Courtroom film convicted

"Guilty As Sin"



By Gerry Beltz Staff Reporter

The verdict is in, and "Guilty as Sin" (Plaza 4, 12th and P streets) is

guilty of being garbage.

Rebecca DeMornay ("The Hand That Rocks The Cradle") plays Jennifer Haines, a tough-as-nails defense attorney who can get anyone off the

However, Jennifer is about to meet her match in David Greenhill (Don Johnson), a charismatic, manipulative playboy who is accused of throw-ing his wife out a window. Greenhill draws her into his web of

deception, and by the time Jennifer starts to doubt her client's innocence, she is already trapped in a knot of legal and ethical entanglements. Greenhill also causes problems for

Jennifer with her boyfriend (Stephen Lang), and at her law firm.

From there, the film builds to a climax where Jennifer tries to prove her client's guilt without getting her-self disbarred — or killed — at the

DeMornay hasn't appeared in a film this insulting to her talents since "And God Created Woman." Her character is one-dimensional and boasts nothing interesting whatsoever.

One wonderful performance comes courtesy of Jack Warden as Moe, a private investigator who is also a close friend of Jennifer's. Warden gives the character a gruff, but lovable feel that plays in marvelous contrast to DeMornay's sophisticated, but bland,

The best part of this movie is Johnson. His portrayal of the slick, womanizing Greenhill is the highlight of the film. It's good to see a movie that finally shows some of Johnson's gifts

See SIN on 11



Don Johnson and Rebecca DeMornay spar in "Guilty as Sin."

Quartet debuts pop rock album

Boy on a Dolphin Words Inside Modern Records/Atlantic

By Jill O'Brien

Distant voices chanting, "Nouwe O N'Mazei Ou We" hook you on the first stanza emerging from Boy on a Dolphin's debut album, "Words In-

REVIEW

The opening track, "Nouwe O beckons you to listen now and ask questions later. Then be prepared to flip when you discover the lead singer, John Reilly, originated from Liverpool, England, and Boy on a Dolphin is really a U.K. quartet from

The groups origin explains why the ballad, "Love is a River," smacks of pop rock, complete with Reilly's eathless vocals, Bad English style.

But it doesn't explain the African calypsos or why Pete Hiley aban-doned the traditional electric guitar to plug into a classical Spanish guitar. Just the same, the combination of rock, African rhythm and Spanish guitar mixes as sweet as sipping a tropical drink on a sandy beach.

See BOY on 11



Brothers let second release flow

By Jill O'Brien Staff Reporter

Zaca Creek isn't your average country-western band, James Foss, the youngest of four brothers, said during an interview about Zaca Creek's second release, "Broken Heartland."

The brothers, ranging in age from 23 to 34, named their band after the underground stream that flows beneath the Foss property near Santa Ynez, Calif., he said.

'We had always played," he said. "We started when we were five or six years old, playing wed-dings or little shows around town."

James plays a five-string bass. "Well, I was assigned it," he said, painting a picture of four brothers playing musical chairs with musical instruments.

"Scot started on drums and now he plays guitar, and I played guitar when I first started. As we got older

and started forming the group and stuff, it was like, we needed a bass player, so I went, 'Well, I'll play the bass,'"

Scot, 32, also plays fiddle; Gates, 34, sticks with acoustic guitar, while Jeff, 26, covers keyboards and plays

Right after high school, during the years mirrored in the song, "Maverick Saloon," Zaca Creek got lost in rock 'n' roll, James said.

"We were playing rock clubs in the L.A. area but we were playing a lot of country music in those clubs, covering Dwight Yoakam songs...a lot of Eagles. And it was to a younger crowd," he said. "It was music they were putting no label on. They liked it."

And true to the words in "Maverick Saloon," after "tenyears in the city," Zaca Creek returned to its

country roots.

"You know, I could see a change coming on," James said, recounting his Los Angeles days. "Country music was changing and the audi ence was getting broader and broader and broader."

Songs about brothers, ironwilled mothers, hometown saloons, Harleys and old Studebakers make up the substance of "Broken Heart-land" — a substance that bonds the brothers in a four-part harmony, reminiscent of the Eagles or Poco.

James strains, wobbles and warbles vocal chords in "Fly Me South," while Gates sings lead on eight of the ten tracks, at times sharing vocals with Scot or Jeff. The title cut, "Broken Heartland" and "Fly Me South" have been released on Country Music Television as videos, James said, but his favorite song from the new record

is "49 Studebaker."

The song, like "Maverick Saloon," is autobiographical.

"The Studebaker was just sitting out in the field," he said. "We towed it up and my grandfather, who was a mechanic got the thing started.

"It was pretty much all of our first car. Once another guy got old enough to drive it, it was passed

See ZACA on 11



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