

RECORDS

THE DREAM SYNDICATE "THE DAYS OF WINE AND ROSES" (RUBY LP)---This LP is highly derivative (the Velvets and Television specifically) but fuck it, cause that's like saying all post-punk rock is derivative of the Sex Pistols...right? This LP zeroes directly into the appropriate nerve center in my cranium ("I dreamed last night that I was born 1000 years ago...") so I can't help but like it. The Syndicate steals from all the right sources and manage to add a little something, and the result is one of the best lyrically introspective guitar dominated elpees to come around in a long while. One of the year's best, for sure. (BOZ)

ANGRY SAMOANS "BACK FROM SAMOA" (BAD TRIP LP)---"3 Great Chords, 5 Sick Minds"; the ads just about sum it up- this is great rock n' roll with a sick sense of humor as funny as anything the Dead Kennedys or Ramones ever did- probably moreso. (It might not be all their doing- "Homosexual" is credited to Jerry Falwell, everyone's fave sicko.) Great lyrics, and music that's as aggressive, fast, and tight as it has to be. Nice cover, too. Highly recommended. (CZ)

YOUNG WEASELS "TWIST & BURN", YOUR FUNERAL "I WANT TO BE YOU" (both LOCAL ANESTHETIC 7" EP's)--- Two Denver bands which just goes to prove that there's more to that city than the Broncos. The Weasels are from the Joy Division/Cure etc. post punk school of thought and there must be at least 200 bands over here going after that sound and some do it better than others and this is competent enough but it still doesn't make me do somersault flips in the air. I like Your Funeral alot better even though they've since split up but you probably never knew that they had gotten together in the first place. Your Funeral are 3 girls and their record is a great slice of 80's psychedelica. "I Want To Be You" is a more straight-forward rocker while "Final Abyss" does up most of those West Coast psycho-horror bands (Super Heroines take note) one better. Good stuff. Write to L.A. c/o Wax Trax 638 E 13 Ave. Denver, CO 80203. (BOZ)

D.O.A. "WAR ON 45" (ALTERNATIVE TENTACLES 12" EP)---Straight forward punk rock on side one with a bit of rock'n'roll mix. A decent offering from this established band. Side 2 features two diversions- "War In The East", a not-so-hot reggae cover, and "War", another cover which should never have been attempted- how can you possibly top Edwin Starr? (D.O.A. fans probably already own this) Good, but not great or essential. (BOZ)

ROACH MOTEL "ROACH & ROLL" (DESTROY 7" EP)---Roach Motel are currently the winners in the Second Annual Florida Hardcore Band Poll (yeah, I'm the only one that votes)- an honor that previously went to Crucial Truth before they got into heavy metal, Hendrix, Jim Morrison, smoke bombs, and Van Halen. "Roach & Roll" is a great start for this Gainesville band, who, in the course of 6 songs, manage to insult women, fags, Cubans, and a few others as well- I guess this makes them the new Meatmen! Of course everything is all done in fun. The music is good, mid-tempo garage punk played with plenty of trash appeal- a great grundgy sound! There are two bona-fide classics here, as well- "I Hate The Sunshine State" and "Now You're Gonna Die". A must, so write to them at 110 NW 39 Ave. #73-A, Gainesville, FL 32601. (BOZ)

IKE YARD "A FACT" (FACTORY LP)--- Well I can't say this is better than the last thing they did because I've never heard them before. I like it. The first time you listen to it you wonder if there was any kind of structure to it. Vocals and drums are very spare with synthisizers dominating. Sort of like a misaligned arty D.A.F. minus the pop. Great background music. (CRAIG VAGUE)

THE MORTAL MICRONOTZ (FRESH LP)--- Not quite hardcore, this is dyed-in-the-garage punk rock from Lawrence, Kansas. The songs are great (with melodies and everything) and "Old Lady Sloan" has lyrics by William Burroughs; how much cooler can you get? "It's Not Alright" is the standout though. (CZ)

RANK AND FILE "SUNDOWN" (SLASH LP)---Slash is definitely on a hot streak...first the Dream Syndicate and now this. In case you didn't already know, Rank and File include 2 ex-members of that great L.A. punk band, the Dils. They play country music now, but even though they try to play it right and real authentic, they just don't have it together yet, which is what makes this LP so charming. It's as if they just finished recording "I Hate The Rich", and then decided punk rock sucks so they agreed that country music would piss off their fans the most so they practice for a month and this is the end result. Entertaining stuff. (BOZ)

RIKK AGNEW "ALL BY MYSELF" (FRONTIER LP)---The normally consistent Frontier hits an all-time low with this release. Former Adolescent Rikk plays everything himself here. This self-indulgent work shows practically no spark of life, spirit, or purpose. If you haven't already, pass on this and check out the Adolescents album (also on Frontier) instead- you'd be much better off. (BOZ)

CULTURCIDE "YEAR ONE" (CIA cassette)--- Looking at the pumpkin-headed stickman on the cover I had a feeling this wasn't pop. It's more like wild, disorientating music (with some kind of structure). Now you know exactly what it sounds like, right? It's really hard to describe. The vocalist reminds me of Throbbing Gristle, even the mix on his voice seems similar. Lyrics are good. They use noise, guitars, tapes, synthizers, and rhythm machines, I might have missed something. It's not superbly extra-ordinary nor is it utter garbage either. The tape comes in an LP sleeve which is a great marketing idea. Songs are not listed nor are there any lyric sheets. Quality of the tape itself seems decent. (CRAIG VAGUE)

RIOT



RIOT "RESTLESS BREED", SHOES "BOOMERANG", MOTLEY CRUE "TOO FAST FOR LOVE" (ELEKTRA LP'S)---How the hell did we ever get on an Elektra mailing list? Either we've finally made the big time (are you kidding?-Ed.) or somebody in the industry is hurting for press coverage. Anyway, these three albums are 3 perfect examples of how the capitalist profit motive has finally killed any originality within current American mainstream music- and besides that, all I got was \$3 in trade for these losers. (BOZ)

VARIOUS ARTISTS "CHARRED REMAINS" "MEAT-HOUSE" (both VERSION SOUND CASSETTES)---

Two solid introductions to the American punk underground scene and what a healthy scene it is... Battalion of Saints, Sin 34, Rebel Truth, Double O, Law and Order, Void, Die Kruzen..... bands from not only L.A., D.C., and N.Y., but Toledo, Maryland, Clovis, N.J., Madison, Arizona, and Ohio as well. The sound quality of these tapes is pretty good and the price is right (cheap) so if you're at all interested in what's going on in Garageland U.S.A. send \$6 per tape to Version Sound, P.O. Box 174, Xenia, Ohio 45385. (BOZ)

VARIOUS "VORTEX"- MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK (NEUTRAL LP)---The artists within are virtually a Who's Who of the NY underground/art/noise scene- Lydia Lunch, John Lurie, Adele Bertel, Kristion Hoffman, etc... This is a soundtrack from Scott B and Beth B's first 16mm film, which stars Lydia Lunch. As a record, this doesn't quite make it- pseudo-jazz doodlings, bits of synth noise, some art disco, etc... Regardless, I'm still dying to see the movie which should be premiering in Miami sometime in 1988. (BOZ)

RUBBER RODEO (EAT EP)---Straight from Rhode Island country (and the same art school that brought you the T. Heads)- it's five guys and a doll who do the wildest western music yet. No- don't get scared off- even though they call it "Gene Autry meets Devo"- I don't think anyone who's heard their version of "Jolene" has had a bad word for these very serious C&W'ers. The six songs on this EP (four originals, two covers) only leave me wanting more. Their pining, psychedelic (oops, overused word) pedal steel and lonesome guitar and vocals turned me around but quick- I don't care if you hate C&W (I do, but I can appreciate camp when I hear it) you'll still love RR. (But I wish their comic-book style press release was included in every copy- it's a hilarious cache of reviews, fake ads, and even an editorial by a "real kicker" from San Antonio) (CHRISTOPHER)

VARIOUS "NOT SO QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT" (ALTER-NATIVE TENTACLES LP)---What can I possibly say about this? I'm sure most of our readers are already familiar with this- for those of you who aren't, this double-album compilation features 47 different Northern California and Nevada punk bands along with a fanzine. As unbelievable as it may sound, I like almost everything here- no shit- there's hardly a klunker to be found. This ranks up there with "Flex Your Head" as one of the most essentially essential (heavy adjectives, huh?) compilations of the year. (BOZ)

SPORT OF KINGS "SING MARY SING" (THERMIDOR LP)--- Pretty good, but not as good as I had thought. I like the moody Cure/New Order sound on some of the songs here. This is a fairly well thought-out album, but it does rely a bit too heavily on a formula, and therefore lacks a feeling of spontaneity, but then again, when was the last time the Cure sounded spontaneous? Overall, I like this and it has a pretty art cover as well, which will impress somebody someday. (BOZ)

JR. CHEMISTS/LES SELDOMS "ARIZONA DISEASE"; TOM TADLOCK "BODY AD" (BOTH SUBTERRANEAN 7")--- The Sub Wrecks have returned with two new releases- one never knows what to expect from these people, does one? Let's see Tom Tadlock seems to be an interesting enough guy (he's worked with Tuxedomoon, Minimal Man and others) but I don't see much point to his record at all. Yeah I don't doubt his credentials but this piece of electronic C&W muzak does nothing for me- it's different alright but that doesn't mean it's any good. On the other hand "Arizona Disease" presents us with two new bands from the state that has given us the Meat Puppets. Two primitive trios- two different minimalist approaches to the desert life and rock n' roll that deserve to be heard. Check this one out. (BOZ)

FLIPPER "GET AWAY"/"THE OLD LADY THAT SWALLOWED THE FLY" (SUBTERRANEAN 7")--- I love Flipper if for no other reason that all these new "loud fast nothing else rules punks" hate them cause they play slow. This record is fucking great just like everything else I've ever heard by Flipper. "Get Away" is Flipper at their most commercial (ha ha ha) and it's a sure hit if I've ever heard one. "The Old Lady" is sinister, humorous, and annoying..... a perverse bedtime story with feedback drone. If you haven't caught on yet this record will change your life. (BOZ)

BROADCAST (FRESH SOUNDS 7" EP)---Undergrads from the Ubu school of noise- a mixture of influences: funk, punk, jazz, etc... Unfortunately, they're a bit lacking in the humor department- maybe if these guys would relax a bit, they'd be alright. (Box 36, Lawrence, KS 66044) (BOZ)

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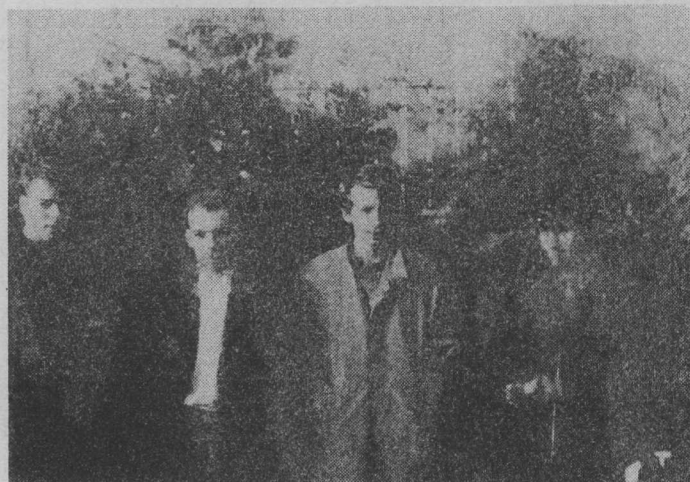
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ARTICLES OF FAITH "WHAT WE WANT IS FREE"
(VERSION SOUND 7)--- Yes folks there's more to Chicago than the Effigies and you probably already knew that if you read Dave Read's article last issue. Like the Effigies AOF place more emphasis on the "song" rather than just pure speed- I mean everybody plays fast these days don't they? This is a fine debut and I hope we will be hearing more from this good intelligent band. (P.O. Box 174, Xenia, Ohio 45385) (BOZ)

MISSION OF BURMA "VS." (ACE OF HEARTS LP)--- If you're familiar with M.O.B. and liked what you heard you'll like this. If you're still unfamiliar with M.O.B. read Randy's interview elsewhere to spark your interest. As for me I like M.O.B. alot and this is their best cause it's an LP and has more on it. (what a descriptive review- WOW!) (BOZ)

SECTION 25 "THE BEAST" (FACTORY 12" EP)--- This is one Factory band that has never really thrilled me but they could wind up as one of the last decent things Factory has got left. This must truly be listened to at least 5 times before it begins to take on character. "The Beast" is my favorite... it's long and heavy on the atmosphere and is built around several minor climaxes (what's a minor climax?). Good for late night and early hung over mornings. (BOZ)

DANNY & THE PARKINS SISTERS (MODERN MASTERS 12" EP)--- The cover to this is definately the waviest! The music is more like the B52s meet Teenage Jesus and the Jerks. Eight funny endearing little ditties (avante noise wave) with heavy titles like "War (Is On Your Doorstep)", "Girls Rule", and "This World Is Bleak". A "fun" record. (BOZ)



THE HAPPY FAMILY "THE MAN ON YOUR STREET" (4AD LP)--- Another smart package from 4AD, which is, incidentally one of my top 5 favorite labels (the others if you're interested, are: Subterranean/Thermidor, Crass, Dischord, and Slash/Ruby). The Happy Family have improved upon their enjoyable initial attempt ("Puritans" EP)- this LP even has a theme and story to follow no less (we could call it a mini-opera, but that would be too un-hip). Musically, they share much in common with bands like the Monochrome Set and Joseph K (they're related, you know)- quirky and eccentric British pop. If I was assigning ratings to records, this would get at least an A-. (BOZ)

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STOUXSIE & THE BANSHEES "A KISS IN THE DREAMHOUSE" (POLYDOR LP)---Yes, folks, it's OUT! It's finally here (as if all of you didn't know already)- I can now sleep again at night...no more 'wondering' and 'waiting'. I was beginning to worry until I finally saw the cover...I couldn't believe it...their best cover yet! Well, that was weeks (months?) ago... needless to say, this album has since become a part of my life. OK, to be honest, this is not the best Siouxsie ever (side one of "Join Hands" is)... John McGeoch is lost somewhere (someone should have turned up the knobs)...I hate 'fake' jazz songs like "Cocoon" cause they all remind me of "Jimmy Jazz"- the worst Clash song ever (next to all the songs on "Combat Rot")...and I like Siouxsie's hair better up than down like the way she wears it now. Other than that, this is another perfect album. My favorites are "Painted Bird", "Green Fingers", "Cascade", "She's a Carnival", "Obsession", the bits of backwards/sideways music between various tracks, "Melt", and one or two others that I like as well. You can best compare the album to "Kaleidoscope" if you wish. Yes indeed!...The amazing Banshees have kept it up pretty well, haven't they? How many other '77 bands can compare, I ask you? Let's see... the Clash should have called it quits after "London Calling" (excuse me, Rage), the Jam knew what was best for them before further humiliating themselves (it's OK, Walter), the Damned only make comedy albums now, and although the Fall still sound good, that shouldn't be too hard to do, since they've been playing practically the same song for 5 years now. The winner is obvious- 5 absolutely incredible albums (or 7 if you count the "Love In A Void" boot and the "Singles" package). GOSH! I guess that makes them the biggest thing since...shall I dare say it? (Go ahead, you've already made a fool out of yourself)...Yes! Siouxsie & The Banshees are the biggest thing since...THE BEATLES!!! Siouxsie's #1!! Yeah! Hooray! Cheers! Way to Go!...just remember where you heard it first. (BOZ)

G.G. ALLIN "NO RULES" (ORANGE 7" EP)---OK garage punk from up north. There's 4 songs here, all of which are pretty basic in style. This is a bit too predictable for my tastes. (639 Broadway, Box 902, NY, NY 10012) (BOZ)

VARIOUS ARTISTS "IN FULL CRY" (TAKE IT MAG FLEXI #6)--- Any sampler where theFlesheaters are the weak link has gotta be great, and this sure is. Tex & the Horseheads' "Got Love if You Want It" features Jeffrey Lee Pierce (backing Linda "Tex" Jones) in a workout that's as insane as anything the Gun Club has done thus far. The Meat Puppets "Teenagers" kicks off as a thrash frenzy, then settles into an acoustic thing that's like vintage Jefferson Airplane. And "River of Fever" isn't bad at all, just not as good as I expected from the Flesheaters. (39 Union St. #2 Brighton, MA. 02135) (CZ)

RF7 FALL IN" (SMOKE SEVEN 12" EP)--- A great heavy furious sound. Of course the fact that it's produced by Geza X doesn't hurt either. The lyrics deal with a variety of topics including the "new" army ("Fall In"), the perils of coke ("Vampire Lady"), and some of the pitfalls of Marxism ("Revolutionary Worker"). A solid effort. (BOZ)

EVEN WORSE "MOUSE OR RAT?"/"1984" (WORSE THAN YOU 7")--- Although I miss former lead singer, Rebecca (there's just not enough girls in these bands nowadays) this is still a good record. Ken is their new lead singer and I like him too. "Mouse or Rat" is the best thing here (I guess that's why it's the A side - WOW!) - good song, melody, solid riffs and "straightforward more personal we don't always have to be political to be punk" lyrics. The flip is slower and more political. Good vinyl and packaging. (BOZ) (249 Eldridge St. Box 14 NY, NY 10002.)

VARIOUS ARTISTS "SUDDEN DEATH" (SMOKE SEVEN LP)--- With all the West Coast compilations on the market it's often difficult deciding which is best to get. This is one of the better ones- it's well put together and includes a number of hot bands plus plenty of music for your dollar. Bands include J.F.A., the Demented, Red Kross, Sin 34 (one of my new faves), Moral Decay and more. The Red Kross selections are worth the price of admission by themselves. (BOZ)

EINSTEIN'S RICEBOYS "MILK OF AMNESIA" (PLUTO/NO EXIT LP)--- From Milwaukee, these guys recently relocated down here (God only knows why) and brought this LP with them. Recorded in 1981, when the band was a trio, the LP show off some of the most unrelenting smart-ass lyrics this side of the Eat, coupled to music that's quirky and gloomy simultaneously (also a bit thin). The present day quartet has got a much fuller sound that is impressive; but at the cheap prices I've seen for this one, "Eat Your House" is worth the price of admission. (14100 Old Cutler Rd, Miami, FL 33158) (CZ)

LOST GENERATION "NEVER WORK" (INCAS 7" EP)---This band hails from Bridgeport, Ct. "Never Work" is a slower 01 type song with an unemployment theme. Too straightforward for me. Side two features 3 faster tunes- more thrash-like than side one. My favorite here is "Mind Control"- an anti-heroin song. (272 Benham Ave., Bridgeport, Ct. 06604) (BOZ)

REALLY RED "NOBODY RULES, OK" (C.I.A. 7" EP)---Nothing new here, just another excellent collection from Really Red. This Houston punk band has it all; excellent lyrics, catchy material, and a great powerful, driving sound. If you liked any of their other things, this won't disappoint you. (BOZ)

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POP-O-PIES "THE WHITE EP" (415 12" EP)--- Two versions of the Grateful Dead's "Truckin'"? Oh boy. The rap(!) version works too well to be funny- play it to offend your wasted Dead Head friends, and save the other version for yourself, where they pump some life into that tired old shuffle. The rest of the stuff follows in that vein, vaguely familiar but lively, pumped-up garage rock. Hooked up to titles like "The Catholics Are Attacking" and "Fascists Eat Donuts", how can you lose? (CZ)

THE JAM "BEAT SURRENDER", "DIG THE NEW BREAD" (POLYDOR EP & LP)--- A nice package, an OK recording, a nice selection that wisely favors "All Mod Cons", the live LP is the band's farewell to the diehard; a farewell that came not a moment too soon from a band seriously in need of direction. "Beat Surrender" is a cool song and "Move On Up" is another okay Motown cover, but the rest of their final EP is a pretty sad shadow of past glory. Let's hear it for going out in style. (CZ)

THE THREE O' CLOCK "BAROQUE HOEDOWN" (FRONTIER LP)--- The Salvation Army with a new name and a couple of new members to further hone their Pete Shelley takes acid pop to a fine edge. I don't know quite what to make of songs about cantalope girlfriends, but this is real seductive music. "As Real As Real" really is. (CZ)

TRENDY THINGS compiled by Peri and Rondee

1. Shooting junk
2. Girls liking girls
3. Records that read "This Side and The Other Side"
4. Hot Food
5. Puking

round - up

Time for another record roundup... where do I start? How bout the Fartz? OK sounds good to me - I've never heard their much raved about EP but "World Full of Hate" (Alternative Tentacles LP) is fucking excellent... a hyper adrenalin heavy metal attack... heavy duty thrashout. Great packaging and cover too! The Bad Brains got a new one (Important 12") out produced by the unlikely Ric Ocasek. More Jah preachings but at least their HC stuff sounds good- but are they in this for the money, the religion or what? New PANTHER BURNS is called "Blow Your Top" and I couldn't have said it better myself... IT BLOWS! As a whole this Animal stuff is pretty disappointing- the same holds true for the GUN CLUB and JAMES CHANCE as well. Finally got a hold of the EPILEPTICS 1970's EP (Spiderleg 7") who are sort of like an early version of FLUX OF PINK INDIANS. If you like FLUX as much as I do you will love this but the main question is when will we ever see the new FLUX album? Latest GRASS single is "Hoe Does It Feel" (Grass 7")... another winner! Side two features Eve Libertine who I now like almost as much as Steve Ignorant (one of the best voices in punk- the guy truly can't sing!). In the same vein the new Poison Girls' "Where's the Pleasure?" (Xintrix LP) has some good moments and if you're a fan you wouldn't be caught without it. However I'm more impressed by Rubella Ballet (Xintrix 7" EP) and their great big beat/dance/funk/punk debut called "Ballet Dance". I love those voices and I also hear that they're great dressers too or at least that's what they said in Zig Zag (I'd truly be lost without the English Press). We'll probably never read about SIN 34 in NME but fuck em

Here's what the critics are saying about ROACH & ROLL:



CLARK KENT:
"Super, man!"



STAR TREK CREW:
"An enterprising band."



JEFF STAIN:
"They're OK."



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cause they got a great little EP out called "Die Laughing" on their own label, Spinhead. This L.A. hardcore band is fronted by the great Julie. Lets see more girls in these bands now- I'm starting to get sick of all this male jock posing. The latest from the BLUE ORCHIDS is their "Agents of Change" EP (Rough Trade 12"). I still like them but this is much more subtle and laid back from what we've become used to but it does sort of grow on you after awhile. Speaking of laid back there's always the WEEKEND LP called "La Variete" (Rough Trade). I must admit some of this puts me to sleep but overall it's rather nice. I still like Allison best in the YOUNG MARBLE GIANTS but this would probably be equally as fun if only I knew how to samba but some friends of mine say fuck that everyone knows that the sambas for wimps- we only slam, skank, and mosh around here. Well in that case how bout the new DISCHARGE single called "State Violence State Control" which is another goodie from this great band. Yes we cover it all here in Suburban Relapse from macho rock to wimp rock- isn't that great? Have you heard the FAITH/VOID LP (Dischord)? The FAITH are no big deal- pretty average thrash. VOID (R.I.P.) on the other hand are absolutley amazing- the ultimate punk/heavy metal fusion. This is right up there with the FARTZ- no actually I like this even better. The new A CERTAIN RATIO (Factory LP) is a big let down after the wonderful "Sextet". Martha's no longer in the group and the dreamy/spacey sound of "Sextet" has been pushed aside in favor of that big funk beat which means that now ACR sounds just like everybody else. Other bands that have let me down this year include WAH!, MISFITS, ORANGE JUICE, AZTEC CAMERA, and the EAT for not putting out their LP this year (or even a single for that matter). The new CURE single has sell-out written all

over it. It's called "Let's Go to Bed" (Piction 12") but you know what I don't care cause it's fucking great. It's a big fun funk dance tune and Robert hasn't sounded happier in a long time and I'm real happy for him too. So there. The URBATIONS from Detroit also have a dance disc out called "The Whip" (Wild Child 7") which is a R&B party disc which I don't like at all. If you must you can get it by writing to P.O.Box 15422 detriot, MI 48215. Speaking of dance shit check out Island's "Genius of Rap" compilation. Larry 6 definetly has a point cause alot of this stuff is definetly ALRITE! My favorites are beside GRANDMASTER FLASH, AFRIKA BAMBAATTAA & THE JAZZY 5 and T/SKI VALLEY. There's also cool shit coming out of Africa these days (yes Sublapse is truly an international publication). Worth looking into are these Mango releases: KING SUNNY ADE & HIS AFRICAN BEATS, "Ju Ju Music" (no relation to the Banshees) and "Sound D'Afrique" which is a compilation including things from Zaire, Ivory Coast, and Upper Volta (there's also a second volume out). Believe me you don't need back issues of National Geographic to appreciate what's going on here. As we travel back to America we find that the NEGATIVE APPROACH EP is finally out (Touch & Go) and it's everything we've ever hoped it could be. Super thrash burnout it's fast, fast, fast and is up there with all the other T&G goodies like the Necros and Meatmen. Also worth checking into is the first LP by the SUBHUMANS (not the bunch from Canada) and it's called "The Day the Country Died" (Spiderleg LP) and it's pretty decent British anarchist punk rock. Still there's nothing on it as great as their singles but if you liked those you'll still probably like this. Well that's about it for now THE END. (BOZ) P.S. The Flux LP is out- review next time!

Pack up your Troubles
Charlie Pickett and Eggs' "Live at the Button"
is here!



Pack up your troubles

If I could
only ease my mind
ooo for a while

Shake some
action, that's
what you need!

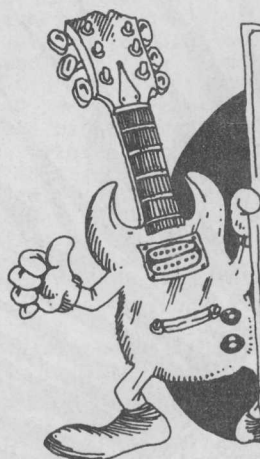


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