

## PRESS RELEASE

(pictures available upon request)

PORTLAND -- Southern Maine music fans have only one more opportunity to take in a performance by one of Portland's least-heard and most interesting bands, The Boarders.

The trio's final appearance is July 13 at the Free Street Taverna, 128 Free St.

The decision by the Boarders' drummer, Jonathan Nichols-Pethick, to attend graduate school in a remote region of the Midwest occasions the demise of the Boarders.

The band made its tiny mark in the annals of Maine rock music with emotional edginess, sophisticated original songs and unexpected cover material. In particular, Maine fans of poet-songwriter Leonard Cohen will regret the end of the Boarders.

The remaining members, Doug Hubley (guitar, vocals, accordion) and Gretchen Schaefer (bass), will continue to perform, but it is unknown what name or format they will use.

"We still like the name 'The Boarders,' " said Hubley.

"But we decided we had to change it after learning of some big store in South Portland that has a similar name. People keep coming to our gigs expecting espresso service and a wide selection of periodicals."

Hubley added, "Whatever music we make will probably resemble the Boarders', because that's all we know how to do. But Jon's contribution has been so definitive that we think it's fair to retire the number, so to speak.

"He's a remarkably talented guy and we will miss him."

The Boarders' history goes back to the early '80s alternative scene in Portland and the band the Fashion Jungle. The members of the Boarders were part of the Cowlix until mid-1994; "the Cowlix" originated as the Fashion Jungle's attempt to alleviate boredom by opening for itself under a different name and playing all country music.