shown on Oct. 13 at the Judy Bayley Theatre.

Performances of *Kiss Me, Kate* are 8 p.m. Oct. 5, 9 through 11, 19 and a 2 p.m. matinee on Oct. 6 and 20 in the Judy Bayley Theatre.

General admission tickets are \$7 with discounts for students, senior citizens, faculty and staff, alumni, handicapped and military.

Call the Performing Arts Box Office at 739-3801 for more information.

Near tragedy doesn't stop one-act play

by Natalie Lutz

Student actress Rose Martinez, a junior at UNLV majoring in theater arts, was injured last Wednesday in an automobile accident. Martinez was due to open that night as the lead in Bob Mayberry's "Eating Memory," part of the fall One Act Play Festival.

According to Linda McCollum, business manager, publicist and professor for the theater department, she was notified at 3:30 p.m., that Martinez had

been in an accident and would be unable to walk for two weeks.

With a show opening that night, director Ernest Hall immediately considered his options; cancel the show or find another actress at the last minute.

Luckily, Linda Pierson, a second-year graduate student in the music theater performance program, walked into the office and volunteered to help. Pierson, who is usually in rehearsal for the role of Kate in "The Taming of the Shrew" which

opens Thursday, had been given the night off to see the One Act Festival.

Hall coached Pierson on the play which she had never read or seen, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. He blocked her moves, gave her character's intentions and showed her light cues.

The show came off without a hitch and afterwards, Pierson said she was glad to help out and was sorry she couldn't do the role for the next four performances due to her prior commitment to "Taming of the Shrew."

After watching this feat, professors and friends couldn't resist commenting on the superb job she did.

"Linda Pierson was great. I have never seen an actress take a script and do a cold reading with so much depth and emotion," said McCollum.

"Linda is imaginative, determined and very focused. She's a hell of a lot of fun to work with," said Robert Brewer, an associate professor in the theater department.

"Linda Pierson is in-

dicative of the type of students UNLV tries to produce," said Jeff Koep, chair of the theater department.

Anastasia Devere, a senior theater student, sat through the opening night performance taking notes so that she could learn the role in time for Thursday's nights performance and the rest of the run.

Rumor has it that Pierson couldn't get tickets for the sold out show so she had to read a part in the play in order to see it.

GOT AN EVENT? HERE'S WHAT TO DO:

All submissions/press releases must be typed, double spaced and no more than 400 words.

Make sure the five W's (who, what where when and why) are included in the submission. For more information, call Karen at 739-3878, Monday through Friday.