

Country-Western Fans Fill Carriage Room

By JANICE AITKEN

Valley News Staff Writer
SOUTH ROYALTON — Nashville, in the persons of Billy Joe Shaver, Townes Van Zandt, Larry Jon Wilson and John Lincoln Wright, came to the South Royalton House Thursday to open the new Carriage Room.

The program of country western music, much of it written by the various performers, ran from 8:30 p.m. until 2 a.m. on a continuous rotation basis.

Shaver, who wrote much of Waylon Jennings' "Honkey Tonk Heroes" album, opened the show with songs like "The Devil Made Me Do It the First Time" and "Fast Train to Georgia." Shaver's 18-year-old son Eddy played lead guitar. Danny Dickerson was on piano, Kelly Looney on bass guitar and Leland Waddell on drums. Shaver, a Texas old timer with immense zip and sparkle, had the customers yelling and stamping with enthusiasm. His performance was a hard act to follow, but Townes Van Zandt, another Texan, with guitarists Jimmy Gregg and Mickey White, also scored a hit with the audience, particularly on numbers like "Take Me Back to Tulsa" and "I'm Too Young to Marry."

Bold Move

Larry Jon Wilson, who claimed he startled his neighbors when he quit "making a 9-to-5 living and went to songwriting," talked and sang his way through a dozen or so of his own songs.

Wilson, an accomplished guitarist, explained the background of most of his songs, which are very personally oriented.

And after much pleading my audience members, a number of whom evidently were long time devotees of country-western, John Lincoln Wright did a great solo rendition of an old Hank Williams tune, "Rambling Man."

Wright and the others are considered by Boston Globe music critic Steven Morse to be exceptionally talented. Morse has referred to Van Zandt and Wilson as being "Underrated" by some critics. Shaver, Morse says, is a "legendary performer."

The Carriage Room concert, however, won plaudits not only from those in the audience who were familiar with the music, but also from those who, as one young man said, "stopped in to find out what was going on here."

He and several others said that they didn't ordinarily listen to "country-western, but were intrigued by the number of people coming in to the inn as well as by the music.

"You hear a lot of people having a good time, you want to see what it's all about," one man said.

A spokesman for the South Royalton House said that more good times are scheduled in the future. The Carriage Room will

be used for weekly music and entertainment events, she said, similar to the opening night concert.

"We hope to have Billy Joe Shaver back here Oct. 2," she said. After that, other attractions, such as jazz and rock groups, will be booked for the Carriage Room.

Windows Repaired

Glass replaced, sash repaired or new sash made, also furniture made or finished or unfinished and furniture repaired.

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TOWNES VAN ZANDT — Guitarist and singer Townes Van Zandt, along with John Lincoln Wright and Larry Jon Wilson, played to a capacity crowd Thursday at the South Royalton House. (News photo—Linda A. May)

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they felt better and their emotional health improved when they were permitted to wear shoes, often resulting in improved motivation and self-esteem.

Some patients requiring long-term hospitalization crocheted footwear to which they sewed stiff leather soles.

Prior to her retirement, Chamberlin worked in gerontologic and psychiatric nursing as nursing care consultant for the state of Washington.