

LimROCK



Hi Energy livin' it up

By SHANE FOLEY

"IRELAND'S newest pop sensation" is the claim on the "Hi Energy" posters which go up around town from time to time when the band play here. And now for the good news - they certainly are living up to their billing.

This Limerick band who are only on the road about five months have already a lot of things under their belt and most definitely have a lot of future plans. They got involved in the "Live Aid" scene by doing a gig at the Savoy; they released their debut single, "You Take Me Down", which received good recognition and airplay, and they have now built up a big following throughout the country.

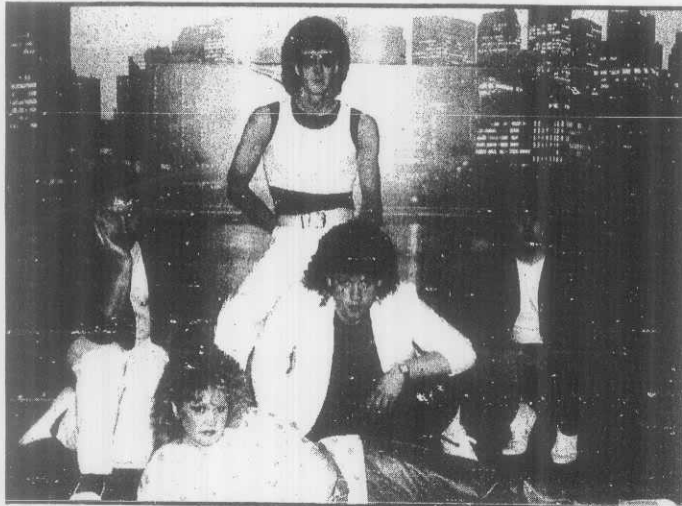
Debut

"Hi Energy" are:- Derek O'Sullivan, guitar and vocals (he formed the band); John Collins, keyboards; Aidan Browne, bass; Frank Dolan, drums, and Jacqui Larkin, vocal, who made her stage debut with the band, to much acclaim, at Magnum's last Friday night.

Even though Jacqui only did five numbers with the lads on Friday she is now a full member of the band and from last Friday night on she will be performing the full set as lead singer.

The band are not short of musical experience with some of the members playing with such bands as "Gimik", "Frontline" and "The Denis Allen Band".

The band's manager, Roger



Hi Energy - standing, Frank Dolan; kneeling (from left), John Collins, Derek O'Sullivan and Aidan Browne; front, Jacqui Larkin.

Bourke, told me that the band have become very popular around the Leinster and Kerry areas and are very much in demand with a heavy booking schedule ahead of them.

"Hi Energy", to me at any rate, epitomise what a dance band should be - an interesting, lively and varied selection of numbers and a totally dynamic stage presence.

Enthusiasm

Derek O'Sullivan was hardly stationary for one moment using every bit of the stage to

leap about and generally work up a big sweat and Frank Dolan when not endeavouring to pulverise his drum kit into the ground with what looked to be some savage blows was busy waving his sticks about above his head. All very enthusiastic and a visual treat. Jacqui, even though only on for five songs, had the audience in the palm of her hand.

On the night, both as a four-piece or a five-piece, "Hi Energy" had their audience captivated with their great stage presence and the skill in which they covered the songs.

After a slightly nervous start with A-ha's "Take On Me" they quickly settled into their rhythm and during the night played numbers from such artists as "Dire Straits", "Maria Vidal", "Nik Kershaw", "Madonna" and practically everyone else who is even the slightest scrap popu-

Huey Lewis

Songs which I particularly enjoyed on the night were:- "Everybody Wants To Rule The World" by Tears For Fears; "Power Of Love" by Huey Lewis, and "Body Rock" by Maria Vidal and "Manic Monday" by The Bangles which were both sung by Jacqui. Their single, "You Take Me Down", was also a great success with the crowd getting very involved as Derek egged them on.

Altogether it was a really great night out and it is nice to see that this live-wire Limerick outfit really live up to their name.

Incidentally, the band are at present recording their new single which will be entitled "Hold On" and will be released in the coming weeks on the "Jump" label.

OFF THE RECORD



● P.I.L.: Album - Hello again to Mr. Rotten (sorry, I'm living in the past again, I'd better start over). Hello again Mr. Lydon. He's back after a long absence but is Johnny becoming too Americanised? ● This entire album with the exception of the single "Rise" and maybe one more track seems to have an American heavy rock feel to it. But nevertheless this is quite a special record and it still manages to keep that weird and totally unique "P.I.L." style.

● An album with no 'A' or 'B' side it has instead a 'this side' and 'other side' - 'this side' starts with a great track "FFF" followed by "Rise". He is accompanied on this album by some fine musicians. ● The titles of the songs are

very short and other good tracks are "Round" and "Ease".

● Best track on the album and hopefully the next single is "Bags". Another success for Mr. Lydon. Available from "Golden Discs". -Couper

● ALEXANDER O'NEAL: Alexander O'Neal - Another thoughtfully titled album and also yet another debut album it opens with a great track called "A Broken Heart Can Mend". This is followed by his superb single "If You Were Here Tonight" which is steadily rising up the charts. Alexander, of course, recently had chart success dueting with Cherrelle on "Saturday Love".

● The remainder of the album was very impressive with the tracks "You Were Meant To Be My Lady (Not My Girl)", "Look At Us Now" and "Do You Wanna Like I Do" standing out in particular.

● A great soul album and I expect to be hearing a lot more from this great artist in the future. Available from "Golden Discs". -Mary

Limerick Leader AND GOLDEN DISCS

TOP 20

Golden Discs Positions	English Positions
1 (1) DAVID BOWIE	Absolute Beginners (8) 2
2 (6) THE BANGLES	Manic Monday (2) 3
3 (2) DIANA ROSS	Chain Reaction (1) 1
4 (8) MR. MISTER	Kyrie (18) 15
5 (5) CULTURE CLUB	Move Away (17) 7
6 (-) HUEY LEWIS	Power Of Love (9) 11
7 (3) SIGUE SIGUE SPUTNIK	Love Missile F1-11 (3) 10
8 (13) JIM DIAMOND	Hi Ho Silver (8) 5
9 (-) ALEXANDER O'NEAL	If You Were Here Tonight (14) 20
10 (10) BLOW MONKEYS	Digging Your Scene (20) 12
11 (15) PRINCE	Kiss (13) 6
12 (12) WHITNEY HOUSTON	How Will I Know (12) 24
13 (-) GRACE JONES	Love Is The Drug (39) -
14 (11) SURVIVOR	Burning Heart (10) 23
15 (-) LIGHT A BIG FIRE	You Can Love A Woman (-) -
16 (9) FRANK SINATRA	New York, New York (4) 9
17 (7) BILLY OCEAN	When The Going Gets Tough (5) 14
18 (-) TAVARES	Heaven Must Be Missing An Angel (16) 25
19 (-) SIOUXIE AND THE BANSHEES	Candyman (34) 34
20 (-) DEPECHE MODE	Stripped (15) 20

Last week's positions appear in brackets.

12 Inch Singles TOP 10

1 (2) DAVID BOWIE	Absolute Beginners
2 (7) DIANA ROSS	Chain Reaction
3 (-) PET SHOP BOYS	Love Comes Quickly
4 (-) THE BANGLES	Manic Monday
5 (1) SIGUE SIGUE SPUTNIK	Love Missile F1-11
6 (4) PRINCE	Kiss
7 (5) MR. MISTER	Kyrie
8 (-) HUEY LEWIS	Power Of Love
9 (-) E.L.O.	Calling America
10 (-) CULTURE CLUB	Word Army

Golden Discs positions only on 12 inch charts.



Mr. Mister who are No. 4 in the local charts this week with "Kyrie".



Cork band Cypress, Minel who are appearing at the Top Floor, Savoy, this Friday night.

What's in a name?

WITH so much money being put into the making and marketing of albums it was days wouldn't you think it was about time companies started demanding that their wonderful and talented artists put a tiny bit of thought into the christening of those 12" marvels they produce.

Take for instance some of the latest wonderful attempts:- "Matt Bianco", "Suzanne Vega", "Fergal Sharkey", "Whitney Houston", "Go West" and "Alex-

ander O'Neal". All the artists names if you didn't already guess.

Oh what a big yawn it all is. Praise the Lord for people with some imagination left - take these three titles for instance:- "Damned But Not Forgotten" by the Damned; "No Jacket Required" by Phil Collins, and "Live II - Horrible Music, For Horrible People By This Horrible Band", by The Meteors.

How refreshing!

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