

ENTERTAINMENT

Sweet Relief provides some "sweet" sounds

by Scott Moore
Collegian Staff

According to the booklet included in the new benefit album *Sweet Relief*, in spring 1992 folk-rock singer/songwriter Victoria Williams was diagnosed as having multiple sclerosis.

She had no health insurance, so her friends and peers in the music industry teamed up to compile this album of covers of her songs. The artists appearing on the release have donated all of their royalties from its sale, most going directly to Victoria. The other portion will aid in setting up the Sweet Relief Musicians Trust Fund which would assist future musicians who find themselves in similar predicaments.

If you're a fan of good, heartfelt music, then this collection is for you. There is a great variety of artists featured, from Seattle grunge to Southern rock to power pop. There's something for everyone here. The record kicks off with Soul Asylum performing "Summer of Drugs," an anthemic tale of substance-hazed youth. The Minneapolis band definitely adds

its own flavor to this track.

In contrast, Pearl Jam seemingly assumes another identity with "Crazy Mary," in my opinion, the highlight of the album. Vocalist Eddie Vedder's performance on this moody selection is a breakthrough for him, with his voice taking on an almost country-like feeling.

Other standouts are Matthew Sweet's reading of "This Moment," Lemonhead Evan Dando's "Frying Pan," and Maria McKee's spirited "Opelousas (Sweet Relief)."

Unfortunately, not every song is a winner. Lou Reed's contribution is currently being used as an insomnia treatment in some hospitals, and Great Sand's "Big Fish" is just plain dull. However, the good aspects of the album easily outweigh the negative ones.

All of the songs featured on *Sweet Relief* can be found on Victoria Williams' two releases, *Swing the Statue* and *Happy Come Home*. Hopefully this album will ease her medical woes, while giving a well deserved boost to her career.

"Cool Runnings" is heartwarming

by Jen Dugan
Collegian Staff

A Jamaican bobsled team? You, along with many others, may think it sounds crazy, but it was real. Based on a true story, "Cool Runnings" is a movie about four courageous Jamaicans who went all the way to the Olympics in a bobsled.

Durice Bannock (played by Leon) was a runner who dreamed of going to the Olympics. Finally, his chance to tryout for the games came. Unfortunately, during the race, one of the runners fell, tripping Durice and another competitor, disqualifying all three.

Still having his heart set on the Olympics, Durice decided to find a man by the name of Irving (played by John Candy). Irving was once a bobsledder and had always wanted to create a Jamaican bobsled team, that would include Durice's father.

However, Irving never got the

chance because he cheated in the Olympics many years ago and is now considered a disgrace. Durice finds Irving in pretty bad shape in a bar, beating a radio apart because the horse he had bet on didn't win. Irving immediately says no, but Durice gets him to finally fulfill his dream: a Jamaican bobsled team.

Durice already has one teammate, his close friend Sanka (played by Doug E. Doug), the best push-cart racer in all of Jamaica. Now, what two other Jamaicans would want to try to go to the Olympics doing a sport they know nothing about except that it involved ice and snow? None other than, Junior, the runner who fell and tripped Durice and Yule Brehna.

After many difficulties and some basic training, they make it to the U.S. However, they are not greeted with open arms when they arrive. Their coach is hated

and they are total immature misfits. With limited finances, they get a used bobsled and name it "Cool Runnings," which means: "Peace Be the Journey."

Now, it's time for serious training. Despite the skepticism, the Jamaican underdogs do prove themselves and qualify for the Olympics.

If you are familiar with the story, you know how it ends. I'm not going to say for the sake of those who don't. I didn't know and I figured the movie would have a predictable ending. However, the story takes a hard turn. I believe that real footage of their Olympic run was used in this part of the film.

"Cool Runnings" is a movie for people of all ages. It will make you laugh, possibly even make you shed a tear. A very heartwarming and inspiring story that makes you leave the theater with a good feeling. I definitely recommend it.

THE WORLD OF MUSIC ACCORDING TO STANK AND DIRTBAG

Treponem Pal: Express and Overdrive



DB: Treponem Pal is a Ministry rip-off with bad vocals.

Stank: The instrumentals are OK, but the vocals are mindless.

DB: But some of it kicks. This is the type of music I like to listen to on a cold dark night when I'm driving from bar to bar.

Stank: The song "Crimson Garden" kicks all! It starts off with a chunking guitar riff and understandable death metal vocals that seeps into your brain.

DB: Huh, that song's cool. I like the name of the band better, though. It means "syphilis" in French. That really kicks ass.

Stank: The lead vocalist looks like he actually has syphilis.

DB: I wonder how he got that?

Stank: The song "Nowhere Land" starts off like "Of Wolf and Man" by Metallica.

DB: The songs drag. It's a cool tape to listen to once in a

while but I don't think they will get very far.

Stank: Speaking of them not getting too far, the song "Blow Me Out" blows.

DB: Turn them off, dude. They're giving me an earache in my eye. A farting orchestra sounds better.

*Treponem Pal get 2 skulls because they have a sex name. These guys are living proof that sex sells.

Zeothrope: Mind Over Splatter



Stank: This stuff sucks! It is tree hugging music set to thrash. The only thing I liked about it was the artwork on the album cover.

DB: Mind Over Splatter. Reminds me of last Saturday night, I was over the porcelain god. That is where I want to be every time I hear this tape.

Stank: These guys definitely can't mix their music. Their attempt at rap absolutely sucked.

DB: When I think of Zeothrope, I see Bon Jovi trying to slam dance. The classical guitar at the beginning of Guilt by Association is anything but original. They attempt to write commercial thrash and can't do it.

Stank: These guys suck so bad, they don't even list the

names of the band members on the label because they're too embarrassed to admit they play for Zeothrope.

When I heard It's My Life, I became pissed. I could not believe that anyone could do such a hatchet job on a great classic rock song.

DB: They copy every band form Megadeath, DK1 and C.O.C., to Nuclear Assault. They are only a hair better than Dead Youth. Only a hair.

Zeothrope salvages 1 1/2 skulls



THE SKULL SCALE



MOTORHEAD



CLOSE TO METALLICA



SOUNDGARDEN



POISON



NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

THE BEYONCES