

Calvin Edwards Trio jazzes up Walhalla Civic Auditorium

WALHALLA — Calvin Edwards is a superb jazz guitarist. He could go toe to toe with the great B.B. King any day and not give an inch or miss a beat. The trio would be a headline in any lounge in Las Vegas. Tom Hillary on bass is nothing short of sensational and Ryan Ramirez on drums, know in some circles as skins and bells, never missed a beat or a ride when Calvin

gave him a nod. All in all, it was an evening to warm the hackles of the heart of any jazz fan.

As a note of interest, this was the first gig in which Tom Hillary had performed with the trio and the licks he hit on bass darn near stole the show. Neither Tom nor Calvin spared a fret or one inch of the neck of their instruments. They paid for it all, why not use it all? This

is a rare trait, particularly among bass players.

Calvin was born in Kings Mountain, the son of musicians. He was steeped in gospel, which still heavily influences Calvin's music. Elvis Pressley was also influenced by gospel music. Whatever influenced his music, the Calvin Edwards Trio heavily influenced the audience at Walhalla Civic Auditorium Saturday night.