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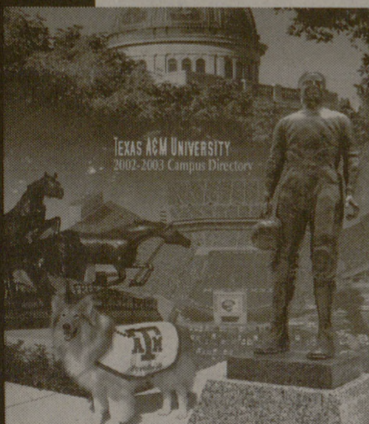
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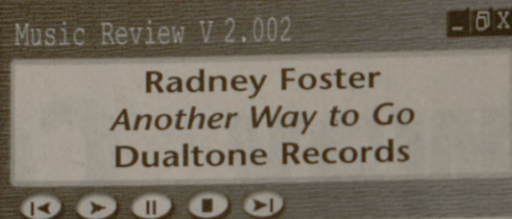
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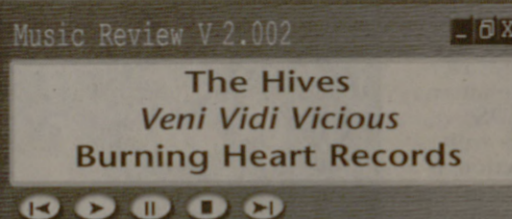
Since he started out in the 1980s as half of Foster and Lloyd, Radney Foster has played his own flavor of country music. Never quite mainstream, his music has had sporadic chart success while his talent as a singer/songwriter has gotten stronger.

Foster started in Texas music when it was a fairly unknown genre. He then ventured to country, made a short trip into pop and eventually U-turned back into Texas music. Now, with his first album in four years, Foster has indeed found *Another Way to Go*.

Already the album has given him a number one ("Everyday Angel") on the Texas Music Charts and has gotten heavy airplay on country music radio. The country style of the music can't be denied, but it is not your typical country music album. Foster's trip into pop and his roadhouse roots mingle to form an enjoyable and unique album.

Foster wrote or co-wrote every song, and "Scary Old World" features country singer Chely Wright. With the range of style and topics covered on this album, anyone can find at least one song with which they'll be able to relate. It may not be one you would normally pick up, but this album is not a waste of time or money.

★★★★★ -Denise Schoppe



The Hives seem to be Sweden's form of forgiveness after inflicting the world with ABBA. *Veni Vidi Vicious* is miles apart from the usual pop culture-era punk albums. Its sound is reminiscent of retro punk rock groups such as The Clash, and its style is snooty-European. The 12-track collection is chock full of cunningly-smart lyrics, soaring guitars and screechy vocals from frontman Howlin Pelle Almquist, who sounds (and sometimes even looks) like a direct descendant of the Mick Jagger clan.

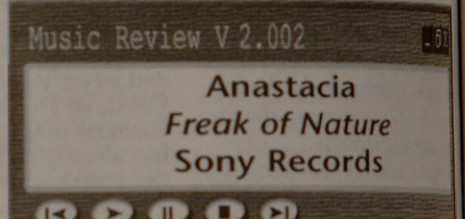
The 12 tracks are fast-paced garage rock songs that center around politics, self-depreciation and vengeance. "Die Alright" is one of the more noticeable tracks on the CD, with anti-corporate lyrics like "sold my body to the company so/ I got the money now away I go/ and I say/ thank you Mr. CEO." It's funny, though, how the band recently signed a multi-million dollar record deal with, you guessed it, a big corporation.

"Find Another Girl" is a song that should be relished by the listeners, because it is the only

emotion that found its way to the album. Songs such as "A Get Together to Tear it Apart," "Statecontrol" and "Supply and Demand" are some more hard-rocking beats on the CD. The Hives' latest radio hit, "Hate to Say I Told You So," hails from this play list. The album comes equipped with three of the groups videos so that the listeners can witness their pretentious and smart alec image first hand.

The fact that this album has won them critical and commercial success is no reassurance for The Hives. In a recent *Rolling Stone* interview, front man Almquist said, "The state of music has always been crap. So we've learned that how popular we are has nothing to do with how good the music is." So with that in mind, the listeners should definitely give them a chance, but at their own risk.

★★★★★ -Nishat Farooq

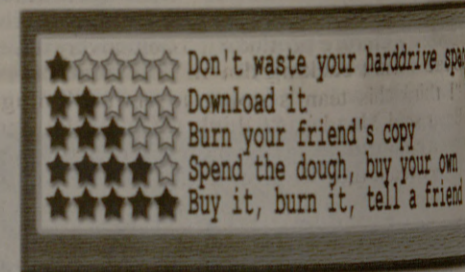


When you pick up an Anastacia album and look at the cover, you have no idea what you're getting yourself into. She is a perfect example of the saying, "Don't judge a book by its cover." Looking at her, you'd expect another pop princess. However, when she opens her mouth and lets those compelling vocals take control, you find you're in for something much more powerful.

In *Freak of Nature*, Anastacia walks the line between pop, rock and R&B. It is not your average album, mostly because her sound and style are so different from what other artists are currently flooding the airways with. She's a hit in Europe, but continues to struggle in finding success in the United States.

Unfortunately, as great of an album as it is, *Freak of Nature* is not the album to give her the foot-hold she needs in the United States. While many of the songs are strong and instantly likable, the album is not one to be played over and over. Grab a copy of this CD if you're interested in something really different. Otherwise, hold off on something else.

★★★★☆ -Denise Schoppe



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Britons OK life with woman for Charles

LONDON (AP) — More than half of Britons think Prince Charles should be allowed to live with long-time companion Camilla Parker Bowles when he is king — but nearly an equal number do not want her to become queen, according to a new poll.



PRINCE CHARLES

Fifty-seven percent of respondents said they would find it acceptable for Charles to live with Parker Bowles, without marrying her, when he is king, while 32 percent said it would be unacceptable.

Forty-two percent thought the pair should marry, while 36 percent were opposed and 32 percent did not express an opinion.

Some Britons oppose the relationship because the prince's popular ex-wife Princess Diana blamed Parker Bowles for the breakup of her marriage.

But polls show increasing public acceptance of the relationship between Charles, the eldest son of Queen Elizabeth II, and the divorced Parker Bowles.

Charles has said he has no

plans to remarry.

The poll, conducted by NOP Research Group, involved 996 people aged 15 and over in September. The margin of error was plus or minus three percentage points.

Actor Woody Allen unsure of his skills

ROME (AP) — He's won three

Oscars and is considered by many to be one of the best movie directors of our time. Woody Allen says if he had three words to define himself, "I would say I am a failed artist."

"I am not even an actor," the 66-year-old Allen was quoted as saying by *La Repubblica* daily and other Italian newspapers over the weekend. "Dustin Hoffman is an actor, Jack Nicholson is an actor, I'm not."

Allen has appeared in many of his own films, including *Annie Hall*, *Hannah and Her Sisters*, *The Curse of the Jade Scorpion* and *Hollywood Ending*.

"If I weren't famous, nobody would come to my concerts," he told the Rome daily *Il Messaggero*. "I'm less than



ALLEN

mediocre with the claim."

Allen was in Rome to promote *Hollywood Ending*, which was a box-office disappointment in the United States.

He won Oscars for best director and best original screenplay for 1977's *Annie Hall* and his best original screenplay for 1986's *Hannah and Her Sisters*.

Ex-Beatle McCartney cancels Bali concert

LONDON (AP) — Paul McCartney has canceled a concert in Australia out of respect for those killed in the Bali nightclub bombing.

McCartney, now touring the United States, had planned to play at the Docklands Stadium in Melbourne on Nov. 23, but said it was "not the appropriate time for a rock show."

The Oct. 12 blast on the Indonesian resort island killed more than 190 people, including about 90 Australians, and injured 300 others.

"Like many who have a deep fondness for Australia, I have been shocked and saddened by the recent terrible events in Bali and my heart goes out to all who have been affected by this tragedy," the former Beatle said in a statement Sunday.

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