

Better with booze

Kingpins pull off mediocrity

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The Attic, once again, played host to a mass of sweaty, drunk and rambunctious skankers last Friday night. The crowd flocked to the booze barn on Argyle, some decked out in Olive-On oil and leather jackets while others were in full suit and tie, to enjoy a night of Skaliciousness, a la King.

King Konqueror and the Kingpins cranked out a night of solid, er, ...mediocre tunes. King Konqueror, although the opening act, seemed to impress the crowd more than the Montreal-based talent. The relatively new Ska trio have managed to attract large numbers at every show, more than most virgin Halifax bands would be expected to.

Referred to as the best thing about Halifax by the Kingpins on

their last run through the city, King Konqueror may not ever achieve stardom, but they do make for a good distraction for rambunctious drunks.

The Kingpins are fresh off an extensive tour with Canadian Ska gurus The Planet Smashers, having what they referred to as a success-

ful journey, covering most bases east of Montreal, also dipping down into New York state and New Hampshire.

The south of the border leg of the tour did not go as well because "ska has been done to death there" remarked Josh, the sax player for the Kingpins.

Mind you, The Kingpins are better viewed through a thick pair of beer goggles, matched with a warm set of liquor ear-muffs. They kept the inebriated mound of sweaty dancers moving despite obstacles like tables, pillars and people, even though the band was considerably less animated than their last per-

formance in Halifax. Perhaps they were restricted by the Attic's pathetically small stage, or maybe we needed stronger earmuffs and goggles.

But this is contrasted with the apparent bliss of the throng who had come out for some serious Ska, and maybe that's all that really matters.



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