Rush Wears Crown, But It's Old Hat

By Jack Willey

When it comes to granite-edged, gut-wrenching guitar bands, there are few pretenders to the crown worn by Rush. True, the Canadian power trio may not own a black suit made of bulletproof material, but they are able to lay the foundation or get the mileage out of heavy metal power-rocking in a genre dominated by Alex Lifeson and Geddy Lee.

AND IN CAYUGA, not about a head哥 guitar bands as this, it was no surprise when Rush sold out two shows on the last night at Veterans Memorial Auditorium. Tuesday's opening night hailed the band's triumphant return. The band had a strong performance. Rush's blend of rock and roll and folk music is compelling to the listener.

Unfortunately, there is little that is new about the band's concert show. The setlist remains much the same as the previous tour, with no new material. The band's energy and personality continue to be highlights of the show.

The Blinding Back lights still illuminate and Lifeson on the 2112 recording, probably the finest piece of work that the band has produced. And those brilliant lights at the sides of the stage light up the entire audience during the encore.

But gone are the elaborate backgrounds of the album covers. And there is no stage dressing for the heavy rock Cerrito. The listener is left to enjoy the music as it is.

Rush is relying solely on its music to convey the show. No frills, no excessive lighting tricks, no theatrics... just get down and roll and roll it at the very bottom of the guitar engine.

FROM THIS corner, it is a shame that Rush has not been included more in the new LP, Farewell To Kings, in the show. The hit single, Closer To The Heart, was a hit in its day, but for the most part, the album gets short-sheeted in the show.

Instead, Rush relies on their proven success. The hits from the first four albums that helped build their following from the ticket-grabbing cult that makes for sell-out shows wherever Rush plays.

Fly By Night, Byrds and Working Man... they're all here with the same energy, the same passion, the same style.

Just how long Rush can continue to measure the pulse of its concert following is anyone's guess.

But until Lifeson and Peart miss a beat, there's nobody like 'em!

The Goodbye Girl

HOLLYWOOD: (UPI) - Walt Disney Studios and NBC-TV, will celebrate Bob Newhart's 50th birthday next week with a 39-minute television salute to the rodent who established a cartoon empire.

Mickey, who made his screen debut in the 1928 short Steamboat Willie, is the star of the show. It will be simultaneously broadcast in the United States and Europe with children of many nations singing The World's Favorite Tune, You Wished Me Happy Birthday, Mickey.

Keyboard Artist Is Selected

MAICON, Ga. - Per-

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Readers of the International weekly talent magazine, have named keyboard artist Chuck Levell most promising new instrumentalist at a review of seventh annual reader's poll.

Levell currently holds the good of both rock piano making his debut as producer with Duke Jopson, a band that records for Mercury Records.

Record Firm Sets Release

NEW YORK - London Records plans a release in mid-January of a "partition spectacular" album featuring music from Star Wars and Close Encounters of the Third Kind. John Wehle conducts the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra.

Downtown

Southern St. E. Maine St. - When We're Up/Ep-R. Maloney Lane show Saturday.

Neighborhood

Camden North 4536 N. High St. - Live and Death Rock 'n' Roll Saturday. All Profit (PG) Maloney Lane.

Norwood East 3200 Bur Oak Rd. - The Gretsch (PG) Maloney Lane.

Carnegie East 3600 Tabor Rd. - Saturday Night Fever (PG) Maloney Lane.

Carnegie East 4175 E. Broadway St. - World's Greatest Lovers, T. Maloney Lane Saturday.

Carnegie North 1 2100 Morse Rd. - The Grapes (PG) Maloney Lane.

Carnegie North 2 2300 Morse Rd. - No Name (PG) Maloney Lane.

Carnegie North 3 2500 Morse Rd. - The Norths (PG) Maloney Lane.

Carnegie North 4 2700 Morse Rd. - The Norths (PG) Maloney Lane.

Carnegie North 5 2900 Morse Rd. - The Norths (PG) Maloney Lane.

Downtown

Southern St. E. Main St. - When We're Up/Ep-R. Maloney Lane show Saturday.

Drive-In

CCH 1 2200 Willow Rd. - The Truckers (PG) Maloney Lane Tuesday.

CCH 2 2400 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Tuesday.

CCH 3 2600 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Wednesday.

CCH 4 2800 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Thursday.

CCH 5 3000 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Friday.

CCH 6 3200 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Saturday.

CCH 7 3400 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Sunday.

CCH 8 3600 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Monday.

CCH 9 3800 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Tuesday.

CCH 10 4000 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Wednesday.

CCH 11 4200 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Thursday.

CCH 12 4400 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Friday.

CCH 13 4600 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Saturday.

CCH 14 4800 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Sunday.

CCH 15 5000 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Monday.

CCH 16 5200 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Tuesday.

CCH 17 5400 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Wednesday.

CCH 18 5600 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Thursday.

CCH 19 5800 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Friday.

CCH 20 6000 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Saturday.

CCH 21 6200 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Sunday.

CCH 22 6400 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Monday.

CCH 23 6600 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Tuesday.

CCH 24 6800 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Wednesday.

CCH 25 7000 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Thursday.

CCH 26 7200 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Friday.

CCH 27 7400 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Saturday.

CCH 28 7600 Willow Rd. - The Lonesome (PG) Maloney Lane Sunday.