

Music moves audience

South Carolina band delights crowd with performance

By Rick Dandes
The Daily Item

LEWISBURG — Bucknell students mingled with more than 100 area residents at an outdoor concert by world music band Ranky Tanky, early Thursday evening in front of the Weis Center.

The Charleston, South Carolina band, played through a steady drizzle, entertaining the crowd with their brand of southern-baked rock-jazz-soul fusion.

Danville resident “Freddie” Horner said he hadn’t heard of the band, but after listening to their sound check at about 5:30 p.m., said “I’m really looking forward to hearing them. They are great musicians.”

The band has only been together for two years, said lead singer Quiana Parlor, but you wouldn’t know it listening to them play.

“Some of us have actually been playing together for more than 10 years,” said Trumpet player and vocalist Charlton Singleton. “Some of the band members met in Charleston, where they had been attending school at the College of Charleston and South Carolina State University.”

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The band had some people in the audience dancing.

Marianne Aronson and her friend Thomas Elias came from Mifflinburg to see the free show. They took their seats early, when there was no hint of rain; by 6:30, they stood their ground, despite having no umbrella. “They’re still playing, so I’m listening,” Elias said.

“That drummer is great,” Aronson said, admiring the work of Quentin Baxter.

Between songs, Singleton said they were going to continue playing in the rain. “We’re from Charleston,” he repeated. “If we were home, things would be pretty hectic, with that hurricane.”

Oh, and in case you’re wondering, Singleton added, Ranky Tanky is slang for Get Funky.

This second of two free concerts highlighted the start of the Weis Center’s 30th Anniversary season.

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Robert Inglis/The Daily Item

Ranky Tanky performs outside the Weis Center at Bucknell on Thursday evening.





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Charlton Singleton plays the brass horn with the group Ranky Tanky at Bucknell on Thursday evening.



Robert Inglis/The Daily Item

A crowd gathered Thursday night to listen to the group Ranky Tanky give an outdoor concert.