



EDITOR'S NOTE

Hey, Hi, welcome back *Airwaves*. It's been two years since our last publication, but due to the ever so high spirited WCDB'ers, we've breathed new life into our catatonic state. For all those who have never experienced *Airwaves*, we would like to open your eyes to the music of the 1980's. This publication encompasses the local music scene, artists' release since February, and the format of the station that play those tunes, WCDB 91FM. We've covered everything from the Neighborhoods to Dwight Yoakam, HEY-Who's that?

Read on and find out! L.L. Cool — What? Who's that? An eighteen year old supergiant of "Fresh" music.

Airwaves cannot cover everything, but we've tried to hit those areas that highlight the music world. If you would like the full effect, listen to your college radio station, WCDB 91FM. *Airwaves* would like to thank all those insane people who gave up their valuable studying time for finals to help contribute to our paper.

Also Heidi and Mo, who are generally ever so cool people.



WCDB: The General View

WCDB 91FM is SUNY Albany's non-commercial FM radio station. It sounds simple, but actually it's a lot more than you may think. Take SUNY Albany for instance, to some it's a vast expanse of concrete towering above the outer limits of the city. For those of us who believe there is more to college life than lectures and taking exams, WCDB can be the answer. For those who need more in everyday than listening to the same songs hour after hour, WCDB is the answer.

As you may have guessed, I've been leading up to that ever elusive "non-commercial" part of what is now probably no more than a distant memory; my first sentence. Non-commercial is much more than the negative of commercial. It's freedom from advertising. Commercial radio's problem is that they have to play songs that are "cool" because that's what sells 30 seconds every two minutes. WCDB can use those 30 seconds to play a song which isn't cool...yet.

Don't get the idea that WCDB is obscure. We've always used a musical philosophy whereby we play a new song sandwiched between popular ones. This keeps the listener from getting lost and allows him or her to learn what's new and exciting on the music scene.

So listen to WCDB and you too can hear yourself say "Hey, what's that great new song I heard between *The Temptations* and *REM*"

— J.C.

AIRWAVES

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Special thanks to Heidi Gralla, Dean Chang and KMO for helping complete everything.

Special Features

Promotions Department

Alot of hard work by many dedicated people make the promotions on 91 FM the very best in the area. The promotions department is the fastest growing area of WCDB. Everyday there is something to be given away to our listeners. Recent giveaways include autographed copies of the new Green on Red album piFree Lunchpx and a chance to win a free lunch for two at an area restaurant. Tickets to shows at J.B's included The Bangles, X, Cheap Trick, L.L. Cool J, Squeeze, and many others. We also giveaway plenty of records, tickets to local bands, beargrams, movies, pizzas, and much more.

— D.W.

Programming Department

Just about everyday there is something happening on WCDB. Every monday night from 8-9pm is a program called *Rediscovery* where we take an

depth look at an artist or bands career from the 50's, 60's, or 70's. Recent *Rediscoveries* include The Byrds, The Velvet Underground, Neil Young, The Grateful Dead, David Bowie, The MC's just to name a few! On the first monday of each month is an oldies special highlighting the music of the 50's-60's.

Tuesday nights at 8pm is where we feature the latest record from a band or artist, plus we offer a chance to win the same record. Recent *Discovery's* include Husker Du's *Candy Apple Grey* and Lets Active's *Big Plans For Everybody*.

At 11:30 on Tuesday is *Notes From the Underground* where we present the latest new music to appear on the scene as well as an interesting blend of specials and humor. An important aspect of this show is the emphasis given to American bands on independent labels.

The Ten Most can be heard every

Wednesday night at 8pm. This is a count down of the top albums of the week.

Special Cuts can be heard on Thursday at 8pm. This show consists of interviews with bands and live concerts.

Every other Thursday is Albany's own import show *Albany Abroad*. The latest sounds from overseas are played here before being heard on any other import show.

Friday at 8pm is *Club 91* which features three hours of nonstop dance music for your dancing delight.

Public Affairs can be heard on Sundays at noon. This is a news program complete with interviews and debates concerning today's top news stories.

Last but not least is the Sunday night Jazz Special. Every Sunday at 8pm, the Jazz department features a look back at an artist, style, genre that makes music what it is today.

— D.W.

The Music Makeup

Oooh! Rock Me WCDB

I am sure by now that you realize that there is much more to WCDB than music: promotions, production, news, sports, and engineering. I would like to introduce everybody to WCDB's rock department. Rock constitutes the main orientation of the programming, plus the ever-growing Jazz and Third World departments.

WCDB, as with most college radio stations nationwide, offers an alternative choice in today's music world. You won't hear the same things on 91FM that you would on any commercial top 40 or AOR radio station. We are not trying to be obscure or amateurish in our music, we just give new bands a chance, playing a lot of artists who are still on independent labels. Some bands get noticed on college airwaves, and get picked up on commercial radio (U2, REM, Dream Academy, Simple Minds), others get signed to major labels (Husker Du, Replacements, Rain Parade, Green on Red). Either way, it is the job of college radio to help back these bands.

So, what makes WCDB so special? Our record library is one of the most extensive on the East Coast, the whole East Coast, including all commercial

stations. The library contains in excess of 16,000 albums ranging from the 1950s to the present. We possess a singles library from the 1950s which contains many rare items that very few other stations have.

'Big deal' you say, 'every radio station gets records'. Not every radio station gets free record service from every major record label and most independent labels, including free imports from Polydor records. A lot of other college stations have to pay for these services, or even buy their albums at record stores. With the help of monthly surveys of new releases' airplay, we have a great relationship with the record companies, helping WCDB to become one of the top six college radio stations in the United States.

— A.S.

The Jazz Show

If jazz is what you are into, 91FM is the place to be. It looks like 1986 just might be the year for jazz in the Capital District and WCDB is a part of it.

We have been involved in some very special local events this year. March brought Hod O' Brien to Van Dyke restaurant for two nights. WCDB listeners had the chance to receive a gift certificate at the Van Dyke the night of

the show.

In a special engagement, world renowned sax-man Nick Brignola appeared at Puttin' On The Ritz. Unfortunately our interview was cancelled due to a sudden attack of the flu, but we were still able to give away tickets the entire week. Stay tuned to WCDB for details about Nick's return to Albany in April.

Rounding out the month the Lee Shaw Trio appeared at The Italia Restaurant in Troy just before Spring Break. This is local jazz at its finest with Shaw on piano and her husband, Stan, on drums. Before the show we aired an interview along with a special dinner for two to finish up a week of ticket giveaways.

To further spread the word about upcoming jazz events, the WCDB Jazz Bulletin can be heard on every Jazz show. Not only do we keep you in touch with the Jazz scene here in Albany, we also feature the finest new releases from all the major labels. On WCDB, you can hear all the best Jazz on labels, such as Blue Note, ECM, Atlantic, and Muse, as well as the smaller ones including Cadence and Cotton Hill.

Whatever kind of Jazz you like, Blues

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The Sporting News

What can a sports department at a college radio station do for you? Why do we think we can be of some service to our listening area? There are bigger radio stations around, and a few television stations as well. So, with all of those sources, why is it that 91FM Sports is so special? Very simply, we are here to do the same job that the music departments do: fill a void that has been left by strictly formatted stations. This is done in several ways. For instance, let's assume that you are an avid sports fan, or at least a reasonably interested one.

It is a weekday morning and you were out late the previous night. Your favorite team played last night and you want to find out how they did. That is the purpose of the 9AM sports report, which concentrates on scores and stories from the previous night's play. Next, assume that you are following a trade rumor, (or as a contemporary substitute, a drug scandal). This type of news usually develops during the day and at 5PM, there's always someone at WCDB to tell you what happened. If you are a student, and a hard working one at that, you are never home to catch the television at 11PM, so if you want the Mets score (I'm a Yankee fan, but you have to be unbiased), the midnight report is all you need.

We do a lot more than give you the facts, though. We help you take a "timeout" from a harrowing day at 8PM, by presenting an interesting view of an issue of the sports world. The Albany State Great Dames receive our attention as well: we broadcast and report on football, men's and women's basketball, hockey and baseball. We work weekends too, with a wrap-up in the early evening and a Sunday night special, Sports Spotlight, which covers the athletic spectrum in a conversational setting.

So, WCDB is an alternative to a sporting center too. Almost all the over-produced, overbearing sports report often found on television, 91FM Sports

*If You don't want
to dance, Don't listen.*

- CLUB 91 -

7 3 1 7 Δ Y ⚡
8-11 PM
91fm WCDB



*"Dancing little differing from madness
... except it were tempered with the
sound of instruments" — H.C.
Agrippa*

Prepare to go insane as WCDB presents CLUB 91, every Friday from 8 to 11 p.m. It's an asylum of the best progressive dance music. Each week we spin your favorite club tunes, sending you dancing around your bedroom in sheer, unadulterated ecstasy as you release yourself to the pulverizing beat.

Every week we have a special guest, such as Florence Henderson, Ricky Shroeder, or Nancy Reagan. Every other week we give away a brand new

car or motor home. Sometimes we broadcast from exotic locales, like Moscow or Pago Pago or Brockport, but usually CLUB 91 is broadcast live from an enormous blimp that is carefully tied to the roof of the Campus Center and is kept inflated by the collective breath of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. They chose me as your host because I'm Grace Jones adopted nephew and I taught Denny Terio how to dance. Actually they stuck me here because I love dance music. If you do too, this might be the adventure in sound you have been looking for. It's the only club that doesn't proof. Fridays from 8 to 11 p.m., it's CLUB 91. If you don't want to dance, don't listen.

— M.C.

does not have to compete for ratings, so we can afford to be more personal and more diverse. Because radio sports is something special to us, we try to make it special for you. In short, we don't play games with you.

— R.I.

News Department

Providing the community with up to the minute news from around the world is what WCDB news is all about. With a trained staff of news reporters we give you the news four times a day, 365 days a year. We are the only news station that can provide the SUNYA student with the news that affects them. Uptown or downtown, on or off campus, 91FM news is the alternative source for facts.

— P.M.

Music

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to Bop, Funk to Freestyle, you can get it all on WCDB.

— S.S.

Third World

WCDB has the best Third World music in the capitol district. It features urban contemporary, reggae, rap, soul, latin music, and disco. The disc jockeys are all mix masters. You'll never hear the same mix on any other station. Third World can be heard everynight from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and also on Friday night from 11:00 p.m. to Saturday at 8:00 a.m.. This department draws in more listeners than any other program WCDB offers. Request are a main feature popular among listeners.

Notes From The Underground

It is 11:00 pm on a cold Tuesday night and you are sitting at home with nothing to do. The radio is on, tuned to your favorite station (WCDB, 91FM) and you are drifting off into another world. You hear the familiar sounds of your favorite group, The Jam, singing "Going Underground", not thinking about what may lie ahead. Little do you know, you are about to experience the adventurer of a lifetime.

You listen on, unable to break your attention from the radio. The music is overwhelming, something you've never heard before. 'hey', you think to yourself, "this isn't bad at all! But why haven't any other stations played this?" Then, it dawns on you, this is not just any radio show you are listening to. You are hearing the brand new music that college radio is known for. You think to yourself again, "Hey, I thought all that new music was weird." Something starts stirring inside you, a metamorphosis is taking place. You start calling all your friends to tell them what's going on.

They all think you've flipped: "They only play weird music." But you know better. You tell them, "They're playing this band The Souls. They sound pretty poppish. About Nine Times sounds like some band I've heard on Top 40. Section 25, maybe we'll hear them in dance

clubs in 5 years. Some of the hardcore isn't really that bad. Who told me they wouldn't play anything I like?"

Suddenly, the music stops. You hear voices. "Who are these guys? Why are interrupting the music? Wait a minute, these guys sound good. Hey, that was funny. They have a good sense of humor. I wonder how they do that, I could never think of those things to say. I wish I knew their names. Wait, Norman and Andy. I've heard about these guys. With their reputation, this oughta be good!!!"

It's now midnight, and the sports report is over. Notes is back on, and the highlight of the show is coming — the 4 CAST 4 is next. A bell rings in your head. You know what is about to happen, the four best new groups are about to be spotlighted. "Maybe someday one of these bands will hit it big." You think to yourself, "has any band gone to stardom after being on the 4 CAST 4?" R.E.M. comes to mind. What else has gone on to become well known? The Jesus and Mary Chain, Blue in Heaven, Primitons, March Violets, Smash Palace, The Men They Couldn't Hang, Gene Loves Jezebel, Flesh for Lulu, The Chant, The Faith Brothers, and Exploding White Mice. These are some bands that I'm going to keep my eyes open for in the future.

It is now 12:30 a.m., the saddest part

of the day. NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND is over. You still can't help thinking about it, you have to find out more about your new favorite radio show. "What else do they do besides finding great new music to play? What, they have great specials also?" You hear from some other friends that Notes has gone to Geneva with President Reagan to do an anti-war special. They've had specials on drunk driving and other social topics. They have spotlighted different independent record labels like Twin Tone, SST, Dolphin, Enigma and CD; City Spotlights including Boston, MA, Athens, GA, and Minneapolis, Minn; artist spotlights like Lou Reed and King Crimson; annual Halloween and Christmas/Chanukah specials and almost anything else you can think of (a summer and surfing special in the middle of February and playing 60 complete songs in 60 minutes ???). What else can they think of? Stay tuned.

Suddenly, you wake up in a cold sweat. "Could I have been dreaming all this? Does NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND really exist? Can anything like that exist in the free world?" Keep your dial set to 91FM, WCDB Albany on Tuesday nights at 11:00pm and find out!!!

— A.S.

The Passing of a Reality Soldier

A guitarist, a songwriter, a philosopher, and most of all a humanitarian. These are the characteristics that would describe Dennis Boone of The Minutemen. His death came so fast that one may never recover from its repercussions. The shock of his passing has caused me to reexamine what The Minutemen really stood for. The trio was not a hardcore band. No, much more than that they were concerned about what direction America was going. The Minutemen were three guys that performed day in and day out in the hopes of arousing society to the realities of war, political corruption, and the need for understanding life's problems.

I will never forget the show down in N.Y.C. when the band pounded with conviction and guts that I've never seen

before. The intensity level in the club was so great that when D. Boone sang "Serious as a Heartattack!" I was truly moved.

The release of their latest effort *Three Way Tie For Last* is a work with some of the most powerful tracks D. Boone has ever composed. This might have propelled The Minutemen to become the "kings of the hill." It's a question that may never be answered. Boone symbolized an individual that made punk rock fun. The band started out listening to BOC, then punk rock altered their lives, turning The Men to new adventures. The music became the soul of D. Boone; it was a way of expressing his views on a variety of issues that were dear to him.

The death of D. Boone made me cry,

not because the world lost a musician, but that it came so quickly. When I place a record of the Men on the turntable, I see D. Boone bouncing up and down, while George Hurley slams his kit with Mike Watt pumping his bass. These images of that NYC gig will always be implanted in my brain and make me realize how important the band was to us all. To quote D. Boone, from "The world according to hounds" which best summarizes the philosophy of The Minutemen "The How, The Why, The Where, The When, The Who, can these words find the truth".

The Minutemen affected my life quite a bit through their music and ideas. On December 23rd, 1985, the world lost the ultimate love child, Dennis Boone.

— K.B.

The Albany Music Scene

The Albany music scene took a dive for the worst when The Ritz closed its doors and thus the opportunities of many bands to play there, some for the first time. We thank Delores for her time and commitment and hope she will again be a part of the local music scene in the future.

As one club closes its doors another one waits to open theirs. The club is called QE2 and is the work of Dave and Char Shortsleeve who are two of the nicest people you'll ever want to meet. What exactly this new establishment is going to offer remains to be seen, but with the support of the community as a whole QE2 can be very successful.

All this brings us into an introduction of the local music scene. Is it getting worse? Is it getting better? What exactly is the state of the Albany music scene? One thing for certain is that one band

MAMBO X

In six short months Mambo X have achieved what many bands fail to; they have a strong local following, are frequently playing the club scene, and are due to release a single.

Just who are Mambo X you might inquire? They formed in October of 1985 when guitarists Mitch Rosen and Seth Kaufman met while working at Dahlia's

ice cream shop. They were soon joined by Syracuse native Erin O'Hara on vocals, followed by former A.D.'s bassist Mark Wilken. WCDB jazz dj Barry Litman set up his Tama kit and the rest is history.

Now I am glad to say The Chefs have some friendly competition, competition that is welcome by all. Bands like Human Anxiety(who've had their share of problems but are back with a new cassette), Dirty Face, Mambo X,

Stomplistics, Dance Planet, Diversion Factor, Donnybrook Fair, The Ushers, China White, and The Grindstones(may they rest in peace) are just some of the bands that have made their presence felt in Albany. The Albany music scene is just now starting to get off its feet but it can not stand alone. It's up to the nightclubs to take a chance on a new band and to pay them a decent wage for a solid night of music. It's up to the radio stations, both college and commercial, for the airtime that is so crucial to so many performers. But most of all it is up to the community for their unyielding support and enthusiasm. Remember one thing, without an audience these bands wouldn't be here today. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated to make the Albany music scene the best it can be.

— D.W.

DIRTY FACE



photo by Debra Lockrow

wave, and funk. These styles come together extremely well in their live show. Vocalist Erin O'hara is a cross between Natalie Merchant of 10,000 Maniacs and the legendary Val Haynes. But to hear Erin is not enough, one must see her live performance to appreciate the quality and charismatic style she brings to the band that is Mambo X.

This Albany trio plays no nonsense, straight ahead power rock and roll that is almost too good to be true. Their songs forge ahead with sheer drive and intensity unequaled by their counterparts. Dirty Face are led by guitarist, writer, vocalists Dominick Campana Jr. who plays some scorching guitar and is quite a performer on stage. The 1-2 punch is kept by Matt Hayes behind his bass and stickman Ross Archer who is a veteran of the local scene.

Dirty Face have recorded five songs at MCE studios and are a part of the MCE compilation record due out soon. Their opening live song, "Identity" has received considerable airplay on WCDB and we expect more material from them in the future.

Their live show must be seen to appreciate their talent. It is explosive and full of raw energy. Dirty Face — dumb name, great band.

— D.W.

CHEFS OF THE FUTURE

"I'm so happy, I heard the news today...I jumped up and yelled: HOORAY." This is my reaction when I hear of the next Chefs of the Future gig. The Chefs are a four piece band led by Tom Lindsay on guitar and vocals, backed up wonderfully by: Joe Pasco on bass, John Lappie on drums and Mike (Jabba) Eck on rhythm guitar. Tom says about the band; "We wanted to do a broad range of music (Husker-Du to Hank Williams) in our own way, yet make it enjoyable to the night club crowd." The Chefs have succeeded in this, mixing a variety of originals and covers into a danceable, sing-alongable fun time that leaves most people with a happy feeling "down to their toes".

The Chefs, through Raincoat recordings (A.K.A Tom Lindsay), have released *Hub*, a full length cassette of original work for anyone who enjoys great music but can't get out to see it. This is a quality cassette available at most local music stores. If you're not sure they are for you, listen to or request The Chefs on WCDB, and judge for yourself.

— KMO



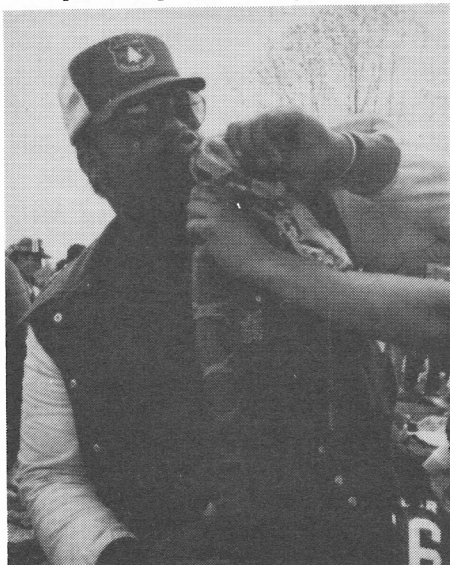
STOMPLISTICS

A culmination of four different musical tastes into one sound results in one thing...the Stomps. They are a combination of R&B, reggae, funk, and rock guitar. They are the kind of band you see when you want to dance. You'll have no choice; once the music starts to churn, so does your body. The Stomplistics gained recognition when

they won Telethon 85's Rock-n-Roll Warfare. A recording session at MCE studios was their winnings from this event. The single, released last year, contained "Fifteen and Gone" with "Go Staggerlee" on the flipside, which had tremendous success. More vinyl is expected from them in the near future. The Stomp's main attraction has to be

their live performances. It's a pleasure to watch a band that really enjoys playing out. And ooh what a show they put on. If possible catch them on a double bill with Chefs of the Future; guaranteed to be an enjoyable evening of singing, dancing and sheer entertainment.

— L.H.



Dave Macks of The Stomps with Wally.

GRINDSTONES

The local music scene is always changing and the Grindstones are certainly no exception. The original line-up (Joe Topino, Nick Miller, Tim Kinneally, David Williams) is now a part of rock and roll history. Only those fortunate enough to see them live in their very short stint (summer '85) realized just how much energy and excitement these boys had on stage. A product of Duck Soup, the Grindstones played at least once a week to an ever increasing (drunk) audience. All this history can be captured (somewhat) on a single recorded at Arabellum Studios.

But that was then and this is now, Dave and Nick left the band to be replaced by Chris Lynch and Bill Riley.

They have yet to find a name of which they can all agree on and are still waiting for their first gig. I had a chance to see the new 'Stones' at a party and despite the lack of amplification they sounded very good. Joe's brand new Fender bass sounds crisp and clean while the guitar playing of Tim keeps getting better and better. New drummer Chris Lynch should do the job the band needs.

Singer, guitarist Bill Riley (The Brink) is once again at the forefront, however cigarettes have taken their toll on his voice. All in all, this is a new band with a new name that will be available for your musical enjoyment. Check 'em out.

Top 91 of All Time

WCDB's Top 91 Listenership Poll

The following is a list of the top 91 rock songs of all time as determined by the listeners of WCDB. It's a mix of the classic rock tunes and the new music that WCDB introduces to the capital district. It reflects the format of music at WCDB with the integration of both these styles.

1. *Let it Be*, The Beatles
2. *American Pie*, Don Maclean
3. *Stairway to Heaven*, Led Zeppelin
4. *Romeo and Juliet*, Dire Straits
5. *Holiday in Cambodia*, Dead Kennedys
6. *I Will Follow*, U2
7. *Alison*, Elvis Costello
8. *Pride*, U2
9. *Baba O'Reilly*, The Who
10. *Save it for Later*, English Beat
11. *Satisfaction*, Rolling Stones
12. *Layla*, Derek and the Dominoes
13. *Walk on the Wild Side*, Lou Reed
14. *My Generation*, The Who
15. *Hey Jude*, The Beatles
16. *Love Will Tear Us Apart*, Joy Division
17. *Sunday Bloody Sunday*, U2
18. *Johnny B. Goode*, Chuck Berry
19. *Love of the Common People*, Paul Young
20. *The Stand*, The Alarm
21. *Bad*, U2
22. *Sympathy for the Devil*, Rolling Stones
23. *Once in a Lifetime*, Talking Heads
24. *Lovcats*, Cure
25. *Heard it Thru the Grapevine*, Marvin Gaye
26. *Radio Free Europe*, REM
27. *Rock & Roll*, Velvet Underground
28. *Anarchy in the UK*, Sex Pistols
29. *New Year's Day*, U2
30. *Wish You Were Here*, Pink Floyd
31. *Won't Get Fooled Again*, The Who
32. *Jailhouse Rock*, Elvis Presley
33. *Piano Man*, Billy Joel
34. *Roxanne*, Police
35. *Pulling Mussels from a Shell*, Squeeze
36. *Mad World*, Tears for Fears
37. *Let's Go to Bed*, Cure
38. *Space Oddity*, David Bowie
39. *(Every Day Is) Halloween*, Ministry
40. *Great Curve*, Talking Heads
41. *Killing Moon*, Echo and the Bunnymen
42. *Don't Change*, INXS
43. *You're the Best Thing*, Style Council
44. *Dance Away*, Roxy Music
45. *Train In Vain*, The Clash
46. *I Don't Like Mondays*, Boomtown Rats
47. *Games Without Frontiers*, Peter Gabriel
48. *Kids In America*, Kim Wilde
49. *Look of Love*, ABC
50. *Just Can't Get Enough*, Depeche Mode
51. *Proud Mary*, Creedence Clearwater Revival
52. *Psycho Killer*, Talking Heads
53. *Red, Red Wine*, UB40
54. *Love My Way*, Psychedelic Furs
55. *South Central Rain*, REM
56. *Black Magic Woman*, Santana
57. *Angels Wanna Wear My Red Shoes*, Elvis Costello
58. *I'm the Man*, Joe Jackson
59. *Revolution*, The Beatles
60. *Boys Don't Cry*, Cure
61. *Like a Rolling Stone*, Bob Dylan
62. *Blasphemous Rumours*, Depeche Mode
63. *Old Time Rock and Roll*, Bob Seger
64. *This Charming Man*, The Smiths
65. *That's Entertainment*, The Jam
66. *World Destruction*, Time Zone
67. *People Who Died*, Jim Carol Band
68. *God Save the Queen*, Sex Pistols
69. *Born to Run*, Bruce Springsteen
70. *In Between Days*, Cure
71. *Blister in the Sun*, Violent Femmes
72. *Tempted*, Squeeze
73. *Pale Shelter*, Tears for Fears
74. *Shoot You Down*, APB
75. *Life During Wartime*, Talking Heads
76. *Cruel to be Kind*, Nick Lowe
77. *Blue Monday*, New Order
78. *Love and Pride*, King
79. *New Song*, Howard Joes
80. *I Apologize*, Husker Du
81. *Enola Gay*, OMD
82. *Police On My Back*, The Clash
83. *Pinball Wizard*, The Who
84. *Rock Lobster*, B-52's
85. *Heroes*, David Bowie
86. *Tangled Up In Blue*, Bob Dylan
87. *Gloria*, U2
88. *Right Side of a Good Thing*, Fleshtones
89. *I Melt With You*, Modern English
90. *I Wanna Be Sedated*, Ramones
91. *Don't You (Forget About Me)*, Simple Minds

Neighborhoods Shake America by Sue Klingel

After seeing the Hoods Three consecutive nights in a row, I consider myself hooked (Hooded). This adrenalin trio from good ol' Boston, Mass. are probably the best band in America. Recently released, "The High Hard One" on Restless Records supports that fact. This album features Dave Minehan on guitars, Lee

Harrington on bass, and Mike Quaglia on drums. If vinyl can come to life, this one does. Tracks like "Arrogance", "Mess", and "W.U.S.A." stand out as their best recordings. "W.U.S.A." was influenced by a 1970's Paul Newman movie entitled W.U.S.A. Apparently it involves a right wing bunch of cowboys at a radio station trying to help people

get off welfare — shouldn't have missed that one.

The Hoods broke commercial air with their first single "The Prettiest Girl" which sold over 10,000 copies. Their first album "Fire is Coming" (Mustang) features a cover of "If I Had a Hammer" by Pete Seeger.

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The Latest on Vinyl

The Long Ryders — State of our Union (Island Records)

This is American foot-stomping music from the gents who give us a kick in the pants. *State of our Union* carries on the folk-rock sounds of *Native Sons* with the punch of drums by Greg Sowders. Upbeat is the way to describe this album with lyrics about railroads ("Here Comes that Train Again"), history ("Looking for Lewis and Clark"), and patriotism ("Capturing the Flag"). If you enjoy guitars and want a hot time, Sid Griffin and The Long Ryders are for you. This California crew is on the upswing with a new record company to boot, If Miller Beer picked up on these guys you should too.

— K.B.

Eighth Route Army — Nihilist Olympics (One-dimensional records)

Eighth Route Army is a band from Boston who opened up for the Ramones at JB's last fall. They put on a hot show and recently released an equally hot album. This is a compilation of earlier singles as well as new material. Their style is '77 punk influenced with a driving guitar beat. The lyrics are the usual generic nonconformity, anti-authority bit but the music is great. In other words, it has all been said before but at least these guys say it the way it should be said. It's not overbearing and they don't seem to take everything as severe as a lot of hardcore bands. *Nihilist Olympics* was featured on four-cast-four on WCDB.

— C.E.

Dwight Yoakam — Guitars Cadillacs Etc. Etc. (Warner Bro.)

What is the American music scene in need of today? Cowpunk, of course! This is Yoakam's choice of musical expression. Influenced heavily, especially in his vocal style, by Hank Williams in his storytelling ability. His songs are filled with emotional lyrics dealing with life etc. etc. His new album includes "It Won't Hurt", "Honky Tonk Man" and other great songs. Plus "Bury Me", a duet with Maria McKee of Lone Justice. Growing up in Kentucky he was surrounded by Country and Bluegrass music yet, his music integrates various musical sounds. This guitarist is out to shake up Country

Music, radio stations and the American music scene - watch for this dude!

— L.H.

Dead Kennedys — Frankenchrist (Alternative Tentacles)

After an absence of three years on vinyl, I was not sure what to expect from *Frankenchrist*. Although not as fast paced as earlier recordings, this is typical DK's. Jello Biafra's sarcasm is at its biting best, destroying and condemning the plastic commercial culture we live in. This is evident in the two best cuts "MTV-Get Off The Air" and "Jock-O-Rama". MTV viciously attacks all that is wrong in video television. It is one of their most varied songs ever, utilizing trumpets and a slow introduction (reminiscent of the Munsters theme song) and then breaking away to the usual frantic guitar riffs and pounding drums. "Jock-O-Rama" is a high speed destruction of organized sports and redneck jocks, which Jello seems to particularly despise. After listening to this album, you get the impression there is nothing decent and worthwhile left in the world. Jello Biafra once said if he didn't laugh at life, he'd go crazy, and maybe he's right.

— C.E.

Young Fresh Fellows — Topsy Turvy (Park Avenue Records)

From the release of their first album, *Fabulous Sounds of the Pacific Northwest*, I knew this Seattle based band had something special. Now with the release of their latest record *Topsy Turvy* the Young Fresh Fellows expand their sound with the help of new guitarist Jim Sangster. This addition has created a more mature and dynamic sound that was missing on their prior release. *Topsy Turvy* shows a wide range of musical diversity with slow acoustic songs such as the "Topsy Turvy Theme" complete with a country pedal steel guitar feel and "The New John Agar" which is a beautiful ballad reminiscent of Jason and the Scorchers. The album features upbeat and solid driving songs such as "Two Lives" and "You Got Your Head On Backwards." All in all there are 13 very diverse songs on *Topsy Turvy*. This album has it all. Hopefully we'll hear more fabulous sounds from the Pacific Southwest.

— D.W.

Husker Du — Candy Apple Grey

When Husker Du announced that their next release after *Flip Your Wig* would be on Warner Bros., I became very pessimistic as to the changes that were bound to come. Fortunately, I am relieved to say that this is another great. Granted the Huskers have been calming down progressively since *Zen Arcade*, But I'll argue that if artists don't grow they become stale. Husker Du is hardly that. Their diversity is amazing. On a number of tracks Husker Du demonstrates that they have not lost that energetic ability to create a wall of sound while still on others a Dylanesque sound emerges with some very nice acoustic work. My conclusion is sell out, no, creative change, yes — Husker Du is one of the most important innovative bands of the eighties, open your mind and listen.

— C.C.

Crazy 8's — Nervous in Suburbia (Red Rum Records)

This is the second LP from this nine member band from Oregon. It may be hard to believe, but this album is even better than *Law and Order*, the amazing disc that gave us classics like "Johnny Q" and "Count Your Money." The lyrics are worth noting, they hit right on the spot. They talk about such things as fighting the system, "Scratch and Claw", nuclear war, "First Strike", infatuation — "I Lose Control" and of course apartheid — "Rubber Bullets", as well self-inflicted sexual practices ("Picture on My Wall"). "Nervous In Suburbia" abounds with lively and optimistic funk, jazz, and rock, all accompanied by a sharp brass section. The Crazy 8's music moves the spirit and the mind.

— N.C.

Pandoras — Stop Pretending (Rhino Records)

Did you listen to the Bangles and find yourself saying, "yeh, they are good but no guts." Well the Pandoras are the bad guys of the bangles. It's impossible to sit still while listening to their sixties psychedelic pop rock music. Fabulous! There is nothing else to be said, listen and you'll like it.

— C.C.

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Album Reviews

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Hoodoo Gurus — *Mars Needs Guitars* (Big Time Records)

A lot of great music is coming out of Australia and the Gurus are a part of it. *Mars Needs Guitars*, which is an offshoot of the film *Mars Needs Women*, is the Gurus second album. The Gurus are led by the very distinctive and charismatic vocals of David Faulkner. There is some excellent guitar by Brad Sheppard, fine clean bass from Clyde Bramley, and the not so new drummer who really pounds the skins, Mark Kingsmill. Though their second effort is not as raunchy (Leilani) or danceable (Let's All Turn On, I Want You Back) as their first release, *Strange Romeos*, none of that seems to matter because this record is just as good if not better.

"In the Wild" is a psychedelic 60's song offset by the countryish "Hayride to Hell", the most requested song from the album was "Death Defying" which is a story of the perils of drug abuse. Anybody whose ever heard the Gurus can attest to their unique sound, which can only get better with the third release — can't wait!

— D.W.

The Costello Show — *King of America* (Columbia)

Elvis Costello's return to the studio has come with at least one major change, his name. Elvis has decided that he wants his old name back, Declan

Aloysius McManus (the Aloysius represents the part of himself he developed as Elvis C.).

Elvis (I mean Declan) has done more than return to his original name, he has stripped his sound of the overproduction of *Goodbye Cruel World* and returned to the simple sounds of *My Aim is True*, but his musical frame of reference has changed. The sound is by far the most country he has been, yet his lyrics remain powerful and poignant.

Backing Elvis on his album are two bands The Attractions and The Confederates, who back up for Hall and Oates.

Steve Neive's work on the piano is excellent behind Elvis's voice on the tunes like "Jack of all Parades" and "Suit of Lights".

Elvis has really gone back to the basics on *King of America*. He was not very happy with *Goodbye Cruel World* because the songs were taken over by the production. This album is the exact opposite — a polished musical background for Elvis's intense lyrics and distinctive voice. This album is also like his earlier albums because it offers an extraordinary musical value — 15 tracks!

Even though the backing musicians change, this album is a seamless collection of happy, soulful rock-'n'-roll.

This is a great collection of music, listen and enjoy.

— N.C.

Joe Jackson — *Big World*(A&M)

This album transcends all of his musical styles from *Look Sharp* (rockin' guitars) to *Body and Soul* (melodic love songs). This is the album Joe has been wanting to make, no overdubs, no studio work. It was recorded live in front of an audience. The audience was asked to keep quiet, therefore, no applause. It is quite an achievement, his best yet. *Big World* definitely has a theme; losing ethnocentrism, realizing that there are other people out there who have as much right to exist as us. Jackson's lyrics are amazing, they get right to the point. "All the record stores are filled with pretty boys and their material girls and even students vote for actors, now they tell you it's a safer world and all the hippies work for IBM or take control of faster ways to sell you food that isn't really whole." (Soul Kiss)

Side two is very reminiscent of *Body and Soul*, very melodic with a lot of piano and soothing melodies. Side three is unbelievable, his best side of any album. This includes a Joe Jackson tango, cranking guitars in "Jet Set" and the obviously finale "Man in the Street". This album is being heavily promoted because of its new recording method, and it's one record of 1986 that definitely should not be missed.

— N.C.

Exploding White Mice — *In a Nest of Vipers* (Big Time Records)

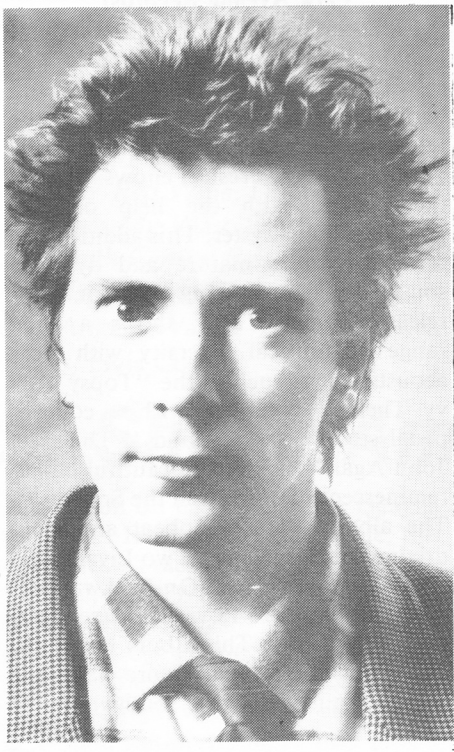
Holy shit! I just put the needle on this record and I thought I would need an injection of digitalis to calm my racing heart. This is serious music for the serious mind. It's bands like Exploding White Mice who come along once in a great while and just leave you wanting more. These five guys from Australia put out some unbelievable music that is truly representative of Rock-N-Roll with obvious influences from the Gun Club, Ramones, and the Stooges. *In a Nest of Vipers* is filled with fantastic guitar licks, pounding drums, and some great vocals from Paul Gilchrist. "Dangerous" is an amazing cut that is getting alot of airplay on WCDB. Their version of "Pipeline" is incredible (I understand it sounds pretty good at 45 speed as well). Pure clean raunchy garage music is what Exploding White Mice is all about. Give these guys a listen, ya won't regret it! I promise.

— D.W.

Public Image Limited — *Album* (Elektra)

This is not the typical PIL sound, but then again neither was the last...which was quite successful. Johnny's voice maintains the prominent whine but musically this album varies. Riuichi Sakamoto, a Japanese popartist accompanies Johnny on the keyboards. Ginger Baker from Cream plays on the drums. Musically, the instrumentals are more complicated and have an overall different sound thanks to production by Bill Laswell. To all old PIL fans who moan with the changes, wait hold back. The old PIL sound is prominent on songs like "Bag", "Home", and "Fishing". The most outstanding songs are "Rise" and "FFF". "Rise" is well produced and unrecognizable as PIL except for Johnny. It has a country twang and is simply fantastic. "Farewell my Fairweather Friend" is a super Rock-N-Roll song with driving instrumentals.

— L.H.



Ruefrefx — Flowers For All Occasions (MCA)

Hailed as "the most important band to emerge from the Great Britain" by NME and called "The most powerful record released this year" by Record Mirror, Ruefrefx emerges from the middle of Northern Ireland. The murderously divided society of Northern Ireland has given rise to a great new rock-n-roll band, with a non-violent message that is played before Catholics and Protestants alike.

The band's songs are filled with slashing guitar. The passionate vocals of lead singer Allan Clarke attempts to make sense of life when there is senseless death all around them. Produced by the Alarm's first producer, Mick Glossop, Ruefrefx offers an album as real and exciting as any you will hear this year.

Forming in 1978 out of the rubble of Britain's punk era, the five band members, have found the raw edgy power that has well-suited the anger felt towards their society. The driving guitars make one compare them to the Alarm, with the vocals sounding like a cross of Mike Peters (Alarm), XTC, and Bob Dylan. As a whole, the songs on this powerful debut album give the listener a sense of the problems on North Ireland. The opening track "The Wild Colonial Boy", attacks Americans who find the Irish Republican Army's terrorism. "Paid in Kind" describes the dehumanization that murder exacts on the same terrorists. Other topics beside violence are discussed as well. "Even the Dark Hour" describes the ending of a relationship.

Finding themselves at that hot spot where music and reality intersect, Ruefrefx has made the most of it with a stunning and fantastic debut album.

— A.S.

L.L.Cool J (Def Jam)

The first word that comes to mind after one listen to this album is HOT! Two, three, four listens, still HOT. The hit on WCDB was "Rock the Bells." Other album greats are "That's a Lie", "I Can't Live Without My Radio" and "Dear Yvette." The whole album offers the best rap music around. LL has been rapping since he was 9 years old and now at 18 he has a smash album on a major label and one of the best live shows. Standing 6'2" LL Cool J has an overpowering presence. He repeatedly runs the length of the stage with the energy of a young stud (the image he expresses). The energy he possess is contagious, you will walk out sweating as much as he does. Seriously, this is a

young fellow to watch in the future. He already had a two minute bit in the movie *Crush Groove*, the best two minutes of the movie. Cool is definitely this dude's middle name.

— L.H.

The Church — Heyday (Warner Brothers)

The third American LP and about their sixth overall. *Heyday* is a lot like *Remote Luxury* only better. It continues with the obvious influence from the Velvets and Beatle's *Rubber Soul* plus there is a noticeable Psychedelic Furs sound. They still have that jingle-janglish sound, only much better than any other in this genre. An outstanding example of post-war adolescent youth in angst-DIG IT!

— N.K.

Bennie Wallace — Twilight Time

Bennie Wallace is a fantastic saxophonist from wherever that jazz fairyland is that all jazz greats come from. He's an incomparable musician and an even better composer. Bennie is helped by Stevie Ray Vaughan, John Scofield, and Dr. John. Some choice cuts are; "All Night Dance", "Tennessee Waltz", "Willie Mae", and "Trouble in Mind". Stevie Ray Vaughan is featured on guitar in "All Night Dance." Bob Crenshaw on bass gives this shuffle all the backbone it needs to make you want to get up and dance. The opening sounds like something from the David Letterman show and it gets increasingly better. The classic jazz standard "Tennessee Waltz" features Wallace, John Scofield on guitar and Eddie Gomez on acoustic bass backed by John DeJohnette on drums. "Willie Mae" is very cool with Dr. John on piano and Ray Anderson on trombone, to fill out this funky number John Scofield blows your socks off on guitar. "Trouble in Mind" is a slow blues tune reminiscent of a scene from *Casablanca*, piano-bar, complete with slow-turning ceiling fan. Basically a tasty number with Dr. John on piano and Scofield on guitar.

— D.T.

Country Bob & The Blood Farmers — Going To Hell In A Hatbasket

Is this 'hardcore-country' music? Is it 'cow punk'? Call it what you will, Rock-n-Roll, Hardcore, Rockabilly, Country, it's all there. Country Bob offers a cynical view of everything from advocating U.S. involvement everywhere in the world and nuclear war to prison

life and racism. The band offers one cover of Roger Millers' "Dang Me" and a host of originals. "Bowl full of Noses" is a fun rockabilly account of a day in the life of an average middle-of-the-road guy who goes around killing people and keeping their noses for snacks. Mmm...good eatin'...great tune. "Silo Song" a Phil Ochs—Pete Seeger-esque folk ballad advocating U.S. military involvement anywhere and everywhere. It is about the joys of a freshly emptied missile silo. The very cynical "Hell Box" is a fifteen to twenty second song retelling "Pandora's Box" in the eyes of Edgar Allen Poe. "Goin To Hell in a Hatbasket" is true hardcore-country. It tells the laments of a remorseless yankee sociopath in a Kentucky prison. Lots-of-Fun!!!

In a nutshell this album is a gothic view of life in 20th century America by a band who couldn't decide between Country, Folk, and good old loud Rock-N-Roll.

— D.T.

Neighborhoods

Continued from p. 8

The best way to prepare yourself for a fantastic show, is to listen to the two live tracks off the latest album. These include "She's so Good" and "Think it Over". You can feel the energy these fine young men put on in their concerts. Concerts is not the correct word...one may say music marathon. When they played at 288 Lark the crowd seemed to poop out before the band did. Dave, Mike, and Lee kept the crowd going for over three hours. I passed out around three o'clock in the morning...they were still playing. After digesting that evening, I went back for some more. The next two nights the Hoods performed a frat beach party over at RPI. Even though the crowd was too drunk to keep up with the guys, they all had a good time, including the band. Just when we thought they might take a break to let us breathe, they jumped right into the crowd with yet another pure energy song. On top of doing their own material, all three crank out those old favorites from the 1970's like, "Ever Fallen in Love" by the Buzzcocks, "Hello There" by Cheap Trick, and other artists like Alice Cooper and Wire. Future plans for yet another album are in the process right now. The month of May will bring the Hoods across the great plains on tour to California. If fast paced New Yorkers can't keep up with these supermen...Californians will get quite a serious "Shake".

