

Only time will tell

Review and photo by Raymond Giguere



Friday night, at the Centennial Library Theatre, Edmontonians were treated to a pleasing and unpretentious performance by local folk artist Richard White and his band. Playing acoustic guitar

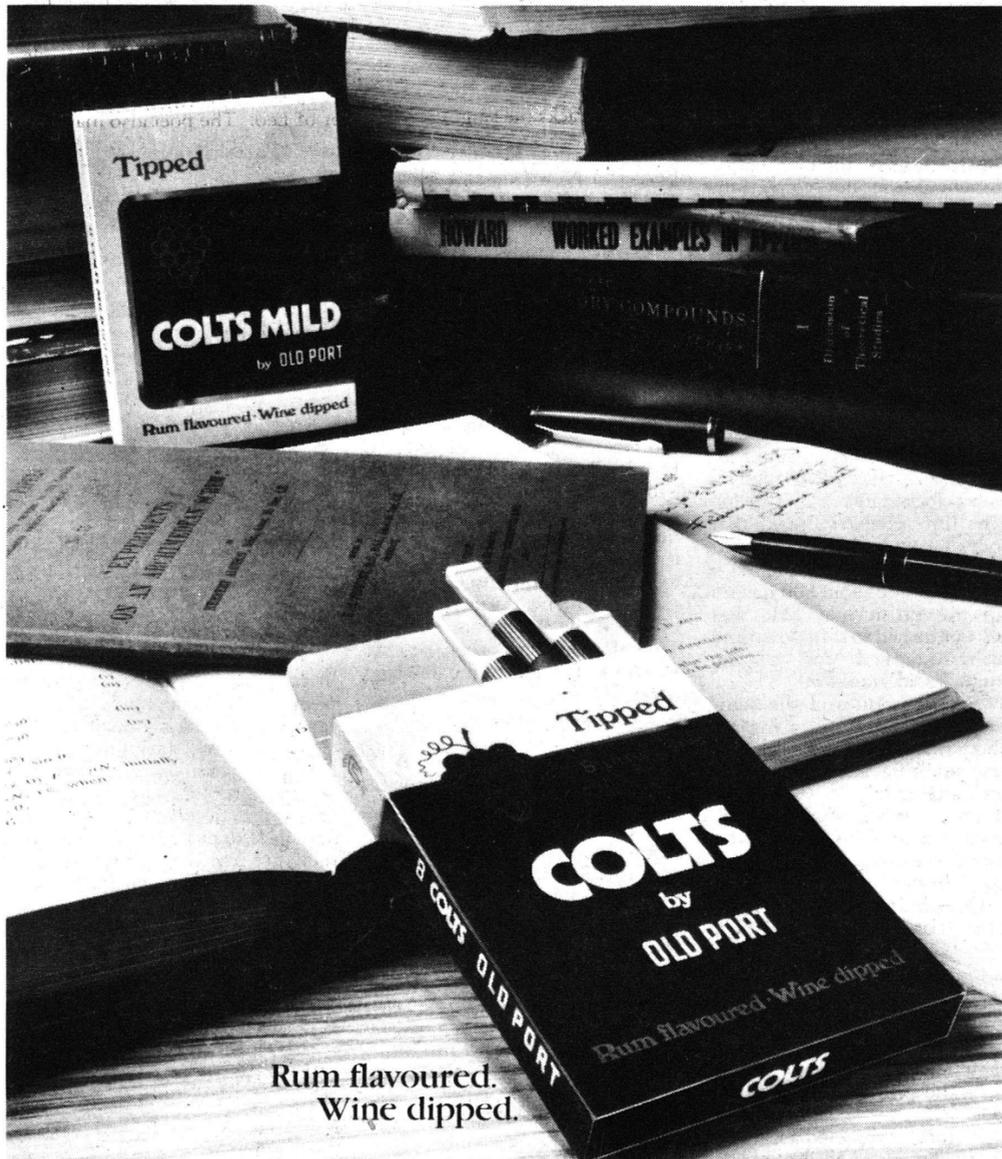
guitar and singing, White delivered two sets of well-arranged material to an attentive crowd of about one hundred and fifty people.

The band, consisting of local pianist Bob Derkach, bassist Cliff Minchau, drummer John Logan, and guitarist Greg Smith provided good backup for White's mellow songs. Considering White has been woodshedding for about two years, and the band has not been together for more than two weeks, they performed smoothly with only a few minor technical problems appearing.

Several of the tunes like *Georgia* featured some tight ensemble playing with Derkach pulling off several excellent solos. Bassist Minchau was especially pleasing throughout the show as he held up the rhythm section's end. Smith, although a little loud in parts, rounded out the melodies with some tasty fills and occasional solos. Logan's drumming was more than adequate, but not really outstanding. White was also joined by Jim Hay on banjo for *Three-Week Vacation*, an original tune, and *In My Dreams Tonight*, saw Derkach add some wonderfully refreshing accordian work.

Original compositions were varied in White's scope, ranging from up tempo tunes like *Never Will You Ever Be Mine* to light-hearted tunes like *Old Lovers*; a humorous song about encountering old flames).

White's lyrics were always entertaining and his rapport with the crowd never diminished. But pauses between songs seemed inordinately long. With a band like that, a little more rehearsal and more support from the Edmonton public, let's hope we will be seeing a lot more of Richard White in the future.



Crack a pack of Colts along with the books.

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