

Throwback: The Mary Jane Girls-Boys



[youtube]RWoW5hFcwmk[/youtube]

Joanne “JoJo” McDuffie, Cheryl Ann “Cheri” Bailey, Yvette “Corvette” Marine, Candice “Candi” Gnant, and Kimberly “Maxi” Wuletich were back-up singers for Rick James’s Stone City Band. When James approached Motown about a solo outing for JoJo they thought he was proposing an all girl group and he accepted their offer. The Mary Jane Girls debuted in 1983 and [“All Night Long,”](#) “Boys” and [“Candy Man”](#) were hit songs that made the group another icon of the ’80’s. They were inevitably compared to Prince’s female offshoots Vanity 6 and Apollonia 6 because of the rivalry between the two musicians. Prince’s groups were considered sexier but The Mary Jane Girls had more market success and artistic credibility because of JoJo’s vocals. *Only For You* was their 1985 second album driven by the popularity of the single [“In My House.”](#) The group recorded a third album titled *Conversation* and released the “Shadow Lover” single to promote it but the project was shelved and the group dissolved in 1987. In 2003 the group appeared on VH1’s *Where Are The Now?* and all them are currently involved in various entertainment ventures.