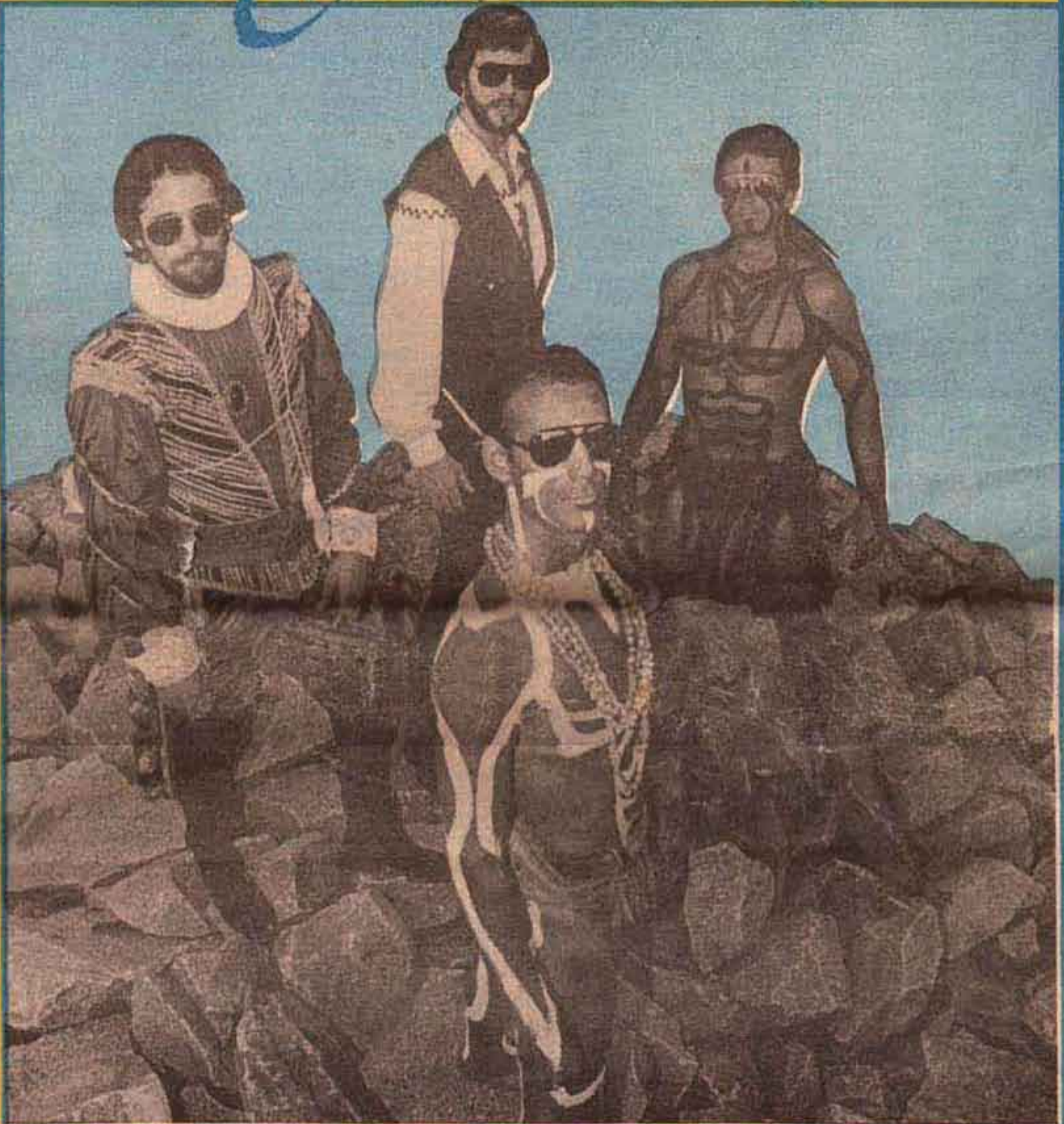


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# Attractions

Weekly Entertainment Guide



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August 9, 1984

(Photo by Foster Scott)

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# The Lost Colony Hunks

By LIZ BLUM

Macho. Machismo. Masculine. Male. Mucho hombres. Hunks.

Some women find their eyeful at a bar; others on the beach. But an oft-overlooked veritable hotbed of male pulchritude is just across the bridge on Roanoke Island every night (except Sunday) from June through September.

The Hunks of the Lost Colony make you wonder how Queen Elizabeth I ever made

it as the "Virgin Queen."

Traditionally, actors are in superb shape all the time barring some cases such as Dom DeLuise. And for these hunks, tramping around in sand for three hours a night is bound to help more than hinder.

So it is little wonder that the men wandering around backstage prior to the nightly performance provide a



SOME OF THE LOST COLONY HUNKS (clockwise from above): Pete Peterson (Wanchese) and Bob Midgette (Manteo) take a rehearsal break; Gary Hackenburg as John Borden; actor/technicians Scott Powell, Gene Wooster and Bobby Hawk taking a rare break before setting up for the show; Tom Whyte (Sir Walter Raleigh) relaxes before a performance.

(Photos by Foster Scott)

pleasing vista to the female eye.

Sweat pours off their biceps and foreheads as they move the ship into position, crank the winches, lift that barge and tote that bale in order to get the show ready by 8:00.

It's a wunnerful view, you know.

Of course, the roles they have are primarily due to the bodies that they have. While being able to perform convincingly and speak well is very important, the Lost Colony is largely visual and these men make that sweeping drama a bit more pleasing to the eye.

As one said when asked if he felt his excellent physique helped him land the roles he wished, "looks help alot if that's the commodity...however, looks and styles change with the wind."

\*\*\*

Hundreds of women view these men nightly. The percentages are good that out of those hundreds, some will get a

note after the show or run into an interested female standing at the top of the hill, waiting. And the percentages win out.

Several of these hunks have received notes from a pleased audience member. One has even received a letter from five women in Raleigh.

A few have had come-ons not particularly for their good looks (though they do help) but because of the fact that they were actors or with a certain acting company.

The fact that they know that there are literally displaying their "goods" for all those women each night brings varying reactions. Some feel a bit nervous when they realize it; others get a "rush" from it.

"When you catch a glimpse of an attractive lady in the first few rows...it inspires you to perform a little harder...it gives you something to play for."

"A lot of times, there's girls, around 12 or 13, who wait after the show to meet us," but nothing much more serious than that.

Offstage, these manly figures do not follow the traditional roles. A few are full-time actors; in school or pursuing the elusive dream of fame. But others are involved in such non-hunk activities as real estate and teaching.

One could view their roles as Lost Colony Hunks as a parallel to the "chorus girl."

(Continued on next page)



# Spotlight On The Colony Hunks

By LIZ BLUM

It was a difficult matter to choose who to spotlight as Lost Colony Hunks. But with a cast of over 150, choices must be made. Here are a few that represent the "essence" of the Lost Colony Hunks.

**BOBBY HAWK**

Bobby understudies as Chief Manteo (Bob Midgette) and is also one of the Indians you see each night hanging off the totem pole.

Muscular, standing six feet tall with blue eyes and blonde hair, Bobby is also into stuntwork. He was trained by James Wilburn, stunt coordinator for Universal Studios and Steve Loughran, a professional stuntman and movie extra.

For this strenuous work, he must keep in good shape and some of the ways he maintains his status as a "hunk" include karate, weightlifting, waterskiing, coin collecting (keeps the fingers nimble), rock music (ears must be as in tune as the bod) and sleeping, a very important part of any fitness program.

In his first season as a Lost Colony Hunk, he says that "outdoor theatre is my favorite type of theatre, since it is so unpredictable. Also, I've always wanted to be in this show."

Well, Bobby got his wish. Bobby, a native of Circleville, Ohio, appears on the totem pole along with his brother David and other hunks portrayed here.



JEFF JEFFCOAT

Jeff's a kinda shy guy but still the epitome of what most women classify as "hunk material." He is understudying the role of Sir Walter Raleigh (Tom Whyte) and performs as an actor/technician.

Besides maintaining his physique, Jeff is an excellent guitarist and has been a d.j. at WVVA-FM at the University of Alabama for the past school year. He hails from Mobile, Ala. Jeff says that since he was an only child "my imagination has enabled me to act all my life; it feels natural."

Jeff is a potential 1985 graduate from the University of Alabama with a major in broadcast and minor in theatre.

**ROBERT MIDGETTE**

With piercing blue eyes and a true hunk in a hunk role, Bob plays Chief Manteo and has for four years. He has been with the Lost Colony for a total of 13 years.

A native of Roanoke Island, Bob teaches physical education at Manteo Middle School during the

winters. He keeps his manly figure by running, lifting weights and playing basketball in the Dare County Recreation League during the winters because "I can't show up 30 pounds overweight to play this role at the beginning of the summer. They just wouldn't hire me back."

A graduate of Atlantic Christian College with a B.S. in Physical Education, he is extremely con-

scious of his appearance for one major reason—to play Chief Manteo during the summer.

Bob also enjoys weight training during the winter. He has played in previous years with the Colony Thomas Archard, Red Soldier and was an actor/technician.

His emphasis on total emphasis can be summed up in a quote from

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## Hunks

(Continued from Page 4)

back row with the skimpy outfit on. And while they wear pretty skimpy outfits during the show (barring two of the principals: John Borden (Gary Hackenburg) and Sir Walter Raleigh (Tom Whyte), the comparison has never struck them.

"Exploitation, no. Another in the crowd, yes," one mused.

Another said it was rare for him to think of the audience as people; when he is on stage, he becomes immersed in his role and seldom thinks of the impression he is making.

\*\*\*

One gets the impression after talking with these men awhile, that the

term "hunk" really never occurred to them before. They are conscious of their appearance—but not out of vanity but out of a dedication to their art they have chosen.

They are serious about their roles at the Lost Colony and dedicated to putting everything they have into it.

If lifting weights, running and playing sports during the winter; sticking out another year in school for fine tuning; selling real estate in order to secure a future so that he may act is what it takes to make it—well, it's gotta be done.

The fact that physical beauty comes from this pursuit of their art—well, that's just one of the "perks."

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# Spotlight



ROBERT MIDGETTE

(Continued from Page 5)

his Colony resume: "The Colony Softball Team WILL score more in '84!"

SCOTT POWELL

Scott is a dancer who is working as

an actor/technician due to a knee injury. But he is still conscious of his body and keeping it at its maximum capacity.

Another blonde, blue-eyed male beauty, Scott comes from Lynchburg, Va., and attends the N.C. School of the Arts in Winston-Salem.



SCOTT POWELL

He has decided to concentrate his energies on acting rather than dancing due to his bodily restrictions.

His main goal is to make himself more employable in the career of theatre by learning all aspects—technical, acting, dancing and some singing. Scott keeps his shape with such athletic hobbies as snow and water skiing, scuba diving and horseback riding.

As an actor/tech, Scott plays Queen's Soldier and understudies several Indian roles.

**GENE WOOSTER**

Another hunk with piercing blue eyes, Gene comes to the Colony from Alliance in Pamlico County, N.C. He is a true hunk with true hunk interests like cars, all outdoor activities like hunting and fishing and flying.

Gene is an actor/tech at the Colony and one of the totem pole Indians. His physique is the major reason he was chosen for the role as an Indian.

Gene has played in "First For Freedom" another NC outdoor drama and won best supporting actor for his role as George Hamilton.

He also won best supporting actor from Louisburg College.

Gene is into real estate when he isn't pursuing his acting career. He is very selective about the roles he plays and wants to have a secure future before launching full-time in-



GENE WOOSTER

to theatre.

Though real estate is his foundation, you can tell that where his head is when he says "Be Smart, Think

**DAVID HAWK**

Six feet, blonde and blue-eyed and brother of another Lost Colony Hunk, Bobby Hawk, David is also a totem pole Indian with Bobby.

Stunt work is his major forte in the acting field and he received the same training his brother did from stunt coordinator for Universal James Winburn and Steve Loughran, stuntman. His specialties are high falls, fight scenes, explosives, stairway falls, horseback riding and archery.

David has a movie credit on his record—a hoodlum in the MGM movie "Teachers" with Nick Nolte and Judd Hirsch. The movie is scheduled for a September release.

Stunt work is physically demanding, so you can imagine why David's physique qualifies him as a Lost Colony Hunk. Among others, he water skis and swims as a hobby and to help keep his body in tip-top condition.

For his mind's fitness, he likes to study Indian culture and collects rare beer cans.

**PETE PETERSON**

Another veteran of the Lost Col-

ony, Pete is in his 12th season. Pete is cast in the role of Wanchese and does very well at it, too.

Bronzed from days in the sun, lean from working out both for fun and for his role, Pete fits right into the alter role of Lost Colony Hunk.

Off season, he is working towards a master's degree in business and a law degree at Florida State.



PETE PETERSON (Wanchese)

**GARY HACKENBURG**

This guy with the baby blues and dedicated look plays John Borden for the third season.

Athletic, handsome and very into theatre (because he hates doing anything else!), Gary does body building, basketball, mountain climbing and archery in his spare time.

(Continued on Page 7)



GARY HACKENBURG



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# Hunk Spotlight

(Continued from Page 6)

He also keeps his mind nimble as a professional bartender.

### TOM WHYTE

Tom hails from the Big Apple and has such credits on his resume as double for Richard Gere in the upcoming movie "Cotton Club."

In his first season with the Colony, Tom plays a very convincing Sir Walter Raleigh. Standing six foot, one inch with brown hair and melting brown eyes, Tom gives a very modest impression.

Not so modest is his resume with a



TOM WHYTE

full sheet of credits ranging from stock companies to off-Broadway to television and film credits.

Among his many skills and hobbies are guitar, saxophone, fencing, stage combat, cycling, racket sports, swimming, water skiing, basketball, football and the list goes on and on.

Tom was a very definite choice when it came to picking Hunk

spotlights from the Lost Colony cast and crew for obvious reasons.

### TIM RATH

Tim, one of the four actor/techs that work as a crew backstage and as an Indian on, comes to Roanoke Island from Greensboro. He is currently enrolled at UNC-G working toward a BFA in acting.

This is his second year with the Colony and claims gymnastics and

fencing among his other "hunk" activities.

Tim plays Wingina, the ancient Indian king that appears in the first scene. He says that there are no small parts, only small actors.

He is definitely not a small actor, with a body like his, and he keeps in shape with body building exercises and keeping up his fencing capabilities.



BOBBY HAWK and Gene Wooster pose for a shot prior to Thursday's performance.

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