## Musical duo believes kids should get 'silly'

When Hans Mayer and Frank Gosar are feeling silly, music — children's music — is the result.

Hans and Frank recently released their second cassette and songbook of children's music, called "When I'm Feeling Silly." The tape contains 12 original songs on subjects such as coping with camping and deciphering modern

The duo will perform its musical creations on the mini stage at the Folk Festival, at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, and again at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Songs by Hans and Frank are a collaborative effort, with Mayer providing most of the music and Gosar supplying the majority of lyrics.

"But we edit each other a fair amount," Gosar said. "I usually write more syllables into a line than the human tongue can sing, and Hans catches that. In turn, I sometimes suggest harmonies, and grouse when a tune is out of my vocal range."

Gosar refuses to give in to the idea that children's music has to be completely repetitious and simple.

"When 'My Brother Eats Bugs' (the pair's first tape) came out, I was told that the lyrics were too complicated for children's music," he re-



called

"But when Hans and I did our first concert, there were kids in the audience who had memorized every song."

The pair's second tape, "When I'm Feeling Silly," is a highly polished product which incorporates a variety of musical styles and textures.

In addition to the vocals of Hans and Frank, the tape includes other vocal tracks, synthesizers, violin, fiddle, cowbells, snare drums, string bass and tuba.

Less conventional "instruments" such as whistles, toy ray guns, robot voices and giraffe hiccups are also incorporated into the tape.

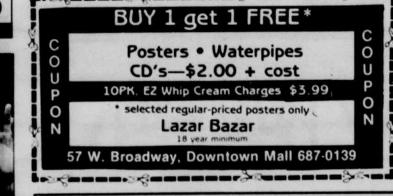
If there is any message in the songs by Hans and Frank,



it is simply to enjoy.

"There is too much pressure on kids to grow up too soon, to get serious," Gosar said.

"Silliness ... the imagination, get short shrift. We think kids should have time to be silly."





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