

# TOWER TRIBUNE

HIP-HOP



Arrested Development

## A hype-worthy debut: Arrested Development

**T**hree Years, Five Months, and Two Days in the Life of... the high-charged debut from **Arrested Development** (Chrysalis) invokes a strong southern vibe, at times with a Pentecostal fury, and at times, such as "Mama's Always Onstage," with a fiery, bluesy spirit. Arrested Development is one of the few rap acts comprised of men and women, and one of the few with a rural rather than an urban base (in their case, the countryside outside of Atlanta, Ga.). The group's combination of wailing harmonicas, female gospel vocals, bright harpsichords and a jittery, grooving energy is a new one. "Everyday People" is a

stuttering, slow-paced loop, which tells the story of a man who is forced to commit an act of black-on-black violence. The song ends with a short spoken moral: "Africans need to be loving each other and united;" but the heavy message never gets didactic because the music is so gloriously feel-good. The production is spacious, uncluttered and clean, yet it doesn't end up sounding spare. Arrested Development has made one of the most interesting debut albums of the year, and sounds like it had a lot of fun doing it.

-Dimitri Ehrlich

## Also in PULSE!

**A** Japanese-only six-cut Nirvana EP has just been released called *Hormoaning* which includes cuts from the band's BBC John Peel sessions. Unfortunately this item has been banned



Nirvana

for export to the U.S.

"Any revival of interest gives us a chance to sell our catalog CDs," says Steve Pritchard of Virgin, who's compiled a comprehensive collection of some of the best hits to come out of the punk/new wave era of 1976-78. The collection called *3 Minute Heroes* features, the **Ruts**, with "Babylon's Burning," **Ian Dury** with "Sex and Drugs and Rock and Roll," the **Boombats**, **XTC** and the **Damned**, among many other stars from the era. The **Sex Pistols**, allowed "Pretty Vacant" to be included; cuts from the **Clash** and **X Ray Spex**, which would have rounded off the set, weren't available.

Stories in this supplement are excerpted from the April Issue of PULSE! Magazine, available March 27th in all Tower Records/Video stores. Edited by Mara Wildfeuer. Designed by Lisa Couriér. Advertisements designed by Scott Perry.



Hank Williams Jr.

IN BRIEF

**H**ank Williams Jr., has signed a multi-album recording contract with Capricorn Records, the label responsible for forging the Southern rock movement. It completes an 18-year dream for Williams, who originally approached Capricorn chief **Phil Walden** in 1974 to talk about signing with his label. That was the year that Williams stopped performing in the style of his legendary father and began heading in a country-rock direction. His current *Maverick* disc and subsequent two albums will be released on Curb/Capricorn and distributed by Warner Bros. in a unique deal that will have Capricorn helping with promotion and marketing. After that, Williams' albums will come out on Capricorn with Warners distribution.

Fender guitar company has introduced a **Stevie Ray Vaughan** designed model to its signature guitar series. Fender had canceled plans for the guitar after Vaughan perished in an August, 1990 helicopter crash, but Vaughan's family encouraged revival of the project; it was Vaughan's brother **Jimmie**, who unveiled the instrument at an Anaheim, Calif., convention of music merchandisers.

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