

Men In New Groups Looking More And More Like Women?

Is it my eyesight or what? It seems that with each new solo artist or band that comes out now, the men in the group are looking more and more like women.

Point in fact, the other day I was sent a press release of a new group that is being recorded on Prince's label. I believe the name of the group was Paisley Park. Well, of course every member had a curl, but really that wasn't what got next to me. It was undeniably clear that members of this group had taken special efforts to look feminine going as far as wearing eye makeup and long strands of pearl necklaces.

I think it was Boy George who said that the unisex look that he wore gave another alternative to people. Well, maybe I'm crazy but the way I see it is you are either male or female and if you find yourself somewhere in between then you need help. Personally I like a man to look like a man. I don't want to have to spend precious moments wondering or trying to figure it out. And if I spend my hard earned dollars to

CHARLOTTE AREA HAPPENINGS

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Loretta

see them in concert or to purchase their lp, then when the singer sings a love ballad I'd like to be rather sure that the object of that song wouldn't be the same sex as the singer.

But maybe this is my pet peeve. I mean last year, I went to a concert where there were two groups of very feminine looking males and the female sector of the audience under the age of 21 were falling out over them.

Sure, nothing has changed by my saying this and things probably will get worse before they get better, but I can say this: Now I know how men must have felt when women first began wearing pants and when our parents first saw the likes of the Beatles and

Little Richard. I can certainly share their anguish.

SPIRIT

Their approach is unique and modern and their sound is unmistakably distinct. They're Rare Silk and they will be in concert Friday, January 10 at Spirit Square. The release of their first album, "New Weave" earned them two Grammy Award nominations. The concert begins at 8:15 p.m. and tickets are \$12.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

Touching the spirit through song is what the Mighty Clouds of McCullough will be doing when they make a guest appearance on "Opportunity Knocks" Sunday, January 5 on channel 42 at

5:30 p.m. The Mighty Clouds of McCullough hail from Gastonia.

ENTERTAINMENT '86

With the new year just beginning I'd like to share a few things that I like to see happening entertainment-wise.

-Wouldn't it be great if all of the recording artists took the time to filter any objectionable material out of the lyrics of their songs? That way there would be no need for albums to be rated like the movies.

-What would really turn me on would be the production of more movies like "The Color Purple" where the talents of black actors and actresses were used on a much regular basis, instead of once every few years.

-Who would complain about seeing a quality variety show like "The Apollo Revue" being shown on network television? Not me. It's rare when I look forward to seeing a program air on the tube, but when that was on I looked forward to watching television.

-If 1986 was the year that television viewers could be assured that a rerun wouldn't run more than twice, that would be a major accomplishment. The way it is now, they have to be called multi-runs.

-Let '86 be the year that Charlotte has more quality concerts. Patti Labelle, David Sanborn, Luther Vandross, Whitney Houston could all make that dream come true by

appearing in Charlotte.

-I think it would be a great idea if Charlotte's local talent got more support from us. It'd be awful nice that when say comedians Lionel Norman or Willie Stratford, or bands The City Kids or Pizazz or that artist T.J. Reddy, Nathan Parker or Tommie Robinson or playwright Karen Jones-Meadows were doing something artistic that we would become excited and run, not walk, to the nearest entertainment spot.

-Last but not least, if rapping is to be with us, it would be positive that the things that the rappers rapped about had messages for our youth and showed less attention to a big butt or a big mouth.

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