



The Music Beet



By Paul Bradley

🍷🍷🍷 Pretenders 11 - the Pretenders

It has not taken long for the Pretenders to prove that they are head and shoulder above most of what is going on in music today. The band's first single "Brass In Pocket" gave them something of a punk image - an image that is laid to rest with Pretenders 11.

With the exception of a couple of ballads, the album is pure, clean rock and roll. In fact, you could classify some of the material as heavy rock. Normally the latter turns me off because it tends to be little more than mindless noise. The pretenders' talent lies in the fact that they make heavy rock sound good - very good.

I doubt if Pretenders 11 will yield any singles (the band doesn't seem to be interested in reworking the formula - ridden pop that congests AM radio) but if you're looking for a cut to sink your teeth into try "Message of Love", a Wilson Pickett update that is guaranteed to move you.

"The English Roses", which laments the girl next door and her

'thousand broken dates' is, in my opinion, the best Pretenders song since "Brass in Pocket".

Of the remaining tunes, I hesitate to pick one over another because they are all good. The combination of the album's arrangements (solid) and Chrissie Hynde's vocal delivery (sometimes witty, sometimes sexy, sometimes bitchy) is unbeatable.

I could talk in superlatives at length about Pretenders 11. All I really need to say is, get the album. All cuts are recommended.

🍷🍷🍷 1/2 Sandinista - The Clash

One of the most striking features about The Clash is their ambition. Following two mediocre albums (The Clash and Give 'em Enough Rope) this English band built a substantial North American following with the landmark double LP set London Calling and the hit single "Train in Vain (Stand By Me)". Now, The Clash have followed with Sandinista! a triple album.

One has to marvel at the bands marketing techniques. Who but the Clash would release a triple LP named after a Nicaraguan terrorist group, supply a lyric

sheet in the form of a tabloid entitled "The Armagedon Times", and price the collection at less than the cost of a double album.

Admittedly, some of the material on Sandinista is filler. There are about three sides of good stuff which is pretty good considering that today's average band could sum up its intelligent thoughts on one side of a '45, with room to spare.

With the exception of a couple of songs, the theme of the collection is war, conflict, and conquest. (ABBA they are not). Sometimes the theme is dealt with seriously; sometimes with tongue firmly in cheek. In fact, the lyrics alone are almost worth the price of admission.

The all-encompassing theme shows the Clash commenting on British imperialism ("Something About England"); American involvement in Vietnam ("Charlie Don't Surf" - if you saw Apocalypse Now you should get the connection); and even the Russian invasion of Afghanistan ("Washington Bullets" - a sample from the song: If you can find an Afghan rebel that the Moscow bullets missed /

Ask him what he thinks of voting Communist.").

The band also takes a humorous look at evangelism in the "Sound of the Sinners". They write: 'After all this time, to believe in Jesus/ After all those drugs, I thought I was him.'

Although the Clash have been labelled as a punk band, Sandinista proves that they will not restrict themselves to any particular style. They try everything from reggae and dub to soul to jazz to rockabilly to rock and roll - and most of it works. Somehow you don't mind the production's leaving a little rough around the edges: that is a Clash trademark and they make no apologies for it.

If you like soft, syrupy ballads, Sandinista! will do little for your sweet tooth. On the other hand, if you want to check out one of the more interesting and exciting bands in music today, give Sandinista! a listen. Recommended cuts: "Midnight Log", "Charlie Don't Surf", "Police on My Back", "Somebody Got Murdered", "The Leader", and "Hitsville, U.K."

Albums by:

SAM THE RECORD MAN

61 UNIVERSITY AVE.

"YOUR COMPLETE MUSIC CENTRE"



Rumor Hath It...

- that the girls from New Brunswick found their peeping hole again! Watch it guys!
- that a certain Scottish guy who plays soccer and hockey has a tilt in his kilt. (in the whirlpool)
- that M.L. likes stealing men in uniform away from the needy.
- that the men's basketball team has tripled the Island Black population.
- that last year's yearbook has gone to press.
- that Parloo can't shit without her name being in Rumour Hath It.
- that a certain stud on 3rd floor Blanchard had the "Blues" Friday night.
- that Mrytle da Turtle from da nort shore discovered P.D. last weekend.

- that the daughter of the director of the vet college likes to get her car towed by security.
- that everyone is going to live it up at the first ski pub of the year Saturday night, (Who ever heard of letting the snow fly first?)
- that deadlines are already starting to cause tension (pimple headlines) on policy students.
- that the Vice-president of Bernadine was caught modelling her toga three days early.
- that K.G. gave D.... from Marion his "revealing" photo back but kept the negative just in case.
- that a certain American from 4th floor Bernadine enjoys attacking male day students.
- that there were more than 20 people in one bed in Bernadine 213 last Saturday night.
- that someone has a crush on the "big guy" so watch it big guy!!