

The Bottom Line

Subject: New Kids On the Block
Hangin' Tough

I hope the New Kids On the Block keep Hangin' Tough, because they'll need to if they hope to ever become respected performers.

This album is a perfect example of how it is entirely possible for a group with absolutely no talent to become popular in today's music market.

The only good point I discovered on the whole album is the harmony that the New Kids are capable of achieving. These boys actually have quite good voices, and it is sad to see them put to such waste.

On the whole, this album is over-synthesized and light on the usage of quality musicians. In fact, all of the instruments on the album were recorded by one man, not even a member of the New Kids.

The other major problem with this album is intelligent lyrics. Or, rather, the absolute lack of them. Interesting to note is that all but two of the ten tracks on this album were written by the same man who played the instruments.

Some of the songs on the album aren't actually too bad. The best cut by far is Hold On, an as-yet unreleased song that contains a decent beat and hints of actual instruments. Following close behind is the first hit off the album, The Right Stuff, the only hit on the album worthy

THE BOTTOM LINE: REPORT CARD

New Kids On the Block:
Hangin' Tough

LYRICS: D-
MUSIC: D
PERFORMANCE: D+
PRODUCTION: C

FINAL GRADE: D+
Tears For Fears:
The seeds Of Love

LYRICS: B+
MUSIC: A
PERFORMANCE: A-
PRODUCTION: A+

FINAL GRADE: A

of being such.

Hangin' Tough, the album's title track, is a prime example of what not to do with an upbeat pop song. I mean really, a whistle in an otherwise danceable song?

This song is also drug down by, once again, terrible lyrics.

Songs such as Please Don't Go Girl and I Need You provide examples of what not to do with slow songs. Both are over-synthesized with terrible lyrics, and fall far short of producing any sort of reaction or emotion except disgust.

If the New Kids would back off on the synthesizer and put some intelligence behind their lyrics, they could well continue on to become quite a good pop band.

Of course, record sales speak loudest, so the New Kids will continue to release the syrupy love songs and

techno-bubblegum pseudo rock that seems to endear them to today's younger teenage audience.

I guess the rest of us will just have to keep hangin' tough, and not buy this album.

Subject: Tears For Fears
The Seeds Of Love

With their long anticipated return album, Tears For Fears has produced an excellent follow up to their success with Songs From The Big Chair. This album does not, however, follow the trends set by Songs From The Big Chair, instead opting for a mostly mellow sound.

The first release off of the album is Sowing The Seeds Of Love, and it has already entered the top 50 after only two months.

The album provides for wide array of musical tastes. Primarily it provides some of the best piano and bass work to come along in a while.

Songs such as Badman's Song and Swords and Knives show this off, as well as giving us the chance to listen to Roland Orzabal's fine voice.

Year Of The Knife, the most up tempo song on the album, shows much of the former style of Tears For Fears, combining excellent bass, keyboards and guitar work into the best song on the album.

Lyrics are very strong for the most part, and the musicians gathered for this recording are all quite good. Combined with excellent production quality, this is by far Tears For Fears' strongest album yet.

collegiate camouflage

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T O A L A S B A O E V I O T P
I P T G B A I T R O T D N W O
A T E P I L T D P V Y O A Y E
L S R D M S R E E T A G N X N
L U V E S E A X I R E F E O A
A R N E T S T V T N A O I R T
W T R D E V I A C E P T L P N
S U B M F R O Y E F A C I O N
D R E S P A N X Y V N A L O T
S N O M M U S Y O T A E V A N
T H E S I H C N A R F C R O W

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|---------------|-------------|
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| DAMAGES | PROOF |
| DEED | PROXY |
| DURESS | REMEDY |
| EASEMENT | SUBPOENA |
| ESCROW | SUMMONS |
| ESTOPPEL | TORT |
| FELON | TRUST |



ACT Season

The Alpena Civic Theatre (ACT) opens its season with "Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Momma's Hung You In The Closet And I'm Feeling So Sad."

This strange, nonsensical farce by Arthur L. Kopit runs October 18-22.

The show is about a very rich and eccentric mother who has a son of whom she

is very protective. The three-scene play takes place in a hotel and centers around the activities of the mother.

Surprise guest personalities show up to play the father, who was supposedly killed and stuffed by the mother earlier in the play.

According to Pam Schultz, director, ACT had a good turnout for their opening night. There were a lot of walk-ins, which ACT encourages.

Acting in the play were: Kelly Fitzgerald, who played the mother of the Madame, her son, Johnathan, is played by Bryan Van Blaricum, Donette Meyers plays Rosealie, Jerry Winder

plays Commodor, Head Bell Boy is played by Kyle Dell, along with Allen Nerkowski, Danny Schultz, Dawn Kuhn, Rob Arnold, Brian Royer, and Lisa Trienan.

Schultz estimates that ACT's biggest production of this season will be "The Hobbit," adapted from J.J.R. Tolkien. Music will be by Allan Jay Friedman.

There will be a 42 member cast for the play; tryouts were held October 23 and 24.

ACT is completely volunteer. The money received from ticket sales goes into further productions and other bills. ACT has been serving the public for 25 years.

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