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Record review

by Bob Woodhead

Go West, the duo from Twickenham, have followed up their self-titled debut album; released two years ago, with an LP called "Dancing On The Couch."

Their first album was so good that four major hit singles were lifted from it and they won the B.P.I. award as Best Newcomers of 1985. These ten new songs are a let down. The up-tempo sounds of "I Want To Hear It From You" and "True Colours" have made very little impression on the Singles chart and the remaining tracks are unlikely to fare any better with the sole exception of "Let's Build A Boat". Although this number is rather corny and banal one cannot resist humming along and it is good to dance to.

Uninteresting

"Chinese Whispers" just about passes as a reasonable song as does the mid-tempo "Little Caesar" but the ballads are worked around a tired, dreary formula. Throughout the record I sensed that Peter Cox and Richard Drummie were desperately try to recreate the formula that worked to well on "Go West" but without any fresh melodies or new ideas.

The long wait for the release of the new Patrice Rushen LP is over. It is named after her recent club hit "Watch Out" which in my view sounds too much

like "Forget Me Nots" her big hit of 1982. Nevertheless it is still a fine dance track and together with the melodic "Long Time Coming" it is the best song on the album. Unfortunately the remaining cuts do not come up to this standard apart from "Tender Lovin'" which is based around an exciting rhythm. The ballads do not work because Ms. Rushen's voice is not suited to them. Her talent is geared towards the faster dance tunes.

Fans of Roger Whittaker will be pleased to learn that there is compilation album available that features all his famous recordings. Released under the title "His Finest Collection" the songs include "Durham Town", "I Don't Believe In If Anymore" and best of all "The Last Farewell" which was a No. 2 hit in 1975. Side Two begins with Roger's recent duet with Des O'Connor on "The Skye Boat Song" and continues with his cover versions of songs like "Gentle On My Mind" and "Amazing Grace." There are 18 tracks in total so the record is a worthwhile purchase. The best single around at the moment is "Sweetest Smile" by Black who are a promising new outfit from Liverpool. It is a classy, summer ballad that will definitely be remembered in years to come.

Revival

Jackie Wilson is back in the charts with another fine soul revival, namely "Higher And Higher."



● "Go West" who have just released their new album.

This week Madonna releases the title-song from her new movie "Who's That Girl" which is not one of her best but still good enough to reach the Top Three in my view. As part of her world tour she will be performing for two nights at Wembley Stadium on August 18 and 19.

EMI have released "All You Need Is Love" by the Beatles on a 20th anniversary

picture-disc. After the group's record run of 11 consecutive chart-toppers had been broken this was the first in another string of six consecutive number ones.

LP CHART

- 1 Whitney (Whitney Houston)
- 2 Clutching at Straws (Marillion)
- 3 The Joshua Tree (U2)

- 4 Keep Your Distance (Curiosity Killed The Cat)
- 5 Live In The City Of Light (Simple Minds)
- 6 The Return of Bruno (Bruce Willis)
- 7 Solitude Standing (Suzanne Vega)
- 8 Invisible Touch (Genesis)
- 9 Atlantic Soul Classics (Various)
- 10 It's Better To Travel (Swing Out Sister)