tracks

roger simmons

RATINGS

* A LOSER !
* * POOR
* * * FAIR
* * * * GREAT
* * * * * A WINNER!

Technical Ecstasy

(* * * * *)
TECHNICAL ECSTASTY_BLACK SABBATH (WARNER BROTHERS RECORDS)

This is the most rounded product Black Sabbath has yet to offer us. They give us songs representative of their early albums, some representative of their "Sabotage" period, and some completly new songs not before heard from the Sabbath. The sound is raw throughout, which is the only way for a Sabbath record to sound. "Technical Ecstasty" is the Sabbath sound rough and hard-hitting.

"You Won't Change Me" and "Moving Parts" are examples of this rough edge that has found it's way back into the Sabbath sound. "Gypsy" and "Rock 'N' Roll Doctor" are the tunes resembling "Sabotage" most closely.

You then have to consider tow other songs that are a new direction for Black Sabbath. One is "It's Alright", with a great vocal by the Sab's drummer, and could easily be a successful single for the band. The other song is "She's Gone", which is dominated by various strings arrangements.

Black Sabbath has decided to make their rockers heavier and to insert some soft material in their albums to offset it. They have accomplished this trick with "Technical Ecstasty".

(* * * *) MAN TO MAN-HOT CHOCOLATE (BIG TREE REGORDS)

This album can be divided down the middle into two categories; pop formula hits and disco-influenced soul. It goes without saying that Hot Chocolate are better off sticking to those great Top 40 songs like "You Sexy Thing" and while Stephen Still's material is ineffective at best. Two of Young's best are "long May You Run" and "Ocean Girl". But as is the case of every combination of Crosby, Stills, Nash& Young, this band won't last long. Go it solo agian, Mr. Young!

(* * *) WIRELESS-WIRELESS (ATLANTIC RECORDS)

Wireless is a new Canadian band, totally lacking any originality. They are influenced by everybody and sound like it. Their music lacks anything that says it's Wireless and not Led Zeppelin or The Who. "Lady Anne" is the only song that saves the elpee from being -a total wipeout. They will have to improve their material or I feel Atlantic will give these guys the boot.

NEXT WEEK: Bolin, Orleans, Byron, Dylan, Twilley, and others.

NEW RELEASES: The Song Remains The Same-Led Zeppelin' A New World Record - ELO' The Whole World's A Stage - Rush; Rotogravure - Ringo Starr and "Emma". Both of the songs have their complements on "Man To Man". The "You Sexy Thing" of this album is "Don't Stop It Now", which was a moderately successful single itself. "Emma"s companion tune is the title cut, "Man To Man" complete with a catchy riff, sharp organ tough, and whispered vocals. The other Top 40 song is "Seventeen Years Of Age", a love ballad in every sense of the word. Most of the rest of the album is soul/disco the best of these being "Harry". If you think three Top 40 songs warrant the purchase of this record, go ahead. You won't be disappointed as far as those songs go.

(* * *) BURTON CUMMINGS-BURTON CUMMINGS (PORTRAIT RECORDS)

Everybody knows he led the Guess Who -long with Randy Bachman' until 1970 and then to 1975 by himself. He's now on his own on a brand new label with CBS. This album consists of half a dozen terrible songs and four or five fair or great ones. The great ones are"I'm Scared", which has a religious theme that works well, "Stand Tall" the first successful single from the album, "You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet", Randy Bachman's hit tune which Burton slows down to a 1940's crawl with the piano, and "Nothing Rhymed, a Gilbert O'Sullivan song. Cummings voice is full and resounding on this album, and his piano work is consistently competent. An album of consistently good material is all that's needed.

(* *) GREATEST HIST-ABBA(ATLANTIC RECORDS)

Buy the "S.O.S." and "Fernando" singles and forget about the rest of this album. The filler material is second rate, even for Abba.

(* * *) LONG MAY YOU RUN-THE STILLS YOUNG BAND (REPRISE RECORDS)

It's too bad Neil Young didn't write this whole album himself. Every song he writes and signs on this album is great

INTRODUCING

Dear Murna

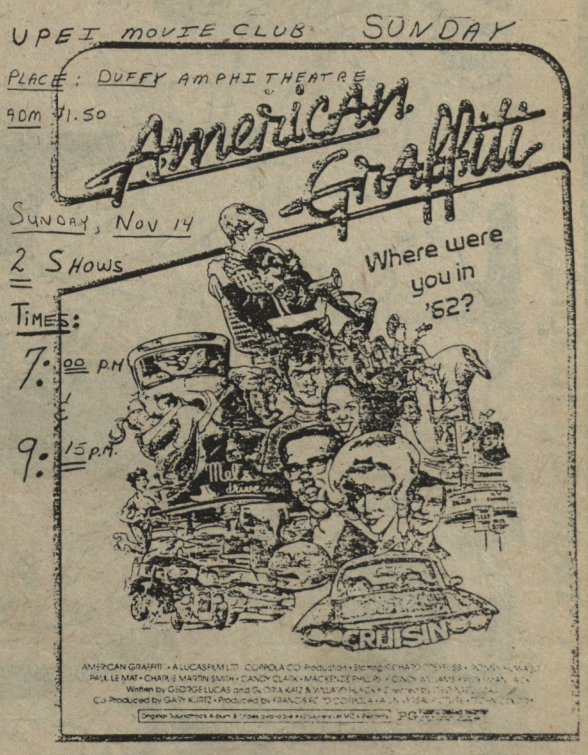
Dear Murna
This is not a personal problem, but every Tuesday around 11:00 p.m. I receive an obscene phone call. He says awful things what he is going to do to me, etc. etc. SOMETHING a decent girl(like myself) shouldn't hear.I would tell you what he says but I would not like to ruin your virgin ears.Please advise what a respectful girl like myself should do if he calls again.
Signed
Experienced Ears

Dear Ears
The next time he calls tell him actions speak louder than words.That should shut him up. Most of those guys who call like that have one the size of a small lead pencil and they're not dangerous
Signed
MURNA

Dear Murma
I have a problem. I find it hard to meet people.What should I do?
Lonely

Dear Lonely
There are several options open to you.(It would have helped if you had said if you were male or female)
1.-Pull fire alarm at 3:00 A.M. and stand in corridor
2.-Write your name,address, and phone number on all the napkins in the cafeteria.
3.-Submit your name to the Cadre's 'MOST WANTED LIST" (1st edition next week)
4.-Phone up all numbers on washroom walls.
5.-Set up a kissing booth at at a Pig n' Whistle(don't charge).
6.-If there are no visible results within two weeks, forget it and join a monastery.
Signed
Murna

Do you have problems? Sex? Booze? Dope? Halitosis? Write in to me, Murna, and I will answer all problems.



REMEMBER KISS
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