

Disc or Discuss:

Do You Play It, Or Throw It?



Rod Stewart's new album, "Camouflage" departs from his earlier efforts. With surprisingly intense vocals, rich, popping synthesizer lines, lavish horn arrangements, and the awe-inspiring guitar work of Jeff Beck, this album marks a new milestone in Stewart's career. "Camouflage" is the first product that both Beck and Stewart have cooperated on since they were both members of "Faces" in the early seventies, and the result is some seriously profound music. In fact, this may be Rod's best work since the advent of his song "Maggie Mae," (circa 1972.)

Camouflage's whole first side wails with the ups and downs of a frustrated Stewart, obviously searching for a meaningful relationship. This theme is inter-woven so professionally that be the end of the first side, you'll be swearing that this is the Sgt. Pepper's, (Beatles,) or Terrapin Station, (Grateful Dead,) album of the eighties. "Infatuation," the first cut, leads playfully into "All Right Now," a remake of an old "Free" tune written by Fraser and Rodgers. (Remember Paul Rodgers, more recently of "Bad Company"?) This departs from the standard remake formula, (which, incidentally, can be heard in the AC/DC cover version of the same tune,) percolating along with new rhythms and vigor. "Some Guys Have All the Luck," the second release from this album, continues in the passionate, frustrated mood that the first two tracks have firmly established, and by the time we reach Todd Rundgren's "Can We Still Be Friends" you'll be convinced that this is Stewart's best work to date. However, although side two attempts desparately to retain continuity, lifting the same lilting synthesizer riffs that wind into "Infatuation" to start "Bad For You," the compositions of side two are solely to blame for the lack of lasting interest here. It seems that Rod either wrote or co-wrote all of the songs on side two, while "Infatuation" is Stewart's only material on side

one. Before the first chorus of "Bad For You," one may detect that detested disco beat that has characterized so much of Rod Stewart's work. You can sing the lyrics to "Passion" at almost any point on the second side, except for perhaps "Trouble," or the Prince-influenced title cut, "Camouflage." The slick production, horns, harmonica, and Jeff Beck guitar solos can't cover up what's lacking in Rod's compositions. However, don't miss "Trouble," the work of Stewart and producer Michael Omartian.

Speaking of production, Michael Omartian is better known for his work in contemporary Christian music, (i.e. The Imperials, Second Chapter of Acts, and a few albums with his wife, Stormie...). He has contributed synthesizer, brass arrangements and percussion here, as well as backing vocals. It is quite obvious to anyone who has listened to any of Omartian's own work that his work was vital in producing the fine overall balance that prevades Camouflage. (Rumor has it that Rod has joined the ranks of Christianity; the album, however, doesn't really do much to back up the claim.) If Stewart continues to work with Omartian, we may see more quality material from Rod in the future.

Overall, I might suggest leaving this plater face-up on your turntable. Side two's only redeeming quality is the ballad-like "Trouble," but anyone can appreciate side one, even without liking Rod Stewart. Covering other people's material and improving on it seems to be Stewart's only strong point, as witnessed by the contrast of the two sides of Camouflage. Perhaps someone ought to break the news that disco really is dead...

For those of you who are interested in contemporary Christian music, there's "Undercover." This California based group has recently released their second LP on A&S Records, titled "Boys and Girls Renounce the World." If you are interested in Christian music but can't stand the



Across the Editor's Desk

Well, here it is...once again...The Pilot your newly reincarnated school newspaper. We of the Pilot staff, and I as Editor, have a lot to say to you, the people of Gardner-Webb: students, faculty, and administrators. It is my job to make sure that issues are investigated, policies are fair, and in general, that campus news is portrayed accurately and

schmaltzy "pop" stuff you've been hearing, this is for you. This is for you. This is contemporary Christian at its best: Pure unadulterated power. The lyrics are doctrinal, and dwell on a personal relationship with Christ. Lines like "three nails, three days, one way to God" from "Three Nails" present the Gospel in its simplest form.

Overall, the music echoes with that long-lost punk drive that's been missing since the Sex Pistols disbanded in 1978, and Undercover's version of "Holy, Holy, Holy" would knock any sinner to his knees in awe.

For those who are looking for more conventional music, songs like "Three Nails" and "I'd Rather Stay" fall into slightly more conventional patterns, pumping along at a more moderate beat, using distorted guitars sparingly, and dwelling on melodic synthesizer lines.

In fact, most of the vocals fall somewhere in the diatonic scale, and you can easily go around humming these melodies in your heart to God.

"Boys and Girls Renounce the World" is a definite progression from Undercover's first LP, (God Rules," which only true hardcore fans could appreciate, and whose lyrics would be unintelligible were it not that they were sloppily penned on the inner sleeve. The use of more keyboards, slicker production and real melodies show the musical growth of this group since their first efforts, and hopefully these guys will be around to bring us more of their unique style.

If you like "Andy McCarroll and Moral Support," you'll love Undercover. "God Rules" is available on A&S 0005, and "...Renounce the World" on A&S SPCN 7-100-919827. If you're tired of Amy Grant crooning about God's love, then drop Undercover on the turntable and listen to some old-fashioned "fire-and-brimstone." Besides...you can pogo to it!!

E. Pogo Costley

honestly. It is your job as the (hopefully) intelligent thinking populace to question what I print, how the administration and faculty performs, and the goings on of this institution in general. You are going to know how my staff and I feel about pertinent, sometimes controversial issues, and we want to know how you feel. If you think I am wrong or uninformed, write me and tell me so.

Like wise, if you agree with something the Pilot staff has stated, write me and tell me that, too. This endeavor is partially dependent on the staff, but is also very dependent on you. The success of this publication is up to all of us not just my staff. How about it Gardner-Webb? Let's make the Pilot a motivating, thought provoking, medium for all. I'm willing, are you??

Pilot Editorial Policy

The Pilot's policy for letters to the Editor maintains that the letter must be signed by the student in order for it to be published. The name may be withheld upon request.

The purpose of this policy is to benefit the student. Many students feel inhibited by peer pressure and would not submit a letter unless their names are withheld. Also, the editor needs the student's name in order to be assured that the letter is legitimate.

Please feel free to express your opinions to the Pilot in the proper manner. All letters are welcomes. Simply place letters under the Student Publications door (112) in the C.I.D. building.

Students Answer Call of the Wild

Are you a would-be Indiana Jones? Do you shun the confines of the indoors in favor of the wide open spaces of the wilderness? If the answer is "yes" to either of these questions, you belong in the Outdoor Explorer's Club.

The Explorer's, headed by Dr. Thomas H. Jones, has been a tradition at Gardner-Webb for many years, previously known as the "Science Club," and "Sigma Gamma." The name Outdoor Explorer's Club, was finally adopted last year to attract more students to the club. The original names scared off students who thought the club was strictly Science related or for Science majors. A quick look at the club activities shows this is not the case.

Canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, Alpine and Nordic style skiing, as well as caving are among the more popular pursuits of the Explorers. Long trips usually associated with ecology classes, are a part of the club activities. A caving and climbing trip to West Virginia over fall break and a trip to the coast of North Carolina are planned for this semester, with skiing, whitewater rafting, and additional caving trips planned for next semester. These trips are funded, in part, with income generated by community science projects performed by

the members. Each member gets credits according to how much time he or she spends on the project. The credits effectively reduce the cost that the student has to pay himself. Membership dues are \$2.50 per semester.

Membership is not restricted to those just enrolled in Science classes. Persons interested should attend the next Explorers meeting announced in the Scroll or contact Dr. Jones in the Science building.



The Pilot Staff

Wishes The G.W.C. Family An Enjoyable and Safe Fall Break!!