

Rich heritage on African Night

By LINNI GOOD
Brunswickan Staff

I had a rare treat last Friday when, for the low price of \$2.50, I went to the African Student Society's presentation of *African Night*. At the time,

I was under the impression that I was in for a quiet coffee-hour and a slide-show with people who were dressed differently than I, but it turned out that *African Night* was a very elaborate and well-planned celebration of culture. I was rather surprised, upon arriving, to see the large number of people who had come. Rows upon rows of people of all races met my eyes, with numerous dressed children playing and dancing in between.

The night began with words of welcome from Mr. Mustapha Kamara followed by a film about the many different sides of African life. The main performance got under way when people from each country had the chance to show off their own unique mode of dress. Representatives from both the east

and west sides of Africa gave us a taste of some of their traditional dances and, while it was very enjoyable for the audience, the performers seemed to be having the best time of all. Poetry was read by three different, very talented speakers, which of course, had to have been written in or translated into English because of the wide variety of language groups present. A lengthy talk on the African economy was given by Mr. Onyango, the representative from Kenya in Ottawa.

We were also treated to some music by a band of African students led by Mr. Felix Kofi. The group played one or two modern African songs and its original interpretation of "Quantanamera" in their own language.

Another fine performance was that of a play, "The Banana Tree," written by an African playwright, which told of the Malawian Creation Myth.

I would have to say that the high-point of the evening arrived when it was announced

that the food was to be served. This was obviously what the ticket price went towards, because there was such a large assortment of native dishes that were not only delicious, but very filling.

African Night was a one-night adventure-trip through all the various parts of that immense continent. To date, I have been unsuccessful in figuring out whether it was actually meant to be an educational experience for nonAfricans or a celebration of African Culture among the Africans, themselves. In any case, they achieved both objectives easily. It was a rewarding experience for me as it helped bring home the fact that to group these people simply as "African Students" is to make a widely inaccurate assessment of them. They come from vastly different cultures and backgrounds and each has a rich heritage. It was a pleasure to have been permitted to be a part of it for an evening.



The saxophonist for the St. Francis Xavier Jazz Quintet in mid-riff. They performed at Memorial Hall in a concert sponsored by the Creative Arts Committee last Saturday.



CHRISTOPHER CHAN Photo

African Night at the SUB Ballroom last Friday - fascinating culture.

Art gallery showing Painters Eleven

During the month of March the Beaverbrook Art Gallery will show an exhibition of 48 works by Painters Eleven, the Ontario group of artists which flourished between 1953 and 1960. Painters Eleven strived to gain recognition for abstract or modernist painting in Canada, in general, and for their own

work, in particular and on an international scale to counter the impression of Canada as an artistic backwater.

The conception of Painters Eleven goes back to a show held at the Robert Simpson Limited in Toronto labelled "Abstracts At Home" in October, 1953 in which paintings

by non-objective Ontario artists were used to enhance the furniture settings. William Ronald, an employee in the display department of the company encouraged fellow artists, Jack Bush, Oscar Cahen,

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Curbs no sidewalk band

By ANDREW SECORD
Brunswickan Staff

Fredericton's newest band debuted last Sunday night at the Last Hurrah on Prospect Street. The Curbs, a four piece band fronted by John Westaver on vocals, put on an excellent show, especially considering that it was their first time in front of an audience. Their lack of experience didn't seem to be a factor as they showed as much or more stage presence and musical ability than many bands I've seen with years behind them.

The music was new wave and punk with a little bit of heavy metal. Joe Jackson, The Clash, Sex Pistols, and AC&DC were examples of the bands whose music appears in the Curbs' show.

The fairly large crowd for a Sunday seemed to really enjoy all three sets though I think the second and third were a little better. The first set was definitely not bad, but I think nerves detracted a little from the performance. The band went over well (even with those who didn't dance) and

got called back for an encore.

The rest of the band consists of Geoff Grazier, on guitar, Dan Hemerg on bass and Rick Thompson on drums. The band all showed fine musicianship and were pretty tight. One small problem I did notice was the sound was a little muddy and distorted but they were using rented equipment and were probably unfamiliar with it. Also the sound was a lot cleaner than one particular out of town band which everyone seems to rave about around here.

The band was glad to see the good turnout Sunday but if you missed it then you get another chance this week. The Curbs will be playing the Riverview Arms this Thursday, Friday and Saturday. I advise you to check them out. They've got a lot of talent, they do the right songs, and they've got even more potential. They'll also be back at the Last Hurrah periodically, about every two weeks. Highlights of the show are, Brand New Cadillac, Fun Thing, and My Way (a la Johnny Rotten) and there are no low points. These boys don't slow down.

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