

# Red 'N Black is Back!

(do not adjust, we are experiencing technical difficulties)

by Miroslav Wiesner

Ah yes, The Red 'N Black Revue-- that once a year event when all of our most talented thespians, most contingent crooners and hottest hoofers get together to put on an evening of fun and enjoyment. It is a shame that there is only one opportunity per year for such an event like this one. It is also a shame that the opening night this year had to be held in Marshall D'Avery Hall where the facilities leave quite a bit to be desired. The sound quality, the lack of off stage wings, the all in all lack of STAGE and various other problems unfortunately took away from a show with great potential.

The show began with the rather unique entrance of The Red Tide as they paraded through the audience causing many a deaf ear with their hornblowing and hollering. Smartly dressed and fully synchronized, this band informed us about the show with a Red 'N Black rap, as such which got everyone in the mood for the show.

The audience was introduced to the M.C.'s of the evening Mr. Michael Ingram and Miss Lisa Gregoire. These two witty characters did an excellent job at keeping the whole show together (although I thought getting the audience to do the wave was a bit much but not at the playhouse on Friday night with a housefull of screaming students). Even though what was original a two hour show was expanded to three and a half due to the venue in

which it was performed, they managed to keep us interested. However, in my mind, Mr. Ingram could have used some more original material in his comedy routine.

The first act scheduled was a dance number entitled Joy and Pain, Sunshine and Rain (I wonder what song they were going to do that to?) but it was replaced by a funky piece done to Janet Jackson's song Rhythm Nation. All dancers moved together and produced an electric display which really got things moving. Next on the agenda was a jocular skit displaying what would happen if the New Brunswick Colombian affair were left up to the university security (Green Hornets). The piece was slow and hard to understand at times but within a rather mediocre sketch existed what I think was the funniest line of the entire show. When Chris Nakash as the colombian drug traffiker was asked what he was doing replied "Aye am heer to feex thee coffee macheen".

The audience was serenaded by a number of bands throughout the evening including newcomers Generic Sound, D.J.'S and 3 for the Show as well as some dance numbers such as Hot!Hot!Hot! (exercising the talents of Stacey Kilburn and Carolyn McNeill) and a pseudo-ballet piece performed by Tammy Ward. We were also subject to some rather odd skits such as the immortal Johnny Jemseg and his Case of the Stuffed Beaver (yes... it is what your thinking) and R.A.P. UNB



Photo by Alastair Johnstone

## The Cornerstone of the Red and Black Revue

which was overtaken by the presence of the two unknown FUNK BROTHERS who managed to steal the whole act.

Highlights of the evening included an excellent solo work done by Todd Velnotte and his guitar as well as the wonderful exhibition of talent by 2 For the Show. Steve Patterson and Guy Gultard totally captured the audience with their versatility and experience with instruments although Guy was having a bit of trouble keeping his guitar-s from slipping out of their straps. Another impressive addition was a band that is rather new to the

musical scene Little Boy Joel and the Frigid Garage made our "toes tap and our fingers snap" with their rhythmic blues, Tristram Pym's pelvic behind-the-back with a half twist guitar motions and Joel LeBlanc's heavy duty mouth harp.

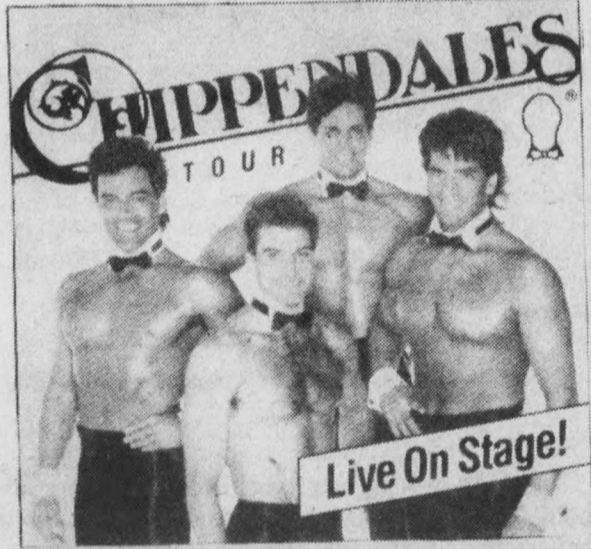
We all know that this is a special Red 'N Black; this is Dr. Downey's last and therefore most special. Of the President's of UNB, I am told that Dr. Downey has been one of the most open minded and zany when it comes to the R 'N B and this year was no exception. His skit involved the choosing of the next president with such candidates as Richard Renaud's

Ronald Regan a hilarious Jim and Tammy Bakker and an interesting fellow in sequins (Elvis is Alive!) the ending left us with a horrifying cliff-hanger.... could our next president be, no it's not Michael Myers, no not Freddy Krueger, it's ... (go see for yourself).

As we all wound down preparing for the finale, as cobwebs began to form, fixing us to our chairs, a rowdy, almost unexpected jug band just happened to pop in and what a bunch they were! It was obvious that one fellow didn't frequent the dentist to often yet all of them seemed to

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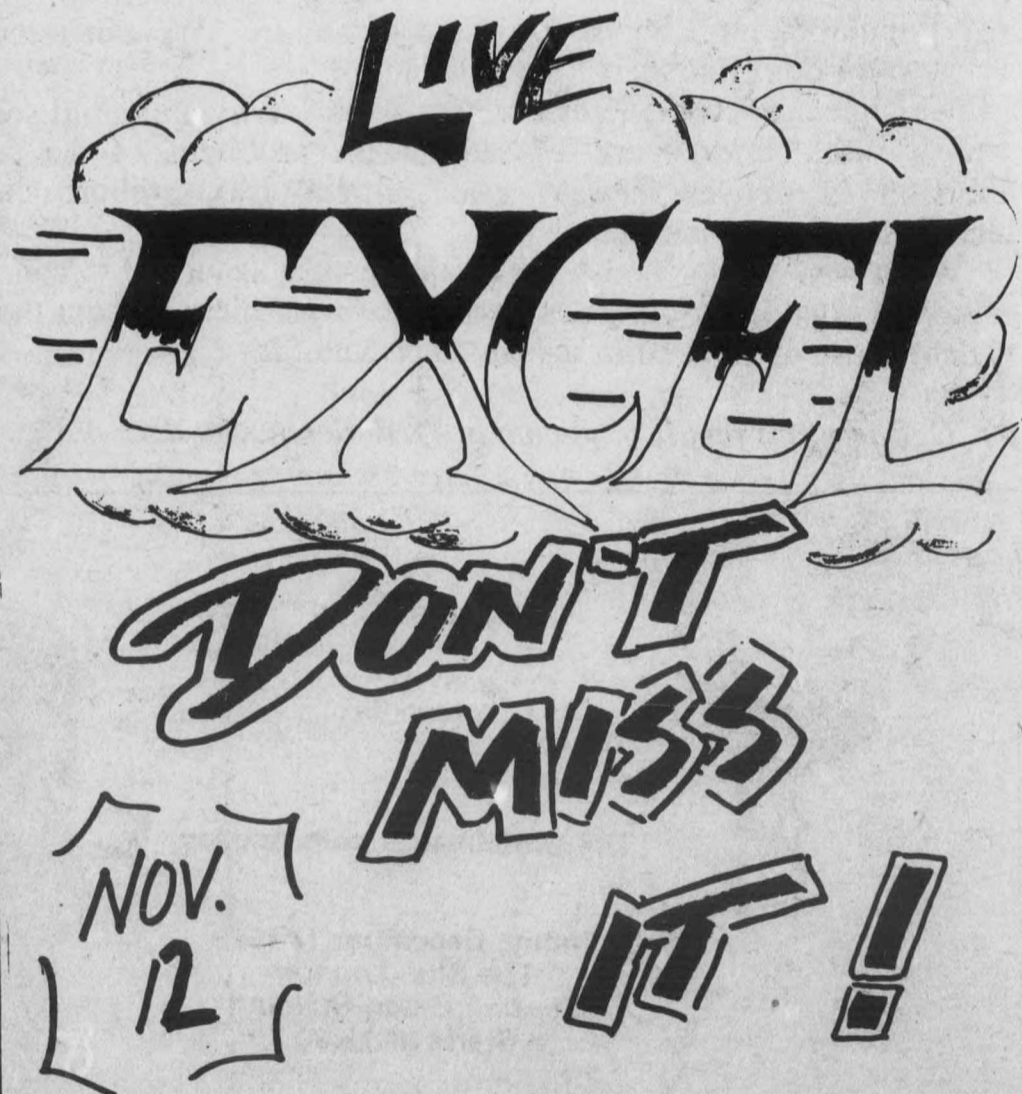
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