

**THE CHOKE  
Grind Our Design  
(Obituary Music)**

The Choke is a four-piece group from Fredericton that's been assaulting local stages with their peculiar blend of electronics and 'core' for just about as long as I can remember. With the release of their debut tape, 'Grind Our Design', they may perhaps achieve some of the larger-scale recognition that they so rightly deserve.

The sound of 'G.O.D.'(?) is rhythm-oriented, with bass, drums and distinctive keyboards building a bleak background for the dispirited rantings of singer, Steve Duggan. Songs like 'Grind' and

'Gun' push the band's minimalist leanings to the limit but The Choke ultimately comes away triumphant - there isn't a single tune here that doesn't excite my imagination! From the thrashy 'Grind' to the torturously slow 'Church' and the instrumental that ends side one, there's lots of experimentation, the band sounding like nothing I've heard before, and that's no mean feat nowadays.

Lyricaly, The Choke sometimes fall flat on their faces ('Another Death', 'Contaminant').

Perhaps this is a factor of age since all the band members are hovering around 18. However, sometimes they do really hit home. For example, 'Church' is one of

the most intense pieces of doom 'n' gloom poetry that I've ever had the pleasure (?) to listen to: "Where's the path to endlessness? Where's the path to endlessness? I don't know...". Steve's voice is alive with prophetic misery and the burden that sometimes makes his voice seem flat in live situations is lightened by the use of subtle production effects.

Overall, this tape is excellent: musically, lyrically, and in terms of sound quality. "Grind Our Design" is an almost brilliant debut that is individual, experimental, and listenable at the same time! But don't take my word for it - Buy it yourself. You won't regret it.

"Where did the memories go?  
Once held so tight..."

**Richard Thornley**

Prejudice is a major underlying issue in this movie. Nobody seems to like Johnny just because he's a robot. Maybe I was a little sensitive to this issue because I'd just seen "Hairspray" not an hour and a half before this. (The miracle of Pay-TV, and no, I didn't mean Fundamentally Oral Bill and Penguin Lust!) I just melted when Johnny five said, "I'm just like you, except I'm from out of town." Don't you wish people could actually have believed him?

I think a lot of people can identify with Johnny Five, myself included. People look at him because he's a robot. People look at South African blacks because of their skin color... to a worse extent. (Blatant anti-Apartheid plug.) People look at adolescents who don't fit into a certain clique at school because they don't interact well. Preps, hairsprays, and dirtbags interact. Some bridge the gaps in the cliques. Others have a nameless clique. This isn't quite so much a problem in Fredericton as other areas... but it can be a problem). And people definitely stare at me. I'm not a robot, I'm not a victim of Apartheid. I'm one of the various misfits of society that can identify with Number Johnny Five. And, in a way, this problem of Johnny's (and he shares it with all of mankind) is what this movie is all about. You know he's suffering when you see the two books he wants to read: "Pinocchio" and "Frankenstein."

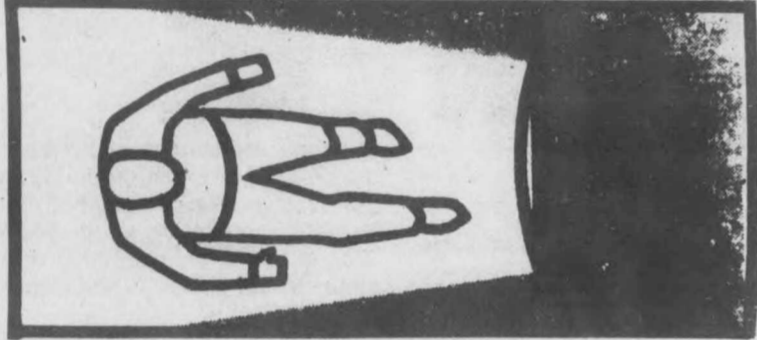
I went to bed after seeing Short Circuit 2: More Input still giggling about the jokes in the movie, and for a second, with tears in my eyes because of what Johnny had been forced to go through. (And I don't mean with those mean dirty rotten scoundrels who obviously don't like cute, cuddly robots!)

Draw your own conclusions. Look for the funny or look for the story. This movie is satisfying on both issues.

I can't wait for "Short Circuit 3: Input Coming Out Your Ears!!"

**Cassandra Carlisle**

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**JOHNNY FIVE'S  
STILL ALIVE!**

Checking Out Short Circuit 2: More Input!!

I'm the type of person who doesn't exactly go to the movie theatres very often. Even on Three Buck Night, I tend to shy away from the Plazas or the Nashwaaksis (for one thing, it's murder to spell). In all truth, I attempted to get into Short Circuit 2: More Input while it was playing on the North Side, along with a friend of mine (who, coincidentally, rented the movie the same night that I did and watched it at the same time as well!). For reasons unknown, we weren't let in. (I hope the movie cashier is still writhing in guilt!!) So I was pacing, pacing, pacing... and for good reason.

Fellows, I'm not Roger Ebert. But I do have wonky (derived from the surname of Wonka, William) opinions. I didn't like E.T., I didn't like Adventures in Babysitting (unlike my entourage), I loved Star Trek: The Motion Picture, I love the new Star Trek. So I'm about to defy public opinion and say something which is totally different from critics and the general public: I ADORED SHORT CIRCUIT2!

The story is simple. Ben, the only human left over from the original Short Circuit, is selling little remote control Number Fives on the street and gets a contract to make a thousand for a Simpsons' Department Store in New York (OK, guys. New York? Then tell us why we saw the billboards of Coles Bookstore and Eaton's, both Canadian chains) within a month. So Ben sends for financial help from Newton Crosbie and Stephanie Speck, both from the original, who send Number (now Johnny) Five instead. There's a bank guy who wants to steal some jewels called the "WellyBelly Catelli Collection" or something to that extent, so he gets Johnny to tunnel through the bank to get the WellyBelly Catellis after Ben's partner tries to sell Johnny and accidentally loses him so Johnny's walking along the street (the equivalent, OK?) when a bunch of real mean guys who obviously don't like cute cuddly little robots very much try to... y'know. There's a hilarious subplot about Ben being in love with the head buyer of Simpson's and a great moment Johnny remote controlling the nearest WHAM sign to say what he wants it to say (Are you troubled by FLATULENCE?), and, and, and.... well, y'know.

Admittedly, the WellyBelly Catelli issue was stupid. They could just as easily have put in a bunch of Bloom County and Cathy cartoons as replacement. But at least it allowed Johnny to confront his deepest fear: disassembly.

**KEEP  
ON  
TREKKIN'**

The continuation of our definitive treatise of the kids in the Galactic Rust-Bucket.

PART FOUR - Misconceptions

**Inquiry: Why is half the world trying to compare a new generation of people to the old one? These guys aren't related. Let's defuse popular theories on Star Trek: The Next Gen.:**

**DATA IS A SPOCK WITHOUT EARS.** Even I can't deny a few little resemblances to Spock of the old Star Trek. But this is a total mistake... you can't look at Data, effectively portrayed by Brent Spiner as an insecure man-child of an android who's looking for the answer to his biggest question: "Am I alive or am I programmed to be alive? Am I deluding myself?" Humans seem to have the knack of being alive. Data resembles humans more than Vulcans. To live is to think and feel. Therefore, emulating humans, who think and feel quite a bit, is Data's way of learning. Mr. Spock was trying to reject his human half for much of the Star Trek Classic's time. His question was, "How come, if everything's rooted in logic, humans act illogically?" He wanted to suppress emotion. If these emotions had gotten in his way, then the Enterprise might have blown up in the second Star Trek movie and we really would have needed NextGen! I do agree, to some extent, with Neal Shapiro, who says that "Data's a Spock in reverse." But get your heads out of the sand, Classic-onlies, Data's not Spockian.

**DEANNA TROI IS A CARBON COPY OF CHRISTINE CHAPEL WITH HIGHLIGHTS OF THAT SEX PERVERT ILIA IN HER, AND OF COURSE HER VULCAN HALF GIVES HER THE TELEPATHY.** Wrong on all three counts. A) Christine Chapel and Deanna Troi are (or in Christine's case, was) in love with the Number One. But Deanna and Bill still have a hidden love for each other while Christine's fantasies of getting that Vulcan to bed never came true. (B) OK, the relationship between Deanna and Bill Riker

is similar to that of Star Trek: The Motion Picture's Decker and Ilia (not Iya, as postulated in Part 3) in ONE WAY: It was a First Officer doing a little mushy-mushy. I really doubt that Deltans have Imzadis. Betazoid for "beloved." I say this because Deltans are sluts. (See "Dwellers In The Crucible" by Margaret Warder Bonarro.) (C) Deanna is in no way Vulcan and was never meant to represent Spock in any way. The telepathic powers aren't even the same. Since when has Deanna done a mind meld?

**Q'S REAL NAME IS TRELANE, SQUIRE OF GOTHOS.** It's obvious that Q is NOT a 6 year old, he's a mature adolescent trying to test the humans. Actually, it all depends on your view. But Trelane's a different species, possibly RELATED to Q. (Amazing. That's the only real resemblance I find to old and new characters!)

**RIKER IS ANOTHER CAPTAIN.** Not at all true. He is, technically, Captain of the Away Team, but this isn't his rank or his position on the new Enterprise and should not be thought of as Captain Riker. He is First Officer or "Number One" and his rank is Commander. (Everybody thought that the role portrayed by M. Leigh Hudec, aka Majel Barrett Roddenberry, "Number One," was some alien with a number for a name. This character appeared in the original Star Trek pilot, "The Cage" and later, "The Menagerie." She was Captain Pike's FIRST OFFICER! Who came up with that...? Of some note, Jonathan Frakes used to play "Captain America" at kiddie parties, most notably one at the White House during the Carter administration.

**WESLEY GOT INTO STARFLEET; AFTER ALL, HE DOES HAVE A UNIFORM.** Completely untrue. Wesley's rank of Ensign is still honorary. He flunked the StarFleet test and has yet to be accepted into the Academy. Besides, he would have to go through a few years of training, and the rank Cadet and Plebe, before he was actually a real Ensign. (Thank Heaven!) For those few who don't know, Picard gave little Wes the title "Acting Ensign" so that he could legally be brat on the bridge. Mommy would really have been pissed if he hadn't...

**GUINAN IS A HUMAN WITH SHAVED EYEBROWS.** Uh uh! Whoopi Goldberg's new character (NOT a regular, but a recurring guest star) is an alien. Nobody knows where from. That's still being kept secret.

**GATES MCFADDEN LEFT THE SERIES OF HER OWN ACCORD AND DIANA MULDAUR IS A REGULAR.** Untrue! Gates McFadden, aka Dr. Bev Crusher, was fired from the series (pregnant?) but can STILL come back... she's now "Head of StarFleet Medical," but will you notice that Diana Muldaur's Dr. Pulaski keeps getting called a "special appearance"! There are still loopholes for Ms. McFadden to make guest appearances AND return to the show, if only to keep baby Wes pacified...

**DENISE CROSBY WAS FIRED BECAUSE OF HER POSING NUDE FOR PLAYBOY.** NO! Ms. Crosby chose to leave because Tasha Yar, her character, was not getting enough development and was being "relegated to the role of a glorified extra." Heavens, Denise, what's your problem? All you've done is cause any Tasha-related memorabilia to shoot up 30 bucks in price!

Speaking of memorabilia, our final misconception: THIS GIRL'S DONE HER SERIES. No way! Next week we focus on a small portion of currently available purchasable Next Gen Memorabilia, as well as prices in American money. See you next week!

**CASSANDRA CARLISLE**

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