

Entertainment

Melodic and danceable music

Seventeen Seconds are trying to rise above

by Susan Atkins and Rosa Jackson

the interview

It is not merely a flashy image, but rather an unpretentious fun-loving approach to music (and to life) which separates *Seventeen Seconds* from the other young progressive bands that have been emerging in Edmonton over the past few years.

But unlike a number of modern musicians, the members of *Seventeen Seconds* do not wish to drive their listeners to depression or for that matter suicide. "Our songs are melodic and danceable," said bass player Craig Beakhouse.

For two years now, Mike Comrie, Bill Marples and Beakhouse have been writing the band's original pieces, described by Comrie as being "personal and in no way cliched". The final products are a team effort though, he said. "We collaborate with Debbie Dauenhauer, our Keyboard player, and our drummer Dan Secker on the arrangements."

Although the band is impressed by the quality of Edmonton's music scene, its members are not content to measure themselves against other local musicians. "When you can flick on your TV and see David Bowie, or Mick Jagger, or Sting constantly, in reality you are competing with those artists because people don't have to come and see you live, they can sit in a bar and watch MTV all night," said Comrie. "Our live show has to improve with every performance."

Their awareness of technology's effect on music goes further. With the use of a drum machine, Secker is able to produce the depth and complexity in sound of five drummers. Yet the band is anxious not to be overrun by fads in music. "We want our personalities to show through our songs", said Dauenhauer.

Along the same line, the band is concerned with image. "We like to dress up well", said Beakhouse. "It separates our everyday working selves from our performing selves."

Their appearance onstage, however, is reflective of the people inside. "That's how we would dress all the time if we had the money," said Comrie. "But knowing that I



Seventeen Seconds in action last Friday at Dinwoodie Lounge: "Our dreams have never been as real as they are now."

look good makes it a lot easier for me to go on stage. I feel confident about myself."

Attracting the campus audience is only

one part of the band's determined plan for success. "Soon we will be cutting a record, which should be another step towards our eventual goal: international recognition," said Comrie.

This is a big order for one of many bands from the overlooked city of Edmonton. Yet "our dreams have never been as real as they are now," said Comrie.

the review

The show put on by *Seventeen Seconds* Friday night at Dinwoodie Cabaret was obviously enjoyed by the throngs of students who attended it.

The band's first set brought most of the

audience onto the dance floor. The crowd responded as well to the originals as they did to popular cover tunes such as "Where Do the Boys Go" by Men Without Hats and Tears for Fears' "Shout," a difficult song to perform. *Seventeen Seconds* own song "Just Another Day" seemed to stand out as a crowd favorite.

A party atmosphere was upheld throughout most of the evening, faltering only towards the end of the night. The band's last set was not quite as lively as its previous two, but all in all *Seventeen Seconds* stood up well to their first headliner at Dinwoodie this year.

Facts about Lou Reed

by Don Teplysk

Congratulations to Lee Ringham. He is last week's winner of Musical Pursuit. He receives a five dollar record token from Auracle Records. (10808-82 Ave.)

An apology must go out to all Continual Pursuers as I misguided you in my last column. The clue should have read:

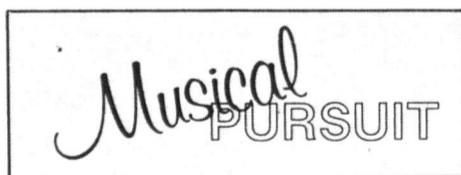
Clue #1 — Son of a Jamaican soccer player, this singer wrote detective stories as a teenager.

The singer in question is not from Jamaica, but is from Chicago.

On with Musical Pursuit. Lou Reed is the feature artist this week, so five questions are devoted to the man who "walked on the wild side." And clue two is given towards the identity of the mystery artist in The Continual Pursuit, this time with no mistakes. Drop your entries off at *The Gateway* office, Room 282, SUB. The person with the most correct answers will receive a five dollar record token from Auracle Records, 10808 - 82 Ave.

FEATURE ARTISTS: Lou Reed

1. What sometimes androgynous British singer produced Lou Reed's classic album *Transformer* (1972)?
2. Which pop-artist was the early mentor of Reed's band The Velvet Underground?
3. In 1978, Bruce Springsteen contributed vocals on what eleven minute opus of Lou Reed's?
4. "You broke my heart and you made me cry/you said that I couldn't dance/But now I'm back to let you know/That I can really make romance." In what 1984 near-hit did Lou Reed rap out the above lyric?
5. Along with Grace Jones and Adam Ant, Reed has recently appeared in advertisements for what product?



6. Always a star in the U.K., leather bound Suzi Quatro has never seen long term success in North America, despite recording "Tired of Waiting", "Rock and Roll Hoochie Coo" and "Glad All Over". Who recorded the original of each song mentioned?

7. Unlike Suzi, Joy Division were a band that believed in recording only original compositions — with once exception. What was the only cover Joy Division released?

8. With what band did Moe Berg experience his first exposure to vinyl?

9. What British pseudo-punk, pseudo-singer/actress first came to prominence in the pseudo-docudrama *Breaking Glass*.

THE CONTINUAL PURSUIT

Clue #2 — Raised in Tennessee, his first two novels were "The Vultures" and "The Nigger Factory"

Last Weeks Answers

1. The High Numbers 2. yes 3. Tommy and Quadrophenia (*The Kids Are Alright* was a movie with the accompanying soundtrack album)
4. Who Are You 5. Herman's Hermits 6. The Who, Joan Baez, Crosby Stills and Nash, and Santana 7. Roger Miller 8. *Blues Brothers* 9. a Jet.



The Album Playlist is based on Airplay — a combination of programmer preference and listeners' requests. Tune in every Sunday at 12:00 for the Alternative Countdown — the favorite albums, EP's singles and tapes.

TOP 10 ALBUMS

1. *Skinny Puppy* — Nettwerk (Canada)
2. *The Colour Field* — Virgins and Philistines (Chrysalis/MCA)
3. *Dave Holland Quintet* — Seeds of Time (ECM/WEA)
4. *Sly and Robbie* — Language Barrier (Island/MCA)
5. *The Grapes of Wrath* — September Bowl of Green (Nettwerk (Canada))
6. *Roy Bailey* — Freedom Peacefully (Fuse/Celtic Distributors)
7. *Jerry Jerry And The Sons Of Rhythm Orchestra* — Road Gore: The Band That Drank Too Much (OG (Canada))
8. *Squeeze* — Cosi Fan Tutti Fruitti (A&M)
9. *The Independents* — Save Yourself (Rockin' Rod (Canada))
10. *Steve Tittle* — (One Of The) Merely Players (Nerve (Canada))

Singles, EP's & Tapes

1. *Felt* — Primitive Pointers/Cathedral (Cherry Red/UK)
2. *Direct Stimulus* — "Chords" (tape)
3. *Chris & Cosay* — Sweet Surprise (Tape)*
4. *The Nex'd* — Surreal (Black Bear (Canada))
5. *Rip Chords* — View From Above (Concerte Discs (Canada))
6. *UB40* — Little Baggariddim (DEP/Virgin)
7. *Wilfred N and The Grown Men* Closer To You (Zonik Records)
8. *Jackie Washington and the Mystery Band?* — Is You Or Is You Ain't (Roto-Noto Records)
9. *Zimbo Chimps In A Cave/Inca Vacation* (Budget Ranch (US))
10. *Husker Du* — Makes No Sense (SST Records)