

it all in the head now, I could honestly say "I've had my fun." What started out in the seedy Busin' Club three and a half years ago as a bit of a lark has changed my whole life. I wouldn't say that I'm any more special than thousands of struggling writers, it's just that I've had a little luck and a wonderful lady by my side - until we meet again..

BOLTON! Cheers for everything, sometimes a bitch, sometimes ecstatic - but always fun!

Ta!

Rivington Spyke. Oct'82.

Here & Now A Pencil WESTHOUGHTON SPORTS CENTRE ALPHA, BETA, GAMMA, ETC....

After much confusion over the date and whereabouts of this concert (possible venues had been Silverwell Street and St. James' Parochial Hall), a large crowd turned up in Westhoughton to see the latest in a series of A Pencil/Here & Now gigs. In evidence was a bar and a disco which started off playing AC/DC and the like and then moved onto Soft Cell although there was little room for dancing anyway.

At around 9.30, the Pencils appeared on stage although much of the audience remained seated on the floor. However, the lack of dancing space failed to deter a few loyal fans from showing their appreciation by getting up and dancing on the spot where they had been sitting. Doubtless more space would have led to more dancing. Anyway, Pencil played an excellent set yet again, opening with "Monopoly" and playing, amongst others, classics such as "Tell Me", "Happy As An Android", "The Advertiser" and "Future Shock", although they missed out "Stranger in my House", one of their best in my opinion. There was also some nice lighting effects when all the stage lights went out leaving a solitary dancer with torches shooting beams of light all over the room - very effective.

Here & Now came on soon afterwards and played a faultless set with a mixture of songs including a couple of tracks from their new album "Fantasy Shift" (available from E.P. Lees). They had a new drummer on this tour who fitted in very well and sounded like

he had been with the band for years, as he seemed well acquainted with the songs. The set finished with the immortal "Opium for the People", with people having to be removed from the stage. The band went off to a resounding applause and were called back to play "Stone Innocent Frankenstein", while the roadies and a couple of Pencils joined in on vocals.

Needless to say, the crowd went home happy.

WOLFPACK BRITISH AEROSPACE, LOSTOCK

Not a bad gig this. Although the band seemed a little stiff and somewhat jerky at the beginning, they improved to play a good second half and an excellent finish. Some nice stereo mixing was in evidence, especially during "Fire Below" and they seem to have some good ideas for their stage show although Tom seemed to get somewhat carried away with the smoke machine and almost choked half the audience. It was notable during "Caroline" that there was a feeling of great energy radiating from the band and if they work on this, they could find it greatly to their advantage. However, work is still needed on some of their songs but if they manage to play a whole set in the manner they played the latter part of this one, they shouldn't have too many problems in the future. 1982



GRAHAM

