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REVIEW

Continued from Page 1B

that got him there was gone

Born in the USA was simply not an album by the man who used to tell audiences a story about God sitting behind a drum kit saying, "Moses screwed and the 11th one said, 'Let it rock.'

was missing that rock spirit. Also missing was the E Street Band that had been the heart and soul of Springsteen's sound from his early days in New

got Human Touch and Lucky Town, and it appears sincere ballad. the tramp who was born to run has become the millionaire who was born to end his career mired in

As one would suspect, when someone of Springsteen's musical talent and prolific writing abilities puts out 24 new songs, there are going to be

For the most part, the songs on both albums are all eerily similar in message and tune. Symbolic of the music on the records, both record jackets are almost

Lyrically, Springsteen is still coping with the same struggles of love and commitment and his obsession have settled down in their own homes with their to figure out what it means to be a "real man-Despite some critics' assertions that Springsteen has grown and his message has matured, these are the same things be probed on Darkness on the Edge of

On "New York City Serenade," released in the 1970s, Springsteen laments that his girl "Won't take the train/She's afraid those tracks are going to slow her down." The song is clearly about making a commitment; something only the new, "mature" Springsteen is supposed to be dealing with.

Of the two releases. Lucky Town is definitely the up. There were supposed to be 11 commandments. better album. Springsteen wrote most of the songs for the record during a creative spurt after the birth Born in the USA was followed by Tunnel of Love. of his son. Here, Springsteen is able to deal with a an album that again contained some good work but subject he has not before been challenged by -

'My Beautiful Reward," the last song on Lucky Town, is perhaps the best of the 24 new releases. Its Now, more than 20 years after it all began, we've simplicity of music and message creates a touching.

> There are other standouts. "Gloria's Eyes," "I Wish I Were Blind" and "All or Nothing at All" are good songs with a touch of the missing spirit.

But as a whole, the records are monotonous. Musome real gems - but they are few and far between on sically, the loss of the E Street Band was never more noticeable - the songs are lacking the soul once supplied by those E Streeters. In fact, by adding a slide guitar and a couple of fiddles, the records would go over well on most country/western sta-

> Maybe in 20 years, when younger Springsteen fans own spouses and 2.3 children, this album will haunt them as a masterpiece.

But if you're young, or just young at heart, and you Town and The Wild, the Innocent and the E Street still feel the energy of youth - the spirit of rock 'n' roll - take your \$30 and spend it elsewhere.

DYLAN

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his work expresses all that people need to know abut him.

"It wasn't me who called myself a legend," he said in a press release. "It was thrown at me by editors who wanted to play around with me or have something new to tell their readers. But it stuck

'It was important for me to come to the bottom of this legend thing which has no reality at all." he continued. "What's important isn't the legend, but the art. The work. A person has to do whatever they are called on to do. If you try to act a legend, it's nothing but hype."

For Dylan, songs are mostly personal - something that hap-

pens in one's life or flashes through and then it's gone. Sometimes it turns into a song and sometimes it's just lost.

No one frames language with that same sense of rhyme. It's my thing, just like no one writes a sad song like Hank Williams or no one writes a bitter song like Willie Nelson. My thing is the forming of the lines.

Tickets for his Hult Center show, selling for \$19.50, \$25 and \$35, can be purchased at the EMU Main Desk or by calling the box office at 687-5000.

-Ming Rodrigues

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