

Entertainment



ARTIST OF THE WEEK

By Lady Essence

Lakeside is the electrifying 9-man band recording for Solar Records distributed by Elektra Asylum Records. Their story began in Dayton, Ohio, a place that is famous for American's most established self-contained Funk Bands. Bound almost mysteriously together in 1969, Lakeside, then known as The Ohio Lakeside Express, had won over the city of Dayton and the surrounding Tri-State area, playing prestigious local clubs as well as opening for popular name bands visiting the city.

After three years of local gigs in that area the group decided to pack up the and head west. Armed with a U-haul and \$70 cash, Lakeside made their way across the country to Los Angeles. Steve Shockley, guitarist, had contacts there, so the band had no problem becoming a house band for a hotel, exchanging their talents for room and board. Shortly after the group changed its name to simply Lakeside, they started getting gigs in local clubs, namely, Maverick's Flat, a place known for discovering fresh new talent. Pretty soon the word was out that a hot new band had invaded the city of Los Angeles.



LAKESIDE



Manufactured and Distributed by RCA Records

It was during this period that the group met producer Frank Wilson, who signed them with ABC Records. However, the timing wasn't good due to the fact that they came during the ABC's powerful political turmoil. Their debut LP got lost in the shuffle and the group didn't hesitate to leave the label.

Fortunately, their manager Dick Griffey had just begun his Solar label and it all came together with "Shot Of Love," their first album for the label. This LP was produced by Griffey and Leon Sylvers, and it entailed a little bit of everything. Powerful instrumentals, dynamite funk tunes, and med-tempo good listening music.

Their next album, "Rough Riders," included all original tunes, namely the hit single "Pull My Strings." "Fantastic Voyage," their third album was a classic. It combined the funk of "Fantastic

Voyage" and "Your Love Is On The One," with sentimental ballads like "I Need You" and "Say Yes."

Lakeside's 1981 LP, *Your Wish Is My Command* was their next smash hit album. It included the hit singles, "Magic Moments," "I Want To Hold Your Hand," "Something About That Woman" and the title song.

Their latest album, *Untouchables*, is definitely just that. There aren't too many albums that can touch it. With songs like "Raid," "Turn The Music Up," "Real Love" and the title cut, they really have a winner on their hands.

Lakeside is definitely a group that has combined the best of both worlds. Their versatility can be compared with the best of them, which means that they are undoubtedly one of the best!

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

AN ATLANTIC CITY WIN FOR THE LATE LARRY STEELE

N'YORK CITY — It is hi'time that the "Divine Sex" of Afro-Americans, the fertile soil in which the seed of life is sown, is recognized among the beauties of legend and lore. At last she can take her place in the history of Cleopatra, Delliha, Helen of Troy, Josephine, Monroe and Fawcett and lengthen the unwritten paragraphs

about the late Nina Mae McKinney, Dorothy Dandridge and the most vibrant and alive Lena Horne. Plus the countless beige beauties who have crossed this eye path through the years. The surprising "Miss America" win of lovely, astute and talented Vanessa Williams will have a beneficial effect on the hopes and future aspirations of all "minorities" in America. More than that the victory has caused the addition of a happy and more meaningful paragraph to the history of Democracy. I wish her well. A scandal-free reign, a good marriage and a proud and productive family that will continue the climb, to which new heights must have been added because of the extra special rung she has topped on the ladder of equality.

Perhaps she might like to know that her achievement has made a lot of folks, who fought with pen and sword to get her there, button poppin' happy and a might less suspicious of "whitey." The main man to come to mind is Larry Steele. With her victory, his ghost probably took a proud stroll along the boardwalk of Atlantic City in cadence with the beat of his living composition, "It's A Very Good Deal." It was his active rancor with the "Miss America" committee which caused the formation of the initial

group resistance to the racial exclusion policy of the event. Each year Larry, the producer of the hit show at the Harlem Club, would escalate his attack against the inflexible bias barriers of the event. The unashamed bigotry which affected its universal appeal was incompatible with the rainbow racial mix of our nation and needed to be detonated. He finally won a hollow victory and was invited to parade his "Tall Tan & Terrific Girls" in the "Miss America Parade." In his hereafter I am sure that he would call this total '83 victory a very "Good Deal." It's ironic, that like most pioneers, he was cut off at the pass and in this type of our

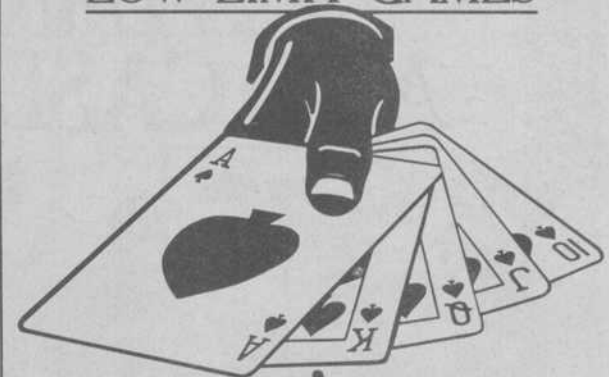
living, never got the opportunity to see what was on the other side of the mountain he urged so many to cross. So it will do lovely Vanessa Williams good to look back sometimes; somebody who pushed her to the top of her mountain may need a pull.

WHAT HAPPENED TO CICELY TYSON has just been answered by producer Zev Bufman. Said he axed the star of "The Corn is Green" just three days before it closed, because she missed a performance without proper notice. He's also threatening to file breach of contract charges against her with Actors' Equity. If he's successful here, this

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