



## Kik Tracee is living life on the edge

by Daniel W. Duffy

Kik Tracee's maiden voyage through Las Vegas sails into the Jive Opera Gallery Saturday.

Their sound has a hard rock edge, but can't be put into a standard heavy metal category. Lead singer and visionary man Stephen Shareaux describes their music as "soul shakin' and love makin' rock 'n' roll."

Seeing Kik Tracee live is what their vision is all about according to Shareaux. Their live show is "all about visualizing the future and believing it."

Shareaux went to Los Angeles from the Midwest two years ago and hooked up with the rest of the band through a music trade pa-

per. From there, Shareaux said it was bizarre how well things worked out and how they "magically clicked."

After writing songs for approximately six months, the band started kicking around the Hollywood scene and were signed to a record deal by RCA shortly thereafter. Then came the all-important hunt for a producer.

With full support from their label, Kik Tracee began looking for a big name producer for their debut album. They came across Bob Ezrin who had produced the likes of Pink Floyd and Kiss. Shareaux said they really dug Ezrin's style and his "combination of the rock and spacey thing."

It was through Bob see **KIK TRACEE** page 11

Ezrin that they met the man who would eventually produce the album, Las Vegas' own transplanted resident, Dana Strum. Aside from being the bass player for Slaughter, Strum was also an up-and-coming producer. When time schedules conflicted with Ezrin, Strum stepped in to do the job.

The band recorded three songs with Strum and were impressed with his workaholic tendencies and as Shareaux put it, his willingness to take the project the "extra mile." Near disaster struck when Slaughter started to make it big, and Strum had to leave to go on tour, stranding Kik



Kik Tracee will play the Jive Opera Gallery Saturday.

## Local establishments offer variety for UNLV students

by Joan Eve Trumble

It's your last class of the day and you can't concentrate on your professor's lecture because you are worried where you and your friends will go tonight. Well, focus on your lecture once again because there are several different bars and restaurants where you can meet your friends without spending a fortune.

Starting at Sneakers, on East Tropicana, Monday Night Football is celebrated with various specials on selected beers. Wednesday, pitchers are on sale, and if you bring your own mug after nine o'clock it's even cheaper. The rest of the week their happy hour is from 2:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. and various hors d'oeuvres are available.

Carlos Murphy's has a happy hour Monday through Friday that lasts from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. During happy hour they serve two for one drafts, margaritas and well drinks. They also have buffet style hors d'oeuvres featuring a variety of Mexican food.

For fermented hops lovers, try Brewster's on Thursdays and Saturdays, or the University Inn-Zone on Saturdays. They both have all-you-can drink specials. Brewster's also offers buckets of tequila, for those who enjoy liquor from the south of the border.

For those who prefer mixed drinks and ambiance, the Elephant Bar on Maryland Parkway may be the ticket. The E-Bar has a variety of hors d'oeuvres in-

cluding fresh fruit and prepared vegetables during their happy hour every Monday through Friday, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Every night of the week they provide a well drink special, ranging from champagne specials on Sundays to tropical kamikazes specials on Tuesdays.

After the Elephant Bar, the next stop might be up the street at the Sports Pub. Every Tuesday night is ladies night at the Pub, ladies drink free from ten until one. Gentlemen can get draft beer for a reduced price.

Now you no longer have to worry about your evening's plans and you can concentrate on your classes. Remember though, always appoint a designated driver.

## Richie Sambora's solo effort is corporate rock

by Tricia Romano

Upon hearing Richie Sambora's debut album *Stranger in this Town*, the words "corporate rock" come to mind.

True, the record isn't badly written. Nor are there bad musicians playing on it. In fact, it's quite the opposite: Sambora plays with skill and is in good company (Eric Clapton even makes an appearance). So what's wrong, then, ask? This

record is manufactured. It is the sort of thing that Huey Lewis and the News would put out. And that's disappointing when you're talking about a very talented

guitar player and songwriter. Sambora, who is the other half of the Bon Jovi songwriting team, shows that he can stand on his own when it comes to writing songs for awhile.

While there are a few well-written songs, Sambora

runs out of steam and begins to feed out empty lyrics, played with no emotion. "Voodoo woman/ I see you in my dreams/ down on Lonely Street," and "As I kneel at the altar I can feel your fire/ In the church of desire," represent the best of the worst.

The album's first release, "Ballad of Youth," is among the strongest on the record, perhaps because Sambora teamed up with Bon Jovi keyboardist David Bryan. Drummer Tico Torres also lends his skills

on the album.

What made the Bon Jovi records so popular, is missing on this album. The pure emotion and grit that dripped from Jon Bon Jovi's voice when he sang "Wanted Dead or Alive," is absent from Sambora's wails. Yes, he can sing, but his voice isn't fully taken advantage of. Those high notes that accented Bon Jovi albums are all but ignored, as Sambora sings in deep, breathy, low notes.

It is clear that this is Sambora's attempt at seri-

ous music. Someone once said that when a rock musician starts playing the blues, it is his cry to be taken seriously. Sambora's attempt at the blues is just that; an attempt.

For the most part, all he accomplishes is moaning and groaning to dull, drawn-out melodies.

Maybe Sambora should stop worrying about being taken seriously and start playing that good-ol'-rock 'n' roll that he does so well. Let this be a lesson learned.

## 'Bright Angel' is more of a dull glow

by Daniel W. Duffy

*Bright Angel* is a hauntingly interesting film at times, but for the most part it is too slow. It seems more like a novel directly translated to film, without the necessary "film magic" needed to make a good

movie.

Although the cinematography is superb, it is lacking the intangible elements that emotionally move the viewer in one direction or another.

### MOVIE REVIEW

#### Bright Angel (★★½)

Starring Dermot Mulroney, Lili Taylor and Sam Shepard. Directed by

Dermot Mulroney (*Young Guns, Career Opportunities*) stars as

George, an innocent and naive hayseed from Montana who stumbles upon a drifter, Lili Taylor, (*Say Anything..., Mystic Pizza*). The two embark on a journey that takes them throughout Wyoming. They have a certain chemistry, but the story itself doesn't really expand on their relationship.

Taylor's Canadian accent is grossly overdone and extremely tiresome. Mulroney seems lethargic, but that can be passed off as naive.

If you want to see a good road picture, I would recommend you see *Thelma & Louise*. Aside from some vivid, rustic cinematography, this film is rather monotonous.