

Star 69 eating up stardom with thought-provoking lyrics

By Pauline Villapando
Staff A&E Writer

Get ready for the surreal sounds of **Star 69**.

Their evocative blend of throbbing guitars and soulful lyrics make them stand out from the rest of the power pop clan.

The band's debut album, *Eating February*, on Radioactive Records kicks off with the winding and provocative, "You Are Here."

The song begins with the noisy clamor of several instrumental noises and quickly moves into a loud and upbeat rock n' roll tune.

"I'm falling, I'm falling faster. I hit the ground it's the end. Here comes the next disaster. I'm sinking over as I sing. Here comes the

big survival," sings lead vocalist and guitar, Julie Daniels in a sweet, baby voice.

The song suddenly incorporates a sultry slower beat, mingled with a combination of sharp guitar melodies and deafening drums. The thought-provoking lyrics contribute to the awakening predictions about life as it is now.

The next song, "I'm insane," is a bit more shocking and relentless with its message. Apparently this woman, who Daniels sings about, is a tad obsessive and out of control with her emotions over a guy who messed up her life.

"Who knows, he's been there, he's in her mouth, who knows he's in her."

You can really hear the depression and morbidity of the song's

situation in Daniels' meaningful intonations, which creates a realistic portrayal of this woman's anger and delusion. "Who's sorry now? Crazy, steal my heart again, stranger I'm insane, disease he left her, he drinks her down." The melody here is deeper and more hypnotic.

The next track, "Burning Down The House," is more reflective and relaxed in its various sounds, but also retains the unsettling territory that the previous songs held. Daniels keeps her voice laid back and mellow, which goes well with the soulful rhythm.

"Burning down the house, I'm the one who killed your girl in my dream, I'm the one who stabbed you dead, Oh yeah, it was me, how is it such a girl so young could feel

such hate, She must be crazy now, or maybe insane, it's too late."

The seductive melodies go well with the vividly dark images portrayed in the melancholy lyrics.

Deep songs such as "Bruise" and "Scabs" contain strong emotional themes that relay metaphorical wounds in the lives of various people.

"Sky looks absolutely beautiful, I can't stop picking the scabs in my brain, only to bleed and feel again, feeling so low, feeling so low," sings Daniels.

The Los Angeles native met the rest of her band-mates while vacationing in London, where she was busy exploring the art of songwriting.

Daniels claims that the process is very therapeutic. "I know the

thoughts that ran through my mind when I wrote these songs, but other people can make their own connections," explained Daniels in an interview.

Although the words are quite elusive and gloomy, the emotions that she writes about are undeniably realistic.

From neurotic relationships to meaningful insights into her soul, Daniels covers all the bases of human reasoning, while the rest of the band creates the perfect musical accompaniment with their fragrant melodies.

Star 69 is a musical dichotomy of abundantly layered sounds coupled with alluring and explosive lyrical poetry.

No DOUBT,

FROM PAGE 9



Stefani, standing atop a speaker, she humorously asked the guys in attendance to sing, "I'm just a girl." When this bit ran its course, Stefani led the girls attending with the lyrics, "I'm a (obscenity) girl and I can do whatever I want."

Stefani, in fact, did whatever she wanted for the majority of the show. And everyone at the T&M was thrilled that she marched to the beat of her own drum.

After the encore, in which the "Imperial March" from *Star Wars* was played as the band members exited the stage, No Doubt returned with rousing cheers and played an acoustical version of "Hey You."

The crowd, which danced throughout the night, was next greeted with the ultra-popular smash hit "Don't Speak." Stefani, who is an expert at working a crowd, seemed thrilled to see a massive amount of people singing every lyric without missing a word. Since fans were doing such a fine job, she allowed them to sing the final verse of the song. This plan worked to perfection, creating more excitement than the T&M has seen in quite some time.

After the second and final encore, No Doubt concluded the festivities with "Spiderwebs," one of many hits from the album *Tragic Kingdom*. This song helped prove that Stefani and the rest of the band are like the Energizer bunny. They just keep going and going and going. Signs of fatigue were not present on this night. In fact, the band appeared to get stronger as the clock raced closer to midnight.

"Spiderwebs," one of the faster-paced songs in No Doubt's repertoire, helped create the type of atmosphere that could be cut with a knife. Most fans began jumping up and down as the final sounds of No Doubt thrilled them to their hearts content. It was a night for all to enjoy.

To say that Friday's concert was a Kodak moment would be a drastic understatement. Cake and No Doubt's incredible display of talent helped send everyone's worries to an unforeseen place. As a result, feelings of love and joy were present when the concert concluded three hours after it began.

This concert wasn't one that will be forgotten overnight. Instead, it will be remembered for a long time to come. Cake and No Doubt are indeed masters of their musical craft.

Final Exam Question The Collect Call

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- a) nope
- b) nope
- c) nope
- d) 1 800 CALL ATT
- e) go back one

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