

# B.C. students on the move for funding

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Thousands of B.C. students are letting their feet do the talking.

More than 2,000 University of B.C. students marched Feb. 19 from the campus to downtown Vancouver, while 600 of their counterparts in Victoria walked to the front steps of the B.C. legislature Feb. 14 in protest of education cutbacks.

The placard-carrying students in Vancouver took part in what was called the "Great Trek", a march similar to the one held in 1922 when thousands of UBC students demanded an adequate campus to house B.C.'s fledgling university. The demonstration in Victoria was called the "Dare to Care" rally.

Organizers of the "Great Trek '85" said the provincial government should halt its proposed funding decreases to universities and that any further cutbacks would spell disaster for the waulity of education in B.C. They said the demonstration drew the largest number of B.C. students in recent years.

The government froze university funding in 1983, cut operating grants by five per cent in 1984 and has hinted at a similar cut for next year.

The universities have responded by increasing tuition fees, introduction differential fees and limiting enrolment in certain programs. UBC's tuition fees jumped 33 per cent last year and may increase another 10 per cent this year.

"There's no question our university is under attack," Emler Orgryzlo, UBC faculty association president, told the rally.

"... Students grants are a thing of the past; student fees are on a record-breaking rise; student accessibility is declining; important programs are threatened with closure; class sizes are reaching intolerable levels; university autonomy is being eroded," he said.

Glenna Chestnut, one of the organizers and UBC's student council president, said another great trek will be held in the fall, after students have collected signatures on a petition over the summer condemning the cuts. The petitions will then be brought to the government's attention.

In Victoria, protestors called on cabinet ministers to speak to the rally, but no one appeared. B.C. universities minister Pat McGeer

said he was in his office during the rally and had not been invited.

"I didn't even know they were here."

Asked if he would have

spoken to the students if approached, McGeer replied: "Who knows? Who knows?"

Education minister Jack Heinrich said he was meeting with Vancouver high school

students at the time and could not leave for the rally.

Speakers on the legislature grounds denounced what they called the government's "immoral" lack of funding

and disregard for education.

The demonstrators included students from Victoria, Vancouver, Nanaimo and Williams Lake and a sprinkling of local high school students.

## Rock Notes

The latest news in rock n' roll

By P. Stahl MacIntyre

AEROSMITH has been negotiating with GEFEN RECORDS and VAN HALEN/SAMMY HAGAR producer TED TEMPLEMAN, so expect a project from the 'SMITH in the near future.

In other AEROSMITH news: STEVEN TYLER, lead vocalist of the band, after seeing a poor prototype of a tour shirt, grabbed 20 of the shirts and had his seamstress make a body suit of them.

BOY GEORGE of CULTURE CLUB will soon be going into the studio to record with none other than DOLLY PARTON.

PHIL EHART, drummer of KANSAS, has formed a company called INSIDE TRACK to aid aspiring movie makers over look managers and record companies for songwriters and musicians.

Musicians for hire include: PAT SIMMONS (DOOBIE BROTHERS), RICK NIELSON and ROBIN ZANDER (CHEAP TRICK), RICK DAVIES (SUPERTRAMP), STEVE HACKETT (EX OF GENESIS), and so on, and so on....

Keep your eyes and ears open for Scotland's "THE

WATERBOYS", a band that follows in the musical line of U2 and BIG COUNTRY. Headed by MIKE SCOTT (singer, songwriter, instrumentalist), they are currently on tour with U2. Their first North American release is called "A PAGAN PLACE", on ISLAND RECORDS. Songs include: "I WILL NOT FOLLOW", and "DECEMBER" (reminds me of U2's "I WILL FOLLOW", and "OCTOBER").

JIMMY MARINOS, drummer and occasional vocalist of THE ROMANTICS has left the band to form his own rock trio.

His old band goes unhindered by this, and is currently recording its next LP.

MIDGE URE of ULTRAVOX fame is said to be producing the next LP by Canada's own RUSH.

Loca Musician of the Week: JOHN BOSWELL, vocalist/bassist for "THE PRESS".

Answer to last week's TRIVIA QUESTION: "ARE WE LIVING IN A WORLD WHERE SEX, AND HORROR ARE THE NEW GODS?" is a quote from FRANKIE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD's "TWO TRIBES".

This week's TRIVIA QUESTION: Who is Paul Hewson better known as and can you name the band he is in?

## It's new — it's Black 'N Blue!

By Glen Boswall

Among the current flood of heavy metal bans from Los Angeles, the boys from Black 'N Blue stand out for two reasons: 1. they have talent and 2. they're originally from Portland, Oregon, and being from anywhere but Los Angeles is a definite advantage.

Black 'N Blue (consisting of vocalist Jamie St. James, drummer Pete Holmes, bassist Patrick Young and guitarists Tommy Thayer and Jef Warner) is based in L.A., but the band stresses that this is only because it is easier to be picked up by a major record label in the city of Angels than in their native Portland.

While the song titles on this self-titled debut album may suggest another senseless overamplified assault on the eardrums (ex. "Autoblast", "Wicked Bitch", "Chains Around Heaven"), the content proves otherwise.

That's not to say that the band doesn't fall victim to a few over standardized heavy metal cliches. There's the customary cover tune (an updated version of Sweet's "Action"), a shout along in time to music number ("The Strong Will Always Rock") and of course, a snare drum that sounds like a 105 millimeter howitzer.

Now for some of the differences. The boys do actual vocal harmonies which puts them ahead of most new metal bands. Their use of electronic drums on a few cuts will make them a few enemies among hard rock



purists, but the sound does not suffer for it.

I suppose the best think about Black 'N Blue is their ability to combine good lyrics

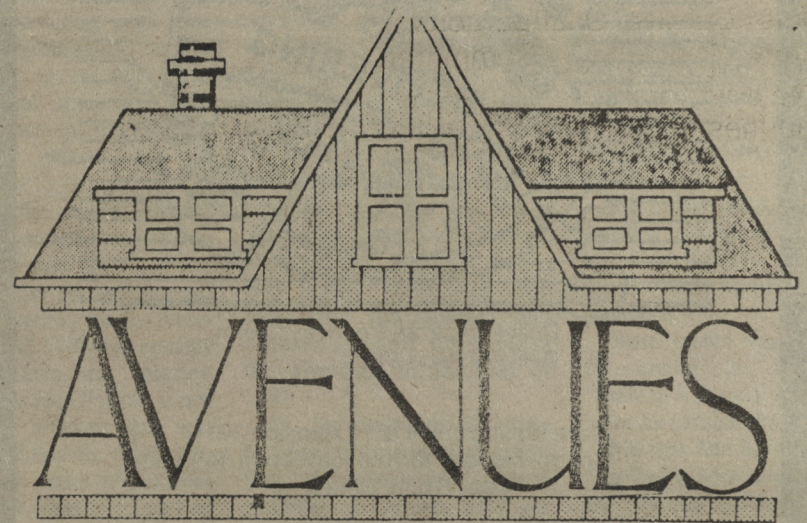
and complex musical ideas without sacrificing that bone-jarring sound that defines hard rock.

Jamie St. James, group vocalist, cites some of the group influences as Aerosmith, Kiss, Alice Cooper and early AC/DC. While it is difficult to trace the respective sounds of these bands to Black 'N Blue, it is easy to see that their combined influence has led to a high energy album and if the reactions of fans on the last tour are any indication, a talent for showmanship.

"School of Hard Knocks", "Autoblast", "Hold on to 18" and other numbers from the album deliver a tight and talented package that will give groups like Ratt their first real competition in the new band field. In a period when every new act presents all the excitement of the latest episode of Video Hits, Black 'N Blue stands out as a pleasant surprise.

Black 'N Blue

**High Points**  
 "Wicked Bitch"  
 "Chains Around Heaven"  
 "Action"  
 "Autoblast"  
**Low Points**  
 "The Strong Will Rock"  
 "i'm The King"  
 Dieter Dierks production isn't all that wonderful



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