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RRRWWWEEEOOO

'Heavy' album booms with nostalgic sonic sound

By MIKE LEE
Of the Emerald

Heavy-metal rock will be the elevator music of the 21st century.

Aging housewives shopping in their local conglomerama will feel soothed as Muzak pipes in those familiar sonic-boom drums and screaming guitars. Ah, for the simpler times, they'll say as they purchase the week's allotment of non-radioactive soymilk.

Even in 1981, most of the music on the Heavy Metal soundtrack album seems passe. But on closer listening — aided by proper consumption of herbs and distilled grains — the music is not that at all.

It's nostalgic. Although all of the double-album's 16 tracks are new — except Devo's reworking of "Working in the Coal Mine" — most of them capture the Happy Days of Heavy Metal.

Sammy Hagar's gut-shaking title track contains all of the wonderful elements of the genre. As he screams "It's your one-way ticket to midnight — call it Heavy Metal," you're already forgetting the last shower you took.

'It's like listening to a child play with all of the 1970s music stops on a Genie organ.'

And if the good ol' drums and rasping guitars aren't enough, there's the classic jet-engine riff — RRRRWWW-WWEEEEEEEEEOOOOOO — that should be outlawed during the air controllers' strike.

Likewise, "Queen Bee," by the resurrected Grand Funk, features drummer Don Brewer having the time of his life on a 12/8 rolling beat. Sure, the words may be a bit stupid — "They can't see what you mean to me, my Queen Bee" — but lyrics never have been a

heavy metal staple. The music is to be felt, not heard.

Unfortunately, the album's title is misleading. Heavy Metal, the film and the fantasy magazine, refers to ore, not music. While the soundtrack plays on the pun — and that's

piano, and it reeks of Barry Manilow.

However, "I Must Be Dreaming" by Cheap Trick isn't so bad. Beginning with a sound approximating elephants snorting coke, it segues to a punching-bag drum and jet-engine guitar, segues again to a new-wave march, then works its way back to the elephants. It's like listening to a child play with all of the 1970s music stops on a Genie organ.

The lyrics are much too nasty for Heavy Metal: "You must be dreaming to think I love you." That's what makes the other music nostalgic — time was when listeners were on the musician's side. Now we want to hit him.

Oh, well. In spite of its faults, "Heavy Metal" is a fun, slickly produced album, an auditory "Raiders of the Lost Ark." All of the gimmicks are there.

I just hope the movie is in Sensurround.

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Fluids beat heat wave

Should Eugene's 100-degree temperatures return, public health engineer Harold Youngquist has a simple solution.

"Leave the valley and go to the coast."

But for residents who are unable to indulge in the luxury of a seaside retreat, Youngquist recommends drinking plenty of fluids, avoiding the sun, and refraining from mixing alcohol and exercise.

Only people who work in the sun should increase their salt intake, he says.

"All salt does is make you retain fluid, and if you're already drinking plenty of fluids, you'll be OK."

The heat hasn't caused many health problems because "heat

is so unusual in this area that people respond to it conservatively," Soungquist says.

However, Tim Birr, Eugene fire department representative, says the fire department has responded to 13 heat-related problems since Saturday. Most were cases of heat exhaustion.

Heart-related ailments have increased 5 to 10-percent, he says, and although there is no direct correlation, heat and heart problems are "more than casually related."

The extreme heat poses a more serious problem for newborn babies and pregnant women, according to Arthur Salisbury, a March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation physician.

Pregnant women should be sure to drink lots of fluids, minimize physical activity and increase salt intake, he says.

Also, infants should be clothed in only a diaper and not wrapped in blankets if the home isn't air conditioned.

Summer graduation to be held Saturday

Eugene Mayor Gus Keller will speak at the summer commencement ceremony, scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

About 500 of the 1,300 students receiving their degrees this summer are expected to participate in the graduation ceremony, according to com-

munity services director Mary Hudzikiewicz.

Provost Richard Hill will preside over the ceremony, which will be held at the Memorial Quad, located between the library and 13th Avenue. In case of rain, commencement will be held at McArthur Court.

ODE seeks writers

The Emerald is seeking freelance writers to help with its two fall orientation issues.

Articles range from introductory stories to sports articles to University and community features. Writers with story ideas of their own are welcome, but ideas must be approved by a section editor.

Interested writers should

stop by the Emerald office, Room 300 EMU, to receive assignments.

All writers are paid by the column inch. Experienced writers from publication or journalism classes are preferred.

Additional information and applications are available at the Emerald office.

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