

BOLTON FESTIVAL SUNDAY 30 AUGUST

ROCK CONCERT

SILVERWELL STREET
SPORTS CENTRE

This festival, part of the great Bolton Festival, was sponsored by Jamm Studios and was, for the most part, a great success, particularly when A Pencil were on stage. TV Dinners however, are not included in this review due to their coming on stage at the same time as the last bus.



NEIL M'CURLEY ON KEYBOARDS
FOR STORMCHILD

CAPSULE ELECTRIC

I only saw the second half of Capsule Electric's set and from what I did see, it seems that the group are stuck in a musical rut. Their songs seem to be based on a riff which is then repeated throughout, relying on the vocals to provide variation. The endings were a bit messy although they weren't helped by the (as usual) terrible acoustics in the hall, but their light show was very good. They managed to get an encore, "Respectable Dance Music" which is one of their few good songs. In fact, Capsule Electric do have a lot of potential but they'll have to spend time developing it. They'll have to get a drummer however, that drum machine which they use sounds horribly tedious and weak.

STORMCHILD

After a few poems courtesy of Rivington Spyke Esq., Stormchild took the stage with flash bombs and went down very well, receiving two encores. They opened with "Paranoid" which was, unfortunately, plagued with false starts and a loss of rhythm during the song. Some of their own songs were very good and they could go somewhere if they concentrate more on the music and a bit less on the stage show. Their musical ability is now becoming quite high with some good solo work (particularly on "Last Night") by the guitarist and keyboards. The drumming was very strong and the vocals were quite powerful although there are still a few too many covers (we got Paranoid, Don't break my heart again, Alright Now, Smoke, Syrinx and Breakin' the Law all in one set). The keyboard introductions were



varied and interesting and the stage show and effects were very impressive ("Smoke" in particular comes to mind). Although their stage show is still somewhat pretentious, if Stormchild keep improving musically at this rate, they could become a major force in Bolton's music scene.