

First Baptist Church Halifax

1300 Oxford Street (across from Shirreff Hall)
An ecumenical Church offering students a home away from home.

November 18th 10:30 a.m.

Sermon: *Stewardship: God's Gifts In Our Hands*

Rev. John E. Boyd

Music: *Batten, Brahms, Sleeth, Bach*

November 25th 10:30 a.m.

Sermon: *The King of Love My Shepherd*

Rev. John E. Boyd

Music: *Tye, Ledger, Leighton, Alain*

STUDENT LUNCHEON EACH SUNDAY
FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

Ministers: Rev. John E. Boyd, Rev. Adele Crowell
Director of Music: David MacDonald

ARTS

New dance sounds

Pet Shop Boys
Behaviours
Capitol

by Andrew Duke

THANKFULLY, musician Chris Lowe has discarded the bombastic approach used on past hits such as "It's A Sin" and "Always On My Mind", taken a hint from working with a variety of producers on their introspective compilation - most notably Frankie Knuckles - and constructed rhythms that run at a much slower tempo. Where the last release contained seven lengthy

tracks (two of them covers) in a variety of styles, *Behaviours* has a consistent sound that balances fleshed-out longer tracks with short, simple ones. "Being Boring" and "This Must Be The Place I Waited Years to Leave", two excellent tracks, epitomize the incredible talents of vocalist Neil Tennant. His lyrics are spoken poetry; his observations are often laced with dry wit, but always dripping with emotion, one that is usually melancholy. Tennant's style makes one wonder why so many are drawn to the childish posturing of Morrissey.

If the Style Council had written while on downers, at one point they probably would have recorded something comparable to "To Face the Truth". "My October Symphony" melds a seminal breakbeat, background vocals by Jay Henry, guitar work from Johnny Marr, and a string quartet into a pleasing result. Angelo Badalamenti, who scored *Twin Peaks* and recent *David Lynch* films, contributes to "Only the Wind".

"The End of the World" and "So Hard" are the only HI-NRG tracks; the latter uses the shimmering synth wave first employed on the late Divine's "Native Love" and a thumping dinosaur of a bassline. The release of "So Hard" as the first single was a poor, conservative decision because it is merely standard Pet Shop Boys material; the catchy swing of "How Can You Expect to be Taken Seriously?" would have been a fresher approach toward promotion. The stark minimalism of "Nervously" and "Jealousy", sounding like they could have been from the first Pet Shop Boys release, end a compact disc that is certainly the best collection this duo has created to date.

Information Society

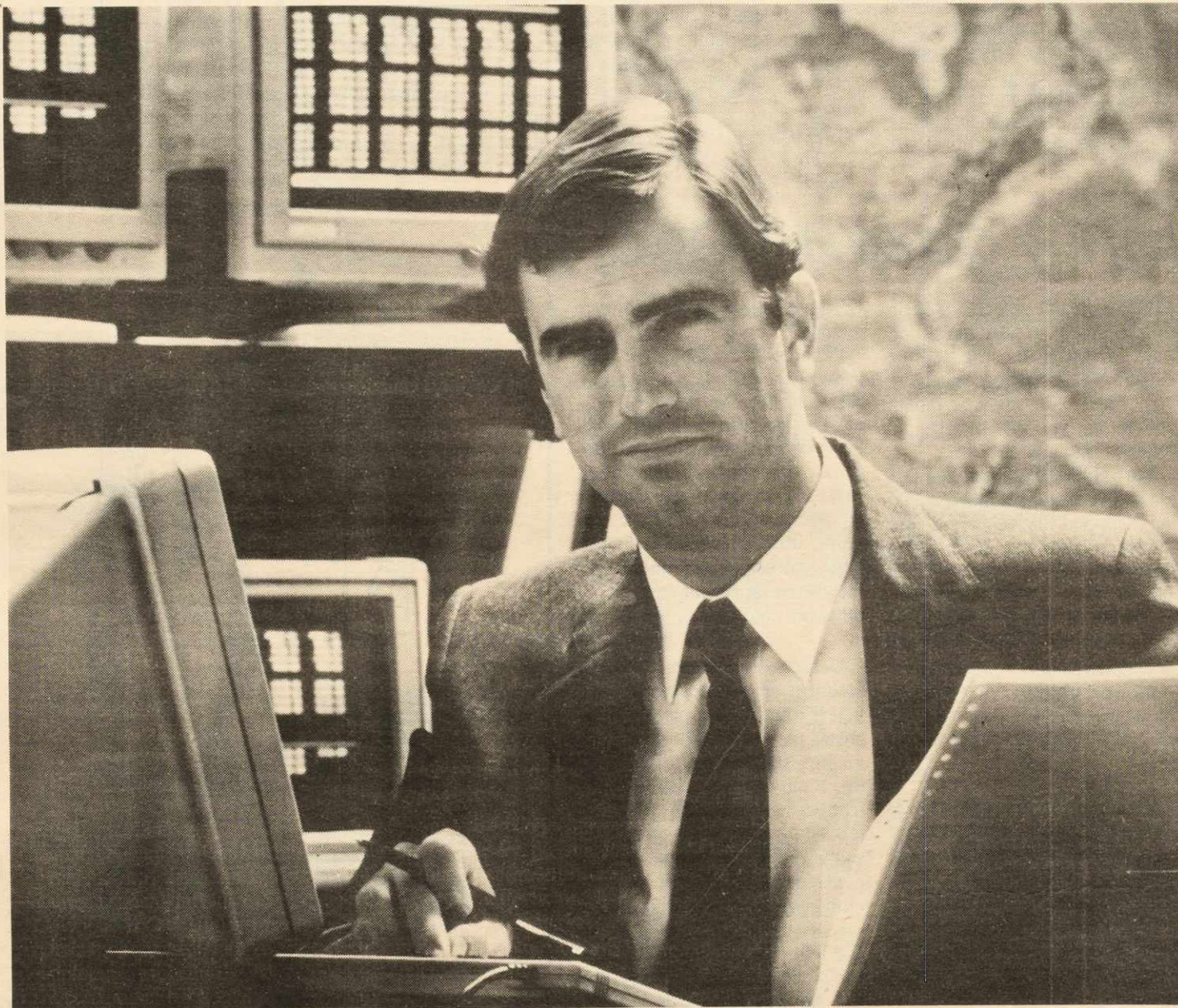
Hack

Tommy Boy/Reprise

Five years ago this Minneapolis band had a massive hit on the Miami/Latin dance charts with "Running", a track that highlighted the production work of the then-unknown Paul Robb and his friends The Latin Rascals. In 1988 Robb and his band, Information Society, finally got around to releasing a full disc of material, and the first single, "What's On Your Mind (Pure Energy)" topped the dance charts that summer. With its jagged edits and heavy bursts of bass as opposed to a regular bassline, this was the definitive INSOC track, perhaps the first hit with samples from *Star Trek* (it was Spock who was sampled for the "pure energy" of the title), and the beginning of the freestyle explosion. Since then, artists such as Stevie B., Linear, Noel, Sweet Sensation, TKA and many others have surpassed the popularity of the oft-copied INSOC, while their self-titled debut was relatively straightforward, though it included a successful cover of ABBA's "Lay All Your Love On Me", it appears the band's quirkiness may have gotten the best of them.

Hack opens with a three-minute long new beat groove over which a woman chants, "this has happened before and it will all happen again", and various noises more akin to Skinny Puppy are mixed in. Yes, many other bands have linked their songs with snippets from other sources, but making an actual song from just these samples? Things improve with "How Long", where we finally hear a real vocalist. "Think" is the gem of this

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