

ENTERTAINMENT

GENRECIDÉ MICHAEL EDWARDS

GO DIRECTLY TO JALE

I think that the Pop Explosion last weekend spoiled me more than a little bit. After all, how often do you get the chance to see thirty-four bands in five days? Even though, it was good to see that the number of gigs in Fredericton seems to be taking an upward turn what with last Friday's Farmer's Market show, and the Satanatras this weekend too. I do beg of you all to turn out for these shows as a high attendance is the only way to ensure that more bands come to town. And even if you haven't heard of the bands, don't be afraid to



experiment a wee bit and go along. I mean, isn't it better to have any bands coming to town rather than none?

As I mentioned last week, I managed to have a chat with Alyson from Jale whilst down in Halifax. She brought me up to date with what they have been up to, and jolly busy they have been too. The summer started with the release of their debut album *Dreamcake* which has been selling well ever since. And for anyone that hasn't heard it yet, it's a wonderful album with some truly great songs on it. Its hard to believe that its just over a year since the band formed (or learned how to play for that matter...) Since the album came out, the band have been touring on both sides of the Atlantic - they have just got back from five weeks in Europe where they visited Scotland (and the rest of the UK too), Ireland, Germany, Holland and Belgium

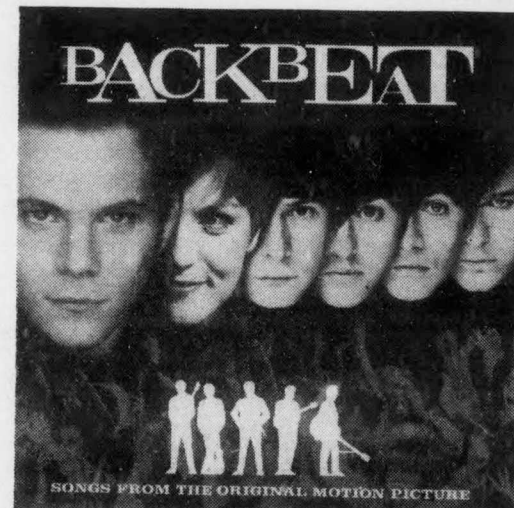
before ending up in Paris for a few days. They have already had a 'Single Of The Week' in both NME and Melody Maker (the two weekly UK music papers), and seem to be more famous over there than they are in North America. But there is no rest for the wicked - they are heading off down to the US to tour with their old chums Sloan for the next while. Before setting off, they spent the remainder of last weekend shooting a video for their first Sub-Pop single *Promise* which, despite coming out initially a few months ago, is being re-promoted in the States. And hopefully this will give them the exposure that will allow them to break through down there; something which has eluded them so far.

There does seem to be a genuine camaraderie between the bands down in Halifax, and Alyson talked about how good it was to be back playing in front of a hometown crowd again and seeing some old, familiar faces once more. Some of those familiar faces belong to the people from Cinnamon Toast Records who released the band's first single last year, and I am informed that there is a good chance that Jale will release a new single on that label in the new year (hopefully on some pretty coloured vinyl). Despite playing some new material at last weekend's show, Jale do not intend to release a new album until late next summer. They are a band who still feel that it is important to pace themselves - something which Sub-Pop allows them to do so. Sub-Pop doesn't play up the 'oh-my-god-there's-four-girls-in-a-band-who-can-all-sing' novelty aspect of things either - Jale doesn't fit into the Riot Girl or the Cute Girl category which makes some people rather nervous. As Alyson told me, they want to be taken seriously for their music and not for anything else. And if their music continues to be as wonderful as it is now then there should be no problem at all.

The movie at the Capital Film Society (a wonderful institute - buy your memberships now...) this week was *Backbeat*. This film tells of the times back in 1960 when there were five Beatles, they were living in Hamburg and none of them were called 'Ringo' either. It concentrates on the story of Stuart Sutcliffe, the original bass player and schoolfriend of John Lennon, and how he left the band to concentrate on his career in art before his untimely death in 1962. Its one of those curious moments in rock history that seems to be forgotten (much in the same way that Pete Best is), but nonetheless a very

interesting story.

One of the most incredible things about *Backbeat* is Ian Hart's amazing John Lennon impersonations which more than makes up for the fact that he doesn't really look like him. The other thing is the music. You have to remember that back then the Beatles were not writing their own material - they were a rock and roll band singing the popular songs of the day such as 'Twist And Shout', 'Long Tall



Sally' and 'Please Mr. Postman'. On the soundtrack album, the songs are performed by what can best be described as a 'supergroup' featuring members of the Afghan Whigs, Gumball, REM, Nirvana, Soul Asylum and Sonic Youth. But its not a the ear-bleeding affair that you would expect from such a cast - instead you get a straight forward rock 'n' roll album that is so powerful that it is quite impossible not to tap your foot along to the whole thing. It captures the on-stage energy of the band so beautifully, and after seeing the film it all makes a lot more sense and is well worth picking up.

And maybe one day I will tell you the story of how my father turned down the chance to see the Beatles in Hamburg in 1961. He did meet Elvis though, but that's another story altogether...

Experience a Different World Indonesia Night 1994

by ISA



The Indonesian Student Association (ISA) will be presenting the Indonesian Exhibition and Cultural Night on October 15, 1994 at the SUB Ballroom. The Exhibition, entitled "Indonesia Now and Then," will be held from 2 to 7 pm (open to the public) and the Cultural Night from 7 to 10 pm. The audience will have the chance to explore the country and to find out why it is a must to visit Indonesia.

Our unique handicrafts will add highlights to the exhibition. They include: silver miniature of becak (traditional tricycle) also representing the extensive silver-craft industry in Indonesia, copies of Javanese weapon 'keris', some original famous batik printing for decoration purpose, traditional costumes (more will be presented during the cultural event), and plenty of others.

Many people might have come across the following words: Borobudur, Bali, Komodo, Orangutan, Batik, or Krakatau. Yes, they are all parts of Indonesia. You can even find rain forests in Indonesia. Look out for fascinating facts on wildlife, tourist attraction, and our national development. Pictures of them will be shown and you can also get some memorable, but very limited quantity postcards.

It is strongly recommended to come earlier to the exhibition if you do not want to miss these great souvenirs because many will be available for sale. However, you can still enjoy the exhibition throughout the hours because plenty of pictures and some videos

are available for viewing.

The exhibition will be followed by the 1994 Cultural Night. It will open with the introduction of some delicious and spicy Indonesian food. Rice with beef in coconut milk, spicy sweet and hot chicken, rice noodles, vegetable salad with peanut sauce, corn stir-fry, Indonesian fried mashed potatoes, prawn crackers and some excellent traditional dessert and drinks will be served with the accompaniment of our traditional music.

The show will introduce some performances such as our martial arts called "Pencak Silat", fashion show, our traditional dances, and folk songs which represent Indonesia from east to west with their own dialects, music, and styles that distinguish one from another. The dances include "Tari Pendet" from Bali to welcome guests to a ceremony, "Tari Pnakji Semirang" also from Bali, and "Tari Dindin Badindin" from West of Sumatra.

Traditional costumes are numerous in Indonesia. There are 27 recognized as formal costumes for each of our 27 provinces, and one as a national costume. However, only a few of them will be shown in the event.

About Indonesia and ISA

The country is located in the tropical south-east Asia. It is the world's largest archipelago with 13,677 islands where only 6000 of them are inhabited. Stretching for 5120 km from east to west, the land only amounts to 20% of the total area of 1.91 million km square, home to over 193.5 million people.

Indonesia proclaimed its independence on August 17, 1945 from three and a half years of invasion from Japan, and a previous 350 years of Dutch colonialism. The capital city is Jakarta with a population of over 8 million.

There are five main islands in Indonesia: Jawa, Sumatra, part of Kalimantan (Borneo), Sulawesi, and part of Irian (New Guinea). With more than 300 dialects disperse throughout the islands, incredibly,

the people do share one national language called "Bahasa Indonesia" (Indonesian language) which is originated from the Malay language.

Islam, Christianity, Hinduism and Buddhism are recognized in Indonesia. With more than 87% of the population Muslims, it is often surprising to realize that Indonesia indeed has the world's largest Muslim population. However, Indonesia is not an Islamic country.

Custom and courtesy are also dominating in the way of life. Different customs are found in hundreds of ethnic groups in Indonesia and they go side by side with the religions. You would not believe the number of ceremonies that one person has to go through in his or her life when dealing with customs.

As quoted in the "Insight Guides to Indonesia", 'the country offers from the celebrated mystique of Bali to primitive wilderness of Irian Jaya (New Guinea), from the modern metropolis Jakarta to the ancient cultures of Java'.

The ISA has been around for quite a few years at UNB and currently comprises 27 members. The activities include summer-outings, sport tournaments, ski trips, and other events to celebrate our national days.

The association held the last cultural night five years ago and a food event in 1990. This year, with the support from members, participants and sponsors, and our embassy in Ottawa, the association is ready for another cultural night.

The ISA would like to welcome the public to the exhibition (free admission) and the cultural night (tickets are \$10 each or \$12 at the door). For more information about the event and the tickets, please call 459-2778, 454-5505, or 454-6391 or contact any ISA member.

INDONESIA

