

R&B act rocks Lakeside

Like a mile-long freight train going downhill, Gaynell Rose, a recent transplant and deeply professional entertainer from Washington, D.C., put Auditorio de Riberas del Lago in La Floresta into shattering vibrations during her performance February 24.

The singer, whose roots are clearly rhythm and blues in the Southern manner, burst onto the stage with audience-shaking energy and kept the train rolling and gathering speed. She makes the lyrics and rhythms of the genre come alive, not only with her rich, broad voice, but in the fiber of uninhibited body language and a tight rapport with her audience. She almost becomes the music.

Rose brought in her team — base guitarist Rowe Oliver (also the music director), dazzling drummer Andy Hamburger, a keyboard artist who doesn't miss a change or a trick, Glen Douglas,

and lead guitarist David Hanbury from Washington. Rose had the good sense to add local talents Beto Rivera on the right keyboard and Pancho Lopez, who plays a trumpet sweeter than wine.

For this, her first performance in Mexico, Rose chose Mexican nationals for her technical support and she apparently found the best — German Cuervo, Ivan Gonzalez, Jorge Salles and Oscar de Aguinaga. Though the volume was definitely up, even the mature ears that prevailed in the audience enjoyed it due to the fine sound quality.

Proceeds from the concert (over expenses) were donated to Sylvia Flores' Centro Desarrollo Jocotepec project to aid battered women.

Yes, Rose came on like a freight train and took everyone along for a ride they didn't want to end. Rock on! — *By J. Chaussee*