

WBCR Record Review Five Star debuts with "Luxury of Life"

by Robert Farmer
WBCR Music Director

Move over New Edition! There's a new quintet of youngsters climbing the R & B charts in the United States. They are Five Star, and as the name implies, they've emerged as an elite group who's style appeals to teenagers as well as adults. They are idolized by many, including Malcolm Jamal Warner, who portrays Theo on NBC's "The Cosby Show."

Deniece, Delroy, Doris, Stedman, and Lorraine Pearson are all brothers and sisters. They range from sixteen to nineteen years and hail from London, England, where their debut album, "Luxury Of Life," was originally released.

"All Fall Down," the first released song in the United States, climbed the R & B charts to number three in 1985. This upbeat song features excellent engineering effects, along with very solid percussion, bass and horn sections.

Ironically, "Hide and Seek," their next release was out around the same time as New Edition's version of the same song. The general feedback that I've received from others that have compared the two is that Five Star's is a richer and better production.

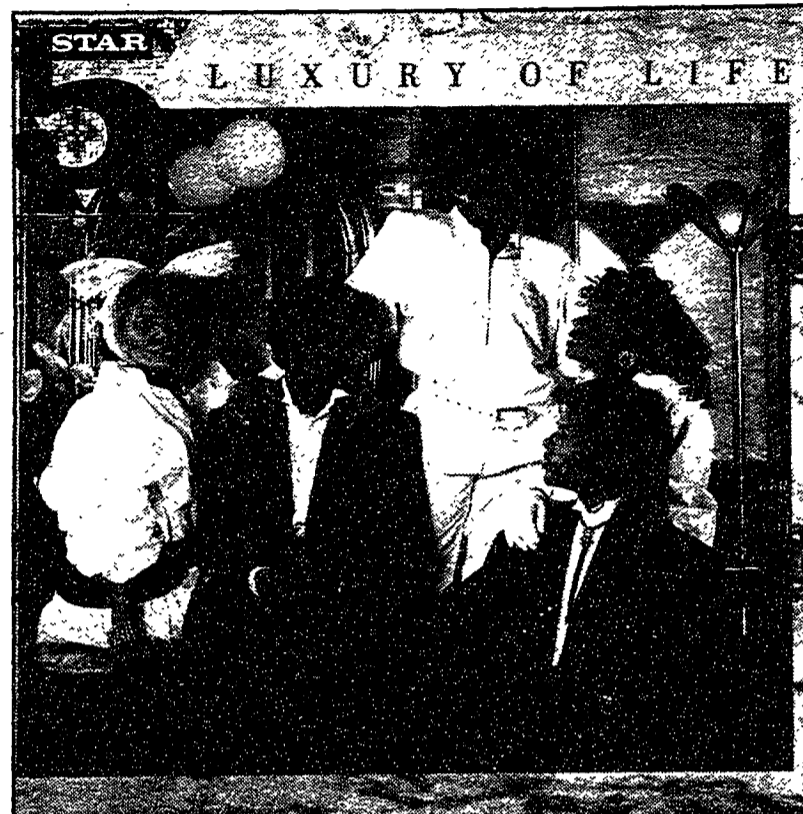
"Let Me Be the One," the third release off the LP, is geared toward a larger crowd than just teens. It gets a lot of play time at various clubs around the country. It is more subtle than the first two, featuring drums and the elec-

tric piano.

Although most of their hits are up-tempo, Five Star has the potential to produce beautiful ballads, as in "Say Goodbye." They combine a dynamic acoustic guitar lead (as in "All This Love" by DeBarge) with violin runs to produce a sound unique to such a new group.

Some other songs to watch for on this album are "Crazy," which has already hit the number one spot in London, and "Love Take Over," which is another song geared towards a larger crowd.

Overall, "Luxury Of Life" yields well defined instrumental tracks, snappy lyrics, and a vibrant sound that is quite uncommon for a group so young. On a scale of one to ten, "Luxury Of Life" earns a nine and a half.



Screen Talk:

Ron Howard points "Gung Ho" in the right direction

by Matthew J. Sullivan
Collegian Staff Writer

Ah, springtime, huh? Time to shed clothing, soak up sun and grit teeth at teachers who insist that we continue to learn. Perhaps the last thing on a spring student's mind is sitting inside a darkened movie theatre for two hours.

Well, don't get too excited. Remember, this is Erie and it will probably rain for half the month. So if it's dismal outside, go inside to see Ron Howard's new comedy "Gung Ho."

Howard is rapidly becoming one of Hollywood's hottest directors, based on the success of his recent hits "Splash" and "Cocoon." His direction improves with each film and his talents should prove to be a considerable cinematic force in years to come.

"Gung Ho" is the story of a small industrial town with a problem—no industry. Since the closing of an automobile factory, Farleyville has begun to wallow in a sea of desperate unemployment.

In a last ditch effort at rehabilitation, the town sends a former assembly line foreman, played by Michael Keaton, to Japan in hopes that he can convince a major auto maker to open a satellite plant in Farleyville.

The Japanese are unimpressed but decide to try an experiment—send failing executives to America and see if they can turn a profit.

The fun starts here as the two cultures collide under the awning of industrial purpose. Michael Keaton is excellent in the lead role, showing impressive character depth as well as a great sense of humor. Keaton ("Mr. Mom", "Night Shift") has always been a fine comedian but here he shows true acting strength as his character's emotions rise and fall with the rates of car production.

The supporting cast is wonderful throughout, especially George Wendt (Norm from "Cheers") as the leader of the assembly line workers who rebel at the Japanese' strict employee

guidelines. Wendt is not his usual smiling, teddy-bear self here, in fact his character is downright malevolent at times and it's nice to see that he too has acting depth.

The script by Lowell Ganz and Babaloo Mandell is fast paced and interesting, loony at times and dramatically thoughtful at others. This is not just a slapstick comedy—it's an ironic examination of life and the pressures that go with it. "Gung Ho" has a lot to offer and it's definitely worth seeing.

As a final note, I feel compelled

to express the dismay I felt during last week's Academy Awards presentation. Steven Spielberg's "The Color Purple" received no Oscars, despite being nominated in 11 categories. "Out of Africa" came away as the big winner and, though beautifully photographed and solidly acted, I found it rather boring. Perhaps if Spielberg's name had not been on "Purple," the Academy would have

recognized it's superiority. Then again, clubbing them on the head with a purple bat might not wake them up.



Seder Meal - sponsored by Campus Ministry

PSB Campus Ministry—You are invited to participate in a Seder Meal on Thursday, April 10. The Passover Meal begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Reed Seminar Room. Make Reservations in the Student Affairs Office by April 4. For More information call extension 6245. Come, join us for this Passover Meal and learn its significance for you life. All are welcome!

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