

Dear Captain Highliner

Dear Captain Highliner:

Billy: "Well Captain Highliner, last week's issue of the *Brunswickan* saw the charter inaugural sailing of your column."
C.H.: "Harr, Billy, it was a sensational debut. We have some refinements to do, but the best has yet to come. Say, you know Billy, last week the queen was in Victoria, B.C. for a visit. Fortunately I was able to take the Bluenose out of dry dock and sail the northwest passage all the way to Victoria to give her my salutations and a dozen fish sticks."

Billy: "Captain, what do you have for us this week, politically speaking?"

C.H.: "Harr Billy, I have a very prophetic quote: 'The philosophy of the Liberal party is very simple - say anything, think anything, or better still, do not think at all, but put us in power because it is we who can govern you best.' - Pierre Trudeau, *Cité Libre*, 1963. Harr, he has governed us in such a way that mere words cannot describe!"

Billy: "Well put, my sentiments exactly! You're smiling Captain, what's so funny?"

C.H.: "Harr Billy, what do you call a cow that has had an abortion?"

Billy: "Decafinated!"

C.H.: "Harr Billy, how do you stop a charging tuna fish?"

Billy: "Take away his credit card!"

So on that note, let's read the mail.

Dear Captain Highliner:

No girls will accompany me on a date. I just bought a three piece suit and a tube of Brillcream last week. On our first endeavour I took Miss Prussy to the Metropolitan Opera and our seats were even situated in the front row. Everytime she leaned close for nooky nooky my horn-rimmed glasses got caught in her hair. Now she won't go out with me again. What should I do?

Vergil Dexter

"Harr! Well V.D., I recommend you place your self at an appropriate altitude of high elevation (the Princess Margaret Bridge) and then abandon ship!"

Dear C.H.:

I've tried your fish sticks and I love 'em. Can you tell me how you get that freshly hooked flavour?

Luke Skywalker

"Harrrrr Mr. Skyscraper, I'm like the Colonel and have a special recipe. One thing for certain is it's finger lickin' good!"

Dear C.H.:

I have heard rumours that your column has stimulating intellectual type news in it. What can you tell me about plasma bacteria on camel's humps?

Johnathon R. Bookworm

"J.R.? I thought we shot you!! But as far as I know, plasma bacteria is unique to the dorsal fin of a white tuna in spring equinox! After all, I did get my Ph.D. in micro biology."

C.H.: "Well that just about raps it up. Harr Billy, don't go swimming in the nude or a jelly fish will grab onto you're ----- And remember, you can tune a piano but you can't tuna fish."

**Note: Captain Highliner is starting up a weekly contest for the best Captain Highliner joke and/or Dear C.H. letter. Just send them in and you may win my Highliner 'Chicken Haddies'. I will announce the winner next week in the *BRUNSWICKAN* and here's my address: -- Dear Captain Highliner, c/o the *BRUNSWICKAN* (just bring it in to the office).

Minglewood in limelight

by JOEY KILFOIL

Roy Batherson began singing publicly at age four, performing Gaelic songs at a concert in Port Hood, Nova Scotia. Now, more than 30 years later, he is Matt Minglewood, leader of one of the country's best rockin' blues bands.

Minglewood (the stage name was given to him years ago by a drummer in one of his early bands) was raised in North Sydney, N.S. and although he sang often in his youth, did not begin playing guitar until he was 19. He soon found himself in the Rocking Saints, one of the best bands in the area at the time. Although he now listens to a variety of music, including a great deal of country and blues, Minglewood admits he went through the sixties listening to "the usual bands," including such performers as Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry and Jerry Lee Lewis.

Fredericton has always been a special place to Minglewood. "When I first went on the road, Fredericton was where I ran out of gas," he said during a performance in town a while back. This twist of fate resulted in the formation of what is perhaps the city's best known group: Sam Moon, Matt Minglewood and the Universal Power. Minglewood played with Moon from 1969 to 1976. When each realized they were not getting anywhere as a team, they decided to part ways. Although the split was amicable, Minglewood cites a few musical differences: he was more into rock and country-type blues while Moon was a student of the Van Morrison school of rhythm-and-blues.

Minglewood took with him from the Universal Power drummer Bobby Woods and bassist/fiddler Donn Hann. With the addition of harmonist Enver Sampson Jr. and guitarist Terry Edmunds, the first incarnation of the Minglewood Band was born.

The band released its first album (sometimes known as "the red one") in 1977. The bluesiest of all albums, its best-known cut is "Caledonia," still hugely popular at live performances. Edmunds left shortly after this and was replaced by Rufus Drake, an alumnus of both the Rocking Saints and the Universal Power. He left a short time later and Edmunds rejoined the band. in-

terestingly enough, it was Edmunds who played on the 1979 album (simply titled, like the first, "Minglewood Band") although Mark MacMillan's picture is on the album cover. While the first album sold well in this region, it lacked adequate national distribution. The second album has been the most successful; at 90,000 copies sold, it borders on platinum album status. Minglewood refers to this record as the "Can't you see" album.

"Can't You See" is the album's cornerstone; a powerful, moving ballad delivered with as much feeling as can be captured on record. The song, written by Toy Caldwell of the Marshall Tucker Band, discusses what is, on the surface, a fairly common theme: the singer's loss of a girl he loved deeply. But it is Minglewood's own personal, narrative introduction to the song that sets it apart and has made it a concert classic for him since he first started playing it. In a voice that defies adequate description, Minglewood the singer tells the audience his story: the story of a Cape Breton farm boy who leaves the Island for the Big City. He finds the girl of his dreams and works his way up to a good job in the construction industry. Everything seems to be going well until he comes home to find his woman has left him, and suddenly, his whole world collapses. The flow from Minglewood's monologue into Caldwell's lyrics is remarkable. This one song has been known to quiet the rowdiest of audiences, and the vocal is delivered with so much power and sincerity it is hard for the audience not to feel the singer's painful loneliness.

The third album, "Movin'."

featured MacMillan on guitar and saw the emergence of Paul Dunn as a songwriter. Although Minglewood alone wrote about half the material, Dunn's three songs are as strong as any. "Countin' on You," co-written with Tony Quinn (formerly of Chalice) was a hit single for the group.

This album also features a remake of "East Coast Blues," from the first album. The song, written by Minglewood, is the band's autobiography and talks about some of the problems experienced by the group when they first set out to get the attention of a record company.

The band went to Memphis, Tennessee to record the fourth album, "Out on a Limb." Producing was Donald "Duck" Dunn, a well-known American bassist who has performed on hundreds of r-and-b recordings. Dunn was also featured in "The Blues Brothers Movie." Minglewood says there was no real attempt at a concept; they just wanted to record down there and see what it sounded like. This album is close to gold, while "Movin'" has already earned gold record status.

MacMillan left the band about a year and a half ago, after the release of "Out on a Limb." He was replaced by former Ram guitarist George Antoniak, who played on the fifth album, "M5". Antoniak also wrote a number of songs for the album, including the single "Till the Next Dream." The album has a distinctly harder rock sound to it; Minglewood says the band had an agreement with CBS Records to concentrate more on rock and roll for this particular album. Although Minglewood generalizes that

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