

Dummie's Leader Roberts: Jolly Green With a Hangover



Didn't get tickets? Tooooo...Bad!!

Cash for Condoms

Festooned with inflated condoms and seething with bodies in a desperate last minute search to do exactly what the people who blew up the condoms were hoping they wouldn't, the Social Club-cum-sex education facility sparkled with spilt beer and broken glass on Saturday as The Hype bumped up to make some eardrums bleed. The repertoire of original tunes has increased by a factor of two since the last time they karanged the Social Club with their mixture of sixties favorites and modern Canadian rock tunes (they throw in a little REM, but hey, who wouldn't?). A well-mixed front sound, clear, crisp vocal highs and a bottom end that lacked a little oomph, but I've been told I slant a little too much towards the lower frequencies, so I guess it was good.

The kids seemed to like it, and jiggled and whoofed around with mounting glee, tumbling into one another and generally having an all-round cool time. I admit I had fun. How could someone not enjoy an evening out surrounded by condoms and constant reminders of the horrors of sexually transmitted diseases? *The End of the World As We Know It* came and went - remarkably close to the original recording, and *My Generation* sent everyone into ka-hoots of bliss (ahh yes, the sixties - you can enjoy it more if you didn't have to live it). The band has polished a good, solid, bar-band sound, suitable for family viewing, and display a pleasant range of boppy original tunes, geared to fun and frolic. *Things in Love* (I don't know, but the title sounds like something by Alien Sex Fiend) jumps along sardonically, and *Leaves Turn Brown* also shows a good feel for melody and a nice grimy rhythm backing. Keep it up guys, you'll get scads

of fun out of it, and so will your audiences.

We also got Andrew Cash poking out from the forest of inflated prophylactics. I found him bland. I like his feel, but I found him bland. A good band rhythmically, and a talented keyboard/accordion/fiddle player was an asset, but something was...well..bland. I'll give the man credit for keeping up his poise and showmanship through the dwindling masses (half of which, by this point, had deflated their condoms and wandered off to mess about in dark corners). It was great bar music, but somehow the ballroom begs for an audience to be interested in what is happening on the stage. Not much was happening on the stage. The band seemed to enjoy what they were doing, and many of the kids liked it. I dunno. Maybe I'm getting cynical in my old age.

A good cause was served, and a lot of folks got to see what inflated condoms look like. I know I was surprised.

Next Friday evening, one of Canada's hottest new bands, The Crash Test Dummies will appear in the S.U.B. cafeteria. They are so popular that I even got a call from a fifty-three year old lady who wanted a ticket. So if anyone wants to sell a ticket, come visit me in the Bruns. This lady really wants to see the Dummies and the show is sold out.

The Crash Dummies are Brad Roberts: guitars and lead vocals; Ellen Reid: keyboards and backing vocals; Benjamin Darvill: harmonica and mandolin; and Dan Roberts: bass. The Crash Test Dummies was originally a house band put together by Brad Roberts for a club called the Blue Note in Winnipeg. The name was suggested by a friend of Roberts' who had just seen some movies, in school, about car accident victims. Part of their original repertoire actually included some "reworked, old obscure Alice Cooper tunes". Since these early days in 1987 the Crash Test Dummies have come a long way.

I had the recent opportunity to talk with Brad Roberts about the band and their concert tour. Roberts is the band leader and is also the premiere song writer for the Dummies. I asked him about

the influences on the band's music and his songwriting. He listed Llye Lovett, The Roches and Andy Partridge of XTC as his major influences. When I suggested that *The Ghosts That Haunt Me* seemed a little Celtic and more folky than rock'n'roll, he immediately corrected me. Although "the album is a texturally mixed, accoustically oriented that they can successfully handle the big stage. Roberts stated emphatically that "intimate, mellow settings are inappropriate for the Crash Test Dummies."

When asked about the touring life, Roberts described it as "simultaneously exhausting and fun." Surprises have been kept to a minimum as Brad's brother, is a tour veteran (as Brad puts it: "he's been around the block a few times.") and can advise the rookies in the band on what to expect. This part of the tour stretches from Winnipeg to St. Johns and back and consists of 23 dates. Before Christmas, The Dummies extensively toured the United States. they have also played Munich, Oslo, Amsterdam and London. After this piece of Canadian roadwork, the band will return to Europe for a more extensive set of dates and then

head "down under" for an Australian adventure.

I mentioned to Roberts that this show (which, incidently, is brought to you by your Student Union Activities Committee through the diligent efforts of Kim Wettlaufer and her shady associates) was sold out and he told me that most of their shows are sold out. I asked him whether the band attributed its success to his unique baritone voice or his song writing. He said that it was production, the live show is really quite aggressive with the drums and bass being mixed in a more 'up front' manner." stated Roberts. he told me that the first leg of the tour consisted of club dates and now the Venues are more theatre size. The live show is just as comfortable in an arena as it is in a club venue. The Dummies have had the good fortune to open for Sting on a few occasions proving definitely a combination of both but that there was indeed something catchy about his voice which he described as sounding like the Jolly Green Giant with a hangover.

If you ain't got no ticket check the Bruns Classifieds next week or, sometimes, those who can't use their tickets, leave them at the door.

By Mark I. Minor

CHSR-FM PLAYLIST TOP 40, WEEK OF JANUARY 11TH - 18TH

PRESS RELEASE

CHSR-FM continues its series of profiles of local musicians Monday night by featuring a live set of original material by local rockers Somersault. The band will be playing selections from "Moving Right Along," their newly-released debut cassette. The seven-song tape spans a variety of influences, with the emphasis on tough, catchy pop songs driven by a traditional three-piece rock lineup.

Somersault is comprised of John Vine on drums and vocals, Philip Clark on guitar and Allan Muir on bass. John and Philip are both students at UNB, and Allan hopes to graduate from Fredericton High School this year.

The band's most recent appearance was opening for S.N.F.U.; they strive to make their live sets as fun and energetic as possible. Be sure to tune in.

"It Came From Studio D" is hosted by Pierre Loiseau; the program airs Monday, January 27 at 9PM, on CHSR-FM 97.9 Steveo.

TW	LW	ARTIST	Title (Label)	WO	HP
1	1	SHADOWY MEN	ON A SHADOWY PLANET (Dim The Lights, Chill The Ham (Cargo))	4	1
2	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	A Kick In The Dark - The Songs Of Bruce Cockburn (Intrepid)	3	2
3	4	MALHAVOC	Punishments (Epidemic)	8	1
4	3	TEENAGE FANCLUB	Bandwagonette (D.G.C.)	3	3
5	9	NO MEANS NO	0 + 2 = 1 (Alternative Tentacles)	4	5
6	16	HOLE	Pretty On The Inside (Caroline)	4	6
7	5	DOUBTING THOMAS	The Infidel (Wax Trax)	5	5
8	7	KING APPARATUS	King Apparatus (Raw Energy)	4	1
9	10	MINISTRY	Jesus Built My Hotrod - EP (Sire/Warner)	9	1
10	13	EMILY FARYNA	Some Of Emily (Spiral)	6	10
11	NE	THE ASEXUALS	Exile From Floomtown (Cargo)	1	11
12	6	ENYA	Shepherd Moons (Reprise)	6	6
13	19	HAPPY MONDAYS	Live (Elektra)	3	13
14	8	DEAD CAN DANCE	A Passage In Time (AAD)	3	13
15	11	SARCASTIC MANNEQUINS	Little Brother (Egicon Industries)	6	3
16	17	STEPHEN BARRY BAND	Blues Under A Full Moon (Justin Time)	7	7
17	20	STATE OF MIND	The Road Inside (London Smith Records)	3	16
18	38	TEST DEPT	Ecstasy Under Duress (DOV's)	3	17
19	18	BILLY BRAGG	Don't Try This At Home (Go Discs/Polygram)	2	18
20	29	MOCK TURTLES	Turtle Soup (Relativity)	2	20
21	22	TEN COMMANDMENTS	Dark Angel - 7" (Sensable)	4	21
22	24	HILL	Journey To The Centre Of The Beat (Netwerk)	3	22
23	15	THE CRAMPS	Look Mom, No Head (Restless)	3	22
24	30	BIG AUDIO DYNAMITE	Ally Pally Paradise - Live (Sony)	2	24
25	37	VOICE OF THE BEEHIVE	Honey Lingers (Polygram)	2	25
26	23	SLAYER	Live - Decade Of Aggression (Def American)	9	8
27	32	CASSANDRA WASKO	Wildflowers (Eastman Stars/Sony)	3	32
28	21	PELICAN DAUGHTER	Fishbones And Wishbones (Silent)	2	21
29	12	FIFTY FOUR 40	Sweater Things - A Compilation (Warner)	7	4
30	31	DROP ACID	Making God Smile (Restless)	2	30
31	28	COR	The Snow EP (Wax Trax)	3	28
32	39	NOCTURNAL EMISSION	Cathedral (DOV's)	2	32
33	14	PRIMAL SCREAM	Screamadelica (Sire/Warner)	7	14
34	33	SACRIFICE	Soldiers Of Misfortune (Metal Blade)	2	33
35	27	TUMOR CIRCUS	Tumor Circus (Alternative Tentacles)	3	27
36	25	RISE	Rise (RPN)	6	16
37	NE	S.N.F.U.	Last Of The Big Time Suspenders (Cargo)	1	37
38	NE	CEREBRAL FIX	Bastards (Roadrunner)	1	38
39	NE	GANG GREEN	King Of Bands (RoadRacer)	1	39
40	NE	CRUST	Crust (Trance)	1	40

* Includes Canadian Content
TW = This Week, LW = Last Week, WO = Weeks On Chart, HP = Highest Position
Chart compilation based on frequency of airplay. Music Director Dave Keighly

Friends of the Circle

Friends of the Circle is a semi-nonprofit group dedicated to the preservation of the traffic circle at the top of the hill. The Traffic Circle Pathway/Beautification project will cause soil erosion, changes to weather patterns, serious food shortage and the destruction of New Brunswick's last known habitat of the Furbish Lousewort, not to mention the cost in human lives. At the moment no one in their right mind would attempt to walk through the circle (remember the key word is Traffic). It is our mandate to put an end to this fiasco before it is too late.

For the good of mankind join us become a Friend of the Circle.

Stop senseless pedestrial destruction of our natural environment!



"may the circle be unbroken"

Keep it up guys, you'll get scads