MISSION SUMMER SHOWS DETAILS INSIDE

BREAKING THE MOULD

BOB MOULD ON LIFE AFTER HÜSKER DÜ

SUICIDAL TENDENCIES
CLAYTOWN TROUPE
PETE TOWNSHEND
BULLET LAVOLTA
LEMONHEADS
JESUS JONES
BIRDLAND
REM



ALBUMS: LL COOL J • ED KUEPPER • DREAM SYNDICATE • LOLITAS • PRIMEVALS • SMITHEREENS •

LIVES: ANTHRAX • KING'S X • MARIA McKEE • WATERBOYS • HAPPY MONDAYS • JAMES • THE LA's •

FIRST REPORTS

Aerosmith in November

their first tour in roughly a decade, which consists of four (yes, four) dates to coincide with the band's new studio LP - their tenth as yet untitled.
The dates are Belfast Antrim Forum

November 11, Dublin The Point 12, London Hammersmith Odeon 15 and Birmingham

Tickets for Belfast are £12.50 and available from all branches of Makin' Tracks and usual

London tickets are priced at £9 and £10, available from the box office and usual agents. Birmingham tickets also cost £9 and £10, available from the box office or the following address: Aerosmith Box Office, NEC, Birmingham, B40 1NT (enclose SAE and cheque/PO made payable to NEC (Aerosmith), and allow 80p booking fee per



Late summer for Bon Jovi?

Speculation persists over possible UK show

ON JOVI are strongly rumoured to have lined up a UK gig this summer after all, at soon. Milton Keynes Bowl in August.

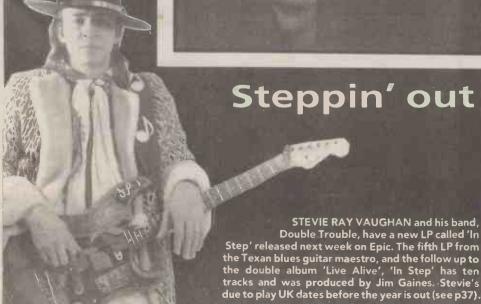
The date has yet to be confirmed, but ends months of speculation over Bon Jovi's plans. Their last UK gigs were in December when they toured around the country, ending up at Wembley Arena.

Metallica are also believed to be setting up a return visit to the UK for November, their second during the mammoth '. . . And Justice

And a call to Sounds from a Cardiff local paper suggested that Guns N' Roses were to play Cardiff Arms Park in September. But this has been firmly denied by the band's record company, WEA. As far as they are concerned Guns N' Roses are busy working on their next LP in Chicago, and have no plans to come over to Europe at the

がないますというの言語のないなどないの言 White Lion House, Shortgate, Tel: (0825) 84891 Fax: (0825) 84872 いるないれるできることなっているから JOE JACKSON * LOU REED
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FOUR go out on the road

EGA CITY FOUR have announced a second round of dates, following their recent tour to promote their debut LP, 'Tranzophobia'

The group play the Shetland Islands on June 29-July 4, Inverness Hayloft 6, Aberdeen Beach Ballroom 7, Paisley Clubhouse 8, Dundee Dance Factory 9 Greenoch Eve Of Destruction 11, Edinburgh Venue 12, Glasgow Rooftops 13, Hamilton Phoenix 14, Motherwell Star Inn 15, Carlisle Twisted Wheel 17 Stoke Sutherland Arms 20, Warrington Legends 21 Sheffield Leadmill 22, Sheffield Brunel University 23, Cardiff Venue 26, London Fulham Greyhound 28, Bath Moles Club 29, Oxford Jericho Tavern August 3, Boston Indian Queen 4, Lincoln Croft Street Centre 5, Windsor Old Trout 9, Dudley JB's 11 and Liverpool Planet X 12.



THE THE release a new single on July 10, 'Gravitate To Me', a Matt Johnson and Johnny Marr composition.

Taken from the band's 'Mind Bomb' LP, the single comes backed with The Violence Of Truth', while the 12-inch features a remix of 'Gravitate'

The CD and boxed set of the single, to be released in subsequent weeks, will include the extra track "I've Been Waitin' For Tomorrow (All Of My Life)', which first appeared on the 'Soul Mining' album.

The The's UK September dates are almost all sold out.

COWBOY JUNKIES

have a new single out on Cooking Vinyl this week, 'Blue Moon Revisited (A Song For Elvis)', a reworking of the old Rodgers & Hart classic.

The 12-inch and CD formats feature a live version of 'Blue Moon' and another previously unavailable live recording, To Love Is To Bury', both recorded in Boston for a local radio station.

The band also have a one-off London date next week, at Tottenham Court Road Dominion on July 4. And lastly, a radio station in British Columbia has banned the Junkies single, 'Misguided Angel', because of alleged references to Satanism in the chorus (as opposed to Satanic verses!). Dean Cooper, general manager of CKLZ-FM (for Fundamentalists?) said: "Listener complaints about Satanism brought it

the air. THE CURE have added an extra Wembley Arena date, July 24, to their two existing (and sold out) dates on 22 and 23.

to our attention and we listened more closely; we don't think it belongs on

Tickets are on sale now priced £11.50 and £12.50.

THE DARLING

BUDS' new single, 'You've Got To Choose', is out on July 3. It comes backed with 'Mary's Got To Go', while the 12-inch and CD also have another new track, 'Never Stop'.

The band will play UK dates later on in the summer.

A FRACAS broke out at a Birdland gig in Norwich recently when the band started trashing their equipment after two songs

They then left the stage, returning half an hour later, by which time the crowd was sufficiently wound up to greet them with a shower of beer and missiles, to which they reacted by kicking people in the crowd and hitting them with guitars.

However, a spokesman for the band - while confirming the sound problems and trashed gear - guashed reports of wilful violence by the band.

"It was just part of Birdland's normal extravagant behaviour onstage. They get pretty hyped up before a gig.

FIRST REPORTS

The Mish take the High Road

Gigs in remote corners of Scotland for bed and breakfast

THE MISSION have announced a tour of Scotland, taking in some remote parts of the Highlands, leading up to their Reading Festival appearance on August 27.

"We had a couple of weeks when we weren't doing anything, so we thought, Why not," was Wayne's reason for the tour. It's a far cry from the last Mission tour which ended at Wembley Arena last December.

The dates are Dundee
Dance Factory August
13, Elgin Town Hall 14,
Stornoway Isle Of Lewis
16, Portree Isle Of Skye
18, Aviemore Centre 19,
Dingwall Legends 21,
Aberdeen Ritzy 22 and
Dunfermline Glenn
Pavilion 23.

According to Wayne, part of the deal for the Isle Of Lewis gig is bed and breakfast, as the gig takes place in the hotel bar!

Details concerning a tour season ticket for fans will be announced next week.



THE MISSION prepare for their Highland Fling

Prickly heat



THE FUZZTONES, perennial '60s psycho-punk revivalists, release their debut LP for Situation Two, called 'In Heat', on July 10.

Recorded in LA, the LP was produced by '60s expert Shel Talmy

Recorded in LA, the LP was produced by '60s expert Shel Talmy, who has worked with The Kinks, The Who and Manfred Mann. The album features 12 Fuzztones originals and is available in all formats. The band hope to play the UK in August.

Das Damen quit SST

AS DAMEN, the US hardcore outfit who shared a Sounds cover with Fugazi last year, have left SST records and joined forces with London's What Goes On Records.

The band have a new LP, 'Mousetrap', due in August, with a tour lined up for September.

And the reason for the departure? "We were worried about the earthquakes in California and didn't want all our records swallowed up".

MALCOLM McLAREN AND THE BOOTZILLA

ORCHESTRA release their new LP, 'Waltz Darling', on July 3. Produced by Phil Ramone and Malcolm McLaren, the eight-track album features the talents of Jeff Beck and Bootsy Collins.

DIED PRETTY, the Australian band, have a one-off gig at London ULU on June 29. They return for a full tour later in the summer.

TOM ROBINSON has an evening pf music, readings and anecdotes with "an adventurous approach" at Rickmansworth Watersmeet on June 30.

Tickets are £6 from the box office.

TELSTAR, the TV advertised compilation label, has moved into the rock age this week with a 30-track double hard rock album called 'Protect The Innocent'.

The package comes in vinyl (£7.99), cassette (£7.99), CD (£14.99) and 15-track video (£9.99) and artists featured include Black Sabbath, Deep Purple, Motorhead, Zodiac Mindwarp, Megadeth, Anthrax, Scorpions, Magnum, Saxon, Ozzy Osbourne, Rush and Kingdom Come.

ANDI SEX GANG releases a new album this week called 'Arco Valley', on which he's collaborated with axe fiend Mick Ronson, formerly one of the Bowie/Reed contingent and now of Hunter-Ronson.

Anyone for Venice?

INK FLOYD are to appear in Venice on July 15 as part of the city's annual festival.

From aboard a floating barge, Pink Floyd will play to an anticipated crowd of 300,000.

Leading Italian promoter, Fran Tomasi is responsible for organising the Pink Floyd act – 20 years after the band's legendary Pompeii show. And fans looking forward to the Quad sound and laser lights won't be disappointed.

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FIRST REPORTS

The green House effect

Band buy recycled toilet paper from Sainsbury's

MID A flurry of high profile conservationist politico-pop campaigns, July 3 sees possibly the strangest contribution so far with the release of 'Stop This Thing' by Dynasty Of Two.

Penned by two formative influences on the Northern House scene (DJ/producers Graeme Park and Mike Pickering), the song's recently acquired 'Eco-House' tag reflects its emphasis on current weighty environmental issues. Rather timely in the wake of Green Party gains in the recent Euro-elections, Graeme Park is quick to stress that this isn't a five minute botch job.

"We'd like to stress that we did dream this thing up months ago," says Park. "It's something we do believe in."

Given their relative anonymity, Dynasty Of Two can't afford to promise miracles.

"Obviously, if we were really rich we'd donate all the proceeds," Park states, though he insists that ". . . if it does well we'll make sure a percentage goes to various organisations."

So what are they trying to achieve with 'Stop This Thing'?
"You can take it on two levels," he continues, "either it's a good British House record or you can listen to the lyrics. We're just trying to make a few more people aware of what's happening, even if it just means buying recycled toilet paper next time they go to Sainsbury's. . ."



DYNASTY OF Two: reflecting environmental issues

THE WOMAD Blues And Rhythms Festival will take place on the weekend of July 14-16, at South Hill Park in Bracknell. Weekend tickets, limited to 3,000, are on sale now at £30 including camping. The line-up is as follows.

Friday: Buddy Guy And Junior Wells, Clarence Gatemouth Brown, Angela Brown, Amadou Bansang Jobarteh, Ukelele Orchestra Of Great Britain, Zumzeaux, Dit Da, Mike Crawford And The Lost Weekend.

Saturday: London Community Gospel Choir, Orquesta

Reve, The Real Sounds, Jo Anne Kelly, Balkana, John Slaughter Blues Band, R Cajun And The Zydeco Brothers, Kafala Brothers, Kevin Brown Band, Rory McLeod, Trio

Sunday: Taj Mahal, The Paladins, Rory Block, Ali Farka Toure, Barrance Whitfield And The Savages, Otis Grand And The Dance Kings, The Happy End, King Pleasure And The Biscuit Boys, Deaf Heights And The Cajun Aces, Jo Anne Kelly And Rory Block.

BLYTH POWER, along with local bands Shelley's Children and Blindman's Rainbow, play Reading Arts Centre on July 6. Admission is £2.50 (£2 unwaged) and all profits go to Acorn Bookshop, Reading's radical bookseller and community press.

The success of Blyth Power's second album, 'The Barman And Other Stories', has also earned them a spot at this year's Bracknell Folk Festival.

ROMEO'S DAUGHTER have added more dates to their forthcoming debut UK tour.

They also play London Opera on the Green July 4, Morecambe The Gardens 7, Bradford The Frog And Toad 13 and Northampton Rock City 25.

SE ROGIE, the acclaimed blues/calypso solo guitarist, has dates at Loughborough University June 24, Brighton Polytechnic 28, Lancaster University 29, London Swiss Cottage Festival July 2, London Dominion (with Cowboy Junkies) 4 London Tabernacle 7, Aldershot Westland Centre 15, Torrington Plough 21, Bath Moles 22, Barcelona WOMAD 28, Cambridge Folk Festival 30, Crawley (venue tbc) August 5, Manchester Gallery 18 and Hebden Bridge Trades Club 19.

ASWAD have announced summer tour dates to coincide with the release of their new single, 'On And On', on July 10. The tour kicks off at Cardiff St David's Hall on July 26, and

continues at Eastbourne Congress Theatre 27, Hastings White Rock Pavilion 28, Portsmouth Guildhall 29, Corby Festival Hall 30, Cambridge Corn Exchange 31, Worthing Pavilion August 1, Folkestone Leas Cliffe Hall 2, Southend Cliffs Pavilion 3, Blackpool Empress Ballroom 4 and Birmingham Hummingbird 5.

THE STONE ROSES have added a final date to their current club tour, at Leeds Polytechnic on June 30.

It's the Fallen **Angels of Hanoi**

N ALBUM recorded by Hanoi Rocks, together with singer Knox from The Vibrators under the guise of the Fallen Angels, is being re-released next week through Jungle Records.

Recorded in 1983, the eponymous album has been unavailable for the last four years, and featured Nasty Suicide, Sam Yaffa and Razzle as the rhythm.

additional guitars by "The Cosmic Ted and The Flashing Psychedelic Kid", ie the other Rocks regulars, Mike Monroe and Andy McCoy.

The LP's reissue coincides with the third Fallen Angels album entitled 'Wheel Of Fortune'. Knox now has a new band, although Nasty Suicide also dropped in to guest on the new LP.

Don't despair, Edwyn's here



EDWYN COLLINS and his band play a one-off gig at London's Harlesden Mean Fiddler on July 14, following the success of Collins' debut solo LP, 'Hope And Despair'. A full British tour is being lined up for the autumn.

ANNIHILATOR, the Canadian band, have changed their July 13 show at the Reading Majestic, to the Loddon Valley Leisure Centre, Lower Earley.

MDMA, And Also The Trees, Beef and Giant International play the first of two benefits for The Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign and Tottenham Against The Poll Tax this week, June 28.

The Second is on July 5 and features Intense Degree, Doom, Godflesh and Gold Frankincense And Disk Drive. Both gigs take place at London Tufnell Park Boston Arms, with the first band on at 8pm, and tickets are £3.50 (£2.50 UB40s).

ED KUEPPER, the ex-Saints guitarist touted in this office as "the most influential figure in the history of rock music", has a trio of gigs, at London Borderline July 5, Bath Moles 7 and London Highbury Corner T&C2 12.

NIGHT Of The Long Knives 5 is the title of the next psychobilly all-dayer taking place at Birmingham Hummingbird on July 15.

Starting at noon, and with tickets priced at £10, the line up is Guana Batz, Demented Are Go, Torment, Skitzo, Frantic Flintstones, Turnpike Cruisers, Coffin Nails, Pharoahs, Klingonz, Rattlers, Grovelhog and Lost Souls.

FRONT LINE ASSEMBLY, the

Canadian electro-noise dance outfit, have added two London dates to their current UK tour.

They play Camden Palace July 4 (onstage at midnight with only a halfhour set) and Islington Powerhaus July 6. The latter show will be recorded for a forthcoming live LP.

POLYDOR (UK) LTD have concluded a joint

venture agreement with indie label, Big Life Records, founded by ex-Wham! manager Jazz Summers.

The deal will allow Big Life to operate autonomously in the UK while the label will be licensed exclusively by Polydor throughout the rest of the world

KING OF THE SLUMS, the

Manchester-based folkcore outfit, continue to promote their 'Barbarous English Fayre' LP at London Woolwich Tramshed June 28, Birmingham Burberries July 4, Manchester Boardwalk 13, Norwich Arts Centre 17 and Leeds Duchess Of York 20.

The Bodines will be co-headlining on all dates except at Manchester Boardwalk, where they have a gig in their own right on July 14.

Also featured on different nights are The Train Set, Benny Profane and The Exuberants.

RSTREPT

Reading continues to pack 'em in.

2,000 capacity marquee planned for main area

READING FESTIVAL continues to grow under The Mean Fiddler's organisation, with the addition of a 2,000 capacity marquee in the main arena, 150m from the main stage.

The Mean Fiddler Tent' will cover music ranging from African to country, and will be open for live music from 2pm until 11.30pm on Friday and midday until 11.30pm on Saturday and Sunday. As for the main bill, Head Of David have been confirmed as the final addition to the Sunday line up.

The full line-up for the marquee shows reads as follows: Tom Robinson, Jo Ann Kelly, Andy Pawlak, The River Detectives, The Senators, Barely Works, Ancient Beat Box, The Jack Rubies, God's Little Monkeys

on Friday August 25; The Cropdusters, Frank Sidebottom, Edward II And The Red Hot Polkas, Sons Of The Desert, Orchestre Jazira, Kevin Kennedy And A Bunch Of Thieves, Los Pistoleros, Shanty Dam,
McCavity's Cat on Saturday August 26; Clive
Gregson & Christine Collister, Sally Times And The Drifting Cowgirls, Hank Wangford, King Pleasure And The Biscuit Boys, All Because The Lady Loves, The Gutter Brothers, The Dinner Ladies, Andrew Cunningham, Peter Jagger, Graham Fellows on Sunday August 27.

A Mean Fiddler hotline has been set up, and anyone wanting information on the Reading Festival should ring 01-963 0797.

Beauty rock beast

THE SMITHEREENS' Beauty And Sadness' EP is now available in the

The four song EP was originally recorded in 1983 in New York but was not released in either Britain or America. It was then remixed by Ed Stasium and released in the States in November '88. The release has finally filtered through to the UK. It's available on 5-inch CD and on 12-inch, priced as a single.

The new Smithereens album, due out in September, is currently being recorded in Los

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6 BIRDLAND
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8 MALACO BLUES BLAST
9 THE BEATNIGS
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4 LOU RED
4 COWBOY JUNKES
6 BIRDLAND
5 GEGORIA STEFAN
8 THE MEAN SOUND
MACHINE
2 JOE HOW MACHINE
2 JO

Half a dollar's worth



DFA GET attitude adjustment training

DRUG FREE AMERICA, the Leeds trio with a serious Vietnam fixation, release their debut LP, 'Attitude 50c', on July 10.

Available on Blind Eye Records, the LP features nine tracks with two extra on the CD, including the songs that made up the band's acclaimed 'Live At Viet Vegas' EP.

Drug Free America will play one-off gigs around the country during the summer, and tour proper in late September.

The empire strikes back



DREAM SYNDICATE: live and dangerous

THE DREAM SYNDICATE release their live LP, 'Live At Raii's', on Enigma Records this week. The LP, produced by Elliot Mazur, features the singles 'Halloween', 'Medicine Show' and an eleven-minute version of 'John Coltrane Stereo Blues'. It's available on a single CD or on a double album.



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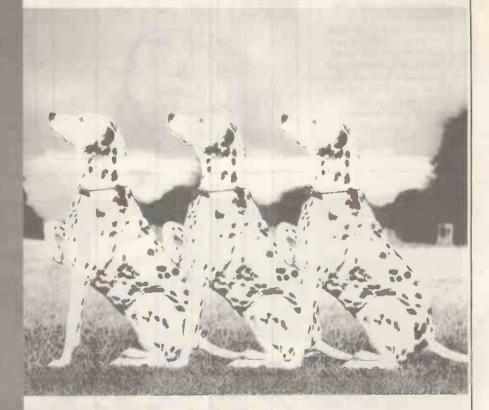
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RSTREPORTS



THE READERS **WRITE TO REPLY**

THIS WEEK's Sounds will definitely be the last one I shal! bother to purchase.

The item on Elton John/Nik Kershaw at Wembley Arena by a David Cavanagh is nothing more than trash.

People go out and buy these papers to find out news and what is happening and where to see their favourite groups and singers.

They do not buy your paper to read this sort of very basic unwarranted nastiness which appears to be much more personal than truthful.

I went to two concerts just to see Nik Kershaw and I heard no complaints at all from those around me. Obviously the majority were there to see Elton, so no one would have expected a thunderstorm reaction.

If this twit Cavanagh doesn't like Elton or Nik why bother to write at all, unless he is paid good money for it.

It seems pretty uneconomical to pay someone to lose money.

I for one have cancelled my standing order for Sounds as from this morning which will save me around £30 per year, and I am sure there are others, not only Nik and Elton fans, who will do likewise as they become offended by stupid people like Cavanagh. Bob S, Bath, Avon.

Irish singer drowns

with the acclaimed Irish band Beethoven, drowned in Hyde Park's Serpentine lake on Sunday June 18. He was 27.

Finbarr Donnelly, known since childhood simply as Donnelly, had spent Sunday afternoon in the park with some friends. Reports suggest that he decided to go for a swim and was approached by an official in a boat. He then dived under the boat and never emerged. His body was not recovered until Monday evening.

Donnelly formed Beethoven (aka F*** Me F*** My Beethoven, aka Beethoven Was An Arsehole) in 1988 after the demise of his former band, the seminal Five Go Down To The Sea?

His career, however, can be traced back to 1977 when he formed Nun Attax with guitarist Ricky Dineen, who was to remain his friend and musical partner for the next 12 years.

Donnelly's exploits as prime mover in the Cork punk scene inspired, among others, Microdisney to pick up instruments for the first



DONNELLY: PRIME mover

time. Microdisney singer Cathal Coughlan, now leader of Fatima Mansions, admits: "If it wasn't for him and Ricky I wouldn't be doing music now. They took the surrealism and energy of punk and made it into a form. If they'd done what they did in 1980 in provincial England they'd undoubtedly have been millionaires now, instead of people like Robert Smith." Donnelly's embrace of

surrealism was impressively total, and fully extended to his behaviour offstage.

Asked once why he was a

singer in a band he replied: "You know when you're sitting round a television and everyone's trying to be the funniest? That's why I'm in a band."

Five Go Down To The Sea? were, without qualification, the inspiration for Stump. This is something that riled Donnelly right up to his death - at Beethoven's last London gig he did a wickedly perfect impression of Stump vocalist Mick Lynch, who was in the audience.

It is a tragic irony that when Beethoven played dates last year, allegations of Stump plagiarism were flung at them.

Beethoven recorded only one single, 'Him Goolle Goolie Man Dem', on their manager Keith Cullen's Setanta label. There are tentative plans for a Five Go Down To The Sea?'s work.

All royalties from 'Him Goolie Goolie Man Dem' will go to Donnelly's funeral, and a benefit gig will take place at London Union Tavern, Camberwell New Road, on July 4 featuring The Mekons and a mysterious band called Stamp. Tickets are £3 and £2.50 (UB40).

THEE HYPNOTICS return to Britain after a six week tour of France to play a handful of gigs, before recording their next single, the follow-up to 'Justice In Freedom'. The dates are Leicester Princess Charlotte July 6, London Fulham Greyhound 7, St Helens Citadel 8, Hull Adelphi 9 and Leeds Duchess Of York 10.

STOCK, AITKEN, WATERMAN have just released their newest compilation album titled 'Hit Factory Volume 3'. This double album contains the latest pop songs from such artists as Rick Astley, Kylie Minogue and teenage heart-throb Jason Donovan. 'Hit Factory Volume 3' will be available in record stores from July 3.

YOUNG MC, one of Delicious Vinyl's star rappers, has a new single called 'Bust A Move' released next week. The single is a taster from his debut LP due later this summer.

Young MC has already achieved success as a songwriter, being responsible for Tone Loc's smash hits 'Wild Thing' and 'Funky Cold Medina'.

FISCHER Z have a new LP, 'Fish's Head', released this week. The ten-track LP is the second featuring the current line-up, who can be seen at London's Highbury Corner T&C2 this Wednesday, June 28.

SENSELESS THINGS and Perfect Daze, both recording singles for September release, head out on a joint tour this week. Dates are Exeter Cave June 29, Stroud Marshall Rooms 30, Ilminster Isle Youth Centre July 1, Truro Nag's Head 2, Cardiff Venue 3, Norwich Arts Centre 5, London Arsenal Tavern 6, Ipswich Caribbean Club 7, Holbrook Tiffanys 8, Boston Spoon Club 9 and London Kentish Town Bull And Gate 21.

PHILIP BOA AND THE VOODOO CLUB release their

second album, 'Hair', through Polydor next week.

Described by one critic as 'art that sweats'', 'Hair' was released in Boa's native Germany in February and has sold close on 100,000 copies, and features 13 self-penned tracks by the former indie-pioneer.

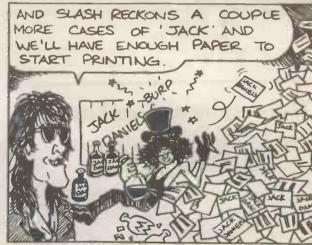
Philip Boa And The Voodoo Club also play London Marquee on July 13, and will return for nationwide gigs later this year.



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Success

The New Single on June 19th . Available on Twelve Inch (12NTV 38) & on Three Inch CD (NTVCD 38)
Taken from the forthcoming album World Crash . Available on Long-Player (NTVLP 39) & on Compact Disc (NTVCD 39)

Swimming In The Heart Of Jane

The New Single on June 19th . Available on Twelve Inch. (12NTV 40) & on Three Inch CD (NTVCD 40) /
Taken from the forthcoming album Butler's Cafe. Available on Long-Player (NTVLP 43) & on Compact Disc (NTVCD 43)

Dole Boys On Futons

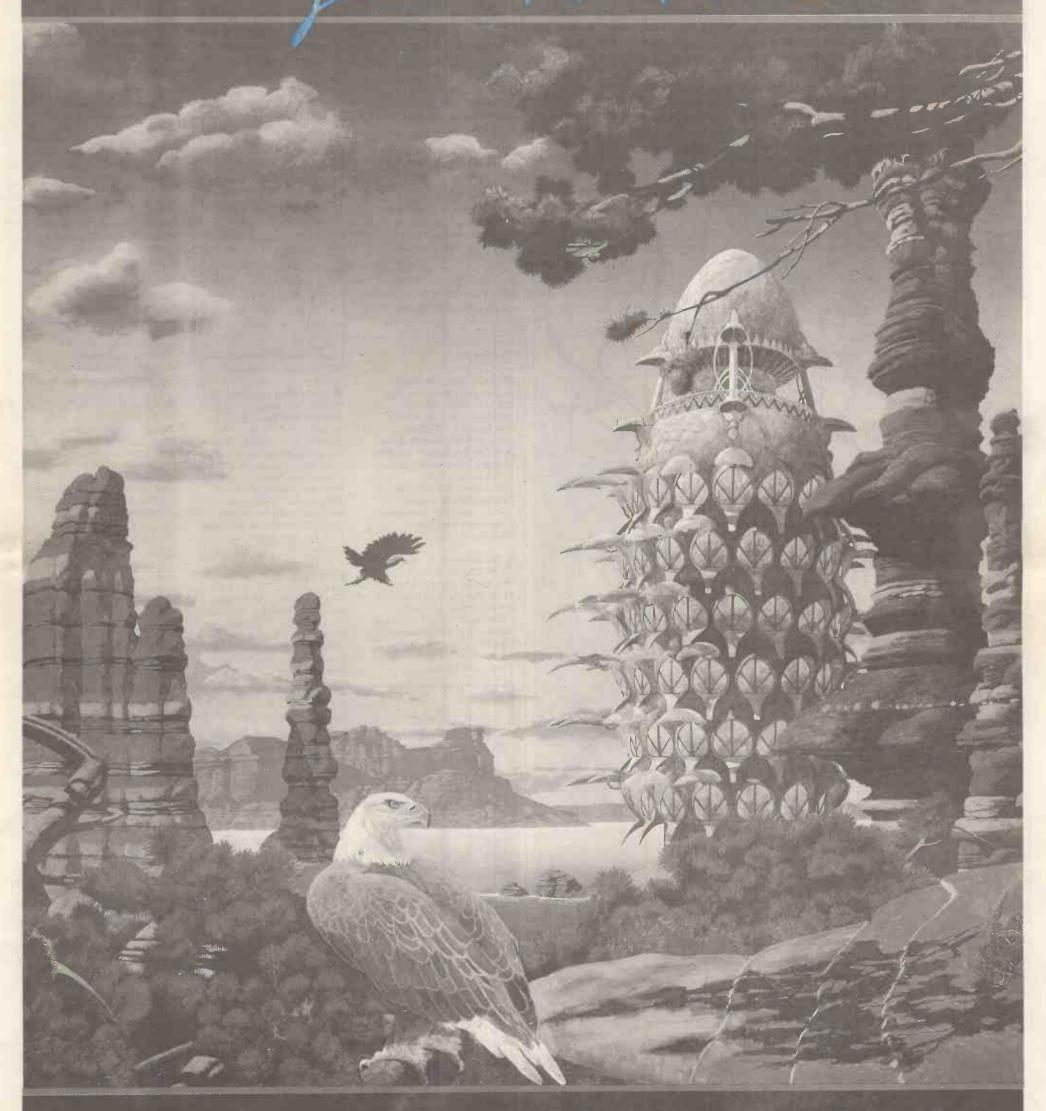
The New Single on June 19th. Available on Twelve inch (12NTV 41) & on Three inch CD (NTVCD 41)

Taken from the forthcoming album Dawn Raids On Morality. Available on Long-Player (NTVLP 42) & on Compact Disc (NTVCD 42)

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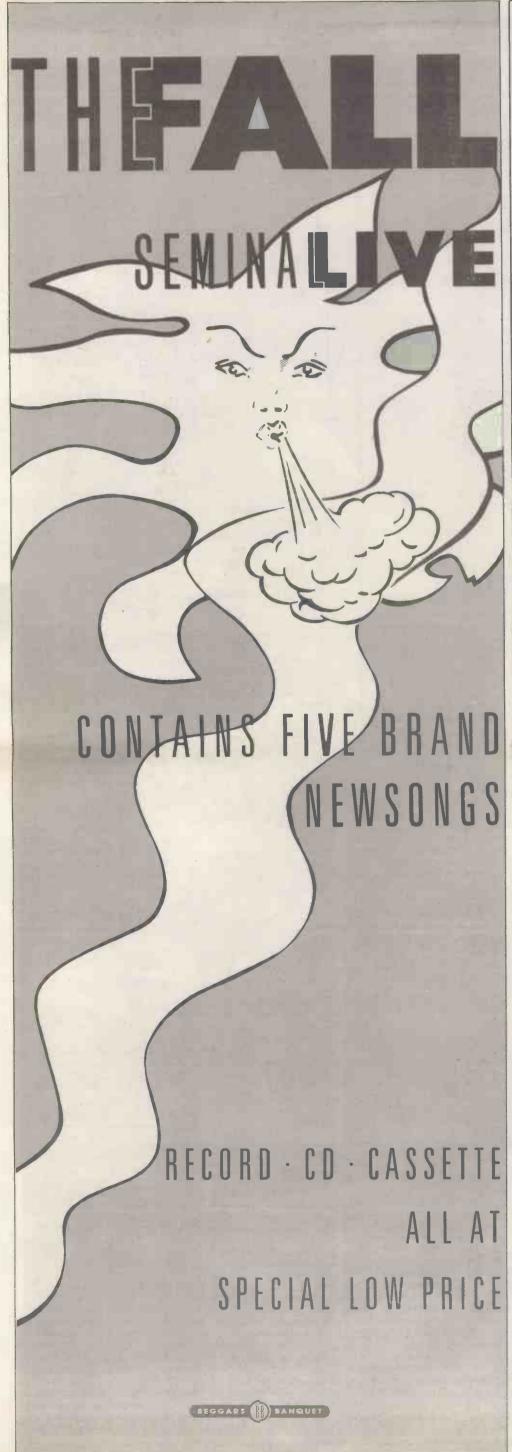
October 21st – Edinburgh Playhouse October 24th – Birmingham NEC October 22nd – Edinburgh Playhouse October 28th – London Wembley Arena October 29th – London Wembley Arena



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FIRST REPORTS



- Sounds cover: Dodgy punkers UK Subs caught in an arresting pose.
- Newly emerging post punk popstar John Lydon quashes rumours of yet another "punk supergroup" by announcing that he intends to appear on BBC1's Juke Box Jury along with sexpot Joan Collins Unfortunately, Lydon will be unable to comment on his latest release, PiL's 'Death Disco'. He maintains his cool by walking off in a huff not once but twice at the end. Apparently, the first time he does it the director isn't prepared and asks him to repeat the process. Lydon duly obliges.
- The Sounds Alternative singles chart is looking a bit grim this week, with no coloured vinyl whatsoever. The Specials' 'Gangsters' rules, with The Knack, Echo And The Bunnymen and Pink Military Stand Alone closing in. No colours in the Alternative albums either. The Stranglers' import 'X-cert' tops the chart ahead of lan Dury And The Blockheads' 'Do It Yourself'.
- No change in the major charts as disco fever is replaced by disco apathy.

 Anita Ward's 'Ring My Bell' is still at number one, with Tubeway Army's 'Are Friends Electric' and Amii Stewart's 'Light My Fire' in pursuit. ELO condemn us to another week of top album dross.



ADAM: MUCH ridiculed

- Cover stars, UK Subs, after hearing last week's news that The Grateful Dead won't be playing Glastonbury, head down to play instead. Sadly, this charitable gesture is lost when they discover that The Dead's fans haven't heard the news and the place is full of filthy hippies, a situation which naturally forces The Subs to turn around and head back for their native Sarf London.
- An equally screaming week for the albums: The B-52's 'The B-52's'****/ Neil Young And Crazy Horse 'Rust Never Sleeps'****/ Kevin Coyne And Dagmar Krause 'Babble'****/ Queen 'Live Killers'*** and Joni Mitchell 'Mingus'***.

- The totally cool, but much ridiculed Adam And The Ants sign their second record deal, this time to Camden's unknown Do It label, who will release the band's second 'Zerox'/'Whip In My Valise' single. A nation laughs, but when it charts a mere two years later, sceptics are forced to eat their words.
- Happy commierockers
 Gang Of Four are
 unceremoiously booted off Top Of The Pops after they refuse to alter the lyrics to their Number 58 single, 'At Home He Thinks He's A Tourist'. According to the band they are asked to change the line, "And the rubbers you hide in your top left pocket" to "And the packet you hide. . .". Having reluctantly agreed they are told that the meaning is still the same and is not suitable for transmission. BBC spokeswoman, Ann Rosenberg, says that TOTP is "a family show" and not a "trailblazer". However, she does state that everything would have been fine if it (whether it's rubbers or packets) hadn't been in the "top left pocket"
- "Punk supergroup" part 12, ecstasy greets the news that the 'special mystery guests' joining Sham 69 at their final Glasgow concert will be none other than ex-Pistols Steve Jones and Paul Cook, who are expected to join Pursey et al at the end of their set.
- In a great week for singles
 The Pretenders' 'Kid' skillfully
 garners the Single Of The
 Week accolade, closely
 followed by Siouxsie And The
 Banshees' 'Playground Twist'
 and 'Mittageisen', Iggy Pop's
 'Five Foot One', The Cure's
 'Plastic Passion', PiL's 'Death
 Disco' and The Cramps'
 'Gravest Hits'.



THESE KIDS get Single Of The Week

In the big country

TWO OF country music's leading contenders – Ricky Skaggs and The Judds – have new albums out this month.

The Judds' 'River Of Time' includes songs that were originally previewed at their sell-out London Dominion shows in February. They include Naomi Judd's 'Guardian Angel' and Dire Straits' 'Water Of Love', which features a guitar part by none other than Mark Knopfler himself.

Legendary rock 'n' roller Carl Perkins also makes an appearance, playing guitar on 'Let Me Tell You About Love', a song he co-wrote with Paul Kennerley and the album's producer Brent Maher.

Ricky Skaggs, meanwhile, has his

'Kentucky Thunder' album released
towards the end of the month. He's also
been assisting the "return" of Dolly
Parton by producing her new
back-to-country album 'White Limozeen'.

But best of all Ricky has become the proud father of a baby boy. His wife, Sharon, safely gave birth to Lucas Buck Skaggs at the healthy weight of 9lb 9oz. He's obviously gonna take after his Pa.

FIRST REPORTS

CRAZY PINK REVOLVERS have

three London gigs, at Dean Street Gossips July 5, Hackney Chat's Palace July 7 (Anti Poll Tax Benefit) and Finsbury Park Sir George Robey July 8 (headlining all-dayer).

BLOW UP have an extra date added to their tour, at Brighton New Zap Club July 4 (with Jesus Jones).

DARE, who recently supported Gary Moore in the UK, have confirmed a set of solo dates for July to coincide with the release of their new single, 'Abandon', on July 10.

The band will appear at Derby Rockhouse July 4, Cardiff Bogey's 6, Newcastle Riverside 13, Liverpool World Downstairs 20, Leeds Duchess Of York 26, London Marquee 27 and Oldham Queen Elizabeth Hall 30.

DON HENLEY

releases his new Geffen album, 'The End Of Innocence', this week. Guest artists on the new LP include Bruce Hornsby, Edie Brickell and, yes, even Axl Rose from Guns N' Roses.

PAULINE MURRAY relea

MURRAY releases her new LP, 'Storm Clouds', on Cat And Mouse Records this week. Singles include 'This Thing Called Love', 'Soul Power' and 'Another World'.

Although she has just completed an extensive UK tour, more dates are currently scheduled.

BLACK SABBATH's

current single, 'Devil And Daughter', will be released this week in various formats. The 12-inch includes an interview on the B-side. There are also two 7-inch versions – one containing a signed letter from the band and a Black Sabbath stencil and the other containing two full-coloured photographs.

Wicked Japanese deth squads invade Britain

Napalm Death singer introduces crack hardcore unit SOD to your ears

EE DORRIAN, singer with instant holocaust Napalm Death, is using his hard-earned thrash influence to bring crack Japanese hardcore unit SOB in from the cold.

He's in cahoots with SOB's record label, the Osaka-based Selfish Records, and the plan, already underway, is for SOB's imminent debut UK tour to be mirrored, as of July 14, by Napalm's first ever Japanese raid, comprising five big-city shows. Dorrian will then spend a sushi-filled month acquainting himself at length with Japan's ever faithful new Napalm following.

And that's not all!
Says Lee: "SOB are recording a 7-inch for my new label, Rise Above, and I may release their next album for Selfish here. But I'm not taking the label that seriously... I was getting hassle off the dole, still signing on, so I started on an Enterprise Allowance Scheme.

And what does Lee make of the present UK 'core scene?

'Core scene?

"I'm pretty out of touch, not really concerned with it anymore. I've got no time for it the way it is now. The attitudes just piss me off. The scene here is total crap as far as I'm concerned, it's just crawling up its own ass. The bands are so happy in their own little world. . ."

And how did Lee rate that Arena metal profile?

He groans: "Oh, it was terrible! I'm just glad I didn't say anything on it. They missed out so many metal bands! The people who made the programme didn't really know

anything about the subject. . .Jimmy Page, oh God. . . Steady on, Lee, we need you now more than ever.



LEE: "THE hardcore scene here is crawling up its own ass"

That's all folks

THE 25th Cambridge Folk Festival will be held at Cherry Hinton Hall Grounds, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge from Friday July 28 through Sunday July 30.

The festival boasts an eclectic mix of traditional, New Country, World Music and new acoustic styles by such artists as Lyle Lovett, Nanci Griffith, Al Stewart, Brian Cookman, Martin

Stephenson And The Daintees and James Varda.

Ticket and camping information can be obtained from Cambridge Folk Festival, Mandela House, 4 Regent Street, Cambridge CB2 1BY.

For telephone bookings ring (0223) 463380 or (0223) 463359 for credit card hotline.



THIN WHITE Rope: rock cavemen?

The Rope trick

HIN WHITE ROPE, the Californian guitar fiends who won all sorts of praise for their '88 LP 'In The Spanish Cave', have their first UK gigs of '89 at Leeds Duchess Of York July 4 and London Marquee 5.

The band's next LP, tentatively titled 'Sackful Of Silver', is due for release in September, accompanied by a full Thin White Rope tour.



JANE SIBERRY has a date at London Harlesden Mean Fiddler Acoustic Room on July 2 and 3. Tickets are £6, available from the box office, Stargreen and Rough Trade.







PARANOIAIN PARADISE

Birdland have no time for peace and love – they like white light and white noise. Sam King meets the band who were kicked off the Jane's Addiction tour for being too energetic. Greg Freeman takes a flying shot IRDLAND ARE fans. They're the kids whose wooden school desks were gouged with the evil litany of rock. They're the kids who scrawled The Jesus And Mary Chain in large black letters down the stairwell at school.

Birdland are this year's Baby Amphetamine. They're an energy obsession, an overdraft of gut reaction.

They're four guys – Robert Vincent (vocals), his brother Lee (guitar), Gene Kale (drums) and Simon (Sid) Rogers (bass) – who've been weaned on a diet of adrenalin, paranoia, Television, Patti Smith, Arthur Lee, glam rock, The Stooges, guitar, bass and drums.

They're four parts excitement and enthusiasm ("That half hour onstage is the most amazing thing") to three parts hype (the chicken pox, the haircuts, the tours).

Live they're The Monkees on the edge of a precipice. They bounce

around like so many overcharged electric muppets, blond birdstack haircuts careering about their heads as their music collapses about them – along with practically everything else.

ODAY ROBERT looks dishevelled – hard, black stubble poking through his white face. He shrugs as he surveys the hospitality suite at the South London studios where Birdland are recording their first John Peel session.

Formed around a year ago, after spells in "a thousand manky nowhere bands", Birdland first leapt out of the live circuit with a single on The Primitives' former label, Lazy, earlier this year.

The record, suitably titled 'The Birdland EP', was a vitriolic, energy enthralled rush through four of their then current stage favourites: 'Hollow Heart', 'Crystal', 'Gotta Getaway' and 'Sugar Blood'.

Noticeably devoid of any production trickery, with the three A-side tracks segueing together, 'The Birdland EP' epitomised their ebullient live experience – a half hour of writhing and jumping that saw them dismissed from the Jane's Addiction tour, for allegedly being "too leapy".

Robert: "With the EP, we set out to make a record that was like the live thing. We had tried to do 'Crystal' in lots of different ways. We could have turned it into one big rock record but that would have been stupid, because we would have just sat there and said that it sounded like shit.

""Sugar Blood' is kind of like an F song, because I remember wanting the lyrics to be like a Tim Buckley (who wrote 'Song To The SIren') song and he wrote F songs. It could be on 'Greetings From LA', but it would be orchestrated.

"It's not sexy in the sense of, Hey, baby, come on and listen to my love trumpet and stuff – that's like big coloured dudes in the Top 20. It's sexy in the sense of young white niggers in tight, black trousers strutting about onstage, like early Stones stuff.

"I don't think about it as particularly sexy, we just do what we do. Maybe people will think it's sexually spastic or sexually crap, maybe that's what we are."

IRDLAND'S NEW single, 'EP 2', sees them move away from their debut's gritty, protogrunge extremes. They've become more controlled, less frantic. They're

THE PO

MISTY MORNING,



BIRDLAND: "PEOPLE say we should be more concerned, more peaceful, but I hate all that stuff"

less obsessed with speed, excess and activity, and more aware of the melodic qualities of their music.

'Paradise', the A-side, sees them turn the control up as Lee's guitar accelerates into the distance, while 'White' sees them exploding amid the confines of the 12-inch. It's still discernibly Birdland, still the sound of young Smith fans (Patti, not Morrissey) getting their rocks off, but the change is noticeable.

Robert: "But it's still really exciting. I can't imagine it getting any radio play, just as I couldn't see the first one getting any. It's got a bit of a 'Jumping Jack Flash' feel to it, there are more dynamics to it.

"There's a great bit where there's one chord that goes, Grinnerin, for about ten seconds and that's pretty minimal, really stripped down. We could have put a great slab of guitar in there, but

we thought, No, It's got to go,

Grnnnerrn – and that's all it is.
"'Paradise' Is like a kind of future vision. It's about someone who's involved in something that they think is really good – either a relationship or a time of life – and finding out that it's really scary. People are fragile and relationships and everything are fragile too, and things fall apart too easily because this is 1989 and nothing lasts for more than ten

minutes.

"It's about being involved In something that's really good, like being in this band and thinking that at any second everything could just suddenly fall apart."

'White', on the other hand, is a blast from their past, a homage to Birdland's roots, to the ennervation of bands like The Velvet Underground – the vicious, glaring brilliance of their New York vision. It's also a summation of Birdland's

past experience, recalling the pulsating intonation of 'Hollow Heart' and 'Crystal'.

Robert: "It's a kind of homage to white, like 'White Light, White Heat', 'White Riot', white everything.

"I just thought, Wow, white is so brilliant, y'know, just so glaring at you, so we wrote this song that was so powerful that it shoved your eyeballs back in your face.

eyeballs back in your face.
"We wanted to penetrate, to
make the ultimate white song. Now
I hear that Pixies have done one
(the as yet unreleased 'Into The
Whlte', which appears on their new
single 'Here Comes Your Man'), so
we'll get our white out before
them."

What do you mean about white? "Exactly what I've said, "White Riot', 'White Light, White Heat'. It's nothing to do with colour, or racialism or anything like that, it's not even about drugs, although I guess, 'White is the stuff you find' What's that burning in your mind' is kind of a real speed song. It's along all those lines, without saying any of those things.

of those things.

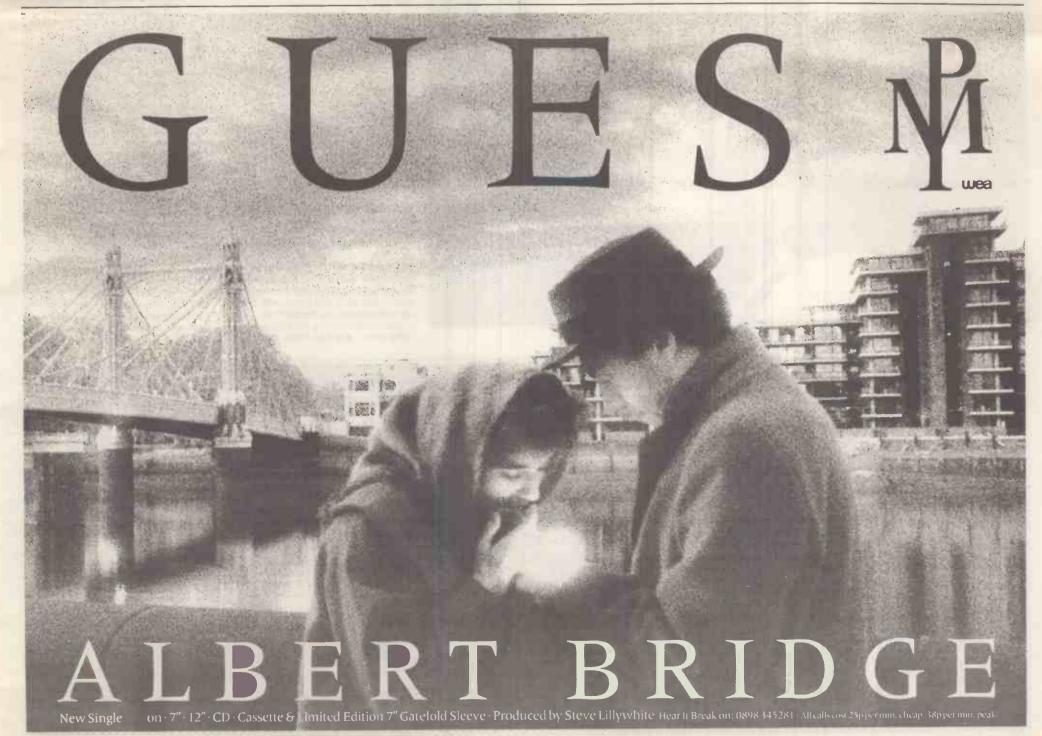
"Anyone listening to it will play the other white songs and they'll get the general idea. White is so brilliant, it's great, the whole thing about it — white rooms, white light. Black's great too, so I guess that the next song will be called 'Black' Can you have black light?"

He turns, pauses and sneers,
"I thought that the song was so
glaringly obvious really."
It's the perfect gesture, a punk

It's the perfect gesture, a punk retort that's been passed down from Elvis through Sex Pistols to Birdland. It's a reaction that says bored, disaffected adolescents with nowhere to go and plenty to say.

say.
"People say we should be more concerned, more peaceful, but I hate all that stuff. Where Is the politics in early Rolling Stones? Sometimes when you're jumping up and down onstage and people are getting damaged at the front, there's no time for peace, love and understanding.

"I can't see us standing there saying, Everybody love each other. I certainly wouldn't want to f*** anyone in this band."



biting the



BULLET LAVOLTA: "For a while you couldn't feel good about being a rock band"

Boston comes to Europe and, along with Lemonheads, Bullet Lavolta represent the cream of the Taang! roster. Ralph Traitor wallows in their dirty rock. Football action by Ed Sirrs

DON'T think our sound comes from any sort of crossover thing. It's a mesh, just playing hard rock in the live punk tradition.

"The major effect of our influences - AC/DC, Big Black, The Stooges - is to open up the music a little bit more.

"For a while you couldn't feel good about being a rock band, but a lot of Boston hardcore bands were really starting to suck, trying to go

Clay Tarver, one of Bullet Lavolta's two guitarists, has reason to feel good now.

Boston is In the underground spotlight, and Lavolta, whose roots run deep into the incestuous Taang! label scene, will claim their share.

As Taang!'s featured signing of 1988, Lavolta were immediately credible, and they haven't shortchanged expectations at all.

Among the most powerful exponents of the new rock genre that has sprung full-blown from hardcore's wrinkled forehead, **Bullet Lavolta are determined** not to fall into the hardcore trap of self-defeating repetition.

Guitarist Kenny Chambers: "We don't want to have the

disease some bands do, of saying, we're Bullet Lavolta, so here's Bullet Lavolta songs, and some more, and more of the same."

"Songs have to have their own personality to be successful," asserts formidable frontman Yukki Gipe. "It's a big concern of mine cos I write words slower than they write

"I try to wear the song a little first; to project the song live you have to be able to get inside it and drive it around."

ISTENERS TO 'The Gift', Lavolta's new album (out here on Roadrunner) will get plenty of mileage out of the words and music.

"We want the new album to stand up with The Cult, AC/DC or Guns N' Roses. Not in commercially accessible terms - it's different - but just so it holds its own as music.

"We recorded on 24-track for the first time, but we also left a lot of it virtually live."

After their European tour with Taang! labelmates, Lemonheads, whose present guitarist Corey Brennan first appeared in Lavolta, the band look forward to an American tour that must improve their chances even more.

Bullet Lavolta, whose barnstorming style has been termed "dirty rock" by a German fan, will make some big waves. Get in their way, soon.

1ASTERS

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ALBUM — A ROCK MASTERPIECE

SOUNDS July 1 1989 Page 13 They hoped to write new material that would overshadow the "refuse" on hold and save their good cult name for a US farewell But, in the end, sensing that 'Lick' was formidable, they reformed, completing the line-up with drummer Johnny Bravo.
"Recording 'Lick' was one of the most stressful experiences I've ever had," claims Brennan. "We hated Deily's two songs, and he knew it. He ordered us out of the

studio when he did his vocal track! "Listening to 'Lick', I'm proud that it is such a listenable product, despite the personal and professional pressures - we had to redo it, when the original engineering was awful.

'I'll stand by it now, in its final form. There's some high points, and some departures, from Evan's 'A Circle Of One', which is uncategorisable, to 'Come Back DA', which is frenzled Manson meets The Misfits.'

ICK', LEMONHEADS happily agree, couldn't come out at a better time, due to what JLJ terms "the listening audience being able to deal with what, a while ago, may have been way too difficult music'

Independent music is the biggest thing with 15 to 25-year-olds in the States," enthuses Brennan. "The typical college student now knows who Sonic Youth and Dinosaur Jr are; five years ago REM and Elvis Costello were the cutting edge for the average college student.

'To see Lemonheads and Bullet Lavolta taking off gives me extreme pleasure. Seeing people thrashing to our 'Glad | Don't Know' or Lavolta's 'Baggage' – three years ago I wouldn't have thought it possible. I knew both bands were great but I didn't think anyone was interested!"

But being interested has its hazards - Lemonheads have experienced a minor backlash lately, epitomised by a Boston DJ banning their new single, a cover of Suzanne Vega's 'Luka', from his

"On our first tour, in the summer of '87, we heard 'Luka' every hour on the hour - it was insane, explains Dando. "We played it a few times as a joke, and Curtis loved it.

"We put off recording it, hated the idea, but we like it now. It might come across a bit of marketing, and I guess it is. But I feel we gave it the authentic Lemonheads treatment. It's a hardcore parody."

Regardless of 'Lick"s obvious commerciality, Brennan harbours no illusions.

"When I watch MTV, or hear a lot of other bands, I realise our music has nothing in common with the mainstream. It's out on a limb. It sounds accessible, but it's still really out there!"

Lemonheads' growing following in Europe has done the band's confidence no end of good: "It's so sick to have people in Dortmund yelling out requests for our most

obscure songs!' For sick, read 'fantastic!'. And for 'Lick'? Read 'brilliant'.



LEMONHEADS: "OUR music has nothing in common with the mainstream. It's out on a limb"

THE BIG SOUEEZE

Lemonheads nearly gave up last year but they're back with their third and best album. Ralph Traitor reports. Pic by **Ed Sirrs**

EMONHEADS' RENOWN on the American underground scene originally derived from their tender ages.

When 'Hate Your Friends', their Taang! debut, was released, they were all under 20 - and sounded it in the best possible way.

'Creator', 'Friends' successor, witnessed an older, but only in parts wiser band.

'Lick', their new platter, and the first to find a UK release, courtesy of World Service, is going to clean the slate.

It's a superb example of why we should be excited that America's new generation of bands have found the way to back to natural, powerful rock 'n' roll with no ego trips attached.

Yet, as Lemonheads explained to me while chowing down before their triumphant Berlin debut sharing the bill with fellow Bostonian prodigies Bullet Lavolta - the facts behind 'Lick"s creation are about friction, not satisfaction.

T SEEMS that last August Lemonheads were little more than a rind, split by differences between singing drummer Evan Dando, bassist JLJ on one side and guitarist Ben Deily on the

Contractual obligations had Taang! label boss Curtis threatening to complle out-takes as a last testament - a cop-out Dando and JLJ couldn't sanction.

So, as Deily left the band under pressure, the pair chopped and changed, putting Dando up front and getting group guru Corey Brennan in full-time on guitar.





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BY NICK WRIGHT



TRIVIA QUIZ

Pit your wits against resident brainbox, David Cavanagh

1. Which American band lines up as follows: Joe Adducci, Jamey Barnard, Chris Grigoroff, Scott Tuma?

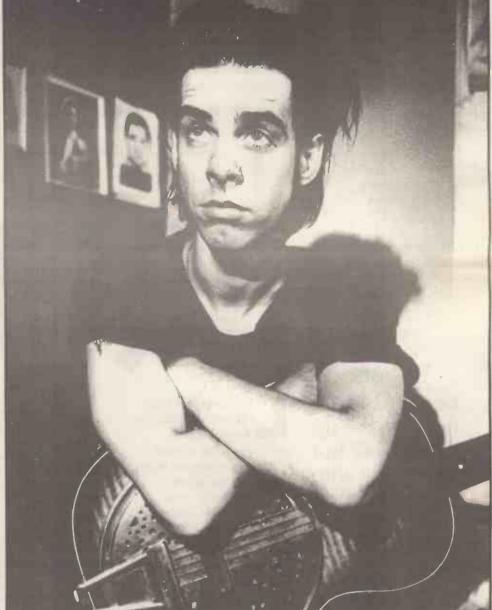
2. Where did James record their live album, 'One Man Clapping'?

3. Who played bass in The

4. Which '60s band had albums entitled 'Ahead Rings Out' and 'Getting To This'?

5. Whose 1984 "comeback" album was called 'Climate Of Hunter'?

6. Which 1988 classic contains



NICK CONSIDERS Brain-Dead Derek's studio for his next LP

tracks called 'Fray So Slow', 'Hunter' and 'Home Is Far From Here'?

7. Who had a Top Five album in 1970 called 'World Beaters Sing The World Beaters'?

8. On which 1967 album did the following artists all receive sleevenote thank yous: Eric Clapton, Mickie Most, Peter Noone, John Lee Hooker?

9. On which Birthday Party song does Nick Cave declaim: "I murder her dress till it hurts/I murder her dress and she loves it"?

10. On which Led Zeppelin track does Viram Jasani play tabla drums?

11. Which Elvis Costello album comes equipped with a sleevenote from producer Nick Lowe assuring potential purchasers that the wealth of songs didn't necessarily mean a reduction in sound quality?

12. Who is leader of The Divine Horsemen?

13. For whom was Prince "working part time in a five and dime" in 'Raspberry Beret'?

14. Name the UFO expert on the Jimi Hendrix track 'EXP'?

15. Gene Holder left The dB's in 1987 to join which band?

16. Which Norwegian trio released albums called 'Little Dreaming Boy' and 'Origins'?

17. The guitarist of which American band claims to play "electric and acoustic peacock feathers"?

18. Which classic album

contains the following tracks: 'Macbeth', 'The Endless Plain Of Fortune' and 'Antarctica Starts Here'?

19. Name the drummer of Mary My Hope.

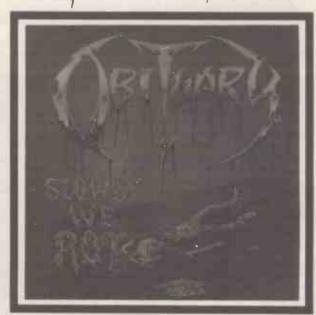
20. Who wrote 'Eulogy To Lenny Bruce' on Nico's debut album, 'Chelsea Girl'?

ANSWERS

1. Souled American. 2. Bath Moles Club. 3. Rick Danko. 4. Blodwyn Pig. 5. Scott Walker. 6. 'Shine' by Crime And The City Solution. 7. 1970 English World Cup Squad. 8. 'Buffalo Springfield Again'. 9. 'Zoo Music Girl' from 'Prayers On Fire'. 10: 'Black Mountain Side' from 'Led Zeppelin'. 11. 'Get Happy!!' 12. Chris D. 13. Mr McGee. 14. Paul Caruso. 15. The Wygals. 16. Thirteen Moons. 17. Black Sun Ensemble. 18. 'Paris 1919' by John Cale (1973). 19. Steve Lindenbaum. 20. Tim Hardin.

THE HEAVIEST BAND IN EXISTENCE





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PAUL ELLIOTT SOUNDS ****'/

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PRIZE X-WORD BY SUE BUCKLEY

Brain Games

ACROSS

- 1. Mental murderers (6.5) 7. 10cc's ode to Ms Summer
- 10. Blue one for El (5) 11. What the miracle men's
- radio said (2.2) 13. Jones/Robinson (3) 14. Guest at a white wedding
- (5.4)15. Bankrobbers and tommy
- gunners? (5)
- 16. Where could you find Sepultura? (7.3.7)
- 19. Pop's Mr Instinct (4)
- 20. Andy Fairweather Lowe's '60s corner (4)
- 21. Jeff Beck trussed up in 76 (5)
- 23. Buddy's Peggy (3)
- 25. A crazy stare wasn't enough for ABC (5 anag)
- 26. FGTH take it easy! (5) 28. Degrees/Stooges (5)
- 30. One in Genesis' tail (5) 31. What Manfred Mann's
- clown said (2.2) 33. According to Neil Young,
- it never sleeps (4) 34. Saxon sailed there (7)
- 37. Sisters Of Mercy met her
- in wonderland (5) 39. Greedy Carmel? (5.6.3) 40. And 7 down. Switch flickers? (1.1.)
- DOWN
- 2. Singer, in Elkie's shell-like? (5) 3. Red and yellow transport

4. Chief citizen of cloudland (5.6)

- 5. Eyes for Jeff Healey (5)6. Man in black with no more
- heroes (4.8)
- 7. See 40 across (1.1) 8. Chilly weather for Coverdale (5.5)
- 9. They gotta get outta this place. . .in the '60s (7)
- 12. He changes his ways! (6) 14. Transvision Vamp are really apathetic (4.1.4.4)
- 17. Nocturnal hit for Thin

Lizzy (5.4)

- 18. Bruce is romantically peckish! (6.5)
 22. I'd rather/Bruce/Daniel's
- 24. Avenue/Blue/Ladyland (8) 27. Mummers with drums
- and wires (3)
- 29. Cut/Boy/Trade(5)
- 32. How many did Dave Clarke have? (4)
- 35. She originally poisoned
- The Coasters (3)
- **36.** UB40's Campbell (3) **38.** Label for 12 down (1.1.1)

YOU CAN'T do better than 'Seminal Live' for a crash course in The Fall before they leave Beggars Banquet for the champagne and caviar environment of majordom.

And, as luck would have it, we're giving away ten copies of the illustrious LP in this week's Prize X-Word.

Just send your completely correct entry to: Fall X-Word, Sounds, Greater London House, Hampstead Road, London NW1 7QZ (to arrive by July 4) and wait for it to, er, Fall out of the hat.





LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS **ACROSS**

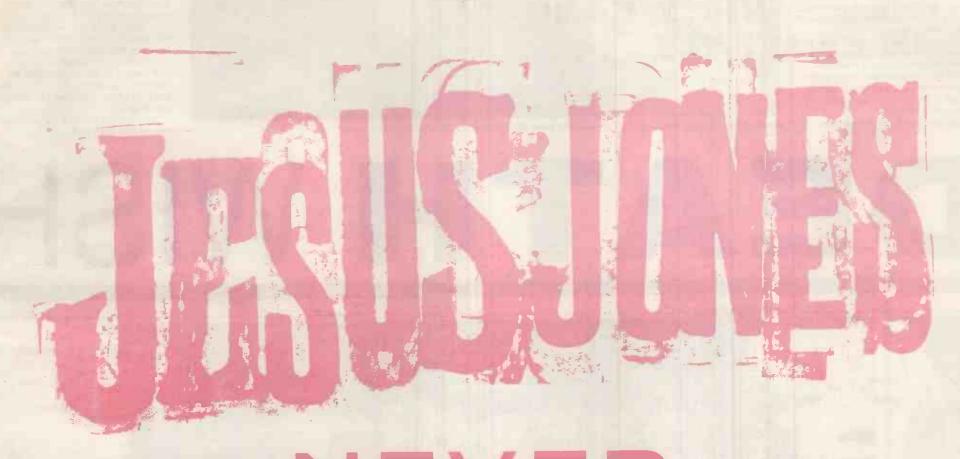
1. Van Morrison 5. March 8. Lowe 9. Blue Monday 12. English Settlement 14. UFO 15. Cat 16. Sisters 19. Repeat Offender 22. Russell 23. Al Green 25. Midnight Oil 28. Ska 29. Bonzo 30. Rose 31. Dry 32. No 33. The Race

DOWN

1. Velvet Underground 2. New 3. Ralph McTell 4. Stewed To The Gills 5. Madness 6. Royce 7. Heart 10. Oates 11. Little 13. Good 17. Eddie 18. Strange Love 20. Flash 21. Assembly 24. Goodbye 25. Mason 26. Dear 27. Linda

KITCHENS OF DISTINCTION X-WORD WINNERS

A Hursthouse, Jeff Brown, Gareth Hughes, Julia Reynolds, James Douglas, John Lawson, Mike Wellings, Paul Davenport, Tom Franklin, Ronnie Carnwath





7" · 7" Sticker Pack 12" · CD · Cassette Single



SOUNDS Into 1 1080 Page 17

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RAP ALBUMS?
We've got 'em – or
rather Suicidal
Tendencies have.

Their latest, 'Controlled By Hatred' – their first on Epic – is a lousy, asinine attempt to prolong the ST myth.

It's a sordid rag bag which mixes four songs ripped from their past ('Master Of No Mercy' and 'Just Another Love Song' among them), with one from an early compilation LP ('It's Not Easy'), a token new track called 'Feel Like Shit... Déjà Vu' and not one but two 'new' versions of their last album's title track.

The shoddy, elephantine production, coupled with the disturbing lack of new material and a sleeve that embodies all the design qualities of fingerpainting, only strengthens the opinion that the album has been cynically released to cash in on the Suicidals' tour with fellow thrashers Anthrax.

Couched out at the infamous Columbia hotel, steroidal Suicidal singer Mike Muir is remarkably honest about his latest masterpiece.

"The new album was basically a therapy session for me. The songs mean a lot to me and it makes more sense to stand in front of a microphone rather than lie on a couch.

"The main thing was that, basically, we had to have a record out in order to do the tour with Anthrax. So they asked us if we could record an EP but, instead, we decided to re-record a few of our old songs to form a kind of potted history of the band.

"Initially it was only going to be a limited edition in the States but. . ."

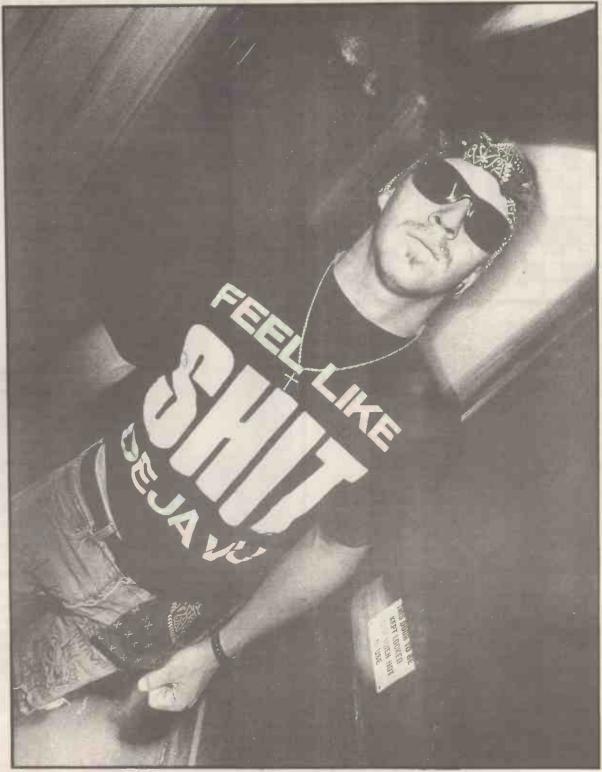
HE PROJECT is hardly enhanced by the two rather familiar re-recordings, a 'video edit' and a 'heavy emotion version', of 'How Will I Laugh Tomorrow'. How did those come about?

"Well," admits Muir, candidly pulling at the straggly beginnings of his goatee, "we'd done a video for 'How Will I Laugh' in the States but we couldn't use it.

"Virgin had said we could use the video, but why is Epic going to use the video for a song that's on Virgin? So we were fortunate that they were nice enough to let us work out a deal that allowed us to use the song as well."

Situations like this, with all the

Suicidal Tendencies' first album for their new label is a shoddy affair. Sam King quizzes unrepentant singer Mike Muir about it. Pic by Leo Regan



MIKE MUIR: "I can't tell the truth – if I told the truth they'd lock me up or put me in a home"

attendant paranoia of secret music biz machinations, seem to be perfectly suited for Muir. He's a man who believes in the powers of positive persecution – with himself, naturally, as principle victim.

"I'll be honest – sometimes I don't want to go on and then you have situations like this Virgin deal, where you just want to prove to them that they're fucking idiots and that they were wrong to drop you.

"You have to use things like that as motivators, because it's the easiest thing in the world to stop.

"One thing I realised is that I can't be the person I am and I don't know the person I am. And that's something that's hard to admit.

"I can't tell the truth – if I told the truth they'd lock me up or put me in a home. It's like politicians, they tell people what they want to hear. You can't tell them the truth."

O WHAT is the truth according to Mike Muir?
"There's a lot of screwed up people in the world and maybe I'm one of them and I don't do anything about it. Maybe I don't understand things, maybe I'm not smart enough to understand them.

"It's like the last record, people went, Well, what does it mean? and I'd say that It's about false smiling and then I realised that, too often, it was true about me.

"Too often I'm not happy, I don't like the situation I'm in and it's like, if I wasn't in the band, I'd be happier.

"I tell you, if I didn't think that what we were doing was great, I wouldn't be here because, honestly, I don't like being here right now.

"But it hurts telling people that. They say, If you don't like it what are you doing here, is it a job? No, it's not a job, because if it was a job I would quit, I'd put my resignation papers on the table because I've had to go through too much shit.

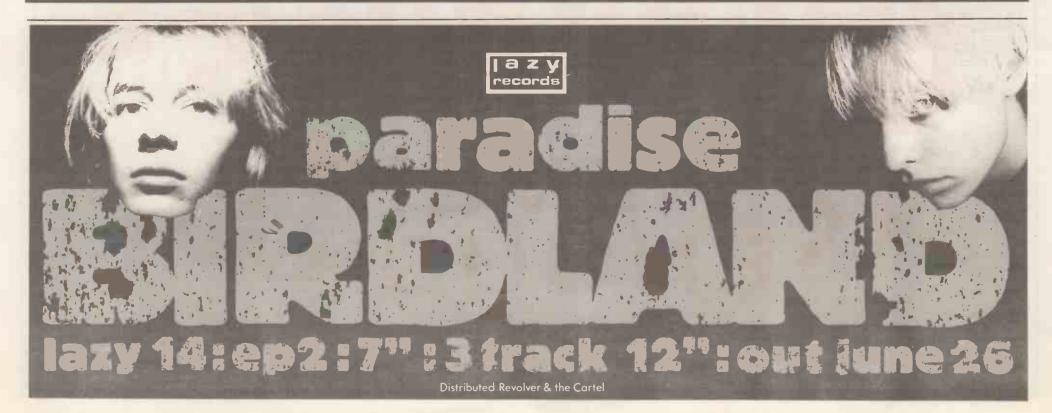
"You see all these bands pretending that they're hard and tough and that offends me, especially where I come from.

"I know too many people who are dead and these bands are talking about how crazy they are. You see a band like Guns N' Roses and everybody's saying how crazy Axl is – but hey, homey, if he grew up round our way he'd be dead now, so why are people looking up to him?

"I don't want people to look up to me,, that's one of the things that bothers me about this job. I don't want to tell people what to do, I don't want to be responsible for screwing up someone's life — I've got one of my own that I'm doing a pretty good job on."

'Controlled By Hatred' just bears him out on that one.

DEATH WISH



THE BUCK STOPS HERE

In the second part of our REM interview, Peter Buck tells Roy Wilkinson that they're not the Best Band In The World - in fact, they're not even a band at all! Buckshot by Steve Double

ETER BUCK, guitarist with the recently anointed Best Band In The World, receives his passport to superlative city with characteristic bluntness.

"That's a bunch of shit!

"Every day I have a favourite band in the world and it's never us. We've sold a bunch of records. Big deal, Howlin' Wolf never sold any records.'

REM's Best Band title originated when one astute critic abandoned objectivity. Since then it's been inflated into a dumb series of headlines scattered across newspapers and Sunday supplements.

This coronation looks dafter still when it emerges that, technically, REM aren't a band at all!

Legally, manager Jefferson Holt is also a member. And REM are no conventionally signed group, as Peter Buck explains.

"We're the same thing that Public Image were supposed to be we're not a band.

"With Warners we signed a contract with the five of us (including Jefferson) and we

provide them with services. We provided songs for records, videos, live performances, but there's no guarantee that we're all going to appear on the record.

'We gave them a verbal agreement that most of us would play on the records - and we will, we enjoy doing that - but if we all agree that REM's going to make a record and it's going to be Mike (Mills) and Michael (Stipe) that'd be fine. I doubt we'd ever do that, because we're all arrogant and want to have our own input.

"Effectively we're a music biz corporation that does things. And much as I hate corporations, it's kind of neat to know I'm signed as a musician but really I'm just signed as someone whose ideas are used.

"Anyway, we've all decided that if one of us wants to leave we'll break the band up anyway. We'll stay together till then but there's no guarantee there won't be some time when we bring a lot of other people into what we're doing.

NE BAND unlikely to be impressed by REM's critical canonisation is the Butthole Surfers

A couple of years back the Surfers let rip with some

astounding REM-referent rhetoric. According to them, they set their tour bus alight on Michael Stipe's front lawn and daubed the town with suitably puerile poetry "Michael Stipe despite the hype, I still want to suck on your big pipe" But it seems the Surfers were all

"It's all bullshit, but it was great bullshit. I thought all their stories were real funny, especially that one about sucking Michael's pipe. But none of it happened.

"I think it's fine - people should make fun of us. Everyone in rock 'n' roll should be made fun of.

"The last time I saw Butthole Surfers, they did a really great version of 'The One I Love'. It was great - there's my song. I mean, I play songs that I make fun of and I still like them. We've done Abba songs - we used to do 'Does Your Mother Know' at soundchecks and now we do Holly Johnson's 'Americanos'. We do a reggae version and Michael refuses to

''I like hum<mark>our</mark> – humour is one thing, but comedy is another. Comedy is despicable.

Buck's cynical objectivity rarely leaves him. And this, as much as anything, has led to the media image of him as the solid,

dependable inverse of Stipe's quixotic showman.

'Hmmm, I don't know if Michael's a traditional rock 'n' roll enigma. Why don't you ask him?'

Uncannily, at this point Stipe appears from nowhere among the hotel foyer's potted plants. Even so Buck still doubts Stipe's status as the weirdest REMster

"Without doubt Bill Berry (drums) is the strangest person in this band by a mile. I've been in this band for nine years and I know what Michael does. But I really

can't figure out what Bill does "Early on I lived with Bill - I saw him every single day, but he was still an enigma to me. I've never seen him with a book in his hand. yet he's conversant with almost everything I read. He's one of those guys who'll have a good idea about everything yet never seems to read. He's a weird guy.'

HILE BILL is the covert kook it's undoubtely Stipe who supplies REM with their public sheen of ingenious wonder. And recently he's allied himself with that other blissed out skygazer, Syd Barrett.

Stipe, backed only by Mike Mills' bass, now sings a stunning version of Barrett's 'Dark Globe' - which

surprised Buck as much as the rest

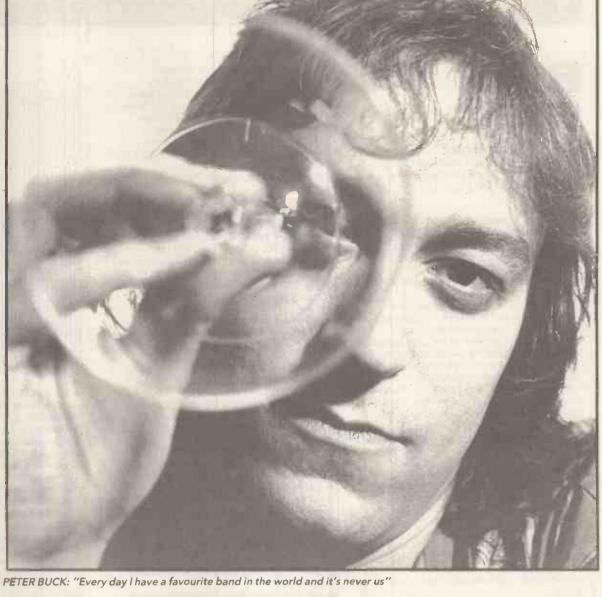
"I've loved Syd Barrett's stuff for years and was always telling Michael to listen to it. He never would, then one day we were onstage and he started singing 'Dark Globe'. He'd heard it in someone's house and decided he

"Roger Waters (Barrett's old Floyd partner) and I were like asking, What did you think of 'Dark Globe'? He was like, Oh it was great, but I was thinking, Maybe I'll tell Michael about the words he doesn't know. But I thought, No,

he's got it. Peter Buck remains REM's most public music fan, raving about anything from Balinese temple music to Dinosaur Jr and That Petrol Emotion. Such is Buck's admiration for the Petrols he almost joined them.

"Reamann had got fed up and left That Petrol Emotion for a while. Damian (O'Nelll, Petrols bassist and latterly guitarist) had his manager call us and say, Peter, come over and play guitar for us on this tour.

"So I sat with my two Petrol Emotion records and learned all the songs I could. Then they called off the tour!"



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ISTINGS

FILMS

NINOTCHKA (1939): 10.35am, BBC2 THE QUIET AMERICAN (1957): 2pm, C4 THE QUIET WOMAN (1950): 12.15am, ITV (regions vary)

THURSDAY JUNE 29

HAPPY LANDING (1937): 10am, C4 THE SILVER FLEET (1943): 10.30am, BBC2 THE SMALLEST SHOW ON EARTH (1957): 5pm, C4

SHE'LL BE WEARING PINK PYJAMAS (1984): 9pm, C4

Not one of the most auspicious British releases of the last five years, this Julie Walters vehicle concerns eight women being abandoned in the wilds of the Lake District on an Outward Bound course. Inevitably, the brashest among them is the most vulnerable. Sheesh, clichéd human emotions, eh? **DANIEL TAKES A TRAIN (1983): 11.45pm, C4** Hungarian film about two youths called Daniel and Gyuri trying to escape the Russian invasion of 1956. So, really, it should have been called Daniel And Gyuri Take A Train. THE LONG RIDERS (1980): 2.15am, ITV (regions vary)

The Carradine, Keach and Quaid clans team up to portray arch villains Jesse and Frank James, the Younger brothers and those renowned "bastards of the barrio", Ed and Clell Miller. Walter Hill directs.

FRIDAY JUNE 30

TIARA TAHITI (1962): 10.30am, BBC2 JULIUS CAESAR (1953): 2pm, C4 PAGANINI STRIKES AGAIN (1973): 4.35pm,

WELCOME TO LA (1976): 11.25pm, C4

We're meant to believe that a) Keith Carradine is a brilliant and successful songwriter (Dudley Moore in 10 had more credibility), and b) the sort of irresistible cove who can coax Lauren Hutton, Geraldine Chaplin and Sissy Spacek into his Sealey Posturapaedic within a matter of hours of each other. It looks like the phrase "Stroll on, John" is in order here

MIDNIGHT MOVIE MASSACRE (1986): 11.35pm, ITV (regions vary) A spoof horror movie about a revolting creature who lurks in a cinema terrifying punters. Barry Norman, come on down!! THAT LUCKY TOUCH (1975): 11.55pm, BBC1 Of all tonight's unappetising flicks this looks the least turgid – what we in the business like to call a "good-natured romp". Roger Moore plays a ruthless arms dealer (and let's face it you can't get more "good-natured" than that) whose business acumen is called into question when he meets Susannah York. L'ENTRÉE DES ARTISTES (1938): 12.05am,

SATURDAY JULY 1

MON ONCLE (1958): 10.30am, C4 DAKOTA INCIDENT (1956): 11am, BBC1 THE GLASS MOUNTAIN (1948): 1pm, C4 LES ENFANTS TERRIBLES (1949): 9pm, C4 THE NAKED AND THE DEAD (1958): 11.10pm,

Norman Mailer novels tend to make desperate movies, but this one about Yank soldiers in World War II is worse than most. All the author's ludicrous, shall we say, butch-isms are transported intact to the screen and a new genre of heavy-handedness is invented: Rottweiler Movies.

SUNDAY JULY 2

DAVID COPPERFIELD (1935): 2pm, C4 **GUNS OF THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN (1968):**

Except that none of the seven were left, so here's a whole crowd of new ones. Not so



JAMES DEAN: still keeping his cool

magnificent, but still pretty fabulous. JAMES DEAN: THE FIRST AMERICAN TEENAGER: 6.45pm, C4 Not strictly a feature film, more a documentary. However, we're promised not only loads of relevant clips from The Cool One's short career but also a selection of archive footage made before, in the time-honoured phrase, fame came a-callin'. LORD OF THE FLIES (1963): 10pm, C4 They don't come much better than William Golding's frightening study of adolescent evil and, against all odds, Peter Brook's film carries the nightmare visions one stage further. This is mainly thanks to some mesmerising performances from the child actors, particularly from Hugh Edwards as the doomed Piggy. A real case of whatever happened to. . .?

STARDUST MEMORIES (1980): 10.05pm,

After last week's gloomy Interiors it's back to prime Woody Allen, although larfs take a backseat to biting satire. He plays a prodigious movie director getting grief from all sides as life, love and legend take a battering.

MONDAY JULY 3

CAMILLE (1936): 10.30am, BBC2 THE GREEN YEARS (1946): 2pm, C4 GLADIATOR (1986): 9.30pm, BBC1 THE TOKYO TRIAL (1983): 11.45pm, C4 Made by the Japanese director Masaki Kobayashi, this is a four-hour epic whittled down from 170 hours of film shot at Japan's equivalent of the Nuremberg Trials. Part Two is on Thursday.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 28

ROCKSCHOOL: 11am, BBC1 Today's show is A Beginner's Guide To MIDI. So if you can't speak fluent MIDI, and you want to go to Midiland for your holidays, you'd better pay attention.

CLUB X: 10.15pm, C4

News has just come in that the Club X:

News has just come in that the *Club X* season has been extended until the end of September. Which only goes to show, you can't beat "an eclectic mix of arts, pop, fashion, drama and dance" for a giggle. Tonight: the history of the leather jacket.

THURSDAY JUNE 29

ROCKSCHOOL: 11am, BBC1
Today: Synth Pop And How To Sing, with expert comment from Midge Ure.
EQUINOX: TWANG, BANG, KERANG!:

That's right, it's the long-awaited repeat of Channel 4's history of the electric guitar, with more expert comment from Andy Summers, Steve Howe and Gary Moore among others. TOP OF THE POPS: 7pm, BBC1 With expert comment from Anthea Turner. KAZUKO'S KARAOKE KLUB: 8.30pm, C4 This week Kazuko "takes her Karaoke machine" to Dublin, where she's joined by IcCafferty (writer/journalist) and Niall

FRIDAY JUNE 30

ROCKSCHOOL: 11am, BBC1 Today's show deals with Soloing, on a variety of instruments but mainly keyboards, and lead vocals. Tony Banks of Genesis and Jan Hammer of The Jan Hammer Combo are on hand to offer expert comm.

Toibin, a highly respected actor and carouser

SATURDAY JULY 1

THE MONKEES: 11.30am, ITV (regions vary) The quirky quartet – that's Digger, Jesus, Nobby and Moenchengladbach – gambol around to their groovy hit, 'Sod Musical Talent (We're Coining It In, Mate).' THE CHART SHOW: 12 noon, ITV (regions vary)

Presented from Wembley Stadium, where Peter Lorre and Princess Marguerita Of Chad will introduce highlights of the 1973 Wimbledon Men's Final between Jan Kodes and Alex Metreveli.

THE BLOB

Remake of the '58 original puts Kevin (brother of Matt) Dillon in Steve McQueen's shoes as the unlikely hero when Arborville is plunged into combat with the ravenous glop of the title. Action-packed and reasonably gruesome but not much of an improvement.

CHILD'S PLAY

Karen Barclay (Catherine Hicks) buys her sixyear-old son Andy a 'Good Guy' doll as a birthday present, unaware that the spirit of ruthless killer 'Chucky' Ray (Brad Dourif) lurks within. Pretty soon the Barclay household is in turmoil and, despite the rather naff premise, Child's Play delivers a fair few unpleasant surprises.

A CRY IN THE DARK

Meryl Streep stars as Lindy Chamberlain, the Aussie housewife who hit the headlines in the early '80s when her claims that her baby was snatched by a dingo were rejected amid accusations of murder. Meryl braves the storm and co-star Sam Neill is there to hold her hand as husband Michael.

DO THE RIGHT THING

After the much-panned School Daze, Spike Lee reaffirms the promise of She's Gotta Have It with a tale of exploding racial tensions in a Brooklyn suburb on a hot summer's day. Public Enemy ride shotgun on the soundtrack.

FLETCH LIVES

Intrepid reporter Fletch (Chevy Chase) inherits a rich aunt's decrepit Louisiana mansion and uncovers a sinister plot to oust him from the premises in this lightweight comedy sequel.

HELLRAISER II - HELLBOUND

The hype takes its toll on this disappointing sequel to Clive Barker's splashy debut. High

on gore, low on common sense, Hellbound has the distinction of being labelled a 'disgrace" by the Daily Mail. Take that as a recommendation.

LICENCE TO KILL

The first Bond movie to really deliver in many a year. Dalton is a credible 007, Robert Davi exudes venom as the seriously nasty villain, Talisa Soto smiles winsomely and Carey Lowell blasts her way into the history books as Cubby Broccoli's first proto-feminist Bond girl. Hard-boiled and exciting.

MARRIED TO THE MOB

Hip black comedy from Yank screwball specialist Jonathan Demme. Michelle Pfeiffer stars as the wife of a dead mafia don opting for the quiet life on New York's Lower East Side, and finding herself caught between the attentions of her late husband's rival (Dean Stockwell) and a lovesick Federal agent (Matthew Modine) hired to tail her.

THE MIGHTY QUINN

Robert Townsend (Hollywood Shuffle) and Denzil Washington co-star in a political thriller that follows events surrounding the mysterious death of a wealthy Americano on a Caribbean island. Lashings of red-hot intrigue but the film never really seems to

MISSISSIPPI BURNING

Alan Parker's acclaimed but politically flawed account of the cover-up surrounding the deaths of three civil rights workers in 1964. Gene Hackman and Willem Dafoe are the

mismatched lawmen on the Klan's heels and Parker directs with his usual steamroller intensity. Expect no subtlety.

NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET 4-THE **DREAM MASTER**

Freddy Krueger is back from the undead and kicking ass as the last of the Elm Street children meet the Sandman for the last time. Routine Nightmare fare for the devoted but even the most jaded may care to check out the cockroach scene. .

PAPERHOUSE

Troubled child Anna takes to bed with a fever and a sketchbook and pencil, only to find that her idle scribblings take on a vivid and sinister life of their own in her dreams. An intelligent, sometimes scary debut from British director Bernard Rose, previously known for Frankie's notorious 'Relax' promo.

PARIS BY NIGHT

Ruthless Tory Euro MP Claire Paige (Charlotte Rampling) will stop at nothing in her quest for political power, even if it means walking over her weak-willed, alcoholic husband and their young son to get it. While on business in Paris, a seemingly harmless fling develops, with sinister results.

WARLOCK

Julian Sands, as the warlock of the title, flees execution in 17th Century Massachusetts and seeks refuge in present-day LA, hotly pursued by witch-hunter Giles Redferne (Richard E Grant) in this offbeat and engaging occult thriller.

WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN

Frantic farce from Spain's answer to John Waters, the oddball Pedro Almodovar, whose blackly comic Law Of Desire raised eyebrows last year. To attempt a synopsis, I'm told, is frankly impossible.

ON THE RAD

WEDNESDAY JUNE 28

JOHN PEEL: 8.30pm, Radio 1 Birdland wig out in session. RICHARD SKINNER: 12 midnight, Radio 1 A session from Southside Johnny And The Jukes (again!?)

THURSDAY JUNE 29

JOHN PEEL: 8.30pm, Radio 1 A repeat of a session from those real gone daddies Mudhoney RICHARD SKINNER: 12 midnight, Radio 1

Mark Germino, a touch of the Steve Earles, in session.

FRIDAY JUNE 30

IN CONCERT: 9pm, Radio 1 A prime double-feature here: part one is It Bites, recorded last week at Sheffield University, followed by a repeated Jerry Harrison set from last year.

SATURDAY JULY 1

CLASSIC ALBUMS: 2pm, Radio 1 Glenn Frey, who hopefully has recovered from the Smugglers' Blues, is on hand to talk an inquisitive Roger Scott through The Eagles' "seminal" 'Hotel California', made

during the mad punk heyday of 1977. A real raunch classic, this baby.

SUNDAY JULY 2

ANDY KERSHAW: 9pm, Radio 1 Sessions tonight from, and I'm afraid I'm going to have to spell this one, Ayub Ogada. And the extremely raunchy Green On Red.

MONDAY JULY 3

JOHN PEEL: 8.30pm, Radio 1 Raunch a-plenty with Kiss AMC. RICHARD SKINNER: 12 midnight, Radio 1 But a complete dearth of raunch here, as the "calorific soul orchestra" Hothouse get calorific and soulful.

NEW ALBUM

ANDERSON Roshell: 'Sweet 'N' Sour Rhythm 'N' Blues' (Ichiban) Cassette, CD. Deep soul ANHREFN: 'Soft Lights And Loud Guitars (Part Two)' (Emotions/Pinnacle) Shared album with Last Rough Cause AYERS Roy: 'Wake Up' (Ichiban) Cassette,

BELFAST COWBOYS: 'Relief'
(Swordfish/Cartel) Pop
BERNHARD Sandra: 'Without You I'm
Nothing' (Enigma) CD. Controversial American singer/songwriter BITCHES SIN: 'Invaders' (GI/Plastic Head)

Cassette, CD. Rock BLACK RIDERS: 'Chosen Few' (GI/Plastic Head) Rock

BLUES BOY WILLIE: 'Strange Things Happening' (Ichiban) Cassette, CD. Blues
CATERAN: 'Little Circles' (DDT/Cartel)
Limited edition re-release with free 7-inch of
the band's now deleted 'Last Big Lie'
CHRIS AND COSEY: 'Trust' (Play It Again
Sam/APT) Ambient soundtrack
COCKELIEN Bruse: 'Pio Circumstances' (EM

COCKBURN Bruce: 'Big Circumstances' (FM Revolver) Cassette, CD. Canadian

singer/songwriter CRANES: 'Self Non-Self' (Bite Back/Backs)

"Art as terrorism"
DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND: 'Voodoo' (CBS) Cassette, CD. New Orleans jazz band DREAM SYNDICATE: 'Live At Raji's' (Enigma) CD. Posthumous live album recorded in

January this year ENERGETIC KRUSHER: 'Path To Oblivion' (Vinyl Solution) South Shields thrashcore FISCHER-Z: 'Fish's Head' (Arista) Cassette,

CD. Pop GARON Jesse And The Desperadoes: A GARON Jesse And The Desperadoes: A Cabinet Of Curiosities' (Velocity/Cartel)
Limited edition re-release plus free 7-inch
HARD-ONS: 'Love Is A Battlefield Of
Wounded Hearts' (Vinyl Solution) "Satanist

pinball punks"
HARTER ATTACK: 'Human Hell' (Metalcore)
CD. New Jersey thrash
JEREMY DAYS: 'The Jeremy Days' (Polydor)

German pop
KUEPPER Ed: 'Everybody's Got To' (Capitol)
Awry rock traditionalist
LANDSLIDE: 'Hands Down' (GI/Plastic Head)
Cassette, CD. Rock
LL COOL J: 'Walking With A Panther' (CBS)
The ''legend in leather' returns
MACABRE: 'Grim Reality' (Vinyl Solution)
Chicago thrash trio

Chicago thrash trio MERCYLAND: 'No Feet On The Cowling' (Tupelo Recording Co/Revolver) CD. Atlanta

poppy guitar trio
MOURNBLADE: 'Live Fast Die Young'
(GI/Plastic Head) Cassette, CD. Rock
PARTON Dolly: 'White Limozeen' (CBS)
Cassette, CD. Country
PRIMEVALS: 'Neon Oven' (DDT/Cartel)
"Steamy" live album
SARAYA: 'Saraya' (Polydor) Cassette, CD
East Coast US rock

East Coast US rock

hip hop/rap ST HELLIER: 'St Hellier' (GI/Plastic Head) Rock TALULAH GOSH: 'Rock Legends Volume 69' (53rd & 3rd) Limited edition (250) clear vinyl-TROJAN: 'The March Is On' (GI/Plastic Head)

TURNPIKE CRUISERS: 'Drive Drive Drive' (Link) R&B

VARIOUS ARTISTS: 'Airspace' (Breaking Down/Revolver) Airspace Charity compilation with Close Lobsters, Benny Profane, Stitch, Flatmates, Rodney Allen, Rosehips, Fieldmice, Cud, This Poison! and

VARIOUS ARTISTS: 'Antone's Tenth Anniversary Anthology Volume 1' (Bedrock/Pinnacle) CD with three extra tracks. Live recording from Antone's Blues Club, Texas, featuring Albert Collins, James Cotton, Buddy Guy, Jimmy Rogers and more VARIOUS ARTISTS: 'British Steel' (FM Revolver) Cassette, CD. Double album rock compilation with Dogs D'Amour, Wrathchild, Trixx Federation, Acid Reign, Lisa Dominique, Re-Animator, Midnight Blue, Death Trash, Tigertailz, Last Of The Teenage Idols, Virus, Sacrilege, After Hours, Lixx, Metal Messiah and Soho Roses

VARIOUS ARTISTS: 'The Mighty Quinn' (A&M) Cassette, CD. Movie soundtrack with tracks from UB40, The Neville Brothers, Yello

WATERFRONT: 'Waterfront' (Polydor)
Cassette, CD. ''Classy pop''
WEISBERG Tim: 'Outrageous Temptations'
(Cypress/Sonet) Jazz flautist

BACKTRACKS

David Cavanagh rounds up the recent re-releases

20-year-old novice Michael Karoli (guitar) and the substantially older Holger Czukay (bass), Irmin Schmidt (keyboards) and Jaki Liebezeit (drums). Vocals, such as they were, came courtesy of American eccentric Malcolm Mooney. After a succession of erratic performances he returned home in late '69.

His replacement, Japanese itinerant artist Kenji 'Damo' Suzuki, debuted on '70's 'Soundtracks', an album of music recorded by the band for various underground/ pornographic films, which succeeded in upping the ante as far as the band's reputation was concerned.

The following year's 'Tago Mago' (a double) was a huge, sprawling melodic and percussive masterpiece, dominated by the 19 minute 'Halleluwah.' By this time Can were actual pop stars in their native Germany, with a number one single, 'Spoon', under their belts. 'Spoon' appears on 'Ege Bamyasi' (1972), a much jazzier record (but nevertheless containing the almost unpalatable 'Soup', which seemed to be freeform gone too far).

'Future Days', from 1973, is arguably their best and boasts the mesmerising 'Bel Air', on which Czukay's bass and Liebezeit's percussion create whole new soundscapes of inspiration. The music was softer, more

Suzuki left before 1974's 'Soon Over Babaluma', but aside from the deliciously upful 'Dizzy Dizzy' vocals no longer figured on Can's musical horizon. They continued to record until their dissolution, somewhere around 1980. Seven further CDs are scheduled for release later this year.

Incidentally, 'Cannibalism 1' is an edited version of the double album 'Cannibalism', itself an edited "best of" compilation of the years 1969-74. For those new to the band it provides an excellent starting point.

PERE UBU: 'Dub Housing'/'New Picnic Time'/'390 Degrees Of Simulated Stereo'/'The Art Of Walking'/'Song Of The Bailing Man'/'One Man Drives While The Other Man Screams'/ 'Terminal Tower' (Rough Trade) - It's a bit of a shame that Rough Trade can't score the rights to Ubu's initial, groundbreaking statement, 'The Modern Dance', because otherwise this would be the perfect CD package to represent Ohio's absurdist rockers. As it is, it's still pretty wild - ranging from 1979's second album 'Dub Housing', reckoned by committed Ubuphiles to be close to their best, through the more experimental and less tuneworthy 'New Picnic Time' and 'The Art Of Walking' to the final studio album recorded before the band's six-year hiatus, 1981's 'Song Of The Bailing Man.

Although avant garde fatigue appeared to be setting in by this time - and, more crucially, frontman David Thomas' lyrics lapsing into triteness – new recruit Anton Fier's drums give the record a hell of a kick.

The two live albums in the package are a fine cut above the usual cursory live fare served up by lesser bands: '390 Degrees' just wins the toss by virtue of excellent versions of 'Heart Of Darkness' and '30 Seconds Over Tokyo', but 'One Man Drives' does include highlights of what is considered to be Ubu's best ever gig, at London's Electric Ballroom.
'Terminal Tower', as a compilation of singles, B-sides and unguarded moments, is

understandably mercurial. But any album that boasts 'Final Solution', 'My Dark Ages' and the magnificent, full-length original of 'Heart Of Darkness' has got to be taken seriously. All CD's come with helpful sleevenotes, personnel details etc.

GIANT SAND: 'Giant Songs' (Demon) CD-only compilation of the strange desert visions of Howe Gelb, mainly with his band Giant Sand but also as leader of The Band Of. . . Blacky Ranchette, the one-off country band he formed with slide guitarist Rainer (of Das Combo).

Giant Sand's four studio albums are well represented in these 17 tracks, although Gelb's awesome version of 'All Along The Watchtower' (from 1986's 'Ballad Of A Thin

Line Man') is sadly omitted.

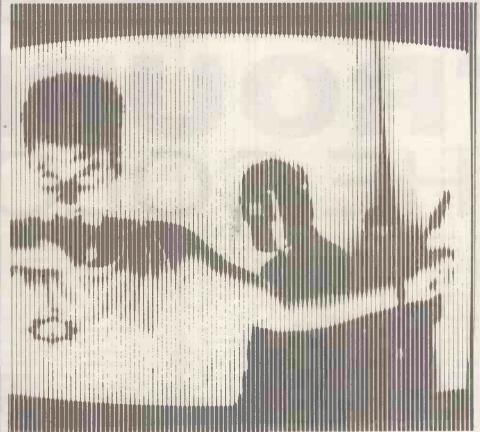
Last year's 'Storm' gets the best deal, with three of its least compromising tracks included, notably the wry ozone layer eulogy 'Uneven Light Of Day'. But 'The Love Songs' (also last year) is not, with four of its most unhinged tracks finding groove space. A fine introduction to the Giant Sand gospel.

NICK LOWE: 'Basher' (Demon) -Subtitled 'The Best Of Nick Lowe', this is an essential compilation, available on all formats as a 25-song statement of genius that takes in eight albums and a few additional singles.

'Basher''s tracks span from the days of '76, when his 'So It Goes'/'Heart Of The City'. could and did fit comfortably in the New Wave scheme of things, right up to last year's 'Pinker And Prouder Than Previous' LP.

In between there's such arch examples of pop splendour as 'I Love The Sound Of Breaking Glass', 'American Squirm' and 'Cracking Up', as well as his black comedy paean to 'Marie Provost', the Hollywood actress who, according to Kenneth Anger's Hollywood Babylon, was eaten by her pet daschshund ("She was a winner/That became the doggie's dinner'')

Latterday stuff, such as 'She Don't Love Nobody' and 'The Rose Of England', betray the man's deep affinity for country, and throughout 'Basher' Nick Lowe's warm-hearted songwriting and abrasive production suggests a talent every bit as vital as the mighty Costello.



DIE KRUPPS: into the heart of the machine

CAN: 'Delay 1968'/'Monster

wildest, grooviest and best band.

Movie'/'Soundtracks'/'Tago Mago'/'Ege Bamyasi'/'Future Days'/'Soon Over

The long-awaited (by their many disciples at

A quick straw poll at Sounds mooted Can

as perhaps the most influential band of the

Shriekback all owe serious debts to Can, and

Monster Movie' was the band's official

1968' predates it) and its emergence in 1969

stunned those who had access to it. Spurious

comparisons were made with The Velvet

improvisations and thunderous beats drew

on similar sources of warped invention as

'Sister Ray' or 'European Son.' The rush of

'Monster Movie''s more linear rock songs,

inevitably the 20-minute track 'Yoo Doo

still sound pretty staggering, but it's

The line-up that made it was the

'Father Cannot Yell' and 'Outside My Door'

Right' that fries most brain cells, building up

from unsettling mantra to outright hysteria.

Underground, insofar as the shrieking

debut (although the rough, embryonic 'Delay

they're only the ones who make it obvious.

Babaluma'/'Cannibalism 1' (Spoon) -

least) CD transcriptions from Germany's

70s, with the possible exception of The

Clash. Certainly PiL, Cabaret Voltaire and

AITKEN Laurei: 'Everybody Ska' (Unicorn) 12-inch only AXIS: 'Rolling With Rai' (Gee Street) 12-inch CASANOVA'S REVENGE: 'Let's Work' (RCA) 12-inch CHRIS & COSEY: 'Rise' (Play It Again Sam/APT) 12-inch only
DARLING BUDS: 'You've Got To Choose'
(Epic) 12-ich and CD with two extra tracks
DEL LORDS: 'Poem Of The River'

(Enigma/AVL) 12-inch with extra track. Pat Benatar sings backing vocals DIE KRUPPS: 'The Machineries Of Joy' (Mute)

12-inch CD nicture disc and 12-inc DIESEL Johnny And The Injectors: 'Soul Revival' (Chrysalis) 12-inch with three extra live tracks

DOWN BY LAW: 'Livin' In The Ghetto' (Citybeat/Beggars Banquet) 12-inch only DYNAMIC DUO: 'Batman Theme' (Anagram/Cherry Red) 12-inch only ESTEFAN Gloria: 'Don't Wanna Lose You' (Epic) Two 12-inch versions and CD with

GREEN Isaac: 'I Got It' (Different Class/BMG) HAIG Paul: 'Something Good' (Circa/AVL) 12-inch remix version

JACKSON Michael: 'Liberian Girl' (Epic) JADE 4U: 'Rock It To The Bone' (Subway UK/Cartel) 12-inch only JAEGER Leigh: 'Johnny And Mary' (A&M) Cover of the Robert Palmer classic

JAZZ RENEGADES: 'Do It The Hard Way' (Polydor) 12-inch LA MIX: 'Get Loose' (Breakout/A&M) 12-inch

LOWLIFE: 'Vain Delight EP' (Nightshift/Cartel) Limited edition 12-inch

ELEASES

re-release plus free 7-inch MARTIKA: 'Toy Soldiers' (CBS) MAUREEN: 'Don't Fight The Music' (Danceyard) 12-inch NEW FAST AUTOMATIC DAFFODILS: 'Lions' (Playtime) 12-inch plus two extra tracks limited edition gatefold and CD with extra

PRESSURE POINT WITH PP ARNOLD: 'Dreaming' (Viceroy) 12-inch with additional

RIVER DETECTIVES: 'Chains' (WEA) 12-inch, cassette and CD with extra tracks ROXETTE: 'Dressed For Success' (EMI) 12-inch remix and CD with extra tracks SEQUAL: 'Tell Him I Called' (Capitol) 12-inch SHAKATAK: 'Turn The Music Up' (Polydor)

12-inch and CD 16 FOREVER: 'Rockin' Time' (Rumble Records/Cartel) Double A-side 7-inch only SKIN 'N' BONES: 'Almost Cut My Throat' (£2 from The Boneyard, Flat 4, 1 Reedville, Oxton

Wirral, Merseyside) SYNDICATE: 'Baby's Gone' (EMI) 12-inch with two extra tracks, CD with two extra tracks (one different)

TRAX Nicky: 'Hooked On You' (Complete Kaos/Antler) 12-inch only

WILDHOUSE: 'Let's Get Married' (Uh Huh/Fast Forward) 12-inch only

Claytown
Troupe are the latest UK
hopefuls with their eyes on the Yankee dollar.
Ralph Traitor meets them in Vienna. Pic by Ed Sirrs

ED ZEPPELIN for Indians' may seem a trite tag with which to burden a young band.

But Claytown Troupe, Bristol's great white rock hope and Island's fastest-ever signing – one month flat – rather like it.

On the final day of their debut European tour with The Godfathers, however, they were stroppily coming to terms with *Time Out*'s left-on caustic comment – "post-apocalyptic guitar wankers".

Claytown Troupe came from nowhere, but they're certainly not going back there. They're hungry, but in no hurry.

Chrls Riou, the Troupe's gregarious, assured vocalist, explains that, although they did plan, it wasn't a matter of outright contrivance.

"We were just interested in getting where we are now, to this point. This is just a start, It's nothing, absolutely bottom of the ladder," he says, scanning the messy tour bus that's possibly responsible for the virus that's dogging him.

"But, at least we're here. We think and care about what we do musically."

LARGE part of the Troupe's musical capital is invested in supporting an image that could be derided as typically post-Goth – but that's unfair.

post-Goth – but that's unfair.
While the Troupe are
unmistakably marked by that
sound and vision, they don't
consciously seek it. Chris prefers
to have the Troupe seen as "rock
for the '90s".

"'We're 'Thogs' – backwards Goths," jests bassist Paul Waterson.

"That word doesn't really exist for us. That word is these bulldings," adds Chris, pointing to the period architecture around us.

"We're an English rock band and that's as far it goes. People can call us what they like, it makes no odds to us.

"We're not from those roots or part of that scene; in any case it's dead, has been for years. We may have listened to it when we were younger, that's all."

'Prayer', Claytown Troupe's first single, emphasises a subject of great interest to the band and particularly to Chris – North American Indians.

Its lyrics provide a curious introduction to the Redman's



CLAYTOWN TROUPE: "This is the bottom of the ladder. But at least we're here"

TROUPING THE COLOURS

spirituality. When I call it techno-tribal, it goes down reasonably well.

"That's my thing, really," says Chris. "I've had an Interest in it since I was a kid and it rubs off on these guys.

"We're standing up and saying, This is kind of what we're about now, rather than leaving it and being accused of something later. It's new and fresh for us now, and that's what counts.

"People can make fun of it; I could look over the top of the tollet and make fun of them, makes no

"For years I've collected and studied Indian culture, done this that and the other with it. When I first got interested in America I looked into different aspects, and ended up with the Indians.

ended up with the Indians.
"Their philosophy appeals to
me, the freedom of the way they
lived. It is escapism in a sense, but
it's also a solid interest."

'Alabama', also on the single, appears to derive from the same source, but nothing could be further from the truth.

Chris: "It's from a 2000AD story about the Alabammy Mammies, cannibal women inhabiting the

swamplands, eating men. It struck me as amusing and it fitted a vibe we had based on the riff."

LAYTOWN TROUPE are honest about their interest in that eternal English rock grail – 'cracking America.

"Bands are obsessed by cracking America because everyone tells them that if they do they'll be millionaires! And they're shit-scared of not cracking it.

"So they say, We hate America – so they don't have to admit that they'd be very embarrassed if it didn't work out.

"It comes down to the English attitude, which is that success and being good at what you do isn't necessarily a good thing," observes keyboardist Rick Williams. "The American attitude is the exact opposite."

Claytown Troupe's commitment has been put to the test in two ways. Firstly, they traversed the UK in the proverbial Transit for months last year, virtually anonymously, slowly attracting a following now loyal enough to cross the Channel for them.

Secondly, they spent the better part of six months rehearsing and

recording their debut LP.

"The album is most important now," claims drummer Andy Holt. "It's a good first album – we're pretty happy with it. The single is just the obvious opening move, whereas we're relying on the album more. It's an obvious statement to make, but true."

"We signed to Island fairly early on because we want to give something that's worth paying for," adds Chris. "We didn't go for the indie scene because, in this day and age, it's a total joke anyway.

"There may be fresh ideas within it, but everybody really wants to sign to big labels. We didn't necessarily want that, but we didn't want to do a cheap album either."

A PRODUCER Ronald Fair did the fine-tuning, at length. Chris: "We were expecting a few months, because our previous experience was two days in a demo studio, so it was a bit of a shock to us.

It was good for the band to all be chucked in a one-bedroom flat in Finsbury Park – made us work harder. We had a brilliant time."

Claytown Troupe, whose name

was recommended by a clairvoyant Chris saw, aspire to an equally intuitive feel on vinyl.

'Prayer' driven by guitarist Adrian Van Bennett's natural, expert playing, has a raw energy that is made clearer and more cutting by its clean production.

Elsewhere, on 'Alabama', the band come close to cock-rock cliché, but are saved by imaginative, identity-intensive presentation.

This hybrid of generic hard rock and confident divergence marks out Claytown Troupe for the rendezvous with America they crave.

"We're not arrogant," says Chris. "Just confident. If anyone gets in our way we don't bottle them out of the way, we just go round them.

"Some bands have to fight and have running battles with those who dislike them. We're always just gone round them, avoided them, kept to our path.

"Our Great Plan' is really just us stepping aside when people try to kick us in the teeth, never fighting them. Other bands are blind enough to get kicked in the teeth. We aren't."

the darling buds you've got to choose

next week you can choose from the new seven inch single featuring a new version of you've got to choose and mary's got to go or the three track twelve inch & cd versions which have a new song i'll never stop

T MUST be a real drag having a reputation to live down.

Tim Booth of James has a more cumbersome rep than most – to wit, that he is nothing but an effete, Buddhist vegan in a Moroccan skullcap who neither drinks Nescafé nor says the word "bottom" in polite conversation.

Denying these persistent rumours is a hassle to which he's well accustomed.

But, as he pulls up a chair alongside bassist Jim Glennie to discuss current James activities (in particular the immensely commercial new single, 'Sit Down', on their own One Man Records), I put it to him that he doesn't exactly help matters by shaving his head

If Tim isn't a reclusive coffee-phobic monk, why look like

"I enjoyed what happened," he says simply, "People react to you totally different when your head's shaved. They sort of look at you, trying to work out whether you're Hare Krishna or a skinhead. If you're a Hare Krishna they can ignore you, but if you're a skinhead they're fairly apprehensive

"This time, I'didn't like it at all. It started snowing immediately. I came out of the barber's and snow landed on my head and I was bloody freezing.

"I missed my curly locks. .

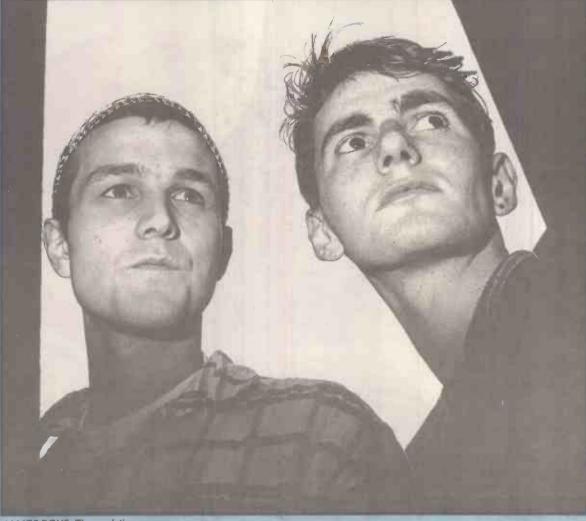
While he was waiting impatiently for his barnet to show some life, Tim recorded 'Sit Down', arguably James' most immediate tune to date and easily their most realistic stab at the Top 40.

With a mixture of glee and fear, the band await developments of a Simon Batesian nature.

Tim: "We realise we're in an area we have no experience of. Everybody says we have a lot of follow-up singles, but we haven't got a breaker

He looks bemused at the word. 'Sit Down' certainly sounds like a breaker, especially the chorus, a kind of circular celebratory chant. As with most James material, its genesis was wholly accidental and

inspired.
"Yeah," says Tim. "All our songs are improvised. We get about one 'Sit Down' a year. 'What For' was one



JAMES BOYS: Tim and Jim

With their new single, 'Sit Down', James seem finally ready for the charts. David Cavanagh hears about the tortuous route they've taken. Pic by Leo Regan

"It's a real fluke. And everybody ends up being knocked out by it, not understanding how on earth we managed to get it. Grinning.

HE SINGLE heralds the new James line-up - a six-piece with Tim, Jim and guitarist Larry Gott augmented by pianist Mark Hunter, drummer Dave Baignton-Power and violinist/ guitarist Saul Davies

In typical James style, they located Davies in a pub during an ad hoc blues workshop and he was in the band by eleven the next

"He's been working in a pottery," explains Tim, adding hastily: "He's really butch,

Absolutely. No namby-pamby pansy potters in the new hard-edged James outfit. Even hard-drinking, mean-loving ex-drummer Gavan Whelan found the going too tough and squeezed himself out of the band, much to the initial displeasure of the James

'Sit Down', allied to some solid gigging, has upped James' profile, which has always been unfairly puny outside of Manchester.

They've been making the leap from refreshingly intimate but acoustically dodgy small clubs to big halls. And, in France, they're

approaching superstardom.
Tim: "The French have a thing about artists and poets. Like Les Negresses Vertes, that kind of gypsy poet culture. And they've taken to us like that. We're treated like artistic royalty.'

Don't the French also require their artistic royalty to die at around

Tim (laughing): "I hope not! We're past our deadline. . . Maybe they just said you have to suffer.

LOW moan comes from Jim - suffering. It's time to talk about the Sire machine experience.

James' experiences on Sire have made it to TV, so apparently shabbily were they treated.

'That was a hard time," shivers Tim. "Waiting two years for your records to come out, that was the worst. We got on telly about that -Out Of Order. It was like a watchdog programme, y'know, This is out of order!

"So what they did was this tale of Young, Naive Band Sign To Major Record Company - standard thing. But they tried to make out that we were so amazing that we absolutely should have made it and it was all Sire's fault that we

Out of Seymour Stein's clutches, James decided to fight shy of major deals and form their own label. One Man Records is distributed by Rough Trade (label modul Geoff Travis is an old friend) and is funded by those previously unconsidered rock 'n' roll philanthropes, The Royal Bank Of Scotland

Tim: "We got the bank manager to come and see us play a gig. He thought it was fantastic. And, you know, in Manchester we can sell out 4,000. It's complete hysteria."

The money kindly lent by the bank has funded a video for 'Sit Down', directed by the band's eccentric friend Edward Barton.

In arch Barton style, the video's a gentle, warm affair, with lots of what Tim calls "real people" getting a look in.

"The place started filling up with people wanting to know what the hell we were going to do next. You know, What's that sheep doing there? All these guys from the Salvation Army came down and Edward got them dancing on chairs and things like that. Lovely guys. . . great stories. We met one guy called Derek, where was he living?'

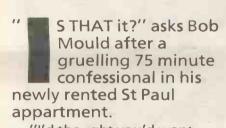
Jim: "Margate."

Tim: "He's 20-odd and he's a lorry driver and he drives through Manchester and he knocks this girl down. And so he stays in Manchester to check that she's OK, and he falls in love with her, and he marries her. Thirty years ago, you know?

"So we said, Well, why are you staying at the Salvation Army? Oh, she kicked me out two weeks ago. She does It annually. Kicks him out and he goes and stays at the Salvation Army for a while.

THE DEAD HOW The New Single LIMITED EDITION GATEFOLD 7" EP AVAILABLE THIS WEEK Featuring previously unavailable tracks. CBS OIL EP4





"I'd thought you'd want more. I could go on for days!"

Well, I couldn't. Raking through the ashes of Hüsker Dü was hardly likely to produce a gutful of giggles but precisely why one of the decade's most inspired and inspirational rock bands should fall apart in such apparently acrimonious circumstances remains a mystery.

The explanations offered so far have been confused and contradictory.

Even the fullest account in the British press – provided last January by Hüsker Dü's drummer Grant Hart in a Sounds feature – tells only one side of the story. Bob Mould, Hart's fellow songwriter and personification of the band's torrid commitment in his sweat-fuelled stage demeanour, has remained silent ever since rumours about the split began.

But Mould actually disappeared. In October 1987 he had bought a farm in the Minnesota countryside and it was to there, a rural outpost, amid open fields, animals and very little else, that he retreated after the split.

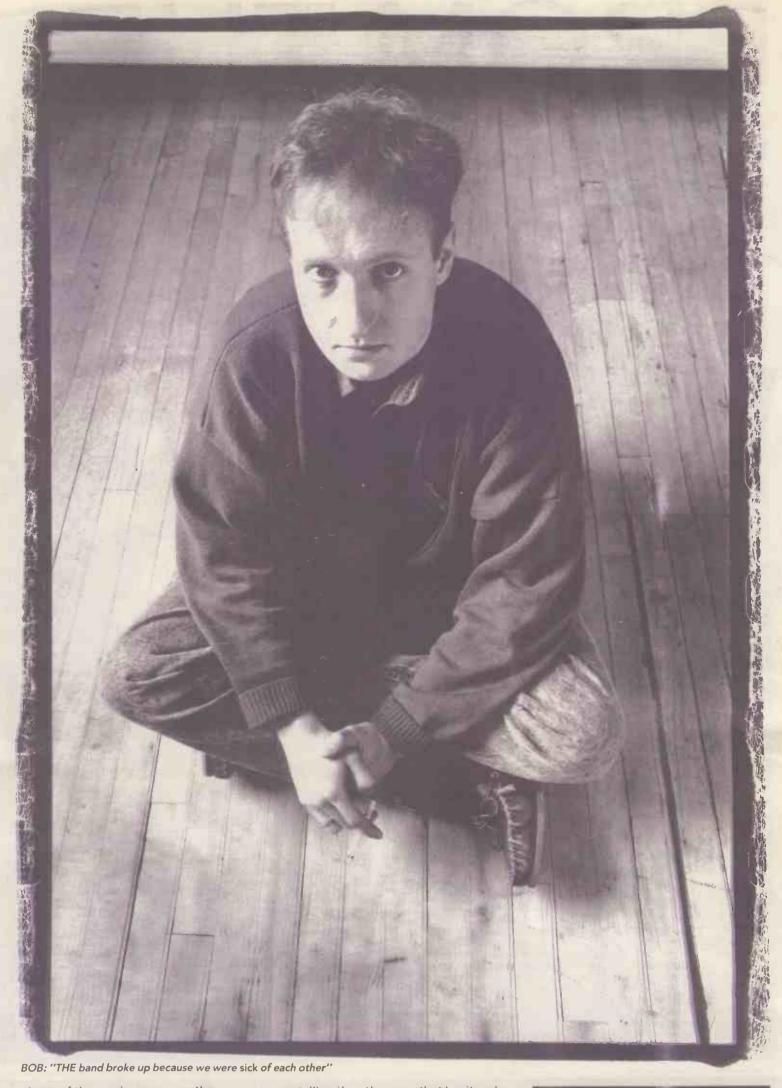
"I look back and go, Now I know why I moved – it was like an omen, the heginning of the end. Or the start of omething new. I just sat back and tarted writing for myself, after years of writing with two other people in mind.

"Having that pulled away was very scary but it was also real refreshing, it was like, Good, now I don't have to write everything at that tempo, with that guitar sound. . .with that mentality. Which was a great mentality, but it's not something that I wanted to hold onto anymore."

HE RESULT of this self-imposed exile is 'Workbook', the first Bob Mould solo album.

Though his move to the farm

Though his move to the farm was a decisive, if initially subconscious, break with his immediate past, Mould's isolation there was haunted by the



ghosts of the previous year – as the

record shows.

The title alone is an oblique clue to his

musical mental state.
It comes from a Chet Atkins album,
'Workshop', that boasts sleeve notes by
David Halberstam, a major American
journalist of the 1960s. Atkins explains

to his interviewer that he set up his studio – his "workshop" – at home because he hates working with people who don't dig what he's doing and he'd rather shut himself off and do it alone. These sentiments immediately struck a chord with Bob.

chord with Bob.

Those seeking an easy, pat solution to the demise of Hüsker Dü – such as Grant Hart's heroin addiction, until recently assumed to be the root cause – will be disappointed. The anguish that coats 'Workbook' like the darkest of nightmares is ample testimony to the far crueller reality, where friendships fall apart for no obvious reasons.

It's never easy to take when the band ideal disintegrates into bitterness; when that band happen to be Hüsker Dü, the epitome of strength in a power trio, the shock is palpable.

Bob Mould's version of events offers few consolations.

"It wasn't even within ten days from

me telling the other guys that I quit and formally withdrawing myself from it that there was stuff in the British papers already about Grant's heroin problem. And I felt really bad for him that people jumped to this conclusion and tried to put the blame on anybody. It was nobody's fault, it just happened.

"You know, people ask now, Do you guys talk to each other? Well, no, because apparently Grant thinks that I set him up for the fall and it was all anybody could do to keep their mouth shut and not let anybody know what had happened.

"That wasn't the reason the band broke up. The band broke up because we were *sick* of each other."

So there had been a gradual

deterioration of relations?

"Yeah. Well, I think that's bound to happen when people know each other for that period of time. You just don't have that much in common by the end of an experience like that. I mean, I can't really attribute it to any one thing. I don't think it was the drug problem, although to be honest the writing was on the wall at that point in time. It was like, Well, if it's come to this, what's the point?

"But there was no ultimatum thrown

"Last year was a rough year. I mean, it was a good year, it was the longest year I've ever had in my life. Just writing and writing and writing shit that was not real pleasant but it was good, it needed to be done"

- Bob Mould

FROM THE WAREHOUSE TO THE WORKSHOP

It's been a long trip for former Hüsker Dü lynchpin, **Bob Mould**. But now he's back with an intense debut solo album, 'Workbook'. **Keith Cameron** meets him in St Paul to find out about the break-up of the band and his reclusive work down on the farm. Interiors by **lan T Tilton**

down or anything like that. There was a lot of intense dialogue that went on through the month of January that was pretty emotional, pretty honest between Grant and myself.

"I was just really, really disappointed with a lot of things. I was let down by the whole experience. To watch things end like that. . . How much can you care for someone's health, how much can you care for working with someone when you're getting nothing, no satisfaction, and no sign of anything changing?"

Following the suicide of manager David Savoy on the eve of a tour to promote the final Hüsker Dü album, 'Warehouse: Songs And Stories', communication between the band members almost completely broke down. How far had preparations for the follow up to 'Warehouse' gone?

"We had time booked in the studio for January '88. Hugh Jones was gonna come over and engineer the record. Apparently, I guess, he was a producer that was being 'forced' on us," he laughs, any bitterness now long gone, replaced by an air of sad irony.

replaced by an air of sad irony.
"So, whatever. . . I get tired of watching things get twisted around.

Just might as well get it out in the open.

"We got together in September '87 and started rehearsing some new stuff and the stuff I was writing wasn't that good. I didn't think anybody was bringing good material to it. It was

pretty discouraging.
"We went out and toured in October and a lot of things were falling through the cracks. I think it was an attempt to recapture a little bit of what we used to enjoy about it, just go out and play clubs and do all the old stuff. And it was real fun but stuff was in disarray by then, we were still not talking to each other – and that made it real easy, we didn't have to talk about new stuff, the old stuff was automatic pilot. We didn't have to confront ourselves with anything, it was

The showdown came after a disastrous show in Columbia, Missouri, just before Christmas 1987 – the only gig where Bob can recall Hart's addiction affecting his performance.

like a ritual. It was easy.

"When there's problems like that, those are serious, those are people's lives – it's not like a f***in' game. So that was it, I just said there's no more gigs till we get all this stuff straightened out." But things never were. Mould quit Hüsker Dü in January 1988.

"It was like I've confessed, Greg's confessed, Grant's confessed, let's see what happens with it. And nothing happened. Just a sign of it perpetuating itself and I refused to continue, it wasn't worth it.

worth it.
"You know, there was a lot of things that were said and a lot of things happened in that period of time that I'll never go into with people cos it's just not good stuff. It was unresolved — and the only resolution was for me to leave."

F'WORKBOOK' has resolved the spiritual turmoil left by his former band's disintegration then it must rank as a personal triumph for Bob Mould, in addition to its obvious musical brilliance.

Free from the stylistic shackles of the Hüsker Dü sound – which had increasingly frustrated him in the band's last year – he has employed acoustic elements, including the cello, and relentless mid-tempo arrangements to form this epic piece of pastoral angst.

Bob says if we were to go to the farm, we'd see why the record turned out the way it did. I'll settle for its obvious themes of regret and rootlessness in such keynote songs as 'Wishing Well' ("There's a price to pay for a wish to come true/Trade a small piece of your life"), and the especially desolate 'Poison Years' — "I see you swing by your neck from a vine".

"That's a very strange song. That's the one that people have been saying must be the one about the break-up. F*** man, that's about me, not about anybody else. The person swinging on the end of that vine is not Grant or Greg, believe me! Ha ha! It would be a lot easier that way but it's not, y'know. It's me."

And therefore more scary, more

intense?
"For me it was. Last year was a rough year. I mean, it was a good year, it was the longest year I've ever had in my life. Just writing and writing and writing shit that was not real pleasant but it was good, it needed to be done.

"I hadn't had an opportunity to evaluate myself for years because I was on the treadmill and never could get off and take a look at what life was about and whether it was worth continuing to live or whether changes were necessary. "I'm not trying to tell people that I hate the people I used to work with! I'm trying to tell people I have a lot of problems with myself."

T'S THIS stoical devotion to confronting his psyche's darker aspect that makes Mould a compulsive tortured artist.

Those who remember him as Hüsker Dü's turbo-charged focal point, railing against a wall of frustration, might not easily recognise this scrupulously neat, thoughtful 28-year-old. But 'Workbook' walks the emotional precipice with a bravery few others would dare to emulate. Bob purges himself of those destructive impulses in his work, otherwise who knows what he might

Is there a danger to his seclusion, his artistic self-obsession?

"Yeah, that's why I'm back down here now," he laughs. "I don't wanna go through that again right now. It was so weird because emotionally it was hell and it was a hell that I wanted to go through, but visually it was a beautiful place to be, out in the country seeing

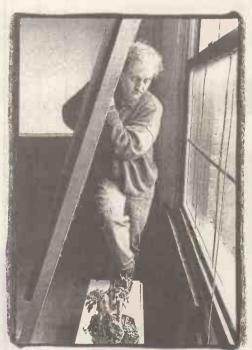
place to be, out in the country seeing the stars, the northern lights. . . no sound, no one coming by. There was some heavy conflict going on there that

was necessary."

But you can't be like that all the time.
"Uh uh, no, ha ha! I mean, you could
but I don't wanna end up like that yet.
People go, Oh, he went up to his
tranquil farm and wrote some songs.
Yeah, but—there's a price, there's the

flip-side to everything.
"It made me feel something again, after walking out of an experience that left me numb. Had I just continued and made a record that sounded like stuff I'd done before and jumped right back into it, I would be much more miserable now than had I stopped to take the time to

be miserable then! Ha!
"Yeah, I don't think you have to set
yourself on fire and run round the block
but there's a certain virtue to misery.
When you stop trying to be everybody's
friend and the centre of attention and
the life of the party and the hippest
thing on Earth...all the things that being
in a band implies. When you withdraw
from all that and confront yourself for a
whole year with what you're really
thinking about and what you've been
through and where you wanna go —
that's the real shit."



N THE sleeve to 'Warehouse'
Bob had written "Revolution
starts at home, preferably in
the bathroom mirror", an
adage that he seems to regard as a rule
of life. After all, 'Workbook' emerged
from a year-long mirror session.

"Life is a great thing and sometimes I feel like I'm missing out on a lot of it cos I just think a lot. I enjoy my life a lot but I'm not a big social person. I don't have a lot of people I talk to. I talk to myself! In my work I guess I talk to people, that's my way of having a good time and getting things off my chest."

Could you be accused of taking yourself too seriously?

"Yeah. And I do, ha ha! I know I do and people have often said that and I'm damned if I'll change for those few that think that. I often worry that I get very intense about my work because as time goes on it keeps getting more that way. I wonder how much longer I can sustain it before I crack. . . The prospect of whatever the consequence would be is scary.

scary.

"But I can't change it. I can't be a happy-go-lucky guy, I'm just not like that by nature. I find humour and beauty in a lot of things but I don't mind seeing the sordidness or the ugliness of the situation as well. If I could just refine the art of black humour maybe I could bridge the two!"

Bob laughs and looks forward to walking the line once more. It's as well someone's out there.

AYLESBURY Friars (88948) It Bites BEDFORD St Mary's Garden Lazy Sunday (56244) Jaded Heart/Dave King/Eat Your Heart Out/Angel Trumpets And Devil Trombones/Twerp/Viet Love/The Late Road Lunatics/Feline Groove/Whiskey And The Devil BELFAST Limelight Under Fire BIRMINGHAM Goldwyns (021 –643 5835) The Pop Guns **BIRMINGHAM Irish Centre The Stone Roses** BIRMINGHAM Synatras Senseless Things/Born Blind BLACKWATER Mr Bumbles As You Get It BRIGHTON Escape Club (606906) The Toasters BRIGHTON Polytechnic (819141) I Like Danny's Hair BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) The Toasters BRISTOL Bierkeller (268514) Miracle Legion BRISTOL Thekla (293301) Sara Davis And The Perfect Strangers CARDIFF Venue Shy Reptiles CHELMSFORD Y Club Kitchens Of Distinction CONSETT Works Custom Pink
COVENTRY Warwick University (417417) The Trudy CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01 –688 4500) Stevie Zee/Chaos DERBY Dial (372374) The Great Leap Forward DUNSTABLE Wheatsheaf (662571) Cryin' Shayme EAST KILBRIDE Bruce Hotel Worldwide/Boom HULL Adelphi (48216) Guana Batz KINGSTON Grey Horse The Steve Whalley Band

LANCASTER University (65201) Bob LEEDS Duchess Of York (453929) Acid Reign/Lawnmower Deth **LEICESTER** Polytechnic (555576) Bliss LONDON Bramley Road Station Tavern The Top Topham/Jim McCarty

LONDON Brentford Watermans Arts Centre (01 – 568 1176) EFT LONDON Brixton Academy (01 – 326 1022) Transvision Vamp/Syndicate LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01 – 267 4967) Frank Sidebottom And The O'Blimey Big Band/The Family Cat/The Contenders/Seymore LONDON Camden Parkway Dublin Castle (01 – 485 1773) The Hipshakers/Shout Sister Shout

LONDON Charing Cross Road Manette Street Borderline (01 – 497 2261) Pierce Turner/The Sandkings LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01 – 240 3961) December

Daze/Big Weekend/The Story So Far/Trashcan Soul LONDON Cricklewood Production Village The Reactors LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01–263 4581) Eric Bell And The Sunsets/The Nutmeg Band/10% Friction/Close Cut LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01–736 1413) Food/Endless

LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01 – 385 0526) The Lab **Rats/Toxic Kangeroo Babies**

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01 – 278 5345) The Clamheads/Midwich Cuckoos/The Happy Ever After/Stockport Ruff LONDON Hammersmith Odeon (01 – 748 4081) Roachford LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Burning Skies Of Elysian/The Acolytes/Edible Feign (Main) Any Old Time/Finbar O'Connor (Acoustic)

LONDON Highbury Corner Town & Country Club 2 (01 – 700 5716)

LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) The Guildhall Singers LONDON Islington Liverpool Road Powerhaus (01-837 3218) De

LONDON Islington Upper Street Hope & Anchor Helen Webb LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) Bedouin Fever/Big

LONDON Kilburn National Ballroom (01-328 3141) Throwing Muses/The Band Of Susans

LONDON Leicester Square Hippodrome (01-437 4311) The Wandering

LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave (01 –837 2097) Playhouse/ Halcyon Days/The Emotionals

LONDON Marquee (01-437 6603) Sea Hags/Disneyland After Dark LONDON New Cross Goldsmith's Tavern (01-01-692 3648) The Field Mice/The Golden Dawn/Mousefolk/The Drlscolls

LONDON Newington Green New Pegasus (01-226 5930) Tower/Valium Pirate/Ryad LONDON Newington Green Weaver's Arms (01 – 226 6911) Sons Of The

LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Hectic Brothers/Candyland LONDON Oxford Street Feedback Club The Wild Poppies/Chapterhouse

LONDON Pondersend Middlesex Polytechnic The Bloozers LONDON Putney Half Moon (01 – 788 2387) Figgy Duff/Sally Barker LONDON Shepherds Bush Opera On The Green (01 – 749 5928) Head/

LONDON Stockwell Road Plough (01 – 274 3879) Steve Clarke/Ted **Emmet Conglomerate**

LONDON Stockwell Swan Paddy Goes To Holyhead LONDON Tufnell Park Boston Arms (01 – 272 3411) MDMA/And Also

The Trees/Beef/Giant International LONDON Waithamstow Royal Standard (01 – 527 1966) Sylent Knight LONDON Woolwich Tramshed (01 – 946 5041) The Bodines/The Train

Set/King Of The Slums MANCHESTER Apollo (061 – 273 3775) Chaka Khan/Clive Griffin
MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061 – 832 6625) The Groundhogs
MANCHESTER Peter Street Gallery (061 – 834 0474) Big Man Aviators
MANCHESTER Ritz (061 – 236 4355) James
MANCHESTER Whitworth Street Green Room (061 – 236 1677) The

Railtown Bottlers

MILTON KEYNES Woughton Centre (660392) Marshall Law NARN Royal Hotel Kiev Exocet

NEWCASTLE Playhouse (091 – 232 7079) The Balham Alligators/The

Wes McGhee Band (Auditorium) John Taylor (Foyer) OSWESTRY Empire The Cuban Heels PORTSMOUTH Hornpipe (817293) Brian Kennedy ROTHERHAM Travellers Rest (560191) Bedlam Choir SHEFFIELD Take Two (444408) Volunteers/Slop Dosh SHREWSBURY Fridge The Chesterfields/The Colgates STOURBRIDGE Swan The Indigo Blues Band

SUNDERLAND Royalty Singers WARWICK University The Blow Monkeys/Birdland/The Levellers **WREXHAM Golden Lion Thrash**

ABERGAVENNY Youth Centre The Partnership ASHINGTON Bubbles Cellar Vandamne BARROW Mr T's The Walkingseeds BATH Moles (333423) A Guy Called Gerald BEXHILL Shunters I Like Danny's Hair BIRKENHEAD Royal Castle Anhrefn

BIRMINGHAM Edwards No 8 (021-624 5835) Sea Hags/Romeo's Daughter BIRMINGHAM Synatras World Service

BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) Mood Index BRIGHTON Zap Club Physical Waste In The Second Sex BRISTOL Blerkeller (268514) The Trudy

BRISTOL New Vic Brian Kennedy BRISTOL Tropic Club (249875) GBH/Bomb Disneyland BUCKLEY Tivoli Ballroom (550782) Engine

CARDIFF Venue Virus
CHESTER Priory Park George Melly And The John Chilton Feetwarmers
CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01 – 688 4500) Hellfire Corner EDINBURGH Venue The McCluskey Brothers/The Wild River Apples EXETER Timepiece (78070) Perfect Day/Mad At The Sun/Jackson Penis/Skate Bros

FARNHAM Maltings (726234) Cryin' Out Loud GOOLE Steampacket Rich Rags HIGH WYCOMBE London Road Nag's Head (21758) Droftes/Eylsian

IPSWICH Steamboat Tavern The Mean Red Spiders IRVINE Pleasure Dome Worldwide

KEELE University (711411) The Sandkings LANCASTER University (65201) Eye Dance LEEDS Astoria Bloo And The Crazy Nine Mile Flares

LEEDS Duchess Of York (453929) Guana Batz
LONDON Brixton Canterbury Arms (01 – 274 1711) Xthesea/The Treens
LONDON Brixton Old White Horse One Style/MDV/Rough Ruff And Ready/Rebel Fleas

LONDON Camden Parkway Dublin Castle (01 – 485 1773) Luddy Samms And The Ravin' Jeckyls

LONDON Camden Royal College Street Falcon (01-485 3B34) The Milk Monitors/The Beatpack LONDON Charing Cross Road Astoria (01-434 0403) The Wailers Band

LONDON Charing Cross Road Manette Street Borderline (01 – 497 2261) The Highlanders/Haze LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Liberty

LONDON Dean Street Gossips (01 – 434 4480) Potato S LONDON Euston Road Drummonds (01 – 387 4566) The Great Leap Forward/The Crawling King Snakes/The Muscle Shoal/The Honey

LONDON Euston Road Rising Sun (01-387 2419) The Reactors LONDON Finsbury Park Arsenal Tavern SOB/Long Cold Stare LONDON Finsbury Park Hotel (01-800 8304) The Top Topham/Jim McCarty Band

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01 – 263 4581) Dean Dwyer/ Laid To Waste/Play Dixie/This Is Glass Radio/City Giants/W In The K



LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01-736 1413) Blue Ruin/The

LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Another Cuba/

Yeah God/Daisy Chainsaw LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01–278 5345) Feel The Panic/ Shout/If It Bleeps

LONDON Hackney Chats Palace (01–986 6714) Thrum LONDON Hammersmith Odeon (01–748 4081) Chaka Khan/Clive

LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01–961 5490) Little Green Shed/Promise/Toot/The Finks (Main) Jeanette/Spank The

Money/Philip Lord (Acoustic) LONDON Hendon Church Road LMS (01-203 2600) Tilt/Bex LONDON Highbury Corner Town & Country Club 2 (01-700 5716)

Kitchens Of Distinction LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01 - 729 2476) The Jim

Mullen/Mornington Lockett Quartet

LONDON Islington Liverpool Road Powerhaus (01–837 3218) Weddings Parties Anything/Coming Up Roses/Dead Famous People LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01–284 0303) It Bites

LONDON Kilburn National Ballroom (01 – 328 3141) Tin Machine LONDON Malet Street University Of London Union (01 – 580 9551) Died Pretty/The Perfect Disaster/Shy Reptiles

LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave (01-837 2097) 10% Friction/The Loveless

LONDON Marquee (01-437 6603) The Pursuit Of Happiness/Dr Millar LONDON Newington Green New Pegasus (01-226 5930) Sons Of The Desert/Tonight At Noon

LONDON Newington Green Weaver's Arms (01-226 6911) Paul Lamb **Blues Band**

LONDON Oval Cricketers (01 - 735 3059) 70 Policemen In My Kitchen/ Phantom Guest

LONDON Oxford Street Oxfords Syndrome The Wild Poppies LONDON Shepherds Bush Opera On The Green (01–749 5928) Blue

LONDON Shepperton Road Rosemary Branch The Clamheads LONDON South Bank Queen Elizabeth Hall (01 – 928 8880) Malavoi LONDON Stockwell Road Plough (01-274 3879) Evidence/Fusion **LUTON Switch Club Mental Mental**

MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061-832 6625) Apitos MIDDLESBROUGH Hollywood Club Bob

MIDDLESBROUGH Town Hall Domain/Fallen Angels/Four And A Half

NEWCASTLE Playhouse (091 – 232 7079) Tim Dalling/Joe Sadio And The **Duffy Brothers**

NEWPORT TJ's Lemonheads/Bullet Lavolta

OXFORD Polytechnic (68789) The Pop Guns PORTSMOUTH Hornpipe (817293) Desmond & Dorothy Fairybreath RAYLEIGH Pink Toothbrush (770003) Bounce The Mouse

SHEFFIELD University (753300) The Levellers
SOUTHAMPTON Joiner's Arms (225612) Who's In The Kitchen?
SOUTHAMPTON Polygon Club The Chesterfields

ST HELENS Royal Alfred The Cuban Heels

STEVENAGE Bowes Lyon House (353175) The Acolytes/The Jowlers STOCKPORT Monroes (061–477 5331) The Catchmen **WAKEFIELD Players Stacatto Signals**

BATH Moles (333423) Perfect Day **BEDFORD** Angel Screaming Marionettes

BIRMINGHAM Synatras Bob/Bounce The Mouse/Mow Many Beans Make

BOURNEMOUTH Burlington Hotel The Levellers BRACKNELL Wilde Theatre (427272) Fat Willie's Blues Band BRADFORD Queen's Hall Circus/Nightshade

BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) Rosie Posie BRIGHTON Zap Club Physical Waste In The Second Sex BRISTOL Thekla (293301) Blowzabella

CAMBRIDGE Corn Exchange (357851) Jim Penfold And The Hollywood

CARDIFF New Bogey's (226168) Wreckage CARDIFF Quinny's The Partnership
CHELMSFORD Chancellor Hall (265848) Slammer/Jezebel CHESTER Knights (349192) Virus

COLCHESTER Arts Centre (577301) The Mean Red Spiders CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01–688 4500) Bad Influence **DUBLIN** McGonagles Miracle Legion DUDLEY JB's (53597) Birdland EDINBURGH Calton Road Studios Kevin McDermott Orchestra

EPSOM West Ewell Bourne Hall Endless Party/Murrumbidgee Whalers/Moonfleet/Slim Willie And The Gussett Rustlers GLASGOW Barrowlands (041-552 4601) The Damned/The Claytown Troupe

Wembley Arena

YOU MIGHT be able to get your 'Orange Crush' at London's biggest indoor arena - capacity 8,000 but try buying an orange juice at one of the bars that surround the cavernous, remote seating platforms and see how far you get. Still, since the NCP car park costs £4, most people have already taken the sane option by taking the Metropolitan/ Jubilee tube and trying to get wrecked on the plastic bottles of tepid Hofmeister at £1.40 a throwaway. Indeed, with mineral water and coke. poured from two litre; economy containers to up the profit margins - at a £1 à cup, and ticket prices floating around the £10 mark, a trip to Wembley Arena rates with buying a round in the Limelight in the entertainment stakes.

In fact, the only advantages to coming here are the bands - the venue has a virtual monopoly on one-off shows by bands considering themselves too big for the Academy and too small for Wembley Stadium - and the clean tollets (there are also toilets for the disabled).

Tin Machine

AFTER THAT bank-breaking hoot that was The Glass Spider Tour, the only way for David Bowie to go was backwards. The fact that his supposed raunch riot, Tin Machine, is more of a designer grunge outfit doesn't seem to have deterred the faithful. This back-to-the-bars manoeuvre has been practised by more desperate folk than him, and it's usually a disaster. On the other hand, the rhythm section in Tin Machine - Hunt and Tony Sales - are used to playing dives with Iggy, so you never know. The big B has already announced that no solo stuff will be played (not even seminal raunch tunes like 'The Width Of A Circle', 'Queen Bitch' and 'Watch That Man'). This means that Tin Machine have more material up their sleeves than the 40 minutes on the album, or else (he warned darkly) that some covers are to be attempted. Sounds' money is on 'Helter Skelter', 'Smoke On The Water' and 'Whole Lotta Rosie'.

Tin Machine play London Kilburn National Ballroom (Thursday), Newport (Saturday), Bradford (Sunday) and Livingston (Monday)

HARLOW Square (25594) 2 Lost Sons HIGH WYCOMBE Flint Cottage Into the Red INVERNESS Hayloft The Indian Givers LEEDS Duchess Of York (453929) Culture Shock LEEDS Polytechnic (430171) The Stone Roses

LEICESTER Princess Charlotte (553956) The Sandkings/Refuse To Bleed LERWICK Northern Star Kiev Exocet LIVERPOOL Bluecoat Arts Centre (0S1 - 709 5297) The Durutti Column

LIVERPOOL Planet X (051 – 236 1741) Cud/Poppyfields LONDON Archway Roundabout Tavern Schooner's Rig LONDON Brixton Canterbury Arms (01-274 1711) The Treasure Park/

Another Day LONDON Camden Parkway Dublin Castle (01–485 1773) Howin' Wilf And The Vee Jays LONDON Camden Royal College Street Falcon (01—485 3834) The

Motorcycle Boy/The Wildhouse

LONDON Charing Cross Road Astoria (01-434 0403) Gypsy Queen/1st Strike/City Kids

LONDON Charing Cross Road Busbys Jade 4 U LONDON Charing Cross Road Manette Street Borderline (01 – 497 2261)

The Sandmen/Upfront Club LONDON Chelsea King's Road Roberto's (01 - 730 5585) Constant City LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01 – 240 3961) The Train Set/Here

Comes Jordan/The Walter Swinburn Story LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Mournblade/

Bash Street Kids/Diddley Squat LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01-736 1413) City Heat LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01 – 385 0526) Lemonheads/ Bullet Lavolta/Energetic Krusher

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01-278 5345) Mutant Frogs LONDON Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4081) Chaka Khan/Clive

LONDON Hampstead White Horse The Loafers/The Tribe LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01 – 961 5490) Swanjacks/Back To Scratch/Yen (Main) Larry Johnson (Acoustic) LONDON Herne Hill Half Moon (01-274 2733) The Fireflies LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Iota Inti LONDON Islington Liverpool Road Powerhaus (01-837 3218) The Four Of Us/My Father/Kingfishers Catch Fire

LONDON Islington Weavers Arms Paddy Goes To Holyhead LONDON Lewisham Limes Grove Labour Club Zolon Quabble/The

LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave (01-837 2097) Ha Ha Bonk/The Reason/The Colour Noise

LONDON Marquee (01-437 6603) The Fat Lady Sings/Blue Rain LONDON Newington Green New Pegasus (01-226 5930) Third Generation/The Answer

LONDON Newington Green Weaver's Arms (01-226 6911) The Balham

LONDON North Finchley Lodge Lane High Road Torrington (01 - 445 4710)Paul Lamb Blues Band Paul Lamb Blues Band LONDON North Wembley East Lane Flag (01 – 450 4506) Too Close For Comfort/The Lemons/Fetch Eddie

LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) The Boogie Brothers LONDON Putney Half Moon (01 - 788 2387) Big Joe Louis And His Blues

LONDON Stockwell Road Plough (01-274 3879) The Jackie Lynton

LONDON Wembley Arena (01-902 1234) Bobby Brown MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061-832 6625) Azzeta MANCHESTER Little Peter Street Boardwalk (061 – 228 3555) The Great

MANCHESTER Peter Street Gallery (061 –834 0474) Guana Batz

Band Of Susans

WITH THE success of the recent 'Love Agenda' album, a blinding mixture of Sonic guitar scrawling and hypnotic (never monotonous) grinding, New York's Band Of Susans are the latest form of rocking nirvana to make the difficult trek across the Atlantic.

Last glimpsed on the controversial Dinosaur Jr/R*p*m*n tour, the Susans now look set to eclipse their tourmates.

At their best they're a thriving, ever-evolving conflict that has at its epicentre the hugely rock based guitars of Robert Poss, Page Hamilton and

Danger strikes, however, if Poss looses control and lapses into spiralling guitar solos

If that can be avoided, the Susans will triumph. Band Of Susans play London Kilburn National Ballroom

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NCHTSHIFT

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

MANCHESTER Swinging Sporran Vandamne MANCHESTER Whitworth Street Green Room (061–236 1677) The Chuffinnelles/Linda Smith/Betty Spittal MILTON KEYNES Woughton Centre (660392) 999
NEWCASTLE Playhouse (091 – 232 7079) Carl Perkins/Rockhouse And Sureshots

NORWICH Arts Centre (660352) Johnny Mars' Blues Band OXFORD Jericho Tavern (54502) The Pop Guns/The Clamheads RAYLEIGH Pink Toothbrush (770003) Phase II

READING After Dark Club Sea Hags/Romeo's Daughter REDCLIFF Polish Club The Toasters ROTHERHAM Sub Club The Holy Joes

SCARBOROUGH Stage Door Big Man Aviators
SHERBORNE Electric Broom Cupboard The Chesterfields
STANSFORD Scots Gate Inn Malicious

STOKE Zoo Club Dirty Weekend STROUD Marshall Rooms Senseless Things/Perfect Daze SWINDON Arts Centre (26161) Brian Kennedy WALSALL Junction 10 (648100) Engine
WHITLEY BAY Residents Club After Midnight WRECCLESHAM Royal Oak As You Get It

ABERDEEN Station Hotel The Indian Givers BATH Moles (333423) Bukky Leo Quintet BLACKBURN Fusebox Omnia Opera/Thought Police/Scraps (Hunt

Saboteurs Benefit)
BLACKBURN St George's Hall The Macc Lads BRADFORD Queen's Hall The Grip/No Surrender/Winter Of Jorment/Metal Messiah/Militia/Blue Sammy/Huzzy Hoodlam/Kastrator/Scripture/Under Lock And Key

BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) Jack The Ripper/Spiro Glaze BRISTOL Le Cav The Field Mice/Jane Pow! BRISTOL Thekla (293301) Ceiladh/The Bristol Shanty Men

CARDIFF New Bogey's (226168) County Line CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01–688 4500) Silent Majority (Lunch) Papa George (Evening)

FARNHAM Maltings (726234) The Hamsters
HADLEY Ram Bad Lover

HIGH WYCOMBE London Road Nag's Head (21758) Harold Juana HULL Adelphi (48216) The Threads/Just For Kids ILMINSTER Ile Youth Centre Senseless Things/Perfect Daze

IPSWICH Albion Mills Tex Arcane LEEDS Duchess Of York (453929) Groovin' With Lucy/The Creature

LIVERPOOL Royal Court (051 – 709 4321) 16 Tambourines LONDON Bethnal Green Stick Of Rock (01 – 739 6068) The Heartbreak

LONDON Brentford High Street Red Lion (01-560 6181) The Steve Whalley Band

LONDON Brixton Canterbury Arms (01–274 1711) Hurt/Bellevue
LONDON Charing Cross Road Astoria (01–434 0403) Phase II/Jade 4 U
LONDON Charing Cross Road Manette Street Borderline (01–497 2261)

The Boogie Brothers/Kangas House LONDON Chelsea King's Road Roberto's (01–730 5585) Ian Shaw A**n**d His Band

LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01 – 240 3961) The Toasters/MSQ LONDON Cricklewood Production Village 25th Street LONDON Dartmouth Park Hill New Brunswick The Reactors LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01 – 263 4581) Hell Bastard/Cerebral Fix/Genital Deformities/Energetic Krusher/Plague

Dogs/Driven To Distraction/Carnage/Velvet Underpants/Fire Storm LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01-736 1413) Trish And The

LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01 – 385 0526) Bolt

Thrower/Axegrinder/Maniac

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01 – 278 5345) Some Have Fins/King Conehead/Run Foxy Run LONDON Hackney Chats Palace (01 – 986 6714) Clae & McLoud

LONDON Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4081) Chaka Khan/Clive

LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Marks Brothers/DARK (Main) Martin Ansell/The Baby Boys/Andrew Cunningham/Fitz Lizard/Newly & Mars/The Ogdens/Harry LONDON Hendon Church Road LMS (01-203 2600) Restless/Gamma

LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01 – 729 2476) Orquestra

Chakchouka LONDON Islington Liverpool Road Powerhaus (01–837 3218) The

LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) Shark Taboo/

LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-284 0303) Carl

Perkins/Ronnie Dawson/The Playboys LONDON Marquee (01–437 6603) Jadis/Freefall

LONDON Newington Green New Pegasus (01 – 226 5930) Angels In Aspic LONDON Newington Green Weaver's Arms (01 – 226 6911) Los Pistoleros LONDON North Wembley East Lane Flag (01 – 450 4506) Demolition

Jive/Call Me Moses/PHUK LONDON Oval Cricketers (01 – 735 3059) Maroon Town/The Bluebeats LONDON Oxford Street 100 Club (01 – 636 0933) Harry Gold's Pieces Of Eight/Bob Dwyer's Hot Six

LONDON Putney Half Moon (01-788 2387) Alaham Aligators LONDON Stockwell Clapham Road Swan (01 – 274 1526) Schooner's Rig LONDON Wembley Arena (01 – 902 1234) Bobby Brown

LONDON Woolwich Tramshed (01-946 5041) Simon Fanshawe/Mickey Hutton/Punt & Dennis/lan Cognito/Lee Cornes/Rankin Raymond MANCHESTER Anson Road International (061 – 224 5050) Julian Lennon MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061 –832 6625) Alias Ron Kavana MANCHESTER Platt Fields Festival Frank Sidebottom

MANCHESTER Swinging Sporran Unholy Row/Stig Martyr MANCHESTER Whitworth Street Green Room (061-236 1677) The Pink Singers

MOSS BANK Hall Kiev Exocet **NEWCASTLE Broken Doll Bullet Lavolta**

NEWCASTLE Playhouse (091-232 7079) Rollo Brothers/Smokehouse

Boys/Beau-Velts/Skiprats/Rusti Steele/Tin Tax NEW/PORT Centre (59676) Tin Machine OXFORD Co-Op Hall Roy Harper

OXFORD Jericho Tavern (54502) Press Gang PASSFIELD Royal Oak As You Get It

PRESTON Joplin's Attic Choir **READING After Dark Club Birdland** READING Hexagon (591591) It Bites SHEFFIELD Leadmill (754500) Front Line Assembly/Faction

SHEFFIELD Take Two (444408) Owter Zeds

SHEFFIELD University (753300) Acid Reign/Toranaga

Lemonheads

BOSTON'S LEMONHEADS have a well-rehearsed explanation for the inevitable sniping about their stylistic dependence on Hüsker Dü and The Replacements.

"Yeah," says guitarist Corey Brennan wryly, "We have a box of Hüsker Dü and Replacements records and when we want to write a song we just

Brennan and Co can afford such comic complacency: 'Lick', their third album is a sparkling, gritty collection (despite inconsistencies due to line-up breakdowns during recording) spanning poppy proto-ballads and raging hardcore, sung in Italian! Live, though, 'Lick' and its predecessors go super-critical, with the 'Heads creating a veritable vortex of post-hardcore energy.

Lemonheads play Newport (Thursday) and London Fulham Greyhound (Friday)

The Pursuit Of Happiness

THE RELEASE earlier this year of The Pursuit Of Happiness' debut album, 'Love Junk', was ushered in with a profile not so much low as subterranean. Despite this, word of mouth has ensured this great album will not sink without trace. It also means a hard act to live up to live, a task Moe Berg and his four fellow Canadians will tackle this Thursday at

Berg's extensive songwriting range is demonstrated by the band's two British singles to date, with hints of the Stooges colouring 'I'm An Adult Now', while the new single, 'She's So Young', reveals a lilting, melodic side to the band.

The Pursuit Of Happiness play London Marquee (Thursday)

It Bites

YOU BET they do! It Bites come armed with a Rog Dean conceptual stage set - each venue is transformed into a gigantic mouth - and anyone miscounting the false endings in the track by track run through of the 'Eat Me In. . . (substitute your own town)' album gets, er, eaten . And if that isn't awesome enough, Frank Dunnery's always got his amazing new toy, The Tapboard, for guaranteed none-faster solo acrobatics.

It Bites play Aylesbury (Wednesday), London Kentish Town Town And Country Club (Thursday), Reading (Saturday), Birmingham (Sunday), Guildford (Monday) and Cambridge (Tuesday)

SOUTHAMPTON London Arms Full Moon SUTTON IN ASHFIELD Golden Diamond Vandamne TONYPANDY Naval Club Trixx Federation UXBRIDGE Brunel University (39125) Cardiacs/Angel Beat City WALSALL Junction 10 (648100) Sea Hags/Romeo's Daughter WELLING Danson Park Bexley Festival (01–303 7777) Alistair Anderson/Schooner's Rig/Jez Lowe And The Bad Pennies/Kathryn Tickell/Gregson & Collister/Whippersnapper/The Oyster Band

BIRMINGHAM Barrel Organ (021-622 1353) Front Line Assembly/Faction

BIRMINGHAM Hummingbird (021-236 1297) It Bites BRADFORD St George's Hall (752000) Tin Machine BRAE Northern Lights Kiev Exocet

BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) Axegrinder/Anal Pig Breath/BBMF's BRIGHTON Zap Club Mark Miwurdz/Hope Augustus BRISTOL Bierkeller (268514) Sea Hags/Romeo's Daughter

CORBY Earlstree Lisa Dominque

CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01 – 688 4500) Blues N' Bitter (Lunch) DUNDEE Dance Factory Kevin McDermott Orchestra EDINBURGH Calton Road Studios Julian Lennon

FOLKESTONE Leas Cliffe Hall (53193) Carl Perkins **GLASGOW Sub Club Phase II**

GOM5HALL Compasses As You Get It LICHFIELD Civic Hall George Melly And The John Chilton Feetwarmers LONDON Acton George And Dragon Tonight At Noon (Lunch) LONDON Brixton Academy (01–326 1022) The Damned/The Claytown Troupe/Horse (London)/The Milk Monitors

LONDON Brixton Canterbury Arms (01–274 1711) The Critterhill Varmints/Datsun's Acoustic Band LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Vinegar Hill/The

Bobby Charltons/Real Eyes (Lunch) Reanon/Framed/Worlds Apart LONDON Cricklewood Production Village Bill Worrall's Fat Chance

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01 – 263 4581) Eric Bell And The Sunsets/Cold Shot/Blue Print LONDON Frith Street Ronnie Scott's (01-439 0747) Clive Griffin

LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01 – 736 1413) Barf Roco LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01 – 278 5345) The Toasters LONDON Greek Street Bill Stickers Jade 4 U

LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01 – 961 5490) The Four Of Us/Sporting Life (Main) Jane Siberry (Acoustic) LONDON Hendon Church Road LMS (01-203 2600) Jimmy Classic And

The Sidekicks (Lunch) Rude Mood (Evening)
LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01–729 2476) Don Wright 501 Big Band (Lunch) Otra Vez (Evening)

LONDON Islington Liverpool Road Powerhaus (01-837 3218) Rain Dance/Short Stories/Kick House **LONDON** Islington Minogues Dr Millar

LONDON Leicester Square Empire Joe Arroyo Y Su Verdad

LONDON Leyton Lord Clyde Tangent

LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave (01-837 2097) Sylent

LONDON Marquee (01–437 6603) Glory/Once Upon A Time LONDON Mile End Road Half Moon (01–791 1141) Edward II And The

Red Hot Pokers/The Barely Works

LONDON Newington Green Weaver's Arms (01 – 226 6911) Back To Back (Lunch) The Montoya Sound (Evening)
LONDON North Finchley Lodge Lane High Road Torrington (01 – 445 4710)Top Topham/Jim McCarty Ba Top Topham/Jim McCarty Band LONDON Oval Cricketers (01–735 3059) ID Crisis (Lunch) Breaking Point

LONDON Oxford Street 100 Club (01–636 0933) Alias Ron Kavana LONDON Putney Half Moon (01–788 2387) Howlin' Wilf And The Vee

LONDON Theobald's Road Yorkshire Grey Brewery Georgia Jazzband LONDON Woolwich Tramshed (01–946 5041) Elise And Her Jazzmen

NEWCASTLE Heaton Corner House After Midnight
NEWCASTLE Riverside (091–261 4386) Pere Ubu/Miracle

Legion/Bradford/Shy Reptiles NORTHAMPTON Black Lion (39472) The Pop Guns/The Cantels NORWICH Jacquard Club Nik Turner's Fantastic All Stars/Miracle Men/Rampant Doings/No Nonesense Blues Band (Green Deserts Benefit) NORWICH Lawyer Eastside Westside (Lunch) No Nonesense (Evening) OXFORD Dolly Vandamne

SCARBOROUGH Salisbury Hotel Satanic Malfunctions/Scraps SHEFFIELD Take Two (444408) Radioactive **SWANSEA** Grand Hotel Mournblade

BATH Moles (333423) Kiev Exocet BIRKENHEAD Stairways (051–647 6544) Dizzy Mama BIRMINGHAM Edwards No 8 (021–624 5835) Dirty Weekend **BIRMINGHAM** Irish Centre Birdland BIRMINGHAM Synatras The Pop Guns/The Cantels BRADFORD 1 In 12 Club (734160) Scraps/Obligatory/Slum Children CARDIFF New Bogey's (226168) Mournblade

CARDIFF Venue Senseless Things CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01–688 4500) Bluer Than Blue

DUDLEY JB's (53597) Red Jasper/Ark DUNSTABLE Wheatsheaf (662571) Jaded Heart GUILDFORD Civic Hall (505050)-It Bites

LEEDS Duchess Of York (453929) Zoot And The Roots/New Market X LIVERPOOL Royal Court (051–709 4321) Julian Lennon LIVINGSTON Forum Tin Machine LONDON Brixton Fridge (01 – 326 5100) The Trojans/Maroon Town (Gaz's Rockin' Blues Official 9th Birthday Party)
LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01 – 267 4967) Love Train/One/The

LONDON Charing Cross Road Manette Street Borderline (01–497 2261) Vagabond Joy/Claw Club

LONDON Craven Street Heaven Jade 4 U LONDON Dean Street Gossips (01–434 4480) The Milk Monitors LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01–263 4581) Madonna

Kebab/Sink Torpedoes/The Deceivers/Donovan's Brain/The Cuban Heels LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01 – 385 0526) Lon Demontis/ Protocol/Chunk

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01–278 5345) The Pushkins/ The Anton Brothers/Love Blobs/Meantime LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Open

Mind/Tinsel Town/Tribe Of Dan (Main) Jane Sibery (Acoustic) LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01 – 729 2476) Norman Jay's Original Rare Groove Show

LONDON Islington Liverpool Road Powerhaus (01–837 3218) The Lab Rats/A5/Big Medicine LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) Kicking The

Image/Stonecold/The Atomseed LONDON Marquee (01–437 6603) James LONDON Newington Green Weaver's Arms (01-226 6911) Auto Murphy LONDON Oval Cricketers (01–735 3059) The Rabbits/10% Friction LONDON Putney Half Moon (01–788 2387) River Riffz

MANCHESTER International II Georgia Satellites/Sea Hags MANCHESTER Peter Street Gallery (061 – 834 0474) The Creature Comfort MANCHESTER Whitworth Street Hacienda (061-236 5051) Pere Ubu/

Miracle Legion/Shy Reptiles MARLBOROUGH Havannas Phase II MIDDLESBROUGH Empire Hotel The Walkingseeds NORWICH Arts Centre (660352) Dub Sex/What? Noise/Brain Drain 69 NORWICH Coachmakers Arms Lucy And The Brothers SHEFFIELD Take Two (444408) Plague Dogs STOKE 200 Energetic Krusher WARRINGTON Lion (30047) The Last Blues Band WARRINGTON Parr Hall (34958) Tokio Rose

UESDAY

BATH Moles (333423) Battle Of The Bands BIRMINGHAM Edwards No 8 (021–624 5835) Faith No More BIRMINGHAM Irish Centre Pere Ubu/Miracle Legion/Shy Reptiles **BRIGHTON Zap Club Jesus Jones** CAMBRIDGE Corn Exchange (357851) It Bites CARDIFF Venue Scraps/Cowboy Killers/Atavistic CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01–688 4500) Thumbs Up For Friday

DERBY Rockhouse (41154) Dare DUBLIN Top Hat Anthrax/King's X GLASGOW Buck Kingfishers Catch Fire

GLASGOW Napoleons The Indian Givers HULL Adelphi (48216) Energetic Krusher/Bomb Disneyland LEEDS Duchess Of York (453929) Lemonheads/Bastard/Bullet Lavolta LEEDS Warehouse (468287) Birdland/Pale Saints/The Fanatics LINCLOLN Crown Hall Mournblade

LONDON Charing Cross Road Manette Street Borderline (01-497 2261) Wild Weekend/Backstage Club

LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01 – 240 3961) Mindbend Feedback/Cathedral Town/Outcry/Independence Day

LONDON Dean Street Gossips (01-434 4480) The Atomseed LONDON Docklands Arena (01-538 1212) Pink Floyd LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Headstrong

Club LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01 – 736 1413) Food LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01 – 385 0526) The Word/This

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01–278 5345) Kissing Kowalski/Buddy Austin Set/Madonna Kebab/Silk Torpedoes LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01 - 961 5490) Mojo



Faith No More

FAITH NO More introduce their new selves to the UK at Birmingham on Tuesday. The quintet are over from San Francisco for a string of low key club dates; the band's first outside of America's West Coast since they replaced singer Chuck Mosely with 21-year-old fitness freak Mike Patton.

Patton's voice is a weird texture, a little cutesy and pitched high. If the frame of the music is still stark and propulsive metal-funk, he lends Faith No More a new make-or-break accessibility. But, as their recent US gigs have proven, FNM can still turn on the power with merciless abandon.

Faith No More play Birmingham (Tuesday)

Nixon/Skid Roper/The Del-Lords (Main) Selicity Burski (Acoustic) LONDON Highbury Corner Town & Country Club 2 (01-700 5716)

LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Sheila Jordan

LONDON Islington Liverpool Road Powerhaus (01-837 3218) Javelin Story/Across The Sea/Shrink To Fit

LONDON Islington Market Tavern (01 – 354 4853) Mark Perry/James

LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) Johnny Panic

Moss Backs/Hurt

LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-284 0303) Julian

Lennon/The Escape Club LONDON Marquee (01–437 6603) James

LONDON Mornington Crescent Camden Palace (01 – 387 0428) Front

Line Assembly LONDON Newington Green Weaver's Arms (01-226 6911) Three Straw

LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) The Catholics/Purple/The

Guttersnipes LONDON Oxford Street 100 Club (01-636 0933) Leo Lucky Evans And

His Band/Shakey Vic's Blues Band LONDON Putney Half Moon (01 – 788 2387) Hanging Tree

LONDON Tottenham Court Road Dominion (01-580 8845) Cowboy

Junkies/The Lilac Time LONDON Wembley Arena (01–902 1234) Lou Reed MANCHESTER Little Peter Street Boardwalk (061–228 3555) King Of

The Slums/The Bodines/Benny Profane NOTTINGHAM Rock City (412544) Georgia Satellites/Sea Hags

SHEFFIELD Take Two (444408) The Levellers

THE THE: Their first ever British dates as part of a world tour - Birmingham Aston Villa Leisure Centre September 22, Bradford St George's Hall 23, Manchester Apollo 25, Glasgow Barrowlands 26, Newcastle City Hall 27, Portsmouth Guildhall 29, Newport Centre 30, London Brixton Academy October 2, London Kilburn National Ballroom 3, London Kentish Town Town And Country Club 4 and London Hackney Empire 5.

READING FESTIVAL: Under new management and appealing to a new breed of festival goer (?). Same August Bank Holiday dates though. Friday August 25 - New Order, The Sugarcubes, Swans, The House Of Love, Tackhead, Spacemen 3, Gaye Bykers On Acid. Saturday August 26 -The Pogues, New Model Army, Billy Bragg, Green On Red, The Men They Couldn't Hang, Les Negresses Vertes, Mary Coughlan, Bhundu Boys. Sunday August 27 - The Mission, Living Colour, Butthole Surfers, Pop Will Eat Itself, Jesus Jones, Voice Of The Beehive, My Bloody Valentine, World Domination Enterprises.

GEORGIA SATELLITES: Hotter than July for the third year running - Manchester International July 3, Nottingham Rock City 4 and London Kentish Town Town And Country Club 5. Supported by The Sea Hags.

ROBERT CRAY: Gets brassy with the Memphis Horns -Newcastle City Hall July 6, Birmingham NEC 7 and Edinburgh Playhouse 9.

LOU REED: Back again - London Wembley Arena July 4.

PINK FLOYD: A chance to see their mega-stadium show in the "intimacy" of London's Docklands Arena on July 4-9.

BLACK SABBATH: Another year, another line-up-Liverpool Royal Court September 1, Sheffield City Hall 2, Newcastle City Hall 3, Edinburgh Odeon 5, Manchester Apollo 6, Leicester De Montfort Hall 7, London Hammersmith Odeon 9-10 and Bristol Colston Hall 11.

MARILLION: Book early for Christmas to see new singer Steve Hogarth - Newcastle City Hall December 3, Glasgow Barrowlands 4, Bristol Colston Hall 6, Newport Centre 7, Hanley Victoria Hall 9, Bradford St Georges Hall 10, Sheffield City Hall 11, Liverpool Royal Court 13, Manchester Apollo 14 Wolverhampton Civic Hall 15, Birmingham Aston Villa Leisur Centre 17, London Hammersmith Odeon 18.

THE CURE: Living on a Prayer (shurely shome mishtake!) Glasgow SECC July 18, Birmingham NEC 20-21, London Wembley Arena 22-23.





Mournblade dates published in last week's Nightshift were incorrect. Their tour begins at London Finsbury F Sir George Robey (Friday) and continues through July

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UNLEASHED 3rd JULY

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Wed 5th July

Thur 6th July

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BLUE BLUD

+ CIRCUS & MONTY ZERO FRI 30 JUNE (ADM £3.00)

SONS OF THE DESERT

+ SUPPORT & MONTY ZERO

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> PADDY GOES TO HOLYHEAD

+ ICE BABIES & MONTY ZERO MON 3 JULY (ADM £3.50) From Ireland

ENERGY ORCHARD + ROUEN & NED PAMPHILON

TUES 4 JULY (ADM £5.00) Melodic Rock

ROMEO'S DAUGHTER + SUPPORT & NED PAMPHILON WED 5 JULY (ADM £3.50)

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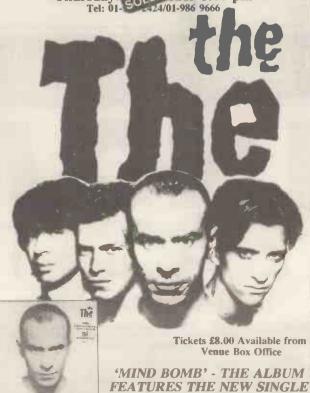
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The dream of guitarist Jeff Waters, Annihilator's brave new sound is comparable to Queensryche and Metallica but plagarises neither. Their jazz-infused power metal places them alongside Obituary as one of '89's major metal discoveries." PAUL ELLIOTT, SOUNDS





MEGA CITY FOUR/ SENSIBLE THINGS Brighton Richmond

MIX AN American Buzzcocks with an English Ramones, throw in a dash of Descendants and Sensible Things happen.

With cool, long-haired youth on their side, and the most manic drummer since Keith Moon, they've great potential. Unfortunately, their delivery slips out of power and into dirge a touch too

Mega City Four now dominate the no man's land between pop and punk Garnering the appeal of both, they're dirty, mean and, on occasion, even beautiful. And they've perfected the art of swinging guitars around their

Tonight, the Richmond was a sea of rockers and geeks in MC4 T-shirts, down from London to go crazy for the

day. 'Clear Blue Skies' saw them jump onstage, and the ensuing mêlée left a broken mike and an out-of-pocket soundman. Guitarist Danny's constant mid-song spitting and vocalist Wiz's nose-ring kept them the right side of

niceness (ie the wrong side). And while, "Never said we could change a thing" hardly strikes me as a statement to be proud of if you're following in punk's footsteps, Mega City Four do excite and are a good argument against electricity being privatised.
GEORGE BERGER

ASLAN Dublin SFX Centre

IT'S A mighty long way down rock and roll, and just when Aslan's years of solid gigging looked likely to bring them their lucrative reward up cropped the artistic difference, and out dropped singer Christy Dignam.

Tonight's home debut, with new frontman Eamo Doyle, suggested that a lot of work's still needed to restore the group to its previous level of success

Doyle did his best to impress Dignam's fans, not only by singing his predecessor's songs but by virtually imitating his vocals and stage act. Nevertheless, he seemed happier with new material, particularly the first

post-Dignam single, 'Don't Make Me Cry Again'. Unfortunately, most of the show consisted of the original band battering their way through old favourites like 'This Is', in a futile "we've survived" gesture.

Given their proven musicianship, surely new material offers more hope than reliving past successes. It would probably also make Doyle look a bit more at ease.

JOHN JAMESON

TOM JONES

thrust their finest Ann

Hammersmith Odeon "I HAVE to get on with it, I'm singing here tonight," pleaded good old boyo Tom Jones as frenzied middle-aged housewives

Summers' knickers in his face. Dutifully he'd been sanctifying each pair with his alarmingly sweaty visage, but now things were getting out of hand.

The bouncers looked on helplessly as another Blue Rinse Brigade trooper leapfrogged forward and shoved a live tongue into the Welshman's gob.

"It's a tough job but someone's got to do it," he announced with a wry grin.

Forget Elvis '56, Vegas Elvis 76 was a far more interesting proposition, lessons in stagecraft gleaned from observing the Atomic J Jones. Mick Jagger should

follow suit - Jones' '(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction' was the best Stones cover since Engelbert Humperdinck's 'Honky Tonk Woman'.

The hits kept coming, punctuated with some of the most outrageous pelvic thrusting ever witnessed in a public arena. After 'What's New Pussycat', the devastating 'She's A Lady' 'Kiss' and 'Great Balls Of Fire' (Mr Jones' emphasis, not mine), there wasn't a dry seat in the house.

The men don't know but the housewives from Scunthorpe understand.

IAN JOHNSTON

THE FAMILY CAT Charing Cross Road Marquee

WEDNESDAY NIGHT at The Marquee and we're here with the A&R posse to witness the latest buzz. And these people are confused because The Family Cat turn out to be no cuddly pets - if these animals ever got near a pair of Pretty Polly tights they'd probably tear them to bits.

Singer Fred is lovable enough but as soon as the (extremely) solid bass kicks in the three guitars scatch and fight, and chaos ensues.

'People say that in 1989 will we still celebrate together? Will we lie in the gutter and reminisce and talk about the

future together?" sings Fred during the prospective first single, 'Tom Verlaine'

Fragments of The Wedding Present, Fall and every great alternative band you've ever heard come flying offstage, but just how it all comes together in such an individual sound is anyone's guess.

The drummer's arms spend half their time wavering in the air and the two guitarists, fags falling from the corners of their mouths, look like two brattish Viz characters.

Tonight, though, is very, very hot which plays hell with the guitars forcing Fred to give up on his halfway through and go it alone on vocals and idiot dancing.

The curiously-titled 'Octopus Jr' sees him hunched over a microphone, telling us over a metronomic beat that, "It's like a drink, it's like nothing on earth. It's like a drug I tasted at birth". And the guitars fuzz and explode in one last glorious moment before they disappear.

Then, just as the talent scouts are putting away their cheque books, the band

return for a stunning encore. Right says Fred, "This is the last time we will ever play this," before bursting into a frenzied version of The Reynolds Girls' 'I'd Rather Jack'. And you thought Snuff's Tiffany cover was cool.

ROCKFORD



Let's go craze-e-e

ANTHRAX/KING'S X

Glasgow Barrowlands

KING'S X bass dude Doug Pinnick really said it all when he let slip, "They said wait till you get to Glasgow; those guys are craze-e-e-e."

And sure enough the party started early, with showers of prime lager greeting King's X's arrival onstage.

With selections from their current platter, 'Gretchen Goes To Nebraska', King's X pack a mightily impressive wallop for a trio. Something approaching groove metal, it's a provocative mix – sorta melodic, post-Sabb, post-Halen trudge metal splattered with the odd trace of power funk, riding on an omnipresent Brontosaurian stomp - that gels most impressively on the outstanding 'Out Of The Silent Planet', 'In The New Age' and, best of all, the hard pumpin' 'Over My Head'. King's X are surprisingly potent given their narrow range of pace. It's an entity that's clearly taken some refining and, if their reception here was anything to go by, ripe pickings seem theirs for the taking. But it was all a mere appetizer for the burn up that followed. . .

"It's hotter than f*** in here," hollered Anthrax's Joey B, "but we don't care. We like to sweat, sweat sweat. . And just as well because the temperature in this mosh oven had to be pushing 100 degrees. No wonder they

"Hey, I know it's hot out there but f***, it's happenin' right?"

Absolutely goddamn right it was happenin'. Tonight's meet with the 'thrax brotherhood had the same metabolic impact as spending an entire weekend chained to a car going for the ton up on your fave roller coaster. This was a state of Euphoria, the 52nd state.

After an opening quarter that boasted cataclysmic rumbles through 'Be All, End All', 'Madhouse' and 'Indians' my plastic beer tumbler hit melting point. The moshers sought sanctuary in the john, but Anthrax kept right on singing, "Don't you f***in' look at me".

It's irresistible – how couldn't you be into the dementoid, cartooning, thundering X-cess of it all? There's an unmistakable purity of essence at play to this dumb ass commando rock that makes Anthrax to thrash what The Ramones are to punk.

By way of an au revoir, Joey earned himself the freedom of Glasgow for life with the carefully chosen parting shot, "You guys are just the f***in' hardest. .

GRAHAME BENT

KING'S X's Joey Pinnick: Brontosaurian stomp for the New Age



MICHAEL STIPE: Ghost riders don't use Esso four-star

Greg Freeman

BIRDLAND

Glasgow Fury Murrys
HAD THEY been sold as
hapless victims – manicured,
moulded and manipulated by
someone like Kim Fowley
circa '76-'78 – the whole
lamentable Birdland charade
might have been good for the
briefest of chortles. But these
are no Runaways – these
whinging brats are deadly
serious.

A pack of preening, would-be badass cuties, they'd willingly surrender their precious tubes of Clearasil for a three minute shot at being the Dolls. But every time these snotty kids open up - trashing Television ('See No Evil') and Patti Smith ('Rock 'N' Roll Nigger') - they unwittingly shoot themselves in the feet. Their rockin' kindergarten sounds sink closer to the dire punk of Chelsea and the Vibrators than the hot primal trash they so desperately crave to emulate.

Everything on show reeks of cynical premeditation — from the ridiculous posing, to the cheek bones, peroxide jobs, synchronised stage leaps and the de rigeur trashing of guitars and mikestands. It's all pathetically choreographed outrage with both eyes focused on the cash till. But try telling that to the poor dupes rugby scrumming it out front, they'll swear blind that they witnessed a seminal rock happening.

Stayin' home and rockin' out with your grandad's Ted Nugent and Kiss albums would be far more rad than this pitifully lame performance.

GRAHAME BENT

THE JOHNSON FAMILY Newington Green New

Pegasus
SOD THE '80s and all this

chillin' tosh, The Johnson Family intend to load us all into their cosy time machine, and teach us the charm of the boogie.

And not just any ole boogie. We're dealing with The Johnsons' own 'Swing Bop': "I wanna boogie, I wanna boogie. . . .you do the swing bop boogie". To those at the front this is a gift from the gods, to the rest of us it's like every other boogie in history: bloody laughable.

If The Johnsons are to be believed, rock began to roll in the '50s and then died a quick death. That's it, end of lesson, you can go home now. So 'Home of Blues' may be a mediocre period piece with a multitude of licks, but it's also about as exciting as a night out in Topsham with Mrs Mangle.

Occasionally, they forget to pay homage to Elvis, and things look decidedly sleeker. On 'False Eyelashes', flamboyant vocalist Amoco Cadiz surreptitiously smuggles in some panache. Her voice repeatedly kick-starts, before lunging ink-starts, before lunging when limedown two chorus

when-I'm-down type chorus.
Ex-Meteor, Nigel Lewis,
doesn't fare quite so well. His
gruff voice sounds like a
hand-me-down from a certain
Huey – which is a major
set-back for anyone.

The Johnson Family are a collection of pedestrian pub-rockers who dream of being 30 years older. Rather sad, don't you think?

PAUL MARDLES

Tin drum

YOUSSOU N'DOUR

Hammersmith Odeon

ALONE AND swathed in semi-darkness, Senegal's Youssou N'Dour's elegant scribble of a voice soars tangentially from the eerie wooden clatter of 'Macoy'. A whirlwind of jumbled vowels and

A whirlwind of jumbled vowels and consonants that peaks and soars with unearthly purity, N'Dour's concessions to the English market don't extend to translations. This is the way it's going to be. If you don't speak the language, you'd better learn fact.

better learn fast. . .

After the less-than-subtle introduction of bass and drums (Western variety), N'Dour's accompaniment swells to a vibrant elevenpiece. The band seem oblivious to the intrusion of a BBC film crew, who are practically shoving their lenses down each others trousers in their excitement to commit this ethnic jamboree to celluloid. Visually wild, they erupt into frantic, limb-flinging dervishes.

Unfortunately, at times it seems that these physical traits are the only hallmark of their roots. This isn't to demean their astonishing musical crossover, it's just that so many of the subtle percussive polyrhythms are lost in a mix almost obsessed with bass and drums.

Similarly, there's a problem with pacing. The set sprawls, and obvious highs are defused by meandering percussion showcases that break the spell of this intoxicating fusion.

Such moments include the haunting 'My Daughter (Sama Doom)' and 'Shakin' The Tree' — which sees minor flirtations with the English language — while the careering 'Kocc Barma' highlights N'Dour's phenomenal ability to seemingly freefall with that India-rubber larynx of his.

But even at its thinnest, such as the encore of 'The Lion' when his voice only purrs instead of roars, N'Dour's assured presence carries the sound through.

And, for the record, Peter Gabriel's no-show barely registered.

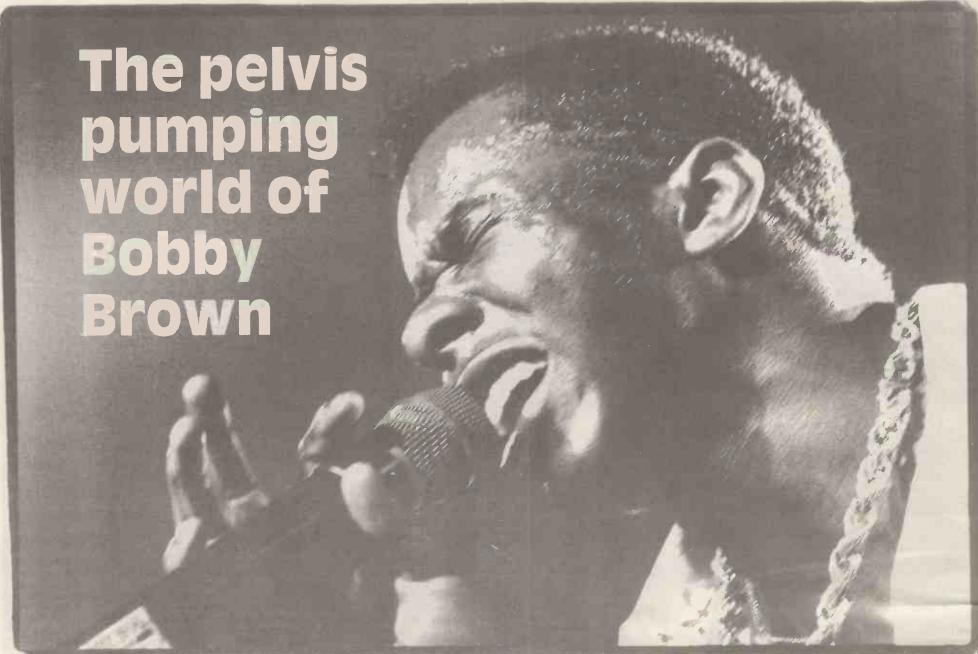
DAMON WISE



YOUSSOU N'DOUR: roar (not raw)

Liane Hentscher

LIVES



THE WATERBOYS
Dublin Olympia Theatre

HE CAN grate as much as he can be great, but tonight Mike Scott was – with a hefty Celtic vengeance – the latter. God, the crack was good, so good that the post-gig jam kept everyone yee-hawing until three, and the Dublin audience warmed to The Waterboys as though they were seven Jack Charltons. It was the sort of night when celebration and sentimentality get entwined, and all the better for it.

'Don't You Want To Go', the madcap opener, introduced a band prepared to take in every user-friendly Celtic music device, be it peals of tin whistle (Colin Blakey), gusts of fiddle (Steve Wickham) or great grin-accompanied wodges of squeezebox (Sharon Shannon).

It's a band versatile enough to risk a cover of Dylan's 'Girl From The North Country', accommodate the high-flying single, 'And A Bang On The Ear', and even descend into real showbiz behind-you-behind-you tack for 'Has Anybody Here Seen Hank?'. A large, cavernously-larynxed cove in a ten gallon essayed the departed Williams with panache.

Older material was meanwhile being demanded, and 'The Whole Of The Moon' and 'Old England' from the Big Music incarnation of the band were given a peculiar sense of folky largesse by Blakey's flute and Anthony Thistlethwaite's mandolin.

Guests like support band The Sawdoctors and Liam O Maónlai from Hothouse Flowers (fighting a bloody bodhran war with Scott on 'When Will We Be Married' dressed in a Mexican cape — what a star) made the throng a swarm until the, er, well let's say highly emotional 'The Lost Highway'. Scott, as it turned out, was just warming up for his hootenanney at the party afterwards. . .

He's a good man, Mike Scott. In front of an audience totally willing to indulge all his Irish folk infatuations, he let it flow manfully. And if he's taken 30 years to get here (just as he's taken to write 'Maggie, I Think It's Time For You To Go'), well at least he's arrived.

DAVID CAVANAGH

SABBAT/TORANAGA Charing Cross Road Marquee

FOUR BIG, greasy bastards from Bradford, Toranaga are as loud as they come.

Bouncing huge block chords and megalithic riffs off the ghosts of Black Sabbath, early Metallica and Iron Maiden, their direct-drive metal is crude but overpowering, and as British as bacon 'n' eggs.

Mark Duffy is a tough, matey, no-nonsense frontman; Bruce Dickinson before gelding. Sporadically, he's consumed by anger, every sentence a great blood-choked release. Beside him, Andy Mitchell wrings from a flying-V the riffs of two men. For a one-guitar combo, Toranaga are incredibly heavy.

They roll through
'Sentenced', 'Psychotic' and
the towering 'The Shrine' like
some terrible, inexorable
machine. If generic, this is still
searing heavy metal.
Sabbat are fiddly by

comparison, and faster too.
There's very little in the way
of pacing in a Sabbat show.
The first half dozen songs
merge into one monstrous
speedkill frenzy.

The performance is, however, rich in drama. Gulping clouds of dry ice, little demon Martin Walkyier spits, twists and stresses each last syllable. His rapped growl is repetitive but his costume changes are something else. He dons a clergyman's cloth and collar for 'The Church Bizarre', coaxing from the crowd a wry "Hallelujah, brothers!" and "Praise the Lord!"; Billy Graham in eyeliner, leather and an advanced state of madness.

To the list of Wolfsbane, Horse (London), Slammer, Under Neath What and The Almighty, add Sabbat and Toranaga. Young, brilliant and British.

PAUL ELLIOTT

MARIA McKEE Dublin Mother Red Cap's

TASTELESS I know, but had there been a fire here and everyone frazzled, every insurance company in Ireland would have gone bust.

U2 were here (to see Clayton minor's support band among other things), REM strolled in and even Gavin 'Don't Push Me' Friday reported for duty.

Maria McKee and Bruce Brody, her keyboard player, took the stage somewhere around the witching hour. He looked exactly like Peter Buck, she the bemused and gossamer nymph of her album cover. He played organ and piano, she strummed an acoustic, stomped her foot and sang. And were they great or were they great?!

Even though the first number, 'Am I The Only One (Who's Ever Felt This Way)?', was a sea of reverent sssh's from the crowd, enough of its honourable country sentiments survived the snake noises to give a thrill of expectation. No, she's not the only one, but she's very definitely a unique, bewitching vocalist.

Be fair. To switch in seconds from the growl of an Esso tiger to the epitome of vulnerability takes something you or I haven't got, and so awe and wonder greeted her songs as much as musical appreciation. It would have been a virtuoso display, had hurt and sorrow stayed in the wings instead of getting in the way.

Then she did 'To Miss Someone'. It's the pick of her LP, a true lament. Its tune is a primitive one, save for an unexpected chord change in each verse which makes it a lovely and mournful song. Every time it occurred tonight Bruce Brody, who played with his back to her throughout, would turn and look at her with – you may sneer at this – a gaze of utter devotion. There was an entire life's worth of permutations and possibilities in that one song.

Her triumph never in doubt, she went back a few years for 'Shelter', a neat round up of the Lone Justice experience. That band, it now turns out, was a mere semi-rung on her ladder to the stars. Maria McKee is going to be gargantuan in glory before you know it.

I hope Bono was taking notes.

DAVID CAVANAGH

BOBBY BROWN: he's bad!

Steve Double

BOBBY BROWN

Wembley Arena
The truth about the Bobby Brown phenomenon — and
believe me, it is a phenomenon — is something you'll never
find etched in vinyl.

Brown's recent single successes obviously account for a measure of his (near enough) overnight stardom, reinvesting modern soul with the vitality it sorely lacks, but the real impetus behind this crazy eight night sell-out must be seen to be comprehended. You have to see this boy move.

A muffled orchestral washes over a severely packed Arena through the kind of sound system a big name should be ashamed of. A flash of light reveals Brown, sat on a hydraulic platform at the back of the set, dressed in the white shimmery tux they probably buried Liberace in. Stomping down, stage centre, Brown brings the screaming auditorium to its feet as he reveals exactly why

New Edition could never have prepared him for this. Michael Jackson's third-hand James Brown footsie looks like The Charleston in comparison. Prince is probably Bobby Brown's only peer, but even he shies from such sheer physical action. Bumping, grinding, thrusting his pelvis with broad, stabbing motions, Bobby Brown doesn't care much for foreplay. LL Cool J should stick to shagging sofas. Bobby Brown is raw sex!

Brown shrugs through three costume changes, losing his shirt at every available opportunity. Fiddling with his waistband, he jerks down his trousers to reveal skin tight cycling shorts as he shoves out his arse to emphasise the line, "bust my ass". Pulling a girl from the audience, he straddles her thighs to croon the iffy ballad 'Rock Witcha'. Bent over her, his hips gyrate in slow bucking motions similar to those that led to his recent conviction for 'lewdness' in Columbus, Georgia.

But after hour it's clear that Bobby Brown hasn't been pacing himself. A sagging, slow-motion middle section doesn't seem to replenish his draining energy supplies. What ought to escalate to a staggering finale doesn't; he has, quite literally, f***ed himself into the floorboards.

Musically, he needs stronger material. If he's responsible for anything, Bobby Brown has taken the raw energy of street rap and brought it confidently into the mainstream. Vocally — not that you could hear it tonight — it's the seamless fusion of black music archetypes (rap/soul/funk) that makes Bobby Brown so very right for his time but it's this roundly cocksure, supremely arrogant showmanship that sets him apart.

The closing strains of 'My Prerogative' sends the youth of '89 out into the Summer Of Lust. If only their parents know

DAMON WISE

GUN/THE ALMIGHTY Leeds Duchess Of York

CRITICS OF what can loosely be termed rock music would have had a field day with The

Almighty.
From the opening
'Resurrection Mother', theirs was a set of age-old clichés and any preconceived notions of machismo, seriousness and a void where humour should live would have been immovably reinforced.

On the positive side, they conjure a healthy mix of potent riffs and ferocious rhythms that maintain even the most disaffected listener's attention - though titles as ludicrous as 'Full Force Loving Machine' can only work if injected with a modicum of irony.

Gun are here to entertain, and you can be damned sure they'll extract a little pleasure for themselves in the meantime.

Their songs often start slowly, Mark Rankin's voice being barely a whisper, ascending gradually through guitar avalanches and soaring vocals to finish in a magnificent crescendo. 'Better Days' (the single) and Shame On You' demonstrate these qualities to the full, while 'Coming Home' employs a fragile harmonica with a gushing melody.

The album's title track, 'Taking On The World', is moody, anthemic and awash with intensity. And, blow me, if they don't allow themselves the luxury of covering Thin Lizzy's 'Don't Believe A Word'. If bands are performing Gun songs with equal passion in 15 years time, it would be no surprise. IAN CHEEK

CATERAN

Highbury Corner T&C 2

until we can take no more.

JAMES

Liverpool Royal Court THERE'S A feeling of completeness with James these days.

Whereas the original quartet relied largely on bruising rhythms and frenetic, skittery guitars to underpin Tim Booth's vocal whooping, this expanded six-piece have set about sculpting a sublime, integral set of hymns from their village.

On this, the first date of the current tour, the band already have their sights fixed firmly on Nirvana. The first half grabs eagerly at its coat tails, with newer material as well as confirmed favourites - such as 'Scarecrow' and 'Johnny Yen' - vying for attention.

The new single, 'Sit Down', bounds along in seven-league boots, proving the quirkiness of yore to be still happily intact. Only now it's harnessed and fully focused, with Mark Hunter's ivories and Saul Davies' violin providing essential swathes of colour, allowing these taut anthems to breathe.

But momentum slips temporarily, and for 20 minutes James are ungainly and vulnerable. 'Whoops' attempts to stem the tide, its gargantuan beat unleashed like a Rottweiler on heat, and colliding head on with Larry Gott's scorching slide guitar. 'Riders' and the closing 'Folklore', though, collapse beneath their own tremors. Booth's plea on the former, "I don't want that poison in. . .", proves ultimately useless it's already there.

Thankfully, the three encores restore a heady euphoria. 'What For' rouses the crowd to fever pitch,

which culminates with 'Stutter's chilling paranoia.

Throughout, Tim Booth lurches and contorts like an eerie puppet, whose master has just unearthed the dubious delights of Ecstasy.

But the strings are nowhere to be seen, for James have shrugged off the unfortunate shackles of their major deal and are contenders once more.

TIM PEACOCK

SCAREHUNTERS Islington The Cave

SEEING A band at The Cave is the gig equivalent of Bullseye.

Within the venue's tacky confines you can see the latest aspirants to the rock 'n' roll throne and take home "a video of your favourite band for only ten quid"-shot in fabulous Technicolor by a cameraman who looks

remarkably like the bouncer.
Tonight, The Scarehunters
have travelled from Nottingham for the experience and, despite the Jim Bowen introduction, launch into their gabba-gabba-hey opening song 'Snakecharmer'.

Though another Poppies/ Jesus Jones inflection on the white-boys-use-cut-up-dance-formula, The Scarehunters have developed their own version of Glitter Band rhythms. Over these their gangly frontman raps, and squeezes wailing tunes from the neck of his guitar.

'Save Your Soul' sounds joyously like the Colourbox World Cup Theme' and sends him careering across the stage doing a Chuck Berry duck walk, while 'Send Me All Your Money' could be a message to buy the 'fave vid'.

As the two flanking guitarists hit the mikes for yet another hey-hey-hey chant, it starts to get repetitive but The Scarehunters know they're here to get us sweating, and that's what they mean to do.

They finish with 'You're Upset', sarcastically dedicated to London yuppies and definitely one up for the Nottingham scuzzbags.

As for that ten quid video? Well, it's not quite time to trade in your '70s 'Glam Rock'

DAWN AFTER DARK

Shepherds Bush Opera

THE SADDEST thing about

Dawn After Dark is that

There is one major

unwashed hair and

difference - DAD's joyful

straight from the heart, all

encompassing headbands.

High', a dramatic rush of

singer H and his band of

scuzzbags' dedication to

foaming, sweating inhibition

goes down far better than a

They climax with the new single, 'Maximum Overdrive',

Dawn After Dark may not

neither are they fashion victim

CATHI UNSWORTH

lecture in a fake American

a demented, screeching

be future messiahs but

anthem delivered with the

accent ever could.

appropriate gusto.

rock, Awlright?

They open with 'Crystal

hammy psychedelia with no

traces of po-faced posturing.

Indeed, throughout such blistering cracks as 'Wild Wild Love' and 'Dead On Time',

despite having plied their

trade for longer than The Cult,

comparisons seem inevitable.

On The Green

ROCKFORD

could've been almost anything. Was it about the Poll Tax? The 1992 Euro-alignment? Who knows. Like everything else, bar the wonderful 'Kitty Kitten', it's gratuitously compilation.

The new LP, 'Ache', is the epitome of The Cateran's essence. Their music is one gigantic headstrong surge of pain, a hair swilling, posture pulling force of noise that's ably backed up by some of the most impetuous drumming since Swans' Roli Mosiman.

Cool for Cats

THE CATERAN's scrawny noise pushes our mental energy

"Don't want no more", they scream – although with the aural blurring qualities of their viscous guitar thrash it

YO LA TENGO/THE TELESCOPES/THE

Like The Cateran's apt album title, The Telescopes' very name defines them. Their music is the product of an inspired tunnel vision gazing backwards over the last 20 years of rock alienation.

Singer Steve has swallowed whole the Mary Chain's melancholy stage presence - the devotional lack of eye contact, the vacant audience rapport – and matched it ith an attitude that says, Danger emotionally flayed youth at work.

The music's tempestuous stuff, each song a fossilised remnant of a previous teen crush. The opener, 'There Is No Floor' is the Mary Chain's 'Upside Down' without happy feedback, while 'Suffocation' is the dislocated jangling of The Birthday Party's 'Mr Clarinet'.

Only Yo La Tengo could surpass them and, paradoxically, only because they have so much to offer. Their recent album, 'President Yo La Tengo', suggests they can blend the husky tones of Reed (Lou not Jim) with The Miracle Legion's sense of tranquility. Tonight, though, they, er, suck.

One song exists in a oxygen tent filled with a stagnant, stomach turning bass belch, while drummer Georgia Hubley's horsey vocals are lost behind Ira Kaplan's

Dylanesque rambling.

It's apologetic, too close to the real thing and too rooted in the treadmill of folkland's guitar myth to offer any salvation. So that while Yo's 'Drug Test' - with its "I wish I was high" lyric - is suitably apathetic, it is far less attractive than anything by those masters of apathy,

Three revisions of the past, but only The Cateran's

holds any hope for the future.

SAM KING

Save De La's Danzas for me



LEE MAVERS and the sunburnt kids

Mary Scanion

HAPPY MONDAYS/THE LA'S/ **INSPIRAL CARPETS/** THE POP GUNS

Valencia Barraca Bar YOU COULD really get to like Juan Santamaria. Every year he flies a clutch of UK journos and flashmen out to Valencia (temperature 100 degrees Fahrenheit and rising) to have a few drinks, meet his extraordinary DJ acquaintance Jorge Albi, have a few more drinks and, for those still capable, attend the Valencia Rock Festival, La Conjura De Las Danzas.

La Conjura De Las Danzas doesn't actually mean anything. Jorge, who thought it up, thinks it means "The Conjure Of The Dances", but then his English isn't too together. It's his obsession not only with British indie music but also, weirdly, the British music press that gives the proceedings their unmistakably surreal edge. As soon as everyone's off the plane, Jorge wants an interview. I was ready for the heat but I didn't expect the Spanish

He's also MC at La Conjura, cautioning the

frisky audience to shelve momentarily their Andrea/Tracey preoccupations and give The Pop Guns, pretty girl singer and all, a cracking chance. They're from Brighton and have a slight celebrity factor in drummer Shaun Charman, who used to be in The Wedding Present. In fact, Wendy Morgan's wistful lyrics ('Landslide', 'Someone You

wistful lyrics ('Landslide', 'Someone You Love') have a bit of Gedginess about them, although the three guitar putsch gets a bit wearing after a while — you've really got to be Blue Aeroplanes to carry off that caper. Nevertheless, an auspicious start.

With Shaun Ryder crippled by sunburn — rumour had it someone had Mickey Finn'd his Ambre Solaire with Spry Crisp 'N' Dry — it was left to Inspiral Carpets to be the Official Tour 'Lads'. Good blokes all, they utilised their minimal Spanish yocabulary of "una", their minimal Spanish vocabulary of "una", "cerveza" and "grande" to heartwarming effect. They hit the stage after Machine Gun, a mediocre English rock combo who came to Valencia some years ago to appear in a talent contest and immediately scored a recording

The Inspirals could do with luck like that; at the moment they can't even blag copies of their first single. But in their 'Inspiral Carpets — Cool As F***' T-shirts they did one of the speediest, jauntiest six song aperitifs imaginable. 'Whiskey' and 'Joe' saw the bar staff pausing respectfully in their nook just underneath the stage to make wow noises in the direction of Clint Boon's Vox. The bowl-headed boy sure can play, and singer Tom Hingley provides a suitably mobile foil. The La's flew straight in, looked pissed off and, as usual, let their staggering arrogance breeze through their songs. 'I Can't Sleep', the one with the 'Can't Explain' riff but better harmony singing, got a typical 'inice

better harmony singing, got a typical "nice one" from bassist John Power, and 'Callin' All', 'Knock Me Down' and 'Son Of A Gun' all moisturised the lips for the much-delayed La's debut album (to date: five producers, all sacked). But Lee Mavers claimed voice loss, or no access to decent lager or something, so the set was curtailed before they could get to the brilliant 'Looking Glass'. I suppose it's this impossibly perfectionist approach that makes them so wonderful. Whatever, they're revered to such an extent here that the new single, 'Timeless Melody', was released in Spain before Britain. Jorge's

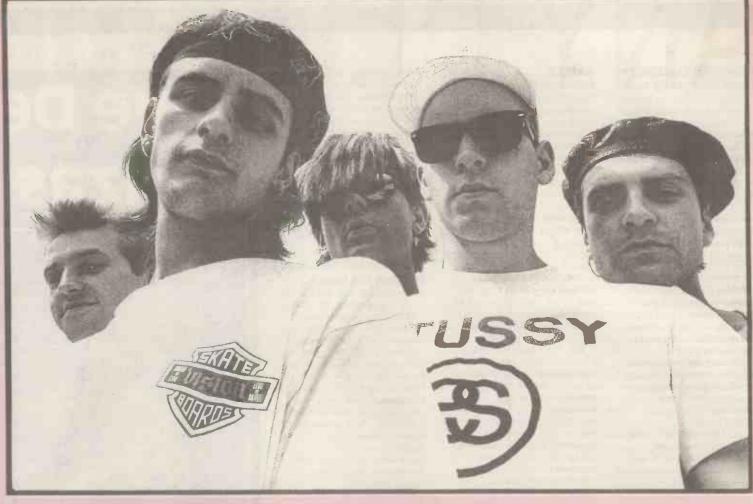
released in Spain before Britain. Jorge's probably playing it even now.
Happy Mondays wound it up, somewhere around seven in the morning. Never very happy with the proceedings (anyone educated in Valencia's synthetic standards could possibly hazard a guess as to why), they played four songs during which they regularly scowled and snapped at each other. "We've got a f***in' sequencer", drummer Gary was reminded archly after drummer Gary was reminded archly after 'Do It Better' was done extremely sloppily.
'Moving In With' wasn't a great improvement, although the groovers and groovesses from local press and TV were visibly enchanted. It was only with 'Mad Cyril' that they started to gel, although Bez's languor and Shaun's sunburn agony (some genius would later suggest wrapping his fried legs in bandages, with the result that all the skin stuck to them; mega-ouch!) dampened Mark's consistently danceworthy

The night's last number was 'Wrote For Luck'. I'm not sure, but something in the air the alcohol or the sticky paella we'd all been served for dinner – did a resuscitation number on us and, as a result, this song sounded astonishing and life-enhancing

Appropriately enough, when Mark was congratulated afterwards, he couldn't even remember playing it. It was that sort of picnic: the real met the surreal, the legal met the dodgy and Happy Mondays remained oblivious throughout. Valencia, you were an

DAVID CAVANAGH

Are Jesus Jones making the most subversive pop music since the punk era? Ron Rom investigates the implications of their sonic hurricane. Pic by Ed Sirrs



STARDUST COWBOY

ERE COMES the noise!

A metal hurricane made up of layer upon layer of mutoid guitar riffs, deranged hip hop beats, snarling vocals – all driven by a blatant disregard for convention.

This is a noise you could drown in, the sound of the holocaust exploding from your speakers.

It fills every molecule of space with uncontrollable energy which threatens to claw your ear drums and zap your brain irreparably.

The question is, Can you dig it? And the answer is, Yes. In fact, you have already – in the shape of Jesus Jones' highly volatile 'Info Freako', the most outstanding and original debut of the

It burst into the Top 50 like a radioactive satellite into a stagnant ocean, taking everyone by surprise and combining nihilistic punk attitude with the dance vitality of hip hop in an innovative pop groove that overloaded the body with static.

the body with static.
It was chaos '89 style and it was extreme enough to swell Jesus Jones' gigs from unpopulated nights in small clubs to sell-outs at the University Of London within two months.

TTOWNHOUSE Studios, in London, Jesus sits behind a production desk with his black beret fixed firmly on his head, looking like a terrorist.

His suspicious appearance has already caused problems. He was once mistaken for a Guardian Angel on the London Underground and followed home.

And, while on tour in Leeds, a childish game of water pistols in a hotel lobby brought the town centre to a standstill when a passing squaddie mistook the pistols for real guns and reported it to the police. They staked out the hotel for an hour before moving in and seizing Jesus as he walked out of an elevator.

But, talking thoughtfully about Jesus Jones, the man is actually very They are in the studio laying down tracks for their debut album – planned for September – with Craig Leon, who has produced Blondie, The Ramones and The Primitives in the past.

Was he surprised by the success of 'Info

"No," he says with a touch of self-belief that could be mistaken as arrogance. "It seemed like a long time for us but when it went into the charts at number 50, I thought, Wooh.

"But after a few days I thought, Yeah, this should be here, it's a great single and, Yes, it is better than records placed higher in the charts."

Part of 'Info Freako''s success lies with its ability to prise open the usually conservative Radio 1 daytime airwaves. This is where having the support of EMI (via Food) rather than Rough Trade becomes more than useful.

"I'm under no illusions about the benefits being signed to EMI can have and, after all the good reviews, EMI made it their priority single – so it meant they pushed the single harder than any other single."

RITICS ARE already speculating that Jesus Jones may find it hard to live up to 'Info Freako'. But the new single, 'Never Enough', should blow all these doubters away

It's a more traditional rock record than 'Info Freako' but it still speeds along at 100 mph. Ramones-like riffs slice through Jesus' growling sneer, which sounds like John Lennon being eaten by John Lydon.

There's a delicious pop hookline working away underneath a spiteful chorus of "So you wanna be happy", and it should throw blank minds into disarray

"The whole point of 'Never Enough' was to release something that was completely different from 'Info Freako' so that there could be very little comparison between the two.

"It reflects all the stuff I listen to.
There's nothing unusual about me but I do think a lot of bands say to themselves, This will be our overriding theme and we will go for one goal, which is exactly what I have tried to

avoid."

Why do you think so few rock bands are willing to take notice of hip hop's influence? There seems to be an almost Luddite refusal to accept sequencers.

"You'll find that they will occasionally dally with it and I find that quite offensive. I was talking with The Wonder Stuff's drummer and he was extremely against any form of technology altogether.

"He hates it all and yet, on their album, you'll find a song with a very strong hip hop feel to it.

"But it is all dalliance. Ciccone Youth are another example, where they seemed to be drawing attention to themselves just because they were using hip hop – but they didn't think, Let's try and do something with this. . .it was all treated like a joke.

"At the same time, we've never had this thing where we went around saying, We are wonderful, we use technology – that's bollocks."

Are you an obsessive?

"Oh yeah. Totally, that probably reflects in a lot of songs, especially 'Broken Bones'. In the past, it has led me off in some very bad directions. Once I stopped being so obsessive, I became a lot more open to new ideas."

ART OF Jesus Jones' charm is that they manage to capture that moment before everything implodes.

They seem to hover on the edge of total destruction but, at the same time, their sound traces back the history of rock and pop.

The remixed B-side version of 'Never Enough' is absolutely AWOL – a complete wipeout that is as raw as any contemporary sonic experiment.

The songs themselves deal with the darker side of the human psyche – Jesus occasionally sounds like a schizo.

"I think most people are interested in that, and I think it's easier to be original with negative themes. I watched Stardust Memories last night, the Woody Allen film, because that's what inspired 'Never Enough', and the whole point of the film is that mankind cannot be content because you're constantly putting up new obstacles.

"No matter how much you achieve, or how content you are, there will always be something else.

"In my opinion mankind was never meant to be happy. You just can't do it and, to me, it's important that you face up to the realism of the world."

Jesus Jones are in keeping with the madness of the modern world. They reflect the speed at which we live and our thirst for a wide-ranging draught of

This reveals itself in their short live sets but, unlike most of today's careerists, they show a healthy disdain for the codes of competitive thinking.

They have also been allowed into the system and are attacking it from within — unlike Pussy Galore or Sonic Youth who remain worthy but almost token distractions rather than genuine alternatives.

Which begs the question – are Jesus Jones a subversive act?

"Realistically, no. That bugs me. I feel duty bound to change that – there are some things that I feel I should say that would make us more than a standard pop package. At the same time, I don't want to end up like Simple Minds.

"Anything The Clash did at the end of the '70s, well, that's dead and buried. But I'm sure there are still ways of saying something without boring people by

ramming messages down their throats.

"Musically, I can't really give you an answer to that one because, as soon as you think, Hey, this is being subversive, then you're finished. Because if you do something for the sake of being subversive, you'll fail because people will see through it.

"The last subversive age was punk, but that's why I think Lydon left — you know, when the Pistols started courting controversy for the sake of it"

At the moment, it looks like Jesus Jones are the closest pop music has come to being subversive again.

A large smile sweeps across Jesus'

face.

"We'll see, we'll see. I intend to take it further, if I can. All I can do is take from the people around me. I don't think our records are subversive at all because I put them alongside Big Black and I think, I've still got a long way to go."

ANY OLD IRON...

OU HARDLY
notice the nose.
That "enormous
great hooter" a
schoolboy Pete Townshend
swore he'd defiantly push "from
every newspaper in England" is
now such a familiar part of rock's
furniture you wonder what all
the fuss was about.

These days you notice the pigtail. Given his greying and none too luxuriant locks, Townshend's pigtail is one of the least necessary accourrements in modern hair care. But it does at least tell us that the gent sitting here in his plush hotel suite, elegantly attired in a gun-metal grey silk suit and equally understated black polo-neck, is no mere commissioning editor for the publisher Faber & Faber on his day off.

He is an elder statesman of rock.
More precisely, he is the Godfather Of
Punk, the Thinking Man's Rocker, the
Schnozz That Smashed A Thousand
Guitars. And he's telling me about his
darkest day in The Who's dark age of
1981-82 when he tried to deny to
himself that the legend had long
outgrown the music and the band could
barely creak through the motions.

"It's such an awful story," Pete laughs ruefully. "I became so utterly disenchanted with The Who. They really were pathetic in their last days – a dire, shadowy, awful, money-making desolate dinosaur. Dinosaur is just too high a term. Just f***ing awful.

"It was a dispiriting experience playing this tired set of songs; this set that advertisers insist on being played on American radio stations because they were the only f***ing songs that people would respond to. We'd given up on our own history.

"So we just trotted out 'Baba O'Riley',
'Won't Get Fooled Again', 'Who Are You',
'Pinball Wizard', 'My Generation' – and
dragged them out to six minutes each.
So we'd be playing maybe ten songs in
a two-hour show and at the end it
would be a half-hour version of
'Summertime Blues'. It was just
miserable for me

miserable for me...
"One day, after a show in some big
Swiss town, I just couldn't stand it any
more, so I took a car to Berne, checked
into a hotel, but just couldn't be
comfortable there.

"So I had this old army greatcoat, a bottle of brandy and a Swiss army knife, and I went into Berne and started to walk from about 11 o'clock at night to about five in the morning. I hopped over a fence and found this bunch of caves, where I went to sleep. Next day I got up and was brushing myself down and a guy on a bridge shouted, You must get out of there. I thought he must have thought I was a tramp.

"So I went back to the hotel and said, What are those caves? And he said, Those are the famous bearpits of Berne! I said, But there weren't any bears. And he said, That's because this week the bears are taken away to be deloused. So what kind of bears are they? Big, black grizzly bears!

"I would have died! Torn to pieces. What a great way to go! I was going through this nihilistic, suicidal period and I felt really, really cheated. I felt my destiny was to live. . . and it was very irritating!"

IGHT NOW, Townshend claims The Who are "creatively, clinically dead". Consequently they can return to the lucrative US stadium circuit after a seven-year split knowing they have no pride left to lose and a lot of money to be gained.

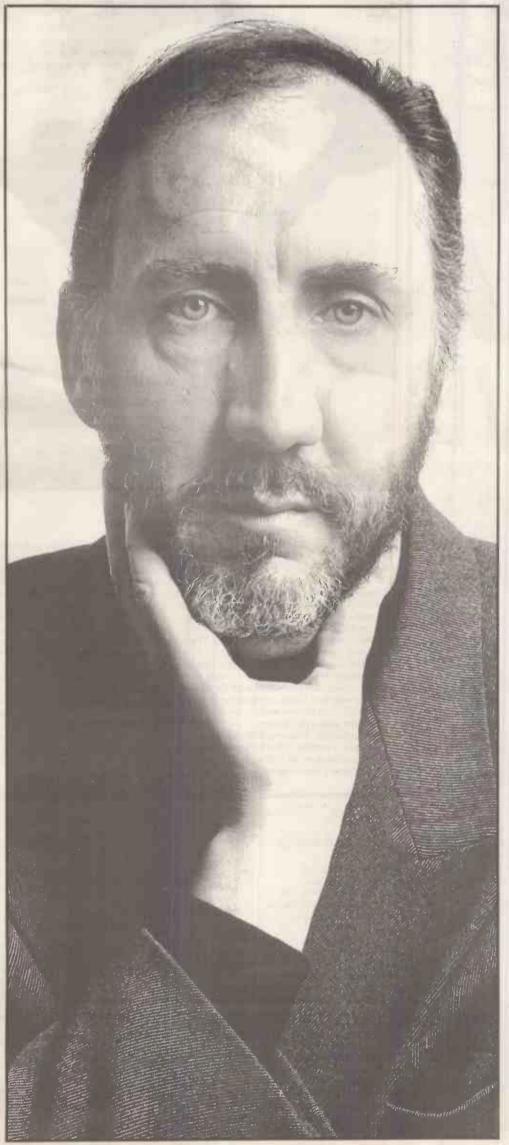
"What they're looking for in America is context," Townshend asserts. "They want to understand why rock 'n' roll still matters, why it's such a part of American life.

"It's a part of high commerce – advertisers depend on it, they can't sell half the products they want to without rock 'n' roll music. 'Won't Get Fooled Again' is a necessary part of the commercial institution of America.

"So I thought The Who's 25th birthday shouldn't just slide by in

The Who are "creatively dead" but they're back on the road again. On the other hand, Pete Townshend has just released a new solo album and is very much alive.

Mat Snow mulls over the contradictions with him. Happy snap by Steve Double



PETE: "I was the first person to claim that rock music was art"

America like it did in the UK – Oh, they're 25 years old. Who gives a f***? I should really work at it – this is my life. "OK, so I've got a nice little house and

"OK, so I've got a nice little house and a nice little car and a nice little boat and some children at university, but do I have to turn my back on all that stuff? Don't I owe it to fans of the band and people who grew up with the music? And if I owe anything, what is it that I owe?

"First of all, I owe it to myself that the material is kept as alive as possible and the 25th Anniversary should encourage retrospectives of our work and acknowledgement of it as Art.

"I think I was the first person to claim that rock music was art and I've always believed it implicitly and passionately. It is a living art, as important to me as a good book, the theatre, cinema, ballet—and often much more important. It's not pomposity or pretentiousness, it's a statement of fact."

ETE TOWNSHEND's new solo album is likewise of an improving nature. Adapted from the 1958 children's fable of the same title by Poet Laureate Ted Hughes, 'The Iron Man' addresses themes that Pete has tackled before.

"The thread that connects 'Tommy', 'Quadrophenia' and this is that they're all about childhood," he explains. "All good rock 'n' roll is music that appeals to the essence of the human soul, which is not the baby or the adolescent inside you but the child. If there's any kind of interesting struggle that goes on in adolescence — when we start to wear blue jeans, try and drink too much beer, smoke cigarettes and learn how to stand properly on the street corner — what we're trying to deal with then is what we want to drag from childhood into adulthood.

"For a lot of people in the modern world, adolescence is a long, drawn out thing. I was still suffering from or enjoying adolescence when I was about 26, maybe even 30. . .

"It's only recently that I've felt I've discovered what really makes good rock important to me. I loved it so much. The first R&B records I played completely, utterly transformed my life.

"What makes it rock for me is it has to go straight in and make me shudder. The last record to do that for me recently was 'Stand' by REM – a f***ing great song, a classic.

"Another time was in the States watching MTV – and this is really off the wall for me cos I'm not a heavy metal fan – but it was hearing Guns N' Roses' new record. I heard the guiter player, and I thought, This guy is a f***ing genius, an absolute quantum genius – and there he is in the video knocking back Jack Daniel's. That's one of the great contradictions of rock."

ND SO back to another – The Who performing 'My Generation' ("Hope I die before I get old. . . ") in 1989. So what else will they do?

"Roger wanted to do The Everly Brothers' 'Love Hurts' just with two guitars, and then he said, Let's do that song from 'Who's Next', 'Too Much Of Anything' – he loves this silly little song. So we started but it wouldn't gel, so to make it work we had to gaze into one another's eyes like the Everlys. He laughed awkwardly because our eyes don't often meet in conversation," Pete chuckles.

"I've been saying to Roger for years, If you want to go out and tour, go on, — you could be a millionaire, making more money going out as The Who than you've ever made in your life. But he's very religious about it — Oh no, it wouldn't be the same, Pete. . .

"The relationship between Roger and I is the same as when I first met him on the stairs of Acton County Grammar School and he was in the year above – a lout with a guitar. I was 13 and John Entwistle and I already had a group. There were three groups in the school and we were just one of them. Three snotty-nosed schoolkids with mashed potato on our lapels!

"When we gather together today, that's what we feel. Nothing has changed!"

A fast-forward look at four expected vinyl highlights in July



BEASTIE BOYS: second album on its way

BEASTIE BOYS

'Paul's Boutique'

THE IMMINENT release of the second Beastie Boys album, 'Paul's Boutique' is bound to herald open season for the more fickle converts to De La Soul's Mothers Of Invention collage technique. This patchwork quilt of a record will invite direct comparisons, but once fully digested, 'Paul's Boutique' emerges as a serious contender for any albums of the year short list.

While inevitably lacking the shock-of-the-new value of 'Licensed To Ill', inventiveness abounds, particularly on the sharp rap of 'Shadrack' and the witty 'Egg Man', which employs a tape loop of the music-to-stab-to from *Psycho*. AH

THE POGUES

'Peace And Love' (WEA)

RATHER MORE cynically titled than the previously mooted 'Love And Peace', The Pogues' fourth album looks like being the best and most diverse yet.

The taster 45, 'Misty Morning, Albert Bridge', is a fine lament in the tradition of 'A Pair Of Brown Eyes',

fine lament in the tradition of 'A Pair Of Brown Eyes', but it looks like being the most staid and unadventurous song on the record.

Far more interesting are the West London panorama of 'White City', the orchestrated jazz à la Buddy Rich of 'Gridlock', the frenetic 'Gartloney Rats' and particularly 'Down All The Days' – a quite wonderful song sung straight by MacGowan to what sounds like REM with Steve Wickham of The Waterboys on fiddle Waterboys on fiddle.

While live shows tend more and more to disintegrate, The Pogues on vinyl just get better and better. DC

VARIOUS ARTISTS

'The Bridge' (Caroline)

WIDELY REGARDED as one of the most influential figures from the last two decades, Neil Young is the subject of this compilation where a bevy of contemporary stars cover their favourite Young

songs for charity.

Named after the Bridge Project (run by Young and his wife to help children suffering from cerebral palsy), 'The Bridge' has Sonic Youth homing in on 'Computer Age' from the 'Trans' album – certainly one of the worst songs Young ever wrote – and Pixies tackling 'Winter Long' – one of his best and a version that the band themselves regard as their best ever work.

As for Psychic TV, their 'Only Love Can Break Your Heart' is surprisingly reverential to the original, with no evidence of tabs being jacked anywhere remotely near the session. Dinosaur Jr, meanwhile, get bitchin' on 'Lotta Love', a country ditty from 'Comes A Time'. With this plus Nick Cave, Soul Asylum and Bongwater, 'The Bridge' is a rare item: a tribute album that succeeds through not trying too hard. KC

WOLFSBANE

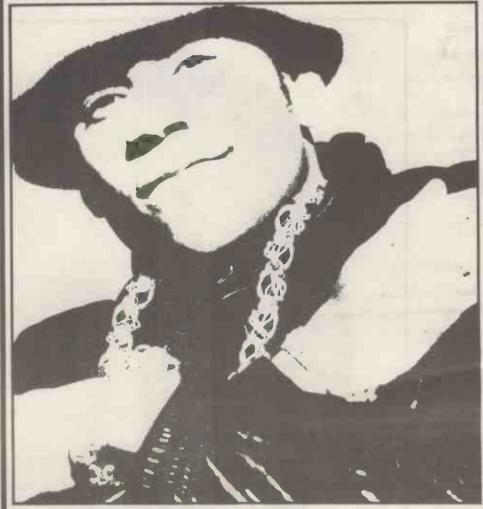
'Live Fast, Die Fast' (Def American)

POSSIBLY THE greatest British metal album of the decade, 'Live Fast, Die Fast' is, as the song goes, a killer debut. Cut hard by Rick Rubin, Wolfsbane rip it up like a wild post-Slayer hybrid of AC/DC and Van

'Manhunt' is sheer mania, 'Fell Out Of Heaven' is raw sex, and 'Tears From A Fool' is a bleeding heart 'power ballad' (or so says Rubin).

The most playable Def American release to date, Live Fast' is the state of good-time rock 'n' roll at the turn of the '90s. Greasy, loco - brilliant heavy

The art of being un-Cool



LL COOL J: no more Mr Bad Guy

LL COOL J 'Walking With A Panther' (Def Jam/CBS 46511/CD) **

LL COOL J was the meanest muscle-bag to swagger out of the violent, paranoid subways of hip hop. All mouth and trousers, his sharp raps were the sounds of a hunky King Kong beating his chest. He was badder than bad until he squealed like a soppy teabag, 'I Need Love', and then his credibility faded

Not that LL worried - that first hip hop ballad made him enough money to buy all the rope chains in Fort Knox. But with De La Soul, Public Enemy and Tone Loc steering the badship hip hop to new waters, he is now left to look like yesterday's hero.

Unfortunately, 'Walking With A Panther' confirms LL's decline. That streetwise, bad young mother that ran riot in 'Bad' has now vanished into a better neighbourhood, but LL tries to kid us into believing that he is still the best rapper in the universe and that he has got a big old 'chunk' (and I don't think he's talking about Pedigree Chum ladies).

That said, 'Walking With A Panther' is hip hop at its most polished and refined, made for mass-acceptance with 'Jealous', 'You're My Heart', 'One Shot At Love' and 'Two Different Worlds' all trying to be this year's 'I Need Love'. It's lover's hip hop at its tackiest, with sickly sweet raps rating high in the cringe count. Elsewhere, LL's romantic tendencies present themselves in lyrics like, 'Tina's got a big old butt". I'm sure Tina will be more than pleased about that.

The excessive urban madness that made LL Cool J so threatening has been sacrificed for minimalist rap that makes 'Walking With A Panther' bland, predictable and safe.

RON ROM

THE CLAN The Roke (New Alba Recordings Tartan 1)

THE CLAN is a sizeable collection of musicians assembled here to help folk archivist Colin Blakey illustrate an impressive cross-section of Celtic music. Or "Keltic", to go by the sleeve notes.

Add to this that "roke" is Scots for "rock" and Blakey, plus several other Clan members, once thrashed their days away in the late (it would seem), great (unquestionably) We Free Kings, and it's clear that this is more than just another trad folk album.

Blakey is credited with lending The Waterboys their recent folk bent but the purer orientation on 'The Roke' is a lot more convincing. His musical travels through Keltic lore are anchored from

Scotland but embrace Ireland, Brittany and Galicia in north-west Spain. That none of it ends up contrived or disjointed is proof of Blakey's understanding and love for these tunes.

His own compositions, such as the gently powerful 'The Hermit', sit comfortably next to the trad arrangements.

Sadly, Robert Burns' 'Ye Jacobites By Name' receives a drab, one-dimensional vocal treatment from Lucy Johnstone, but any album that employs 'The Cameronian Rant' is on the right lines in my book.

KEITH CAMERON

ID UNDER 'Genericide' (Walkthrufyre WTF 1742)

ÎD UNDER, like Impulse Manslaughter, are a Chicago band poached from structured approach they found awkward.

'Genericide' is decidedly post-hardcore, and a strong bid for attention from America's mushrooming underground public. It's all pointedly political.

ID Under's greatest forte is their lyrics, which contain enough imagery and uncompromised anger to justify the music's aspiring overdrive. "I woke up early/And my city had a cramp/So I sent in my police and put a stop to that" ("I'm A Nation') provides a particularly potent soundbite.

'Genericide' may suffer from the usual problems of stylistic limitation, but its anger is real enough. No masterpiece, but certainly a generic contender

RALPH TRAITOR

BIFF BANG POW! 'The Acid House Album' (Creation Crelp 046/CD)

THE FAMILIAR beef on last year's summer of lurve had it that the only true psychedelic soundtrack was a 12-string glissando draped in romantic mist - none of that disco rubbish or enjoying yourself.

So as the dance craze still shifts vast units of vinyl and brain cells, trust Alan McGee to come up with the last word in irony: a Biff Bang Pow! compilation album with not very much Acid House on it.

What with the hand-painted and decidely cosmic sleeve, The Acid House Album' is laughing-boy Alan at his irrepressible, teasing best.

Biff Bang Pow! may or may not be finished, but they were always a thing of the past. While McGee's signings strayed off the nostalgic straight and narrow, deluded with ideas of progression and other such heresy, only Biff Bang Pow! could remain true to his ideal because they were always the joke. They never had to live up to anything except McGee's Raybanframed view of rock history

This album rifles the BBP! vaults and reminds us that. had McGee's voice not been so relentless in its preachy tones, his band might well have been up there with his prodigies.

Certainly, he had the songs, no matter how familiar. 'She Never Understood' combines the chord structure to 'Knockin' On Heaven's Door' and a feisty riff to full effect, and 'The Beat Hotel' is the last word in "dreamy". The only new song, "The Girl From Well Lane', sees Alan in balladeer mode.

A lack of pretension is something Alan McGee could never be accused of but in Biff Bang Powl he could be himself, and the results were blessed with a certain charm.

Come what may, there will always be one band on Creation.

KEITH CAMERON

CORPORATION OF ONE

'Black Like Me' (Desire LUV 3) **** CORPORATION OF One is the brainchild of leading NYC producer and DJ Freddy Bastone. It's a controlled vehicle, moving from one dance style to another.

'Vanessa Del Rio', the opener, is a tropical, topical tribute to a South American porno queen - sensible, sultry and so calculatedly catchy that you can but admire

'Concrete Jungle', an able hip hop track, overlays its cool groove with an excellent rap, the bouncy beat being irrepressible. 'The Prayer' is the House offering. Once again quite restrained and removed from heavier treatments, Bastone plies his groove carefully, with a circumspection that lends strength to the material. 'So Where Are You' is more House, more energetic but somehow pedestrian. Soft Cell's 'Bedsitter' is

revised intelligently, making way for reggae and jazz moods. Bastone has gone out of his way to prove his versatility and he backs up his ambition with what amounts to a one-man sampler.

For scope and feel, 'Black Like Me' is hard to knock

RALPH TRAITOR

ALBUMS

CASHMEAT 'Cashmeat' (Deaf Mute Records ADM 3975) ***1/2

HOLLAND'S SOGGY lowlands have never really thrown up great melody merchants.

From the godlike Ex and their pulverising rhythm machine to Gore's sonic discord, the Dutch have never really entertained notions of the tune.

Cashmeat fit neatly into this tradition. Their self-titled debut harnesses some of the crazy energy that they burn onstage, but gives the songs a more structured rap.

Supercharged by a dynamic rhythm section that tackles the most awkward of time changes while spitting death with the mere nod of a head, Cashmeat grab the most spooky of middle eights before soaring off again.

Their three year history has seen them struggle valiantly against both the closed shop of Holland's politico-only squat scene, and the trad club circuit's Yankophile leaning.

The slow burning spark of frustration has lit the danger fuse. Guitar dischords clash with throat-ripping vocals and lead guitar licks. A manic cover of Peter Hammill's 'Nadir's Big Chance' beats the crap out of the original.

Cashmeat sure as hell know

how to rock without the rule book.

JOHN ROBB

MR BIG 'Mr Big' (Atlantic 781 9901/CD)

GIVEN THAT they're named after the famed cut from Free's benchmark LP 'Fire And Water', it follows that Mr Big are, as Free were, a trad heavy rock power trio plus vocalist.

Based on America's West Coast, Mr Big qualify for the dubious title 'supergroup' by merit of the reputations that each band member carries into this new project.

Eric 'Babyface' Martin was a renowned solo vocalist who might have stepped into David Lee Roth's yak-fur boots were it not for Sammy Voice Of Redneck America Hagar; Billy Sheehan played bass in Diamond Dave's band on 'Eat 'Em And Smile' and 'Skyscraper'; Pat Torpey has been session drum hand for numerous SF acts; and Paul Gilbert emerged from Racer X as another of Metal Blade supremo Mike Varney's precocious guitar killers.

Incredibly, they've contrived to sound like a band. Egos shelved, Mr Big play a streamlined, elemental, thumping stadium-eating rock, like some post-Van Halen Bad Company.

Gilbert scribbles future shock graffiti in some of the big open spaces but as a whole Mr Big's debut recalls the slow one-axe stomp and sex(ist) grunt of the early-to-mid-'70s.

Take A Walk' is an obvious, chewy goosestep, 'Addicted To That Rush' is adolescent spoof metal, but 'How Do You Do' and 'Big Love'(?) prove Mr Big subtler than the last pea-brained Whitesnake album.

And if Martin's voice yelps a little under the strain of the louder riffs, it's nevertheless gratifying that this great voice should soon be widely recognised via a band born unto America's hugest arenas.

PAUL ELLIOTT

Ghost town gloom

ED KUEPPER
'Everybody's Got To'
(Capitol EST 2099)
***3/.

"THEY'RE NOT. . . really there." Ed Kuepper's parting words on this album form an odd valediction, rather like a half-heard voice telling you not to worry, it was all a dream.

Despite his traditional, acoustic-backboned brand of everyman rock 'n' roll and the facade of a fair dinkum Oz geezer, Kuepper's weird song world is one of half light and half illusion.

This is the stuff of assignations in anonymous rooms where, despite the prosaic presentation, the characters are always haunted. 'Everybody's Got To' is the ghost of rock's staple currency, where the motels and the booze become not so much reassuring as spooky.

Kuepper's spectral mood is accentuated by his nasal voice and the laconic way he drawls out platitudes – 'Everybody's Got To' ("Be with somebody"), 'No Skin' ("Off your nose") – stacking a welter of menace behind glib phrases

'Too Many Clues' is propelled by a chord progression that feels as if you're swiftly moving your car up through the gears. But Ed isn't staging a rock 'n' roll road party and, as he strains to scan on the couplet "Remember, chance is not on your side/So you walk out among the ruins like a spring bride", the feeling of resignation returns.

As with Edmund's

previous two solo albums ('Electrical Storm' and 'Rooms Of The Magnificent') here he colours his guitar music with a rampant horn section, belting out riffs like the parping fanfares employed by Teardrop Explodes. Despite the horns' superficial jollity, in Kuepper's world they sound like music from a deserted fairground.

So, Ed's music is hardly a fountain of cheer but then neither is life. Kuepper is a master in painting moments of half-hearted despair and heavily tempered satisfaction, a compelling writer of dog-eared, sad little sketches.

If 'Everybody's Got To' has a failing, it's in not making a significant departure from his other solo albums. But perhaps a sonic evolution would imply hope. And in Ed's blighted diner that

wouldn't do. ROY WILKINSON

ANDERSON, BRUFORD, WAKEMAN & HOWE

'Anderson, Bruford, Wakeman & Howe' (Arista 209 970) ***

CLOSE TO the Yes, very close to the Yes. There are times when you wonder whether this isn't some colossal Yes Tap send-up, perpetrated by the four guys who set up the prototype.

But it's so flagrant, so unashamed and done with such evident enjoyment that you can't help but marvel at their audacity.

Sure you can criticise it for all the things Yes got derided for a decade ago – the monstrous classical pretensions, the flowery pink prose, the pompous, overblown solos. It's all still there in glorious '89 technology. Updated but unmistakable.

Jon Anderson has jumped back into the bubble with adolescent enthusiasm, his voice swooping and soaring with that thin purity which befits the fairytale ideology of his lyrics. The album is littered with his little anthemic chants followed by bursts of grandiose music.

The only other member of the quartet to have kept himself match fit all these years is Bill Bruford, who does more than anyone to ensure that the album maintains a contemporary rhythm without having to resort to a drum machine. Howe and Wakeman simply provide their timewarp trademarks whenever they are required.

They only come unstuck when they venture outside the strict formula, like the horrendous latin dance song on side two. It's not as adventurous as the brighter moments of '90125' but infinitely preferable to the turgid era of 'Tormato' and 'Drama'.

Marillion are going to have to shape up.

HUGH FIELDER

BREATHLESS 'Chasing Promises' (Tenor Voss BREATH

BEAUTIFUL AND ethereal are words usually used to cover a multitude of sins. However, when applied to Breathless they only begin to sum up what has been forged on this, their third album.

Despite gathering praise from abroad, Breathless have been ignored at home. Which is a mystery, since they offer everything the sensitive crave.

'Chasing Promises' treads through fantasy land with trained steps and has enough guts and depth to blow away clouds of whimsicality.

The opening track,
'Compulsion', propelled by
shimmering guitars and
Dominic Appleton's yearning
vocals, entices you into a
fascinating world.

Although the pace is sometimes melancholy, as on 'Better Late Than Never', there is always a searing beauty about the pain. In a Breathless nightmare you always know that dawn's brightness is never far away.

Breathless are a kind of missing link between the rich fantasies of the Cocteaus and Bunnymen of yore, and the more savage hedonism of the Loops and Mary My Hopes of today – a softer, delicate psychedelia, and a pleasure to behold.

CATHI UNSWORTH

TED HAWKINS 'I Love You Too' (PT PTLP008) **

FOR TED, singing the blues means never having to admit you're happy. Something which potentially makes Ted, himself a former gung ho total loser, ex-con, beach bum, wino and money squanderer, one of the most accomplished bluesmen ever.

Spurred on by the phenomenal success of his two solo 'busking' albums, 'I Love You Too' is Ted's bid for the rewards of life in the big league, an album that sees

him standing shoulder to shoulder with *real* moneyspinning bluesmen like BB King.

His preoccupation with success and its rewards is abundantly evident here. Titles like 'Dollar Tree', 'I Ain't Got Nothing Yet' and 'Ladder Of Success' only serve to emphasise the man's new found enthusiasm for financial gain.

The last song sums up his mood best. 'You've got to finance somebody so they can push somebody," he declares.

Hawkins is wasted here. His

hugely original hoarse, coughing voice, normally the centerpiece of his material, is quashed, dulled by the plodding leadfooted (as opposed to Leadbelly'd) white boy blues.

There's none of his former spontaneity, none of the joy of 'Natural Comb' or 'Watch Your Step', just the thought that in blending his blues to the natural sound of money, he's sacrificed everything that originally made him.

The only real sadness here is in the ears of Hawkins' devotees.

SAM KING



STEVIE RAY Vaughan: playing for time

A small step for mankind

STEVIE RAY VAUGHAN AND DOUBLE TROUBLE

'In Step' (Epic) ***1/

AS A musical style, R&B has never exactly leant itself to wild bursts of innovation and experimentation; but if anyone could push back the often rigidly defined borders, Stevie Ray Vaughan was the man to do it.

And this leads straight to the dilemma of 'In Step', the bluesmeister's fifth LP. As a body of work, it is still the most modern and exciting representation of the genre you'll find today, and yet there are parts of it which suggest Vaughan has hit auto-pilot.

Soul To Soul'; the previous studio album, saw Texas' own guitar hero heading off at several intriguing tangents, and when he was playing it dead straight there was still plenty of muscle to carry the more traditional R&B tunes with conviction.

On 'In Step', numbers like the opening 'This House Is Rockin'', 'Let Me Love You Baby' and 'Scratch 'N' Sniff' seem to have lost a little of the crunch, howl and grind that characterised Vaughan's heads-down boogie appeal. The sound is somehow cleaner, more sanitised and, consequently, some of the drive is lost.

That aside, Vaughan is still one of the most listenable guitarists around, blues or

otherwise. His distinctly idiosyncratic work on the hard, shuffling 'Tightrope' or the immaculately constructed 'Wall Of Denial' is unrivalled in feel and direction. Barely a gap is left unplugged by his long, sustained loops and delicate little fills – the joy of Vaughan is that, like Jeff Healey, he plays the crap out of the thing and doesn't just tease. And let's not forget his voice – deep, rich and full of the soul that the best blues demands.

The sound is now fully fleshed out with piano and occasional brass in addition to Vaughan's redoubtable rhythm section, and 'In Step' still has one surprise up its sleeve. The album closes with the brow-soothing swoon of 'Riviera Paradise', a slow, lengthy guitar and piano workout that proves just, why Vaughan is to the guitar what Nureyev is to ballet.

If you can't get off on this, you ain't got no soul.

It's been said that if SRV was English and was playing on the hoary old pub circuit, nobody would take a blind bit of notice; which is irrelevant. This is a dyed-in-the-wool Texan with America's most potent roots music coursing through his veins, and the way he interprets it is undoubtedly special.

If he's become a little complacent, then just be thankful that it's still way above most other people's best.

NEIL PERRY

ROBBY KRIEGER 'No Habla' (IRS EIRSA 1013/CD) ***1/2

ROBBY KRIEGER, like many of his guitar hero brethren, has been given a higher profile lately, due to IRS' worthy No Speak instrumental series (of which this is the ninth release). 'No Habla' is in no way a reprise of ex-Door Krieger's glory style, but it does prove that there are places for an axe hero to go.

Instrumental rock guitar is certainly an acquired taste, yet there is a hidden dimension to an album such as this. Of course, it's concerned with technique as much as feel, and is an active showcase for a guitarist who said his most relevant piece long ago. Still, you'd be surprised what good, solid, even therapeutic workouts instrumentals can be.

It's refreshing to ease into sound without words and sample how quitar can be interesting and compelling for its own sake. Not that 'No Habla' is classic Krieger or any landmark; it's just a consciously-crafted, well-played album suited to those seeking a soothing diversion or object lesson in rock's possibilities.

It's difficult to categorise the music – maybe 30something syndrome makes it seem alien - but if

you like the idea, you'll love the reality.

RALPH TRAITOR

THE MILK **MONITORS** 'Revenge'

(ID Nose 22) *** IT'S QUITE a relief that there are still a few bands left who revel in the noisy, joyous thrash handed down by master pinheads The Ramones and the Buzzcocks. Mega City Four are one, Senseless Things another and

The Milk Monitors a third. 'Revenge' is a mini album stuffed with unpretentious fun. It's raw, fractured and technically awful, which is why you'll love it.

'Missing You', 'Five Days Gone', 'Love Is', 'Revenge', 'This Town' and 'Kick Start' imply a drunken audience piling over and over itself. Clubland or bust appears to be the Monitors' motto.

All these tracks provide basic fare of scraping guitars, riotous drumming and a snotty disrespect. The title track stands out for it's rockabilly twang and swamp thang bass – the rest dispel such frills.

This band probably don't even use a Transit van, more likely a motorised wheelbarrow. They beg to be seen live. In a dark, damp cellar, they'll shine

CATHI UNSWORTH

Hard baked!



PRIMEVALS: RAMPANT, raw blues

THE PRIMEVALS

'Neon Oven' (DDT DISP LP 21) ***1/2

IT'S EASY to mock this one if that's your inclination. The sleeve is appalling, a lurid lime green and pink concoction with a photograph (unflattering to all concerned) that looks mistakenly reversed - either that, or all The Primevals play

left-handed. Then we have to face the fact that 'Neon Oven' is a nine-track live album recorded, with a certain lack of finesse, over a year ago in Paris' Rex Club.

To have taken so long to produce what essentially amounts to a filler – late summer is the rumoured arrival time for their next studio work - suggests that The Primevals' bank account isn't exactly busting out with health, and a lack of funds would explain 'Neon Oven''s less than enticing appearance.

Yet the struggle to survive is etched in every groove of these nine tracks and in the fact that the album exists at all. It's the perfect scenario for The Primevals' rampant, raw extrapolation of the blues.

Blues, after all, thrives on struggle, pain, unhappiness and

Primevals are undoubtedly the longest serving members of a Glasgow music scene that is ritually ignored because it dare not conform to the pseudo-soul strand which dominates the make-up of the city. And that's a shame because, as graphically demonstrated

having to play little clubs in France for some recognition. The

by 'Neon Oven', Michael Rooney and his four colleagues have adopted an American genre far more convincingly than the likes of Wet Wet Wet or Hue And Cry.

Rooney's forte is, simply, to give his all. "This one's from the heart," he introduces 'Spiritual' and, when guitarists Gordon Goudie and Richard Mazda play from the heart, the results burn with conviction.

'Sister' is the highlight; that it recalls The Fall and would not shame The Gun Club is a reminder of how wide the influence of the blues stretches, and how immersed in it all The Primevals are.

For sure, 'Neon Oven' has The Primevals cooking and if the appliance is of the pressure variety rather than a microwave, then perhaps the healthier for The Primevals in the long run.
KEITH CAMERON

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PETE TOWNSHEND

'The Iron Man' (Virgin V2592/CD) *** YOU PROBABLY haven't heard it, but Pete Townshend once wrote 'My Generation', in which he stressed the desire to die before he got

Now, aged 44, he's less of snotty, snarp -aressea guitar immolator he was when he slashed that song down, and more of the man on the Clapham omnibus, watching out for the planet and voicing his fears.

Townshend's love of the Giant Concept has sired many a double album in the past. His first album in four years is, mercifully, a single, but it contains enough opinions. hopes, nightmares and daydreams to see off all but the most hardy concept album engineers such as Fish, Talk Talk etc.

It's sort of an all-purpose Eco-album, with child-friendly issues like fear of the dark thrown in.

Based on Poet Laureate Ted Hughes' bizarre kiddie manual of the same name,

'The Iron Man' is a forum for all kinds of unrelated musical contributions from, among others, Nina Simone, John Lee Hooker, Do Re Mi's Deborah Conway and The Who. That out of all this apparent mess comes some pretty good music should prove that Townshend is not often made out to be.

Townshend's simplified everything into his usual mnemonic style, with lots of prosaic song titles along the lines of 'I Won't Run Any More', 'A Friend Is A Friend' and 'Fast Food.'

The lofty rock opera conceits will either thrill or repel you, according to your sentimentality quotient. Cynics had better leave well alone.

As far as Townshend's guitar playing goes (the reason most of us stick around), 'I Won't Run Any More' is the killer, passing every conceivable axe acid test with kerranging colours. And a cracking chorded guitar solo on 'Dig' recalls some of the good old days. The cover

of Arthur Brown's 1968 number one, 'Fire', checks out too, mainly thanks to Roger

Daltrey's guest vocal.

Mostly this is modernistic stuff, with weird synthetic settings galore. 'I Eat Heavy Metal' weds a weedy electronic background to an earth-shaking vocal from ancient bluesman John Lee Hooker - quite frankly it's a gas to hear the old guy moan lines like "I eat heavy metal/I chew up limousines/I munch barbed wire/In my submarine"

Well, at least Townshend still has a sense of humour, unlike fellow concerned Everygeezers Sting and Geldof.

Good cancels out bad fairly equally on 'The Iron Man' ('Dig' is The Who in good form; 'Fast Food' is anti-cheeseburger hokum), and the last impression is that of a good bloke doing his best, whether it be cloying balladry or groovy rockin

At the very least it's a damn sight better than 'Quadrophenia'

DAVID CAVANAGH

NEGATIVE FX 'Negative FX' (Fundamental HOLY 7)

THE FORMATIVE stages of what became America's mid-'80s hardcore explosion are already legend. Negative FX – Boston 'core creeps on the loose in 1982 – are resurrected here through a mixture of EPs and bootlegs.

First thing you notice is the rawness of sound and vision: a shaggy, soggy but cutting blur that makes Negative FX's successors seem positively cosseted. FX's sonic stab is uncompromising, crazed and snotty - with one side rushing by like an express subway train looking for a wall to hit.

The form and content are familiar, but to hear thrash this implosive, spinning wildly for its own sake, is still exhilarating. When they gear down, on 'Turn Your Back' the beat marches leadenly on, trailing fuzzy, tuneless guitar and a vocal ripe for therapy.

It's hard to get nostalgic about hardcore, and Negative FX aren't making it easier.

RALPH TRAITOR

ALBUMS



A look back at June's essential albums

THE BEATMASTERS 'Anywayawanna' (Rhythm King)

IF THERE's one thing The Beatmasters can be credited with, it's the return to form of PP Arnold, whose blazing larynx breathes fire into a mellow 'Burn It Up' (remixed drastically and successfully) and the sultry 'Make Me Feel'.

More than any other comparable UK act, The Beatmasters have learnt a few lessons from their chart successes, and the resulting fusions of hard beats/hard melody cross credibility barriers with ease. DW

THE CATERAN 'Ache'

(What Goes On)
WHEN THE Cateran blaze
through Hendrix's 'Love And
Confusion' it's as apt an
instance of guitar-fixated
grave-robbery as Hüsker Dü's
'Eight Miles High'; they know
exactly what they're doing.

The Cateran are like nothing else from these shores and can now stand proudly with the New World's finest. KC

EDWYN COLLINS 'Hope And Despair' (Demon) AFTER IRRITATINGLY
haphazard and mysteriously
curtailed platonic
relationships with the Top 40
as leader of Orange Juice,
Collins has combed back the
quiff, settled up with the
landlord and written 13
epistles of wit, mighty
sincerity, pride, regret and
the two crucial emotions in
the record's title.

We're now faced with the thrilling prospect of reassessing Collins' career and concluding that even the best Orange Juice songs (not to mention his two solo singles) were but tasters for this superlative record. DC

THE FALL 'Seminal Live'

(Beggars Banquet)
AS MARK E Smith starts on his third decade he grows ever more errant — a limitless spring of bile, paranoia and self-aggrandisement. But his Fall still spark vigorously despite, or perhaps because of, his personal cranks.
'Seminal', with its first side of unreleased studio and home recordings, offers as complete a look into Smith's awry, genuinely gothic

sub-world as any Fall album. Live, not live, The Fall remain lividly vital. RW

PETER GABRIEL 'Passion'

(Real World)
FAIR PLAY to Peter Gabriel.
Getting the various masters of the strange and wonderful instruments was an art in itself; writing and arranging this lovely, moving record was a complex and courageous labour of love. DC

KING'S X
'Gretchen Goes To
Nebraska'

(Megaforce)

KING'S X work on a number of levels. Their music is powerful, accessible, groovy. But amid all rock's trad outrage and excess, it also holds a rare sense of purity and dignity. PE

MEGA CITY FOUR 'Tranzphobia'

(Decoy)
THIS BAND has found where pop fits into high energy music; 'Tranzphobia' works because it isn't afraid of pop. It embraces pop, puts a charge through it and lets it

rarely been so successful.
'Tranzphobia' is a major
pop-punk achievement, on a
par with Hüsker Dü and other
elitites of the genre; it is, in
essence and in fact, a major

come alive in a way that has

VAN MORRISON 'Avalon Sunset' (Polydor)

album. RT

IN VAN Morrison terms, ie compared to his output since about 1980, it's a bit hard to take.

What can't be criticised is the emotively-recited 'Coney Island', which is taken to a perfect conclusion: 'On and on, over the hill and the crack is good. . ./I'm thinking/ Wouldn't it be great if it was like this all the time?'

Wisdom undiminished, Van's merely made a good album for a change, instead of a great one. **DC**

THE PERFECT DISASTER

(Fire)

THE PERFECT Disaster unashamedly covet rock 'n' roll's classic motifs. Their

fascination is for the '50s and '60s when rock's grainy vocabulary was still being coined, for a time before rock 'n' roll became a quaint thing bereft of any real menace. And against the odds, despite the sheer crustiness of their living-on-the-edge-manship, The Perfect Disaster's age-old scheme works. RW

PRINCE 'Batman'

(WEA)
PRINCE HAS finally freaked.
Less a soundtrack than a
psychotic tow-act
microdrama, 'Batman' takes
place in a one-seat
auditorium. And Prince takes
all the parts.

Changing roles and gender with no pretence of continuity, Prince plays Batman, The Joker and Vicki Vale in a staggering fit of schizophrenia. There are guest presences (Michael Keaton, Jack Nicholson and Kim Basinger surface in fragments of snatched dialogue) but this is Prince, in control. DW

PUBLIC IMAGE LIMITED

(Virgin/CD)

WITH THE fresh-faced Brit-Packers still wedded to all points '77 and the Pistols' goth offspring as rampant as ever it's only proper that the oldest errant schoolboy of them all should be steering in the opposite direction entirely.

You can mutter the old adage about each revolution assuming the robes of its predecessor – and some of these robes are a mite tatty – but Lydon remains heart and soul his own man. KC

ALSO

BANG TANGO 'Psycho Café' (MCA)

RHYS CHATHAM 'Die Donnergötter' (Homestead)

GAVIN FRIDAY & THE MAN SEEZER 'Each Man Kills The Thing He Loves' (Island)

CHRIS ISAAK 'Heart Shaped World' (WEA)

KITCHENS OF DISTINCTION 'Love Is Hell' (One Little Indian)



TOM PETTY
'Full Moon Fever' (MCA)

SCREAMING TREES
'Buzz Factory' (SST)

SOULED AMERICAN 'Flubber' (Rough Trade)

VARIOUS ARTISTS
'Time Between: A Tribute
To The Byrds'
(Imaginary)

YOUSSOU N'DOUR 'The Lion' (Virgin)

ROBERT GORDON 'Live At Lone Star' (New Rose/Rose 173)

A CHARMINGLY low-key live album hot-wired direct from the desk, 'Live At Lone Star' captures Robert Gordon and friends boppin' the blues one hot night in New York City.

Robert Gordon's something of a pleasing anachronism. Respectful of the weight of rock 'n' roll tradition resting on his shoulders, his resolve to play things down-the-line might make him a purist's dream – but never a dusty relic.

Backed by a tight rhythm section, 'Live At Lone Star' breathes rejuvenating life into the dormant spirit of Gordon's great '70s collaborations with Link Wray. But this time around, neglected British master guitarist Chris Spedding is featured in his own idiosyncratic variation on the Link Wray role model.

His revelatory playing seasoned with an assured lightness of touch, Spedding proves the perfect foil to Gordon's hot 'n' snappy hop through some of rock 'n' roll's tastiest moments.

Rolling off with Jack Scott's period classic, 'The Way I Walk' (immortalised by The Cramps on 'Gravest Hits'), this album uncovers a glut of classily resurrected post Presley, Cochran and Vincent rockabilly boogie – 'Twenty Flight Rock', 'Remember To Forget', 'You're Undecided', 'Red Hot'. The only shaky moment is the cover of Springsteen's 'Fire', which feels too MOR here.

This album is discriminating rock 'n' roll and proof that, when it comes to kicking a tune into shape and coming on all shook up, few can cut it like Robert Gordon.

GRAHAME BENT

MORDRED 'Fool's Game' (Noise UK NUK 135/CD) ***1/2 LIKE THE great yet ignored They making More there survive survive

Elike THE great yet ignored Blind Illusion (currently on hold and seeking out a drummer), Mordred create Bay Area metal with a difference; to wit, they don't ape local heroes Exodus and Metallica.

Mordred are rooted in thrash but also in funk Freakish, furious, melodic, Mordred are closer to Faith No More than Metallica and are as startling as both. 'Fool's Game' is their debut, an eclectic set, but idiosyncratic in spite of its variety. With Scott Holderby's weird, nasal though tuneful voice akin to a less delirious Joe Belladonna, Mordred often sound like a fitful hybrid of Anthrax and, perhaps, Fishbone

The quintet galvanise Rick James' 'Super Freak', playing it hard but not too stiffly, and chomp some original crunch-funk on the arrogant 45, 'Every Day's A Holiday'. The big metal numbers are sly, zealous and full of sharp angles. 'State Of Mind' drops the coolest of hooks into a seething riff; 'Shatter' goes awry on looping twin leads; 'Numb' slips, schizoid, from high-velocity screwball metal to heaving jazz-rock.

Mordred are the Noise label's first US signing. Brave and creative, they're far stronger than trad-slammers like Testament and Forbidden.

Regrettably, the misfortune of Blind Illusion may also signpost Mordred's fate.

They're a great band in the making, but it's possible that Mordred are too far 'out there' to sell records and survive.

PAUL ELLIOTT

drivin'n'cryin' 'Mystery Road' (Island 7 91226-1/CD) ***

'MYSTERY ROAD' is drivin'n'cryin's third album, but their first release here, and the timing is immaculate.

From Georgia, soon to be rechristened The REM State, this talented trio are faintly comparable to their neighbours.

Beginning simply with 'Ain't It Strange', a folky, wistful ballad, the album kicks away the REM traces with 'Toy Never Played With' – a generic rock 'n' roller unpolluted by pretence.

Understandably, drivin' also ride the same roads as the Georgia Satellites albeit less ostentatiously.

The largely acoustic 'With The People' and 'Wild Dog Moon' show two sides of the band – the latter being a rough-riding rocker.

The piledrivin' 'You Don't Know Me', handy for any unforseen stadium stint, and 'Malfunction Junction', cut from the same cloth but harder still, set the band's distinctive styles even further apart. 'Straight To Hell', another country castaway, continues the contrasting turns that make 'Mystery Road' one worth travelling.

REM paved the lot, now drivin'n' cryin' just have to find some place to park.

RALPH TRAITOR

The French connection

LOLITAS

'Fusee D'Amour'
(New Rose/Rose 170/CD) ***1/2

LOLITAS SET themselves an unenviably hard task when they unleashed their stunning self-titled debut. A garaged-out fusion of glam, rock and pop, with a hint of roots rock 'n' roll, it proved a hard act to follow – evidenced by last year's 'Series Americaines'.

'Fusee D'Amour' – their third LP – took them to Memphis, and to producer Alex Chilton. Between them they've come up with Lolitas most solid, considered and constant album to date.

From Eddie Cochran and Gene Vincent to Tav Falco and The Cramps, France has had an obsessive affair with rock 'n' roll, and this same amour fou burns at the heart of Lolitas.

Only very rarely does a band playing rock 'n' roll from anything other than an Anglo-American perspective, invest it with sufficient true grit. But, as with Montpellier's nitro rockers OTH, Lolitas' rock en Français packs a gutsy resolve.

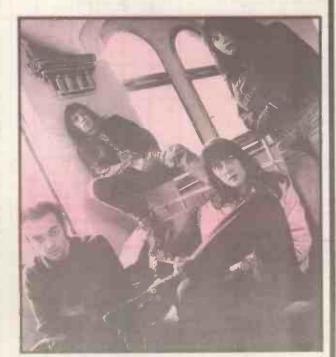
Remorselessy driven by the locomotive vocals of singing drummer Françoise Cactus, this trashy garage owes as much to Bo Diddley and New York Dolls as it does to Françoise Hardy and Johnny Halliday.

And on closer inspection, 'Joli Johnny' turns out to be Chuck Berry's 'Little Queenie' incognito.

In the countdown to '92 Lolitas' spicy hybrid is living proof that Euro-rock needn't add up to the dodgy modernism of Front 242 and their ilk.

Allez rock, mes enfants. . .

GRAHAME BENT



LOLITAS: AN obsessive affair with rock 'n' roll

PET SHOP BOYS 'It's Alright' (Parlophone) A

bleak soul-rap tune not so much sanitised as chilled by our planet's cleverest new pop svengalis. This is tailored comfortably to the pale melancholy of their disco realm. The track is ripened under a Trevor Horn glitterball, but the loving treatment of the melody is pure Lowe and Tennant even as the machines pound a street of beat and perky keyboards chirp busily in the foreground, there is Neil's quietly suffering voice. I couldn't stand the sincere front of 'Always On My Mind'. This one is another matter.

LEDERNACKEN 'Wheelin' & Dealin' (Deutschland Strike

Back) Here, on the other hand, is dance music used for worthless ends. A man who chews metal for elevenses, sweats and roars for minutes on end as various other knuckleheads bang and crash around him. There is, though, some light relief when a saxophonist stumbles up to the microphone for a few squiggly remarks. Strike out.

DOLLY PARTON 'Why'd You Come In Here Lookin' Like That?' (CBS) A crucial

moment for country music, this. If Randy Travis has peaked and the initiative is passing back to more senior names, it must be an ideal time for Dolly to release her back-to-the-roots album.

Produced by Ricky Skaggs, this is an encouraging trailer for the forthcoming 'White Limozeen' - snappy hoedown beat, breezy harmonies and a tantalising, James Burtonstyle guitar solo, this is 'Here You Come Again' brought down to basics. Best performance of the week.

1927 'If I Could' (WEA)

An interesting group, poorly served by a rock-ballad fillip from a patchy LP. They have some songwriting nous that disappears into the anonymous clothes of a tune that could have served as makeweight material on just about any album from the last ten years or so.

MIDNIGHT OIL 'The

Dead Heart' (CBS) The vividness of Midnight Oil's rock gets them through all the awkwardness of Aussie authenticity. Before the admirable 'Diesel And Dust', it was hard to imagine a music traced in bleached outback stone; nothing The Go-Betweens ever did, for instance, struck such remarkable sparks out of a distant land.

This excerpt is less immediately gripping than 'Beds Are Burning', but the marching chorus, the strange alliance between horns and guitars and the ominous sentiments of the song conspire to achieve the rough, compelling grace peculiar to this extraordinary band. Bonus tracks of various vintage show that this is really a stop-gap release. I look forward to their next new music.

PLAIN WHITE TOAST 'Temptations Of Driving EP' (St Valentine) Life after Ubu in Cleveland, Ohio. Three

SINGLE OF THE WEEK

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS 'She's So Young' (Chrysalis) It's been hard to keep faith with Todd Rundgren over the years. He might be, at times, the most heartless of players in pop music, turning his talent to the most unworthy ends - entire albums of disaster such as 'Healing', most of the output by Utopia, the cruel unleashing of Meatloaf's 'Bat Out Of Hell' on a gullible world. Todd's made it tough for

He has also gifted the most sublime music on a mostly deaf and ignorant audience. I've often compiled imaginary best-ofs that would settle for all time that his is the most peerless, transfixing craftsmanship in pop music. When he wants it to be.

Alright, 'Almost Human' isn't much of a comeback, no matter what American reviewers are saying, and he does seem to be retreating further into mere eccentricity. But sometimes he appears to just stand behind someone else's mixing desk and magic starts to

It happened with XTC's 'Skylarking', the best-disciplined album of their career, and with Bourgeois Tagg's amazing 'Yoyo' LP that begs to be rediscovered. And it almost happens here, with this group called The Pursuit Of Happiness.

'She's So Young' starts with the voice and wait-for-it guitar intro that is pure Rundgren, and shifts into the kind of stinging high-octane pop that Todd first synthesised out of Beatles memories and American garage drive. It just unreels that way for three minutes or so, and it's a little ragged at the edges - well, the group has to assert itself somehow.

A producer's record, a ringing blast in the ears, a master's reminder of what he can do.



grinding tracks sparked by music poet Moz: best is the neurotic, blitzed-out thrash of the title tune, but both 'Real Cool' and 'Alone In the Home' get the fallout blooze down to a fine, disreputable art. Contact: PO Box 79116, Cleveland, Ohio 44107.

THE POGUES 'Misty Morning, Albert Bridge'(Pogue

Mahone) This is not, frankly, the sound of surprise. Gruff, mouthful-of-porridge vocals, heaving up and down over the familiar sea shanty melody and strummin' rhythms that they can probably turn out in their sleep by now.

It's still hard to grasp why The Pogues cause as much interest as they do. Maybe this is a novelty for Anglo Saxons who never visited Irish dancehalls. Anyway, a Steve Lillywhite production glosses over what folk legitimacy the music may have had, and the rest could probably be heard in any pub around London's Archway Road.

SWING OUT SISTER 'Where In The World?' (Fontana) The blandness is authentic enough. Everything else about this attempt at heisting '60s pop values and fast-forwarding to today is completely phoney. From the twittering 'rebel' stance of

the lyric to the mincing arrangement, there's hardly a crumb of encouragement to play this more than once.

CACTUS WORLD

NEWS 'Rebound' (MCA) Promising start death-knell guitar struck over a sombre chord sequence. It

doesn't quite hang together after that, but at least there's a sparseness in what would otherwise be routine epic rock stuff. They sound like they'd rather be taking notes in a corner than beating their breasts on the grander stage.

RUFUS & CHAKA KHAN 'Ain't Nobody' (Atlantic) Here's an early prediction for the '90s: the remix obsession will finally die a deserved death. The only reason for a project such as Chaka Khan's interminable 'Life Is A Dance' album is an artistic dead-end or personal incapacity. Little is added to the new versions of old tunes except weight and duration. That said, the light joy of 'Ain't Nobody' gets a mildly interesting rebore here as a vaquely threatening bodypop track. But why trade for the original?

STRENGTH 'Breaking Hearts' (Arista) Seems incredible that this had to be put together in five studios in three cities. Otherwise, a

creditable flexing of soulboy muscles by two nice young white chaps from Croydon. If they'd left off the tired horn parts and stuck to the crisp play of drums and voices it might've sounded even better.

NORMAN COOK 'Won't Talk About It'/'Blame It On The Bassline' (Go-Beat) If Soul II Soul have taken the lead in restoring structural power to experimental dance tracks, it looks like plenty of others are prepared to follow it up. This ex-Housemartins

bassist sounds like a fair

candidate. The first track is someone sticking together old Philly soul tricks and getting Billy Bragg to do the basement vocals. 'Bassline' finds Norm taping other stuff off the radio, asking a few pals in to rap while beating out a bonus rhythm on a couple of tin

BORGHESIA 'She Is Not Alone' (Play It

drums. Funny, exuberant

record-making.

Again Sam) Crudely effective cover of a Sonic Youth tune (come on, you can all whistle that one). Machines get cranked up to a lather while a couple of grimacing vocalists live out all your fantasies about Eastern Bloc greyness and repression. A

miserable affair. Sleeve sports images of nightmare, horror etc. .

WISHBONE ASH 'Cosmic Jazz' (IRS) SPIRIT 'Hard Love'

(IRS) Old guys setting out to prove that they're alive. Wishbone Ash have tamed their guitar blast down to a record that thinks it's a video game - all sharp angles, robot voices and sheer surfaces. Cute, meaningless title to up their cool rating.
Spirit sound far more true

to their roots. Much has gone down since 'Spirit Of '76', never mind their original hash-haze masterworks, but Randy California still does a good take on Hendrix and the bald guy drums up a minor storm. Sandy Nelson would have approved; so would adult rock radio - if we had any here.

THE BLOW MONKEYS 'Choice?' (RCA) This

band have tried more styles than Ted Dexter's seam attack. Apocalypse pop, blue-eyed soul, fake jazz. . . now here comes the next hot thing whistling through the rafters of the dub housing. Vigorous vocal from Sylvia Tella while Dr Robert heckles and jives alongside, but it sounds like they forgot to finish the backing track. Maybe the song as well.

VARIOUS 'Pressure Drop Volume 2 EP' (Mango) Desmond

Dekker's '007 (Shanty Town)' is a beautiful, dignified track, the most imaginative picture of trouble and strife in a tough community, achieved through restraint and a filigree touch.

The vocal parts are simple and haunting, the unswerving shuffle beat is as hypnotic as this sort of thing is meant to be and seldom is. Shows its age (first born 1966) without

Bonus tracks: a Pioneers rarity, 'Samfie Man', with odd pre-echoes of dub; The Melodians and their sad, stiff-backed, 'Rivers Of Babylon'; and The Maytals making a clattery stomp out of 'Monkey Man'. Bargain of the week.

JULIAN LENNON 'You're The One'

(Virgin) "His career's over," muttered a colleague, turning the sleeve over. Pity, if that's so. This and his last single shook off comparisons with the old man with some aplomb - bold, upfront performances of strong rock tunes. Nothing to burn down today's chart toppers, maybe, but a long way clear of the weedy copycat sound of 'Too Late For Goodbyes'.

THE SNAPDRAGONS 'Dole Boys On Futons'

(Native) Perceptive caricature of indie protest pop by a group with an arrogant, aggravating power. James Taylor's whining vocals sound too hung up on a Smiths sort of world weariness, but there's little wrong with the offhand attack of the guitars or the clever twists in the lyric. Also present: the snooty, swaggering 'Lies' and the trumped up rockabilly of 'Fruits Of The Earth'.

SIMPLY RED 'A New Flame' (WEA) Doesn't mean much to me, but there's no reason why this shouldn't follow 'If You Don't Know Me' into the high numbers.

Stewart Levine masks the dull competence of the group with a chunky studio sound and Hucknall sings with surprising commitment. You might expect third-album blues from the vocalist, yet he seems to be a rare case man inspired by studios.

HEAD 'All The Boyz (At War)' (Virgin) Flabby, thuggish exploits by men old enough to know better. Far better. I thought this lot were supposed to be into anarchy, crazed outbursts of energy, power-mad assaults on effete pop? This one will not be troubling Jason and friends.

THIRD WORLD 'Forbidden Love'

(Mercury) Still searching for another 'Now That We've Found Love', Third World aren't quite there with this rather reserved bit of electro-reggae.

Since this is just the sort of music that Bob Marley would be making if he were still here, they must be wondering why they can't inherit his MOR

success. Maybe the pointless rap halfway through is the answer. Instead of turning clichés to their advantage, they let the clichés take over.

HELLRAISER II - () HELLBOUND

(Premier Releasing) TO HELL with it. For all the critical rumblings, Clive Barker's '87 Hellraiser remains just a rather modest horror flick with a few intelligent touches - a souped-up Dr Who for Dungeons And Dragons enthusiasts. With a new director (Tony Randel), Hellraiser II is a good-deal tighter than Barker's but lacks any of the conviction of its laughably po-faced publicity.

Following directly on from its predecessor, Hellbound finds Kirsty in a sanitarium under the administration of sadistic Dr Channard (Kenneth Cranham). Unbeknown to Kirsty, Channard is an occult freak with designs on the Lament Configuration, the mystic puzzle (featured in the previous movie) which, when solved, opens the gateway to hell. Channard sets Tiffany, a mute cutie with carefully nurtured puzzle-solving skills, the task of solving the Lament. Which, obviously, she does.

Plunged into a rather tedious underworld labyrinth (this is meant to be purgatory?), it's here that Hellbound really falls apart. Most of the gore is pretty neat, but much of it seems to have been cut for the American censor's pleasure.

A potted history of Cenobite mythology obliterates any trace of Hellraiser's bleak S&M subtext but a shoddy, tacked-on epilogue – hinting at a third instalment - is the absolute pits.

DAMON WISE

FAIR GAME (Medusa)

IMAGINE YOU'RE trapped in a Los Angeles apartment with a kill-crazed green mamba. What do you do? Simple you grab a heavy object, stand in a corner and wait, then wallop! Bye bye snake.

Oddball sculptress Eva (Trudie Styler) has different ideas in Mario Orfini's Fair Game. She's just been visited by her estranged husband Gene (Gregg Henry) - an electronics wizard and a real man's man who doesn't take kindly to being rejected.

After a last unsuccessful attempt at seducing his wife, Gene has left, but not before secreting a foul-tempered mamba in a handy plant pot.

All exits have been sealed by the astonishingly vindictive Gene and, from his car outside, he charts the radio-equipped reptile's progress via a home-made computer game. You've guessed it, Fair Game.

As the flashing onscreen snake locates its bleeping prey, we return to the scene indoors. From a mamba's eye view we watch amazed as Eva bathes, dries off, goes for a stroll and finally settles in front of the TV.

When she finally spots her slithery foe, Eva goes ga-ga and does everything you shouldn't do when imprisoned with a mamba like standing underneath a maze of ceiling rafters armed (initially) with nothing more than an egg whisk!

The battle is underway, but such is the heroine's incompetence that your sympathy lies with the poor snake, which must have better ways to spend its time than chasing after a screaming twit lacking the brains to provide even a minor challenge

As a thriller, Fair Game is truly dismal.

MR SPENCER

Comedy of errors



MARTIN: MAD, bad and dangerous to know

DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS

(Orion Pictures)

UNFURL THE bunting! Pop those champagne corks! The new Steve Martin movie! But wait awhile.

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels is no more "the new Steve Martin film" than was Planes, Trains And Automobiles. In Planes, Martin and John Candy emerged with honours even; in Scoundrels, he meets his match in Michael Caine.

Based on a '60s box-office failure, Bedtime Story, Scoundrels weighs in somewhere between the well-mannered comedies All Of Me and Roxanne and Martin's more absurdist stand-up routines. Essentially it's a plausible (enough) plot overlaid with ridiculous embellishments.

The result is a film which lurches along, but which ultimately proves rewarding because of the periodic lunatic genius of Martin, set off by Caine's surprisingly polished performance.

The protagonists are conmen - Martin, a small-time interloper by the name of Freddy Benson, who stumbles upon the rich pickings of Lawrence Johnson (Caine), an aristocrat among tricksters who has the riviera resort of Beaumont-Sur-Mer sewn up. Having had his avaricious eyes

opened to the possibilities presented by the wealthy, gullible, single and generally American women residents, Benson uses a little coercion to lever Johnson into taking him under his

In cahoots against the Cote D'Azur widows and spinsters, Benson adopts the guise of Prince Ruprecht, Johnson's retarded 'brother'. They prosper. They fall out, and a winner-takes-all wager ensues, the object of the bet being an American soap queen (ie the female interest), played by Glenne Headly. It pretty much goes without saying that Headly is not what she seems, and it's high jinks all the way to the film's conclusion (which sets things up nicely should the producers feel like knocking up a sequel).

Caine plays the role of Johnson with the straightest of bats, more than sufficiently convincing as a latter-day David Niven character - suave, debonair, etc. Martin's performance is a little patchy, as is the film itself. Not one of Martin's greatest films, but still more than enough to at least merit a nomination for one of the comedies of the year (well, how can anything top Working Girl?). Of course, you've gotta see it.

THE RAGGEDY RAWNEY

(Handmade) DURING ENEMY fire, raw recruit Tom (Dexter Fletcher) sees his companion obliterated and runs for his life. Now technically a deserter, he finds himself in dangerous limbo, about to be shot by both sides.

Plastered with mud and make-up, lumbering awkwardly in an ill-fitting dress, Tom finds refuge with a band of gypsies who mistake the half-crazed vision for a 'rawney', a folklore figure with mythical powers.

Though first mistrusted, Tom is at last inducted into the camp and favoured by gypsy leader Darky (Bob Hoskins), whose daughter Jessie (Zoe Nathenson) comes to learn the 'creature''s secret.

As Tom and Jessie's relationship strengthens, their life together is constantly threatened by disputes within the group. Meanwhile, the theatre of war is fast approaching.

Bob Hoskins' debut in the director's seat is a strange affair. His inexperience is evident, but the problem is the narrative – The Raggedy Rawney's 'fantasy' basis is too subtly expressed, leaving the viewer confused by the vagueness of the unspecified war and the strangeness of the unidentified eastern European landscape.

What we have instead is principally an actor's movie and it's here that Hoskins' sympathetic camera triumphs. The entire ensemble turn in credible and movingly understated performances, in particular Zoe Wanamaker as Darky's. former mistress Ellie.

Dark in tone and at times macabre, The Raggedy Rawney makes no compromise with its delivery and proves uncomfortably direct with its reflections.

By no means a masterpiece, but there's more in Hoskins' unflinching lens than any sanitised Hollywood rival. Nice one, Bob, but that moustache.

DAMON WISE

The last temptation.

INDIANA JONES AND THE LAST CRUSADE

ANOTHER RIPPING yarn from George Lucas and Steven Spielberg, two men with arrested childhoods and a mega million dollar purse.

Third in the Indiana Jones series, The Last Crusade is a thunderous caper of classic construction. It sags in the middle, but erhaps a little slack is needed t bangs that begin and end the tale.

The Last Crusade is the ultimate treasure hunt, wherein ever durable lecturer-cum-superhuman have-a-go-hero Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford) pursues the Holy Grail and patches up his relationship with his stiff old dad (Sean Connery) along

Nouveau brat River Phoenix lives dangerously through 20 minutes as the male lead before the timescale accelerates into the late '30s and the familiar figure of Harrison Ford is recalled to achieve the (seemingly!) impossible.

The quest for the Grail leads him to the dustiest corners of the earth and into some pretty mean competition. "Nazis," sighs Indie, "I hate those guys!" Snakes, tanks, booby traps, fist fights and political comment it's all here.

The only problem is, after the Holy Grail, what's left for Indie to chase? The Football League Championship? Sorry, mate, those glorious Gunners beat you to it.

PAUL ELLIOTT



LOOK OUT it's Jesus, Jones

FHARTS

BATMAN MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK......Warner Brothers 2 4 CLUB CLASSICS VOLUME ONE Soul II Soul 10 1 THE HITS ALBUM 10......Various CBS/WEA/BMG 7 FLOWERS IN THE DIRT......Paul McCartney Parlophone 5 9 RAINBOW WARRIORSVarious RCA 6 2 TEN GOOD REASONS...... Jason Donovan PWL 7 3 RAW LIKE SUSHI Neneh Cherry Circa 8 12 APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTIONGuns N' Roses Geffen 9 5 THE MIRACLE...... Queen Parlophone 10 13 PASTPRESENT......Clannad RCA 11 11 DON'T BE CRUEL Bobby Brown MCA 13 8 NITEFLITE 2......Various CBS 14 6 THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MIRROR Stevie Nicks Modern 15 17 STREET FIGHTING YEARSSimple Minds Virgin 16 24 A NEW FLAME......Simply Red Elektra

	17	_	ANYWAYAWANNAB	eatmasters Rhythm King
	18	16	WHEN THE WORLD KNOWS YOUR NAME	Deacon Blue CBS
	19	25	LIKE A PRAYER	Madonna Sire
	20	40	STEPPIN' TO THE SHADOWS	The Shadows Polydor
	21	23	THE RAW AND THE COOKEDFine	oung Cannibals London
	22	50	THE ESSENTIAL PLACIDO DOMINGO	Placido Domingo
				Deutsche Grammophon
	23	_	A NIGHT TO REMEMBER	Cyndi Lauper Epic
ı	24	20	PRECIOUS METAL	Various Stylus
	25	36	GREEN	REM Warner Brothers
	26	19	PARADISE	Inner City 10
	27	14	TIN MACHINE	Tin Machine EMI USA
	28	21	KYLIE	Kylie Minogue PWL
	29	29	ANYTHING FOR YOU	iloria Estefan And Miami
١				Sound Machine Enic

30 15	AVALON SUNSET	Van Morrison Polydor
31 18	GOOD TO BE BACK	Natalie Cole EMI USA
32 28°	LOC'ED AFTER DARK	Tone Loc Delicious Vinyl
33 22	STAGE HEROES	Colm Wilkinson RCA
34 30	LIFE IS A DANCE (THE REMIX PROJECT).	Chaka Khan
	•••••••	Warner Brothers
35 –	EAT ME IN ST LOUIS	It Bites Virgin
36 –	KARYN WHITEKa	ryn White Warner Brothers
37 43	BLAST	Holly Johnson MCA

49 32 BLIND MAN'S ZOO...... 10,000 Maniacs Elektra

PRINCE: A good opening bat. .

UK 50 SINGLES

1 2 BACK TO LIFE (HOWEVER DO YOU WANT ME) Soul II Soul

..... featuring Caron Wheeler 10

		leaturing caron wheeler to
2	11	BATDANCE Prince Warner Brothers
3	8	ALL I WANT IS YOUU2 Island
4	7	SONG FOR WHOEVER Beautiful South Go! Discs
5	1	SEALED WITH A KISS Jason Donovan PWL
6	4	RIGHT BACK WHERE WE STARTED FROM Sinitta Fanfare
7	6	I DROVE ALL NIGHT Cyndi Lauper Epic
8	3	THE BEST OF ME
9	5	SWEET CHILD O' MINEGuns N' Roses Geffen
10	28	LICENCE TO KILLGladys Knight MCA
11	10	ITISTIME TO GET FUNKY D Mob featuring
		LRS & DC Sarome Warner Brothers
12	12	JOY AND PAIN Donna Allen BCM
13	22	IN A LIFETIMEClannad RCA
14	9	EXPRESS YOURSELF Madonna Sire
15	_	PATIENCEGuns N' Roses Geffen
16	.14	JUST KEEP ROCKIN' Double Trouble & The Rebel MC Desire
17	16	MISS YOU LIKE CRAZYNatalie Cole EMI USA
18	39	ATOMIC CITYHolly Johnson MCA
19	-	BREAKTHRUQueen Parlophone
20	25	TILLILOVED YOU Placido Domingo & Jennifer Rush CBS
21	15	PINK SUNSHINEFuzzbox WEA
22	13	THE ONLY ONETransvision Vamp MCA
23	18	CRUEL SUMMER (SWINGBEAT VERSION) Bananarama London
24	27	SUPERWOMAN Karyn White Warner Brothers
25	29	IWON'T BACK DOWNTom Petty MCA
26	26	BE WITH YOU The Bangles CBS
27	21	I DON'T WANNA GET HURT Donna Summer Warner Brothers
28	31	POP MUZIK (THE 1989 REMIX) M Freestyle
29	-	FIGHT THE POWERPublic Enemy Motown
30	17	FOREVER YOUR GIRL Paula Abdul Siren
31	19	MANCHILDNeneh Cherry Circa
32	33 .	
33	30	WALTZ DARLINGMalcolm McClaren And The
		Bootzilla Orchestra Epic
	23	FUNKY COLD MEDINA/ON FIRETone Loc Delicious Vinyl
	34	LOOKING FOR A LOVE Joyce Sims Sleeping Bag
	20	ORANGE CRUSHREM Warner Brothers
	40	DOWNTOWNOne 2 Many A&M
38	-	GRANDPA'S PARTY Monie Love Cooltempo
39	24	ON THE INSIDE (THEME FROM PRISONER: CELL BLOCK H)
		Lynne Hamilton A1
	47	CRYWaterfront Polydor
41	_	YOU'LL NEVER STP ME FROM LOVING YOU Sonia Chrysalis
	37	TEARS Frankie Knuckles ffrr
43	_	THE SECOND SUMMER OF LOVE Danny Wilson Virgin
	32	EVERY LITTLE STEP
45		VOODOO RAY EP A Guy Called Gerald Rham
46	-	WIND BENEATH MY WINGS
	35	FERRY 'CROSS THE MERSEY Gerry Marsden and Various PWL
48	-	UNDER THE GODTin Machine EMI USA
49	-	LONDON NIGHTSLondon Boys Teldec

Compiled by MRIB



COMPACT DISC

1	1	FLOWERS IN THE DIRT	Paul McCartney Parlophone
2	3	THE MIRACLE	Queen Parlophone
3	7	PAST PRESENT	
4	4	RAW LIKE SUSHI	Neneh Cherry Circa
5	2	THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MIRROR	Stevie Nicks RCA
6	-	RAINBOW WARRIORS	Various CBS
7	.6	WATERMARK	
8	13	NITE FLITE 2	Various CBS
9	8	CLUB CLASSICS VOLUME ONE	
10	15	PRECIOUS METAL	
11	5	THE HITS ALBUM 10	
12	10	STREET FIGHTING YEARS	Simple Minds Virgin
13	12	APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION	Guns N' Roses Geffen
14	14	DON'T BE CRUEL	Bobby Brown MCA
15	9	WHEN THE WORLD KNOWS YOUR	NAME Deacon Blue CBS
16	17	THE RAW AND THE COOKED	Fine Young Cannibals London
17	19	AVALON SUNSET	Van Morrison Polydor
18	-	EVERYTHING	The Bangles CBS
19	16	A NEW FLAME	' '
20	11	TIN MACHINE	Tin Machine EMI USA

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MUSICVID

1	- 1	1 DELICATE SOUND OF THUNDER Pink	Floyd PMI
2	3	FRANK SINATRA AND FRIENDS Various Video	Collection
3	2	2 THE INVISIBLE TOUCH TOURGen	esis Virgin
4	4	4 RATTLE AND HUM	U2 CIC
5	7	Tibe of the control o	
6	6		ogue PWL
7	18	PRIVATE COLLECTIONCliff R	chard PMI
8	10	HOMECOMING CONCERTGloria Estefa	n & Miami
		Sound Ma	
9	5	5 INNOCENTS Eras	ure Virgin
10	8	B IN SEARCH OF EXCELLENCEINXS PMV	Channel 5
11	-	- LIVE AND GUARANTEEDCliff R	chard PMI
12		in deriver in the carry with	
13	9		
14	12		n Vestron
15	-	DIE AL BIOM OUT ACADEM I MANAGEM IN THE WOL	
16	=		
17	16		
18	14	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
19	-	STEP TEST THE SELVE THE STEP T	
20	-	- BIG AREAThen Jerico	Channel 5

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Metal Elliott

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Robin Gibson

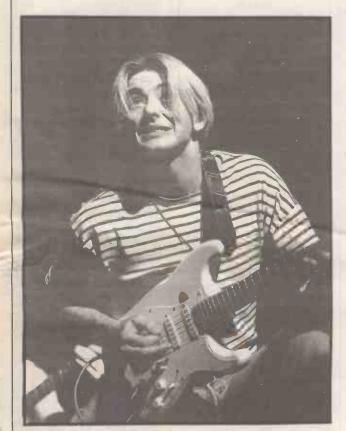
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CHARTS

HOT METAL

ALBUMS

1	1	APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION .	Guns N' Roses Getten
2	2	PRECIOUS METAL	Various Stylus
3	_	BADLANDS	Badlands Atlantic
4	_	EAT ME IN ST LOUIS	It Bites Virgin
5	3	GN'R LIES	Guns N' Roses Geffen
6	4	OPEN UP AND SAY AAH!	Poison Capitol
7	7	SOFT METAL	Various Stylus
8	5	THE HEADLESS CHILDREN	WASP Capitol
9	6		Def Leppard Bludgeon Riffola
10	8	TAKING ON THE WORLD	Gun A&M
11	16	BATOUT OF HELL	Meat Loaf Cleveland International
12	20	SEA HAGS	Sea Hags Chrysalis
13	9		Bon Jovi Vertigo
14	_	BROADWAY THE HARD WAY.	Frank Zappa Music For Nations
15	14	HEADLESS CROSS	Black Sabbath IRS
16	11	RECKLESS	Bryan Adams A&M
17	12	BLUE MURDER	Blue Murder Geffen
18	10	IN YOUR FACE	Kingdom Come Polydor
19	_	THE LAST COMMAND	WASP Fame/EMI
20	_	FOUR SYMBOLS	Led Zeppelin Atlantic



IT BITES get their just desserts

SINGLES

1	1	5WEET CHILD O' MINE (REMIX)	Guns N' Roses Geffen
2	2	IWON'TBACK DOWN	Tom Petty MCA
3	3	LOVE MADE ME	Vixen EMI USA
4	5	LOVE BOMB BABY	Tigertailz Music For Nations
5	7	BETTER DAYS	Gun A&M
6	4	THE REAL ME	WASP Capitol
7	6	CLOSE MY EYES FOREVER (REMIX)	
		***************************************	Ozzy Osbourne RCA
8	13	I'LL BE THERE FOR YOU	Bon Jovi Vertigo
9	10	STILL TOO YOUNG TO REMEMBER	
10	11	PARADISE CITY	Guns N' Roses Geffen
11	8	ONE	Metallica Vertigo
12	12	YOUR MAMA DON'T DANCE	
13	9	BLACK BONE SONG	
14	14	IFEELTHE POWER	Vow Wow Arista
15	15	VOICES OF BABYLON	The Outfield CBS
16	17	LET THERE BE ROCK	Onslaught London
17	20	WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE	Guns N' Roses Geffen
18	16	EYES OF A STRANGER	
19	_	CRY TOUGH	Poison Music For Nations
20	19	DO YOULIKE IT?	Kingdom Come Polydor
3			
	V	PORTS	

1 - HERE AND NOW Billy Squier Capitol
2 3 DANGEROUS TOYS Dangerous Toys CBS
3 5 NITRO Nitro Rampage
4 2 DON'T TOUCH METHERE Silent Rage Simmons
5 6 SURPRISE ATTACK Tora Tora A&M
6 7 ENDANGERED SPECIES Burns Sisters CBS
7 9 GUARDIAN Guardian Enigma
8 10 LOST IN THE WIND Melidian CBS

INDIE ALBUMS

1	1	TEN GOOD REASONS Jason Donovan PWL
2	_	COUNTERFEIT EP Martin L Gore Mute
3	3	RAY MOORE – A PERSONAL CHOICE Various BBC
4	2	KYLIE Kylie Minogue PWL
5	5	STONE ROSESThe Stone Roses Silvertone
6	7	3 FEET HIGH AND RISING De La Soul Big Life
7	6	DOOLITTLE Pixies 4AD
8	8	THE INNOCENTS Erasure Mute
9	_	PARADISE REGAINEDVarious Republic
10	12	THE CIRCUS Erasure Mute
11	9	WANTED Yazz Big Life
12	13	HOPE AND DESPAIR Edwyn Collins Demon
13	4	TRANZOPHOBIAMega City Four Decoy
14	17	TECHNIQUE New Order Factory
15	11	BROADWAY THE HARD WAYFrank Zappa Music For Nations
16	10	101 Depeche Mode Mute
17	-	THE NEPHILIM Fields Of The Nephilim Situation Two
18	16	ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK S'Express Rhythm King
19	-	LOVE IS HELLKitchens Of Distinction One Little Indian
20	-	BLACK LIKE MECorportaion Of One Desire
21	15	DREAMWEAVERSabbat Noise International
22	18	ENYAEnya BBC
23	14	SITTING PRETTY The Pastels Chapter 22
24	20	THE MAN Elvis Costello Demon
25	-	LOVE IS A RHAPSODYGeneral Lafayette Plaza
26	-	IBTABA (IT'S BEGINNING TO AND BACK AGAIN) Wire Mute
27	-	BARBAROUS ENGLISH FAYREKing Of The Slums Play Hard
28	-	WHEN IN ROME, KILL MECud Imaginary
29	_	TURNIN' TABLES
30	21	SURFER ROSAPixies 4AD

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UNLIKELY

KERS

- 1 POPE KEN II 2 KEN THE RIPPER
- 3 ST KEN OF ASSISI
- 4 THE INVISIBLE KEN
 5 KEN, QUEEN OF SCOTS
- 6 KEN THE TERRIBLE
- 7 GENGHIS KEN
- 8 KEN OF ARABIA 9 KEN JOHNSON
- 10 KEN DODD



KEN JOHNSON?

Chart compiled by Mr AR Crap Chart plc @1989

INDIE SINGLES

1	1	SEALED WITH A KISS Jason Donovan PWL
2	2	RIGHT BACK WHERE WE STARTEDSinitta Fanfare
3	3	JUST KEEP ROCKIN' Double Trouble/Rebel MC Desire
4	4	JOY AND PAIN Donna Allen BCM
5	24	VOODOO RAY (EP)A Guy Called Gerald Rham!
6	5	ON THE INSIDELynne Hamilton A1
7	9	CHILDREN OF THE REVOLUTION Baby Ford Rhythm King
8	8	HAND ON YOUR HEART Kylie Minogue PWL
9	6	HEYLOM HALIB (ACID ACID ACID)Cappella Music Man
10	7	FERRY 'CROSS THE MERSEYGerry Marsden And Various PWL
11	11	LOVE BOMB BABY Tigertailz Music For Nations
12	10	WORK IT TO THE BONELNR Kool Kat/Big Life
13	15	PSYCHONAUT Fields Of The Nephilim Situation Two
14	13	WHO'S IN THE HOUSE Beatmasters with Merlin Rhythm King
15	_	THE FLY (ZOBI LA MOUCHE)Les Negresses Verte Rhythm King
16	12	MY TELEPHONE
17	16	QUE SERA MI VIDA ('89 MIX)The Gibson Brothers Debut
18	21	THE REAL LIFECorporation Of One Desire
19	14	DON'TIT MAKE YOU FEEL GOODStefan Dennis Sublime
20	18	ME MYSELF AND I De La Soul Big Life
21	22	JUST LIKE HEAVENDinosaur Jr Blast First
22	-	I SURRENDER Funk De Luxe Tam Tam
23	17	LET ME SHOW YOUTawanna Curry Republic
24	_	SALLY CINNAMONStone Roses Black
25	26	BONNIE WEE JEANNIE McCALLStuart Anderson Scotsdisc
26	20	LET'S DANCESweet Tee Profile
27	_	THE PLASTIC BAGEP Eat Fiction
28	_	AFRO DIZZI ACTCry Sisco! Escape
29	39	THERE AIN'T ENOUGH LOVE Zushii First Base
30	25	OPEN UP YOUR HEART Raina Paige Sleeping Bag
31	_	AIN'T NOTHING BUT A HOUSECorporation Corporation
32	19	WHERE HAS ALL THE LOVE GONE Yazz Big Life
33	37	TOO MANY BROKEN HEARTS Jason Donovan PWL
34	35	HEARTBREAKER Mystique Republic
35	28	COCOONTimerider Lisson
36	32	JOY AND PAIN Rob Base & DJ E-Z Rock Supreme
37	31	ICOULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOUR LOVE Petula Clark Legacy
38	27	MONSOON Black Radical Mk II 2 The Bone
39	33	PEOPLE HOLD ON Coldcut featuring Lisa Stanfield
		Ahead Of Our Time
40	_	ALL OVER THE WORLDChuck Jackson Nightmare
41	23	TECHNODELIA Technodelia Living Beat
42	31	A PLACE IN THE SUN The Men They Couldn't Hang Silvertone
43	30	STILL WAITING Keichia Jenkins Profile
44	34	THE EVENING SHOW SESSIONS The Stranglers Strange Fruit
45	_	ONE STEP AT A TIMENaisha PWL
46	_	PURE Lightning Seeds Ghetto
47	_	HURT ON HOLDFuzztones Situation Two
48	_	IRON MANSir Mix-A-Lot Tam Tam
49	_	ZERO SEX Christian Death Jungle
50	44	THIS IS SKALongsy D Big One

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IN-TECH

Tama-plated tom toms

Bob Wiczling puts
Tama's new
Rockstar-Pro kit
through its paces
and then turns his
attentions to the
same firm's
burgeoning range
of snare drums



ROCKSTAR-PRO is, as its name suggests, the big brother of the Rockstar family. Priced at the higher end of the market, it works out at about £280 more than the regular Rockstar, but is still extremely good value for money, featuring a different style of shell manufacture and a more upmarket type of

The Rockstar-Pro series drums are available as shell packs and as individual items, so you can start small and build your kit as large as you want.

Needless to say with Tama, and in particular with the Pro kits, the quality of manufacture is excellent, with shells made of a plywood combining basswood and veneer. The shell exterior is sealed with a covering sheet and the shell interior is beautifully coated with a lacquer finish.

There is a great selection of colour finishes and the kit! had to review was particularly striking, in what Tama call a cherry rose finish. I see it more as a sort of silky shocking pink, but whatever you call it, it's certainly



ROCKSTAR-PRO RP522X five drum kit finished in lilac

eye-catching, especially on a spotlit stage.

The drum sizes on this kit are as follows: 16x22in bass drum, 11x12 and 12x13in mounted toms and a 16x16in floor tom. The toms represent a nice selection of power sizes and are easy to tune and manipulate to your required sounds. None of these drums have internal dampers but together with the heavy bass drum, they deliver a deep and powerful sound without too much overtone.

The bass drum carries the

solid but neatly designed new bassmount that holds the double tom holder firmly. Also featured here are the new round bass drum spurs featuring adaptable rubber or spike tip. These hold the drum securely in place and fold quickly onto the side of the drum when not in use. The bass drum is well finished off with solid, chrome-covered metal hoops.

I particularly like the fact that on the toms, the mount fittings are such that no parts of a stand actually intrude into the shell of the drum. To achieve this, Tama use a system of L-shaped rods that hold the drum from its side edge.

These toms, fitted with Pinstripe top and Ambassador clear bottom heads, sound powerful without too much ring, so it's a big yet controllable sound and very easy to work with.

When it comes to the tom mounting system, Tama really have gone to town with their double tom holder. It is a very impressive and almost daunting looking system that gives you complete manoeuvrability and angle adjustment. There has obviously been a lot of

thought put into this system with its memory locks, quick release and lock angle adjusters.

The kit comes with a chrome finished metal snare drum. It features good wide snares with nylon strip connectors, adjustable on one side only. The snare release system is smooth-acting and fast. As with all the drums, the exterior finish is excellent with good quality chrome work. The drum delivers a loud and attacking snare sound and is very live, so use of external dampers or the now available and very effective aero rings would probably be advisable.
On the hardware front,

On the hardware front,
Tama have always had a
good reputation. All the
stands with this kit are
double-strutted and very
sturdy. There are two cymbal
stands – one straight and
one boom. Both have good
height variation and feature
a fast-acting, large L-shaped
release and lock nut. Nylon
bushes are standard
throughout and all stands
feature large secure rubber
tipped feet.

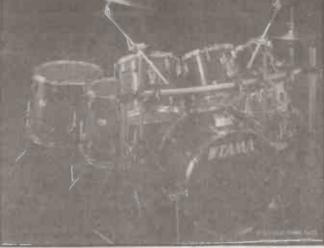
Snare stand is sturdy and straightforward although the addition of a ball and socket system would have made positioning an easier process.

The hi-hat stand really does portray quality. It is a fast action, chain drive pedal with a clever spring adjustment and positioning system. It is positive and a pleasure to use. Again, memory locks are present and spikes in the base keep it securely positioned. Last but not least, the bass drun pedal is the Tama Camco pedal with a single spring, chaindrive action. A double locking system keeps the beater well secured. It is a fast and powerful pedal and again feels positive underfoot.

With the Tama Rockstar-Pro, it's quality and value all the way.



SIX-DRUM version of the kit, the RPS622GD in misty chrome



RPS722GD SEVEN PIECE kit in dark blue

QQQ: Top quality; QQ: Fair attempt; Q: Naff; VVV: Top value; VV: Fair price; V: Too dear

TAMA SNARE DRUMS

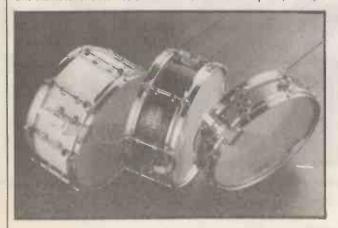
THE TAMA drum company are now producing a wide and varied range of snare drums. You are definitely spoilt for choice these days with a fabulous selection of sizes and materials ranging from piccolo to 9in deep models and featuring maple, birch, brass, steel and even copper shells.

All these drums display the Tama quality of manufacture and have been produced with the aim of providing the drummer with a wide selection of sound qualities for recording and live situations.

The range is too large to describe them all but here is taste of a few of the maple and brass drums.

TAMA 13 x 31/4 in MAPLE PICCOLO SNARE DRUM £225

A 13IN diameter snare drum is quite unusual to find these days, but apparently it's the traditional piccolo snare drum size, although this diameter shell is also available in 5 and 61/2in depths (below).



The shell is eight-ply maple, beautifully finished on the inside and with an attractive amber wood finish to the exterior.

The snare runs on a cam lever system that is quick to flick on and off and the actual snares themselves are nice and wide. The smaller diameter of this drum offers higher pitched tuning possibilities and when tuned high, the drum projects a really loud, live and cutting could

There are 16 two-way piccolo lugs and the drum is available in piano black and piano white finishes also.



TAMA 31/4 x 14in MAPLE SNARE DRUM £258

AN EXTRA £33 gets you an extra inch of diameter, plus, in the 14in diameter drum, you also have the option of getting a birdseye maple shell (above). Obviously it has a similar piccolo sound character but with a slightly warmer, fuller sound. There are 20 two-way lugs on this drum with the same die cast hoops, cam lever snare action and sensitive snares.

All models come with WK coated heads on top and WK clear snare bottoms. The shell is made up of eight sheets of maple forming a 7mm thick shell.

TAMA 5 x 14in BRASS SHELL SNARE DRUM £270

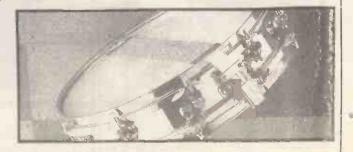
THE BEAUTY of a brass shell is in its projection of a very loud, live and bright sound — a crisper sound than that of the warmer toned

This 5in deep brass drum has a shell thickness of 1.2mm and features ten two-way lugs. This means no lug nut is required as the tension rod is held directly by the column itself, making tuning easier and ensuring no interference with the resonance of the shell itself. This drum also features mighty 2.3mm thick steel hoops offering strong attack characteristics.

Again, a cam lever snare release system locks the wire snares on and off smoothly and efficiently. This drum is a real favourite with me; it's attractive, very weighty and the sound is really bright and full of presence.

TAMA 31/4 x 14in BRASS SHELL PICCOLO SNARE DRUM £260

THIS IS the piccolo version of the above. Again, it's a stunning snare drum (see below). Shell thickness is 1.2mm, so this is still a heavy drum and still very loud and attacking. 20 two-way piccolo lugs are fitted with, again, a cam lever snare release, to give a great sound that's tighter and crisper that the 5in model.



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