

Valdy warms up SRO crowd



Photo by Dave Garrett

Out of the mountains and islands of British Columbia, Valdy appeared to play for a sold-out audience at the Jubilee Auditorium. Backed by the Hometown Band, or merely his acoustic guitar, Valdy spun his tales of travel, people and even whales.

The most exciting parts of the concert were when Valdy

performed by himself. It is only then that the amazing spontaneity of the man becomes apparent. He is able to adapt himself to any situation and still come out on top. Sunday night

he was plagued by a guitar that seemed to defy tuning. Unlike many guitarists who virtually panic when their instrument

goes out of tune onstage, Valdy actually made it an important part of his performance. Somehow he even managed to stop in mid-song to do some tuning without losing the flow of the piece.

One acquires considerable insight into the life of Valdy by attending one of his shows. Many of the songs included a short story to go along with the tale, including one about a town called Dildo Bay and its whaling plant.

Valdy's back-up band shone with its excellent musicians, who were extremely competent and versatile. They were best when they played on their own, rather than as a back-up band. Their feature of the evening was a long jazz-style piece that allowed each of the band members to display their talents. Particularly strong were the solos of the guitarist and of Claire Lawrence (formerly of Chilliwack) on sax, flute and clarinet.

The show started with Valdy and the five-piece band (plus Hometown's pet dog, Moose) appearing to play a brief set of Valdy's songs. This was, unfortunately, the weakest part of an otherwise highly entertaining show. Most of Valdy's material stands up better on its own, with as little extra accompaniment as possible. Much of the problem here was the sound mix. The backing instruments, particularly the percussion, drowned out the guitar and worst of all Valdy's voice. Fortunately this set was reasonably short and Valdy was left alone with the audience, where he operates the best.

A warm and intimate entertainer, Valdy gave the Feb. 29 audience a show definitely worth waiting for leap year to see.

by Dave Garrett

Undergrads press onward, upward

The Undergraduate Press, the first known American book publisher run entirely by college students, has been established by a group of Harvard undergraduates who will publish three books in the coming year. The purpose of the press, according to John Whitman, a senior from Bethesda, Maryland and its editorial chairman, is to give fledgling editors and young writers a practical introduction to the publishing field. Initial funding will be provided by grants from the Harvard University Press and friends in the communications profession.

"Right now there is no well-established route," says Mr. Whitman, "for college students to get general experience in publishing. Some hard professional experience is almost a necessity for entering this field. We are excited about offering a partial remedy to this situation. For young writers," he continued, "we hope that a small organization such as our own, will present a possible alternative to the rejection slips received by so many talented individuals."

A Board of Founders, composed of publishing professionals, will counsel the Undergraduate Press. Members include Simon Michael Bessie, Senior Vice-President of Harper & Row Publishers, Inc.; David Godine, President of Godine Press; Helen Meyer, President of Dell Publishing company, Inc.; and Arthur J. Rosenthal, Director of Harvard University Press.

At present there are three students besides Mr. Whitman on the Executive Board. In a

spring competition, about thirty other students will be selected to work within four divisions of the publishing concern: Editorial, Business, Promotion and Production.

The Undergraduate Press plans to give priority to works by writers affiliated with universities, especially those of notable interest to college students, Mr. Whitman said.

The Undergraduate Press invites manuscripts from all areas of composition, according to Mr. Whitman, including fiction, collections of poetry, and writings on social or political themes of immediate concern to an undergraduate audience. Outlines and correspondence may be sent to the Undergraduate Press, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02138.

Rock 'n' roll kills

SAN RAFAEL (ENS-CUP) - A choirmaster and "music therapist" in San Rafael, California, is waging a one-man holy war against the ravages of rock.

Fifty-eight year old Adam Knieste, who claims he treats psychotics with music, says rock 'n' roll is "more deadly than heroin." He says that, among other things, rock music causes hostility, fatigue, narcissism, panic, indigestion, high blood pressure, and hypertension.

Knieste argues that rock music is not really music at all but simply loud raucous noise. Presley and Hendrix, he says, have preached "the gospel of the wrong note."

Says Knieste, "Rock is not a harmless pastime but a dangerous drug on which our children are hooked."

2 at 16

Cinematheque 16 (formerly Gallery Cinema) offers the controversial *If*, the 1969 British surrealist study of students who plot revolution at a boarding school. *If* shows at 7:30 p.m. March 4, in the Edmonton Art Gallery, admission \$2 at the door. On March 5, at the same time, place and price, *Oedipus The King*, the film version of the play by Sophocles, will be shown. Starring Christopher Plummer, Orson Welles, and Lilli Palmer, it is directed by Philip Saville.

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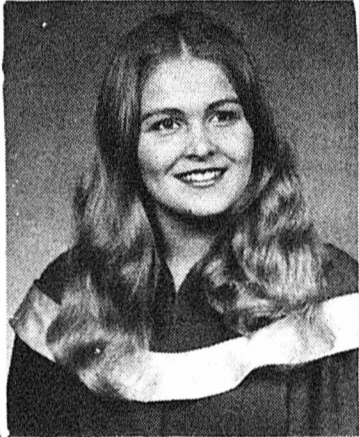
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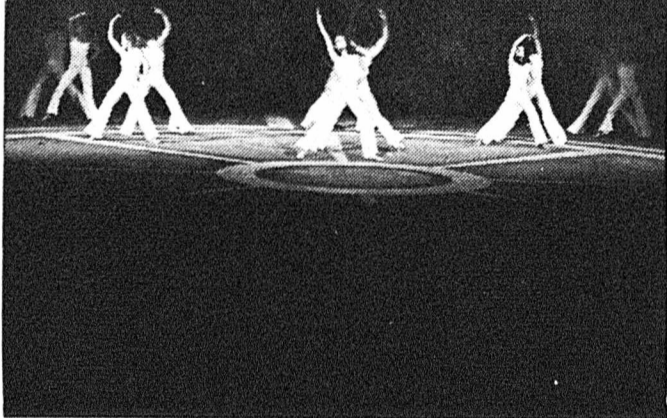
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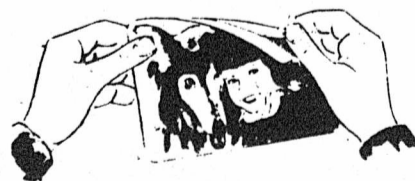
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