

# Reviews

## Records

By PETER CASHWELL

### Stevie Nicks

*Bella Donna (Modern)*

Stevie Nicks' trademark has always been her strong, quavering voice. With Fleetwood Mac she became firmly established as one of rock's premiere vocalists and built a reputation for songwriting by using haunting and mystical lyrics to complement her vocals as in such classics as "Rhiannon" and "Gold Dust Woman."

Unfortunately, her new album *Bella Donna (Modern)* doesn't show off her established style to a great extent. Though it does set Stevie's voice against new backgrounds which are enjoyable in spots. The cast of musicians is impressive: Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, Roy Bittan of the E Street Band, Don Henley and Don Felder of the Eagles plus an all-star selection of Laurel Canyon sessionmen—Russ Kunkel, Bob Glaub, Dan Dugmore and Waddy Wachtel, whose guitar whines are prominent on Nicks' album. The problem with *Bella Donna* is that everyone performs strictly in his or her own style. There is no compromise by the backup band so Nicks is left singing over either mellow Jackson

Browne laments or Tom Petty whining blues-rock and the mix is not particularly exciting.

Though one cut stands out, "Edge of Seventeen" is the album's lone up-tempo number and it seems to have forced the performers out of their accustomed roles. Nicks, aided by Sharon Celani and Lori Perry, creates a female vocal extravaganza with a touch of 1960s "woo woo" soul feel. Wachtel cuts loose with a few guitar riffs with distortion—a departure for him—and the song is paced by a rapid flow of notes that are reminiscent of Pink Floyd's "Run Like Hell."

Also "Leather and Lace," written in 1975 for Waylon Jennings and Jessi Colter, makes a nice country Nicks/Henley duet and the title track's Jackson Browne feel accomplishes the union with Stevie's voice that is missing elsewhere.

Two cuts, "Outside the Rain" and the hit single "Stop Draggin' My Heart Around," are performed by Petty and the Heartbreakers minus bassist Ron Blair (Duck Dunn fills in) with Nicks on vocals. The songs are pure Petty, vocals and guitar whining equally, but Nicks' lyrics on "Outside the Rain" are too mystical for the song's sound. The rest of the cuts are unexciting but "Kind of Woman," written by Nicks and Benmont Tench of the Heartbreakers, is vintage Stevie—slow, haunting, and even a bit bluesy. S

Peter Cashwell is a staff writer for *The Daily Tar Heel*.

## At the Movies

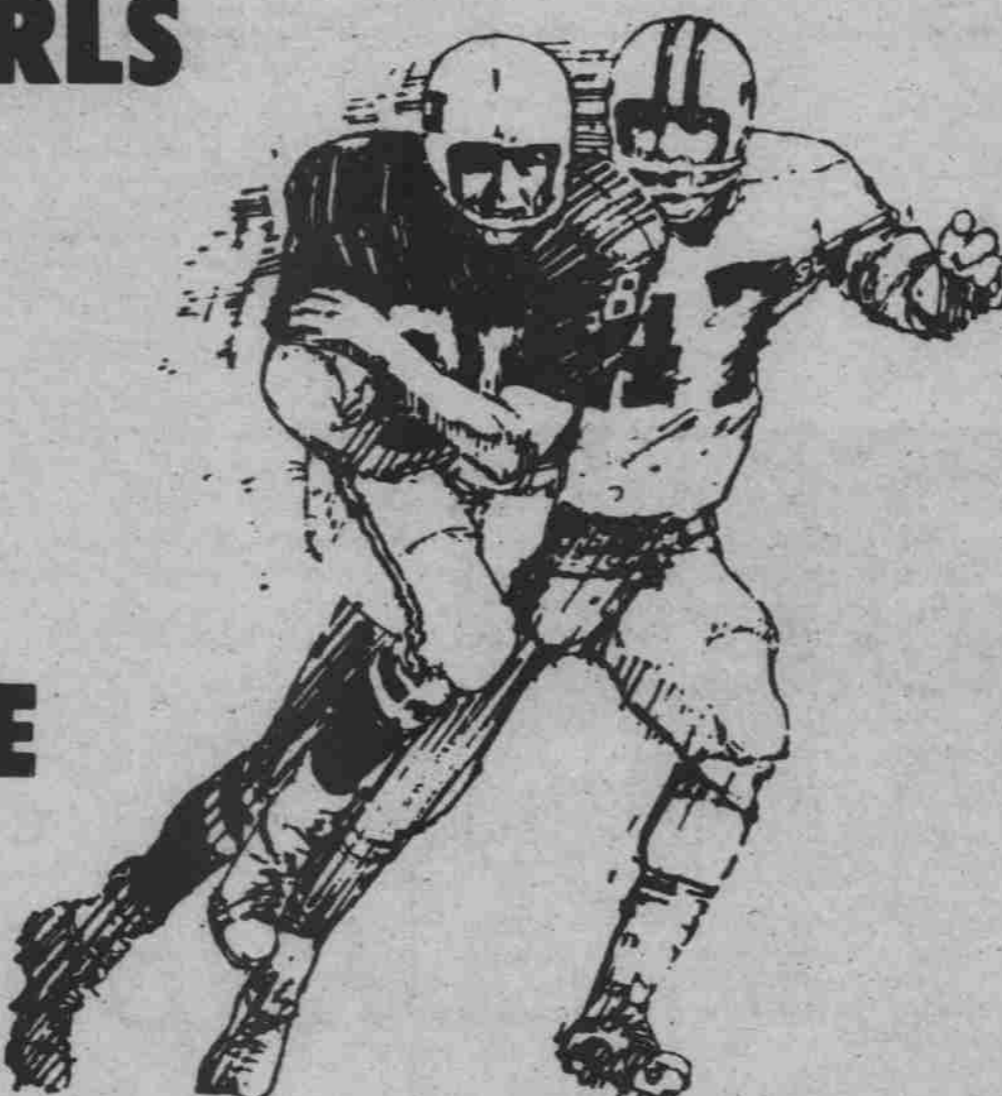
*Raiders of the Lost Ark* is riveting fun. Director Steven Spielberg serves an up-dated Monogram and Republic serial with all the action and none of the cliches. He plays against audience expectations in this tall tale about Indiana Jones, a part time professor and part-time archeologist, who goes off on a quest for the powerful ark of the covenant before Hitler and the Nazis can get a hold of it. Silly stuff, yes, but it's too marvelously entertaining for anyone in his right mind to really care. At the Ram Triple.

*Arthur* has two very witty performances by John Gielgud and Dudley Moore who play a butler and a young carefree playboy who have sort of a father and son relationship full of sarcasm on the surface, but with love hunger underneath. Too bad that such wonderful performances are stuck in this misguided attempt to resurrect the Screwball mode of comedy. *Arthur* tries to be a critical class comedy without ever being too critical of wealth. But Gielgud and Moore are worth watching despite all the blandness. At the Plaza.

—Tom Moore

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