

# THE 33rd Annual Red 'n Black Revue -- Reviewed

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News Editor



ANNE KILFOIL Photo

Vocalist, Diane Cooke, sang two Olivia Newton-John numbers.

This week's Red 'n Black, the 33rd annual, had fewer acts than last year. As well, the Tuesday performance was marred with sound problems and a general sense of disorganization.

But the performers were talented and the acts were varied and, for tradition's sake if nothing else, the audience responded enthusiastically to the efforts of the entertainers.

John "Spell" Issemen emceed the show. While he didn't attempt to be a spectacular showman in his own right, his selection of jokes - old and sort-of-new - made the scene changes go a little faster.

The first singer of the evening was Anne McMillan, who did the Atlantic Rhythm Section's "Spooky" and Barbra Streisand's "Evergreen." She was accompanied on Evergreen, the first number, by only the pit band's keyboardist, Wilfred Langmaid. She was joined on the next selection by the entire pit band, consisting of Brian McTigue on drums, Peter Giffin on guitar, and Tim Kelly on bass. McMillan's vocals were consistently good, and Kelly's bass playing excelled.

The next act was a comedy skit entitled In Search of a President. It parodied UNB's search for a leader by presenting several candidates - e.g. Richard Nixon, Pole Casino (a "safe bet"), and Elvis Presley - for the position.

Nigel Yeo performed two of pop music's greatest songs: the Beatles' Blackbird and Simon and Garfunkel's The Boxer. Yeo gave a brief explanation of each song's meaning before singing each one in a beautiful, sensitive voice that quieted the crowd down significantly.

Karate and Tai Kwon Do expert Jin Chong demanded quiet from the audience and got it, as he and a number of his students demonstrated various techniques related to the martial arts. For his finale, Chong jumped over a group of four of his students and smashed a number of thicknesses of boards with his feet.

A rock band consisting of Marc Pepin on bass, Jeff Browne and Charles Gregoire on guitars, and Barry Edwards on drums performed next. Gregoire's vocals were adequate for the material attempted, Dire Strait's Sultans of Swing and the Beatles classic Back in the U.S.S.R.

The Jugband wrapped up act one in typical rowdy fashion. The eight students in the band played beer and liquor bottles filled to different levels with water, and finished up with a song about UNB sung to the tune of Glory Glory Hallelujah.

A jazz band performing Dave Brubeck's Take 5 opened act two. John Lam and Ray Melanson traded guitar solos while bassist Tom Turner provided a solid bottom for the piece. Drummervictor Lentini excelled.

Following a humorous skit, entitled Maytag Mania (about a frosh being swallowed by a washing machine), Andrew Bartlett took the stage and performed two of his own compositions on tenor guitar (i.e., an overgrown ukelele). The audience was responsive to his sensitive emotional songs.

Tributary Room, a skit which was basically an excuse for repeating old faggot jokes, was followed by a performance by the evening's final vocalist, Diane Cook. Ms. Cook, sounding a bit like Kate Bush, sang two Olivia Newton-John numbers, Dancin' Round and Round and Boat Against the Current.

Following an appearance by the whistling pygmies (a group of men with painted stomachs and wearing cardboard hats over their head and shoulders) the famous kickline appeared to captivate the audience. Heads all over swivelled as the male half of the crowd tried to pick the prettiest girl of all - a difficult task at best.

While not as big or as well done as last year, the 33rd Annual Red 'n Black was a good way to spend an evening.



ALAN EDWARDS Photo

Andrew Bartlett sang two of his own compositions.



ANNE KILFOIL Photo

The Nerds' and emcee, John Isseman



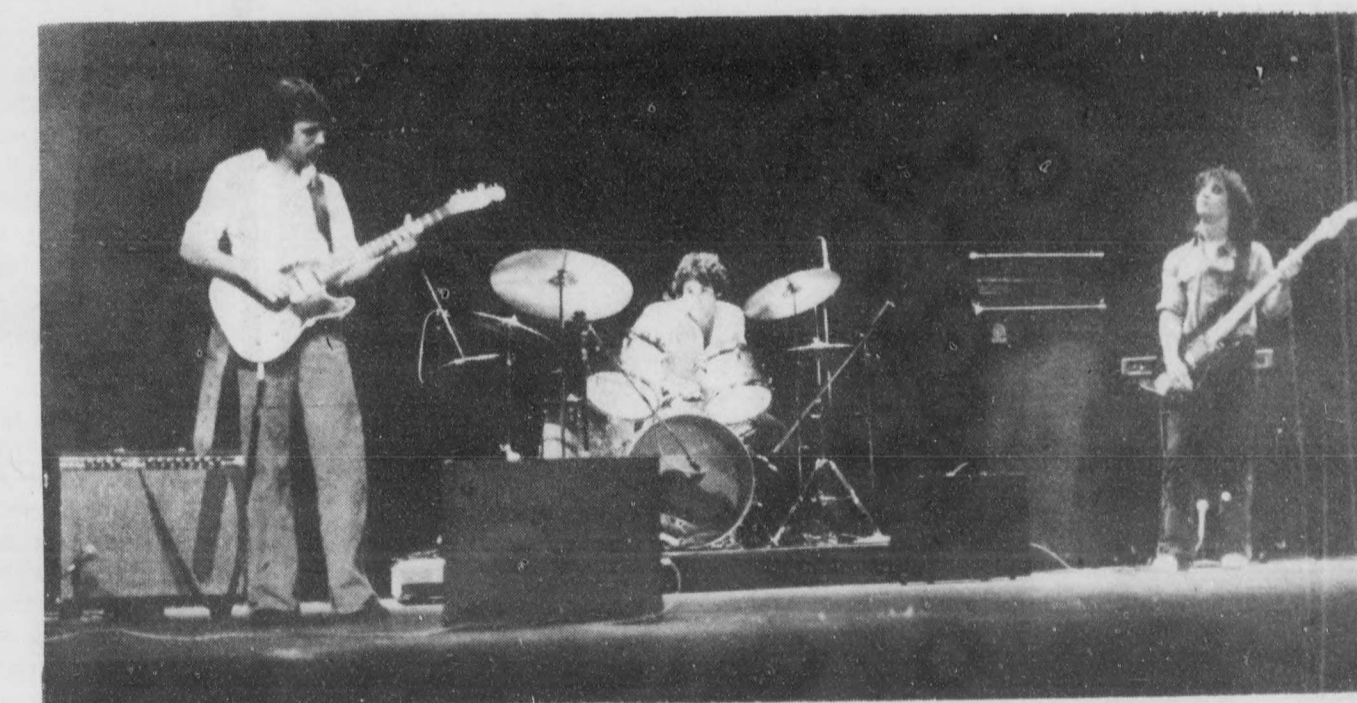
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The Jug Band consisted of eight students playing beer and liquor bottles.



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Gary Ewing performed in a comedy skit as Elvis Presley.



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Jazz Band, with Ray Melanson, and John Lam, guitar, Tom Turner, on bass guitar and Victor Lentini on drums.