

# RECORDS

HUSKER DU "METAL CIRCUS" (SST LP)--- A solid progression from "Everything Falls Apart", "Metal Circus" is easily the Husker's most cohesive musical statement to date. The tune-ful melodies stand out amongst the coiling bass figures, the desperate vocals, and rushes of feedback. Thick, overwhelming, and very satisfying. (BOZ)

GREEN ON RED "GRAVITY TALKS" (SLASH LP)--- GOR's long awaited LP debut- will it do for them what the "Days of Wine and Roses" did for the Dream Syndicate? Who cares right? All I know is that this pretty much does it for me... a laid back but inspired affair. Influences galore inside... vague snatches of psychedelica, a Manzareck-like organ, early Dylan folkisms... The band is best however when they stretch out a bit as on "Narcolespy" (featuring a psychedelic guitar rave-up at the end) and "Snake Bit" (Television style magic). It's really great to see quality enterprises like this being distributed by a major label even though the Flesheaters got lost in the shuffle. (BOZ)

AVENGERS (CD LTD LP)--- Fuck. Why wasn't this out when I would have enjoyed it more. I loved them 4 years ago... anyway this is a great record with killer songs like "Car Crash", "White Nigger", and my fave "We Are the One"... but, shit- the Avengers album coming out now is like providing welfare after rats have eaten the flesh, the legs have grown crooked, and the soul has turned black. My analogy may be rubbish but so's the release date on this record. (TISA ANGEL)

BAD RELIGION "INTO THE UNKNOWN" (EPITAPH LP)--- The press release talks of musical progression, I would classify it as a case of musical retardation. Bad Religion may want to be the next Journey or Styx but they'll never "make it" on a punk label. Ha Ha Ha! What a bunch of chumps! (BOZ)

SECTOR FOUR "DISCLEXIA" (DESTROY 7" EP)--- A fine piece of vinyl awaits you if you can work your way past the horrendous version of "Heart-break Hotel" that opens this up before flingin' this out the window. A mistake for sure but I won't dwell on that any longer... what I will dwell on are the power chords on "Jump On You", the fine songmanship throughout the balance of the 4th material, Greg's sharp guitar licks, and the band's overall execution. Destined to be one of the most powerful three-piece outfits in the country plus their drummer has got to be one of the smallest drummers in HC since Harley (of the Stims). (POE 10234 Tallahassee, FL 32302) (BOZ)

BIRTHDAY PARTY "MUTINY" (MUTE 12" EP)--- Always nice to hear from old friends (does Nick Cave have any friends?). I suppose this is the B Partys' swansong, but better to go out with a bang than a whimper I always say... and out with a bang it does! Back to hell and back again 10 times over, "Mutiny" is an outburst of warped dementia, blood, and real music. Just imagine if Manson had used this as his bible instead of the Beatles' "White Album". The frightening possibilities of that are difficult to imagine. To merely call this package "intense" is the understatement of the year. Ya know I find it all pretty amazing, that throughout their career the B Party did not change, sell-out, or lose intensity. If anything they only improved with age and time learning to play with more torture, abuse, and intensity. A rarity no doubt about it... (BOZ)

RAINY DAY (LLAMA LP)--- Made for Leslie. Sounds just like Joni Mitchell (all cuts)- peace, love but where's the fuzzy guitars- if this is the new psychedelica I want my money back. Also a version of "On the Way Home" by Neil Young that would make him roll over (he is dead isn't he?). Call 305-947-6471 to find out, or at least get some clues, or hear the new U2 single (picture sleeve not included). (BILL PROE)

THE EAT "SCATTERED WAHOO ACTION" (JETTERBOY CASSETTE)--- Believe it or not there was a time in history when the Eat reigned supreme within the South Florida punk scene. That was when Black Flag (to most Floridians) was only an insecticide found in grocery stores. Well the Eat were good, damn good, although their few efforts on vinyl never really captured them. This (for all practical reasons) posthumous release contains a number of Eat favorites like "Nixon's Binoculars", the heavy metal rave-up "Subhuman", "Hey Jackass" and more. This tape is a priceless artifact for all their fans (say all 50 of em- I mean 50 Eat fans can't be wrong eh?) but whether it'll mean anything to anyone else is questionable. This just may be one of those things were you just had to be there. (BOZ) P.S. I also want to mention that the quality of the tape leaves lots to be desired. Besides the cheap tape the duplicating was done rather haphazardly. For example there's no excuse for us to miss the openings on side two cause the leader hasn't run out yet. C'mon we deserve better than that! (\$4 to Joe Harris 226 NE 5th Av, Dania, FL 33004)

OFFBEATS "WHY DO YOU HANG OUT?" (OOPS 7" EP)--- Rather like this 8 song thrasher. It's got that live from the garage feel to it. Good vocals. (6405 Meldon, Mentor OH 44060) (BOZ)

STATE "NO ILLUSIONS" (STATEMENT 7" EP)--- Ann Arbor band with a slight Discharge feel. Totally frenetic and thrashed out so I can't help but be impressed. Powerful guitarist leads the full frontal blitz attack. Recommended. (\$2.50 to Art Tendler POB 4412, Ann Arbor, MI 48106) (BOZ)

TRAGIC MULATTO "THE SUSPECT"/"NO JUICE" (ALTERNATIVE TENTACLES 7")--- A soft-core version of the Buthole Surfers. Sounds like a couple of the bands off the "Red Spot" compilation but since maybe only 10 people that are reading this have heard that what's the point anyway? Produced by DK Klaus Flouride but we won't hold that against em. (BOZ)

1/2 JAPANESE "SING NO EVIL" (?)---No label yet but this is the one that's clearly gonna make these guys stinking rich. Label entrepreneurs are urged to send bids in care of this magazine. New lineup offers a mixed bag of tricks: Junk funk, rock star guitars, spook spoofs, corny horns, tribal percussives all beneath the backdrop of a newly charged pop-rhythm section. A band whose versatility is manifest with each recording, whose constants are excellence and an alchemy of noise, have put together a string of variegated arrangements with a cohesiveness of structure that's refreshingly new for them. Jad Fair's vocals rise above a new breed of heavy metal and David Fair, making his final show as a regular member of the band (read: tears) to free time for his artwork (read: cheers), plays a viciously mean conga drum. Members of Orthotonics and Velvet Monkeys add to the mayhem. Keep an eye out. (MICHAEL KOENIG)

SPK "METAL DANCE" (DESIRE 12")----- SPK discover the Soul Sonic Force. What the fuck is going on here? I like OLD SPK better. (BOZ)

WHITE CROSS "WHAT'S GOING ON?" (ZERO DEGREE LP)--- Basic wham bam thank ya mam HC but you could tell that by lookin at the cover. Actually this is better than your usual generic crud. What White Cross may lack in originality they make up for in delivery. If you just can't get enough thrash here's another one.... (POB 14532 Richmond, VA 23221) (BOZ)

THE THREE O'CLOCK "SIXTEEN TAMBOURINES" (FRONTIER LP)--- I'm not sure about this band's progression. The Salvation Army LP is still one of my favorites to this day but beginning with "Baroque Hoedown" the band has been placing more emphasis on smoother songs and slicker production. "Sixteen Tambourines" finds the 3 O'Clock continuing in this direction while branching out even further (a few songs feature horns n' strings for example). With the baroque sounding keyboards they come on kind of like an 80's version of the Left Banke. Regardless there's no denying the bands' knack for quality songwriting and arrangements. I enjoy this when I'm in the mood for something different from what I usually listen to. (BOZ)

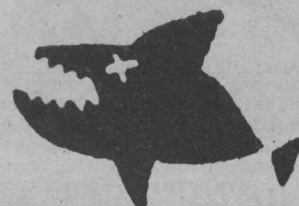
ANGST (HAPPY SQUID 12" EP)--- Listenable modern punk trio with a clean driving sound. The sharp, quirky arrangements are somewhat reminiscent of labelmates 100 Flowers. I guess it's no coincidence that a 100 Flower (John Talley-Jones) had a hand in producing this. Incidentally the cover art by Bruce Licher (Savage Republic) is outstanding as to be expected. (BOZ)

ARKANSAW MAN "EVERY JOB"/"MARK TWAIN" (SUBTERRANEAN 7")--- Liked their 12 inch from a while back better. More sounds on that. Then again this is only a 7 inch. Like the side with no vocals on this best. Good rhythmic groove sort of like the Ventures Go Jazz. (BOZ)



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FLESH COLUMNS (DEMO TAPE)--- Canadian band soon to have a slab of vinyl out on Touch & Go. Good band with a tough thrash sound. Unfortunately they do seem to be plagued by a lack of catchy song-writing (a problem for alot of bands). We'll have to wait and see on the rest of this to wait and see when their vinyl comes out to get a better idea of this band's worthiness. Too much here just whizzes by me, perhaps a 7" format will make a stronger impression. (BOZ)

THE FRANTIX (LOCAL ANESTHETIC 7" EP)--- Raw garage punk from Colorado. The Flipperish A side "My Dad's A Fuckin' Alcoholic" fares the best. The rest you've heard elsewhere before but the band's snotty behavior is certainly admirable. (638 E 13th Av, DenCo 80203) (BOZ)

FLAGYLL "COMPUTER MUSIC FOR THE MICROCHIP MIND" (SLITHERING DISC 12)--- Residents like absurdness on "Bloodletting" Funny vocals. The rest of this is more experimental (more experimental than the Residents you say?) and fucks around with traditional musical rules and regulations (as played on computers so they say). If your a musical student you may appreciate this but as for me I'll take Red Kross's advice cause "notes and chords mean nothing to me". (484 Lake Park Av #142 Oakland, CA 94610) (BOZ)

THE PROLITERIAT "SOMA HOLIDAY" (NON-U LP)--- Finally it's out. A hard, accessible, electric LP from one of Boston's hopefuls. It's pace never reaches (thank you) an incomprehensible speed so that they become another generic hardcore band. Brown's lyrics seem sometimes inscrutable, maybe it's because he's a Capricorn, but his conviction gets it through. Not bad, not bad. The thing that's really missing though is their energetic presence. (VAGUE)



COCTEAU TWINS "HEAD OVER HEELS" (4AD LP)--- I've rambled on lots in the past about this group... quite frankly the Cocteaus are better than Bach, Sinatra, and Laura Antonelli combined. Beauty and brilliance... dreamy musical landscapes.... vocals that ooze with compassion... everything comes together. Dare I say that this goes beyond "Garlands", is everything the Glove should have been, and is ultimately more satisfying than "A Kiss In the Dreamhouse"? This outfit can do no wrong and that's not merely my opinion.. it's a fact. (BOZ)

SWANS "FILTH" (NEUTRAL LP)--- Harsh, savage, vicious... there's nothing subtle about the Swans and their approach. No hidden beauty. Nothing. The Swans deafening torturous assault will force you into submission... slow and grinding... it ain't pretty but then again what did you expect from a record called "Filth"? If this is your cup of tea then by all means indulge, indulge.... (BOZ)

SUICIDAL TENDENCIES (FRONTIER LP)--- Famous L.A. "skull" band (plenty of skulls on the album cover) who wear bandanas. Now that I've described the band, I'll describe the music. It's heavy metal thrash that's occasionally exhilarating (as on the opener "Suicide's an Alternative") but more often than not things fall into a more predictable pattern. Regardless if you play this at a LOUD volume & bang your head against the wall a few times the desired effect of the music will become more apparant. Not bad. (BOZ)

WARDS "THE WORLD AIN'T PRETTY AND NEITHER ARE WE" (NO THANKS 7" EP)--- Side one features 3 mid-tempo garage punk tunes. The other side gets a little more frenetic in spots but if I hear one more HC song about Reagan.... Not a bad record, but this is still just a record. (\$5(???!!?) to POB 3408 Burlington, VT 05402) (BOZ)

MICRONOTZ "SMASH" (FRESH SOUNDS 12" EP)--- The Micronotz play hard rock. It isn't hardcore, though it is loud, fast and very energetic. If you were to introduce hardcore to diehard Journey, Styx, or .38 Special fans, this EP would be a good place to start. It's a bridge from Van Halen to Circle Jerks. They cover Iggy Pop's "I got a Right" and make it sound like their own. The vocals have a slight JR whine and are clear. The guitarist uses harmonics and feedback very tastefully. The band realizes the value of spaces in the music. The clear mix makes it very easy to hear what's going on; nobody's crowded. I bet they sound great live, too. (PO Box 36 Lawrence, Kansas 66044) (TERRY WIMMER)

VARIOUS "THE PALE PLAGUE" (BEYOND THE PALE cassette)--- A top notch cassette comp put out by the same people who put out Beyond the Pale fanzine (c'mon Karla put out another issue....). An eclectic assortment of challenging music within some of which fallswithin the "industrial" category but is not limited to that genre. The "big" names here are Savage Republic, Whitehouse, and Nurse With Wound so that should give you some idea as to what to expect. Very "offbeat" collection and as you should know that's the only "beat" that matters... P.S. Also comes with an attractive folder with band art, writings, etc... (POB 369 Poulsbo, WA 98370) (BOZ)

VARIOUS "THE HISTORY OF LATIN ROCK", THE MIDNITERS "BEST OF...", VARIOUS "LOS ANGELOS" (ALL LPS ZYANYA (DIST. BY RHINO))--- Three LPs covering the L.A. Chicano/Latin music scene from the 50's to present. The runaway winner of the batch is "The History..." comp which covers the years 1956 to 1965. A fascinating solid collection that ranges from greasy rock n' roll ballads (Lil Julian Herrera and Ritchie Valen's "Donna for example) to tough party rockers like the Premiers' "Farmer John" and the unreal Blendells' "La La La La" ("I'm gonna do a little song for you now that'll make you clap your hands, move your feet, and as a matter of fact will tear you up"). The Midnitters were a popular LA outfit during the mid 60's who performed a mixture of ballads and harder garage styled rock. Although not the stuff that legends were made of like the Seeds, Watchband, Count 5, etc..their LP is still rather enjoyable. Can't say the same for the "Los Angelinos" comp which focuses on today's Chicano scene. Outside a couple inferior Plugz selections there's little to recommend a contemporary Chicano rock bands, cliched new wavers, and a few ethnic groupings. There you have it the rise and fall of it all.... (BOZ)

RUDIMENTARY PENI "DEATH CHURCH" (CORPUS CHRISTI LP)--- I don't think one will be able to find a more superlative slab of vinyl released this year. In their career (the band no longer exists- bass guitarist Grant has some serious health problems) Rudi Peni were able to combine intelligence, creativity, originality, and compassion with unrelenting bursts of fury, power, and aggression. In other words they layed everything on the line. "Death Church" is as inspiring as anything released this or any other year. BUY BUY BUY. (BOZ)

PEACE CORPSE "LIFE, DEATH, & QUINCY" (TOXIC SHOCK 7" EP)--- Slower creeping style punk played with that gritty over the edge feel. Instantly likeable if ya got an ear for noise like me. Attractive Pushead cover to boot! (POB 242 Pomona, CA 91769) (BOZ)

COLOUR BOX (4AD 12" EP)--- I don't like everything on 4AD but damn it they are one of the few labels around that really does things right, spending time and attention on originality, design, and quality. The cover art of almost any 4AD product reflects the care and dedication that goes into almost all their releases and this new one from Colour Box reflects that as well. Normally just the thought of British funk is enough to make me cringe but this easily overcomes my objections. A fine mixture of American street ingenuity (so ya can dance to it) and a touch of spaciness, a flair for the offbeat (so ya can listen to it). Great stereo effects! (BOZ)

PREVARICATORS "NO KIDDING" (ZERO DEGREE 7" EP)--- Traditional hardcore record, excluding a funny version of "Hanky Panky" thats better left ignored. The rest ain't bad but I'd hardly place this in the "essential" or "mandatory" category. (POB 14532 Richmond, VA 23221) (BOZ)

CIRCLE JERKS "GOLDEN SHOWER OF HITS" (LAX LP)--- Let's skank again like we did last summer. It's punk rock dance craze all over again. I'll tell you the Circle Jerks are one of the few mainstream bands that I really like and well this new one is fab just like all their others. I haven't grown tired of these characters yet. Warning: I also liked "Wild in the Streets". (BOZ)

LEATHER NUN "PRIMEMOVER"/"FFA" (SUBTERRANEAN 7")--- Mucho celebrated band from Sweden who have some impossible to find releases on Industrial, that have always been talked about in revered terms. Never was able to get my hands on those. From what I hear this new release reflects a change in direction. "Primemover" is like a sinister version of Bauhaus that features some stunning heavy metal guitar. "FFA" is a funky little dance tune that could be a hit on the leather gay circuit. Sample line: "It's not so long ago that we fist fucked too". Any takers? (BOZ)

COCTEAU TWINS "SUNBURST AND SNOWBLIND" (4AD 12" EP)--- If you're a fan you already own this no doubt. If you're among the unconverted start with either LP first, after which you'll want to own everything else by this duo. All are very worthwhile and desirable. This is no exception. (BOZ)

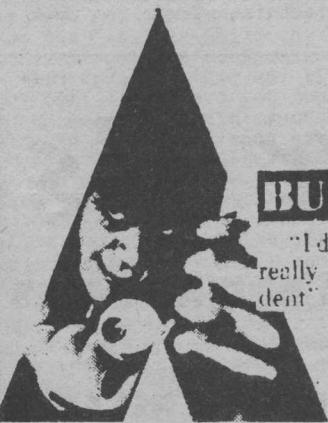
HUMAN THERAPY (DR DREAM 7" EP)--- Snappy pop meets hardcore. Not bad, this is listenable I suppose but personally I prefer my whiskey straight up for maximum effect ya know what I mean? (Available via Toxic Shock) (BOZ)

NO RESPONSE (DEMO TAPE)--- Green Blah band that shows lots of potential on this tinny sounding tape. Chaotic sound of everthing falling apart. (1583 Paulson, Green Bay, WI 59303) (BOZ)

# THE EAT

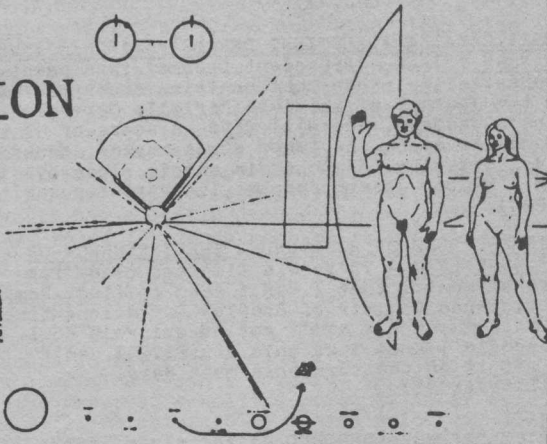
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THE RAIN PARADE (ENGIMA LP), WEDNESDAY WEEK "BET-SY'S HOUSE" (WARFRAT 12" EP), THE POINT "MAGIC CIRCLE" (WARFRAT LP)--- Three bands from the L.A. paisley underground. I'm sure all three resent that categorizing but that's too bad cause I've already done it. The Rain Parade are the most psychedelic and are my favorites out of the batch. Very laid back but still quite enjoyable. Sounds like they've been doing lots of mushrooms. The Point LP sounds pretty much like a weaker version of The 3 O'Clock and just doesn't make it for me. Sounds like they were a power pop band a few years back. Exception to this is the last cut, "Streets of Warsaw" a great overblown piece of psychedelic pretension. Now that's what it's all about guys .... better luck next time. Lastly we have Wednesday Week, a girl band who have a bright snappy sound that's not as 60's oriented as the other 2 bands. If you're looking for a pop band that's not too cutsey this ain't bad. (BOZ)

VARIOUS "RUMPONIA- AN ANSWER WITHIN" (RUMPO LP)--- An interesting compilation put out by the Northampton Musicians Collective. Bands include Insect Flak, Exit Girls, Bullets For Silver, Workshop and 6 others I'm also equally unfamiliar with. Musically the emphasis is on the arty side, ranging from electronic experimentation to post punk psychedelica. Results are hit and miss ranging from terrible (Armpit Orchestra, Exit Girls) to inspiring (Syndromes, Cellar 16). Despite the misses this compilation is worth investigating if you got a fat wallet. (available in the US by Testtube POB 89 Bascom, OH 44809) (BOZ)

STAINS (SST LP)--- Although the Stains have little to offer that's new this is a highly enjoyable fast set of L.A. hardcore. Some catchy tunes, powerful arrangements, and a good production job from the SST house producer (Spot of course) make this LP a worthwhile proposition. (BOZ)

Z'EV "ELEMENTAL MUSIC" (SUBTERRANEAN LP)--- An album of rhythmic noise. Zev is a percussionist who uses "found" instruments such as sheets of metal, springs, pans, etc... Not as abrasive sounding as one may think, at low volumes the music has a somewhat calming effect. Industrial ambience suitable for cleaning the apartment, washing last month's dishes, fucking.... (BOZ)

FACTRIX/CAZAZZA "PRESCIENT DREAMS"/"ZANONI" (SUBTERRANEAN 7")--- "Prescient Dreams" is a haunting unsettling piece that contains excerpts from the journal of the late Mirielle Cervenka (Exene's sister). One will find a sense of tranquility among the tense atmospherics. Mandatory listening. "Zanoni" is a solo piece by Factrix member Joseph Jacobs. Industrial muzak? (BOZ)

MINUTEMEN "BUZZ OR HOWL UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF HEAT" (SST LP)--- There's a time and place for the Minutemen... that I can't seem to find. Some body listened to lots of Steeley Dan a long time ago. Even good jazz ain't got no gringo's soul. Most people I know like this stuff... I can't even get it on the turntable most days. (LISA ANGEL)

INSANITY DEFENSE (UNSOUND cassette)--- Sorry can't really go for this. These guys got a "grudge against the world"... yeah so what else is new? More of the same.... (POB 216 Centerport NY 11721) (BOZ)

UNDEAD "VERBAL ABUSE"/"MISFIT" (POST MORTEM 7")--- Slower HC. Two non-descript forgettable tunes that fail to make much of an impression. Maybe with better material... (POB 358, New Milford, NJ 07646) (BOZ)

NEATS (ACE OF HEARTS LP)--- Listenable but undistinguished vinyl. The Neats' roots are based in the sixties (ex. Byrdish guitars) but are still very much a contemporary sounding band. REM may be a starting reference point and I like the Neats far better than those overrated Athenians but much of the material within is bland... not bad just bland which may be worse.. I don't

know? Anyhow the main thing that's on my mind is when the hell are Ace of Hearts gonna unleash a Lyres album on us? C'mon man... (BOZ)



BUTTHOLE SURFERS (ALTERNATIVE TENTACLES 12" EP)

--- A healthy bunch of fucks. I like the Buttholes cuz they insult me in variation... so much more entertaining than any homogenous spew. Do not question their musical abilities unless you suffer from "professionalismrulesitis". Every conscientious stripper should incorporate "Wichita Cathedral" into their act. "Suicide's" spoken parts are "skinheadism realized"... youth speaks to some god.. I hate it/I love it. Finally the cretin genius that defines "classics" will inevitably include "The Shah Sleeps in Lee Harvey's Grave". I had never seen Elvis Presley's toe nails in the light. (LISA ANGEL)

A BOOK REVIEW.....

"THE TROUSER PRESS GUIDE TO THE NEW WAVE" (CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS)--- A guide to post 75 rock put out by the Trouser Press gang. Albums are covered (no singles) and arranged by artist followed by a short review/history of the artist's recorded work. More open-minded and inclusive than the magazine, this work's still tarnished by it's omissions, errors, and some questionable evaluations. Regardless this can still prove valuable to those who've been living in a vacuum over the past 8 years (say 97% of the American population). For the rest of us, it's not bad as far as bathroom entertainment goes. (BOZ)

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## FOR INFO AND AD RATES

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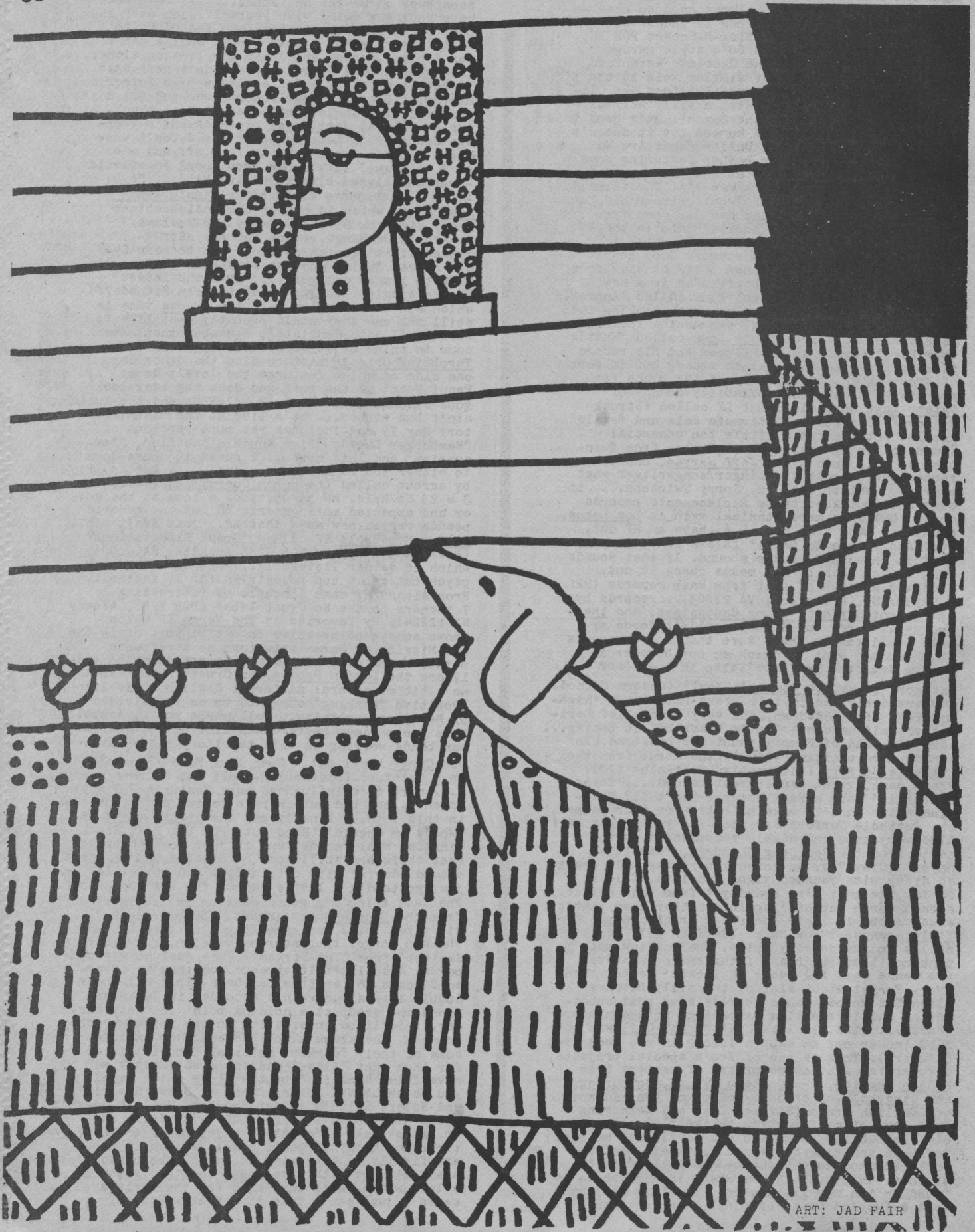
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Lots and lots of vinyl... where to begin?... well the top of the stack looks good so here we go... the Droogs got a 4 song 12 incher out called "Heads Examined" (Plug-N-Socket POB DH, Van Nuys, CA 91412) thats 60's style garage punk. It's alright but the Chocolate Watchband they ain't. In a somewhat similar vein is the latest from the Slickee Boys (Twintone 445 Oliver Av S Mpls, MN 55405) with a silly surf ditty called "When I Go to the Beach". It's good to see bands with a sense of humour but it doesn't exactly grab me ya know? Unlike "What Are We Gonna Do" a tough gutter basher featuring some neat-o heavy metal guitar at the end courtesy of Code of Honor (Subterranean 7"). The flipside includes a new version of "What Price Would You Pay" which they did on the Max R&R comp from awhile back. Also worth lookin' into is the Sick Pleasure EP (Subterranean 7") which is the Code with a different singer. Good obnoxious stuff- much better than their LP side from awhile ago. Also from Subterranean is a new Chrome single- sci fi metal punk called "Anorexic Sacrifice". Look for it! Also worth looking into is a solo single (Subterranean again- the hits keep comin' eh?) from Bruce Lose called "What's Your Name". Bruce is in Flipper and his record is more experimental - kinda spacey but it sort of grows on ya. If space ain't the place for you theres always the rockabilly sounds of Safety Last on their debut LP called "Struck By Love" (Twintone). Alternate male and female vocals. Not bad but a little too comercial sounding for my tastes ya dig? Also from Twintone is a 12 inch EP by Jeff Warvan, one of those modern sensitive singer/songwriters what ever you want to call em. Sorry Twintone.... it eats shit but keep those Replacements records comin' OK? In a more ethincal vein is Los Lobos, a Chicano band from East L.A. have an EP out, "... And a Time To Dance" (Slash 12"). Jumpy Mexican cajun R&B sounds abound. If that sounds good to you then by all means check it out. Recieved a batch of shit from Wasp records (821 N Taylor St, Arlington, Va 22203... records by the Insect Surfers, Young Caucasians, and the Source... sorry but I just couldn't force myself to listen to these more than a few moments .... you may want to check em out however if you're into the new wave". Also in the loser

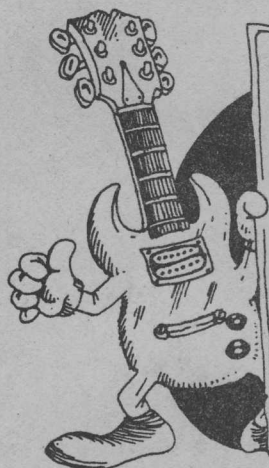
category is Native Tongue's "Yowl" (Modern Method) who are described in their press release as "high-powered, stripped-down, and very danceable". Derivative self-conscious jumble describes it better... like old Gang of Four without the backbone. In a much more exciting vein is the debut from the Butthole Surfers (Alternative Tentacles 12"). Great name, great band, great record.... Texas is turnin' into a real hotspot isn't it? Maximum noise that'll make hair grow on your palms.. the Butthole Surfers are good for you so get it!! Also very good and highly recommended is the newie from the Sex Gang Children, "Mauritia Mayer" (Clay 7"). An infectious gutsy well crafted ditty with renewed vigor and life. This is by far the best I've heard yet from this outfit... a band worth watchin' again. Another team that's always tops in their conference are the March Violets whose "Crow Baby" (Rebirth 12") sends chills up and down my spine. The English post punk positive progressio futurism (or whatever you wanna call it) scene is lookin' better than ever. Forget about alot of the silly Batcave Alien Sex Roses groups there's some real substantial and interesting happenings going on overseas.... like.... like This Mortal Coil who got a 12 incher out on 4AD (a leader in the recording industry). This is one of Ivo's special projects, a superstar session comprised of members from Modern English, the Cocteau Twins, Colourbox, and Gindytalk. They do a medley of two old Modern English songs (Sixteen Days and Gathering Dust- two of my favorites incidently) plus an old Tim Buckley song (who you say?). Let me just say that anything thats got Elizabeth Cocteau on it is good enough for me and I'll leave it at that. Unfortunately Elizabeth is nowhere to be found on the new PIL double gonzo "Live in Tokyo". What a fuckin' waste of vinyl in which Johnny

hires some cruddy New Jersey bar band after the departure of Levene and Jones..... I mean what have you been doin' with yourself John over the past 2 1/2 years?... it took you that long to write "This is Not a Love Song"? Well I can't say I blame Levene and Jones for leaving either... "Flogging a Dead Horse"... I couldn't have said it better myself.... Got a single by a former member of Denver's Your Funeral who put out a tasty little single awhile back before breaking up. Anyway Jeri Rossi pretends she's Teenage Jesus on "I Left My Heart But I Don't Know Where". Lydia Lunch says to fuck off and who am I to argue? (Available from Local Anesthetic - address listed elsewhere) Speakin' of Ms. Lunch I just gotta ahold of the Einsturzenende Neu Bauten which is one of the collaborations Lydia did with Birthday Party boy Bowland Howard in Germany.... not for the narrow-minded... it's worth getting just to hear Lydia scream "bring out the leeches!" OK now back to lesser delights.... like the latest Freeze single, "Guilty Face" (Modern Method 7") which ain't bad but my favorite Freeze tune is still the one they would probably most like to forget, "I Hate Tourists", remember that? Yeah come to think of it wasn't much anyway... Got my Throbbing Gristle picture disc the other day, one side of which features the lovely Gosey Fanni Tutti in the buff and does she ever look good spinnin' around at 33 1/3 RPMs and the music ain't bad either... it's live at the Death Factory May 79 and includes yet more versions of "Hamburger Lady", "Five Knuckle Shuffle", "Persuasion" and lots more... I guess it comes down to either you're a fan or....not.... got an LP by a group called the Urban Guerrillas (Camouflage 3 W 25 St Mpls, MN 55405) took a look at the cover and expected more generic HC but got generic pseudo reggae/new wave instead.. just can't win.. Shadow Minstrels EP called "Great Expectations" (Pterodactyl 12" EP POB 3285 Arcadia, CA 91006) which is rather listenable... sort of modern day psych but a bit too pedestrian for my tastes... From Albany NY come a couple of interesting 7 inchers on the No Crust label (POB 7188, Albany NY 12244). My favorite is The Verge EP which shows some good creative potential sort of in the old Mission of Burma vein (use as a reference point). Good guitarist.... Also not doing to badly are the Lumpen Proles (No Crust) which reminds me a bit of several different English bands like "Positive Thinking" suggests to me the Sisters of Mercy or something.. well maybe not... actually this group does better than alot of the American bands working in this territory these days. New Cunts vinyl out, "Open Your Mind"/"Musician in a Bathtub" (Disturbing- lost the address sorry) .... more 60's influenced punk featuring ? style organ... not bad but there's better stuff out their in this vein... Finally got the Stretchmarks EP, "Who's in Charge" (Head Butt POB 131 Post Sta L, Winnipeg Man. Canada) and it just goes to prove that there are still some hard assed thrash bands around playin' with originality and style. Ya just gotta dig a little deeper for the good stuff. The last thing I'm gonna mention is the latest from the Banshees contingent. "Dear Prudence" ain't bad but I was expecting alot more. I mean who can forget the unearthly version of "Helter Skelter" from "The Screem"? This just no way compares. Also isn't it strange how they've covered 2 songs so far from Manson's bible eh? Their double live album wasn't recorded in Japan and finds the group at a holding point in their career... it'll be interesting to see which way they go next. The album's not bad and even includes some of their "darker" material but will it do for them what "Alive" did for Kiss? Lastiy we have "Blue Sunshine" by the Glove which as all you faithful NME readers know is Steve Severin's and Robert Smith's latest project. Well it doesn't quite live up to it's gorgeous psychedelic cover but overall it's rather enjoyable... an interesting moody piece of work. Incidently Robert finally is beginning to sound like himself again singing with more angst than he has in a long while. Well that's it for the reviews cause I just can't take it anymore. Enough.





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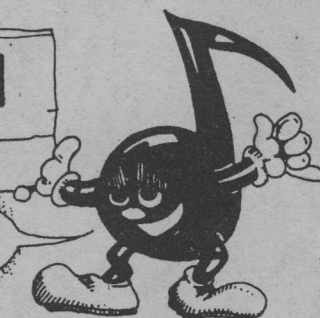
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