

ENTERTAINMENT

SOUND SALVATION

ratings: 5-holy biscuits BY Scott MacDonald
4-la-ti-da 3-not bad
2-not good 1-bleah

UPTOWN MTV UNPLUGGED

Have you ever wondered if hip-hop artists actually have any talent? If the answer is yes, then you'll really want to listen to this latest 'unplugged' collection featuring some of Uptown Records' top recording artists. Without all of the synthesizers and computers these artists prove that they can sing, as they belt out some of their top hits live. The two performers that really steal the show are Jodeci and Mary J. Blige, with Jodeci's remix of Stevie Wonder's masterpiece "Lately". The vocals show great range, making the listener wish that they did more songs a capella. Mary J. Blige's versions of "Sweet Thing" and "Reminisce" are far superior to the versions done on her album, "What's the 411?" and give her claim of 'the new queen of soul' some credence. Other performers on the album are Christopher Williams, Father MC performing "One Nite Stand", and Heavy D & the Boys doing "Is it Good to You" and "Blue Funk". One of the better albums created from the Unplugged series, it gives you a chance to hear the lyrics, and appreciate the artists' talents.

(4)

QUEEN SARAH SATURDAY-WEAVE

Another grunge band, but this one doesn't come from Seattle, so are they any good? The answer is yes. Queen Sarah Saturday (henceforth referred to as QSS) have their own type of sound (a promising sign for a young band), unlike Stone Temple Pilots, a.k.a. Pearl Jam (not to knock the Pilots, they just sound too much like PJ, they don't

have their own identity). Their track "Lift" has a forceful opening guitar sequence that blows the speakers of your stereo apart, and the song "Seems" is a song about love-gone-away that doesn't make the listener want to turn it off. QSS are a group just starting off, but with songs like "Dreamer" and "Mother Nature" they show an ability to vary their style from one cut to the next. Possibly a group to look for in the future.

(3.5)

JAMIROQUAI-EMERGENCY ON PLANET EARTH

On first listen, Jamiroquai is an impossible group to try and put a label on; are they reggae, soul, R & B, or disco? After listening to the CD several times I realized that they are the type of group that you can't stick a label on because they have their own style and they make their music to educate. The inside of the CD jacket gives a statement from the group talking about what is going wrong with the planet, and that the environment needs to be cared for, unusual ideals for many groups today who only care about making money. The song "When are You Gonna Learn? (Digeridoo)" stresses this idea again--they are making music to attempt to educate the listeners. The name 'Jamiroquai' shows their respect for the aboriginal peoples of America, more Even though they try to inform the listener, it may not really matter because overall the album just isn't very good. Maybe they should have spent as much time working on their musical ideals as they did on their political ones.

(2.5)

Genius

By James Gleick

BY ALDERA CHISHOLM

GENIUS IS THE BIOGRAPHY OF nobel prize-winning physicist Richard Feynman. Most of you probably have not heard of Richard Feynman, but you will know his achievements. This man was on the team to create the atom bomb, and he exposed the Challenger space shuttle disaster.

Feynman is presented as being not so much a scientist as a poet/magician; however, this book seemed more like a textbook with all of its ponderous scientific theories. Granted, a certain amount of theory must be given to explain Gleick's achievements, but only

a fellow "genius" could understand all this.

My other problem with this book is that it is a conglomeration of stories and anecdotes about Richard Feynman. The stories aren't strong enough to stand on their own, and they are not in any order- not even chronological, which one would expect in a biography.

If you know who Richard Feynman is, and have a decent physics background, there might be some value in this book. For now it will sit on my shelves and gather dust. Maybe I will try to read it again when I graduate.

Dear **John** and Jane!

advice from a slightly different perspective

VALENTINE'S DAY IS LESS THAN TWO WEEKS AWAY AND A LOT OF YOU ARE PROBABLY WONDERING WHAT TO DO FOR THAT SPECIAL FRIEND. HERE'S OUR TOP TEN LIST:

JOHN'S WISH LIST FOR MEN:

1. A naked singing telegram
2. An evening of controlling the remote control
3. A package of his favorite homemade treats
4. "X-Press" your love in print
5. Tickets to the next concert at the barn
6. A full body massage (with peppermint oil)
7. An evening of watching the movies he wants to rent (without complaint)
8. Offer to type his term paper
9. Buy yourself some sexy lingerie to show him
10. One red rose- guys like flowers too.

JANE'S WISH LIST FOR WOMEN:

1. A box of chocolates
2. An evening without the remote control
3. Coupon for a beauty salon treatment
4. Cook her dinner AND do the dishes
5. An evening of just the two of you (that means no T.V.)
6. Make your own Valentine card
7. "X-Press" you love in print
8. A night on the town, doing whatever she wants
9. Flowers
10. A little bit of Valentine's day all year round