



Kenny Loggins' latest: 'Alive' LP sizzles compared to dynamic packaging

By BOB GROVE
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
Judging from the album cover, you'd swear he was a rock 'n' roll idol. Shown on the front cover of his new live album, "Alive," with electric guitar in hand and fans (young women, of course) desperately reaching to touch him, Kenny Loggins looks out of place. Judging from the contents of his studio albums, one would probably instead picture him sitting on a stool with his acoustic guitar, singing softly about life and love.

Sure, Loggins plays some electric guitar on his studio albums. But his best material is basically of the easy-listening mold. So why the picture? Good question. More importantly, why the live album? Another good question. Let's face it: a guy like Loggins sounds best with the technology of a modern recording studio behind him. The recording itself is excellent; but the effect is somehow lost when his fans take to screaming during

acoustic ballads. "Alive," a two-record set, draws almost equally on material from Loggins' first three solo efforts, which is good. The songs sound almost the same as they do on the records, which is bad. "This Is It," "What A Fool Believes" and "Easy Driver" are all included. Overlooking the above-mentioned lack of improvisation, the performance of Loggins' backing musicians is okay. "Angelique," "Junjunoo Holiday (Fallin' Flyin') and "Love Has Come of Age" (in which Loggins' vocals seem unusually staid) are the album's only thin moments.

"I Believe in Love," "What A Fool Believes" (which Loggins does better than the Double Brothers), "Celebrate Me Home" (minus the screaming) and "You Don't Know Me" are the release's highlights. Loggins' version here of "You Don't Know Me," an Eddy Arnold song which also appeared on the 1975 release

album review

Common Cause seeks government improvements

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Access becomes extremely important when you realize that politicians are very, very busy and you may be able to convince a politician to do something you want him to do if you could only get to him.
There may be 30 people who want to get to him and he has time for only one of them. Who's he going to see?
What else do you get? Sometimes, some unknown proportion of times, you get a vote that you wouldn't have otherwise gotten. It may be very legitimate. It may be that you've convinced the representative or the senator based on the information that you provide that this particular position or point of view is a good one.
So you get access and you must get influence.
COLLEGIAN: How extensive is special interest influence in the Legislature?
EISENSTEIN: It's very difficult to quantify something as elusive as influence but there are some important facts that we find telling. First, the amount of money that political action committees representing special interests contribute to candidates for the Legislature is substantial.
If you look at the total amount of money contributed proportionately to all money that candidates receive which come from political action committees, it's as high or higher in Pennsylvania than the U.S. Congress.
In 1978 I think one-third of the money that winners received and 40 percent of the money in-

cumbers received came from political action committees.
Incumbents get three times as much money as challengers. Even people who were unopposed received PAC contributions.
We found very little relationship between the closeness of the election and the amount of money received from political action committees. If your strategy is to try to get people who are like-minded elected to the Legislature, then you give your money where it will do the most good.
You give your money to people who win or lose by 5 percent of the vote because you anticipate that it will be a close election, and that's where the money will make a difference. You waste your money by giving it to somebody who is unopposed or won by 90 or 95 percent of the vote.
And yet if you look at political action committee patterns of contributions they tend to give to people regardless of whether they win or lose.
So why are they doing that? Well, they're not stupid. There's got to be a reason why they give money to someone who is unopposed or in an absolutely safe district.
So there's an anticipation of getting access and I'm sure that in their hearts people who are contributing money want more than just access. They want favorable decisions. And they keep doing it, so it must be working.
COLLEGIAN: Do have any concrete examples of the results of this on the legislation that has been passed?

EISENSTEIN: Common Cause in Washington has done some of this analysis in a study called, "How money talks in Congress." They look at the amount of money congressmen receive from a particular special interest group, and they compare the amount of money that group receives who voted for the interest group's position with the amount of money that those who voted against it receive.
They find that, surprise, the relationship is fairly strong. There's a relationship between getting contributions and voting. Now whether the chicken comes first or the egg comes first is debatable.
What is not debatable is that it puts egg on people's faces. It has to contribute to the decline in trust in government that is so strikingly revealed by public opinion polls.
What do you think when I tell you that half of the money that candidates for governor received in Pennsylvania came from PACs? How many people reading this interview gave \$500 or more?
The small contributor is absent. Gene. Contributing in a political campaign is one of the important mechanisms for participating in politics because it binds the contributor to the candidate.
COLLEGIAN: You aren't opposed to private contributions?
EISENSTEIN: It is an important part of the political process. We're concerned about the disproportionate role of big contributions. It just doesn't have to be that way. We could finance

campaigns completely with small contributions if we wanted to.
COLLEGIAN: You could finance campaigns with public money and small contributions, but you still can't prevent large contributors from contributing. Is there any way to reduce the impact of large contributors?
EISENSTEIN: You can limit the size of private contributions and political action committee contributions by making a candidate's participation in a mixed public-private financing system contingent upon his agreeing to these limits.
So you say, if you are going to receive matching funds to small contributions, you may not receive a contribution of \$2,500 from an individual or \$1,500 from a political action committee.
COLLEGIAN: But wouldn't there be ways of circumventing that law?
EISENSTEIN: There are always ways of circumventing. The way to circumvent it is to give cash under the table. We're not naive enough to believe that you can prevent that.
Most people in public office are basically well-motivated, basically honest. They don't want to have to rely on the existing system.
I talked to an aide to Gov. Milliken, a Republican governor of Michigan. This aide said Milliken would always tell him he hated to have to go to people and ask for contributions. It just grated against him.
COLLEGIAN: But they accept them.

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