

NOVEMBER 15, 1974

When it was good it was very, very good

By NANCY FERGUSON

What can you say about Red 'n Black '74? When it was good it was very, very good and when it was bad, it was, well, mediocre. But on the whole the show was one of the best to be put on in recent years, with some of the funniest skits and best musical numbers this side of St. Thomas.

If there had been an award for "star of the show", the opening night audience would have given it to Marcel Goyette, whose rendition of "Annie's Song" drew calls for an

encore. Accompanied by P.J. Veniot on the piano, Mr. Goyette made the most of his wide vocal range and delivered powerful emotional interpretations of his songs.

acts in the show were Project, a tight (in the sense of together) instrumental group with a strong sax in the lead, Elston Johnston, and Lynn Murray (Bailey). Unfortunately, only one of these acts graced the first act of the show, and Ms. Murray's strong vocal performance was hampered by the fact that her and backup guitarist Oscar Penk's guitars did not quite agree musically.

One of the problems with the show was that it seemed to save the best for the last. It was a slow starter that didn't really grab the audience until the end of the first

act. Becky Reid was easy on the ears, the Caribbean Circle did an interesting interpretive dance number, and Shelley Spires broke from the song and dance format to



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Army Horse Ensemble. The closing number of the first act, the traditional Jug Band, was in its usual rare form.

The tempo of the show was maintained throughout the second act, thanks to the previously mentioned good musical acts and fine skits. Peter Charron drew laughter as Fred 'Feckin' Keershaw, a Newfoundlander who applies to Canada Manpower for employment.

The comedy highlight of the show, however, had to be the Brunswick Youth Orchestra. Led by none other than Dr. John Anderson (fittingly attired in tails) the illustrious orchestra "played" a medley of songs ranging from Frere Jacques to the theme from The Sting. Too often students think of their faculty and administration as sober men in grey suits, and it

was both refreshing and hilarious to see them let down their hair in Red 'n Black '74.

Of course, no review of Red 'n Black could overlook the kickline. This year's group made a good opening impression with a well-synchronized fairly difficult routine, although the exit and re-entrance got a bit sloppy.

Members of the kickline came back in the second act to give a pleasing interpretation of 'Raindrops', complete with yellow slickers and black umbrellas.

The show also closed with two dance numbers. The first, Fred Five-O, was really a combination of comedy and dance, a well-executed salute to the 50's nostalgia craze. The second, closing act featured third year

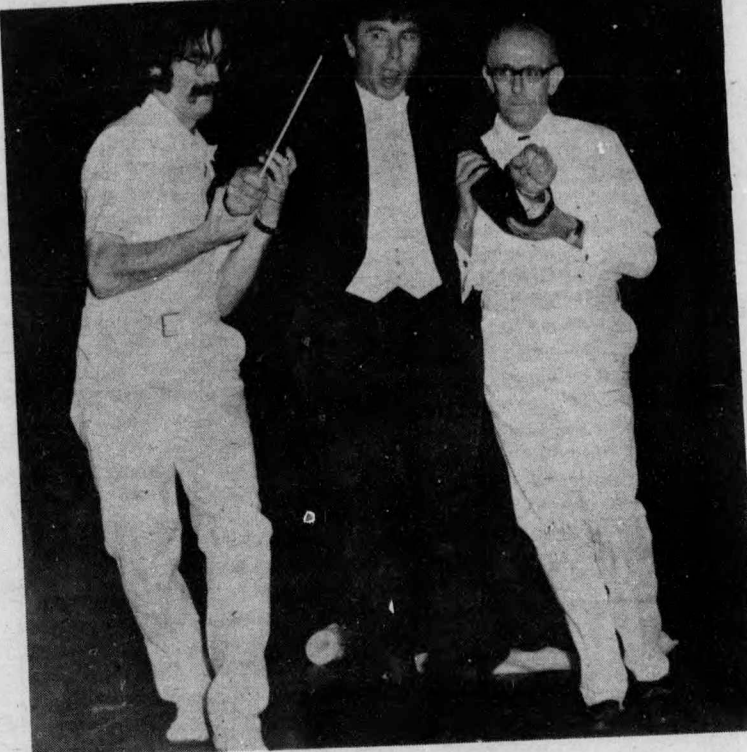
nursing students in a lively charleston number.

One of the nicest things about this year's Red 'n Black was that it drew from a variety of campus groups. In addition to the nurses and faculty members, the show also brought back the girls from

Maggie Jean in an innovative 'puppet' act. Neill House was represented by Myrhh, who were good guitarists and might better have served as a backup group to Becky Reid or Harmonie.

Obviously a lot of work went into the show and director Rod Doherty deserves credit, as does assistant director Deryk Penk. And last but certainly not least, emcee Al Bonner, who kept a long show from dragging. Polished and professional, he led a smooth-running show to a successful finale.

Photos by James Walker



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Another outstanding performance was given by a brother and sister act, Mary and Jim Keenan. Jim Keenan on the piano and harmonizing vocals was a fitting complement to Mary, whose voice can be quite simply described as beautiful. If it's permissible to use a cliché and say someone has presence, then Mary Keenan does. Among the other good musical

give us a creditable "Soliloquy to St. Joan." But it took the nonsense songs of Harold Burgess and Meryl Bustin to really get the ball rolling.

Here was some foot-stompin' music that you could laugh at and clap with at the same time. The laughter, by the way, didn't stop when the audience was confronted with the delightfully wacky, offbeat skit presented by the Red



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the hill"

u would like to have a piper to the splendor and good of an occasion, you can get in with "Pipie" at Room 142 in Hall, the chemistry labora- Or, if ye ken the pipes or ave some interest in either or Highland dancing, here is itation for you to drop over meet our piper.

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ems the phone patch is ult to arrange for places west Ontario. However, indirect sage relays are possible for h greater distances.

you have any questions just e or drop in to room 217A Head (old bldg.) Tuesdays or rdsdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. The ice is available at those times about the second week of ember and again from January pril. The SRC provides some ey for the club's expenses.

club members include students staff from most faculties - one is welcome. Persons to ntake are Doug Steventon (res.), Tom Wilson (Sec.-Tres.), b MacArthur (V-P) or phone -6790.