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Nomeansmo Crackerjacks

Wednesday, November 22

review by Greg Pohl

Nomeansno is arguably the best underground band in Canada, now that SNFU is history. This Victoria trio is made up of John Wright on drums, Rob Wright on bass and vocals, and Andy Kerr on guitar and vocals. John and Rob formed Nomeansno in 1980, with Andy joining in about 1984. Over the years they've released 6 LPs and EPs, and a couple of singles and cassettes. As well, a new album, Wrong, has just been pressed, and should be in the record stores shortly. The band was selling copies at the show for a measly \$7, but I wish I could have gotten familiar with the new material before hearing it done live.

Judging from the show Wednesday, the

new album is basically more of the same stuff. "More of the same stuff" means some of the best alternative music going. Their music can be described as "strings of chaos carefully woven into dark tapestries." The bass and drums are mixed right up front, and the songs abound with weird time signatures and sudden tempo changes. If you insist on labelling them, the only thing that comes close is "Jazz-core." It's fast and heavy, and never seems to use the same note sequence twice.

The band's lyrics are basically about the way people deal with themselves and others. Nomeansno is definitely a thinking-person's band. Every song is an in-depth examination of thoughts and motives. They have strong views on the interaction of the sexes in society. In fact, they took their name from a slogan in an anti-rape pamphlet. Says John, the drummer, "The deepest problems that



a.k.a. comedy club nite at the american bar **COMEDIANS ON STAGE THIS WEEK**

DAVID McCARTHEY - from The Comedy Nest in Montreal, The Comedy Feast, The Last Laugh in Hamilton.

DON TROUGHTON - from Punchline in Vancouver, Comedy Nest in Montreal.

RAPID FIRE THEATRE

AMERICAN BAR

FEATURING: KINDA 'GOOFY' GIVEAWAYS, **DRINK SPECIALS & THE COMEDY** WHEEL.

WEDNESDAYS Lounge opens at 4 p.m. with admission for stage seating at 7 p.m. Show from 9 - 12 p.m. Admission \$3.00. Obtain a 'STRIPED DOGGIE' button and get in free any Wednesday.

10102-180 ST. 489-8992

U of A Concert Band in Concert

On Sunday, December 3rd, the Music Department presents the winter performance of the U of A Concert Band, beginning at 3 pm in Convocation Hall in the Old Arts Building. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$5 for adults, and are available at the door. For more information, contact the Department of Music in room 3-82 Fine Arts Building, or at 492-3263 or 492-3907.

Latitude 53 Latin American **Holiday Benefit Party**

On Friday, December 8th, from 8 pm to 1 am, the Latitude 53 Society of Artists presents the "South of Latitude" holiday benefit bash, with the Latin beat of the Carlos Ortiz Band, to raise money for 1990 exhibitions at the Latitude 53 Gallery. Tickets are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door but there are only 100 available. Visit Latitude 53 at 10137-104 St. or call 423-5353 for information or tickets.

Sinbad Sails into the Walterdale

Walterdale Theatre presents its 4th annual Christmas pantomime, Sinbad the Sailor, a tale of advanture, treasure and love. Sinbad runs from Friday, December 8th to Sunday the 18th nightly at 7:30 pm except Monday. Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children under twelve, availble at all BASS outlets.