

NTERTAINMENT

LINE: WEDNESDAY NOON (or else!)

Winter Carnival 1990!! What a Blast!! (oh...you mean it's come and gone already??)



Confessing that they are a "Shed band" rather than Garage Band "With one wood stove" says lead singer



A powerful performance by the band. The stiff and almost mechanical movements of lead singer guitarist add to his playing rather than harm it.

missed! Here's what you

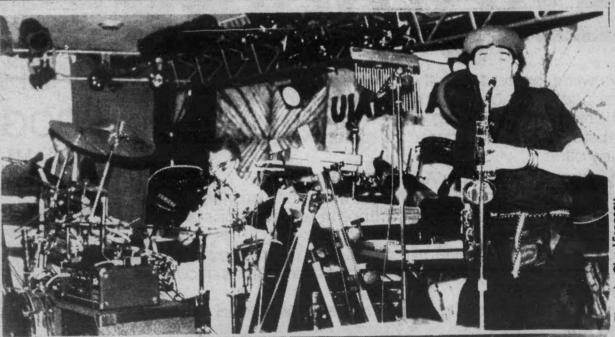
It was last Saturday night at about 11 o'clock...(lights)..Americal Americal....Kluck-a-dat-ding, booom...AND THEY GOT BUSY!!! Amalgamated in June 1989, UJAMAA, the local campus-community reggae band began their almost three hour slum-a-jam reggae concert that was prudently scheduled after the university mania hockey game. Yes, they are a collaboration of formerly known 'Sons of Gilbert' joining together and 'Small axe' last summer into what is now called UJAMAA - a Swahili word that means brotherhood. I do not intend to write in the traditional review-type style e.g. how the guitar bass syncopated drum riffs fused with the super weird guitar solo to produce an all round effect...It will be better if I shared with you what I overheard amidst the tight jeans and perfum-cologne infested crowd. "I have seen these guys before, they are okay" "Are these the same Son's of Gilbert" "Boy! they have changed" "They are really heavy and groovy" "Ye man, Cool man".

Frankly, I personally was thrilled and perplexed by their performance, for I retrospectively compared them when they performed last year in the Messenjah concert. They now have developed their own variety of lyrics and are even better when it comes to blending a variety of recognized sounds ranging from UB 40 to Alpha Blondy. Specifically the song 'Joanna' played to the crowd to its full effect. UJAMAA are out to move hundreds of crowds, and they really did, as Kwame Dawes provided the lead vocals, Louis Cardoso kept his fingers twitching the rhythm guitar wires; closely supported by Peter Hicks playing the lead guitar, Dave Berlett provided the soul of the reggae thud with his drums as Chris Hunt envelopped the vocals and guitar sounds with a dominating bass. Beautiful Lisa Wilby took up one corner of the stage and Mike Doherty (also sung) took up the other corner and together they topped the beat with their crispy electronic keyboard sounds all in the name of brotherhood (UJAMAA). For a moment the cold winter fever ceased as the peppery hot Jamaica-oriented sound waves made their way amidst the rum and coke towards the brain. Some suggestions were passed on having routine limbo dancers or the band members doing some routine dance in order to hypen the concert. All in all it was spicy and heads were shaken, hips were twisted into the nasty hours of the night (...the rest is censored). The uncensored UJAMAA say "You ain't seen nothin yet" they are going for FULL EXPOSURE!!

To our local campus-community group- thanks it was worth our

money and time. More power to you!

money and t



UJAMAA'S NIGHT

by Richard Makone

