



RUM RUNNER FACES BULLDOZER

*BRUM BEAT
MARCH '86* by Neil Jeffries

Before closing in early 1984, the club's main claim to fame was that it was the breeding ground of Duran Duran, who used rooms at the club for rehearsal courtesy of their management - The Berrows Brothers - who owned The Rum Runner.

City Durannies are none too pleased at the proposed demolition and have littered the inside of the club with anguished pleas to the lads to save their old haunt. Graffiti outside the club read: 'So you bastards gonna knock off Broad Street are you? Well you can't.'

Friday nights were always the main event at the Rum Runner, when it could be transformed into the Cage, hosting Camden Palace DJ Eddie Richards as well as a distinctly unusual collection of videos.

RAID

One rumour has it that the club closed after a police raid revealed non-members being illegally admitted. Another says it was due to lack of interest, but as the song says 'If the fire burns out, there's only fire to blame' (Hold Back the Rain), or should that be there's only five to blame?

Durannies 'Save a Prayer' for the Rum Runner before it becomes a pile of rubble.

THE RUM RUNNER Club, once the home of Birmingham's Avant-garde set, is shortly to be flattened to make way for a new 'much needed' 350 room hotel and casino.