

"If I had an aspirin . . ."

Winter Carnival concert credible

by Ken MacDougall

The four-act concert held at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium on February 2, was to have been the highlight of the Winter Carnival. Judging from remarks heard after the event, it was just that.

Pegasus, Valdy, Tobias and Gunhill Road put on performances of varying degrees of professionalism, to leave the over 1,000 paying customers reasonably satisfied that their money wasn't totally wasted.

No one was really expecting much from Pegasus, so many people arrived late for their show.

However, this just goes to show that you can't always judge a group by what they usually feed you. Pegasus displayed no less than three credible guitarists, and a lead singer, Bud Chapplan, who, if he could get away from continually doing the same monotonous things with his voice, might yet become great. The group's arrangements were crisp, smooth, at times, even vibrant. The audience responded to this surprise performance by calling them back for two encores. Pegasus only showed for one.

I've never been any fan of Pegasus, and the reason is this: musicians, in their best times, have notoriously large egos, but these characters cannot get the message even when the crowd is telling them that they're bad. At the opening of the Grawood Lounge concept, for instance, Chapplan and Dick Burns

continually heaved insults into the crowd for not applauding their mediocre efforts.

This immature attitude carried into the concert. Pegasus continually applauded themselves. The guy that asked Steve Goldrich of Gunhill Road backstage to urge the audience to give Pegasus a hand was probably Dick Burns. I'll give him six months to deny it.

There is little one can say of Valdy's performance that could add to the superlatives the man so richly deserved.

Surprisingly, his hit single, "A Rock and Roll Song," was not the best number of his act, but don't ask me which one was. To understand how Valdy went down with this crowd, I would have to take the last number of

his set, "Rainmaker", to provide the overall explanation.

Dalhousie students may generally be referred to as an apathetic lot; we are the school that sleeps together, thereby staying together. There isn't too much that wakes us up, but in this song, the audience clapped, whistled and even SANG with Valdy... a truly incredible feat.

How can you describe the performance? Valdy was a combination of Perth County Conspiracy hominess, James Taylor sadness, and sheer spiritualness that comes only from a man who is enjoying what he is doing. He deserved the encore and the applause that the audience gave him.

Kenny Tobias has this hit

single out called "I Just Want to Make Music". Maybe Kenny came to make music, but he fought for the privilege all night with his lead guitarist and organist.

The guitarist was incompetent. He had the volume jacked up far too loudly, and the sound drove people to the exits. The organist was trying valiantly to match the din.

The immediate loser was Tobias, whose voice, when not drowned by his accompaniment, certainly wasn't helped out by the faulty middle mike, which worked to varying degrees of success all evening.

I have no idea how the patrons that remained stood the noise, but many of them started to join me out in the lobby after Tobias'

fifth or sixth number. About a hundred and fifty more left for the quieter times of home and aspirin.

Gunhill Road's performance started in Fredericton, about seven hours before they reached the campus. Poor weather kept their plane from leaving, and they were forced to travel on Nova Scotia's less-than-friendly highways in order to make their performance.

The fatigue didn't take too long to show up. In about their fourth number, "Sailing", Gil Roman's voice started to waver. A couple of songs later, in "All the Children", he hit the flattest note I heard all evening. Still, at the end of their set, the audience called them back for more.

I really didn't think they deserved the encore. The group must have thought the same way, because they tried to end the evening on a sort of greasy note. Their last three numbers were straight out of the "fifties" and ended with Roman serving up an old Elvis number, "Don't Be Cruel," complete with high-pitched squeal and nervous pelvic shake. The crowd loved it, and that performance exonerated Roman from most of his previous mistakes. It was an excellent way to end the night.

Peter Greene, the organizer of this show, deserves credit for setting up the performances.

Now, if he had only remembered to lock Tobias' dressing room door, it would have been perfect.



Pegasus... we're great stuff, man. (Peter Clarke/Dal Photo)

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Dalhousie Film Theatre Cohn Auditorium, 7:00 p.m. The Yellow Submarine.
9:00 p.m. Help. reg. \$1.50, student \$1.00, members \$1.00, student member, \$0.50.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Dalhousie Concert Series. Josef Suk and Joerg Demus — violin and piano duo. 3:00 p.m. Cohn Auditorium. FREE.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Student Council Elections.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Passion. Cohn Auditorium. 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$3.00, \$2.00, students \$2.00, \$1.00, also February 23 and 24.

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Dal Liberals meet

The Dalhousie University Student Liberals had their annual meeting on Thursday, February 8. The two items of business were constitutional amendments and election of officers. Several amendments were passed, most of them dealing with the annual meeting. Provision was made for notice of meeting, the quorum and to have all future annual meetings in February.

All of the new officers were elected by acclamation. They are: President, Jean Trivett;

Vice-President, Dan O'Connor; and Secretary-Treasurer, Iris Nunn. The new President hopes to work closely with the rest of the executive in a program to substantially increase the club's membership and activities.

The first items to be dealt with are plans for the Nova Scotia convention in March. The club is allowed to send five delegates. In addition, Eric Swetsky of Dalhousie will be there as a member of the Student Liberal's executive.

The Dalhousie delegates will be chosen at a club meeting on Tuesday, February 20, in the SUB. The club will also discuss proposed convention resolutions and Liberal policy.

The new Secretary-Treasurer will meet with her predecessor, Victor Goldberg, to prepare the statement of last year's expenses. Also, she will be preparing the budget for the upcoming year. Hopefully, it will be presented to the Student Council Grants Committee in a short time.

STUDENT UNION MEETING

February 19

12:30 P.M.

McInnis Room

Vern's Spaghetti

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