

One night stand takes talent

By LOUIS KING

Staff writer

Maybe you play the guitar and sing well enough to entertain a few of your friends at a party, but you're looking for something more. Or, you might know someone who has hidden talents that no one else is aware of.

The best place in town for anyone's untried and untested act is a One Night Stand, sponsored by the Virginia Tech Union Coffeehouse Committee.

The Coffeehouse is looking for a variety of acts.

"One of our goals this year is to bring a variety of acts to the One Night Stands," Coffeehouse Chairman Michelle Hogan said.

Hogan, who has been chairman since February, said the committee is open to all kinds of talent and is trying to find acts in areas other than music. So far this hasn't proven easy, since the most-auditioned act has traditionally been the solo performer on acoustic guitar.

It also needs people with alternative acts to audition.

"For the last One Night Stand (held April 6), we only auditioned eight acts in four hours," Hogan said. "If there are people out there with new ideas, they just haven't been showing up."

Hogan heads a 22-student volunteer committee. With most of the VTU money going to the more popular and visible Pop Concert and Lively Arts committees, she and her staff must work hard to put on enjoyable and popular shows each quarter.

Not all of the Coffeehouse shows feature exclusively local performers. Once or twice each quarter the committee will showcase an artist who has achieved some degree of national notoriety.

These acts are booked through the National Association of Campus Activities, which specializes in finding performers for organizations like the Coffeehouse Committee at colleges and universities around the country. Some of these upcoming national acts include Robbin Thompson who is slated to perform May 18. England Dan Seals of England Dan and John Ford Coley fame will kick-off next year's One Night Stand presentations with a show on September 28.

Singer/guitarist Tom Farley, performed Saturday night.

"This will be an unusual show because there will be no opening act," Hogan said before the show. Farley played two 1 1/2 hour sets, with accompaniment from his wife and another musician named Cam Head. The show cost \$2.

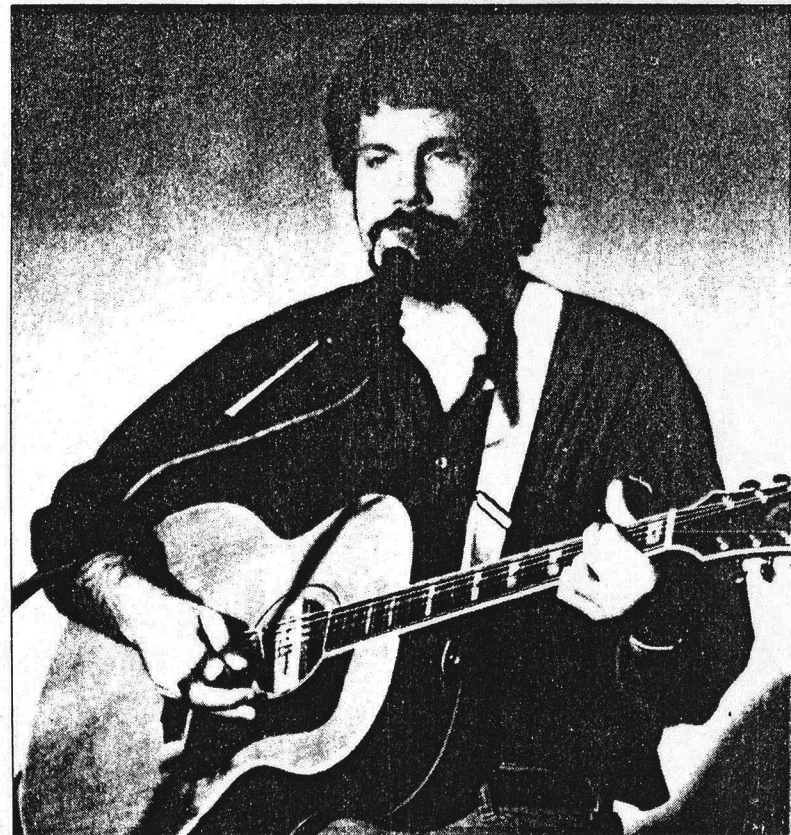
It is the local acts, however, that the committee devotes most of its time to. Unlike national acts, these shows are free and never fail to attract both friends of the performers and students looking for a free night of entertainment.

The April 6th One Night Stand show featured Tom Harvey, Bill McCarthy and a rhythm and blues group called Loose Shoes. Seventy-five people showed up in Squires Dining Room (where all the One Night Stands are held) and enjoyed a three-hour show.

Hogan was enthusiastic when describing the crowd.

"Everyone really had a good time," she said. "The crowd really enjoyed Loose Shoes because they were a change from the usual solo performers." She said she also encourages other ensemble acts to audition. The next One Night Stand that will feature local talent will be May 4. The featured performers will be Jeff Baker and Dave Yow.

The Coffeehouse Committee is working to find new and different acts that are looking for exposure. If you have talent or know someone who does, don't be shy; the Coffeehouse needs you. Call Michelle Hogan at 961-5661 in the VTU Programs Office in Squires for audition information. Remember, a One Night Stand is for everybody.



Staff photo by CHRIS TAYLO

Tom Farley, played guitar and sang at the 'One Night Stand.'