Jerry's Orphans
By Joshua Benton

So. You've made it through another Labor Day weekend. You probably went somewhere, maybe to Florida to catch some rays, or perhaps to your aunt's house in Shreveport. Maybe you went to Baton Rouge to watch the volleyball game; maybe you just stayed at home. But wherever you were, you probably caught at least a glimpse of the Jerry Lewis's MDA Telethon, whose twenty-two hours invaded no less than five Louisiana stations on Jerry's "Love Network."

If you're like most people, seeing Jerry Lewis accept, tears running down his cheek, a $300,000 check from the International Brotherhood of Firemen, listening to Eddie Rabbitt croon on the evil of muscular dystrophy, and seeing Ed McMahon for painfully long periods of time is not your idea of a fun time. Even if the French consider him a comedic genius, you've got to admit - Jerry Lewis is at times the single most annoying creature on the face of the earth. But, while you were watching (or, probably, not watching), groups across the country were actually protesting the Telethon - groups of people with muscular dystrophy. That's right. You'd think they'd stop short of biting the hand that feeds them, but a group called "Jerry's Orphans" has been fighting their namesake every step of the way.

Jerry's Orphans founder Cris Matthews, a former MDA poster child, says his group isn't really against a cure for the disease per se; Matthews says "choosing to be cured is a very personal decision that we make no judgement on." (I suppose, each individual should have their own separate telethon - but only if they want to be cured.) What Matthews really objects to is the idea that living in a

The Arc Angels
By Anthony Wilson

Album Review: The Arc Angels, The Arc Angels

Breakdown:
Rating: ** (of 5)
Best Stuff: Almost everything, notably "Too Many Ways to Fall," "Spanish Moon," and "Living In a Dream."
Fast Forwards: None glaring.
Overall Impression: Blues-edged retrorock; a near-classic.

The Arc Angels are a relatively new band made up of rock and roll veterans Charlie Sexton and Doyle Bramhall, as well as the former rhythm section of Stevie Ray Vaughan's band, Double Trouble. The resulting music makes for a powerful, exciting, and dynamic if unoriginal album. Sexton and Bramhall, who share lead vocal and guitar duties, complement each other beautifully: Bramhall's blues guitar power adds a spark to Sexton's work that was absent on the latter's solo albums, while Sexton's sweet breathy vocal style and pop sensibilities add life to Bramhall, who might otherwise be doomed to a career typecast as a cut-rate Stevie Ray Vaughan. Together, these two talented solo performers with problematic careers combine to produce sheer dynamite.

The album opens with "Living In a Dream," a heavy rocker laced with neat harmonies and guitar embellishments reminiscent of Jimi Hendrix. "Paradise Cafe" is next, an old-style rocker reminiscent of the Stones and Faces. It's hard blues-rock cuts like these that make this album - the ballads, "Sent By Angels" and "See What Tomorrow Brings," fall slightly flat when compared to the rollicking raunch-guitar blast of "Spanish Moon" or the grim power of "Too Many Ways to Fall."
Roger Waters
By George Hardy and Joshua Benton

Album Review: Amused to Death, Roger Waters

Breakdown:
Rating: ** 1/2 (of 5)
Best Stuff: "What Gods Want, Parts I-III;"
"The Bravery of Being Out of Range;"
"Amused to Death;"
Fast Forwards: "Perfect Sense, Parts I-III;"
Overall Impression: Waters returns to the atmospherics of Pink Floyd while maintaining his lyrical edge.

Roger Waters has spent most of his adult life serving as bassist, lead singer, and songwriter/lyricist for Pink Floyd. During his stay, he penned such classics as The Dark Side of the Moon and The Wall, both of which enjoyed immense critical and commercial success. In 1984, during an acrimonious split with Floyd guitarist David Gilmour, Waters left the group, spurring a round of legal action. Waters lost (badly) and was forced to allow his former bandmates the use of the Pink Floyd name and explore a solo career.

Since then, the revamped Pink Floyd has triumphantly returned with 1987's best seller, A Momentary Lapse of Reason; Waters has struggled along in obscurity. In 1984, he released The Pros and Cons of Hitch Hiking, featuring Eric Clapton on guitar. It might have been good, if it had only had a tune. In 1987, Waters made Radio K.A.O.S., a middling effort drenched in funk-pop drive. In 1990, he released a live edition of The Wall recorded at the Berlin Wall and featuring an all-star cast (but without the rest of Pink Floyd); the improvement was remarkable. For the first time, Waters actually seemed to be enjoying himself.

After four years of delay, Waters finally released Amused to Death, an album alternating between Floydian magic, repulsive female vocals, and twisted sound effects. The entire work centers around a Tutwilerian view of television and the concept that the individual is lost in a sea of aggression, war, oppression, and unfulfilled desires.

The album opens with "The Ballad of Bill Hubbard," a Floydian amalgam of synthesized atmospherics, Jeff Beck's guest guitar, and a World War I tale. Its roots lie equally in Pink Floyd's "Shine On You Crazy Diamond" and "Signs of Life." Continuing the theme that "war is hell, Waters bursts into part one of "What God Wants," a rocking anthem of religious discontent. Next up are the two parts of "Perfect Sense," a complete assault on any musical sensibility. What's lacking is less lyricism or harmony than a decent female singer. The wretched P. P. Arnold belts out a minute or two of quirt-busting, rhythmless wails which completely ruin an otherwise respectable song.

The rest of the album benefits greatly from a variety of guest musicians as different as Beck, Don Henley, Rita Coolidge, Andy Fairweather Low, the Who's John Brundrick, Zebras Randy Jackson, sportscaster Marv Albert, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers' Flea. High points, such as "Watching TV" and "The Bravery of Being Out of Range," are much more Floyd-influenced than his past solo efforts; they're not the tune-less ramblings of Hitch Hiking or the post-industrial funk of K.A.O.S. As a result, the album is much more satisfying musically than its predecessors.

Lyrically, Waters is as strong as ever. Always one of the best lyricists around, he falters occasionally into preaching at the listener, but still hold the talent of turning the perfect phrase. This album is truly better than expected. After a few abortive efforts, Waters is truly coming into his own, though in a thoroughly post-Pink way. He has improved considerably with each album and can only keep getting better.

Video Reviews
By Lesley Barrouse

Aside from such masterpieces as Career Opportunities (filmed almost entirely within the doors of a Target Store) and Mannequin Two: On the Move (the fantasy of an effeminate loser whose heart is stolen by a sexy plastic figure), there do exist more tasteful interludes. Two of these worth the rental price and a few hours of your time are Cape Fear, starring Robert DeNiro and Nick Nolte, and Grand Canyon, starring Kevin Kline and Steve Martin. This pair, although different in style, are both evidence that there is hope for the movie business.

If you enjoy suspenseful dramas and thrillers, and don’t have trouble sleeping after watching them, Cape Fear is an excellent choice. Adapted from the original screenplay of the 1950’s, starring Gregory
The Ten Worst Movies of All Time
By Emily Young

The obscure movies listed here range from boring to stupid to downright disgusting. As you read this list, you may think to yourself, "I've never even heard of these movies." If so, congratulations!

1. **Eraserhead** (1977) - A seemingly endless exercise in bad taste, this film simply defies logic. The title comes from a dream sequence in which the hero's dismembered head is taken to a secret factory and used as raw material for the manufacturing of pencil erasers. Even for devoted fans of David Lynch, this movie requires a lot of stamina to watch.

2. **Rented Lips** (1988) - A truly bad film featuring Martin Mull, Robert Downey, Jr., and Jennifer Tilly, one of the most annoying actresses ever to tarnish the silver screen. The plot has something to do with filmmaking and was showcased on USA's "Up All Night," which should say something about its quality.

3. **Pink Flamingos** (1972) - This thoroughly disgusting film was directed by John Waters, who once said that "having my movies is like getting a standing ovation." If you have good viewing taste, or any taste at all, steer clear of this one, which stars Divine as "the filthiest person alive."

4. **The Last Horror Film** - Starring Caroline Munro, a former James Bond villainess, this is one of the most ridiculous horror flicks ever made. Munro is stalked by a greasy, overweight fan all the way to the Cannes Film Festival. Will she escape? Will she be able to maintain a healthy tan? Do we care?

5. **Whales of August** (1987) - Indisputably the most boring film on this list, it stars Bette Davis and Lillian Gish in her last film role. Their talents are completely wasted. If you have insomnia, quit taking those sedatives and rent this video instead.

6. **Boom!** (1968) - Starring Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton (that's right!), this film has fortunately never been released on videocassette. Based on the Tennessee Williams play, The Milk Train Don't Stop Here Anymore, it included Burton's straightfaced delivery of such immortal lines as "Boom! The sound of each moment, of still being alive." while watching the tide roll in. Taylor spouts insanities such as, "Is it true you had all those monkey-gland shots in Switzerland?" A must-see for enthusiasts of bad cinema.

7. **Strangest Dreams: Invasion of the Space Preachers** (1986) - Another "Up All Night" staple, this movie is an awful attempt at a Roger Corman meets Mel Brooks style. Don't look for it on PBS anytime soon.

8. **Siesta** (1987) - Often found in the "Manager's Picks" section of your local video store, this movie bills itself as a mystery thriller. The mystery is "what's the plot?" Follow Ellen Barkin as she drifts in and out of consciousness through a well-casted but otherwise dreadful film.

9. **Naked Lunch** (1992) - Directed by David Cronenberg, this revolting film features several scenes involving Peter Weller (of Robocop fame) having a conversation with a beetle the size of a typewriter. The beetle speaks out of its... well, ask someone who's seen the movie. If you like bugs, this one's for you.

10. **They Live** - Yet another alien-invasion movie. This flop stars professional wrestler Rowdy Roddy Piper. Any questions?

The Eclectic is:
Editors:
Joshua Benton
Anthony Wilson
Joshua Mammen

Staff:
Charles Barrouse
Lesley Barrouse
Giff Briggs
Loula Burton
Prashant Gupta
Mark Kwong
Sean Bin\dh Manuel
Darren Massari
Norman McKellar
Romney Miller
Emily Young

Sponsor: Mr. C. Cabell Tutwiler
Buffy...
By Anthony Wilson

Album Review: "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" Soundtrack, Various Artists

Breakdown:
Rating: ** 1/2 (of 5)
Best Stuff: "Silent City" by Matthew Sweet, "Little Heaven" by Toad the Wet Sprocket, "Zap City" by the Cult.
Fast Forwards: "Keep It Comin’ (Dance Till You Can’t Dance No More!)" by C+C Music Factory, "Man Smart, Woman Smarter" by Dream Warriors.
Overall Impression: A pleasantly surprising if inconsistent album; the high points are superb and the low points are abysmal.

When I first received this album for review, I expected something on par with a live Don Ho double album or an Osmonds box set. It was the soundtrack to the most inane movie of the year, doubtless a meaningless mass of bubblegum pop aimed at the typical "Tiger Beat" reading Luke Perry fan. The first two songs seemed to confirm my hypothesis. The album opens with "Keep It Comin’," a new scoop of musical mush from the C+C Music Factory assembly line. As much as I dislike the general pop-rap genre, C+C’s Freedom Williams was always an entertaining figure who added some measure of color to C+C’s nearly identical singles. Well, Freedom is gone, now, replaced by some imbecile by the name of Q-Unique. Lines like, "Yo, leggo my Eggo" abound in this song, set to background music that sounds like an amalgam of the past three singles. Physically painful.

The next song may be worse than the first, a tepid pseudo-reggae disaster called "Man Smart, Woman Smarter," by the Dream Warriors. Ugh. Bob Marley meets the New Kids to a background that sounds like the sample on a Casio keyboard. Execrable.

Just as I was lapsing into the most dismal depths of musical discontent, Matthew Sweet’s "Silent City" exploded from the speakers like a firestorm. Sweet is a talented young songwriter (I recommend his solo album, Girlfriend) and this song’s mixture of wailing lead guitar and well structured harmonics was like a tonic after the mind-melting vacuity of the first two songs. From that point on, the album seems to take off. After a short lapse into pop tedium in the form of Susanna Hoffs’ "We Close Our Eyes," the album becomes consistently pretty good and occasionally very good. The later high points include "Little Heaven," an achingly beautiful ballad by Toad the Wet Sprocket, "I Ain’t Gonna Eat My Heart Out Anymore," a pleasant surprise from the Di-vinyls, and "Zap City" by the ever-amazing Cult. The album ends rather disappointingly with the plodding Goth-metal opus "Light Comes Out of Black" by former Judas Priest frontman Rob Halford, but not before it establishes itself as, at least occasionally, a very credible musical volume.

Barb and Hillary
By Bindu Manuel

Image research can go to extremes when it comes to presidential candidates and their running mates. The press can ruin a campaign with a shred of any scandalous evidence. In this presidential race, the issue of the "correct" image proceeds even farther to include the first ladies. Combined with this press coverage and the emphasis on family values, the two potential first ladies are rapidly creating their first ladies through trial and error.

Barbara Bush has sailed through America with support from everyone. As a grandmotherly figure, she is an example of good family values. At the Republican National Convention, she expounded her devotion and faith in her husband. She sentimentally recalled life on the army base with George. Gathering her family around her on the podium, she presented her fourteen-year-old grandson who ended his speech with the rallying cry, "Viva Bush!"

Hillary Clinton was introduced to America by her husband as a Wesleyan graduate and as one of the top lawyers in the country. Armed with this description of intelligence, Hillary appealed to modern working women. Bill Clinton announced that by voting for him, Americans would be getting "two for one." The thought of having an influential first lady disturbed many people; the Hillary bashing began. Democrat Jerry Brown accused her of benefiting unfairly from her law firm's con-

LADIES - CONTINUED ON PAGE 8
Global Warming
By Romney Miller

These days, environmentalists and scientists everywhere are screaming about the hole in the earth's ozone layer and the threat of global warming. However, the ozone and global warming problems are really only hypotheses about the reason for the earth's climactic change. No one knows for sure whether the earth is changing due to man or changing due to nature.

The hole in the ozone layer must be examined in detail. Supposedly the protective ozone layer which shields the earth from ultraviolet radiation is under attack by such manmade products as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). CFCs are used in air conditioners and as aerosol propellants; according to scientists, these products take several years to reach the ozone layer. Because of this, scientists say that the hole in the ozone layer is being caused by man and his pollutants.

However, scientists really have no idea whether the ozone depletion is an unnatural occurrence or a natural one. No one has documented there being a complete ozone layer or a depleted one in the past. Thus, perhaps in the past the ozone layer naturally contained holes due to depletion of ozone caused by natural circumstances. Scientists have made attempts to create a model of the earth to find out the effects of man's pollution. Yet, the earth is way too complicated a biological system to create an accurate computer model of the ozone problem.

The greenhouse effect known as global warming is supposedly caused by pollutants such as carbon dioxide being released into the air as a result of the combustion of fossil fuels. The pollutants, according to scientists, form a layer in the earth's atmosphere which traps in heat just like the walls of a greenhouse. Scientists believe that man has actually warmed the earth because of gradual measurements that indicate an increase in temperature as time goes on.

Throughout history, the earth has experienced drastic changes in temperature which caused it to move in and out of periodic Ice Ages. Perhaps the current warming trend is merely indicative of the natural temperature cycles. If the earth were to get colder in the future, scientists would probably say soot in the air caused by pollution was blocking the sunlight and causing "dangerously low" temperature. Because of these possibilities, do not accept the ozone and warming problems at face value.

Censorship
By Charles Barrouse

When was the last time you heard a U.S. citizen refer to his government as a dictatorship? Probably not any time recently, because we do not have one man in absolute power assuming the role of lifestyle instructor. Yet in the music industry, many groups, like the PMRC, threaten the sales, perhaps even existence, of numerous bands.

People who support censorship often consider the music they are trying to ban obscene and filthy. For this reason, these individuals deem the music worthy of trash. But one man's trash is another man's treasure! That reason is why censorship is quite debated: music is a matter of opinion. In a country like the U.S., the opinions of many of the diverse cultural and personal minorities are guaranteed by the government to be protected and heard.

In the defense of the restrained musician, the First Amendment to the Constitution is always noted by people against censorship. This important document entitles the freedom of speech to everyone, with the exception of a mute; but he has freedom of the press. Because of the First Amendment, propaganda has no place in the music industry. If one considers a certain form of music awful, he is entitled to his rights as listened to prevent himself from hearing it. One has just as much of a right to choose to listen to the music, also.

One probably associates censorship in music as affixing a label to an album cover with "explicit lyrics"; but that method exists as just the surface of the issue. Some premises of musical censorship many people are not even aware of.

Another censorship issue at hand in the U.S. remains in the visual arts. In recent years, citizens have witnessed many paintings and photographs that are shocking to some, while regarded as works of genius by others. Alive and well in the music industry, visual arts censorship troubles many people. The album covers selected by musicians are often altered or CENSORSHIP - CONTINUED ON PAGE 8
The Fall of America
By Joshua Mammen

The use of military power has always played a significant role in the development and fall of civilizations throughout the centuries. From the Biblical defeat of the Canaanites to the defeat of Iraq in the Gulf War, arms have determined the relative strengths of competing nations throughout the world. Following the Darwinian idea of "survival of the fittest," nations which could not defend themselves were easily defeated by their neighbors. (Think of Hitler.) The United States has always been able to construct a massive military machine at will, transforming itself from a dormant isolationist nation to one of the greatest military powers ever known to man. The quick metamorphosis was able to quickly defeat Adolf Hitler when America felt that its interests were in danger.

Even though military might is still necessary to maintain a strong foothold in the world, a mightier force has emerged as the determining factor of the strength of a nation. "Economic stability is the single most important facet of a country at the present time. Military threats no longer exist around every corner to challenge the existence of freedom for a large number of people of the world. Instead, the problems of the global community result from the lack of capital with which to feed the people of a region or to guarantee that a nation will not suffer economic collapse which could lead to political chaos. Indeed, the reason that Somalia has such a shortage of food is the armed thugs who patrol the roads in order to capture food convoy, but, as one relief worker pointed out, such a situation would not occur if nourishment were readily available for all. Furthermore, a healthy populace will be able to worry about the formation of a new government only after being guaranteed enough food to eat and shelter in which to live. Even when military power is used, the ends are often monetary. Under a guise of saving the people of Kuwait, the United States waged a war against Iraq to prevent the possibility that Saddam Hussein would control a large percentage of the world's oil. Economic concerns dominate the problems of the world.

As the world begins to focus on money as a very important item, the new rules for determining prestige among nations must also use monetary standards of judgement. But by refusing to change from the failing system of deregulation and laissez faire, the economy of America has slipped into an uncomfortable recession. Even though Japan has its own recession and Germany faces internal strife, only the U.S. can claim a multi-trillion dollar deficit. Without the resources to pull itself out of a recession, the country is in a horrible fix. More spending would only increase the deficit, but less spending would deepen the recession. While the U.S. is attempting to define a sensible economic plan (which depends on the next president), Germany and Japan will be controlling and preventing American trade in Europe and the Pacific Rim. America's proposed trade pact with Mexico will not be able to equalize the losses suffered by American goods locked German and Japanese controlled areas.

The new struggle and problems are based on economics, and, as Jeffrey A. Garten indicates in A Cold Peace, the United States will only an equal of Germany and Japan in the competition. Just to maintain the status of one of the three major powers in the world, America must quickly restructure its economic policy. Since George Bush's plan has failed, a new option must be sought. Reaganomics, which Bush once termed "voodoo economics," have been used for the past three years. Only Bill Clinton has suggested that the old system be abandoned, not bandaged. Clinton, not Bush, will be able to use fresh ideas to maintain America's leadership position in the global community.

Jerry - cont'd from p. 1

wheelchair (in his terminology, being "differently abled") is not the best way to live, that having use of your limbs is generally good.

Matthews claims that if someone is disabled, it shouldn't be considered a bad thing. Matthews uses the analogy that we don't try to make all black people white, so why should we make disabled people healthy? Aside from being remarkably insulting to blacks, his comment is simply wrong. The idea that a person's physical being shouldn't be improved flies in the face of everything that Western society believes. If you have a cold, do you sit back and muse on how taking Tylenol is "a personal decision" and how no one should
consider giving you an Advil? If you were shot in the chest, would you want the ambulance driver to take the time to ask if you wanted help? Would you ever conceive of responding, "well, this IS a personal choice. I don't want you to make me 'normal' again. You're infringing my personal dignity!" The idea that the use of your body below the neck is "optional" and in no way helps you lead a normal life is nothing short of insane.

The disabled population of America has made strides recently in gaining acceptance in the "real world." But, too often, they go too far. The much-heralded Americans with Disabilities Act which recently came out of Washington does lots of good; but it also requires for absurdities to force their way into the marketplace. For example, if someone has no arms, he must be considered for a typing job on equal grounds with anyone else. Employers must either outfit their new typist with a voice-activated system (cost: $2,500) or order a special mouth-piece (cost: $150) which allows typing at speeds of up to ten words per minute. Equal opportunity shouldn't mean this. (Note: in one of the first legal battles over the statute, a Nevada prostitute is suing a brothel's madam who refused to hire her because, according to the madam, "she was ugly, fat, and deformed sexually." The case is pending.)

Some of these people make valid points. Activist Nancy Becker Kennedy remarks that calling adults with MD a "kid" is really no different than calling a black man "boy." Perhaps pity isn't the best route for these people. I think at one time or another we've all found Jerry Lewis just the slightest bit patronizing toward his "kids." But the way to change public attitude toward the disabled isn't to say don't give money to cure them. You can give to the poor without calling them bums; you can protect the civil rights of blacks without calling them "boy;" you can help MD victims without calling them "kids." The only reason to turn off Jerry Lewis once a year is if you think the show just isn't good (or at least hasn't been since Sammy Davis, Jr., died). But if a plane crashes in the ocean, you don't ask people if they want a life jacket; Jerry's Orphans forget in their bitterness that being disabled isn't the greatest thing in the world; finding a cure isn't caving in to some conforming force. It's merely recognizing that limbs aren't some great evil and that being "normal" isn't so bad, either.

Arc Angels - cont'd from p. 1

The Arc Angels do little that is really new or groundbreaking; like the Black Crowes, they are content to produce powerful distillations of what's best about classic rock and roll, the soulful elements that have been all but forgotten in the metal age of the 80's and early 90's. They are a band who may well be forgotten in five years, but who will play a crucial role in keeping real rock and roll alive and free from commerciality. And, at least on this debut album, they come close to magic.

Videos - cont'd from p. 2

Peck and Robert Mitchum, Martin Scorcese uses the best of his artistic abilities to produce a modern crime drama involving sex, family secrets, and lots of "I know something you don't know" dark humor. Though the general plot is not original, Scorcese's touch gives the film an aura that could have never been conveyed in the comparatively innocent 1950's version. Tastefully directed, this film is definitely not for the squeamish!

Grand Canyon, though equally intelligent, is of a quite genre of films. Set in L.A., the plot involves an intertwining of individuals by means of circumstance, each individual representing a separate way of life and worldview. Although it reflects much of the overused crime situations and sex triangles, this film sheds new light on the stereotypical portrayals. Grand Canyon is a rather simple film, but induces emotional overflow and deep thinking. The film deals with man as an imperfect being, his ability to interact with other individuals, his ability to survive in our modern world of corruption and his quest to restore, or instill, peace and justice within his society. It is slightly educational - it portrays the world as we know it and embodies these images and emotions in a film which forces the viewer to re-evaluate his life and the world around him. This film is light enough to absorb after a long day, yet heavy enough to blow away the competition.
Ladies - cont'd from p. 4

ection with her husband, then the newly
elected governor of Arkansas. After these
accusations, she said that "I suppose I
could have stayed home, baked cookies, and
had teas." Some Republicans retrieved
some of her college papers on children's
rights. After distorting their content,
some Republicans described Hillary as a
militant feminist who thought marriage was
similar to slavery and that children
should have a right to sue their parents.
Because of these accusations, many Amer-
cans were offended by Hillary, by her
insults against home-bound wives. After
this episode of disfavor, Hillary realized
that America was not ready for a first
lady with an excellent college education,
a family life, and a successful business.
By breaking the boundaries set by previous
first ladies, Hillary caused the correct
image of a first lady to be called into
question.

The controversy concerning the first
lady's image surrounds Hillary. People
accuse her of creating a new image because
of her bad press. However, Barbara Bush
might as well have worn a sign around her
neck proclaiming "I represent your cher-
ished family values." She avoided any
talk of policies in her speech at the
Republican Convention. Her entire speech
consisted of the love for her husband and
family; Barbara never had problems con-
forming to the role of a first lady.

Hillary, on the other hand, having strong
political opinions and a professional
career, must either sacrifice her career
life to be first lady or, perhaps, be the first
president's wife to possibly make
more money than her husband.

Censorship - cont'd from p. 5

rejected. The most debated of album cover
styles, the covers that depict nude figu-
rines, statues, or paintings, may be al-
lowed sometimes, including that of the
nude clay or paper mache figures on the
cover of albums by Jane's Addiction; yet
groups like David Bowie's Tin Machine must
compromise with the censors. Tin Machine
decided to use some ancient Greek (or
perhaps Italian) statues for their cover
art. Like many old statues, this particu-
lar one was portrayed nude. The censors
adamantly refused to permit the nudity to
be exposed. In the end, the statue became
neutered for the album cover art. Yet one
can wonder if the preservation of art has
deteriorated; if the statue seemed accept-
able at the time of its creation, why is it
not for our times? Some people, be-
side the censors, could be scared to
expose human flesh. This time, the nude
person appeared in a photograph. Nirvana
put out the album with the cover just
mentioned, with a naked baby boy swimming
after a dollar bill on a fish hook. The
mild cover passed the censors, yet the
local Wal-Mart tried to make a cover-up
of their own. Album's often have stickers
which read "features the hit single..." to
attract the consumer. But for this album
cover, the clerks affixed the sticker at a
particularly awkward position in order to
cover the exposed genitals. Mere coinci-
dence? I think not. Some bands, though,
do not have the chance to use their se-
lected album cover. The record company
executives tell the bands that they will
have a plain black and white album cover
because all of their choices have been
rejected. I believe that the censorship
on the mild nudity for album covers is
sometimes quite ridiculous; in fact, I
often refer to it as the fear-the-anatomy-
factor.

Another issue can be the content of
lyrics, not how the words escape the vo-
calist's mouth (in the case of profane
lyrics). Sexual content is often dis-
missed since it is usually, already labeled
under "explicit lyrics." Yet one I have
particularly noticed is satanic music.
They do not yell obscenities always, but
rather repeatedly chant phrases such as
"spill the blood." One heavy metal group,
Judas Priest, was even brought to a court-
room, charged with death through sublimi-
 nal lyrics. The mother of a boy, who had
just shot himself, believed he committed
suicide because he listened to their mu-
ic. In this position, I play the devil's
advocate. Whether people accept it or
not, Satanism happens to be a religion.
If people censor Satanic music, they are
censoring religious music. Then the cen-
soring would as well make gospel, Islamic,
and Hindu music a target for censorship.

I hope the censors are open-minded
when they listen to music; for they have
affixed a label to Frank Zappa's instru-
mental album, Jazz From Hell. Music
should be given the same respect get.
People are not often censored when they
speak publicly. Music is just a voice
from someone in the crowd expressing his
feelings. If you are not to expose people
to music and therefore not expose them to
other real people with real opinions, they
may be oblivious to how many others feel.