

## Haywire



Glen Boswell

Haywire have been kicking around the band business for four years. All of its members were in bands before that, so it may occur to you that it's about time the lads got on their way up the ladder to success. Well it just so happens that things are beginning to look up for this Island-based quintet. Several months ago, the band put out an E.P. that's been doing just fine thank you very much; and just prior to their performance at the Student Union Barn, they picked up top honors (to the tune of ten thousand bucks) at Labatt's Battle of the Bands contest. The whole band looked rather worn when I spoke to them after the show at the Barn.

Paul MacAusland, lead vocalist explained that their condition resulted from a little to much partying — all on Labatt's tab.

The Barn, of course, was packed and the band put on a good

show. There were a few mistakes here and there but these can be forgiven allowing for the condition of the bandmembers.

The members of Haywire have become the favorite sons of the Island music industry. From their shaky beginnings, they have emerged as probably the dominant band on the Maritime music scene. David Rashed, guitarist/keyboardist and spokesman for the group, says that no matter where they wind up, Haywire will always return to the Island to play because it is here that they got their start.

Success has had its price. Marvin Burt says that he wishes he had a dollar for every time someone said they had a song for Haywire to perform. Everyone seems to want to be their best friend and the letters and telegrams pour in from people they barely remember meeting. Still, the members do not take on a

snobbish attitude. True, life on the road has changed them somewhat, but they still take the time to talk to everyone who comes their way and ne'er a condescending word is spoken to you. At least when you are in their presence. I can't vouch for what they say when no one is around.

The band has become almost too good at covering the tunes of others. The songs take on almost a record-like quality, losing some of the live feel. Perhaps it is just as well that they are now expanding their own line-up of originals. "Bad Boy" did well on local radio and David predicts that the group will have an album out within the year. Asked who carries the creative load, he replied that the writing is done by everyone in the band. "We have a small four track recorder and if someone has an idea, he hashes it out on tape and then lets everyone else work on it."

Haywire are soon to take a three month break from touring. The break, says David, "is just what the band needs." He says that they will likely do some rehearsing and writing during that time and then head out west for another tour.

Before all this occurs, however, Haywire will open for Paul Young in concert at the Halifax Metro center. "It's great," says Paul with childish glee, "I'm going to get him to autograph my shirt and everything!" Perhaps it won't be long before the band is headlining their own shows at the center. Fame can't stay out of reach forever when you try as hard as this band has. They do, however, remember who supported them from the start. When I asked David if I wind up this article by saying that Haywire love playing the Island, he replied simply, "We do."

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