

stopped herself. They did not...
 Local News
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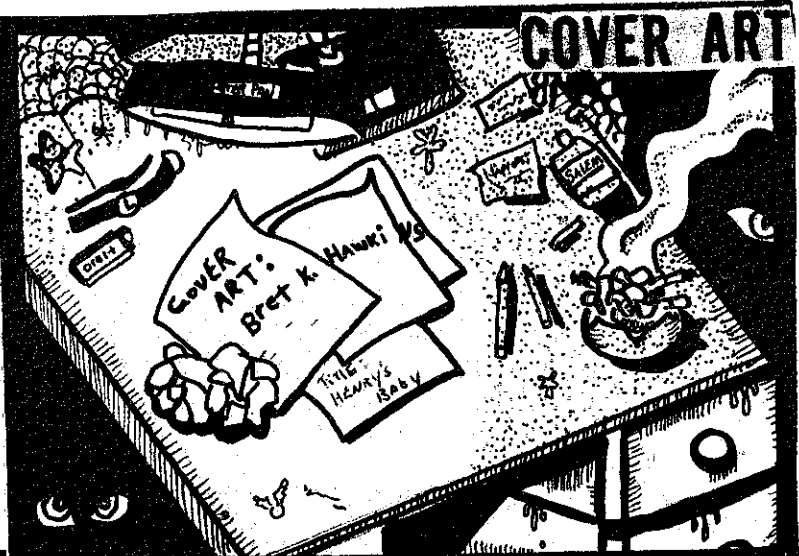
HI THERE!!! Andy Anderson here with the latest installment in LOCAL NEWS. I should explain from the outset that I am back in town and am working with the N.I.R. once again, hence this column of Local News and my other contributions throughout the paper. And it's good to be back! Anyway, since I have been out of town for quite a while what follows is not as complete as I would like, so bear with me this time and don't get mad. Oh, I should mention at this time that if you or your band has info for N.I.R.'s LOCAL NEWS, please send it to us so we can make this column as complete and up to date as is humanly possible. And now, LOCAL NEWS:

BIG LEADOFF ITEM is that **ALTERNATIVE JAM 5** was a smashing success, lasting over 5 hours, and showcasing eight of Nashville's greatest bands. Despite the bitter cold and snow on the ground, a crowd of about 550 flowed through Cantrell's on Feb. 2 to see scheduled acts **SHADOW 15**, **THE MOVEMENT**, and **RAGING FIRE**. After that, the "Jam" began, and five bands from each of the previous Alternative Jams took the stage to the crowd's delight. **CLOVERBECTON**, **C.P.S.**, **FACTUAL**, **BASIC STATIC**, and **JASON AND THE SCORCHERS** all turned in stunning performances. And what have all of those bands been doing since then? Well, **BASIC STATIC** and **C.P.S.** are still defunct, but back from the grave once more is **CLOVERBECTON** who will be playing a gig at 12th & Porter on April 13. These guys proved they could still deliver the goods at the Alternative Jam, so mark this date on your calendar. **SHADOW 15** have just released an 8-song cassette tape that is very good and is reviewed elsewhere in this issue. **THE MOVEMENT**, who went over quite well with the crowd at the Jam, they have just released a promotional single which is not available to the public, but which is being played on 91 ROCK. Don't despair, though, the band is reported working on a 4-song EP and hope to have it in your hands by the end of April. **THE MOVEMENT** also will be playing Vandy's Good Women later this month... **RAGING FIRE** have been busy, busy, busy putting the finishing touches on their 4-song EP which we can look forward to hearing by late March or early April. Titled **A Family Thing**, the EP will also include "Four Tears (Church Street)", "You Should Read More Books", and "Beware Of A Man Of Manners" (which we understand is dedicated to Jerry Lee Lewis). Following the EP's release, the band plan several live shows here in Nashville before hitting the road... **JASON AND THE SCORCHERS** new LP **Lost And Found** is out and in the stores and waiting for you to buy it. It's great! The band celebrated with a signing party at CATS March 9 and the place was packed. Wonder of wonders, WKDA is giving "White Lies" heavy airplay, and the band did an on-air interview March 11 which was quite a surprise. Enjoy their presence in town while it lasts, the **SCORCHERS** will be hitting the road any day now. They did shoot a video in Texas, so let's hope MTV will keep them before our eyes... **FACTUAL** would like you to think they're not doing anything, but in reality they're making slow progress on their new album as they're having to redesign their studio as they go along...

Speaking of **FACTUAL**, Rob Earls' old friends from his days as a member of the **ACTUALS**, Steve Anderson and Gary Rebasca, otherwise known as **ACTUEL** have returned to town. Friday, March 15th at Cantrell's **ACTUEL** will celebrate the U.S. release of their **Monuments** LP which has previously only been available on the C.B.S. Dutch label. Joining **ACTUEL**, who have not played here in quite a while will be **IN PURSUIT** whose 3 song 7" EP is now available in local record stores. **IN PURSUIT** is currently at work on a 12" mini-LP. Joining **ACTUEL** and **IN PURSUIT** will be **BILL LLOYD**, so be sure to be there early...

We're sad to report that **CIVIC DUTY** has broken up following last month's 12th & Porter gig. No word on what, if anything, Ed & Judy will be doing, but they did want to thank all their fans for their support over the years... Also calling it quits were Athens, GA's **CH-OK**, so this winter has really taken its toll... But not on **SUBURBAN BAROQUE** who stayed warm inside and have been working on film, video, records, and all sorts of other projects... **DIM** is not dead, they're just waiting for their guitarist Eddie to return from England. So, look for them again in a few months... the **FAPER DOLLS'** Donna and JoAnn are leaving to do something more serious, and tell us to look for something in about a month. The other **FAPER DOLLS** continue on...

AND THAT'S IT for this month's LOCAL NEWS. Look for more reports of Nashville's sceneries for the hip and well read in the next N.I.R., which we promise, promise, promise, will be out sooner than this one was. TAKE CARE!



SHADOW 15

8 song cassette - \$4.87
Available at CAT'S

(The Rejected), they live in a deserted suburban housing project, a wasteland complete with wild dogs and rats; they fills their days with teevee, panhandling and pillaging; at night they frequent the seedily East L.A. hard-core clubs. The film feature live stage performances from DI, The Vandals and T.S.O.L. Alex Gibson's

MOVIE REVIEWS

NIGHT OF THE COMET

A hilarious and satirical dark comedy/sci-fi thriller about the end of the world and the few survivors... including a teenaged "Valley Girl", her older sister and a Chicano truck driver. A mysterious comet has reduced all who have turned out to see it into a fine red dust. Partial exposure only delays the process, turning people into flesh-eating ghouls before the final transformation into fill-dirt. The handful of those who received protection by accidently being shielded by steel are left to deal with the mess. The humour is wry, mostly subtle, though with a few sight gags thrown in. Interesting sub-plots include a quartet of punk zombies who capture the sisters in a department store ("We believe in the system," says the delightfully manic punk leader, Willy, "just two days ago we were mere stockboys... now we own the whole damn store!"), and a partially-exposed group of think-tank scientists in the desert outside of Los Angeles. An enjoyable, funny tour de force, you'll probably find **NIGHT OF THE COMET** on cable teevee or on your local video-rental shelves soon.

Another 1984 cult favorite, **SUBURBIA** is a real find for dedicated followers of hard-core. Written and directed by the woman who brought us **THE DECLINE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION** (a documentary of the West Coast hard-core scene featuring X, Fear and Black Flag), Penelope Spheeris, **SUBURBIA** is the best "teenagers-in-revolt film since **REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE**. By utilizing the talents of a group of real-life punks in the lead roles, Spheeris manages to create an authenticity most directors only dream of. ("I can't turn actors into punks," she said in a recent interview, "but I can turn punks into actors.") The story of a group of outcast and homeless kids who band together for survival under a common identity as "T.R." brilliant and haunting musical score fills in between the club scenes, underlining the kid's hollow and frustrating everyday existence. **SUBURBIA** is a chilling portrayal of the "blank generation", all the more disturbing as it reflects a trend that is growing, not isolated.

...Keith A. Gordon

**LOOK OUT ALL YOU DANCE ROCKERS,
 HERE COMES....**

THE CROWD

**MIKE ARNOLD
 JIM THOMPSON
 TOM THOMPSON
 KENNY CATHEY**

**NASHVILLE'S NEWEST ROCK & ROLL BAND
 HEAR THEM ON WRVU 91 ROCK**

"WITHOUT YOU" "DON'T WANNA HEAR THESE THINGS"

**IF YOU SEEN THE CROWD AT CANTRELL'S ON DEC. 28TH
 YOU'LL NEVER WANT TO MISS THEM AGAIN!**

**FOR INFO ON BOOKINGS AND THEIR 4 SONG CASSETTE CALL:
 758-7883**

REVIEWS (?)

by Allen Sullivant

Hello again. Record releases during the Christmas season and the month of January are not very plentiful. And, since I decided to spare you the agony of reading another year-end retrospective of the best and/or worst of 1984, I suppose that this installment of dimwit amateur criticism will be a bit shorter than I would like for it to be. Hope you don't mind. Also, in view of the almost total lack of death threats, anonymous mid-nite telephone calls, and other forms of negative reaction to my last column, I must assume that everyone who bothers to read this agrees completely with what they read before. Thank you for your support.

Enjoy your reading--more to come in the next issue...

BRONSKI BEAT----"THE AGE OF CONSENT"-----

I picked up a copy of this record after noticing in Billboard and other trade magazines that it appeared on just about every chart I saw, especially those from Europe. So much for public opinion. "The Age of Consent" is a ridiculous combination of brass laden nuevo-wavo pop and 1930's style cabaret music, all performed from and for the now ever-popular homosexual point of view. One of the worst albums I have ever heard both in content and performance. Rolling Stone will probably give it four stars. I give it an "F"---and that's being generous.

THE WATERBOYS----"A PAGAN PLACE"-----

Dexy's Midnight Runners meets Chicago in the Imperial Bedroom. An interesting concept, but no mv musical cup of tea. This lyrically superior album has gotten good reviews elsewhere... you may like it....."B"

BRONSKI BEAT----"THE AGE OF CONSENT"-----

I couldn't let this turkey slide by without mentioning that the lead vocalist sounds exactly like Mickey Dolenz on helium. It really makes me wonder just what the major labels are all about when I hear a record as horrid as this one. I know so many talented people deserving of the opportunity that these clowns are getting.

THE KINKS----"WORD OF MOUTH"-----

Thank God for the Kinks!! Ray and Dave Davies and company prove without a doubt that just because you've been around a while you don't have to turn into boring old farts like the Rolling Stones. "Word of Mouth" mixes in-your-face rockers like "Do It Again", "guilty", and the title track with plaintive, almost mournful songs like "Good Day" and "Missing Persons". Also present are examples of that old Kinks tradition of ripping off both their own (Come Dancing) and others (Start Me Up by the boring old farts) songs. This album is just what the doctor ordered to help you shake the winter doldrums and get your blood flowing again...."A"

KENDRA SMITH, DAVID ROBACK, KEITH MITCHELL-----"FELL FROM THE SUN"-----

A nice four song EP from three prominent members of Los Angeles' "paisley underground" that can rightly be termed a "winter" equivalent of last year's "Rainy Day" compilation album, both in terms of style and execution as compared to the breezy atmosphere of its predecessor. Mellow and dreamy, without the usual weirdness associated with psychedelic music. Definatly not for the hardcore or heavy metal sets. I believe that this record was originally intended for release under the group name "Clay Allison". Further Trivia (for those who care): Clay Allison was a real life old west psychopathic killer-gunfighter who was born and raised in Tennessee. See there--you learned something in spite of yourself...."B"

DEL-LORDS----"FRONTIER DAYS"-----

Bright, raw, hook-laden roots rock (neo-rockabilly?) that anybody could and should like. Musically, the Del-Lords remind me of local hero Will Rambeaux and his Delta Hurricanes, but the lyrics are closer to Springsteen than Cajun with their concern for the plight of the ordinary guy. The straight-ahead production emphasizes vocal harmonies of near Beach Boy perfection. An excellent debut....."A-"

THE TEXTONES----"MIDNIGHT MISSION"-----

This debut album from the veteran Los Angeles group is very O.K.---not the worst I've ever heard, but not the best either. The lyrics seem to dwell on the effects of the apathetic society at large on the individual---the old "I'll-get through this somehow" syndrome. While I have no problem with the lyrics as such (or with the musicianship or quality of the recording itself, for that matter), do find myself annoyed by vocalist Carla Olson. Her voice has a tendency to drift off into a Buffy Saint-Marie type of falsetto that absolutely drives me up the walls...."B-"

HOODOO GURUS----"STONEAGE ROMEOS"-----

This is a fun record. After all, what else can you expect from a band that includes as an influence the "Get Smart" TV series and writes songs about kamikaze pilots (Tojo) and exhuming old dead girlfriends (Dig It Up). "Stoneage Romeos" boasts good playin', good singin', and good sound quality. It also consists almost entirely of songs that seem somehow overly familiar. "I Want You Back" is the only inspired bit of song-craft on the whole record. However, don't let this hold you back. Buy a copy and enjoy...."A-"

P.S. There's a neat drawing of a dinosaur (probably a T-Rex) on the cover if you're impressed with that sort of thing.

12TH PORTER

LandA

HAPPY HOUR
4-7

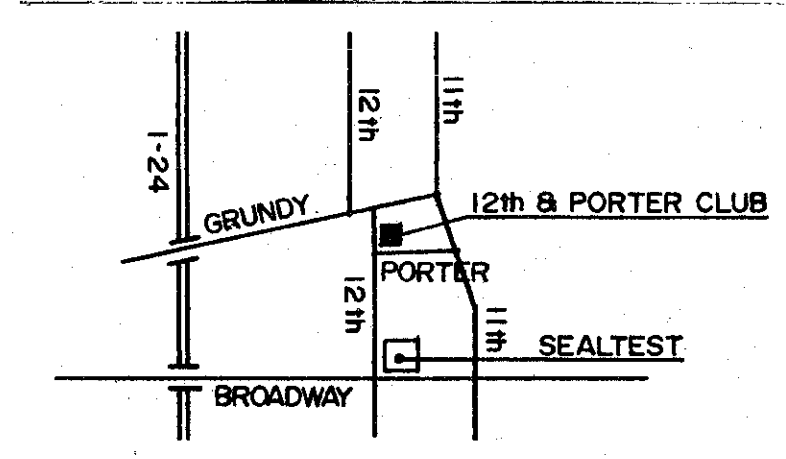
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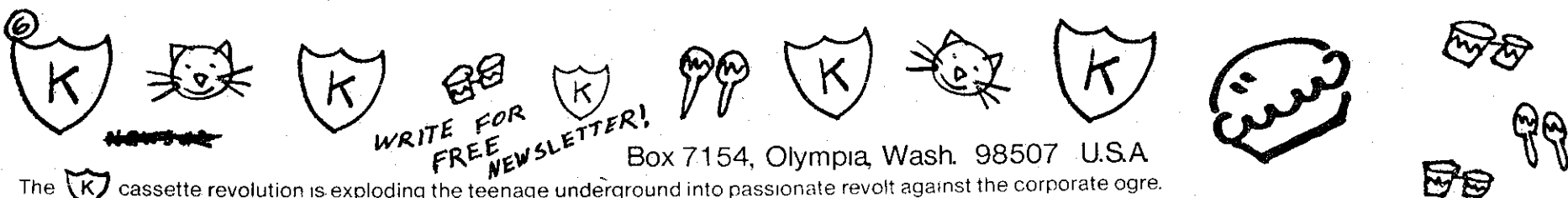
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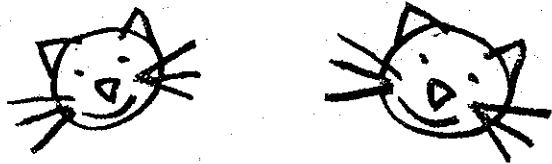
12TH PORTER

LandA



The cassette revolution is exploding the teenage underground into passionate revolt against the corporate ogre.

Beat Happening



BREAK THE CHAINS

Beat Happening is on the rampage. This December saw the release of their debut 7" 45 "Our Secret"/"What's Important". So far the response has been a universal thumbs-up, and they're selling like hot cakes. A 10 song **Beat Happening** cassette is in the works, due out in March. The **Beat Happening** song "Christmas" will be included on the cassette compilation *Horrible Heffalump* (along with the Melvins, Volume III, Liquid Generation and others) available in mid-February from Kurt Flansburg. (605 2nd St. S.E., Puyallup, WA. 98371). **Beat Happening** live, a "liberating, chain-breaking explosion" (often abbreviated to "awesome") will be occurring in your town soon. If not, we'll know the reason why. Now, don't let all this frenetic activity overshadow **Beat Happening's Three Tea Breakfast** cassette, five songs recorded in various Tokyo apartments. Yes, this precious gem is still available for only \$2.50 postage-paid. **SPECIAL OFFER:** Get both the **Beat Happening 7" 45 "Our Secret"/"What's Important"** and the **Three Tea Breakfast** cassette for only \$3.50, ppd. A bargain at half the price!



LET'S TOGETHER

17 band international compilation featuring hardcore, noise, folk-rock, pop, and dance party instrumentals from Arizona, Nevada, Tokyo, and various small towns in Washington. (45 mins., \$4.00)

JOHN FOSTER'S POP PHILOSOPHERS

Naive white soul by Olympia's reclusive genius non-musician and a varying bunch of trusty instrument-playing neighbors. Includes his legendary "Kennedy Saga." (60 mins., \$3.50)

BEAT HAPPENING *Three Tea Breakfast*

5 folk-punk songs recorded in their swingin' pad while on a recent sojourn to Tokyo. (\$2.50)

DANGER IS THEIR BUSINESS

A bunch of people singing by themselves with no instruments. "Sets music back 10,000 years"—**Truly Needy** coming soon: **Dangerous Business International**. (\$3.50)

All prices include postage

Box 7154, Olympia, Wash. 98507 U.S.A.

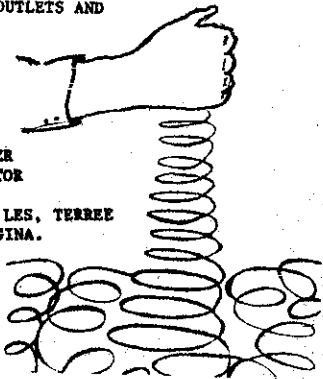
The **Sound of Pig Music** has an ongoing series of compilation cassettes, for which they are always looking for material. They have released three so far (the second, *Pursuit of Happiness*, included the **Beat Happening** song "fourteen"), with plans for an infinite number in the future, so it's never too late for you to submit something. (T.S.O.P.M., 33-28 148th St, Flushing, N.Y. 11354)

NASHVILLE INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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RICK CHAMPION: NEW FOUND EDITOR
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WRITE US!

REVIEWS

10,000 MANIACS--*Human Conflict Number Five*(EF); *Secrets Of The I-Ching*(LF)(FRESS Records; 432 Moreland Avenue NE, Atlanta, GA 30307)-- Don't be fooled by their name; 10,000 MANIACS are not a hardcore band. Far from it. What they are is hard to describe, though. Pop? Sure. Minimalist? Sorta. Best new group of 1984? Uncountably. This bunch of upstate New Yorkers (since transplanted to Athens, GA) have come up with a highly unique sound and approach, better experienced than read about. Lead vocalist Natalie Merchant has one of the best voices I've ever heard (very European sounding) that the rest of the band's playing revolves around and accentuates. Natalie sings like Michael Stipe, so you can't always hear out the lyrics, but when you can they'll send shivers down your spine. Take, for example, "Grey Victory", a pleasant enough light tune until you realize it's about the coming of Hiroshima. In "Tension" Natalie observes "Pass edition loon God sent comfort is your salvation" then asks "but who grants absolution for sins that never were committed?". Her range is amazing; on "Orange" she hits and stays on high notes in a manner that'll take your breath away. There's a lot going on behind her voice too; Robert Buck's guitar treatments are some of the best since Adrian Belew's, and John Lombardo takes over the vocal chores for the reggae-feeling "Anthem For Doomed Youth". Both of the 10,000 Maniacs' releases are well worth your owning; the LF has lyrics, the LP doesn't. A big thank you to Fress Records for putting these discs back into print after the group's original private pressings quickly sold out. -ANDY

MADE IN AMERICA

Los Lobos
HOW WILL THE WOLF SURVIVE? (Slash)
The Textones
MIDNIGHT MISSION (A & M)
The Minutemen
DOUBLE NICKELS ON THE DIME (SST)

In case you haven't noticed it yet, all us here at NIR to let you in on a secret: there's a new wind blowing in Rock music these days. It's exciting, original and refreshing...and it's stamped indelibly "Made In America". It's typified by bands like the critic's darlings from Athens, REM, and by our own hometown faves, Jason & The Scorchers. And it is represented accurately by these three albums from Los Lobos, The Textones and The Minutemen.

Los Lobos have become the new favorites of the critical set, and for good reason. Rolling Stone Magazine's recent Critic's Poll showed that Los Lobos took honors as the Best New Artist (over runner-ups Cyndi Lauper and The Bangles) and tied Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band as Band Of The Year. *HOW WILL THE WOLF SURVIVE?* earns the compliments. A highly-spirited mix of rock, R & B and honky-tonk country are tossed together with a heaping helping of Tex-Mex stylings to create a hot, though unique hybrid. The music of Los Lobos reflects their proud Mexican/American heritage. It is also highly danceable, non-stop rockin' & boppin'...unlike the artificial technopop that passes for the real thing in some quarters. *HOW WILL THE WOLF SURVIVE?* is an energetic rock 'n' roll vehicle, a low riding hot rod with a brand new tri-duce carb, ready to roll.

The Textones are a Los Angeles band that aspire towards a singer/songwriter sensibility of style. These are the children of the Middle Class, but rather than reflect the blandness of an entire cliched L.A. genre, The Textones rise above such generic claptrap, embodying instead a sort of "Angry Young Man" feel to their material, similar to Elvis Costello or Graham Parker, with one very noticeable difference...

...singer/songwriter/guitarist Carla Olson is an angry young woman. When Olson is at her best, such as on

MIDNIGHT MISSION's title cut (which, to paraphrase Springsteen, is a song about "those people that the trickle down theory hasn't trockied down to yet"); "Number One Is To Survive"; and the covers, "Running" (originally done by Chubby Checkers as a comeback single a few years back) or "Clean Cut Kid" (an unreleased Dylan song), a tribute to a lost Viet Nam vet (and indeed, all Nam vets)...she is exceptional. The music is traditional R & B influenced rock, Olson's vocals dynamic and her songwriting fraught with potential.

If indeed punk was a response to the boring and mind-decaying commerciality of mid-seventie's rock; and hard-core a step beyond the exaggeration and discordance of the punk genre, then The Minutemen from San Pedro, California (where else?) have brought the journey full-circle with their amazing double album set, *DOUBLE NICKELS ON THE DIME*. At first glance, you'll find forty-five songs averaging a mere ninety seconds each; scratch below the surface, though and discover the underlying complexity, wit, confusion politicizing and idealism inherent in The Minutemen's music. The material here encompasses the full spectrum of rock, jazz, hard-core and minimalistic influences in creating an ethereal philosophy, poetry set to music. The band hits every bulls-eye it aims for, from the possible ego-inflation of media coverage ("Political Song For Michael Jackson To Sing") to political and social atrocities ("Untitled Song For Latin America") to mindless conformity. With a sharp eye and a sound mind, The Minutemen have become an important force in the American underground.

Yes, there's a new wind blowing in Rock music, one that speaks for the true majority of this country's people, not the falsely-mandated, filthy-rich moral hypocrites of Reagan's Amerika. A voice of angry young rebels, from the ethnic folk creations of Los Lobos to The Textones' tales of the working man to The Minutemen's social and political philosophies; musical spokespeople for those who have been cast out and ignored by the "Brave New World" of the eighties. Can you hear it?

...Keith A. Gordon



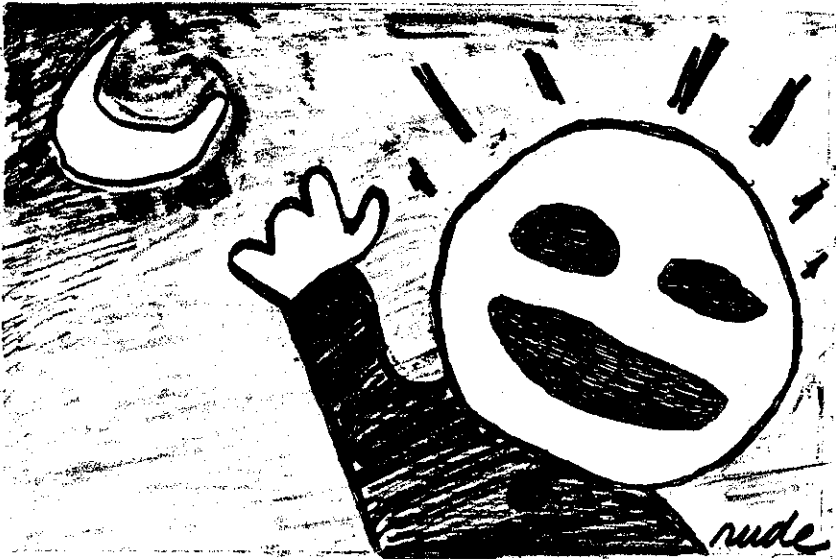
S N I D E - O - R A M A

Greetings, fellow smarties. I, Hugh N. Cry, do so hope everyone enjoys this, the first, and likely last, Snide-O-Rama. Thanks to the Thin Men and especially Number Thirteen. Snide I am, and bought and paid for is this page, but thanks to N. I. R. for the space. Some of this really needed to be said.

COMPELLING NEW WORK by Clearly Erroneous

Old Dominion Genealogical Services presents "Nashville: A Painting Retrospective." Area art may be seen daily at the Hoi-tent-toit Downtowner.

Generations of local dabbling create an historic panorama amid the ferns of the Vertigo Room. From cunning two-dimensional still lifes to mellow sixties style abstractions to the cheap paints, primary colors, and absence of detail of our young exuberants; its all here. Still going strong is last year's trend toward bold clumping of staples on frameless (but honest) stretchers backed with costly board du card. Casually rippled canvases and decisive mat overcuts tell the discerning that this show is decidedly "Nashville."



Art-goers will appreciate this novel touch—whine and cheese as a respite for the famished and a dearth of ashtrays for those who smoke.

Mind you, I haven't seen the show myself, actually seeing the art I review strikes me as vulgar and unnecessary. What I enjoy most about art in this area is my arbitrary position of power; and besides, knowledge could sully my perspective.

Be sure to look for the next Erroneous report in which I shamelessly paraphrase nearly everyone in retelling the experiences of a busload of monied boors on a New York theatre junket.

Coming soon: Facial Ridges attempts to justify drama, writing about it, and his existence.

LEAGUE LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY By Clearly Erroneous

Grating Nashvillians embark on a new tradition Wednesday. That ever static guild of Nashville artists, the Volunteer Nepotism League, have a two o'clock organizer hosted by Gusheon Flirt to plan the first Annual Backslappers Ball, according to League president, Society Tagalong.

"Opportunity in Art for the Right People" will be the ball's theme. Mrs. Tagalong told me today that the theme is appropriate because "The V. N. L. has always tried to attract attention to itself in order to stay amid the smart set and to enable us to showcase our sons, daughters, and cronies."

Rude Boy will provide decorations for the gala and somber woodwinds by the Gladhanders will liven a breakfast after a night of dancing abandon sparked by a thin, reedy orchestra.

In keeping with League tradition, invitations will be extended, as usual, only to the quintessential crew of arts-n-crafts dilettantes and painters who emulate the finest trends of the nineteenth century along with a sprinkling of vivacious sophisticates.

Those wishing to cling to social position will be sure to attend.

OPINIONS IMMACULATE By Hugh N. Cry

Why hasn't New Order been deified? Lionel Richie crucified? I want the first Raging Fire LP.* Children of Noise are still and should be.* When I wake up will Springsteen be gone? Definition: Pop: music of the day, Enjoyed, then thrown away. Be strong. Throw out your Ultravox, your XTC, your English Beat, your Talk Talk and toss them out with joy.* Imagine My Embarrassment Department-heard a good album and it turned out to be the Romantics.* Thanks to Metro for plowing my car under the snow.* Thanks to the mayor for a needless convention center.* Someone get Keith Levine here-I will buy a ticket and go.* A clean, warm, dry place to hear music sounds simple to me.* Make an effort to listen to old Stones' records whenever possible.* A pox on Sammy Hagar.* Read Aztec.* Read The Book of the New Sun.* Do not be all you can be, for no one likes coffee achievers.* REM is best because their finger is on the pulse of the nation and yea, verily, that pulse is rock and roll.

Raise a hue and cry
if you enjoyed this bit of snide.

12TH AND PORTER

SATURDAY APRIL 13 1985

ART SCHOOL

I.D. REQUIRED

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

the band that just won't go away...

Over the Bottom

