

Del Fuegos provide exciting, fun rock 'n' roll

Whatever else rock 'n' roll has meant to people over the years, one of its most important aspects has always been conveying a sense of fun. The Del Fuegos, a young band from Boston, showed a large Cat's Cradle crowd Wednesday that, even in 1985, technical virtuosity and intellectualism pale in comparison to good, fun rock 'n' roll.

"We're from up north," bassist Tom Lloyd announced, holding up a bottle of Molson's, "just like this beer." With a combination of stupid, campy humor, an energetic stage show, and fun, exciting rock 'n' roll, the Del Fuegos provided a joyous night out for their new Cradle fans.

Boss gives 'no frills' concert

By ELIZABETH HUTH
Staff Writer

For people who camped out in the cold night air of December during exam week for Bruce Springsteen tickets, your wait is over. "The Boss" is here. Some should feel it was worth the price to pay \$20 to \$90 for scalped tickets.

Springsteen's show at Charlotte Coliseum Wednesday night was worth whatever amount it took to get into the concert.

Having no opening band, Springsteen and The E Street Band had the crowd on its feet from the very start with "Born in the USA," "Badlands" and "Darlington County."

Springsteen is a very personal and emotional performer. It showed when he was down on his knees playing the harmonica in "Darkness on the Edge of Town" or foot stomping and dancing on top of the piano during "Promise Land."

Bruce has an honest approach to concerts. No frills, fancy flashing lights or wild costumes. He wore tee shirt, blue jean jacket, jeans and a bandana around his head.

Eddie Huffman

Review

The Fuegos are basically a white R & B band, in the sense that the Animals and early Stones were white R & B bands. This means they display a real love for American soul and country roots but find that simple, straightforward rock 'n' roll is the best medium for their expression.

("We've got our Celtics, you've got your

Tar Heels") to the fact that Wednesday was Giessmann's birthday. Lloyd made constant pleas to the crowd for free beer for Woody and the rest of the band.

Both Zanases leapt around the stage all night. Warren threw in Pete Townshend-style splits-a-plenty, while Dan twitched around like a cartoon Elvis. Before "Nannin," Lloyd stepped up to the microphone for an announcement. "This number here we consider to be our 'beer dance' song," he announced. "So grab a beer from the bar and dance with it." The group proceeded to grab beers and dance around stage with them to Giessmann's drumbeat.

The only real fault in the band's music was a certain sameness to the material. There were some great covers, including Wilson Pickett's "In the Midnight Hour" and Brenda Lee's "Sweet Nothings," but the band's originals weren't up to that level of distinction. As young as the band is, however, improvement is certain to come.

The stage show was fantastic. The Triangle hasn't had this much fun with rock 'n' roll since Rick Rock's historic shows two years ago.

To a chorus of "ooohs" in an instrumental break in the song, Warren Zanes took the microphone for a Springsteen-style Christmas story. He talked of loneliness at Christmas and made a point about rock 'n' roll, but the band kicked back in so hard at the end that the moral to his story was lost. No one seemed to mind.

Near the end of the show, the band

took an opportunity for choreographed dancing during a drum solo. The Zanases and Lloyd danced back and forth across the stage with all three guitars in sync. At the end of the song, the trio leapt in the air at the same time for a hopelessly cliched and hilarious ending to the song.

The band's humor was always campy and usually downright stupid, but it didn't matter. They were funny anyway. Most of the funny stuff was obviously tongue-in-cheek, but they never let on that they knew. Everything was presented honestly enough, and good rock 'n' roll always backed it up. Their attitude was perfect.

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