

Heating up in the Frozen Wasteland

Ujamaa in the Social Club & Caribbean Night in the Cafeteria



Gathering in parka close about me to keep out the sub-zero degree weather, I set out. Accompanying me on my quest was my trusty Sherpa guide. We were on the hunt for the elusive good time, and animal which has taken on an almost mythical status here in Fredericton. We had heard of two possible locations where we might be able to locate the beast and as luck would have it we were able to find good vantage points to observe the creature at both places.

The Social Club on Thursday night was one of the locations selected to set up my observation blind. I surrendered my parka at the door as is the local custom, assumed the native garb (grabbed a beer) and sat back to observe the show. Ujamaa, huddled close together on the stage to keep out the cold was just beginning their first set. Before the night was over I had been treated to a smattering of new songs intermixed with with some of those I expected to hear. Absent was Lisa Wilby's keyboards and voice as she was stuck in Quebec due to a snow storm. However the band persevered and I thoroughly enjoyed the show.

Saturday my trusty sherpa guide and I set out again. This time we were off to Caribbean Night which took place in the SUB cafeteria. It was the third Caribbean night I had attended and it was the best. Everything was so well organized that it all seemed to go off without a hitch. Honored for their contributions were guest speaker Kwame Dawes and filmmaker Errol Williams. What more can I say, there was singing, dancing, skits, poems and some excellent food. If you missed it you lost out on a good time. Congratulations to all those involved, it was a fantastic show.