

Minglewood Band album

The most eagerly awaited album of 1979 has finally hit the shelves in the local record stores. After two years of waiting and months of hard-sell, the Minglewood Band have come up with the best album to come out of the area since April Wine's Electric Jewels.

The Minglewood Band is a six piece Raunch and Roll band from Cape Breton Island. Their new nationally released LP, titled simply 'The Minglewood Band', could well be the instrument that will help them break into the international market.

The band consists of Matt Minglewood (lead vocals, guitar, organ), Enver Sampson Jr. (lead and background vocals, harmonica), Donny Hann (bass, fiddle), Bobby Woods (drums), Paul Dunn (piano, background vocals), and Mark MacMillan (guitar).

The band's first vinyl offering was also titled The Minglewood Band. It sold over 15,000 copies with virtually no airplay or promotion. Released on the local Solar label, it sold on the strength of the band's performances.

The newest album has basically the same beginnings. The band was fortunate to receive the services of Claire Lawrence, the producer for both Chillawack and the Hometown Band. The first LP had been produced by Matt; "I really didn't want to produce this one. . . . When Claire heard about what we were doing he offered his services as a producer and, of course, we were quick to accept the offer". The result is a crisp, clear sound which was noticeably

lacking on the first album.

The new album starts off with a tune penned by Matt and George Henderson, 'Rockin The Blues', a dues song of the kind that Minglewood does well because it is something well within their experience.

The next cut is the first AM single for the band, 'Ain't What It Used To Be'. Written by Matt, it is definitely top 40 material. Easily the least spectacular song on the LP, it is destined to sell millions of copies to teenagers who have no idea of what the band is all about. Typical of AM singles, it grows on you.

Next is a piece of Rock and Roll about some New Waterford friends, entitled 'Whiz Kids'. One of the better tracks on the album, it tells you something about rock and roll.

'Hook, Line, and Sinker' was written by George Henderson and the Band. The music is unobtrusive, but the lyrics will hit you hard. Listen to it carefully!

'Long Way From Texas' is an upbeat blues tune about fishermen, coal miners, and the Nova Scotia Blues. The instrumental should be played loud. On this cut Donny Hann demonstrates his versatility as a fiddler.

Side two opens with the premier piece of Canadian music this year. 'Can't You See', written by a member of the Marshall Tucker Band, will bring it back to you. When Matt intones that "this is definitely a song about loneliness", you know that it is. It features strong vocals backed

by amazing piano by Paul Dunn.

To see this song performed live is to see the ultimate in energy by a group of performers. It packs an empty dance floor, brings tears to your eyes and leaves you emotionally drained. You'll find yourself humming it if you're ever alone. Look for this to be the biggest hit from the LP.

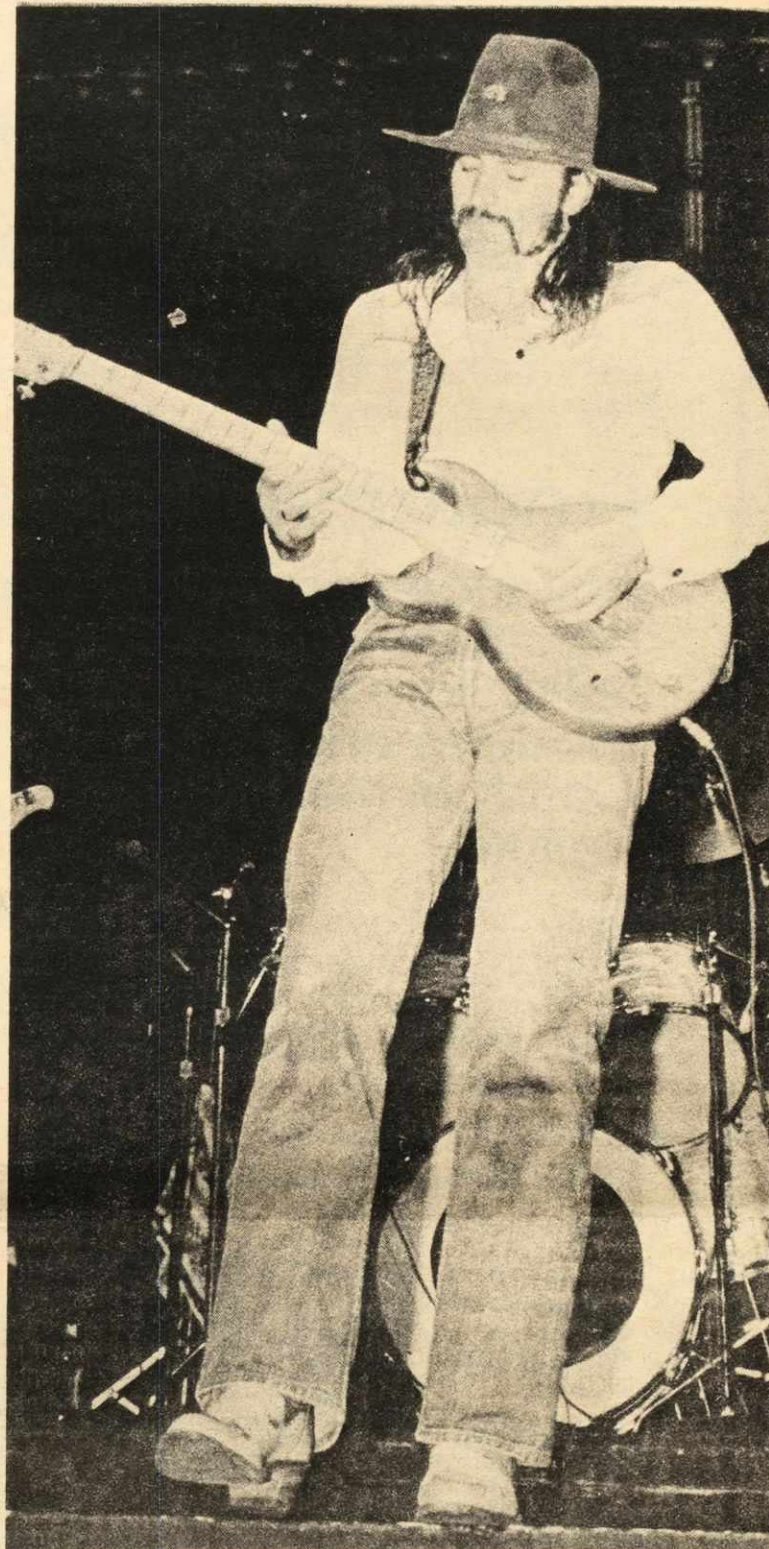
'Patriot's Game' is one of the most underrated songs on the album. The song must be listened to carefully to be appreciated. It is a traditional American ballad which Matt does to perfection with the background of Paul Dunn's piano and Donny Hann's violin.

'Don't Fool Yourself' is known to most Maritimers as a Buddy and The Boys tune from their first album. The Minglewood version is totally different from the original, mostly because Matt sees no point in doing something the same way as the original performer. Highlights are strong drumming from Bobby Woods and the vocals of Enver Sampson Jr.

The band is labeled the 'Kings of Raunch and Roll', but if you listen closely you'll find that the music is more adequately described as 'Nova Scotia Blues'. "Anybody that thinks that Texas is the only place that gets the Blues has never been in Nova Scotia waiting for the Pogeys check with a week to go and no money in the pocket," say Minglewood.

The band, of course, has its critics, but no band is liked by everyone. The best thing to do is hear them for yourself and form your own opinions.

Tonight (Thursday) the Minglewood Band will perform their last show this year in the Halifax area. It is scheduled for 8:00 in the Queen Elizabeth High School Auditorium on Robie Street, tickets are \$5.00.



Dal Photo / Dayal

The music scene (?)

Notes on music (?)

by B.C.

Went down to catch the "Cage of Pain" Friday night at Tech because I'd heard they played some pretty good dancing blues at Zapatas a couple weeks ago. Although there weren't too many people there for awhile (Cage of what?), I didn't use my Minglewood ticket, first time in 10 years. The "Cage" also played Oden's Eye Saturday evening, and in one of their later sets regained some of the momentum they had reached at Zapatas, and rocked. Spoke to the bass player in the SUB today and he agreed—bookings are necessary.

A couple of good albums to note: Devadip Carlos Santana's "Oneness, Silver

Dreams Golden Reality" (A "product" of CBS records), '79, proves on a single album Santana's alive and well for sure. Side 2 starts out with an ocean effect, and picks up throughout, with perhaps the exception of the Latin gospelish tune, "I am free". Personally, I place "Oneness" next to "Abraxis", for the strength and confidence evinced. Classical Carlos on "Golden Dawn" also. Peter Tosh of late put out an album entitled "Bush Doctor", on which Mick Jagger and Keith Richard contribute somewhat, if you prefer reggae to disco for listening. Title cut's an interesting number for lawyers also.

Oh yes, I forgot to mention

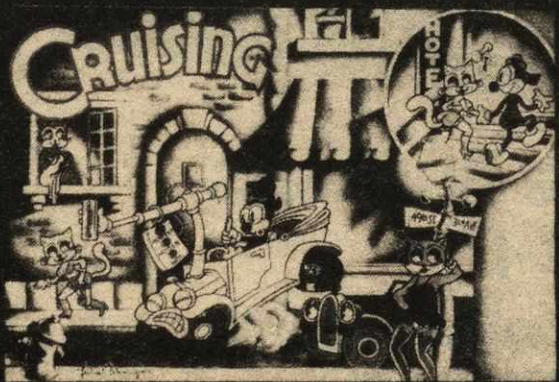
the new harmonica player for "The Cage" is a farmer, and I quote, "infamous" sound critic from our beloved Dal Gazette—named Andrew. Wailin' harp. Guess the other fellow (Elvis Costello-type) is heading over to Oxford for math. Proper time's good music at the Eye. On Grafton, a little cover.

Buddy & Co. seem to be putting out a little more lately. I heard someone from Warner Brothers is, or has been, around. Well, after getting orientated, next time'll be some Albert King (Freddie King, Marshall Tucker Live).

Over and out.

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