

The Tampa Tribune -Times, Sunday, September 25, 1994

KING OF THE ROAD: Joe "King" Carrasco must've swallowed a handful of Mexican jumping beans before Friday night's show at Skipper's Smokehouse.

The indefatigable guitarist was bouncing around the Skipperdome all evening, leaping onto tables and prowling the perimeter of the stage as he wailed on guitar.

Once Carrasco got going, so did the party. It was the 14th anniversary of Skipper's Smokehouse in Tampa, and nearly 500 people showed up to celebrate. Shots of tequila and bottles of beer kept them fueled, while Carrasco and his band, the Crowns, kept them moving.

The plywood dance floor was packed with folks wearing Burger King crowns, a Carrasco tradition, while others boogied under the giant oaks draped with Spanish moss.

Carrasco's Tex-Mex swagger proved the perfect choice for Friday's fete. The band's howling '60s sound is just right for jangling your bones. And when the Crowns cranked up their party anthem, the old ? and the Mysterians hit, "96 Tears", the crowd went wild.

They didn't get a birthday cake, but they blew out the candles Friday night.



RHODE ISLAND



MUSIC. You've got to be **Joe "King"** if you think the Tex-Mex bandleader named **Carrasco** doesn't have a punk rock, R&B heart. Whew that was a bit of a stretch. Sorry, Joe. Anyway, Carrasco's one of the ones you've got to see, an entertainer who comes off as a cross between Jimmy Liggins and the Buzzcocks, with a tad of Steve Jordan thrown in (the El Parche Steve Jordan, that is). He doesn't stop until you're dead tired, sweating your buns off, all danced out. I respect him for that. Join him at the Ocean Mist (285 Matunuck Beach Road, South Kingstown).

