Al Stewart's '24 Carrots' is a real gem

By BOB GROVE
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

On the strength of his last two releases, Englishman Al Stewart's career has been rolling right along the last few years. "Year of the Cat" and "Time Passages," which spawned three hit singles between them, have unmistakably increased Stewart's popularity and firmly established him in the easy-listening mold.

His newest album, "24 Carrots," continues in that vein with a bit of a new twist — he's putting a little more rock into his roll. And, new twist or not, "24 Carrots" is a success.

Among the usual mix of strings, keyboards and brass, the listenerfinds more electric guitar than is normal for Stewart's music, a fact which may gain him some new fans. But it's doubtful that's the motivation behind the move.

The album remains Stewart through and through, from the acoustic guitar solo in "Running Man," to the sax solo in "Midnight Rocks," from the piano rythms, to those pretty but sometimes petty lyrics. The move is intended to provide us with just a little variation — a little more spice if you will.

Stewart receives help from the usual crew of studio musicians, including versatile drummer Russell Kunkel and Toto percussionist Jeff Porcaro. But unlike previous releases, he shares the credit for this album with a group of studio musicians called Shot In The Dark.

Shot In The Dark is composed of Peter White (guitars and keyboards), who helped in similar capacities on the last two releases, Robin Lamble (bass, guitar, percussion and vocals), who played bass on "Time Passages," Krysia Kristianne (backing vocals), who also sang on his last album, Adam Yurman (guitar and vocals) and Bryan Savage (sax and flute).

As a group and individually, Shot In The Dark perform admirably. Chris Desmond shares production tasks with Stewart and does an adequate job.

Side one opens with "Running Man," one of the album's best cuts. The song begins with an Alan Parsons-type introduction (ironically, since Parsons produced the last two releases) and features a nice acoustic guitar solo. Electric guitars play the chorus lines here as they do in several other songs.

"Midnight Rocks" and "Constantinople," which pushes electric guitars closer to the fore, are also good. "Merlin's Time" wastes no time reminding Stewart fans of "Timeless Skies" from the last album.

"Mondo Sinistro" is quite atypical for Stewart but works nonetheless. This song is dominated by guitar riffs and features synthesizers which sound like they belong to some British group wearing thin ties and bright red tennis shoes.

Side two opens with "Murmansk Run/Ellis Island," undoubtedly one of the highlights of the album. "Rocks in the Ocean" and "Optical Illusion" are probably the album's weakest songs, but are still OK. "Paint By Numbers" features electric guitars again and provides some interesting lyrics.

White's piano and Stewart's infectious singing give the disc the feel that Stewart fans have come to expect. Songs like "On The Border" (from "Year of the Cat"), "Running Man" and "Murmansk Run/Ellis Island" are catchy, the kinds of songs you sing to yourself when your mind is supposed to be elsewhere.

On the whole, the lyrics, all written by Stewart, are alright. An interesting make-believe dialogue printed on the sleeve between Stewart and a music critic giyes us a glimpse of the theme on which the lyrics are based. "Paint By Numbers" and "Midnight Rocks" are the best songs lyrically.

Stewart hasn't taken any real chances on losing his established audience, but given listeners a little variety. Fans who have been waiting for this album will certainly enjoy it.Stewart has scored again with "24 Carrots."

Al Stewart and Shot In the Dark

'Octagon': his kicks are good, but his acting's beat

By PAUL MARTIN
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

When the sound went out during the first five minutes of the film I should have realized it.

I should have realized that while the latest Chuck Norris Kung-fu film, "The Octagon," is somewhat visually pleasing during the action sequences, the acting (for lack of a better word) leaves much to be desired. The entire movie could have been shown without sound and the audience probably would have enjoyed the movie just as well. I know I would have.

Norris excels during the numerous fight sequences throughout the film, but fails miserably and often laughably when called upon to deliver anything more than a blank stare.

Placing the blame on Norris or director Eric Karson would not be unfair, only incomplete. The screenwriter must also take the rap.

The movie's main purpose is not to tell a story, but merely to showcase the karate talents of Norris. But then isn't this the main reason why one goes to see a Chuck Norris film?

film review

Through a series of flashbacks early in the film, we learn that Norris was adopted in his youth by a kindly Japanese man who became his mentor and teacher in the martial arts. The plot thickens by the appearance of the Japanese man's natural son Seikura, and predictably the two boys become rivals in their training.

Norris prevails in an obstacle course race vaguely similiar to that used in the television Superstars competition, thereby earning the life-long hatred of his brother.

Years later Norris is a retired fighter and after witnessing a series of brutal murders, learns about the existence of a deadly Oriental training school for assassins, terrorists and Campus Police run by, you guessed it, Seikura. Called ninja, these teachers who run the school demonstrate their proficiency in the use of sticks, daggers, swords and various other deadly weapons throughout the movie on slower students.

Our hero, plagued with inner turmoil and indecision relayed to the audience by Norris crinkling his brow several times, finally agrees to pay Seikura a visit when his best friend is conveniently captured and held captive.

The most exciting scenes in this movie lacking anything remotely memorable take place in the training school as Norris is permitted to do what he does best (and I don't mean act). Here Norris disables dozens of Seikura's men on the way to a predicatable conclusion which includes a long fight to the death with a Darth Vader look-alike.

One of the most irritating things in the movie besides the grade school dialogue and high school acting is an echoing inner voice that warns Norris of approaching danger. Although extremely annoying, this device is sorely needed in the movie to explain and attempt to make sense out of what is going on.

Unquestionably a superior athlete, Norris's karate sequences are intricate, well-rehearsed and often balletic in their execution. But the excitement of this action is overshadowed by stilted and predicatable dialogue.

The films obligatory love scene between Norris and an ex-student terrorist typlifies this problem as he plays a hardened lover whose opening of his lips for a kiss requires the film's greatest acting effort.

Perhaps Norris should spend a few less hours in the gym and a few more hours in the acting studio before his next movie.

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CENTRE LINE SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

In order to enhance rider convenience and system productivity, Centre Line will be changing some of its routes, schedules and services . . . **EFFECTIVE . . . Monday, August 25, 1980.**

NEW SERVICES

"H" — TOFTREES/OAK THEE/PSU
Service to Toftrees will be every half hour during peak hours and hourly during off-peak hours. Service to Oak Tree/Pennswoods Apartments will be every 15 minutes during peak hours and hourly during off-peak hours. Hourly service along the entire route will be provided on Saturday. Service has changed for the stop at Atherton and Woodycrest. Patrons should consult the new "W" and "H" schedules for details of this change in service.

"SP" — SCIENCE PARK
This new route to the Science Park Industrial Complex connects with the "X" route at College & Allen and enables patrons to arrive at work for the 7:00, 7:30 & 8:00 AM shifts; the "C", "CH", "Easterly Parkway", "H", "R", "RE", and "W" Route connect for the 8:00 AM shift. Afternoon commuter trips leaving Science Park connect with all Centre Line routes at Schlow Library or College & Allen. Check the "SP" schedule for exact times.

"W" — PARK FOREST/PSU/WESTERLY PKWY PLAZA
This route provides service to Park Forest, K-Mart (on Valley Vista Dr.), and Parkway Plaza every 30 minutes, Monday thru Friday, and hourly service on Saturday. Service to K-Mart is a new addition! Check the new schedule for readjusted times.

ROUTE CHANGES

"EASTERLY PARKWAY"
This route's coverage of Southeastern State College has been extended. Busses depart hourly from Schlow Library and travel down Beaver Ave. to Garner St., up Garner St., across Prospect Ave., down University Dr. to Easterly Parkway, and return to Schlow Library via Atherton St. Check the new schedule for time changes.

"RE" — SOUTHWEST BORO EXPRESS/PSU
This route has been redesigned to travel both in-town and out on Allen St. Please note that the bus no longer stops at College and Allen. The main loading point will now be at College & Heister across from the Student Bookstore at quarter of and quarter after every hour. Also, service has been increased throughout the day.

"CH" — COLLEGE HEIGHTS/PSU
Service is now provided Monday thru Saturday. This route has been changed to run down Burrowes St. instead of Shortlidge Rd. and terminates at Schlow Library. Times have been adjusted to be more convenient for the work trip.

"ES" — EVENING SHUTTLE: SOUTHWEST BORO/PSU/PARK FOREST
This route provides hourly service from 6:45 p.m.-midnight to Park Forest, Oak Tree/Pennswoods Apartments, and the Southwest Borough, Monday thru Saturday. (CASH FARE and "LITTLE and BIG 22" PUNCH TICKETS ONLY).

SCHEDULE CHANGES

"X" — BELLEFONTE/NITTANY MALL/ST. COLLEGE
Times along this route have been adjusted. A new run has been added that leaves Schlow Library at 3:55 p.m. This route provides work trips and hourly service.

"CORL SERVICE" — CORL STREET/PSU/STATE COLLEGE
Service will now be provided every 30 minutes, Monday thru Friday and hourly on Saturday. Times have been adjusted to arrive at College & Allen by 8:00 a.m. Areas serviced along this route include the State College Junior and Senior High Schools and Our Lady of Victory School on Westerly Parkway.

REMAINING ROUTES

"B" — BOALSBURG/HILLS PLAZA/STATE COLLEGE/PSU
There will be no change in service, This route provides 5 days a week service between Kaywood, Boalsburg, Harris Acres, Hills Plaza and downtown State College/PSU.

"C" — HOUSERVILLE/LEMONT/PSU
Work trip service is provided from Houserville and Lemont to downtown State College. No changes have been made.

"F" — PINE GROVE MILLS/FAIRBROOK/STATE COLLEGE/PSU
This route remains unchanged and operates Monday thru Friday, providing a.m. and p.m. work trips with every other hour service through the day between Fairbrook, Ramblewood I and II, Pine Grove Mills, State College/PSU.

"R" — SOUTHWEST BORO/PSU
The route remains unchanged. Buses leave College and Allen on the hour and the half-hour Monday thru Friday and every 30 minutes on Saturday.

****TRANSFERS** — FREE transfers between all Centre Region routes (forward travel only, with an hour time limit), and from the Bellefonte "X" to any Centre Region route will go into effect September 1, 1980. Transfers may not be used for return trip to/from initial destination/direction.

****NEW SCHEDULES** — CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: State College Borough Building, Hetzel Union Building, Schlow Library, the Bus Station, CATA Offices; In Bellefonte: Bellefonte Borough Building, Willowbank Building, Centre County New Agency, Fleisher Stores; or from your Friendly bus driver.
OR CALL TRANSIT INFORMATION . . . 234-7192

CENTRE LINE PASS OPTIONS AND FARE STRUCTURE: MORE MILEAGE FOR YOUR MONEY

Riding the Centre Line buses is the safe and smart way to combat rising fuel costs and peak-hour traffic congestion. You can travel to most areas of the Centre Region for a fraction of the cost of driving. To reinforce the economical benefits of riding the buses, Centre Line offers a variety of pass options. The following is a summary of these pass options including the fare structure.

*******FOR CENTRE REGION ROUTES*******

PASS TYPE	ON SALE	EXPIRATION DATE	COST
Single Annual	Sept. 1, 1980	June 30, 1981	$ 84.00
Fall Term	August 28, 1980	Dec. 3, 1980	$ 30.50
Family Annual	Sept. 1, 1980	June 30, 1981	$166.75
Family Quarterly	Sept. 25, 1980	Dec. 31, 1980	$ 60.00
Family Monthly	August 26, 1980	Sept. 1980	$ 20.00

"Little 22" — (punch ticket, transferable, good for 22 rides on Centre Region Routes)
Single Fare: 50¢

NOTE! ES is Cash Fare ONLY, except for "Big or Little 22" Punch Tickets

*******FOR BELLEFONTE ROUTES*******

Single Annual	Sept. 1, 1980	June 30, 1981	$159.00
Single Quarterly	Sept. 25, 1980	Dec. 31, 1980	$ 50.00
"Big 22" — (punch ticket, transferable, good for 22 Bellefonte-State College or return trips)			$ 20.00

Single Fare: $1.00

Effective September 1, 1980, **FREE TRANSFERS** between all Centre Region routes and from the "X" Bellefonte to all other routes will be offered.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL . . . 234-7192

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ROPE IN STOREWIDE VALUES

IGA TableRite Beef FRESH GROUND BEEF $1.59 lb.
IGA TableRite Beef RIB STEAKS $2.89 lb.

Round-Up
IGA TableRite Beef Boneless Chuck Roast $1.69 lb.
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Oscar Mayer Variety Pack LUNCH MEAT 12 oz. pkg. $1.98
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$ 2	8	1 in 2,000
$ 1	10	1 in 160
Total	113	1 in 142

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Gold Medal Flour 5 lb. 89¢
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Luscious Sweet HONEYDEWS $1.19 lg. size
Sweet Juicy Peaches 3 lb. $1
Mcintosh Apples 99¢ 3 lb. bag.

PEPSI COLA 8 pk. 16 oz. $1.25 plus tax & deposit
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Little Darling PEAR HALVES 15½ oz. 2/$1
IGA CATSUP 14 oz. 39¢
Old El Paso TACO SHELLS Buy 1 at 93¢ GET 1 FREE

Round-Up
Banquet Fried Chicken 2 lb. $2.29
ROPE IN STOREWIDE VALUES

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Cottonelle 4 pk. 99¢
ROPE IN STOREWIDE VALUES

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