

# The Argus

Circ: 11k

## **THEATRE** **Thriller Live**

The Congress Theatre, Compton St, Eastbourne, Friday

**THRILLER Live** certainly lived up to its name.

This musical presentation, featuring the hit songs of Michael and The Jackson Five, contained great breakdancing, moon walking and special effects.

During the evening several performers took up the mantle of Jackson, including Ricko Baird, who even performed with him as front dancer on the Michael Jackson And Friends 1999 tour.

14-year-old Dominic Smith impressed as a young Jackson, but lacked the subtlety and depth of Roger Wright and AJ Lewis, who performed Jackson's later numbers with Peter Eldridge.

Eldridge sang a belting Beat It and Dirty Diana, while Wright and Lewis covered Earth Song, Man In The Mirror, Can You Feel It, and many more.

Talented Pop Idol contestant Hayley Evetts (she came fifth in the first series) added a sexy element to the show, and the dancing was electric.

The whole choreography by LeVelle Smith Jnr, whose credits include Janet Jackson's Rhythm Nation Tour and The Rolling Stones' Wheels Tour, was superb.

The costumes were pure Jackson and contributed to an outstanding show in front of a packed audience.

Young children were hoisted onto their parents' shoulders and clapped and waved excitedly along with the music, while adults danced in the aisles.

Heather Flood

