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moments on *Nerf Herder*. The song follows the band's love for Van Halen until the unfortunate acquisition of vocalist Sammy Hagar, and then the resulting feelings of disillusionment and contempt towards their now FORMER favorite band.

The other great moment of the album stems from the song "I'm Sorry". It's the typical "had the girl, lost the girl, bugged the girl to take him back, wrecked the girl's wedding,

crashed through girl's window on acid and bled to death" type of song.

Nerf Herder will probably have no trouble at all climbing the pop charts along with similar predecessors Weezer, Radiohead, and the Gin Blossoms. You MAY like Nerf Herder...but I'm not making any promises.

JEREMIAH HIERS

Stir
Stir
Aware/Capitol/EMI

This CD grew on me quickly. When I first put *Stir* in, it seemed like just another CD that would do as background music. However, after the third time I heard it, I was hooked.

Stir's music is rough and unpolished; perhaps what turned me off initially. The emotion displayed by the musicians, and vocalist Andrew Schmidt's rugged voice, shine through what this music would look like on paper, and give rise to a wealth of images inside your head.

The most prominent image that has stayed with me is that of a cowboy walking through a city; someone confused about his surroundings, yet happy anyway.

A refreshing aspect about this disc is the fact that *Stir* does not subscribe to any specific genre or mood. While all of the songs on this disc can be classified as rock, *Stir's* diversity allows them to explore other related genres. Some songs fall into the alternative/grunge category, while "Star"

and "Ten Dances" find their roots in genuine country. As well, some songs are happy while others are depressing (some songs are even both), so there is not a specific feeling that the listener is left with.

Stir isn't overly original, and often sounds familiar, but it's good...and impossible to remove from my CD player.

GREG MCFARLANE

Congratulations

Answers to last week's
Cross(dressing)word Puzzle

Across	Down
2. Gay	1. Faggot
3. MOTSS	3. Marriage
7. BGLAD	4. Selvadurai
8. Eros	5. Findley
9. Hate	6. Etheridge
12. Queer	7. BS
14. Transsexual	10. Equality
15. Fruit	11. KD Lang
16. Dikes	13. Elton John
18. Louganis	17. Stonewall
19. INAH	18. Lesbos
21. Stereotype	20. HAH
23. Svend	22. Closet
24. Reflections	25. Pride
26. Bisexual	

The winner of the Cross(dressing)word Puzzle Book Contest is **Jonathan Parrish**. Thanks to all those who submitted entries.

The Gazette expresses our gratitude to Entitlement Books for the donation of the contest prize: Michael Riordan's *Our Way: Gay and lesbian life in the country*. The book chronicles Riordan's conversations with gay men and women about their lives in rural areas across Canada. A special thanks to Farhad Dastur who created the Cross(dressing)word Puzzle and solicited the prize on his own initiative.

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demented
and/or
dependent
on drugs?

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arts and
learn from
the
masters.

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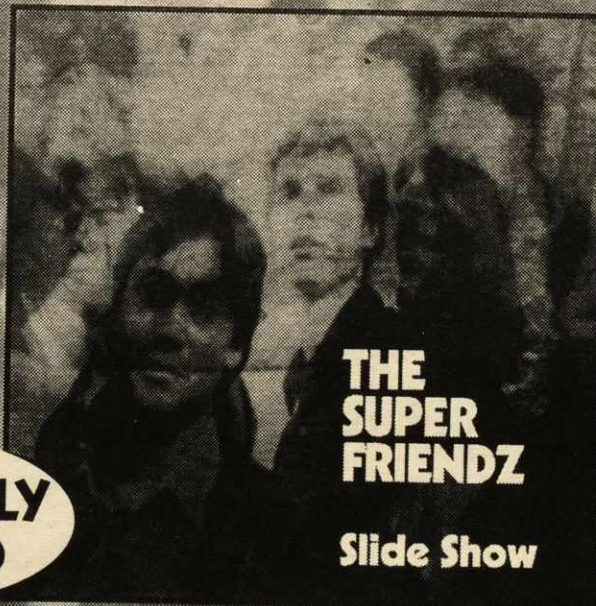
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