

# Album Reviews

Any flaws Bad English may have can be easily overlooked because of the great music the group has assembled for their first album. Bad English is anything but bad as they pass the first test in the rock music world with an A-.

---Camper Van Beethoven: Key Lime Pie

Camper Van Beethoven is a group many people have never heard. However, they have been successful enough in the past to open for 10,000 Maniacs during their current tour. Their latest album Key Lime Pie contains music that will seem different to the habitual radio listener. However, it holds its own well and, especially for Camper Van Beethoven fans, could be worth checking out.

Songs like "Sweethearts", "(I Was Born In A) Laundromat", "Flowers", and "Pictures Of Matchstick Men" bring together a good collection of music that can only be classified as unusual alternative music. The group blends wild violin playing and bizarre lyrics in a style that is uniquely Camper Van Beethoven's own.

Therefore, those of you partial to top 40, rock, and metal music may want to leave this one on the shelf. Its

style is different from pop radio music but I would recommend at least borrowing a copy of it and giving it a try. You might be surprised.

Being a usual listener of top 40 and hard rock music, this reviewer was a little apprehensive about Key Lime Pie. However, I was pleasantly surprised by it. Camper Van Beethoven fans won't be disappointed and the rest of you might not be either. Key Lime Pie is at least worth a taste with a B.

---Cher: Heart of Stone

Heart of Stone is the new album from the scantily clad, "sexy" rock star Cher. It continues her style of a mixture of conservative top 40 and slow songs and introduces very little new material. The current release "If I Could Turn Back Time" is doing very well and a prior release, "After All", also made the top 40 charts.

The album continues Cher's tradition of toned down rock music with light dance and good ballads. Songs like "If I Could Turn Back Time", "Just Like Jesse James", "You Wouldn't Know Love", and "All Because Of You" highlight the record.

Also featured is past

hit "After All", a duet with Peter Cetera that was featured in the movie Chances Are. The album possesses good potential to continue Cher's success in the following months.

However, "Heart Of Stone" tends to become rather redundant as the record wears on. It contains nothing really new for Cher and may be a little disappointing for non-Cher fans. But the current and potential hits the album contains makes it at least worth a listen. "Heart Of Stone" may not be that strong but it earns a respectable B-.

Grade scale: A---definitely worth buying, has tremendous potential

B---not bad, worth at least checking out

C---average, take it or leave it

D/F---coming soon to an elevator or dentist's office near you.

Any suggestions for the reviews for the next issue are gladly accepted. Please give them to Tim Tucker MD340 or TUCKERT on the VAX. Leave idea, name, room, etc. Any contributions or comments about the music reviews will be gladly appreciated and taken into consideration.



Director Friedrich and Dr. Youngblood during an afternoon break.

## Speak - Up

ball, badminton, and handball in the gym.

Dr. Barber mentioned that the new cheerleading squad will increase school pride. "I think they're just like any other athletic team, and there shouldn't be any controversy," said RA Mike Walters. There was little debate about cheerleading at the speak-up.

Dr. Youngblood announced that the gym still had not passed all inspections, but that Braughn Taylor was trying

to see that the workers finished quickly. Lack of communication among various sub-contractors was responsible for the delay.

Speak-ups at this school are informal meetings open to anyone who wishes to express an opinion about NCSSM. "I hope that the speak-ups will be more than a token of communication," said Zac Smith. "A lot of good ideas were presented and I hope the administration will try to implement them."

## Gym Opens

or basketball, use the dance studio, lift weights, or fence seven days a week will provide interested students with opportunities to relieve stress or just have some fun. Also, the new facilities should help juniors to achieve their Physical Activity and Wellness goals by giving them a place to work on those areas which need the most development.

Another positive aspect of the recent opening of the PEC is that the NCSSM community now has a place on campus to gather together for important functions such as assemblies and formal ceremonies. Being able to participate in events such as

these here at school should increase our pride in NCSSM.

Now that our PEC is up and running and we can finally take advantage of it, it is important to remember that with the privilege of such a facility comes the responsibility of taking good care of it. Hopefully, all of the students here at school will accept this responsibility and use of the gym will run smoothly and without incident this year.

The Stentorian staff regrets the fact that a byline was omitted for page 8 of the last issue. Nicole Gooding's name should have appeared under the "Talent Discovery" article.

## NCSSM Gospel Choir Rejoices

by Debby Bone

On Sept. 24 nearly 60 NCSSM ladies and gentlemen, led by Casie Goldsten and Leon Goldsten, competed against two groups in a gospel choir contest at the Durham Omni hotel. The group, with only two prior practices and no experience in competition, placed third after the two adult choirs.

According to choir members, "We sang well, but didn't have robes, just the same color outfits, and maybe that made us lose some points. We did sing well though."

When asked about the possibilities of robes in the future, choir secretary Davana McClain said, "Nicole Gooding (President), Kasi Kindel (Vice.P), Karen Brothers (ICC rep.), and I want to do a fund raiser, maybe sell donuts next semester. Then we'll try to get some kind of outfit."

The choir's plans include a fall concert on campus in November and one at the end of the year. Competition in the Gospel Fest in Raleigh is also a possibility.

In describing gospel music, the NCSSM singers said, "It's like a whole church

service, the preaching, the praying, the singing, all rolled into one."

Pop/Gospel stars like Al Green, Anita Baker, and Patti LaBelle offer inspiration to singers.

"Most all gospel singers start out singing in church choirs when they're really young," says one NCSSM choir

member. When asked to summarize her experience in gospel choir, one member simply said, "It's fun. It's great. Everyone's welcome, if you like to sing."

## REP Defeats Purpose

of time. So why have REP at all?

The situations given in the instruction manual are not even true to life here at S&M. One example in the Communications session mentions someone proofreading their friends final draft of a paper the night before it is due. Realistically how many S&M juniors complete their English papers in final draft form the night before it is due? The juniors I know are usually doing exceptionally well to have even thought up a thesis

by then, much less a whole paper ready to turn in.

If REP must exist, then why can't it be done as one large workshop at the beginning of the school year? Supposing that you do gain knowledge from the sessions, what good does it do you to discover it halfway into the second quarter? REP is clearly not accomplishing its purpose. In fact, one might not be too inaccurate in saying that REP creates more tension than it resolves. Face it. In the hour a week

that you waste in REP sessions, you might could complete an entire ICM assignment or get a headstart on writing your next English paper.

It seems to me that main problem with REP is that it is compiled by adults and not by students who know what it really feels like to be a junior at NCSSM. At the very least S&M juniors can pull together in a battle to improve REP for the many "juniors" to come.