

The Seattle Sun's Magazine of Music and Amusements

KZOK

SOUND CHECK
CALENDAR
INSIDE
FREE

Seattle Jazz/Heath Brothers/New Blondie

the **Rocket**

NOVEMBER 1979/FREE

THE CLASH

Shock Troops for
The Guitar Army



**N.W.
RECORDS**

Consumer's Guide to
Homegrown Music

**SWEET
HONEY**

Acapella Songbirds
From Washington D.C.



THE CLASH

By Robert Ferrigno and Steven Bialer

A true punk digs rock 'n' roll whatever kind it is — Joe Strummer

is not heard so much as felt tickling the inner ear like a rusty nail.

**White riot I wanna riot
White riot a riot of my own**

Guitarist/songwriter Joe Strummer is twisted against the mike, the muscles in his throat bulging out the veins as he roars.

**All of the power is in the hands
Of the people rich enough to buy it
While we walk the street
Too chicken to even try it
White riot I wanna riot
White riot a riot of my own**

Bassplayer Paul Simonon, dressed in tight leather pants and a white shirt, plays an effective bottom with drummer Nicky "Topper" Headon providing a driving rhythm. A final crashing chord and Headon throws his sticks out into the crowd. The crowd, on its feet the whole time, explodes.

well-wishers who had somehow made it backstage moved around them, mumbling compliments and questions.

The Rebels, an L.A. rockabilly band that had opened for The Clash all along the coast stood in the center of the room

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**SHOCK
TROOPS FOR
THE
GUITAR
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room. Gallagher played keyboard on the last Clash album and had joined the band for the last half of their American tour.

Like the other Clash members, Strummer is gaunt and raw looking. They appear on stage like four surly sharecroppers, gangly arms, whitewalls around their ears and protruding ribcages. Bassist Simonon has a black space between his front teeth you can drive a '57 Chevy through.

Strummer speaks with a noticeable British accent quietly and with obvious intelligence, far different from the "suicidal-rebellion" image caricatured recently in the Dick Tracy comic strip and the generally sensationalistic coverage afforded the new wave scene in the American press.

"They're narrow-minded assholes, one's that can't dig rock in all it's for those are the posers. That's how you pose from a true punk. It's posing say it stinks 'cause they haven't

BRANDY HALL

