## Former 'Hulk' actor dies

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Bill Bixby, who starred in "My Favorite Martian," "The Courtship of Eddie's Father" and "The Incredible Hulk" during his 30 years in television, died of cancer. He was 59.

Bixby died Sunday at his home in Century City, with his wife of six weeks, Judith Kliban-Bixby, at his bedside, said Pamela Golum, a spokes-woman for the NBC-TV show "Blossom." Bixby, the show's director, was

on the job as recently as last week.

Bixby had struggled to overcome prostate cancer diagnosed in spring

"His mood was always optimistic, even if he would come in very drained from treatment," said Judith D. "Blossom."

In the popular CBS sitcom "My Favorite Martian" from 1963-66, cisco, Bixby studied theater and got Bixby played reporter Tim O'Hara, his first break appearing in industrial

Bixby moved into the role of a wise, stalwart dad in "The Courtship of Eddie's Father" on ABC from 1969-72. After the 1973-74 NBC series "The Magician," Bixby starred in the comic-book-based series "The Incredible Hulk" on CBS from 1978-82. He played David Banner, a research scientist condemned by a freak lab accident to change into a green-tinged monster when angered.

But the cancer took its toll. In an emotional interview in September on the syndicated TV show "Entertainment Tonight," Bixby said he once prayed he would die in his sleep. In March 1981, Bixby's 6-year-

old son, Christopher, died of a throat infection. Bixby's ex-wife, actress Allison, co-executive producer of Brenda Benet, killed herselfless than a year later.

Born Jan. 22, 1934, in San Fran-

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# MUSIC REVIEW



Courtesy of Atlantic

"The Voice of Love" Julee Cruise Warner Bros

David Lynch's "Twin Peaks" was one of television's oddest cult classics. Whether you loved or hated the show, most people agree its instrumental theme song, "Falling," was beautiful. The music of Angelo Badalamenti wilted the hearts of millions

Lynch chose an unknown singer, Julee Cruise, to sing the lyrics he'd written for the song. Cruise went on to perform "Falling" on "Saturday Night Live," and the song, and "Floating Into the Night," the album it appeared on, became

Now Lynch and Badalamenti have created a second album with Cruise, "The Voice of Love."

The album debuts Cruise's "new and improved" voice — she had throat surgery — and she sounds better than ever.

The album casts a black-magic, B-movie spell. The songs often sound like diary chapters from a confused teenage girl.

That girl is probably Laura - the murder victim of Palmer -

Lynch is still in his Palmer mode. Every song is about a girl who's disillusioned and lonely. Songslike "In My Other World," and "She Would Die For Love," represent the themes of escape and desperation - very Palmer-esque indeed.

Each of the eleven songs is a trip through the girl's experiments with nightmares, spacey puppy-love and friendships, as well as schizophrenic roles as playful tease, lost soul, vengeful girlfriend and bluesy

lounge-singer.
"This Is Our Night," "Movin' In On You," and "Friends For Life" are destined to become popular among mainstream listeners. They are the only up-tempo, romantic songs on the album, and are the most marketable songs for the ra-

The lure of the album is the bizarre jazzy effects surrounding Julee's almost inaudible voice. Sometimes the songs sound remarkably similar to Enya's Gaelic mur-

Cruise's stint doing vocals on the last B-52's tour has helped her voice mature, and she's more confident than she she was on the first album.

Badalamenti's orchestrations

are beautiful. Lynch's occasionally corny poetics fit perfectly within the style and thematic elements of this theatrical masterpiece.

"The Voice of Love" begins a new eclectic variation on traditional "new age" music, and could end up being a '50s musical Renais-

— Steven Sparling



Courtesy of Warner Bros

"Bump Ahead" Mr. Big Atlantic

Mr. Big has finally achieved the perfect combination of expert musicianship and damn good rock 'n'

The California-based quartet's third effort seems to focus more on creating a distinct sound as a band rather than on the individual talents of the players.

No new territory is charted stylewise by the album. The band turns within itself to explore the sounds of members Eric Martin (vocals), Paul Gilbert (guitars), Billy Sheehan (bass), and Pat Torpey (drums).

There are no intricate bass or guitar solos as featured on previous releases, nor do members try to over-extend themselves musical-

However, "Bump" does offer an impressive range of songs — from the driving opening cut "Colorado Bulldog," to the bump 'n grind, blues-meets-rock "Price You Gotta Pay," to the beautifully arranged, radio-friendly power-ballad "Nothing But Love.

As an almost humorous finale, the band does a cover of Free's 'Mr. Big," the tune their moniker is derived from.

The lead single and a definite highlight of the album is a cover or the classic "Wild World." The boys do Cat Stevens justice, with Martin's soulful vocals complementing Gilbert's guitar virtuosos.

"Wild World" comes the clos-

est to the sound of the group's breakthrough hit, 1992's "To Be With You." While Mr. Big has become less wary of ballads, they are still very much a hard-rock

Mr. Big has remained true to their rock 'n' roll roots, and if "Bump Ahead" is any indication, things are really looking up for this

-Ann Stack

"Kix Live" Kix Atlantic

Kix, who critics have hailed as one of the best live bands around, have released an entire album to show off their greatest strength.

With 13 years and five albums to their credit, the heavy metal boys from Baltimore are back with "Kix Live," a testimony to the fact that they are perhaps the last of the truly great bar bands.

The energy level on "Live" is electrifying in its intensity. The band holds nothing back - unleashing wave after wave of raw energy fueled by roars of approval from the crowd.

The vocals of Steve Whiteman, who has been compared to Brian Johnson of AC/DC, are in prime condition. Together with lead axeman Brian "Damage" Forsythe, Ronnie Younkins on guitars, bassist Donnie Purnell, and Jimmy Chalfant on drums the quintet rip and tear through such classic rockers as "Rock and Roll Overdose," "Hot Wire," "Sex," and "Blow My

Also included is the anti-suicide ballad "Don't Close Your Eyes," the song that opened the eyes of the world to Kix, and raised the awareness of teen suicide.

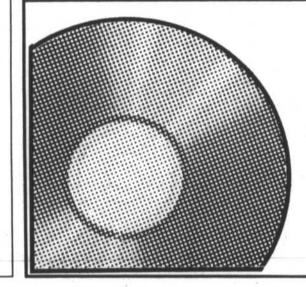
"Holdon, hold on tight/I'll make everything all right/Wake up, don't go to sleep/I'll pray the Lord your soul to keep.'

While the ballad provides a much-needed break, the guys don't quite know when to quit; performing "For Shame" and "Tear Down The Walls," two power-ballads that don't seem to fit with the fast and furious pace of the rest of the disk.

The closing tune is the 14-minute long "Yeah, Yeah, Yeah," in which Whiteman has a running dialogue with the audience about a sobbing woman with a runny nose who throws up on his floor.

"Kix Live" is one of the best live albums to come out this decade. Old Kix fans will not be disappointed, and hopefully the album will attract some new ones.

-Ann Stack



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