Kecords

The Hyphenears What Are Stars? The Stars Are What Separates Us From the Animals, You Sonovabitch

"Holy shit, Batman, not one of these men is wearing polyester

"That's right, Robin — they play mean and dirty, real ass-kicker

Once again the Legendary Hyphen-Smythe and the Imagi-nary Legacy Of Ears team up to bring you the follow-up to the terribly good Garden Of Lycanthropy and Sonovabitch is even better. All their influences are shoved

into the TV Eye blender to produce something completely ... um, well, what? Different? Original? Shee-it, it just is. It stomps, shouts, mumbles, curses and screams in a seemingly haphazard manner. An island vision all their own, it could only happen in New Zealand. But hell! Let's not get too seri

ous! Check out 'Diamond Head', 'Ring Your Rosie' and 'What's the Shakes'; this IS ass-kicker stuff. 'She Somewhat Bloodless' curled round ma brain with some phazed guitar, and 'Monkey' is wonderfully psychedelic to these ears.

It seems the Ape-men are playing more *arranged* songs. 'The Wizard Of Weather' has a neat melody, good backing vocals — theres more happening here than on first impression, but the crazi-est, most wonderful track of all has to be 'Long Gone'. "I'm in a rocket and the controls are set for shouts KS amidst the

What more could you wish for
the best album title of the year
and music that'll blow the top of your head off if you're willing. Buy

All the Million Sellers (Motown)

A reissue of a compilation focussing on the vocal group's years with Norman Whitfield writyears with Norman Whitfield writing and producing — from 'Ain' Too Proud To Beg' (1966) to 'Papa Was A Rolling Stone' (1972). There is only one early Smokey Robinson-produced song ('My Girl', 1964) but this LP is still excellent listening. Most of the psychedelic tracks feature Dennis Edwards (left group 1984) but the original (left group 1984) but the original vocalists seen with Hall and Oates on *Live Aid* are here too — Eddie Kendricks ('Just My Imagination') and David Ruffin ('Ain't Too Proud To Beg,' 'I Wish It Would Rain.' **Katrina and the Waves** MC

Walking On Sunshine' is one of those singles that, despite its familiar formula, wins you over by sheer exuberance. Only two other tracks here pull off the same stroke. Each is sequenced in the middle of a side and both are writ-ten about Mexico. (One even riffs of that old chestnut 'La Bamba'. Elsewhere on the album, the formula can get tedious. 'Cry For Me' sounds suspiciously like a heavy handed rework of a great old Pret-ty Things hit, 'Cry To Me.' 'Game Of Love' begins with Chuck Berry and then introduces Everly Brothers harmonies for a self-consciously period lyric. (It also wins a Dave Edmunds plectrum for its revivalist guitar solo.) 'Red Wine and Whisky' is, of course, another barroom glighe. All tracks her period. room cliche. All tracks, bar one, were written by the American lead guitarist and they're all sung by an Englishwoman. At least the time-warp is transatlantic.

Shalamar, Heart Break (Solar) Bigger, punchier hip hop beats and strong-man guitar solos make up the new sound of old pop/soul the only original member left, and although he sang the lead on their previous singles, somehow the

new songs lack the svelte, sweet boy and girl charm of 'A Night To Remember' and "Second Time Around: Including producers Stanley Clarke and Bill Winthrop, Heart Break is aimed at the dancefloor with last year's 'Dancin' In the Sheets, 'My Girl Loves Me' and 'Amnesia,' all of which suggest the human condition at its best. PG

numan condition at its best. PG
Dan Fogelberg
High Country Snows (Epic)
Throughout his flirtation with
pop-flavoured music, Fogelberg
has always kept one foot near his
C&W roots. Waiting for the opportune moment to make his tribute
to traditional American C&W Table is it; and it's all here: the up-tempo mandolin/fiddle duel, the waltztime weepy, even a touch of accapella. They're all here too — Ricky Skaggs, Al Perkins, Chris Hillman, Charlie McCoy, Doc watson, et al. It's country, it's American and it's true to form. an and it's true to form. SGE Eric Clapton
Behind the Sun (Warner Bros)

Clapton's dour expression on the album's inner sleeve photo suggests the discomfort of the gamekepper unexpectedly asked to tea with Lord Chatterley. This passionless record suggests the numble guitar plucker asked unexpectedly to srum up a storm. Producer/participant Phil Collins gives Clapton's "pop squire" side

a techno rhythmic hook, but there's little steam in the boiler. The too-obvious debt to 'Layla' of 'Forever Man, is considerably lesser song, is just that.

Singles Bar

Nile Rodgers Let's Go Out Tonight (WEA) 12" Master of the good groove goes Nippon funk in this elegant chunk of dynamic hedonism. Pity about the bit in the middle.

David Grant and Jaki Graham Could It Be I'm Falling In Love (Chrysalis)

This was great when the Spinners did it way back in the mid-70s and it loses nothing in its regurgitation. Ex Lynx man David Grant puts in a heartfelt vocal, as does the unknown (to me) Jaki Graham Even a radio programmer could

Velt a radio programmer of tell this is a hit.
Frankie Goes To Hollywood Welcome To the Pleasure Dome (ZTT) 12"

Wot a lurvy bowl of fruit. After seeing those two pissed louts singing this lurvly in't Rover's Return snug, it'll never be the same again. That also goes for

'Get It On', which gets the full pub singalong treatment, a million years from the overblown decimaion of the Power Station's version

Rock Me Tonight (Capitol)

A smooth little 'Sexual Healing' steal that spreads its love across your turntable but doesn't quite find the necessary bpm's to hold a dancefloor. Makeout music.

The Dream Academy Life In A Northern Town (WEA)

Nice title, shame about the song. I actually refuse to believe that anyone called Nick Laird-Clowes knows anything about northern towns. This could be this year's 'Doot Doot' and surprise us

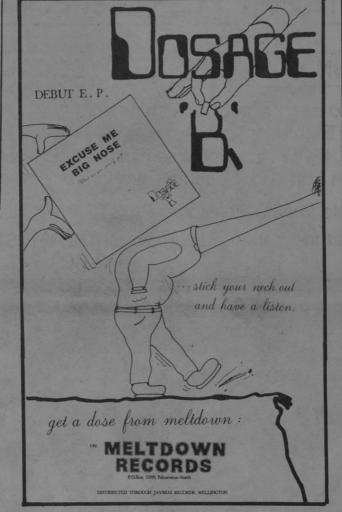
The Lady Don't Mind (EMI) 12" I know that Talking Heads are now the biggest thing since Trivial Pursuit and Divine combined but I still can't get enthusiastic about their new album. S'all right,

The Big Sound Authority This House (Is Where Your Love Stands) (MCA) 12"

White-boy British slightly greeneyed soul, featuring everything but the kitchen sink wrapped in a slightly plodding arrangement that sort of works, just.







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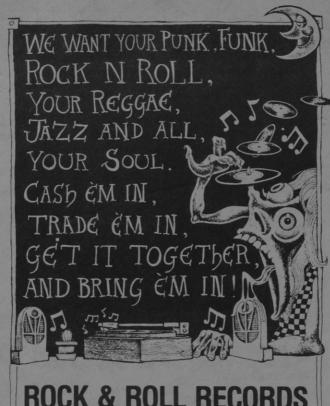
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