India Night

"A taste of uniqueness, elegance, and passion

Heather Molyneaux
The Brunswickan

India Night was held on Saturday, October 21, on an exceptionally warm and beautiful evening. Guests entered the SUB cafeteria from the expansion entrance and descended the grand staircase. On the balcony level, items from India were on display along with factual information.

Instruments from India were shown, including various types of drums as well as the harmonium, an accordian-like instrument, which would later be used in the musical numbers.

Examples of traditional India dress were also on display, demonstrating some of the fine embroidery work, also to be showcased later in the evening's fashion show.

Other points of interest included displays on the Bindini, the ornament commonly worn on the foreheads of women, and Henna, a non-permanent natural method of tattooing.

There were also displays showing classical dance positions and rangoli, the stone powder designs that are drawn on the floors of home in India

The last display elaborated on the language and religious cultures of India. India has seven major religions and fourteen official languages with over 1600 sub-dialects. Hindi is considered to be the national language, and all the songs during the evening were in Hindi.

The evening began with a large buffet of Indian food, while music videos were projected onto the wall. Indian food, although there is no dish considered to be a national dish, is typically spiced with curry. The buffet featured curried vegetables, cauliflower and potato curry, chicken curry, and chickpea curry. Vegetables have never tasted better! Different varieties of bread were also featured as well as dessert.

First on the agenda was the national anthems of Canada and India. During the anthems, the children of the members of the association of Indo-Canadians performed a light carrying ceremony.

Next, members of the UNB South Asian Society performed an Indian folk dance. This was an intricate dance involving the use of sticks to keep the rhythm. It was a very lively and colorful dance, which concluded in an almost battle-like frenzy.



Mike Cormier/*The Brunswickan*
Akanksha Sharda's flawless, flowing dance

The band for the evening was then introduced. Austin Raj Rattan and his group had traveled from Toronto to perform at UNB. He has received several awards, including three gold medals for singing in India and has played in Canada, the US, Africa, the UK, Spain, and India. After a slow start, the band began to play some traditional folk songs recognised by many of the members of the audience. The band then announced that they would take requests for their next set of songs, to take place later on in the evening.

Afterwards, Sachit Nair, a UNB MBA student, sang the Banguda song. What an amazing voice! Sachit was joined on-stage, mid-song, by some anonymous dancers.

Next came the fashion show, titled *Fashions of India*. The show was meant to present the diversity of fashion within India. The main features of Indian dress are the use of fine textiles such as silk and precious metals, gold, and silver. Each design was presented within the context of its regional birthplace. Most outfits shared the features of being handmade and showing skilled embroidery techniques.

Traditional dress for festive occasions was displayed as well as more causal wear. Even East and West combinations were displayed, with the pairing of traditional Indian shirts for men with khakis or jeans. The beautiful sahris were the highlight of the show with their intricate patterns and colors.

After the fashion show, UNB student Akanksha Sharda presented the next dance routine. This was a lively fast-paced number, which demonstrated the use of the entire body in Indian dance. Akanksha seemed perfectly at ease on the stage, smiling and lip-syncing to the music, while dancing flawlessly, her movements flowing perfectly with the beat of the music.

After this dance number, Austin Raj Rattan and his group once again took the stage and rounded off a delightful evening, now armed with the requests of the audience.

India Night demonstrated a diversity of fashion, music, and food. To steal the words of Guna Kulasegaram, while describing the fashion show, and apply them to the entire evening; it was one that showed a "taste of uniqueness, elegance, and passion."

LISTEN TO THIS

Zwerg
Played Wits
Independant



I think I can safely say I've never heard anything quite like this before. Jason Betts, the mastermind behind Zwerg, has created something truly unique in this time of musical copycats and rip-off 'artists.'

Although I certainly applaud him for his originality, I get the funny feeling that *Playing Wits* will appeal to a rather limited audience.

For one thing, this is essentially a synth-pop album. The format was fine in the early 80s, but I really didn't have the attention span to take a lot of this all at once.

Fortunately, the sections of Nintendo-like bleeps are occasionally interrupted by piano and organ melodies. This is hard for me to say - because I actually like a lot of that early 80s stuff.

The album also happens to be laced with more references to European mythology/fantasy than you can shake a gnome at. I don't know what inspired this, but it can become pretty tiresome too.

That said, the album does have some highlights, but it will take a patient listener to find them.

- Patrick Reinartz

Tony Iommi
Iommi
Independant



Black Sabbath guitarist Tony Iommi has put together a solo album, and it's one hell of a great recording.

Iommi calls on some of the best players in rock today, including Billy Corgan, Dave Grohl, Henry Rollins, Ozzy Osbourne, Matt Cameron and Billy Idol, among others. Each contributes significantly to the album; every track sounds like a Black Sabbath song, but the mark of featured artists' co-writing is evident.

Billy Corgan (The Smashing Pumpkins) sings and plays guitar and bass on one of the album's standout tracks, "Black Oblivion." The artists' two styles compliment each other, making a truly great rock song. Dave Grohl (Foo Fighters) sings and drums on another great song, "Goodbye Lament," and Serj Tankian (System of a Down) performs on the outstanding "Patterns." All have the classic Sabbath sound; pounding drums, loud guitars, and a whole lot of soloing.

Most contributors have cited Black Sabbath as an influence in their music. If you're a fan of Black Sabbath, or any of the people appearing on the CD, get a hold of it. It's well worth it.

- Sean Patrick Sullivan

Confrontation Camp
Objects in The Mirror...
Artimis

If you thought Chuck D, formerly of Public Enemy, had retired, think again. That's right, Chuck D's back. He hooked up with lead singer Kyle Ice Jason and Professor Griff, also from Public Enemy. Together along with bassist Brian Hardgroove, guitarist Jafar Mahmud, drummer Wes Little, and turn-tablist DJ Lord, they collectively form Confrontation Camp.

Confrontation Camp's style is far different from that of Public Enemy. An attempt to mix hip hop vocals and an alternative, beat-laced flow just doesn't seem to work that well. The concept is great, but Chuck D is no longer in his prime and should retire while he still has some pride. The lyrics often tell stories and deal with political subjects, but the music just isn't very appealing. In fact, it was rather boring.

I would only recommend purchasing this album if you are the biggest of die hard Chuck D fans. Otherwise, to quote CBC's 'Street Cents', "it's fit for the pit."

- Troy Neilson



Pajamas and Rick the Temp

Amurlee Ashton
The Brunswickan

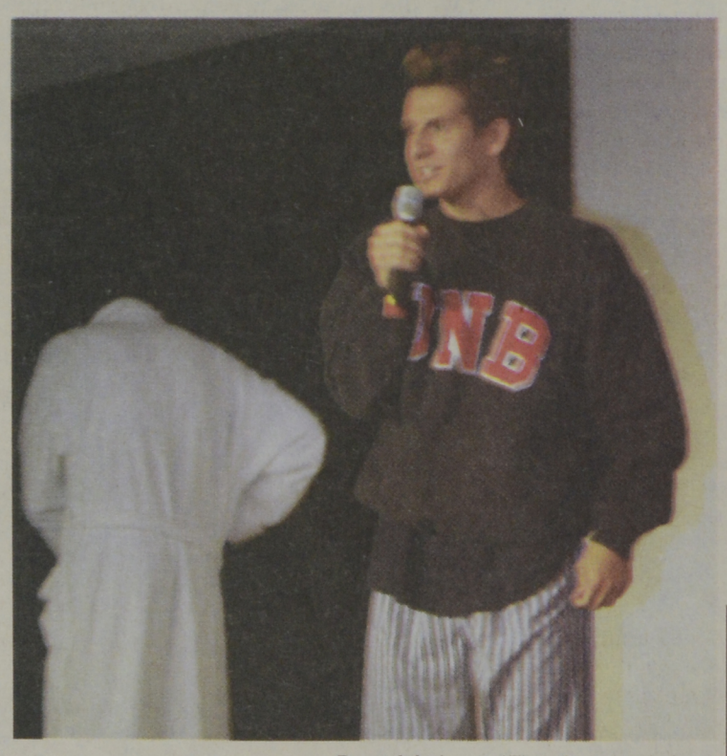
Last Friday the SUB Cafeteria was taken over by a few hundred people all clad in pajamas.

The main reason so many showed up for this event was so they could show off their pajamas and win prizes at the same time. The only requirement of the night was to wear your pj's, although few came without.

Don't worry, the Freshheads (an improv group who also appeared during frosh week) fixed that. In no time the people who had "forgot" their pj's were wearing warm flannels, big slippers, and robes. Next time there is a pajama jam these people will surely remember the embarrassment of forgetting their pj's.

The Freshheads added so many laughs to a great night. They handed out dozens of prizes to people who would help them with their improv skits. These skits tried to get the message of drinking in "moderation" across to university students. SMART PACC and the UNB Student Union organized the whole night; thanks for a great time.

Now that the scene has been set, the real highlight of the night was host Rick "The Temp" of MuchMusic VJ fame.



Dan Malone/*The Brunswickan*
This guy couldn't wait to take his clothes off for Rick, who was decked out in fancy UNB gear.

Yes, he actually came to our pajama jam, but to Rick this was not out of the ordinary. In the last year he has attended many pj jams from St. John's to Edmonton. He enjoys travelling, meeting new people, and being on camera. Working for Much is something Rick loves to do.

I had a chance to ask him a few questions and learned he was a very nice guy. He was also very funny. When asked "if he could be any food what would it be and why?" his response was, "corn on the cob." Rick loves the stuff.

"Being a husk of corn, growing in the environment. Then being picked and put in a store and then bought, buttered, and eaten up." He thought that would be the life.

Rick added a new level to our university pajama jam. He was also gracious, spending an hour signing things for people. The night was a blast. With food, prizes, Rick, and pajamas, everyone that went will not be forgetting it soon.

.moneen. : aggressively melodic pop

Sean Patrick Sullivan
The Brunswickan

"Yup, we are the biggest losers in the world...but we can rock out real good!"

Thus starts the bio on .moneen.'s (yes, it's really spelled like that) webpage. The Toronto-based band is currently on a tour of Eastern Canada promoting their latest EP, *small chairs for the early 1900s*, and will appearing in Fredericton this Sunday, October 29, at the New Maryland Rec Centre.

The band calls their music "the collaboration of melodic influence" and their EP certainly shows this.

The lead-off track, "How many other girls are there in the world anyway?" is the perfect showcase for their brand of aggressive, melodic pop. The verses climb to pounding climaxes before stopping and rebuilding as the vocals weave through a tale of lost love, ending with a screaming chorus of "why you out of everyone?"

.moneen.
The Missing
Romeo Retarded
New Maryland Rec Centre
October 29

Singer/guitarist Kenny Bridges' lyrics are short and simple. Though they come across as hostile, they are actually poignant while retaining an underlying sense of aggression.



The tracks carefully straddle the divider between hard-pop and punk and based on this album their live show could be an experience.

The band will be playing with Fredericton's The Missing and Romeo Retarded (from Bathurst) at the New Maryland Rec Centre.

Even to Since August

Even are currently in Montreal finishing the recording on their debut CD, although they're not called Even anymore.

The Fredericton-based band is now Since August and are destined to break onto the Canadian rock scene in the coming months. The members have been together for years in various incarnations, and are finally getting the recognition they deserve.

Most recently they have won beer.com's North American Battle of the Bands, opened for Kid Rock in Toronto, and showcased at The Viper Room in LA and The Mercury Lounge in New York City.

With a record deal and support from Loggerhead Records, Since August's album, due in March 2001, is sure to be a hit. Watch *The Brunswickan* for an upcoming interview with Since August.



Dan Malone/*The Brunswickan*
Ross Neilson's Flying Boat performs at The Cellar last week. The band's blend of jam-influenced blues draws crowds wherever they perform. Watch for upcoming shows at Mexi's.

Halloween on the Hill

UNB & ghosts: what could be better?

Bruns Staff
The Brunswickan

You are cordially invited to attend the first ever Halloween on the Hill, to take place on Tuesday, October 31.

Fully costumed tour guides, including Maggie Jean Chestnut and Lady Beaverbrook, will take you around the University of New Brunswick campus, highlighting the university's history of ghosts.

Starting at the Old Arts Building at 10 p.m. on Halloween evening, the ghostly tour will last approximately an hour, finishing up in front of Harrison House just in time for their annual Pumpkin Sacrifice.

Cost is only $5.00 for adults and $3.00 for students and children. Children under seventeen years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations are required, as space is limited.

For more information, or to reserve a spot, please call the SPARC office at 447-3071 or e-mail them at SPARC@unb.ca.

All of the money raised will go towards SPARC, the Student Pride and Alumni Relations Committee, which handles student tours and events on campus.

So this Halloween, after you've collected your goodies, why not stop by and enjoy a frightfully amusing hour of haunted history? It promises to be a ghoulishly good time!

The Bruns, baby.
That's where it's at.

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