

Buddy's back for Carnival

by Rob Cohn

"Buddy and the Boys" are back. On Saturday, February 9, they will be one of the featured bands for this year's Winter Carnival "Flake out '80".

The Boys have only been together a little more than two years, but they are recognized as one of the premier bands in the region.

The boys in the band are: Max Macdonald (lead vocals, acoustic guitar); Leon Dubinsky (piano, 12 string guitar, vocals); Ralph Dillon (lead guitar, piano); Berkley Lamey (bass, mandolin, piano); and Ron Parks (percussion).

The band's beginnings lie deep in the roots of Cape Breton. Ralph, Berkley, Leon, Max and a guy named Enver Sampson Jr. played together in a band called Home Brew.

When Enver left the band the boys continued to play together from time to time. October of 1977 found them with the opportunity to record some of the material they had written. They still were not a touring band and they didn't even have a steady drummer. They borrowed Bob Woods from Minglewood and headed for Solar Recording in Dartmouth.

The end result was entitled **Buddy, Part One**. This was a kind of mini Rock Opera about the Cape Breton Everyman—Buddy. It seems that Buddy leaves his home on the Cape to go to the Big City in hopes of finding a new life. Well, he misses his home and his girl and so heads back to Cape Breton once again, happy for the time being.

Although there are outstanding cuts on the LP, it is much better when played as a complete record instead of individual songs. There is, of course, the classic 'Workin at the Woolco' which can be played anytime.

Since that first album the boys have been busy. They headlined all of the summer music festivals, sold out the El Macambo in Toronto for six straight nights, and have gone back into the Studio.

From the Studio came two things. Along with a new single, they recognized their need of a producer.

A new producer has not yet been found, but as soon as that is accomplished we will see the long awaited new album. Some people feel that their new LP will do for them as Minglewood's did—that is to break the band nationally.

On the other hand, there are those who feel that if the album does not appear soon, the band will die a slow death.

There appears to be little danger of that happening. The new single "Fast Food" is a danceable number which is getting much airplay on Campus stations. Unfortunately for the general public, it won't appear on record store shelves until a new album does.

"The Boys" are on the move. After an extensive Canadian tour in the fall they came back and did the theme song for a National Film Board film "The Hard Part Begins". The song is simply titled "Every Mile" and it appears on the flip side of the "Fast Food" single.



Buddy and the Boys

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The Boys arrived back in Halifax in time for a welcome back party for Nova Scotia's touring bands. The show was held at the Metro Centre and attracted almost 7,000 appreciative fans. The next night the show was repeated in Sydney before an SRO crowd.

The Boys have a large following in Cape Breton. In some people's opinion they are better than the Minglewood Band. People consider

them to be more downhome.

A new LP by the boys would reinforce this support and give them a strong basis on which to work.

December was a hectic month for the Band including a stint at The Moon, concerts, a mini-tour of their own with Bob Loblaw and Kevin Head, and then back to the Moon for New Year's Eve. There was even an appearance on national news with CBC's

Knowlton Nash.

The future holds some major steps for the boys. Along with the new album there are plans for a Western Canadian tour and the summer festival circuit will be worked again this year.

Buddy and the Boys will also be appearing at several Winter Carnivals including Dalhousie's. This is the best opportunity to judge the band for yourself.

CUP

National Magazine Staff

Canadian University Press, a national collective of more than 60 college and university newspapers, is launching a national magazine in the fall of 1980 and will be hiring two full-time magazine staff members this spring.

The positions require:

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- knowledge of budgeting
- ability to work in a small office
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CUP will take into consideration previous magazine writing experience and previous involvement as a CUP newspaper editor, regional executive or staff person. Salary is \$200 per week and includes a cost-of-living clause. Terms would begin in May, 1980 and end in March, 1981. The applicants selected are encouraged to run for election to a second term at the CUP national conference in December 1980.

Applications should be submitted by January 31, 1980 to the Consulting Committee, c/o CUP, Suite 202, 126 York St., Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5T5. Further information can be obtained by contacting CUP at 613-232-2881.

Spicy dance in Garden

by Paul Creelman

Spice played an exceptional four hours of dance music in the Garden last Saturday. The enthusiastic crowd present at the Student Union building that night were more interested in dancing than in Beatle music per se, and showed their interest in the proceedings by creating a

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heavy drain on the liquor supplies, and in the case of several over-enthusiastic members of the audience seated in the far corner, singing rowdy Irish songs during the breaks.

Needless to say, the dance floor in front of the band was packed, and almost everybody present seemed to be enjoying themselves.

The most striking feature of Spice is their ability to get a rich and rounded sound out of their minimal stage setup. Kevin Macmichael, lead (and only) guitar player, and Paul Eisan, bass guitarist, both sing, while Erin McDow drums. Spice somehow manages to recreate the intricate vocal harmony of the Beatles with only their two vocalists, a technique which is the mainstay of Spice's repertoire.

Ever since Spice started advertising its dances as 'Beatles Bashes' in the spring

of 1979, it has been the only local band to provide nostalgia for the beat generation. Spice plays almost all the Beatles' songs that are danceable, and a few which are not. (One ill-chosen number, Rocky Raccoon, proved to be particularly frustrating for those members of the audience who were incapable of dancing a waltz and the twist simultaneously.)

The rest of Spice's repertoire was filled out entirely with 'Mersey Beat' songs from the early 60's, an added plus for those of the 'mod generation' who wanted to recapture the mood of their youth. However, for most present that night, Spice was nothing more or less than a good dance band.

Spice will be playing at the Misty Moon on February 11 as feature band for the Paul Butterfield band.

