

AFRICA NIGHT A SUCCESS

by Luis Cardoso

All in all this year's Africa Night, although not as polished and compact as last year's, was an enjoyable affair. The lower quality of the night's entertainment was justified as the ASU's efforts were obviously concentrated on the Women and Development seminar held on Friday. The positive and uplifting feeling created by the seminar spilled over into the show and was evident in the speeches made by special guests Ms. Lubanga, Ms. Rogo-Manduli, and Prof. Ragaven.

The speeches were in fact the highlight of the evening. They were well delivered, compact, and powerful, and obviously moved the audience.

The food was superb, as usual, and well worth the wait in line (not that I waited long in line). Delicious dishes from various countries in Africa were both appealing to the eye, and palatable to the tongue.

Of course, as to be expected in a program of this length, certain skits were less successful than others. The lip-synching Drums of Uganda act was silly, as it was last

year, and I was surprised that it was included in this year's show. The fashion show was long and disorganized and at times it was obvious that narrator Ms. Seck was "winging it." But many of the fashions were spectacular and almost made up for the length of this part of the program.

The poetry of Kwame Dawes and Edet Archibong were powerful when read by children, and enhanced the literary aspect of the show. Edet is also a highly entertaining performer and brightened the acts he performed in, including the Botswanan dance and the fashion show. Keinee Kwerepe was also very humorous while on stage for his parts. His funny improvisations during the fashion show went a long way to salvaging that act.

Lenzi Aziz also helped to keep the evening entertaining: his funny banter and "political" humour (this man really hates his president!) were used to keep the audience chuckling in between acts.

All in all a very entertaining evening in the tradition of Africa Night.



Umzabalazo in full flight, one of many Africa Night treats. Photo by Kevin Bernard

Sister Moon at CHSC

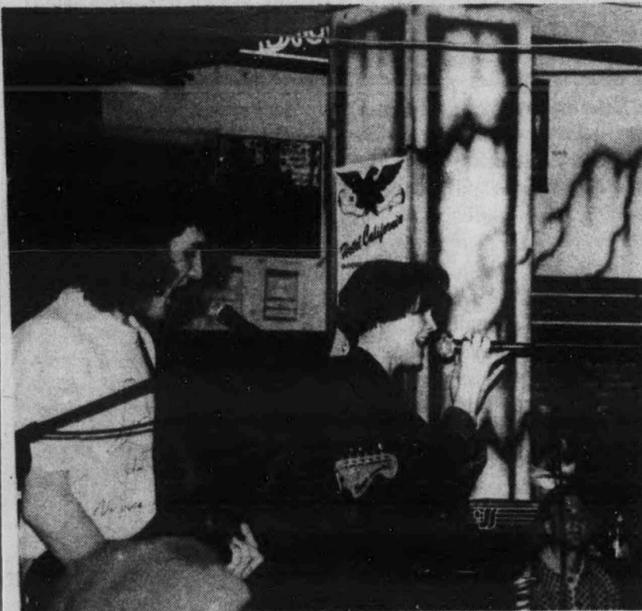


Photo by Randy Goodleaf

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Thursday night at the social club was sort of a mystery night because nobody seemed to know who Sister Moon was. For those enquiring minds, they are a male/female duo from Dalhousie, N.B., and have just recently broken onto the campus music circuit.

Their first set consisted of a mix that included cover versions of current Canadian, American, and U.K. hits. The band also played a few of their own compositions. The first set concentrated on what can be called college top 40 and included the songs by Crash Vega.

The second set went straight to the classic rock tunes of the seventies, and the pace picked up significantly. Both the band and the crowd loosened up during the set (it was near midnight). Throughout both sets, the sound was clear, with emphasis on vocals. Of the two sets, the crowd seemed particularly responsive to the duo's cover of Sinead O'Connor "Nothing compares 2 U".

The crowd response was good, although the club has been hotter. As can be expected with a duo, there was extensive use of pre-programmed tracks for rhythm. Low cover charge notwithstanding, the band did provide a fair evening of entertainment.

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