

A barking good time

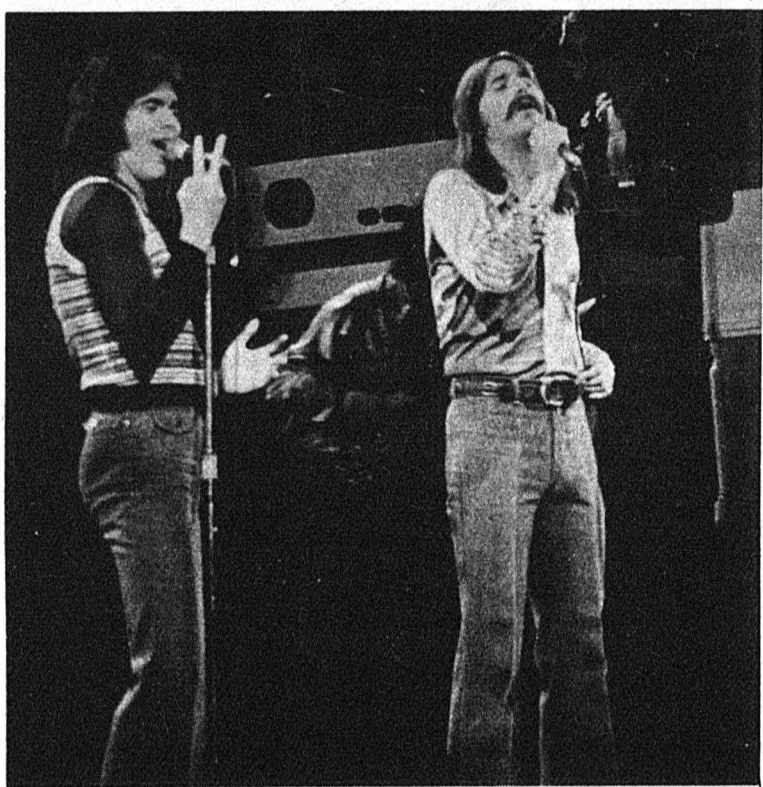
Among commercially successful touring bands, there are few indeed who can boast the kind of tight, smooth, sound and onstage professionalism that are the trademark of Three Dog Night.

Of all the groups that have appeared in this city recently, only the Eagles and the Bee Gees are in the same league vocally, but Three Dog Night's stage presentation is easily the best of the three.

With "The Wizard," (a spookily-clad Moog player, who was added to the group last year) as the center of both visual and sound effects, the eight-man band introduced three new members acquired since their concert here last spring. The lead and bass guitarists are graduates of Rufus, and Floyd Sneed's successor on drums is an ex-studio musician from L.A.

The new additions to the lineup change the band's patented 'slick' sound a bit and they seem more willing to improvise now, something they haven't done in previous appearances in this city.

Lukewarm audience response for the first few tunes seemed to spread to the band members who just went through the motions initially, until Cory Wells' energetic rendition of "Try A Little Tenderness" brought the large crowd to its feet. After that the other singers, Chuck Negrón and Danny Hutton, picked up some of Wells' enthusiasm, and the excitement continued to flow as they belted out a pleas-



Two-thirds of Three Dog Night, from Wednesday's concert.

ing blend of old and new materials, punctuated by fireworks and a strobe-lit dance (a la Jethro Tull) by the Wizard. Particularly effective were the group's treatment of "The Show Must Go On," "Sure As I'm Sittin' Here" from last year's *Hard Labor* album, and Negrón's crooning version of "Pieces of April". As usual, they took a roundabout way of arriving at "Eli's Coming" which, along with "Celebrate", elicited the greatest response from the

crowd.

The warm-up act, introduced as a fine song-writer and recording artist from Vancouver, whined his way through a number of so-so tunes, and was feebly received.

All in all, it was probably the second-best of the four concerts Three Dog Night has put on here, and while not as spectacular as last year's show, the people went home happy, if not ecstatic.

Jack Faraday

The arts

Humphrey a hit

Name a band that can mix traditional country, bluegrass, blues, and folk, and chances are they can't do it better than "Humphrey and the Dumptrucks".

"The Dumptrucks" packed the house Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at the Hovel, providing receptive audiences with a pleasing blend of new and old tunes. They have improved both individually and as a group since the days when they were recording for their album "Gopher Suite", despite a changeover of band members.

The band of two years ago, before Graeme Card quit to go it solo, could weave a rich texture of vocal harmonies while at the same time playing tight and subtle music that a number of big-name bands could well have envied. After Card left, the band had to work hard to fill up one of their lead vocalists and lead guitarist.

It must have been difficult, but Sunday night's performance proves that they have succeeded in their attempt. In the process "The Dumptrucks" have changed from a vocal to an instrumental group, and a fine one at that.

The band is tight in the best

sense of the word, with the rhythm established quickly and extended by frequent and controlled improvisation. The musicianship (with Humphrey on kazoo and banjo, Mike Taylor on guitar, auto harp and kazoo, and 'Bear' Miller on string bass, guitar and jug) was generally excellent, marred only by the time spent in between songs tuning instruments.

Taylor is as good a vocalist as ever. Humphrey and 'Bear' sing some fine harmony and - surprise! Both of them have learned to sing an acceptable lead.

The audience ate up most of their songs, and kept up a clapping rhythm throughout the 'oldies but goodies' of their third set. Not only were these old favourites ("Viper's Drag", "Eight more miles to Louisville") improved, but half of what they played was new - and good.

Music from their country 'opera' (a maligned term ever since "The Who" tried to set someone named Tommy up there with Verdi and Puccini) sounded excellent, including the best trucker song I've heard since Commander Cody played "Mama Hated Diesels."

Incidentally, the band is booked for a cross-country tour of this opera next summer. It will also be performed on CBC and might find its way onto the Dumptrucks next album.

If so, it should be worth watching for.

John Owen Robert Ferris

Access catalogue a four frog investment

In glancing through the 1975-76 Edmonton Access Catalogue last night I came across several things that should be of interest to every hard-working university student here in Edmonton.

The 'catalogue' is a compendium of information about people, places, and things in

and about Edmonton and as such is a useful, complete source of information on our fair burg.

First thing found in this year's 'catalogue' is 'Accommodation', something a lot of students were frantically looking for through August and into September. Flipping ahead we

find a subject dear to the hearts of faculty and students alike: 'Pub Crawl' lists most of the better booze joints in town - just the place to look to cure those pre- (or post) exam blues.

For those who want a little culture for their money, there is a three page section on Edmonton's 'Tit Clubs'.

Opening to another page at random we find a "Who's Who" of Edmonton's heroes featuring Eddie Keen (who we discover is a fake) and Barry Westgate (who is reputed to be deceased) but not our own Berry Westgate!

Other interesting sections include: 16 plus pages on our own Edmonton, past, present (ethnic) and best of all, future. Also: Everything you always wanted to know about transportation but didn't know who to ask; something very close to all

of our hearts (and wallets) - 'Employment'; 'Music'; 'Clubs'; and finally the 'Last Thought' being a general collection of last minute thoughts and entries.

Flash!!! Money for anyone contributing to next year's edition of the 'catalogue'. All in all the Edmonton Access Catalogue is a very good investment for the myriad of readers of this, Edmonton's alternate newspaper.

The Edmonton Access Catalogue is published annually by Tree Frog Press and is on the Canadian Basic Book list. This year's copy sells for \$4.95 at stores throughout the city, including Lifeforce Books in HUB. In the three months since publication the 'catalogue' has sold over 5000 copies.

Brian McCullough

Chornodolska; Canada's best

Winner of numerous awards and competitions, and the recipient of glowing critical acclaim, Anna Chornodolska may soon be recognized as one of Canada's greatest singers.

A soprano of international fame, Miss Chornodolska is the first attraction in the Students' Union Theatre concert series appearing in SUB Theatre this Thursday at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are sold at the SU Box Office, all prep Bay outlets and at the door.

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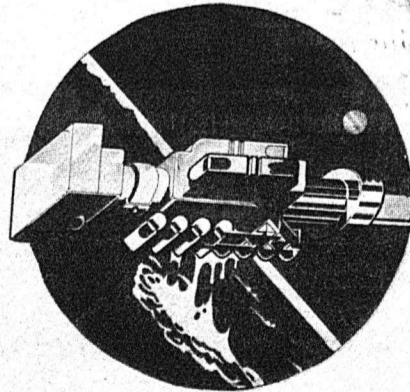
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