3 Rune displays literary talent

By Dave Shaw

Now in its second issue, RUNE, the "MIT journal of art and letters," is preparing to release 3 Rune, which is un- doubtedly the best of the series. This issue contains more prose than the previous one, and more poets are represented. The artwork has shifted from abstract designs to line sketches and photographs which are more pleasing.

The short stories are quite an improve-

Ramble's continued

Skynyrd memorial great

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feasts on the strength of two smash songs, "Sweet Home Alabama" and "Free Bird." Instantly (again) they had been having trouble with that particular plane and were going to exchange it for a more reliable one the very next day.

The surviving members of the group have announced that they won't record anything new for the very next day. The material on First and... Last (MCA-3487) is a collection of nine previously unreleased tracks, some from the period before their first album entitled Lynyrd Skynyrd anymore, which is un-

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and some that didn't make it onto Street Survivors (no prizes for guessing which are which).

Lynyrd Skynrd was always the hardest of the Southern rock and boogie bands, and the material on First and... Last proves to be no exception. None of the songs are as good as any on Street Survivors as a group, but musically they are superb. This sample runs the gamut of Lynyrd Skynrd's style, from hard-core blues to hard rock boogie and back again. The tunes are quite as singable as the lyrics as singable as many of their regularly released material, but they don't suffer in the comparison.

It would be easy to accuse MCA of crass commercialism by trying to cash in on the band's name, but First and... Last is in no way a ripoff. If nothing else, it is a godsend for the Skynyrd freak and for fans of this type of music in general: after all, it is not often that extra songs recorded during album sessions ever get released to the public. If you are at all interested in this type of music, First and... Last is definitely worth picking up as a memorial to the near-greatness of Lynyrd Skynrd.

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