

Music Review Chumbawamba loses big with *Tubthumper*

CHUMBAWAMBA



Tubthumper
Chumbawamba
Republic Records
★ (out of five)

I was expecting good things from Chumbawamba. Their first single from the album *Tubthumper*, "Tubthumping," is getting some airtime on American radio stations and is the No. 2 single on Billboard's modern rock chart as of Oct. 15. The song is good, and the album sounded promising, offering a few more songs of fun ear candy like the first single.

In the end, *Tubthumper* fails to deliver. The band refers to itself as anarchistic, and it attempts to enact social change through its lyrics. However, they overlook one essential element of all truly inspirational music that stirs the emotions and moves people to action: It shouldn't suck.

Apart from the first track, the album is a collection of half-done, almost-there pop songs. Most of the songs have about 20 or 30 seconds of music that could have made a decent song. One of the band members starts singing, though, and suddenly the song sounds like a soundtrack to a bad '80s movie.

Apart from the obvious clichés, I think you have to be British or know a heck of a lot more than I do about the United Kingdom to appreciate the lyrics.

Every song either ends or begins with extraneous dialogue or music bits. Some of them are entertaining, some are disgusting, but most just leave the listener saying, "Huh?"

The band simply will have to congratulate itself on one single making it to American radio and be satisfied with that until it spends more time making quality music than political statements.

-Anna Foster

PEOPLE in the news

Sinatra tried to protect Monroe

LONDON (AP) — Frank Sinatra considered asking Marilyn Monroe to marry him weeks before she died "in an effort to save her from herself," according to a new book.



Sinatra

"No one will mess with her if she is Mrs. Frank Sinatra. No one would dare," writer J. Randall Taraborrelli quotes a Sinatra friend as saying. He doesn't identify the friend.

Taraborrelli's book, *Sinatra: The Man Behind The Myth*, is being serialized in the Daily Mail. Monday's excerpt said Sinatra and Monroe began an affair in 1954.

"He felt that if she were his wife,

everyone else would back off, give her some space and allow her to get herself together," the source said.

The weekend before Monroe died in 1962, Sinatra told a friend he tried to encourage her to start life again, but she said, "Why bother? I'm not going to be here too much longer," according to the book.

Monroe died of a "probable suicide" caused by an overdose of sleeping pills, coroner's officials ruled at the time. She was 36.

Brosnan says he is no James Bond

NEW YORK (AP) — Pierce Brosnan says he has only one thing in common with James Bond: a good martini.

"Yes, I've been known to imbibe a martini," Brosnan said in the No-

vember issue of Biography magazine. "Not all the time. Just occasionally."

Brosnan's second Bond movie, *Tomorrow Never Dies*, opens in December. He's under contract for a third and has an option for a fourth, yet he doesn't feel much like Bond.

"I put the suit on, put the gun on, do it, hang them up and go home," Brosnan said.

Maples did not know what hit her

NEW YORK (AP) — Marla Maples said she didn't read her prenuptial agreement with Donald Trump before signing it just two days before they married in 1993.

"I refused to read it because I felt it was sealing our fate," Maples said in Monday's Daily News.

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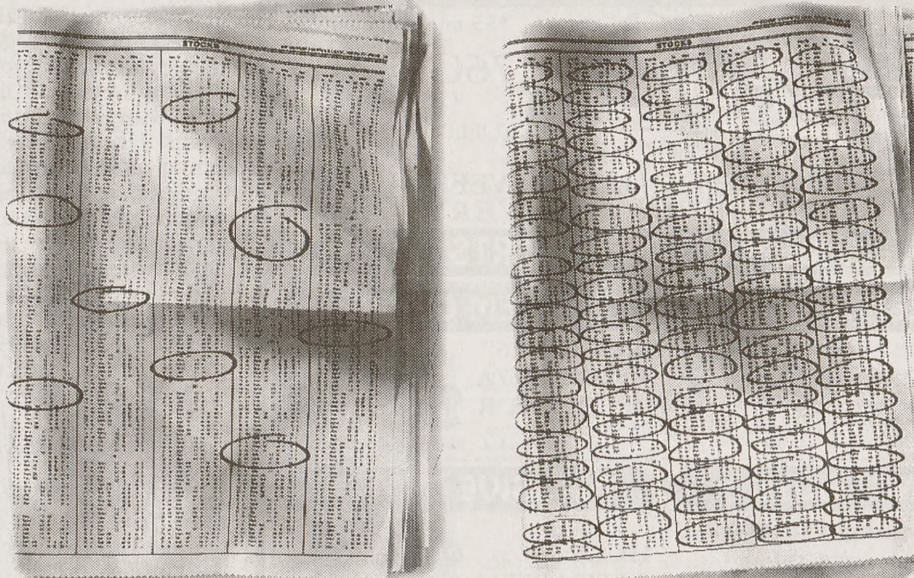
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CONTACT (PG)	7:00 10:00
SPAWN (R)	7:30 9:40
MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING (PG-13)	7:15 9:50
FACE OFF (R)	7:00 10:00
GOOD BURGER (PG)	9:40
NOTHING TO LOSE (R)	7:30 10:10
HERCULES (G)	7:15

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