Local rock 'n' roll bands benefit WTBS

By Jon von Zelowitz


A full spectrum of the Boston rock scene lit up the stage of the Space last Sunday night as WTBS held its second benefit concert. Three eminent local bands played to a packed house, with the door profits aiding MIT's radio station in its fight to buy a Government-mandated 200 watt transmitter.

The shows started with the Unnatural Axe, whose music was an exciting to watch as it was to hear. In the classic punk style, members of the band would dive off the stage into (or onto) the audience during songs, often rolling around on the floor a bit before climbing back on stage. A taken quantitv of beer was spat onto the audience, and during one song, lead vocalist Rich Parsons went through the motions of hanging himself with his microphone cord, always reviving when the time came to sing the next verse.

The Axe opened with "Hitler's Brain," from their locally pressed E.P. They continued with a very energetic hour-long set, which included the unusual apt "Three Chord Rock." Returning for an encore to a properly derisive audience, they played the Iggy Pop song "I Want to be Your Dog."

The next group on stage was an un-scheduled surprise. Two women got on stage and were introduced as The Roommates. They soon delighted the audience with their unaccompanied original songs, most of which seemed to deal with sexual themes. This was their second time on stage; judging from their enthusiastic reception it was far from their last.

The Roommates were followed by Human Sexual Response, their tapes are making the rounds of local radio stations. It has received substantial airplay on a number of local radio stations.

With four vocalists, the Humans provide a very refined sound, aided by the outstanding guitar work of Rich Gilbert. Some of my favorites in the set were the erie "Anne Frank," "One through Ten," and "Beauty Brigade."

The band blew through a tremendous draw in the Boston area, and lastly with the release of a single, they have been expanding their territory. Like the Humans, their tapes are making the rounds of local radio stations.

Stop by and say hello to the nightliners

nightline is holding an open-house

TODAY
MARCH 2
3:00 - 6:00 pm

Stop by and say hello to the nightliners

munchies for all!
Drop in or call us any night

7pm - 7am

This was the first WTBS benefit held at The Space, a newly opened club which can be best described as a rock disco — without the bad connotations of that evil word. About 250 people were packed in, netting over $650 for WTBS. The next benefit will be held at The Rat, another downtown club, in mid-March. It will feature about ten local bands.