

Following Hemlock was Idea of North/Idee du Nord, a bilingual college-rock band out of Moncton. They were different. That about sums it up. Check out their album.

Next, Scott Parsons of Charlottetown brought a mellower tone to the stage. Island-reggae beat songs, and a composition called "The Constitution Song" made up Parson's repertoire. His band was energetic, and the fun was infectious.

Black Pool is a band from Halifax that had a really bad day. At 8:00 Friday evening, they left Halifax, but half the band and all of their sound system got lost looking for the ferry to PEI, and wound up having to spend the night in a bar in Stellarton, N.S.. By Saturday night, however, all the segments had come together, and do I mean together! This band played a fresh style of rock, and also included in their set a couple of fiddle songs with a thrash backbeat. It's hard to describe, but it sounded fantastic. The band can be seen on this issue's cover, and includes, from left to right: John Wesley (lead vocals), Matt Murphy (guitar), David Marsh (drums), Tim Brennan (bass), and Catherine McKinnon (fiddle), and a photogenic crowd they are.

Finally, Summerside's own Kickstart played the rousing finale to the evening. They played some of their own material, and covered tunes by April Wine, Led Zeppelin, and the Cult.

Sunday morning, the conference continued at a quieter pace as the delegates recovered from the previous night's activities. The NCRA conference wrapped up for another year later in the afternoon.

Congratulations are in order for the staff at the Barr. for making things run smoothly, to the ten bands for bringing their music to the Island, and to Todd King and Matthew Hanus at CIMN for putting this conference and showcase together.

