

Dan Hill in Fredericton

By ANNE KILFOIL
And PATSY HALE

After a one-year songwriting hiatus Dan Hill once again treated Fredericton audiences to his sensitive and intimate brand of music. A self-proclaimed "Confessional songwriter", the 25-year-old Toronto native added a new dimension to his sound with the addition of a four-piece band.

The band which provided a solid backing, consisted of keyboardist John Sheard, drummer Pender McKay, bassist Kierns Overs and David Whipper on acoustic and electric guitar. Hill himself gave a fine performance on both six and 12 string acoustic guitar on many of the numbers.

Hill opened the show with "Still Not Used To". The band joined him for a second song, "Today" and stayed with him for the remainder of the show.

Hill's casual dress and between-song story telling built an intimacy with the audience which lasted for the whole performance.

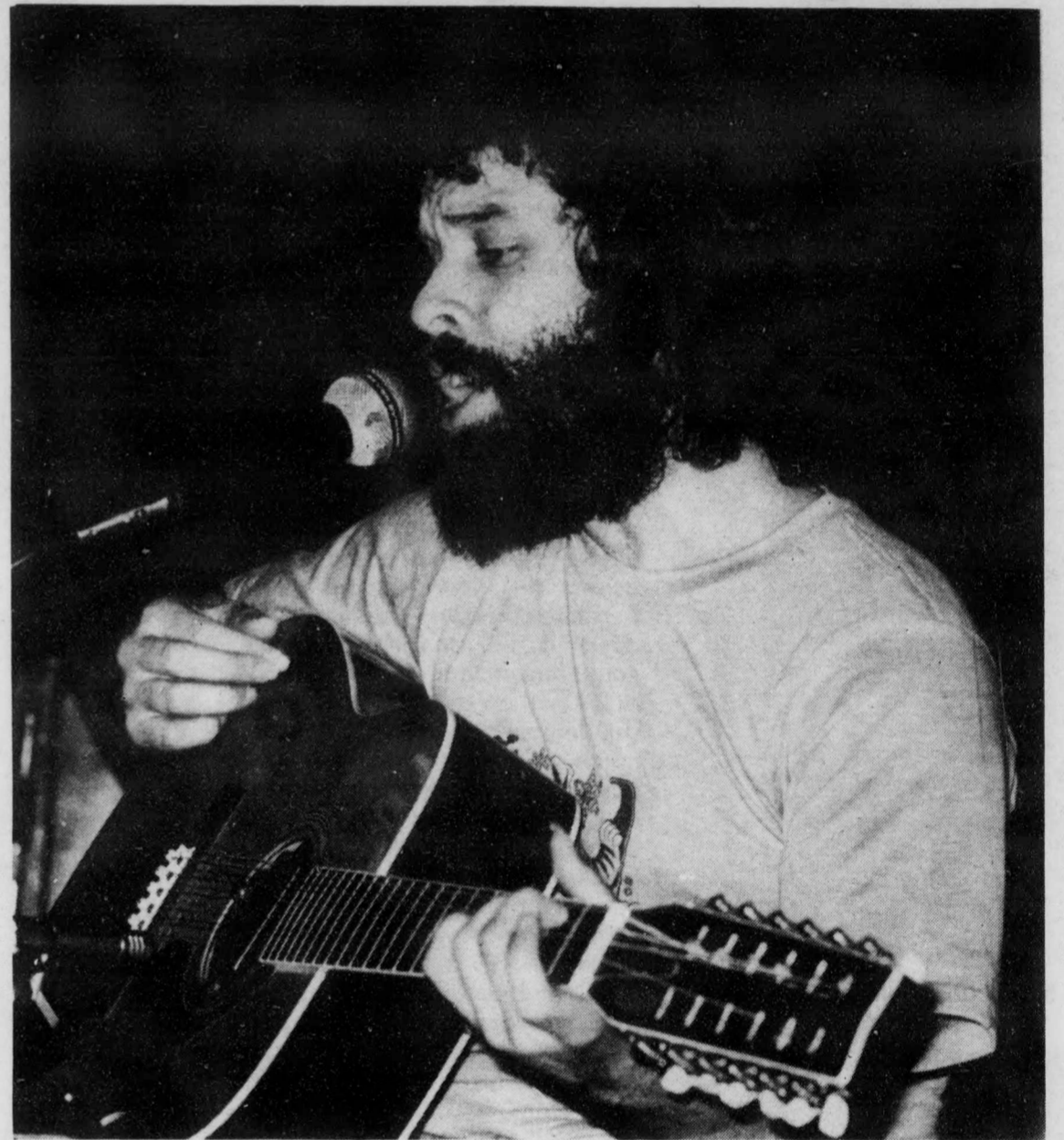
The two hour show, broken up by a 15 minute intermission, contained a lot of his past more popular material such as *Sometimes When We Touch*, *Let the Song Last Forever*, *Indian Woman*, and *Dark Side of Atlanta*, as well as a number of songs from his new album, *If Dreams had Wings*, due to be released in mid-February.

The title song of the album was written as an attempt to be close to his brother who was travelling through Africa at the same time.

Hill's new songs are generally more rhythmic than his work of the past, but his lyrics still reflect the basic emotional themes of his older material.

Hill's performance was tight and enthusiastic throughout, building to the song the audience has been waiting for: *Sometimes When We Touch*, perhaps his best known tune.

At the urging of the audience Hill reappeared for an encore, dedicating the final song of the evening, *Hold On*, to the listeners at the Playhouse.



ANNE KILFOIL Photo

Brunswick interviews Hill

By KEVIN BACKS
Staff Writer

Saturday night, Dan Hill returned to Fredericton as part of his new Canadian tour. After the second show he agreed to talk with the Brunswickan.

He told us that as is usual for any tour, he is promoting his new album, entitled *If Dreams Had Wings*. However, the album which was due to be released last week, will not be on the shelves until March 27, according to Hill.

Although he feels he is more developed as a songwriter than as a performer, Hill feels writing and performing hold equal importance to him.

A man who realized at 16 that his songs could move people he is inspired by everyday experiences and the people close to him. The title cut from the new record is in fact about his younger brother.

Hill said that touring with his new band is just part of his natural progression as a musical artist. The band consists of guitarist David Whipper, drummer Penner McKay, bassist Kieran Overs, and keyboard player John Sheard.

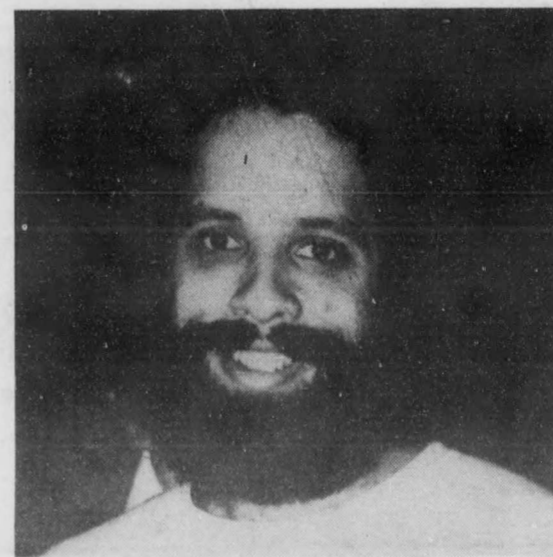
While he says he hasn't been consciously influenced by other artists, he said his favorite musicians are Bob Seger, Bruce Springsteen and Jackson Browne.

A song which is not on his new album but is destined to be a hit is the one he

recorded for the upcoming movie *A Man, A Woman and A Bank*. The song is *When You Smile At Me*.

GRT, the recording company which released Hill's previous hits *Sometimes When We Touch* and *Let This Song Last Forever* went bankrupt just over a year ago. His new company, CBS is in the process of purchasing the rights to, and master tapes of Hill's recordings from GRT.

Hill will be continuing his 11-date tour of the Atlantic Provinces and then will move on to Canadian and world tours, including debut appearances in Japan and Australia.



ANNE KILFOIL Photos

