## Martell Sounds Off Again

Review

Johnnie Lovesin; "Tough Breaks" 1986 A & M Records

Ah, the Entertainment section of the Bruns. Where else can you read about the accomplishments of the lovely, the handsome, the talented... oh, but enough about me, folks

Yet Another Tim Martell - let's take a look at the latest victim of my pen.

Mr. Johnnie Lovesin, will you please take the stand? I remind you sir, that you are still under oath. Now, I ask you, is Johnnie Lovesin actually your real name? Friends, is it possible for anyone to criticize an album by somebody with a name as "cute" as this?

Is it possible? Watch me. If variety is the spice of life, then "Though Breaks" is the garlic of the music world. The biggest problem with this album - Lovesin's follow-up to a 1983 mini-album entitled "Rough Side of Town" - is the large... nay, humongous change in style from one song to the next. For instance, in an excellent rendition of "Voices", Lovesin employs a sound

similar to that of a band like

Haywire. In the next song

("She's a Woman Tonight") however, Lovesin becomes a Canadian (he hails from downtown Toronto) form of Air Supply. And to top it all off; his tune, "If You're Gonna Love Somebody" has Lovesin sounding for all the world like George Throrogood. Honest.

Now, class, if you've been paying attention (you there in the back row! Wake up!), you'll realize that I've been saying Johnnie Lovesin "sounds like" a lot of people. Well, to tell the truth, he sounds like anybody BUT good old J.L. Hence, problem number two. The music on this collection of finely-crafted tunes is, for the most part, good. However, it lacks an original sound. For me, this causes poor old John to blend into the background and escape my notice.

Something I did notice however, is Lovesin's dedication of "Tough Breaks" to the women's liberation movement. Problem number three. Friends, there's one conservative belief that I adhere to, and that is my fear of female domination, which is not to say that I'm for male domination (there has to be a middle of the road, know what I mean?). But that's another kettle of fish. Sorry Johnnie.

To sum up, I'd have to say that "Tough Breaks" is a shallow attempt at cracking the top-forty line-up, with tunes that may catch some attention, but some will be the limit. A closing message to Johnnie Lovesin and the Grand Slam Band (the group of session musicians J.L. records with)... "Tough Breaks guys.

Live at the Woodshed

By MARGARET TONER-GASTON

Last weekend, the Whoodshed offered two shows, and Friday night turned out to be a happy choice. The performers were Peter Girouard, Bruce Devlin, and Troy Cloney, all of whom are St. Thomas University students, and Devlin and Cloney are members of Theatre St. Thomas.

The Girouard-Devlin-Cloney trio performed a selection of tunes dating from 1960 to the present, as well as some of their own work. Although

sometimes fraught with error, their work had so much enthusiasm and sheer tunefulness about it that it could make anyone forget impending homework deadlines. The trio performed, among others, covers of "Mrs Robinson" (Simon & Garfunkel), "Leroy Brown" (Jim Croce), "Lonely Sky" (Chris de Burgh), "I'm a Bliever" (The Monkees), and Jerry's special favourite, "Runaround Sue", (The Beach Boys). The best example of the group's own work was titled

"Cry for the Person You Aren't", the lyrics of which were both thoughtful and thought provoking.

A large part of the crowd were fans and friends of the group from St. Thomas, but there were no complaints about the lively music of Girouard, Devlin, and Cloney. About their future, Cloney said, "We'd like to become professional... We could start in local piano bars and see where it goes from there."

The election for Entertainment Editor will be held on Friday, November 21 at 12:30 pm in Rm. 35 of the SUB. All interested parties are urged to attend.

SUBTOWNE PRESENTS

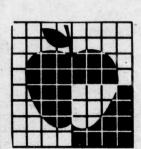


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