"Kids At Work"

Kids At Work is a young new group whose self-titled debut album is on Sound Of New York/CBS Records. No, they're not the sons of the members of Men At Work.

Lead singer Clurel Henderson, 18, began writing songs at the age of five. Teddy Riley, 15, plays keyboards and sings background vocals, and Timmy Gatling, 17, play bass guitar and sings background vocals. All three members collaborated on the writing of five of the seven songs on their debut LP.

The Kids make a relatively homogenized R&B sound in the spirit of such groups as New Edition — the writing here is ordinary and the arrangements, with a few variations, are standard.

The opening cut, "She's My Baby," seems to reflect the same sentiments as New Edition's "Candy Girl" although "She's My Baby" is a little funkier and has fewer hooks. Here's a sample of the lyric: "Gives me what she's got/Cause I mean a lot/My baby "yeah"/Holds me in her arms /Fills me with her charms... you get the idea.

KIDS AT WORK

The boys harmonize well enough and their album is well-produced.

"Singing Hey Yea" is a ballad simple in structure and lyric, which seems to pass by like movie soundtrack music. "Reggae Kids," is not reggae, but just throwaway "party" music.

The album's first single, "Sugar Baby," is a pop-sounding uptempo number which typifies the group's sound.

The album also includes a "dub version" of "She's My Baby" which is simply a re-mix with more "electric" percussion, echo, etc.

Listening to this album reminds me of the time when I first heard the Jackson 5. Their hits like "I Want You Back" and "ABC" struck me as slickly-produced simple-message pop, and that is how I would describe this collection of tunes from Kids At Work.

Apparently, the Kids are trying to create the same charm the early Jackson 5 records did while at the same time keeping in tune with the 80's. This is why I am disappointed with the album. There's not much originality here.

Other cuts: "Never Hurt Me," "All-N-All."

"I Appreciate"

"I Appreciate" is the fourth MCA album from Alicia Myers.

Once again, Alicia has teamed with Kevin McCord and Al Hudson, of the musical group One Way, to produce another action-packed album.

In 1977, Alicia was lead singer of the Detroit group One Way, and she co-wrote to of the six-member band's bigger hits: "You Can Do It" and "Do Your Thang." In 1980, she released her debut album, "Alicia."

You may remember Alicia's hit single "I Want To Thank You."

"I Appreciate" kicks off with the 8-minute jam, "You Get The Best From Me (Say, Say, Say)," which is the first single. It's great for dancing of course, and Alicia's fine voice turns an ordinary repetitive funk track into a sellable single.

"Just Can't Stay Away," a remake of a ballad previously recorded by Natalie Cole, gives Alicia a chance to show her versatility; elements of jazz, gospel, and soul seem to flourish in this fresh-sounding arrangement; the influence of artists like Aretha Franklin, Gladys Knight and Minnie Riperton can be clearly heard.

ALICIA MYERS

"Appreciation" is more uptempo boogie, a simple song that Alicia romps through with ease, but might fall flat with someone else.

There's something here for every Alicia Myers fan to like. Other cuts: "Say That," "My Guy," "Just Praying," "Don't Do Me This Way."

Gospel Greats

By Eddie King

ANDRAE CROUCH
"No Time To Lose"

Andrae Crouch has done it again with his latest release, "No Time To Lose," on the Light Records label; that is, he has produced another quality album that is bound to do well.

Mind you, each of his albums has had a song or two that have become quite popular, but not since 1981 with the album "Don't Give Up" has he won a grammy or come close. This album should do it.

It is a combination of those style of songs that have sailed high on the gospel charts, a little bit of reggae tradition, French twists and downhome foot-stomping gospel music.

Even Andrae admits, "I think I put a little bit of something for everybody on this album."

And sure enough, singles like "Oh It Is Jesus" and "Jesus, Come Lay Your Head On Me" are being requested on almost every Christian radio station—black and white.

Andrae does come a little bit closer to Southern black gospel on this album than he usually does.

Singles like "Somebody Somewhere Is Prayin" and "Livin This Kind Of Life" are not the types of tunes frequented on his pass albums.

ANDRAE CROUCH

The album is sure to be a success one way or the other. Of course, Andrae is known for having superb background singers and soloists accompanying him on his albums. This one is no exception. The vocalists are good and so is Andrae.

Other songs on the album include "Got Me Some Angels," "Right Now," "His Truth Still Marches On," "No Time To Lose" and "Always Remember."

On a scale of one to four, this album easily rates a three and a half.

—Sphinx Club

Continued from page 4

maculate appearance — the place is almost too clean, but it is a pleasant change of pace from many clubs that I've seen and its cleanliness makes it the kind of establishment that you wouldn't mind taking your wife or mother to visit. "My father, who built this club with his own sweat and blood, just about lived here when he was trying to get established and he vowed that, since he spent so much time here, he would always keep it as clean as his home" says Randy Tilghman. "My father calls this his clubroom and when he comes in, he likes to relax so I try to maintain his tradition of keeping this one of the cleanest clubs in town."

Chuck Shamwell, an NBC employee who comes over from Washington, D.C. at least once a week to visit the Sphinx Club, says "this is my favorite place. I come here because it is so relaxed and every one is very, very friendly. I can unwind here from the pressures I face during the work week and just be myself." George Collins, the astute executive from Baltimore's WMAR TV2 and who has become acknowledged as the dean of Black professionals in Maryland's communications industry, also enjoys the Sphinx Club and sums up his feelings about the establishment by saying "I can't think of a better place to be when I'm not at home."

Want to become a member of the Sphinx Club? Well, you will have to be recommended by an existing member of the 38 - year old organization and then get the approval of the membership committee. Dues for membership in the Sphinx Club is $25.00 for men and $10.00 for women, payable every two years. Membership privileges include check cashing and reduced admission for special events.

So if you are looking for something interesting to do this weekend, visit the place at 2107 Pennsylvania Avenue where Tiny Tim and the Morris Dow Trio will be appearing during the evenings.

George Jefferson (Sherman Hemsley, center) is unwittingly thrust into the mayhem of Chicago's Clark Street Hospital Emergency Room, and is attended by Dr. Howard Steinfeld (Elliott Gould, right) and Nurse Julia (Lynn Moody) on a special preview episode of "E/R," Sunday, September 16 on CBS.

The Tube

TV program guide for Baltimore/Washington
Friday, September 14, 1984 to Thursday, September 20, 1984

WEEKDAY DAYTIME REGULARS

DAYTIME

MORNING

—6:00—
(3) CARDIOBAT (FRI)
(9) REAL TO REEL (MON)
—6:15—
(2) THE MUPPETS (WED, FRI)
—6:55—
(9) THE MUPPETS (THU)
(HBO) THE NIGHTMARE OF COCAINE (TUE)
—8:30—
(3) RHORRXBAT (FRI)
(9) THE MUPPETS (MON)
—8:45—
(9) DEVOTIONS
—8:50—
(9) NEWS
—8:55—
(2) JIM BAKKER
—9:00—
(9) 20 MINUTE WORKOUT
(4) FRED THOMAS IN THE MORNING
(5) PANORAMA
(7) ABC NEWS THIS MORNING
(11) CBS EARLY MORNING NEWS
(9) LEARNING TO READ (MON, WED, FRI)
(9) LEARNING TO DO (TUE, THU)
(11) MORNING STRETCH
(11) JIMMY SWAGGART
(HBO) NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (FRI)
(HBO) A SINGLE LIGHT (THU)
—9:30—
(5) (4) NBC NEWS AT SUNRISE
(7) NEWS
(7) CBS EARLY MORNING NEWS
(11) ROAD RUNNER
(9) GREAT SPACE COASTER (MON-THU)
(HBO) NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (FRI)
(HBO) MOVIE (TUE)
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