

Estes Boys country rock good 'stomping music'

By DERWIN GOWAN

They may be a hick band from Massachusetts who drank Maritime brew between songs and sat their bottles on top of their amplifiers, but the Estes Boys pub was probably one of the most enjoyed acts of Winter Carnival 1977.

Not a large number of people enjoyed the act, because only about 50 showed up but for those who did, this just meant there was a little more elbow room and no shortage of drink.

They played that peculiarly North American combination of country and rock some people call "stomping music", but it seems the conformist music critics of UNB have yet to realize the beauty of this form of musical expression.

The problem with the average university student is that he or she has an extremely restricted range of music appreciation. They will listen to one type of music and

none other. This makes it easy for promoters, record companies, and bands who are willing to prostitute themselves. The predominant style becomes commercialized, as some professional musicians call it, and for the time being, that's all you can hear.

After a while, people get sick of it, and they turn to something new. Over the past few years we've seen rock 'n roll, the Beatles, acid rock, bubble gum, and a dozen other musical forms come and go, each over-killed in its turn.

With the current disco craze in full swing, an act like the Estes Boys is positively relaxing.

You could tell they enjoyed playing even to a small crowd, from the opening number down to the double encore. When was the last time you see a crowd of 50 pull that off?

The braver larks at the pub pulled their tables out onto the floor, as there was more than

enough room for the few dancers present, and the band leader remarked that it was nice to have some people to look at out there.

One of the people selling liquor tickets remarked that UNB students had apparently forgotten how to go on a rant.

Among other songs, they played Heartaches By the Number, Thick Smoke and Dark Rooms, the US Blues, and a lot of their own stuff.

The music they played was made by all electric instruments, but there was not a hint of the souped up funky mind rattling

vibrations UNB students seem to require as a steady diet.

As a matter of fact, if the people attending the pub were told that they were listening to uncool tunes, they would have thumbed their noses and asked, "What do you know about good music."

Chinese students present films

On Sunday, February 20, the Overseas Chinese Students Association will present the following films at Tilley Hall, Room 102 at 2:00 p.m.

"Today's China" -- This film in four parts was made in 1975, and shows aspects of modern Mainland China. These films cover several topics, including women's liberation in Chinese society, scenery of various regions, agricultural development and industrial construction.

"Harnessing of Haiho River" -- this film records impressive scenes of the battle by people in the northern provinces of Hopei, Shantung and the cities of Peking and Tientsin in taming this harmful river. Ten years of hard struggle have transformed this former alkaline and waterlogged area. Now a large area is fertile, well-cultivated fields with irrigation channels and ditches. This former disaster area has become a prosperous basin. The harmful

river is being transformed into a beneficial one.

"Again Ascends Mount Jolmo Lungma" -- At 14:30 Peking time on May 27, 1975, one woman and eight men of a Chinese expedition succeeded in reaching the top of the world's highest peak - Mount Jolmo Lungma (Mount Everest) - from its north slope. The film records vividly the heroic deeds of the climbers during their climbing the mountain.

Caribbean Night Steel band featured

Caribbean Night - an annual spectacular event will be held tomorrow - Sat. February 19th in the SUB ballroom between 8:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m.

The members of Caribbean Circle present Caribbean Night in an attempt to bring to the audiences' attention several aspects of Caribbean culture and way of life.

Items of the night include a short film, which will reveal interesting scenes of popular places and events (e.g. Carnival) of the region. Calypso and Reggae (the two most popular styles of music of the area now growing in North America) will also be featured. Another special of the evening's activities will be the serving of some very popular West Indian delicacies. These include

"Pelow" or "Cook-up" and "Roti". As the special of the night there will be the KIWANIS steelband, of Saint John, to supply the famous "pan" music for dancing until 1:00 a.m. (The KIWANIS Band played at the Olympiad in Montreal last summer).

According to Caribbean Circle's president, "tickets are being sold by members of the 'Circle' and at the SUB information office for

\$2.50 each". He further said that tickets are limited and will be sold on a first come first served basis.

Ida Johnson, a playful book

...Deadly sure that "The True Story of Ida Johnson" is a novel almost spooky in its unrelenting clarity of consciousness. Give us more please!

Myrna Kostash

emerges as a powerful figure of vitality and resilience. She faces life dead on. "A person should be able to have a little fun and kind of get along," says Ida. "Never mind all the bullshit."

"The True Story of Ida Johnson" ends, as it begins, with a question: is Ida's story true? Sharon Riis pushes the form of the novel just a little farther, bending narrative to tease out a shifting perspective on memory, fantasy and fact. The story remains perfectly accessible without resorting to traditional realism, and the result is a playful book, a *tour de force* of style and suspense.

Ski Day's winners

Here are the winners from the Feb 12th Ski-Club -- Ski Day Raffle. The first prize of Freestyle Dynasters went to Sam Davies. Second prize -- a 26 ounce of Rye and a pewter Beer Mug went to Nancy Falkenhan. Finally, Chuck Johnstone received the third prize a case of beer and a pewter beer mug.

The Ski Club will be showing some more ski films in the near future -- stay tuned for more info.

This is an exciting new writer with a sure grasp of the vernacular, complemented by a quirky sleight-of-hand...the effect is magic realism, a flat-footed waitress caught in the eerie light of the Last Judgement.

Margaret Atwood

Ida Johnson is not what she seems. What brought her to Shiril's cafe? Why didn't she die in the explosion that killed her family? A stranger wants to hear her story.

Easier to lie on your back, thinks Ida, but "I'll talk your ear off for twenty." She spins story within story: the fishing trip, that year in Calgary, Derek in the gully, her encounter with the professor. And as she recalls her past, Ida remembers Lucy George, the Reserve Indian who was her childhood friend.

Firmly grounded in material reality, Ida nevertheless manages to break free from the predetermined pattern of her life. She is an unlikely heroine to some, but

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