

# ARTS

## Green Room gig

BY MICHAEL GRAHAM

MUSIC

*Green Room Gig*  
Purple Groove Monsters, The Big Picture, Spike N, Eric's Trip

REMEMBER the good ol' days, back when I was in junior high/highschool and there were great gigs every month or so. There was an abundance of local bands back then. The mid eighties were great for live music in Halifax, but then things seemed to die down and I haven't really been following the local music scene lately (for the last 3 to 5 years). When I heard about the gig in the green room featuring four "local" bands (three of whom I had never seen) I decided to stop being apathetic and see what was going on.

The Purple Groove Monsters were the first to play. I had seen them a few times before had been very impressed. They have quite an intense sound with wild guitar and violin playing. Their material is 100 per cent original, with interesting time changes that catch you off guard. The rhythm section is really tight, with great bass playing and powerful drumming. As the band was played their groovy thrash I noticed that the

crowd was completely laid back. The band was oozing energy, but the crowd was content to sit and listen. Unfortunately the guys only played for about half an hour, whereas the rest of the bands played for an average of about 50 minutes.

The next band was The Big Picture. I had never heard them before and they struck me as retro in many songs, occasionally bearing a loose resemblance to Lenny Cravitz. This band was very tight and all of the musicians were very talented (very strong vocals). I was jotting down notes as they played and noticed a song whose structure resembled "Message in a Bottle", by The Police. Two songs later they covered that tune!! I was surprised to nail down an influence to a song. As they continued to play, the retro aspect faded away and gave way to a Bad Brains sound.

They then did an excellent cover of Anthrax's/PE's version of "Bring the Noise" and to my surprise at least 15 people started to thrash! My confidence in our youth was restored, even though it took a cover tune to get them on their feet.

After playing some hardcore-ska-punk, the band finished with a cover of "Give it Away" by the Chili Peppers. This was disappointing because the bassist, who had played extremely well during the entire set, screwed up the song.

Next up was Spike N. Their sound reminded me of The Replacements'. I was impressed by their musicianship, but the material was very homogeneous. Every song sounded like the previous one (to me). I think this was, in part due to the vocal harmonies which were present in almost every song.

The final band was not local. Eric's Trip hails from Moncton and plays great "grunge-core" - what ever that is (does the term exist?). Lots of distorted feedback and fast, intense choruses could possibly be a loose definition of their sound. Their set produced a pit of enlivened youth thrashing (I use the term loosely) to the band's intense sound. If I was to compare this band with anyone it would have to be Sonic Youth (for the verses) and possibly Nuclear Assault (for the choruses).

Eric's Trip redefined for me the terms "feedback" and "distortion". The highlight of the entire gig was their incredible rendition of Madonna's "Open Your Heart". I was in a state of euphoria as the band crucified that song. Half of the cover consisted of distorted feedback and it was fantastic. I was amazed at how well the band sustained and controlled the feedback (not an easy feat).

All in all I was glad that I forked out the five bucks to get into this gig. It has been long time since I have seen a quadruple bill of "local" bands and overall I was very impressed with what Halifax and Moncton have to offer.

TRAVEL AGENTS  
ARE ALL  
THE SAME....

**NOT!**

WE ARE THE STUDENT TRAVEL SPECIALISTS.

**TRAVEL CUTS**

OUR AGENTS KNOW BUDGET TRAVEL  
WE'LL GET YOU THERE... FOR LESS!

Main Floor Dal SUB

494-2054

*Excellent!*



Curry Village

"Indian Cuisine"

For a Unique Palatal Experience

Students' Special - 10% OFF

Sun. to Thur., student I.D. required  
offer expires March 31st

429-5010

We are open 7 Days a Week!

Monday - Thursday: 11:30 to 2:00 & 5:00 to 9:30

Friday & Saturday: 11:30 to 2:00 & 5:00 to 10:00

Sunday: Open From 2:00 pm until 9:00pm

(Take-Out Available)

5677 Brenton Place

(Next to Park Victoria, extension of Clyde st.)

Recommended - "Where to eat in Canada"

"... the best Indian restaurant in Metro  
- The Daily News, Nov 15, 1991

Remember,  
friends  
don't let friends  
drive drunk!



DALHOUSIE'S ALCOHOL  
& DRUG AWARENESS COMMITTEE

(TELEPHONE 494-2404  
FOR MORE INFORMATION)

## KAPLAN COURSES

### LSAT, GMAT, MCAT & GRE Preparatory Courses.

Every year, thousands of people take the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT), Law School Admissions Test (LSAT), Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) and Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

Some are students. Some are professionals. All are intent on doing their best on the test that has become a standard measure of success. All MBA, Law, Medical school applicants and students applying to graduate school in the U.S. are required to write the admissions test.

Henson College now represents Stanley H. Kaplan, the world's leading test prep organization, in the Maritimes.

Following are upcoming course dates:

| COURSE   | COURSE DATES            | EXAM DATE     |
|----------|-------------------------|---------------|
| LSAT     | Apr 15 - June 10, 1992  | June 15, 1992 |
|          | July 29 - Sept 23, 1992 | Oct 3, 1992   |
| LSAT Fee | Aug 1 - Sept 26, 1992   | Oct 3, 1992   |
|          |                         | \$745 + GST   |
| MCAT     | July 16 - Sept 10, 1992 | Sept 19, 1992 |
|          | July 11 - Sept 5, 1992  | Sept 19, 1992 |
| MCAT Fee |                         | \$695 + GST   |
| GMAT     | Apr 16 - June 11, 1992  | June 20, 1992 |
|          | Aug 11 - Oct 6, 1992    | Oct 17, 1992  |
| GMAT Fee |                         | \$695 + GST   |
| GRE      | April 4 - May 30, 1992  | June 5, 1992  |
|          | Aug 1 - Oct 3, 1992     | Oct 10, 1992  |
| GRE Fee  |                         | \$625 + GST   |

Class times: Weekdays 6 - 10pm / Saturdays 9am - 1pm



For information  
or to register call  
494-2375

**HENSON COLLEGE**  
Centre for Continuing Studies  
DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY



### Your ticket to the 21st Century

The Information Management Department, Mount Saint Vincent University, offers a Bachelor of Applied Arts (Information Management) which provides education in information management and integrated office systems. The 20 - unit degree has a co-op option.

Prepare for careers such as :

- Information managers
- trainers
- user support specialists
- technical support managers

Applications are now being accepted for the 1992-93 academic year.

For details call the Information Management Department at 443-4450 ext. 196

Mount Saint Vincent University  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 2J6