

Nov. 13-19, 1975

NORTHEASTERN OHIO

Vol. 6, No. 45



HELLO PEOPLE;
nice guys making it
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**RUSH, TED NUGENT, AND
FUL DODGER**

Allen Theatre

November 8

Anyone who missed Archi Dodger's full-on opening Cleveland debut lost their chance to witness the headliners of tomorrow. This brand new, five-year group from Washington D.C., belated more like veterans, a fact their crisp stage presentation attested to. A refreshing tribute to rock-n-roll (as opposed to the "let's jam 'til sunrise" brigade), Archi Dodger's new unknown, but soon-to-be-familiar, song list had that decidedly soulful, yet uniquely personal, focus.

"It's Over," "Wayzide" and "Yellow Ice" were delivered most capably by one of the best new vocalists around, Billy

Palucci, like, along with Gary Burrows (lead guitar) and Gary Cox (bass). The three Dodger components, beyond a tight rock core that matched well with Steve Cooper's bass and the drums of Steve Briggs, both of whom were not necessarily fiery, but just simply good and to the point.

Ted Nugent, the wild man of rock due to his culinary habits and general all-around "demoniac" disposition, displayed the third facet of his "reg"—the Nugent guitar. His style of playing—technically brilliant—perfectly suited songs such as "Steered Straight," and "Just What the Doctor Ordered."

And the songs themselves perfectly reflected the man's character. Derek N. Holmes, a talented accompanist both vocally and on guitar, heard mission, but was

unfortunately overshadowed by the overpowering persona of Nugent. His presence was, nonetheless, a big factor in a fine performance.

What made Nugent stand out as a guitarist was the complete absence of obvious like fast tones and wah wabs. The resulting lead-free product proved that there's no room for gimmicky when talent abounds. Nugent has the talent—enough of it to be called one of America's top guitarists.

Rush, the extremely heavy metal headlining act, gave their usual Cleveland following exactly what they deserved. Tying with Blue Oyster Cult and Blue Cheer for the all-time double champion-ship, Rush showed their uniqueness by not naming themselves Blue Rush, but they did give a good performance—when compared with their other performances—delighting their fans with material from their latest album, *CARBON (AT 1000)*.

However, though initially an attention grabber (how could you miss "sm"), the monotony of Rush's material did tend to grate on the nerves. And that's a shame because there was some good musicianship going to waste up there on stage. A little more diversity in material, a little less on the volume, and Rush could have been quite interesting. As it was, they were pretty boring.

Raj Bahadur