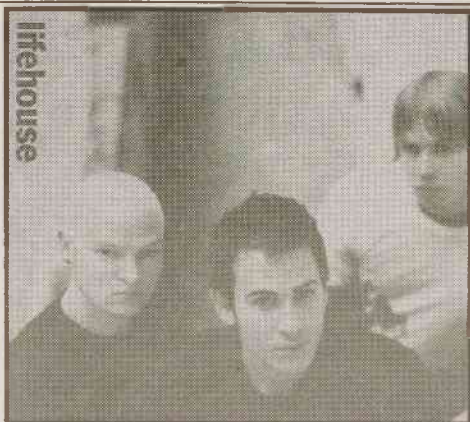


Music



Rock



STEVEN MAGNUSEN
Entertainment Editor

“Hanging by a Moment” was probably the biggest hit of 2000. It was a hard tune to avoid

for anyone living in America, and got more radioplay than any other song that year. That first Cd, “No Name Face” was a huge success for Lifehouse and they followed it up with another great album, “Stanley Climbfall.” Their third project, self titled “Lifehouse,” is an incredible addition to the collection.

The members of Lifehouse are frequently changing. While Jason Wade has always been the lead singer

and guitar player, the bassist and drummer have never been constant. For the new album, both of these positions were filled by new members, Rick Woolstenhulme played drums, while Bryce Soderburg took over on bass. Both of the newcomers fit well with Wade’s style and lyrics.

Jason Wade still writes incredible lyrics. The depth and emotion that he puts into his vocals has always been the heart of Lifehouse’s success, and nothing about that has changed. He shows plenty of creativity with “Lifehouse,” and

the writing is definitely on par with his earlier work.

While the sound of Lifehouse has changed with the new additions, it hasn’t diminished at all. Instead the music has evolved into a more upbeat style. The artistry remains the same, but the overall mood behind the music has changed.

Some fans who fell in love with the mellow tones of “No Name Face” may be a little disappointed, but anyone who enjoyed “Stanley Climbfall” will find something to like in “Lifehouse.”



R&B/Soul



DEMARIO CAMPBELL
Staff Writer

The story of a young Mary J Blige is recorded in “My Life.” Her sophomore album, “My Life,” is a true example of an artist singing from experience. Out of all of her albums recorded over the years, I feel that this album is her best.

It was recorded in late

1994 which was a very rough time for Mary in her personal life. Being a product of the ghetto in Yonkers, New York, Mary has kept it real and stayed the same through her whole career. Already having platinum success with her first album, and being crowned the queen of hip-hop /soul, this album also followed successfully. “My Life” captures the pure emotion of Mary at that time.

With its seventeen tracks, Mary’s command on each song shows the power of her emotion in the aspects of her life. She gives every song its own meaning and why they are so important in her life. Her first song on the CD, “Mary Jane,” addresses the wants of her relationship with her man.

This song is a classic in itself, but remade by Mary, this song adds a whole new meaning. Track number seven, “My Life,” explains the troubles in life and the solutions to the frequent problems. It seems that when this song was written, she may have looked at the current problems in her life and saw a need for change. Track number ten, “I’m Going Down” is also a classic remake that sounds great with Mary’s beautiful distinctive voice. Number seventeen “Happy,” is a memorable song that shows the wants of Mary emotionally.

“My Life” has many memorable classics that justify Mary’s title in music. Mary J. Blige is remarkable, bringing her soul through these songs, so that her emotions are felt and internalized in other people. I would recommend this album to anyone who wants to hear early hip-hop and R&B at its best. Mary J. Blige’s “My Life” is a life worth listening to.

7 Days a Week
Full Service Catering

RICEY PEADEN
JIMMY PEADEN

Peaden
Seafood & Catering
Service

1200 McArthur Road • Fayetteville, NC 28311
(910) 488-1072 • Fax (910) 488-4105