Who's hard?


I heard about eight tracks from It's Hard the day it was re-leased in Philadelphia. The radio stations had gotten a hold of it mini-mum and were simply playing it to death all day. I don’t hate them. It’s got to be the best The Who have done since Quadrophenia. As soon as I got a chance to listen to it (and I’ve been listening to it at least twice a day since then) and I've been listening to it at its Hard.

Roger Daltrey is, and always will be Roger Daltrey, titaniu-m chrshaed mega-stud. Enough said.

In the past several years Pete Townshend has become quite a skillful guitar player. It’s a change from the days when Pete merely beat his guitar to death in the studio. As well as amp-blowing power- chords, we have some good melodic solos, which fit to the songs well and are by no means self-indulgent. Pete manages to give us a well-executed and lyrical solo on "Cocks County," and some really cooly guitar work at the end of "Cry If You Want!". Now we come to the major surprise of the album. I was a lit-tle disappointed by the writing on Pete Townshend’s latest solo al-bum, All the Best Cowboys Have Chinese Eyes. I realize that Pete’s albums never are as hard-listening as Who albums, but I was afraid that Pete was getting a little wimpy in his old age, and that the writing on it’s Hard might be more of the same. Well, I was ex-tremely pleased by both the brave experimentation on some tracks and the sheer energy of other obvi-ously "old" Who tracks. The best of the "old" Who are two songs both written by John Entwistle. "One At A Time" is a hop and a blur laden with John’s favorite subject, his hatred for his wife, while "Dangerous" is an eerie composition about terror in the streets, musically remin-sicent of Quadrophenia. My fa-vourite cut from the album is also the one most unlike the Who. It’s called "Eminence Front," and begins with what sounds like a teenager trying to play the opening to "Baba O’Reilly" on a syn-thesizer. However, it gets more intricate as arrhythms parts layering and a funky bass breaks in. That’s right, the Who play funk, and they raise to new lev-els. It’s the most innovative thing I’ve heard from the Who since "My Generation." Pete also shows a sense of humor in "Cocks County." The line "Peo-ple are suffering/I’ll say it again" repeats until you’re almost bored with the song, when suddenly you hear "This song is so long/It ends up when it begins." This is also something new from Pete: songs with a political message. "Cocks County" is about the een-preservation of poverty through-out history and "I’ve Known No War" is about the inevitability of nuclear war. The glimpse will be short Fireball in the sky
No front line battle cries Can be heard and the button is pushed
By a soul that’s been brought
In short, this album is a must-

Technique 1982

is still not in.

Why?

• February 1982 We missed a deadline.
  Projected date of arrival: Late June

• June 1982 The book was printed in the wrong color ink, and had to be rescheduled and reprinted.
  New date of arrival: Late August

• August 1982 We learned that the earlier estimate was incorrect.
  Projected arrival date: Mid September

• September 1982 Binders go on strike.
  New arrival date: ?

We can’t tell you why the book will be here, BUT DON’T WORRY
  We haven’t forgotten you.

We’re sorry for any inconvenience this delay may have caused. As soon as the books arrive, we will let you know. In the mean-time, we are working (with a new publisher) to make sure this doesn’t happen again.