

ENTERTAINMENT

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The Long Kiss Goodnight is simply too long

SHELLEY MORELL

THE BRUNSWICKAN

"I like Geena Davis and Samuel Jackson. How bad could this movie really be?" I thought to myself as I entered the theatre. Truthfully, this yet-to-be-rated movie didn't do much for me. Nothing at all, for that matter.

The movie starts off with Geena Davis as Samantha Caine, a woman who has amnesia and doesn't remember anything about herself. She has a great guy in her life and an adorable eight year old daughter who really tugs at your heart strings-if you're that kind of person. Caine comes across as a great mother and wife-the perfect role for her. Then one night she hits a deer with her car, and she ends up flying through the windshield. Of course, the amnesia then wears off and she starts remembering about who she really used to be. Suddenly, Caine, a lady who is on the PTA, is an assassin for the United States government. However, the new character she becomes, Charly Baltimore, is way too Terminator-ish for Davis. So-called "chick movies" are the only way for her to go.

However, Samuel L. Jackson, who plays Charly's partner, Mitch, is great in this movie. He has a lot of one-liners that really made me laugh; he definitely made the movie.

Eventually, Charly and Mitch kill them all single-handedly and manage to escape all these bullets that I don't think even Bruce Willis in *Last Man Standing* could have dodged. Then, towards the end this guy tries to kill Charly and her daughter by freezing them to death. What happens next is predictable: they escape, get the man Charly left behind to be She-Ra for a while and then flee the country.

The movie then flips back to the happy atmosphere it was in the beginning. It shows them in a field with the sun shining and wind blowing their hair Davis-I call her that because I'm not sure which character she's supposed to be at this point-picks up a knife and throws it at a rock-like chefs do. And then it's over! Just like that, it's over! What a disappointment; they almost, but not quite, got me with the corny setting at the end.

The best part about the movie was my date (and I will love him forever for putting up with me through all that). It baffles me to think the writer, Shane Black, actually wrote great movies like *Lethal Weapon* and *The Last Boy Scout*. Oh, and the title *The Long Kiss Goodnight* apparently has nothing to do with the movie. I think movie critic Michael Atkinson retitled it best when he called it *The Last Screenplay Shane Black Wrote Before I Hit Him in the Head with a Shovel*.



SIMPLE PLEASURES: Local band lives up to its name.

ADAM ARGRAVES PHOTO AND STORY

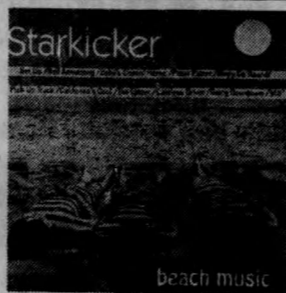
This small town Fredericton band proved to be anything but "small time" last Thursday night at the Social Club. The band, Simple Pleasures, comprised of lead vocalist Jim Middleton, Darren Cromwell on lead guitar, Nathan Haines on bass and Bill Lamey on drums, have a demo now playing on CHSR.

They have various musical influences contributing to their style, such as Hendrix, Kiss, Metallica and the Tragically Hip. With the addition of a new manager they will soon be hitting gigs throughout the Maritimes. They will be playing at the Odd Fellows Hall in Fredericton on November 15, and the Palace Cabaret in Halifax sometime in December. They have individual musical experience ranging from seven to fifteen years, and have been together for the last two and a half years. Even though the lead vocalist had a sore throat, they still managed to pull off a great performance.

... Starkicker ...

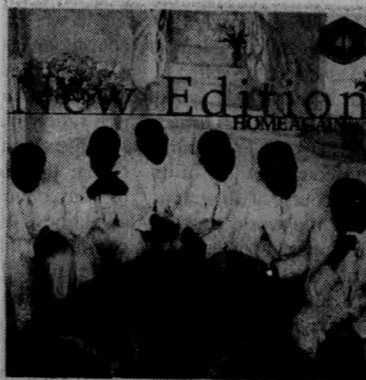
Fresh off their tour with Limblifter and The Killjoys, the up-and-coming Starkicker are soon making an appearance with Spirit of the West in Fredericton!

Brunswickan Entertainment has one grand prize package of Starkicker's debut album, *beach music*, plus an



incredibly cool & expensive-looking soccer sweater to give away! There is also a second prize of a *beach music* CD.

All this can be yours by answering this extremely easy question:
How many pinstriped Starkicker band members are lying on the beach?
Drop your answer off at The Bruns, room 35 of the SUB, before Wednesday, 3 p.m., because this answer is pitifully easy, eh?



New Edition - Home Again

In the '80s, Boston-based New Edition took the world by storm with their energetic and upbeat R&B/Dance songs. Certainly a hit with the teen set, the band composed of Ronnie DeVoe, Bobby Brown, Ricky Bell, Mike Binns and Ralph Tresvant rapidly climbed the charts with such hits as "Cool It Now" and "Candy Girl". Much of the songs then had a simplistic quality to them that upheld the teenage themes of first love, heartbreak and other youth-oriented trials and tribulations. The departure of Bobby Brown in 1987 for a solo recording venture opened the door for the addition of a new member; enter Johnny Gill. The group continued to make a few hits with their hard-driving music, but eventually the group broke up to form solo or satellite groups, Johnny Gill, Ralph Tresvant and Bobby Brown led successful solo careers, while Ronnie DeVoe, Ricky Bell and Mike Binns formed the popular group, Bell Biv DeVoe.

It came as a bit of a surprise, then, to hear that the various members reunited to record *Home Again*, their first recording as a group in eight years. *Home Again* is a reunion of the early qualities of New Edition, with some fresh themes added. The production/arrangement talents of such notables as Jimmy Jam, Sean "Puffy" Combs and Terry Lewis have produced some high calibre music for the group. However, the solo ventures of the individual band members seem to have also advanced the growth process in the life of any band. This recording has a mature feel to the lyrics and musicianship in the songs. True there are some songs that are reminiscent of the '80s teen scene (e.g. "Hit Me Off" and "How Do You Like Your Love Served"), yet there are some quality gems such as "Hear Me Out," "Home Again" and "Something About You".

The union of Ralph Tresvant, Ricky Bell, Bobby Brown, Johnny Gill, Mike Binns and Ronnie DeVoe have blended both old and new styles of New Edition. It remains to be seen if this "New" corroboration will continue, or if this recording is merely a reunion effort on the part of its disparate members.

JETHILO E. CABILETE

Carolyn Arends - I Can Hear You

Carolyn Arends has certainly caught the attention of the music industry with her debut album, *I Can Hear You*. Many of the songs created for this recording were written by Ms. Arends, and certainly display the raw creativity and lyrical quality of this talented artist. The music is a vibrant and refreshing exchange from the angst-ridden, depressing tripe that can be found in some of today's music. The songs that are sung seem to be about the qualities of day-to-day life; the memories of childhood, simple love and simply living.

There is a surmountable task that many singer/writers face, and one is the blending of vocal quality with decent lyrical creation. This is well promoted in *I Can Hear You*, and each song is unique unto itself. There is the inspirational "Seize The Day," the bouncy remembrance of "This Is The Stuff" and the bitter ballad, "What I Wouldn't Give". It's also rather difficult to peg down the musical niche of Carolyn Arends. Suffice it to say, it is a mix of folk-pop, country and inspirational gospel. At any rate, this is a good CD to listen to and relax.

JETHILO E. CABILETE

John Labelle - If You See Her...

This talented jazz singer has made a memorable debut in Montreal with his soulful singing in the Quebec Jazz scene. Jean Labelle began his career when he was asked to sing during a Winter interlude at the renowned Biddle's Jazz Club, where he worked. The practical joke turned into a successful reputation for this young artist, and he has established himself as a superb performer. Signing onto MCA's Jazz Inspiration label under the name John Labelle, he is joined by other noteworthy jazz musicians to form a worthy band. Pianist Steve Amiraull, bassist Johannes Weidenmuller and drummer Marc Miralza provide a well-made backing trio for the vocal strength of Jean Labelle.

The musical inspiration for Mr. Labelle's talents span such famous jazz artists as, Ella Fitzgerald, Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett. The music displayed in this debut album range from classical hits like "The Girl From Ipanema" and "It Had To Be You," to the original "If You See Her". There is a sensual and rich quality to Jean Labelle's voice that has been compared, by critics and reviewers alike, to Mel Tormé and Frank Sinatra. There are plans for a release of original music in the future, so the jazz scene can look forward to more from Mr. Labelle.

Jethelo E. Cabilete

Victor DeLorenzo - Pancake Day

This album makes one feel like it is a "history of rock music" compilation. Songs on the album sound like everything from Jerry Lee Lewis to Beck to The Beatles. The first track is called "Peach". It is a very fuzzy song, and sounds like it was recorded in 1960. Next up is "Blind," and this song is almost rap-like with its spoken word style. The third and fourth tracks, "Only God Knows" and "Audrey," are both songs that continue to diversify the album.

Many would have come to this description long ago, but here is it: the United States have produced their answer to Sloan. The advice: if you are really full of all three Sloan albums and need something similar that is not quite the same, Victor DeLorenzo's *Pancake Day* would be a good buy.

Anthony Davis

Pig - Sinsation

Pig is another new industrial band under the Nothing/Interscope label, that deals with big bands such as Helmet, NIN and Marilyn Manson. Pig reminds me of Ministry with their laid back slow power chords, distorted vocals and twisted samples. A NIN drumbeat is present in a almost every song and the sample/instrumental songs are definitely inspired by NIN. Personally I prefer the real thing opposed to regurgitated music but someone new to the industrial scene may want to check Pig out. For all those veteran indo-freaks, I'd borrow the CD and have a listen before you buy. I think it's worth listening to and the band has a lot of potential, but as of right now I wouldn't buy *Sinsation*.

Jasper Alexander MacDonald

Vernon Reid - Mistaken Identity

Anyone who likes jazz, hard rock, or hip-hop should be able to find something they like on *Mistaken Identity*. Vernon Reid's first solo effort since his departure from Living Colour. The album's mix of these three genres makes for a listening experience which grows on the listener from the first listen, and the varieties of melodies, riffs, and sounds emitted from Reid's guitar highlights his extraordinary ability to get the most from his instrument. The album is cohesive, yet each track stands on its own as a piece of music. Even the weakest track, "Saint Cobain", a tribute to the dead Kurt Cobain, has its endearing qualities. This album is a step above Vernon Reid's efforts with Living Colour, and is one of the best albums of the year.

Charles Teed

you too can increase your music collection... just stop in to The Bruns to find out how!