

FESTIVAL AT DALHOUSIE

by Peter Cameron

Last Saturday night the Festival Family played to a capacity crowd in the SUB's McInnes Room. All those present appeared to enjoy the show and the music, both of which superb.

The Festival Family is a ten piece band from Arkansas composed of guitar, bass, drums, organ, lead singer and a five piece horn section. The band is what one might call the P.R. section of the commune from which they come. Most members of the band had been close to Masters degrees in music when they left university. They left because of pressure put on them after they formed a rock ensemble, it was claimed that rock was not a form of music. So far most of their playing has been in clubs, Dal was the first university that they have played in fifteen months on the road. So far the band has not made money, all that is not spent on travelling expenses is put into equipment. They are hoping to get a stereo sound system in the



Throughout the night the music and show were excellent. The performance was tight and as I found out by talking with the band spontaneous, they didn't know what was coming next until the singer gave them the cue. The music played was all well done and stylized to the group's taste. The horn section was used to achieve a total sound and even though I'm not that fond of horns I enjoyed the music because of the good use of the horn section.

The night's festivities began with a Frank Zappa number, "Little House I Used To Live In" which is seldom or never heard anywhere. After this we were given the Festival Family Dancing Lessons numbers one through three, which made for an excellent stage show. In the first set the band managed to get some people to break the Dal tradition of not dancing the first set. The first set ended with a medley of not too well-known Joplin songs.

The stage show was very well done, it had the same tightness as the music and enhanced the music most of the time. There were some complaints to the effect that the show was plastic but if that is so then everything that we do is plastic. Sure the individual routines were pre-planned but the order was totally spontaneous and there was improvisation on stage. The last set was composed of 60's R&R which went over well, and I must say was done to near perfection. There were a fair number of people left exhausted on the dance floor which is a good thing to see. For the encore they did a repeat of the first number.

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I should also mention that the lighting and sound mixing were the best that I have seen and heard around here in a long time.

All in all it was a very good night and I for one would like to see the Festival Family back here again in the near future. Best of luck to the band in finding a record company, I know that they are looking forward to that event.

WWW^wWWW^wZZZ^wZZZZ...

by Randy Davis

This movie, "w", what is it, another show in the "Exorcist" mold? Or is it simply another Whodunit? After seeing the picture I'm not really sure. At the beginning "w" has some distinct possibilities, as long as one forgets that the female lead is Twiggy, that infamous model from our youth. Really, though, that is unfair to Twiggy, especially after you see her co-star act, not to mention the all-time worst performance by John Vernon. But to get back to the movie plot, we see in the beginning mysterious car accidents and these come from what reminded me of an old Avengers repeat. The fun does not last long enough as every thing is very neatly explained. From there on, up to the climax we are treated

to as boring a performance as I've seen in a very long time.

The story line, such as it is, begins with these accidents as I've already said and the plot develops to show how somebody is out to get our friend Twiggy. A lot of hand holding and explanation later we are shown that A) Twiggy is supposedly dead B) Her ex, Billy (hence the "W" from William) is serving time for her murder (I thought a body was necessary) and C) he knows where she is living and he wants her back.

Then, (Yes, there's more) Billy kills off a con-man friend of his and in a very gross way leaves his own fingerprints. Then Billy hangs his own murder around the neck of Twiggy's husband (shades of Deja Vu?) Just then, when I was getting

totally bored, the only actor in the entire movie makes his appearance. Billy, the ex-husband is really good as the psychopathic nut, and totally grossed out the audience when he takes off his glove (he did have to leave his fingerprints at the good old con-man's burnt body, so why not a couple of... you get the idea?) Any way the trust worthy lawyer comes back just in the nick of time to save Twiggy from a fate worse than death (Barf) and there the movie ends.

It really was a poor movie but you could always go to "Mame" or something in the same motion picture complex at the Penhorn Mall, and when you compare Twiggy with that old pro Lucy, you have to know that Twiggy has got to win.



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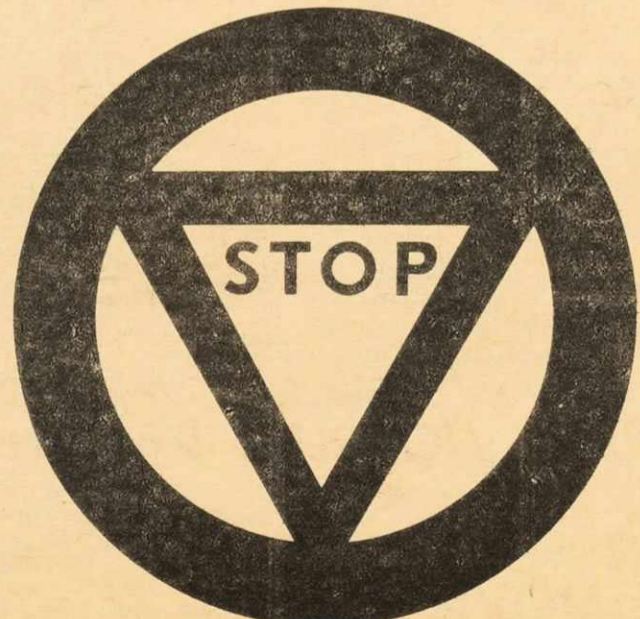
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