

8-hour benefit concert offered

By Nick Charles
special writer

hours of top-notch local entertainment and give to a great cause all at the same time?

You can be part of the Muscular Dys-

trophy Benefit from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday at the Wagon Wheel Saloon, 2950 Rochester Road, Troy.

I've always wanted to do something like this," said Wagon Wheel manager Paul VanGamer. "If it's successful, it will become an annual affair. Since it's the first one we've done, we haven't set any goal."

The benefit concert will feature six bands headlined by pop rockers Radio City. Jazz flutist Alexander Zonjic from Windsor will open the show at 6:15 p.m. Zonjic has been backed by the Detroit Symphony, as well as had his own special on Canadian television. The talented flutist also is involved in the Montreux Detroit International Jazz Festival.

Zonjic will be followed by The Rick Hall Band at 7:30 p.m. playing middle-of-the-road rock and roll spiced up with a few originals.

Birmingham's own Doug Brown and the Ones will be in the spotlight at 8:45 p.m. Brown will play songs from his album, "Say You Will," which includes the hit "Give It to the One You Love."

AUTOMATIX, "one of the hottest bands in the city," according to VanGamer, will strut it's stuff at 10 p.m. Automatix is led by female vocalist Sean Murphy, who is known for working with Bob Seger. Automatix also contains the ex-leader guitarist from Brownsville Station.

The band will play some contemporary rock, along with old Motown, and some originals as well.

Bobby Lewis and the Crackerjack Band will come out at 11:15 p.m. to play everything from dueling banjos to Frank Zappa.

At 12:30 p.m. the catchy sound of Radio City will be the cherry on top of a great evening. Radio City is vocalist and rhythm guitarist Dick Coulson, guitarist Garrett Bryan, bassist Dan Logan, drummer Joe Resnick and keyboard whiz Art Joseph.

"This is the first benefit we've ever played," Coulson said. "It seems like a good cause and I think we'll have a lot of fun."

Radio City has caused a lot of interest locally and now the band is pushing for national recognition.

"We will be recording an album this October," Coulson said. "New Yorker Rod O'Brien, who has worked with John Lennon, Bowie and The Taking Heads, will be producing it. There are record companies right now who are interested in us, so we hope an album will be available to the public by at least next spring."

"The album will probably contain 'Telephone Ring,' 'Rock the Nation' and 'Meet Me at the Door,' which is about The Who concert tragedy."

The benefit also may have some surprise celebrity bartenders. Admission will be \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door.



Doug Brown (above) and the Ones, a Birmingham band, will perform at the benefit for muscular dystrophy.



Dick Coulson is vocalist/rhythm guitarist with Radio City, pop rock group headlining the show on Sunday at the Wagon Wheel.

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