

arts/entertainment

Forum features live rock of Star City Players

Review by Bob Crisler

If FM rock is what trips your trigger, then the Star City Players, who were featured last week at the Forum, are for you.

This solid sextet plays virtual carbon copies of such faves of the airwaves as Bos Scaggs, Steely Dan and the Doobie Brothers. Saturday night's opening set was a trip down memory lane circa 1980, with easy-listening pop (Josie, *What a Fool Believes*) dropping in on the ample crowd's appreciative eardrums.

The Forum, previously known as Starship Enterprise, meanwhile, has tread a safe path in choosing ever-popular rock music over any other of the more obvious antecedents to disco. The club's former dance floor has been tastefully encroached upon with an arrangement of lounge furniture and hanging plants, while the center of attention has been shifted upstairs to a new dance area and stage.

As the band segued into Genesis' *Misunderstanding*, aspiring Arthur Murrays began to take to the floor to practice the latest touch dancing steps.

The band itself is a synthesis of college-trained musicians who complement each other quite readily with their overlapping vocal ranges and astute knowledge of their instruments.

Band members

Lead singer Bev Jester leads the band with her exceptionally clear, wide-ranged voice, and adds to that an occasional outing on acoustic guitar on some country-derived numbers. Husband Ron Jester shares rhythmic honors on drums with bass player Dave Battles, while Jamie Krutz handles keyboards. Another married couple in the band, Joyce and Woody Nelson, add background vocals and lead guitar, respectively.

Band members see their classical training as not incongruous to their present musical interests.

"We look at it like we've taken classical training to get the basics, and once you've got that, then you can apply those techniques to rock'n'roll," says Nelson, who teaches classical guitar at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

The song selection, which resembles a KFMO playlist, is generally on the tamer edge of rock, which has a never-ending popularity among local audiences. An evening with the Star City Players is an evening of innocuous escapism.

"We try to keep a certain amount of quality in our material," said Woody Nelson. "There's a fine line between good music and the music that a majority of people want to hear. We don't want to do just anything, only what is tasteful."

"I think the songs we do pretty much reflect our tastes. We all like Steely Dan and Michael McDonald of the Doobies," said singer Bev Jester.

Nelson said the group's selection is "pretty commercial. Everybody knows it and likes it."

Radio music

In the Players' live set, there is a tendency to think you're listening to the radio instead of sipping a beer in a



Photo by Mitch Hrdlicka

The Star City plays at the Forum Saturday night.

downtown nightclub. According to guitarist Nelson, some similarity in styles is intended.

"We try and make it sound like the original composer wanted it to sound, but whether we try to or not, our own personal styles have a way of melting through in the end result."

Nelson is pleased with the reception the Players have had in Lincoln, but he sees the band as part of a much larger area.

"The live scene locally is pretty healthy, although we could always use more local support. I think the quality of musicians in Lincoln is exceptional, and it's exciting what's going on in town right now," he said.

Nelson says that the "women-in-rock" trend had nothing to do with the lineup of the seven-month old band.

"I think it's important to have good musicians in the band. If they're women, then that's great, but they aren't in the band *because* they're women."

The musicians' likes and dislikes in music certainly run along relatively conservative lines. Keyboardist and violinist Jamie Kurtz favors older, established rock group Gentle Giant "and of course Steely Dan, of course Yes," he said. "As for new wave, since it's really not doing anything exciting musically, the lyrics really have to be good for me to like it."

"Some musical style is definitely going to come out of the eighties," bass guitarist Dave Battles said. "People's tastes are definitely getting better."

Ready to help WW I, WW II, Korea, Vietnam vets.

Red Cross: Ready for a new century.



SHOWING QUALITY ADULT FILMS

PET OF THE MONTH MARIWIN ROBERTS

PLUS 2ND BIG HIT! "Screwplugs"

OPEN TO A M CONTINUOUS SHOWINGS

EMBASSY
1730 O STREET 476 6042

GUADALAJARA SUMMER SCHOOL

University of Arizona offers more than 40 courses: anthropology, art, bilingual education, folk music and folk dance, history, political science, sociology, Spanish language and literature and intensive Spanish. Six-week session June 29-August 7, 1981. Fully accredited graduate and undergraduate program. Tuition \$330. Room and board in Mexican home, \$340. EEO/AA

Write Guadalajara Summer School Robert L. Nugent Bldg. 205 University of Arizona Tucson 85721 (602) 626-4729

Jock snaps over Valentine gift.

Dear Ann: Athletically I'm an All-American. Romantically I'm a nerd. I'm in love with a fox. But the competition is tough. What'll I give her for Valentine's Day? Nervously Yours, Chicken Hunk

Dear Chicken: Don't punt. Send her flowers. It's probably the best play you ever made. And the easiest. Just go to your nearest FTD Florist. He has the perfect Valentine gift. A beautiful bouquet that comes in a special bud vase. Even better, you can afford it. Remember, when in doubt, rely on the magic of flowers. It's the only way a chicken can catch a fox. Good hunting.



Helping you say it right.

The FTD Valentine Bud Vase is usually available for less than \$30.00. As an independent businessman, each FTD Florist sets his own prices. Service charges and delivery may be additional. ©1981 Florists Transworld Delivery

ads

for sale

MUST SELL
Ovation Guitar with case!
Legend Model New! Call Midian or Dean 483-2663

FOR SALE Marantz receiver, 50 watts per channel. Call Jeff after 7 p.m. at 475-3886.

For Sale 1976 Mercury Cougar XR7, air, tilt-wheel, automatic, cruise, 48,000 miles. \$1600 or best offer, call 472-8923, ask for Charles.

One bedroom, two bedroom apartments, houses and townhouses
TOWN & COUNTRY REALTY
Ron Hinkley
489-7888

WILLOV HAVEN
1830 KNOX ST
Spacious, new 2 bedroom units. Central air, fireplace, dishwashers, fully carpeted, lots of parking. 5 minutes either campus \$275/month + utilities

1435 D ST.
1 bedroom, furnished apartment. Off-street parking, laundry facilities, all appliances. \$195/month + electricity

1427 C ST.
IN THE MIDDLE OF EVERYTHING
Spacious 1 bedroom, garden level, fully carpeted, off-street parking \$185/month + utilities and deposit. Sorry no pets.

545 N 25TH
THIS ONE HAS TRUE CHARACTER
Gracious, completely remodeled living quarters with up to the minute kitchen appliances and dining area very large, fully carpeted. Only 10 blocks to UNL—\$225/month + utilities and deposit. Sorry no pets.

RENTAL
Rent TV's, color and B/W and stereos. Rent refrigerators, washers, dryers. Rent furniture 3 room package. Living, bedroom, dinette, \$69.95 mo. Rent anything with option to buy.
ACE FURNITURE
2429 "O" St.
474-3444

1300 "B" St.—furnished duplex, central air, one bedroom \$165 plus gas, electric, deposit 475-2707

help wanted

Part-time evening and week-ends—\$4 hour. Apply in person 6:30-8:30 p.m. anyday. No phone calls.
BINGO RAMA
2608 Park Blvd

AUSTRALIA WANTS YOU!
50,000 jobs available, travel assistance possible. For current and complete information send \$3 to THE CANYON PRESS, P.O. Box 30355, Billings, Mt. 59107. Satisfaction or your money back.

NEW!
Downtown Lincoln Location

MAXI WALKER
Rent-a-Tux
The Centrum 1111 O St.
Open Evenings & Sundays

douglas 3
13th & P 475-2222

5:30-7:30-9:30
ALTERED STATES
JANE FONDA
LIVY TOMLIN

5:20-7:25-9:30
9 TO 5
LIVY TOMLIN
THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING WOMAN