

# Noise about Noise

## Louts of Distain Distain Distain

After listening to the first side of this tape I was going to start my review with "Unfortunately, the rumours of Everlast's death prove to be false" and give Same as it Ever Was a 0/10. Why? Because side one is complete crap. Side two is trash as well, but I was in a more generous mood when I listened to it. This rap is not clever, intelligent, funny or well-delivered. The only reason that they get a 1/10 is because "DJ Lethal" gets some decent grooves going occasionally. There are also one or two good rhymes.

House of Pain  
Same as it Ever Was  
Attic  
1/10

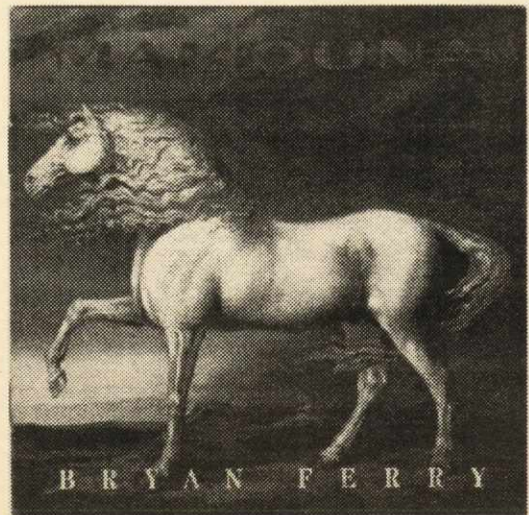
The image put across (again) by House of Pain is one of three Irish supremacist, violent, posturing, sexist, self-aggrandizing louts. They pack their 9s, they'll beat you up and "get your girl squealin"...uh huh... It is amazing that it takes more than one person to write this tired drivel. However, to review this stuff through some sort of PC filter misses the boat entirely. Most street rap is violent, sexist and self-centred at times. But with House of Pain it is constant, contrived, tired, and fake.

## Ferry, ferry boring

This will be a very short review because I don't want to flaunt my ignorance of Bryan Ferry's career. What I do know about him is that Avalon by Roxy Music is a superb album and his solo stuff is hit or miss.

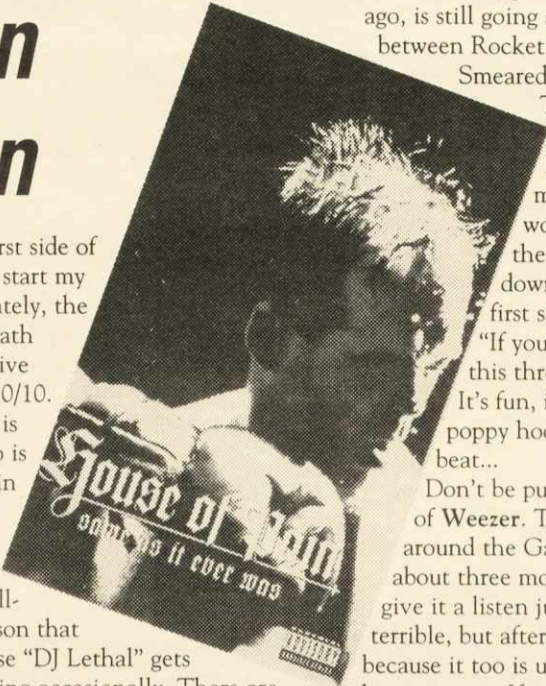
Bryan Ferry, almost all of the time, surrounds himself with lush instrumentation to fit his velvety smooth vocals. The song "Slave to Love" comes to mind as one of the times these two elements

came together perfectly. On *Mamouna*, however, the music fails at being seductive and Ferry's vocals are suave, but dull. There is nothing on this album that comes close to the brilliance of "Slave to Love". The homogenous songs just come and go without grabbing you.



## Wailing Weezers

Weezer is one of the best poppy-punk-grunge bands/albums to come along in recent memory. This musical form, perfected by the Ramones about 20 years ago, is still going strong. Weezer's album is like a cross between Rocket to Russia and a crunchier version of *Smeared*, by Sloan.



This album is unassuming and that is what makes it truly great. With lyrics like "I got electric guitar, I play my stupid songs, I write these stupid words and I love every one" from "In the Garage", the album isn't weighed down. Another classic lyric is from the first single, "Undone - The Sweater Song": "If you want to destroy my sweater...hold this thread as I walk away".

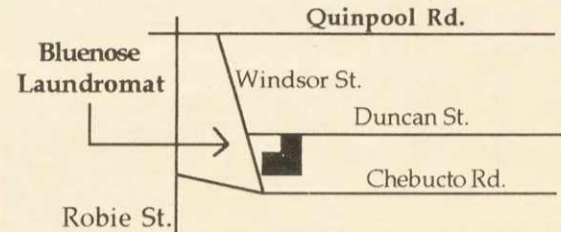
It's fun, it has loads of great poppy hooks, it's got a steady beat... Don't be put off by the cover of Weezer. The poor tape sat around the Gazette office for about three months until I finally decided that I'd give it a listen just for the heck of it. The cover is terrible, but after listening to their album it fits because it too is unassuming, and has a sense of humour to it. If you haven't seen it, the cover is a photo of the band standing against a blue background with the word "weezer" in the corner. It is a cover that jokingly says "we suck". Don't be fooled.

Weezer  
Weezer  
DGC  
9/10

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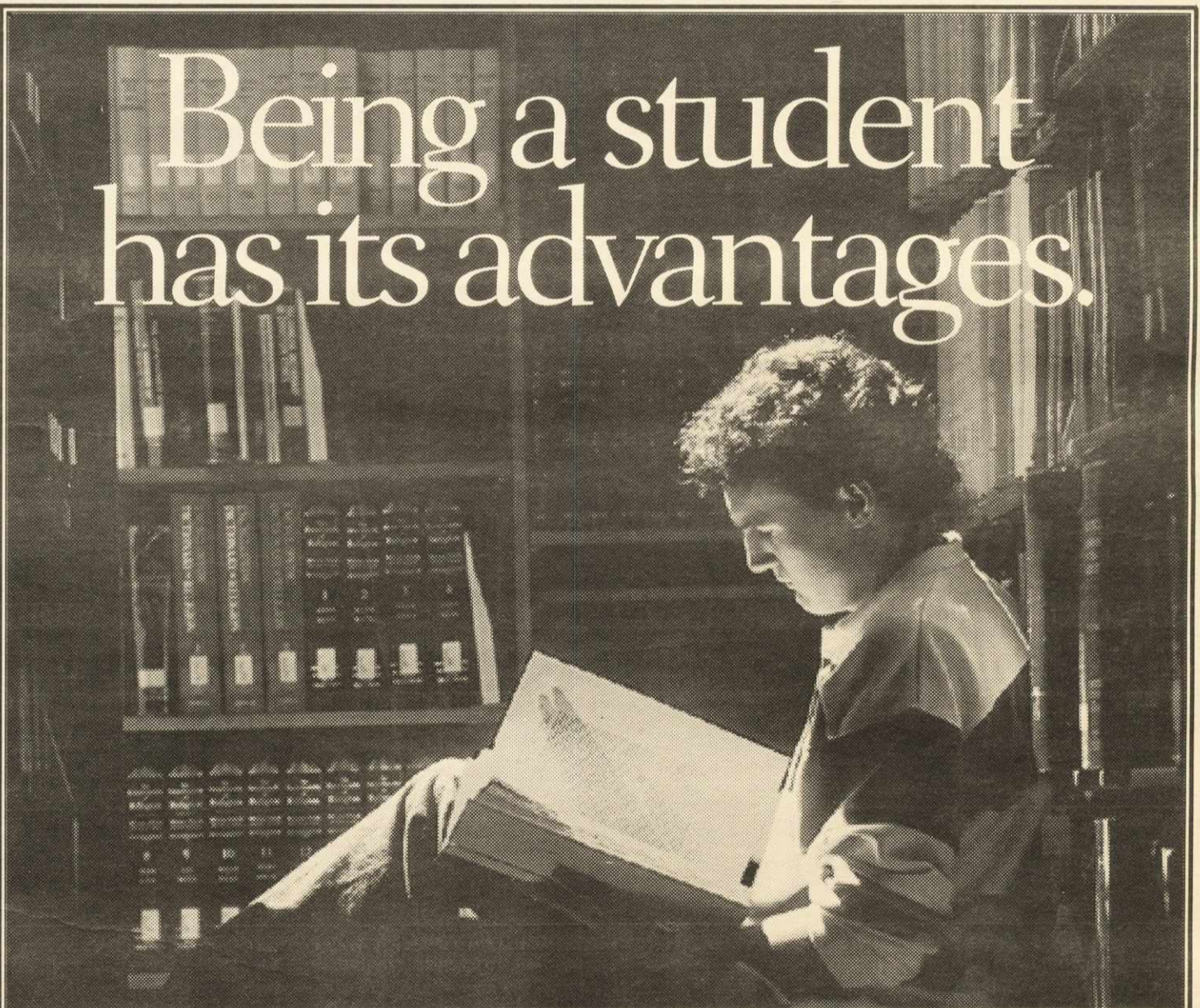
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