

Do you know what punk rock is?

By GRAHAM D. LIVESEY

One may ask oneself, what is punk or new wave music? I know you probably have your own conception of punk rock, you probably picture four morons usually British, sometimes even American and believe it or not sometimes even Canadian, pretending to play music and generally being a detracting element to society. There is usually four such maniacs to each congregation, a percussionist who sits behind three drums and only knows one frenzied beat, a guitarist who plays with mitts on and thinks he knows three chords when in fact he only knows two, a bassist who has his bass on backwards and it's out of tune anyway and last but not least the singer, if you can call it that, who sounds constipated, Cockney and as though he's gargling in a goldfish bowl. In other words you can't understand it and you probably wouldn't want to anyway.

Correct, this is what North Americans in their middle class snobbery generally think. I mean punks are weird, they dress funny and wear strange and dangerous jewelry (i.e. chains, safety pins, nails, crowbars and even anti-aircraft artillery). How far from the truth can you get, unfortunate-

ly in this case not too far. However you'll be glad to know the punk movement more or less kicked the slop pail a year or so ago putting a sad (sob) ending to all that spitting, spewing and advanced aggression. Sure there are alot of punk rockers still around, but many softened or have been overshadowed by punk's big and bouncy baby, THE NEW WAVE, a totally different kind of pogostick.

Many of the early British punk bands were immediately characterised by their innocent names, innocuous titles such as the Sex Pistols, the Clash, Sham 69, the Stranglers, the Damned, XTC, X-Ray Spex, the Lurkers, the Jilt, the Unwanted, the Vibrators and the Buzzcocks. Also identifiable was the loud, aggressive, repetitive, muddy and often extremely tedious music. However initially their efforts were directed at the British lower classes as displayed in their truthful lyrics and attitude. Anything or anyone faintly rich including the Queen was despised and old wavers soon became known as "boring old farts".

The name more or less synonymous with punk rock is of course Johnny Rotten and the Sex Pistols. Along with groups like the Clash and the Damned they began a whole new rock 'n roll trend during 1975-76. The aggression,

dress and sheer raw rock 'n roll they created swept Britain bringing excitement back to the very boring pop industry. Few big name artists would survive the punk era unchanged. Changed were such heavies as the Who, the Rolling Stones, and Neil Young.

The movement tended to follow the infamous Sex Pistols who progressed through record labels in quick order, along with reams of world headlines documenting their often nauseating antics and a rather serious group reshuffle. They did manage to record one landmark album and a number of singles. Their tours weren't very successful often being marred by violence, debauchery and cancellations. The final tour snaked its way through smaller halls in the U.S. resulting in the group's demise and leading onto much publicised murders and suicides. What seemed to end in the States possibly derived much of its roots from American hoodlums like the New York Dolls, the Ramones. Lou

Reed, Iggy Pop and MCS.

After the Sex Pistols, the Damned and the Clash came a multitude of bands trying to win contracts and cash in on this new bedlam. This eased after awhile leaving a trail of debris as many of the early bands submerged or toned down their aggressive music. However bands such as the Buzzcocks, Generation X and the Clash still continue in a punkish fashion in contrast to successful groups like the Motors and the Boomtown Rats who are now more commercial. The artists who have really benefited include new wavers Elvis Costello and the Attractions, Ian Dury, Nick Lowe, the Tom Robinson Band and the host of lesser known but equally talented artists in Britain, who have updated early rock 'n roll with 1970's styles and techniques.

In North America there is a number of successful new wave acts who have emerged, these include Blondie, Patti Smith, Talking Heads, Television. Tom

Petty, the Cars, the Shirts and the Dead Boys. Also Canuck punksters the Wives and the Diodes have recorded albums. The States also presents us with, all the way from Akron, Ohio, Devo and their kind who are making waves and large inroads into that uncharted area defined as the undefinably weird.

Punk rock is dead, having been replaced by the often articulate and interesting new wave, which showcases basic rock 'n roll and often a smattering of harmonies, keyboards or strings, to create fresh and new music in contrast to the dullness of top 40 pop. Whereas new wave is a fixture in Britain it is taking longer in North America, partially because of the difference in society structures, however artists like Elvis Costello and the Cars may change that. So if you have a chance to listen to the new wave give it a chance before you knock it down, you may actually like it. And next time you go to a disco why don't you get up and try the POGO!

Beliveau to Tour Maritimes

John Edward Beliveau will be on tour in the Maritimes and Toronto.

In July 1953, the mangled bodies of three American bear hunters were found in the Gaspé peninsula. Three years later, Wilbert Coffin was hanged for their murders. Many people believe that Coffin was railroaded to his death. Maybe Coffin was guilty, maybe he was innocent — the circumstantial evidence presented at his trial was inconclusive. The case drew many important figures into the arena as it developed — men such as Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Arthur Maloney and Maurice Duplessis.

Updated by the author, the Coffin murder case uncovers startling new revelations about a legendary Canadian crime case.

"This man, I swear, was innocent, I am convinced." — Coffin's Executioner

J.E. (Ned) Belliveau is well known by newspapers, magazines and broadcast media across Canada. A tenth generation Canadian, he was born in Moncton, New Brunswick, in 1913. Ned began his journalistic career with The Moncton Transcript in 1930, and became city editor and columnist. He worked with The Windsor Daily Star as provincial editor, legislature correspondent and columnist for 4 years. Ned spent 14 years with The Toronto Star, as assistant city editor, legislature chief, city hall staff chief, section page correspondent and Ottawa gallery correspondent, covering many assignments abroad in Europe, the Caribbean and Latin America.

As a political writer, he has travelled at one time or another with the leaders of all three major national parties across Canada,

and has a broad perspective and knowledge of our political scene.

After leaving the Star in 1958, Ned went into business for himself in advertising and public relations, working with Lester Pearson in 1962 and 1963 during campaigns. He has also worked with Louis Robichaud, N.B., Alex Campbell, P.E.I., Gerald Regan, N.S., and Joey Smallwood in Newfoundland.

Ned was senior vice-president of Tandy Advertising in Toronto before settling down in Shediac, New Brunswick, in 1972. Since then, he has written two books on local history, THE SPLENDID LIFE OF ALBERT SMITH AND THE WOMEN HE LEFT BEHIND, and RUNNING FAR IN, as well as a little booklet entitled A PLACE CALLED POINTE DU CHENE. He has a book on the political period under way and is at present working on his memoirs.

University Theatre Arts presents *Springboard*, an original play by Dan Scott, UNBSJ Artist-in-Residence, March 8, 9, 10 at the Tucker Park Campus Room 339, Hazen Hall at 8:00 p.m. *Springboard* is the story of a small group of Saint Johners who are working towards the first edition of a daring alternative newspaper. They have decided to take a hard look at life in the Port City and print their view of things. Entwined in the play is the story of Danny Nichols, a young Saint John singer who is being interviewed for a feature article in *Springboard*. A lively play with a couple of marvelous songs including a Country and Western number "The Pulp Truck Romance".

Seating is limited and tickets are available only at the door. All seats are \$2.50. Don't miss it.

SUB-SOUND

Special price Lp's

Commodores-Natural High

4.95

Murray McLauchlan

4.95

Minglewood Band

5.95

Blank Cassettes-60 min. \$1.90 each

2nd hand Lp's 2.99-3.99

JAZZ DELETES AND IMPORTS

Present your parents with a copy of the Bruns

SURE CURE FOR "EXAMINATION BLUES"

(A disease which reaches epidemic proportions among UNB & STU students during examination time)

Protect your UNB & STU Student from the ravages of "Examination Blues" with a Capital Y's Men's

EXAMINATION BLUES BASKET

We will deliver to your son or daughter an Examination Blues Basket just prior to the week of examinations. With the basket we express your personal concern and extend your good wishes. The Examination Blues Baskets contain fruit, candy and cookies. Complete the form below, attach your cheque or money order for \$8.00 per basket and return to us.

PLEASE DELIVER _____ BLUES BASKET(s) to:

Full name _____

Home Address is _____

With love & best wishes from _____

Signature _____

Home Address _____

To:
Capital Y's Mens Club
Dep. A
P.O. Box 1265
Fredericton, N.B.
Canada

