

## The Walter Baker Memorial Concert

by Zoë Green  
Entertainment Editor

On Sunday, November 3rd, The Music Group of London, a piano trio, played music by Haydn, Ravel, Brahms and Dvorak - an excellent performance which was given an enthusiastic reception by the capacity audience in the Memorial Hall. Even the regulation pale, well-brushed children in tartan (the ones with keen parents) seemed to appreciate the experience.

The concert began with Haydn's Trio No. 25 in G major. This is a genially tuneful work which offers each performer a fair crack at the melodies. I particularly relished the vigour of the Presto, even though I was being made to feel faintly homesick by the quintessentially English tastefulness of cellist Eileen Croxford's floral-print chiffon.

After the classical charm of the Haydn came Ravel's Trio in A minor, written in 1914. It would be hard to define the general atmosphere of this piece, for each of its movements was utterly different from the last. The opening movement was passionate, bitter-sweet, and featured that characteristic hallmark of Ravel's piano style - clear, delicate music which sounds like falling drops of water. It contrasted strikingly with the frenetic energy of the Pantoum, which made me shift uneasily in my seat. I am afraid of lengthy stretches of pizzicato; I fear the strings will break. I know this to be irrational, but it still prevents me from finding pleasure in such passages.

It was with relief, then, that I listened to the sombre opening of the Passacaglia, whose theme first appears in the low registers of the piano. This movement was decidedly funereal (I thought of a rainy burial), and, since it ends where it began, in the piano's bass notes, it created an impression of the endless circularity of sadness. Such melancholy was, however, swiftly dispelled by the liveliness of the Finale, evidently great fun to play. I suspect that David Parkhouse (pianist) had the best revel in Ravel there, with masses of zonking great chords, and a spine-tingling glissando or two, but Hugh Bean (violin)



The Music Group of London

also found good occasion to let rip.

I shall not speak of the Brahms trio. It was certainly well-played, but nothing and

nobody can make me enjoy Brahms. (I once drank too much gin to the accompaniment of one of his symphonies, but that's another story. Do

you have the phrase "Brahms and Liszt" over here?) Myself excepted, however, the audience loved the last trio, and, judging from the pro-

longed applause, everyone present was enraptured by the lilting Slav dance rhythms of the Dvorak encore which ended a memorable evening.

## Air Bands Well Received

By KAREN MAIR  
Entertainment Editor

Last Friday night, the air-band contest, *The Red and Black*, was a huge success, according to Sheri Law, one of its two directors.

Although the show was announced in mid-September, most of the air-bands only got their acts together a week before the show. Even so, with the exception of one technical difficulty involving the cassette players, the show ran smoothly under the skills of emcee Pierre Plourde.

The directors, Sheri Law and Erik Gingles, are both experienced in air-band contests. Sheri has participated in several and to her credit won first place in an air band contest at the Hilltop Pub last year and first place at the Riverview Arms this year. Erik Gingles participated in Friday Night's event, and was

therefore excluded from the judging.

Nine bands participated and they were represented by both on and off campus students. The first band, *Shelix* played *Heavy Metal Love*; they went on stage at around 9.15. From then on the bands appeared every fifteen minutes to an appreciative crowd. Second on stage was *Tibbets Hall* singing *Surfing USA*, followed by their arch rivals the girls from the Dunn singing a unique combination of *The Sound of Music* and *Would I Lie to You*. Appearing next Gingle's band *The Vice* (from Bridges) singing *Downtown*. Fifth on stage was *Otis Night and the Days* doing their version of *Shout*. An off-campus group, *Bubba's Idol*, sang *Rebel Yell*. *Max and the Gang* appeared as *Animation* doing *Obsession*. Finally, *B.J. Darren* and

*Company* appeared as *Over the Edge* with their version of the song *Dirty Water*.

The nine air bands were judged in four categories for a total of 40 points. There were three judges so each band accumulated up to 120 points. The four categories were lip synch, originality, crowd response and costumes. First place was awarded to *Ready and Willing* for their version of *Oh, Sheila*. They incorporated excellent lip synch, talents and superb break-dancing techniques into their performance.

Second place went to *Bubba's Idol* and their realistic version of *Rebel Yell*. This group had their act down pat; I'm sure they only missed first place by a few points.

Third place went to the *Dunn* and their combination of *The Sound of Music* and *Would I Lie to You*. The

*Dunn* scored well in the originality and costumes, I'm sure. I was very impressed with their effort and talent.

According to Law, the air-bands were only supposed to play-off for first and second place but the points scored by *Ready and Willing*, the *Dunn* and *Bubba's Idol* were so close to each other no-one could be excluded from the finals. Therefore the prizes, donated by Labatt's Breweries were split up three ways.

*The Red and Black*, held to raise money for the upcoming *Red and Black Revue*, raised upwards of \$700.00 according to Law.

The directors would like to thank all those involved in the staging of the *Red and Black*. Their help was much appreciated. The *Red and Black* was an excellent evening's entertainment.