

Group plays radical variety of rock music

Lead vocals bind songs together in unique genre

SOUNDS

Del Amitri
"Change Everything"
A & M Records

"Change Everything," Del Amitri's second A & M release, may change the way you listen to music — maybe not radically, but enough to make you sit up and take notice of this Scottish group.

Its pop/folk/rock music varies from

composition to composition. In fact, there's enough variety to convince the listener that this group suffers from indecision. It can't seem to settle on what type of music to play — but that's the whole idea.

Although its songs don't fit into any one category, the passionate lead vocals of bassist Justin Currie are the common thread binding all 12 tunes. "We're kind of an unhip band because we don't seem to belong to any specific movement or genre," Currie said.

In this case, unhip is hip.

The first cut, "Be My Downfall," with its poetic lyrics, opens as an acoustic number to accompany Currie's convincing love-struck-me-down sound.

"The bus is pulling out and I guess I'd better go/Before I make a grave mistake and let my feelings show/And 20 miles away she waits alone for me/But when I try to picture her you're the one I see..../Be my downfall, be

my great regret, be the one girl that I'll never forget/Be my undoing, be my slow road to ruin tonight."

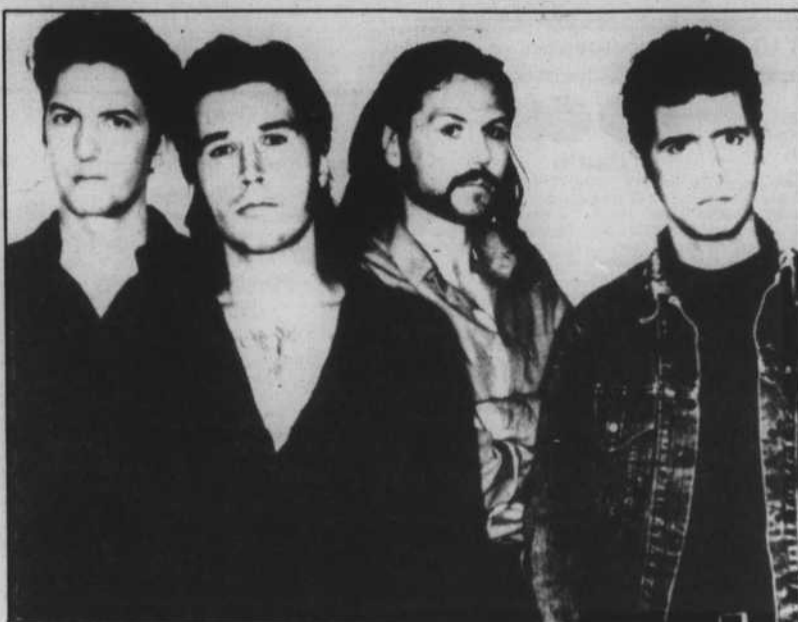
Originally influenced by Britain's punk movement, Del Amitri has managed to carve a hard-edged folk sound of its own. On "Just Like a Man," Currie's soft vocals blend well with the electric blues of Andy Alston's keyboards.

"The Ones That You Love Lead You Nowhere" smacks faintly of Southern rock and "Behind the Fool" because it country-westernizes the Glasgow guitars of David Cummings and Iain Harvie.

Drummer Brian McDermott never has an opportunity to shine, but his unobtrusive beat stands behind each note.

"Change Everything" may be chock full of lovesick lyrics, but the diversified guitar arrangements and the strength of Currie's never-tiring voice yield an excellent sound.

—Shannon Uehling



Del Amitri is David Cummings, Justin Currie, Iain Harvie and Brian McDermott.

'Casablanca,' Clapton concert top list of worthy home video releases



By Anne Steyer
Staff Reporter

This week provides an interesting mess of home video releases. The only things truly recommendable are re-issues: MTV's "Unplugged" with Eric Clapton and the classic film "Casablanca."

"Blame it on the Bellboy" Did this movie even play in Lincoln? If it did, that was a weekend spent sleeping. The bellboy of the title is Bronson Pinchot ("Perfect Strangers") who accidentally switches the itineraries of the hotels' various neurotic guests. Dudley Moore co-stars. (Available August 26th.)

"Casablanca: 50th Anniversary Edition" Celebrate the birthday of a classic.

Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman co-star as lovers forced apart and abruptly brought together

at Rick's Cafe.

Some of Hollywood's most famous and often quoted lines come from this film, including the erroneous "Play it again, Sam."

This re-release includes the original movie trailer and a behind-the-scenes documentary. (Available August 26th.)

"Eric Clapton: Unplugged" Guitar virtuoso Eric Clapton plays live on MTV's "Unplugged." His acoustic performances are interlaced with commentary from the artist. Some stirring renditions of Clapton favorites including a powerful version of his recent hit, "Tears in Heaven." (Available August 26th.)

"Final Analysis" Ugh — Kim Basinger stars, which is enough of a reason to stay away from this all too predictable, not-so-thrilling thriller.

If she's not enough reason, this tired story line involves a psychiatrist (Richard Gere) who has a tryst with his patient's sister (Basinger) and finds himself smack in the middle of a murder mystery. Uma Thurman is the disturbed patient.

(Available August 26th.)

"The Lawnmower Man" Pierce Brosnan and Jeff Fahey star in a horror story loosely based on a short story by Stephen King.

Fahey is Job, a mental midget but physical giant who mows lawns for a living — hence the title. Brosnan is a scientist working for the government who believes he has found a way to increase intelligence using an interactive computer program known as virtual reality.

When he decides to test his theories on Job the experiments go awry and Job's intelligence far surpasses expectations and reasonable control limits.

Job's brain runs amok and people who had wronged him find themselves in rather dangerous situations.

Brosnan is actually fairly good here, but the loopholes in the story are distracting. As is Job's really, really bad haircut. But the special effects are stimulating and the concept of virtual reality is interesting enough to make this worth a watching. (Available August 26th.)

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