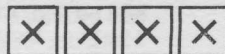


# Vinyl

## LONG PLAYS



ORANGE JUICE "YOU CAN'T HIDE YOUR LOVE FOREVER" (POLYDOR LP)--- Their long awaited, liberating album is here! This is one fine album with no loss of crispness and ingenuity which was expected by those people who embraced OJ with their string of suprising and fun singles on Postcard. I wasn't expecting to be let down with their Polydor signing. This new optimism holds me over. There is some sense of cohesion, some sense of light and pervading goodness that's brainwashed good. I owe it to OJ for making me so aware of this; it's freshness, complexities, it's upward and onward thrust. Side one starts with the lighthearted, "Falling and Laughing" and is followed by my favorite song on the album, "Untitled Melody", a happy little romantic song with a psychedelic bend to it. Some snippets of brassey funk enter into "Wan Light" along with many of the other sons as well. "Dying Day" has a wonderful bugle call- a sort of proud fragement of a call towards greatness that has the Scottish landscape in it. And that's just a bit of side one. Must be heard and felt. (ADAM KLEIN) (I love it too! -Ed.)

CRISPY AMBULANCE "THE PLATEAU PHASE" (FACTORY BENELUX LP)--- What a disappointment! These guys were much better when they sounded like Joy Division. The majority of this LP is very spacey. They use what sounds like a Mellotron which could make them the new Moody Blues. Just what we need... right? A few of the songs are less pretentious but overall this LP should be avoided. (BOZ)



VARIOUS ARTISTS "PUNK & DISORDERLY" (ABSTRACT LP)--- A compilation of current British punk (excluding a Dead Kennedys cut) that features a total of 15 different bands. Although I must admit a preference towards American punk these days (the bands have freakier names), this LP does provide us a good overview of a healthy British scene. Some of the bands present are already familiar (Vice Squad, U.K. Decay) while others are new to me (Adicts, Outcasts). Suprisingly most of the material is top notch with hardly a klinker to be found. My favorites include Vice Squad because they have the only girl out of the whole batch. Also Disorder who's "Complete Disorder" is appropriately titled- a fast rush of metallic noise. Other stand outs include Blitz, G.B.H., and the Adicts whose "Straightjacket" reminds me of early Damned. Overall this is a solid collection and an excellent introduction to some new bands, a few of which I'll be keeping my eyes out for in the future. (BOZ)

CIRCLE JERKS "WILD IN THE STREETS"  
(FRONTIER LP)--- "Wild in the Streets" is not quite the trash, bash, and skank epic that "Group Sex" was. The songs themselves also seem to lack the immediate sing along appeal of their predecessors. Regardless the band is tighter and just as forceful. There's some new tempos as well to stimulate some new dance steps(?). The new material is great especially "Stars and Stripes", "Trapped", and "Murder the Disturbed". A minor peeve: How bout' putting to rest that stupid cartoon? It only helps to support a stereotype that limits individuality- spikes, boots, bandanas, chains... it's not a uniform! Anyway I think the Circle Jerks are a great band and I like their new album alot too! (BOZ)

XTC "ENGLISH SETTLEMENT" (VIRGIN DOUBLE LP)--- Double LP's always seem a little formidable to review- so much to cram into a paragraph. So let's say XTC has lost a lot of the bounce they began with (on "White

Music"- remember?) and replaced it with layers of textures and songwriting "maturity". That means longer songs with more seemingly directionless passages. Only side 3 bogs down badly, but it never makes me dizzy either, like "White Music" did. I miss that. (CZ)

VARIOUS ARTISTS "FLEX YOUR HEAD"  
(DISCHORD LP)--- The picture on the front cover may be misleading for some but make no mistake cause the title is there in big letters. If you're at all familiar with any of the previous Dischord singles you probably have an idea of what to expect. Eleven bands and 32 songs for \$5... how can you go wrong? Check out Minor Threat doing their cover of Wire's "12XU" or "Dehumanized" by Void which is a powerful exercise in thrash feedback and distortion. "Flex Your Head" is a great introduction to the young D.C. scene. It's a scene without any stars or any major record label support. In other words the scene is still "pure" and it shows in the music of all these bands. This is an absolute must! (BOZ)

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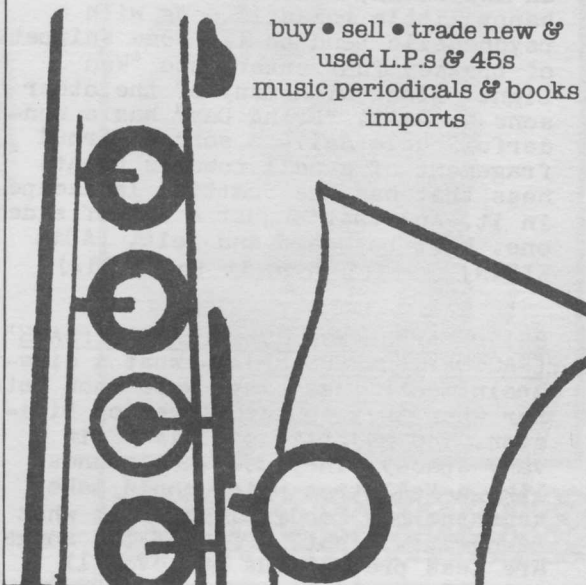
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THEATRE OF HATE "WESTWORLD" (BURNING ROME LP)--- Here we have the first studio LP from the Theatre of Hate which comes just in time for those of us who were wondering what would be next (another live LP?, a new dub 12"?). I can fortunetly say though that YES it's been worth the wait. Some of the material will already be familar but there are some new things as well. Mick Jones has done a great job in his role as producer. He's captured that raw and tense edge of the band but yet the overall sound is clean and polished. The drums roar like strikes of thunder, the sax player still sends me off into space, and Kirk is becoming one of my favorite vocalists. Maybe it's the way he holds his notes, confident and steady but never overbearing. All the tunes are fantastic. The initial apocalyptic rush of "Judgement Hymn" makes me weak. "Freaks" is a carnival affair that changes it's pace quickly throughout the song. I also like the bits of Spanish guitar on "The New Trail of Tears". If you haven't already guessed this LP is a must.  
(BOZ)

THE JAM "THE GIFT" (POLYDOR LP)--- If the Jam really hate the Clash as much as they profess, why did they feel compelled to record their companion piece to "Sandinista"? It's still definetly the Jam, but they're exploring alot of the same areas- with mixed results. "Precious" and "The Planners Dream Goes Wrong" fool around with funk and salsa rhythms, but neither is particurally self assured, and "Trans Global Express" tries to be an "important statement" but buries it's lyrics in a muddy mix. On the other hand, almost all of side two is wonderful as is "Just Who is The 5 O'Clock Hero?". So basically "The Gift" is their most mixed- up LP since "Modern World" but not a bad one at all. (CZ)

BAD RELIGION "HOW COULD HELL BE ANY WORSE" (EPITAPH LP)--- Great, Great, Great and beyond that it's actually good too (ignore track 2 on side A). Right now this is my favorite hardcore record and my favorite L.A. band. Good words, good music, good attitude. How could L.A. be any better? (DAVID CAMP)

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ANTI NOWHERE League ETC. EVERY MONTH it changes.  
So NOW THAT YOU KNOW it's the  
NEW WAVE LOUNGE  
ON AIA ON the Beach  
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**THE MISFITS "WALK AMONG US" (RUBY LP)**--- I've heard alot about this New York band who have been around for awhile. This LP was just recently released and is the first non-west coast band to appear on the Slash/Ruby roster. The Misfits are in the horror punk vein which is reflected in their dress and in the songs themselves ("Astro Zombies", "Brain-eaters"). They play fairly fast but none of the material is particularly powerful. Stronger hooks and melodies couldn't hurt. Regardless this LP does have it's moments but there are better bands doing this type of thing particularly TSOL ("Dance With Me" LP) and 45 Grave whose three selections on the "Hell comes to Your House" compilation have become favorites of mine. Also lets not forget the Cramps!!!!!! (BOZ)

**THROBBING GRISTLE "BEYOND JAZZ FUNK" (ROUGH TRADE cassette)**--- T.G. are not very fun nor is their music easy to listen to, however they are worth the extra effort. Whatever pain is felt is not permanent. Their music is sometimes scary and frightening; a bad drug experience of distorted sounds and voices. This is not passive music because it makes you feel and react. Pain is an emotion. Anyway this tape is from a concert recorded in London over a year ago and is an hour long. It's everything we've come to expect from T.G. which means it's quite good indeed. I sometimes wonder what the typical (if there is such a thing) T.G. fan is like? Outside of a couple friends I don't know anybody into this stuff. Also I might mention that there's a 5 album box set of T.G. thats just recently been released. It's gorgeous but very expensive. (BOZ)

# Billy Graham Rich Famous, Beautiful, but ... His Wife Is a Man



## MORBID OPERA\*

a new band shimmi shimmi coco puff face const  
Non, j'ai une mal tête face const

Q

Sometimes while my husband and I are having intercourse, I fantasize that I'm making love with

Robert Redford. Does this mean we have a bad sexual relationship?

HONEY Bend OVER AND SQUEAL like A pig



Living in Sin Is Much More Wonderful

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VARIOUS ARTISTS "TO THE SHORES OF LAKE PLACID" (ZOO LP)--- A compilation of older material from 8 different Liverpool bands that according to the notes inside come from the play, "To the Shores of Lake Placid" which is news to me. I count 3 immediate losers from the "art" department; Dalek, Whopper, and the Turquoise Swimming Pools. Big in Japan features the vocals of Jayne who you may remember from Pink Military. I like their 2 selections- lighter and more fun than the stuff on the Pink Military LP. Those Naughty Lumps have an OK 60's punk sound. "Lonley Spy" by Lori & the Chameleons is a haunting pop song with horns. The real stars of the set however are Echo & the Bunny-men and Teardrop Explodes. We have early versions of Echo's "Books", "Villier's Terrace", "Pictures on My Wall" along with "When I dream" by Teardrop. Surprisingly both bands display a lighter "airer" approach, the versions here are not as powerful but still interesting in a "nice" sort of way. Also Teardrop's "Take a Chance" shows a strong Doors influence and not the other way around. Anyway the LP packaging is excellent and most Teardrop and Echo fans will want to own this. (BOZ)

LORA LOGIC "PEDIGREE CHARM" (ROUGH TRADE LP)--- An easy listening version of Essential Logic, which was a direction that the band was heading in. This is a relaxing album; the tunes themselves are lazy and meandering- a soothing blend of offbeat jazz and funk. It's an easy flowing sound that's suited for those HOT Florida summers in which some of us move slower. Laura's hot/cool sax playing is still top notch incidently. If you liked some of the more recent Essential Logic singles you'll probably like this. (BOZ)

CHRISTIAN DEATH "ONLY THEATRE OF PAIN" (FRONTIER LP)--- The music of this L.A. band (which includes former Adolescent Rikk Agnew) might best be described as death or horror rock. Although the music does share some similarities to punk the tempos are much slower (often dirge like) and the vocals are more restrained. The lyrics deal primarily with topics from the underworld; death, Satan, disease, etc... Most of the material on this LP is quite listenable and certainly not all that "shocking" more along the lines of a good "B" grade horror movie. Unfortunately nothing particularly stands out and parts of the album become dragged (drugged?) out and things become a bit tiresome although this could be their intent. An interesting but limited (?) concept. (BOZ)



THE REPLACEMENTS "SORRY MA, FORGOT TO TAKE OUT THE TRASH (TWINTONE LP) --- The Replacements come from Minneapolis. I wouldn't consider them hardcore (their music is derived from more traditional rock sources) but they do play fast and hard. Even though they have plenty of spirit and drive a whole LP is a bit much for me, some of their stronger moments are lost in the bulk. I somehow feel an EP would have made a stronger impression. Regardless this isn't half bad and the Replacements could/might???? be a great live band. (BOZ)

# singles & ep's

LYDIA LUNCH/BIRTHDAY PARTY "THE AGONY IS THE ECSTASY/DRUNK ON THE POPE'S BLOOD" (4AD 12" EP)--- A side each from the Birthday Party and Miss Lunch, both recorded live. Lydia's side is dissapointing, it's the "migrane" of Teenage Jesus taken to an extreme. What we have is 10 minutes plus of a long drone that's tedious and overdone. However when you're in love with someone you tend to overlook their faults so I'll live with this. The side from the Birthday Party is better listening fare who produce a sharper picture of this "agony". "Loose" is the highlight of their set; screeching bursts of guitar and the tortured vocals of Nick Cave add a demonic dimension to the old Stooges classic. Also included is a good version of "Zoo Music Girl" one of the better selections from their "Prayers on Fire" LP. (BOZ)

THE HAPPY FAMILY "PURITANS" (4AD 7" EP)--- No you're not reading The Offense even though this is our second review of 4AD product in this issue. Supposidly this band has some connections with Joseph K- the band everybody ignored last year. The guitarist sounds real familiar- can it possibly be? Enough speculation, lets get on with the review. This record will grow on you if you give it the chance. First impressions are not always the best- "Innermost Thoughts" is slow and reflective- I even like the flute. "The Mistake" is snappier, creating a better feeling like the feeling I get from listening to Orange Juice except these guys don't sound as optimistic. They're much more difficult to figure out. "Puritans" features some of that magical guitar... I wonder. This record is a departure of sorts from most of the other stuff I've heard on 4AD. I hope they do an album soon. (BOZ)

HATES "BORED WITH THE BOYS" (FACELESS 7" EP)--- I wasn't that crazy about the first Hates EP reviewed in our last issue but this one really shapes up. There are 4 good medium tempo garage punk tunes here, all with catchy hooks and melodies. I especially like the almost "off the wall" guitar on "Do the Caryl Chessman" and the jagged dance beat of "Soldier". This Texas band has been around for awhile and if they were from somewhere else like L.A. I'm sure they would be better known. Send \$3 to 4200 W 34th, Box 132, Houston, Tx. 77092. (BOZ)

(Note: This EP is a little on the old side. Normally we only review new releases but seeing that the band did go through the trouble of mailing us a copy of this... what the hell?)

VARIOUS ARTISTS "PROCESS OF ELIMINATION" (TOUCH & GO 7" EP)--- Eight different Midwest bands including the Necros, Youth Patrol, Toxic Reasons, and Violent Apathy. My favorite is the Necro's "Bad . Dream" with it's alternating slow and very fast parts. The Meatmen sound like they're probably hysterically funny to watch. It's really amazing how all these small scenes are growing and developing in all these unlikely places all over the country. Anyway this EP is recommended and at \$3 is quite a bargain. (BOZ)

CUNTS LIVE (DISTURBING 7")--- I don't quite understand the industrial inserts in the sleeve nor can I figure out the reasoning behind the band's name. What's unusual is that the music on this single is basically just sixties garage punk. In fact "A Date With Disaster" could have been stolen out of the Seeds unrecorded song book. Competent. Sixties fans will probably go nuts over it. (Write to; P.O. Box 11463, Chicago, Ill. 60611). (BOZ)

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FAMILY FUN "RECORD" (12" EP), THE TWEEDS "MUSIC FOR CAR RADIOS" (12" EP), VINNY "WHY CAN'T YOU SAY LOVE"/"HIJACKER" (7") (ALL ON EAT RECORDS)

--- We won't ask em' where they stole their name from, but Eat records must be America's pop music headquarters- or at least Massachusetts'... All of this stuff is pretty derivative, but good pop always transcends that with it's own wit and personality. Good news; most of this stuff does! Vinny sounds a little too much like the Cars for their own good (they're even produced by David Robinson) but Family Fun takes their B-52's-with-rhythmbox sound and freaks out even further (at least on the "mono side" of "Record" - I didn't listen to the "Stereo side" cause the label warned me not to). "Games" is likely disco fodder- real good fun. The Tweeds were my particular faves, especially "We Ran Ourselves" and "Still in Love"; strong rock/pop in a Beatleish vein, but it sounds more like Badfinger, if that means anything to you. Eat records' slogan- "The beat goes in before the name goes on". Believe it. (CZ)

KRAUT "UNEMPLOYED" (CABBAGE 7" EP)

--- Kraut are a young band from New York. "Unemployed" is a fine tune with a strong drive and a menacing guitar sound. Good vocals also. "Last Chance" and "Matinee" are a bit faster and are also catchy although not quite as infectious as the A side. I like this record much better than the False Prophets (another NY band) disc I got a few months ago. Worth checking out. (BOZ)

U2 "A CELEBRATION"/"TRASH, TRAMPOLINE, & THE PARTY GIRL" (ISLAND 7")

--- From the opening chant of "Shake! Shake!", "A Celebration" is a real rocker! It's earthy music, the band concerning itself with political matters, "I believe in the Third World War, I believe in the atomic bomb, I believe in the powers that be, but they won't over power me." Acknowledging the material world's reality yet knowing there is another way, Bono sings "I believe you can lose these chains, I believe you can dance with me... and you.. can go there too." A solid step in the evolution of U2. The B side is rather nerve racking. Bono's voice sounds like the morning after a real humdinger of a party! Off key and haunting, his voice scratches out the lyrics while the Edge picks a sweet melody line on a mandolin. Let it grow on you. (LESLIE WIMMER)

TRIPLE XXX GIRLS (RED HAIR 4 SONG EP)---

These 4 girls (I mean guys) come from Tampa. They wear makeup on stage (yuch!). I tried to approach this record with an open mind but after a few spins it became merely annoying. Instrumentally they have a pretty good sound especially the guitarist who uses some interesting effects. Unfortunately the vocalist is trying too hard to be different and the gimmickery reaches the point of being obnoxious. Maybe this is supposed to be a novelty record but the novelty wears thin I'm afraid. Perhaps next time they won't try so hard. For info: 8703 Beverly Dr., Temple Terr., Fl. 33617. (BOZ)



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23 SKIDOO "SEVEN SONGS" (12" FE-TISH EP)--- Music with a funky quality. More primal and native than it is polished. Varies from dancey to what seems like a film soundtrack. And sometimes the songs run into each other. (CRAIG SNYDER)

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