

AE Calendar

THURSDAY

Cathy Ladman, John Prizzi, Alonzo Bodden and John Ljungberg, Riviera Hotel & Casino, tonight through Sunday at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Admission: \$14.95. For info: 794-9433.

Acoustic Messenger and Soul Festival, Boston Grill & Bar, 8 p.m. Admission Free. For info: 368-0750.

Neil Sedaka, Desert Inn Hotel & Casino, tonight through Sunday at 9 p.m. Admission: \$45. For info: 733-4444.

Copperpot and The Glert,

USA Cafe, 10 p.m. Admission: \$3. For info: 436-4386.

FRIDAY

Mahoney's 35th Anniversary Celebration & Food Drive: Home Cookin', Ulterior Motives, Fact Meets Fiction, 12 Volt Sex, Big Bad Zero, Face Down, Inside Scarlet and Sofa Kingdom, Huntridge Theater, 6 p.m. Admission Free. For info: 477-7703.

The Merry Widow, UNLV Opera Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, Friday through Sunday at 7:30 p.m. Admission: \$5. For info: 895-3801.

Jethro Tull, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 8 p.m. Admission: \$27 to \$45. For info: 226-4650.

Laughter on the 23rd Floor, Off Broadway Theater, Friday and

Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Admission: \$9 to \$11. For info: 737-0611.

Lou Rawls, Orleans Hotel & Casino, Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 8 p.m. and 10:30. Admission: \$22.95. For info: 365-7075.

Roxy Locks, Cafe Espresso Roma, 8 p.m. Admission Free. For info: 369-1540.

Billy Davis and Marilyn McCoo, Las Vegas Hilton Hotel & Casino, 9 p.m. Admission: \$49. For info: 732-5111.

Jackie "The Joke Man" Martling, Riviera Hotel & Casino, Friday at 10 p.m., Saturday at 9 p.m. Admission: \$25. For info: 794-9433.

MDL and Dear Liza, Legends, 10 p.m. Admission: \$5. For info: 437-9674.

Living Room Sheep, Roadside Prophets and They, Boston Grill & Bar, Midnight. Admission: \$3. For info: 368-0750.

SATURDAY

So. NV Contra Dance Society, Junior Junction Preschool, 7 p.m. Admission: \$4. For info: 565-3935.

Ani DiFranco, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 8 p.m. Admission: \$20. For info: 226-4650.

Jaques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris, Las Vegas Little Theatre, Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Admission: \$14 to \$15. For info: 362-7996.

Wade Hayes, Sunset Station Hotel & Casino, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Admission: \$15 to \$25. For info: 547-7777.

Happy Go Lucky and Attaboy Skip, The Strike Zone, 10 p.m. Admission: \$3 to \$5. For info: 456-4800.

Reggae with Najja, Wet Stop, 10 p.m. Admission Free. For info: 791-0977.

Southern Nevada Musical Arts Society: Musical Arts Singers, Clark County Library (Flamingo Branch), 8 p.m. Admission: \$7 to \$10. For info: 733-7810.

SUNDAY

76+4 Trombones Concert, Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall, 2 p.m. Admission: \$5 to \$10. For info: 732-3838.

Kenny Rogers, Buffalo Bill's Hotel & Casino (Primm), 7:30. Admission: \$18.50 to \$30.50. For info: 895-3801.

BJÖRK: Even though her lyrics are bizarre, everyone can relate to them

nation you might care to go.

Even though Björk delivers the bizarre, her lyrics, more times than not, are something everyone can understand.

The song "5 Years" sounds like distorted Nintendo music with distortion and synthesized sounds abound. Yet the whole message of the song is that her lover will regret losing her when she is gone and that his fear of commitment is going to cost him even though he might not realize it for years.

"Immature" is so different from many of the compositions on Björk's latest effort. Mellow and very smooth, the singer proves she can hold a nice melodic line. The music in all of her songs is so creative and instinctive. The same holds true for this relaxing journey into her world.

Björk's voice shows off everything from a soft, beautiful phrase to a passionate growl in this song.

Though nothing on the album could be downgraded to mainstream or commercial pop, "Alarm Call" might be the only one that comes close. This song is a mixture of R&B, alternative, and anything else you might want to throw into the mix. The lyrics are really not lyrics, but seem like quotes she might have said throughout her life.

All the ideas are disjointed from previous ones and the mu-

sic portrays all her thoughts differently, yet keeps them musically connected. A subtle difference in one place, a slightly more hectic background, or a different vocal arrangement or tools effectively lifts Björk into the position of being an "artist."

Björk's latest album is completely enjoyable and a nice break from the rut music seems to be getting in. Fresh music is hard to find, but with *Homogenic*, this talented singer has given us a rare gift. Even the artwork on the cover of the album is cinematic and portrays the many themes and ideas emphasized throughout the composition.

The only song on the album that could be found offensive is the overly aggressive "Pluto," where the monotonous and screeching music makes one feel like a cat in a room full of rocking chairs. Maybe that is what it's supposed to do.

This album is definitely recommended as one to add to your collection. Whether a listener is looking for dance music, something to tick off the neighbors or a voyage, *Homogenic* will satisfy your urges.

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BOOGIE: The movie concentrates on Dirk's growing career as a porn star

set of on-screen talent also includes Little Bill (William H. Macy of *Fargo*), Jack's assistant director who can't seem to handle the fact that his wife is always having sex with other men.

There is also a young girl named Rollergirl (Heather Graham) who never takes off her trusty skates during intercourse, Buck Swope (Don Cheadle) who aspires to be a hi-fi stereo salesman, and Reed (John Reilly) who becomes Dirk's best friend.

The movie continues to concentrate on Dirk's growing career as a porn star. He wins several porn film awards and comes up with an idea to be the next James Bond of the porn industry.

His new action-sex films take off and his ego also goes along for the ride. His drug use and high lifestyle of parties, fun, and sex soon catch up with him to the point where he thinks he is the king of the porno world just because he was blessed with a longer sexual organ than other men.

Dirk soon erupts violently toward Jack to the point where he is fired. He even starts to get involved in drug sales and other risky business ventures. Dirk is down and out in the early 1980s and must find a way to become part of high society once again.

Boogie Nights is an interesting humanistic story where all the characters are searching for themselves. They realize the pornographic world has taken hold of their public and private lives, but they can't expect to easily switch jobs to a more socially acceptable occupation.

The film may be objectionable to those who do not like the mix of comedy, violence and gratuitous sex. There are many violent scenes that are quite graphic, yet still make you laugh.

The same thing happened in movies such as *Trainspotting*, *Clerks* and *Pulp Fiction*, where the mix of violence, drugs, sex and comedy made great combinations.

The first of two amazing facts about *Boogie Nights* is that a 26-

year-old directed and wrote the film.

Paul Thomas Anderson carefully crafted a movie that takes place in a time when he was just finishing first grade. It is amazing to see how the movie craftily depicts L.A. at that time.

The other amazing fact is Wahlberg, the star of the film. Previously known as *Marky Mark*, he has transformed from punk to serious actor in just a few short years.

It seems like only yesterday that "Good Vibrations" was the number one song in the country. His career has transformed from a musician, to underwear model, to acting in films such as *Fear* and *The Basketball Diaries*. His acting is astonishing, and he is sure to become part of the elite club (along with Will Smith) that crosses over from music to movies with success.

Boogie Nights is a large ensemble acting extravaganza that could be seen over and over again. Many people may not like the movie because it does not have many redeeming qualities, but *Boogie Nights* is sure to please the moviegoer who does not want to see the usual action or comedy film.

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