

H Factor lacks artists' expertise, creativity

By Dave Meister
Staff Reporter

H Factor
"H Factor"
I.R.S.

The H Factor is yet another of the continuing string of has-been artists who got together and formed a band much like the Traveling Wilburys and the more recent Bad English.

album REVIEW

It is composed of Steve Hunter, a past guitarist for Lou Reed, Peter Gabriel and Alice Cooper. Peter Haycock and Derek Holt formerly comprised the nucleus of England's Climax Blues Band. Like most veterans who are striving to resurface today, this compilation falls short of the quality and originality of the band members' previous work.

The album's music varies between watered down rock 'n' roll and mellow balladry. It appears that the H Factor was feeling rather uncreative when it came to writing the material for the album. Six of the 10 songs on the album are covers that sound like they were chosen from a classic MTV lineup. Remember songs like "Tempted" by Squeeze, "Politics of Dancing" by Re-Flex and Wall of Voodoo's "Mexican Radio?"

The H Factor also produces an

extremely lame version of Richie Valens' "La Bamba." The track is slowed down and the voice and music bring to mind such bland classics as "Afternoon Delight" by Starland Vocal Band. Holt, being English, simply cannot sing lyrics in Spanish. It is insulting enough when Americans try to sound Spanish but the English are even worse, making the song a true catastrophe.

The H Factor should have tried a few more originals. "The Hurt Stays Home" is probably the best song on the entire album having a very haunting and provocative sound. This is one of the few tracks where the veterans actually perform to their ability. The guitars, lyrics and tempo of the song add to the overall atmosphere and feeling.

Another addition to the album is two instrumentals, "Just a Touch" and "Doxey Strut." Though the songs are very powerful and well produced, the two come across as a duo guitar solo by Haycock and Hunter with a very unnoticeable percussion and bass section.

The closing track on the album, "Stop" is the band's attempt at making a serious comment on something relevant. It is, like so many pseudo-intellectual bands, the one song that deserves to be heard though it is very unfocused and repetitious.

In a prepared statement, the band claims to have produced the album very casually and spontaneously. Haycock admits that "Whenever it



Courtesy of I.R.S.

From left to right Derek Holt, Steve Hunter and Pete Haycock of H Factor

was time to do a guitar solo, we'd do it, play it back, and say 'Yeah -- that's fine.'"

Accordingly, the album is substandard since it is poorly mixed, underproduced and simply uninteresting.

Couple celebrates 75 years together

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - Steve and Marie Brodewolf say there's nothing fancy to the secret of their 75-year marriage, but both agree that common sense sure helps.

"We respect the other's ideas," said Marie Brodewolf, 96. "We never tried to change each other. We're both very set in our ways."

The couple, who celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary Saturday, held hands while explaining they owe their marriage to trying not to go to bed angry.

"If we disagree terribly, we'd put it on hold until breakfast and talk it out," said Mrs. Brodewolf.

The Brodewolfs raised one daughter, who died last year at the age of 66. They have three grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter.

The couple told their story, finishing each other's sentences, with tenderness and humor.

"We were admiring of each other," said Mrs. Brodewolf. "We were trusting, loving, caring..."

"... and I tried to kill her four times," joked her 98-year-old husband.

"He thinks I talk too much."

"Oh, she does."

Even early gifts are remembered.

"The first present I bought for her was some winter underwear," he said.

"You know why?" asked his wife.

"Because it was cold," he said.

"She was mad."

"He was only trying to take care of me."

Pair marries in Christmas tree store

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP) - The bride wore white, the groom wore a gray tuxedo and shoppers wandered around them looking for the perfect artificial fir.

Nisco Christmas Paradise was the backdrop when Neil Scott, 20, and Mary McKinniss, 31, said their vows.

The two had been planning to get married at the courthouse by a justice of the peace, but the store's glittering Christmas display impressed them

two weeks ago and gave them an idea.

"We just walked around here and thought it was pretty, and I said this would be a nice place to have our wedding," Scott said. "And Mary said OK."

The store's owners agreed to the idea, but the business remained open during Friday's ceremony.

Surrounded by 27 trimmed trees and 10 guests, a minister from Har-

vester Missionary Church pronounced Scott and McKinniss husband and wife.

Friends and relatives thought the location was a bit odd, yet festive.

"At first I said, 'You've got to be kidding, in the store?' But it's a lot prettier than the courthouse," said maid of honor Liz Green.

McKinniss' 12-year-old daughter, Laura, admired the trees.

"My mom likes it, so I like it," she said.

HANNA from Page 6

- A visit from the Reagans -- no wait, that costs \$2 million
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- A lot of bricks in the Lied Center

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