



Compiled by Becky Zueig
Staff Reporter

Twisters

1. Rolling Stones, "Steel Wheels"
2. Tom Petty, "Full Moon Fever"
3. Red Hot Chili Peppers, "Mother's Milk"

4. The D.O.C., "No One Can Do It Better"
5. B-52's, "Cosmic Thing"
6. Great White, "Twice Shy"
7. Alice Cooper, "Trash"
8. Skid Row, "Skid Row"
9. Ziggy Marley, "One Bright Day"
10. Milli Vanilli, "Girl You Know It's True"

The list was compiled from sales records for the week of Sept. 4 through Sept. 9.

KFMQ

1. Rolling Stones, "Steel Wheels"
2. Skid Row, "Skid Row"
3. Tom Petty, "Full Moon Fever"
4. The Call, "Let The Day Begin"
5. Great White, "Twice Shy"
6. Billy Squier, "Here And Now"
7. Jackson Brown, "World In Motion"
8. Don Henley, "End Of The Innocence"
9. Steve Ray Vaughn, "In Step"
10. Tora Tora, "Surprise Attack"

KFRX

1. Gloria Estefan, "Don't Want To Lose You"
2. Milli Vanilli, "Girl I'm Going To Miss You"
3. New Kids On The Block, "Hangin' Tough"
4. Warrent, "Heaven"
5. Cher, "If I Could Turn Back Time"
6. Madonna, "Cherish"
7. Surface, "Shower Me With Your Love"
8. Bee Gees, "One"
9. Neneh Cherry, "Kisses On The Wind"
10. Cure, "Love Song"

Pickles

1. Motley Crue, "Doctor Feel Good"
2. Metallica, "And Justice For All"
3. Young MC, "Stone Cold Rhyming"
4. The Cure, "Fascination Street"
5. Soul II Soul, "Keep On Moving"
6. Tom Petty, "Full Moon Fever"
7. Milli Vanilli, "Girl You Know It's True"
8. Rolling Stones, "Steel Wheels"
9. Jeff Healey, "See The Light"
10. Beastie Boys, "Paul's Boutique"

The Top-10 releases list was compiled from total sales from Pickles for the week of Sept. 4 through Sept. 9.

This week's KFRX Top-10 song list was compiled by request and national airplay records.

Band has 'zany' attitude

By Mick Dyer
Staff Reviewer

Like the tiny mammals that leap from high cliffs into the frigid ocean in masses and swim until they die, the band that borrows their name is driven by natural forces beyond its control.

The Lemmings play some of the most dynamic and experimental alternative rock music in Lincoln.

And, like the strange behavior of the little creatures, band members said they don't know why they feel compelled to play an unusual brand of music.

The band is just expressing an attitude: A zany one.

For example, band member John Bruce said the Lemmings have toyed with the idea of playing in sync with a prerecorded tape of its music during a live performance.

"We used to have this joke that we were the Monkees of Lincoln, except I don't know if that's a joke," Bruce said.

The "we" Bruce is referring to is the rest of the band: Brian Barber, drums, vocals, guitars and accordion and UNL graduate; Brad Grier, guitars, vocals, bass and keyboard and UNL graduate; Brian Irons, drums and UNL student; Bob Nelson, vocals and bass and UNL student; and Bruce, guitars, vocals, bass and keyboard and a UNL student.

The Lemmings' musical style is a brilliant eclectic mixture of folk, blues, funk and other sounds that gives the band an aural fingerprint unique to itself.

Take "Rolling in the Pinecones," a song from its tape, Skoomba Loomba, for example. It is a four-part vocal harmony punctuated with rhythms made by spoon- and cups-playing and slamming doors.

Not the typical musical fare. Clean, brilliant mania.

But Bruce is modest about the creative talent and experimental energies in the band.

"None of us play an instrument very well," Bruce said. "We tend to make up chords once in a while."

Bruce said one of the things the band likes to experiment with is different guitar tunings.

"Sometimes, I forget what they are," he said. "Like with 'He Dig Mice,' Brad wanted to re-record it, but I didn't remember what the tuning was, so we just used the recording we had for the tape. There's a phone ringing in the background."

The band enjoys trying lots of new things, because it helps keep the sound and the mood of the band fresh, Bruce said.

"Sometimes we get bored when we play all the same style," Bruce said. "After you play a certain guitar part over and over, you get tired of it. You feel like getting up and watching TV."

'Music experiment' works

By Mick Dyer
Staff Reviewer

"Skoomba Loomba" The Lemmings Independently Produced Tape

"Skoomba Loomba" is quite simply one of the most exciting and refreshing tapes released by a local band in a long time.

The sheer number of songs (29) on this tape (about an hour and fifteen minutes worth of music) makes "Skoomba Loomba" a real entertainment bargain.

But economics aside, many bands wouldn't be able to get away with putting so much music on one tape because after a while its songs would become repetitive.

However, the Lemmings' musical style is a blend of country, blues, funk and psychedelic elements. Every song on this tape is a different combination of these elements in varying proportions that gives each song an interesting and distinctive sound. For the Lemmings, "Skoomba Loomba" is a musical experiment that worked.

For instance, "Barn's Too Big," on side one is an acoustic

country melody and "Barn's Too Darn Big," on side two is an electric blues tune. Same song, same words -- completely different sound. That's a real musical achievement.

The Lemmings also cover a wide range of moods with "Skoomba Loomba." There are happy love songs, angry love songs, insipid love songs and social/political commentary songs. And there are a whole bunch of delightfully unusual songs from the Lemmings' somewhat skewed, sometimes irreverent, always intriguing musical point-of-view.

The songs on "Skoomba Loomba" are lyrically invigorating. The words flow with poetic imagery, insightful free association, profound wit and dark metaphors. Combine the outstanding lyrics with the great two-, three- and four-part vocal arrangements on the tape and you've got a bunch of unforgettable songs.

Watch out, because if the right label gets hold of "Skoomba Loomba," the Lemmings could become one of the musical icons to set the standards for alternative music in the 1990s.



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