

news briefs

FINDER'S LOUNGE seems to be the happening place in town at the moment- after shows with Charlie Pickett, the Eat, and Black Flag, M.E.S. is booking just about every original music band in town and plans to book more "name" bands soon. It's a shame attendance for the locals has been mediocre. If you're too fucking apathetic to show up, don't complain next time there's no place to go (and listening to records at the disco doesn't count, asshole).... New bands are coming out of the woodwork now that there's a place to play- "F" unleashed their hardcore/heavy metal fusion there, creating visions of a new Dead Boys among the crowd. Lead singer Flash prowls the stage, destroys radios, and other good stuff. Formerly known as Chaos, they played some dates in the early days of the Balkan and can claim the Essentials' Pete Moss and the Spanish Dogs' Mike Chatham among former members. Howzat for trivia?.... Lumpen also made their debut opening for the Eat, featuring former Hayhead Lori on drums, married people Lisa and Allen on bass and guitar, and Alex singing, with occasional congas by Felipe. Charlie Pickett was heard praising Allen's slide playing, and everyone seemed to enjoy the rest of the band, too... THE ABUSERS opened for Black Flag and a show of their own ended with the suspended ceiling in disarray (taking cues from the Throbs, guys?). Their EP "Fucking Haywire" may appear soon on a certain "Sublapse Records"; catchy name, huh?.... Steve Sincere(?) took a sudden re-evaluation of his life and cut all ties with music, leaving both THE ESSENTIALS and THE R.A.F. in limbo. The Essentials are looking for another bassist and putting the finishing touches on their EP (titled "Fast Music in A Slow Town") out soon on Bill Ashton's Safety Net Records.... Meanwhile, Rusty Hammond, deep in preparation for Velvet Underground Appreciation Nite, said he was "scrapping the R.A.F." with no solid plans for the future. And speaking of Velvets Night at Finder's, a small, but suitably appreciative crowd saw Hammond, all the Eggs (including C.P. himself), Darla Hay, Eddie O'Brien, Bob Rupe, Jim Johnson, and Bruce Wismer take the stage to pay tribute; a hip time was had by all. Rumors of a FUGS Appreciation night are simply that. A CCR appreciation night IS in the works, though. LARRY JOE MILLER'S new BAND includes "Mad Dog" Smith on standup bass, former Cichlid/Bob Bobby Tak on snare drum, and James Rowe from the Hayheads and Monkey Farm on guitar, a wild-boppin' lineup, to say the least. Larry Joe has been in the studio laying tracks for a release of some kind- hopefully soon.... Along with those mentioned above, expect a flood of local vinyl (maybe even cassettes) over the next few months starting with CHARLIE PICKETT & THE EGGS' "Live At The Button" LP finally out on Open Records- the latest delay had the covers getting lost in shipment, but it should be out and available EVERYWHERE by the

time you read this- "Feelin'" is a real hoot and look for Boz on both the front AND back covers. Hmmm.... Open's compilation LP "The Land That Time Forgot" should be out sometime in early August, featuring 15 bands too numerous to count.... A NEW PERSONALITY can be found on the latest cassette edition of SubPop (#7).... THE SPANISH DOGS will have their new EP out soon too, entitled "Don't Sweat The Petty Things, Pet The Sweaty Things" on Rasta Dog Records- need we say more?... FUTURISK and RADIO BERLIN both have new EP's out titled "Player Piano EP" and "Dance The Youth", respectively....and last, but not least, THE EAT continue work on their album with the added motivation of interest from ROIR in releasing a cassette...Stay tuned for further details.

(PAUL WHEELER)

THE WISCONSIN SCENE

Probably the biggest news is the upcoming albums by the Oil Tasters and the Violent Femmes and the closing of the Starship. The Oil Tasters LP will be on San Francisco's Thermidor Records. They've attracted a lot of attention, due in part to the efforts of Bruce Pavitt and Sub Pop magazine, which got them mention in NME and a song from their first single, "Get Out of the Bathroom" on the Sub Pop compilation cassette. Both Oil Tasters singles have long been sold out. The album is tentatively titled "Oil Tasters in the Wax Museum".

The Violent Femmes are an acoustic neo-rockabilly and folk weirdness combo who got their first break by happening to be playing on a street corner when James Honeyman-Scott, the late guitarist of the Pretenders, walked by on the afternoon of the Pretenders' Milwaukee appearance last year. The Femmes ended up opening for the Pretenders that night, and were asked to send a demo tape to the Pretenders' management. Apparently nothing came out of that, but New York Rocker (ugh) recently "discovered" the Femmes and wrote a full-page article on them. They've signed to New York's Shake Records.

So much for good news. The Starship, for two years the best and sometimes only place where local bands and unknown national/regional touring bands could play, closes at the end of June. It will be missed. The building that houses the club was going to be torn down, but owner Kenny Baldwin was considering moving to another location and staying open. Unfortunately that is not the case, due to financial problems, etc. The Starship may have been an idea ahead of its time, but those who were ready for it may be left with little alternative. Several clubs have stepped in

to fill the void, but none are willing to take a chance on booking full-time "new wave" acts. And none allow minors (neither did the Starship). Kenny currently drums for the Prosecutors.

What else -- I have no idea what is going on in Madison, but there is a voice coming from Green Bay. SICK TEEN is the frenetic and funny publication of the Very Reverend Norbert Ugly, who is also the bassist for GB's only hardcore band, Suburban Mutilation! They appear as UXB (with their old singer) on Noise magazine's compilation cassette, CHARRED REMAINS. Send money to Norb at 708 St. Joseph St., Green Bay, WI 54301. The tape also features die Kreuzen, who until recently were Milwaukee's only source of HC. They will be on the next of the Noise compilations, MEAT HOUSE, and a compilation LP called THE MASTER TAPE on the Zero Boys' Nimrod Records.

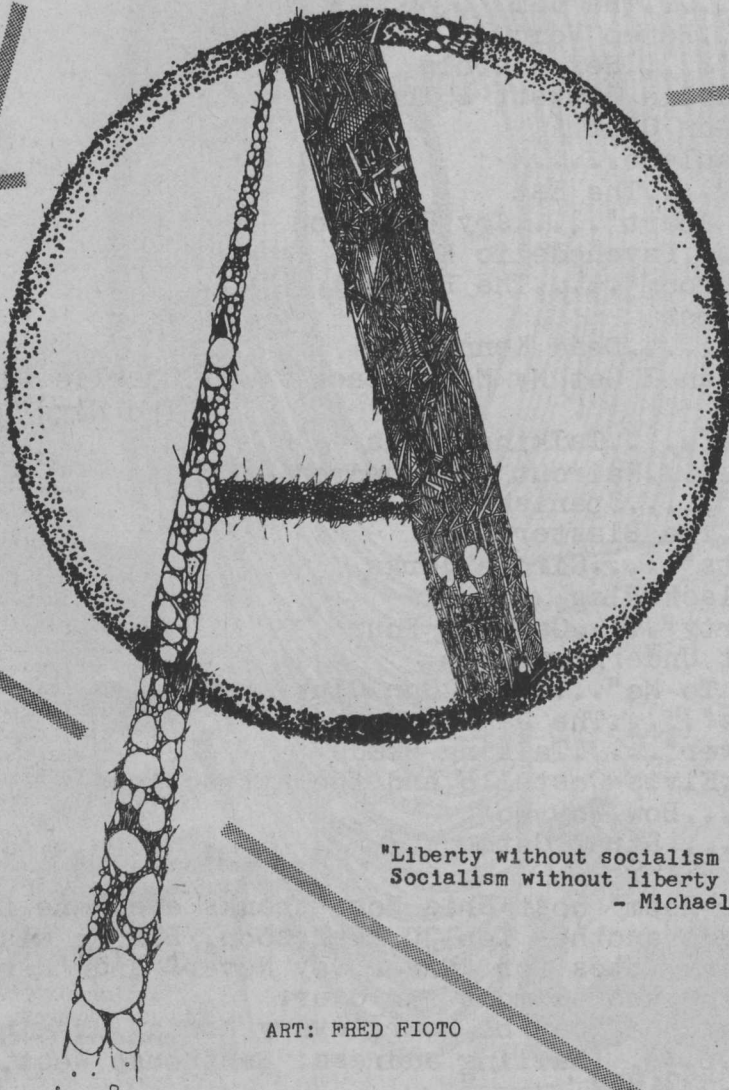
Other bands have not been so lucky. Einstein's Riceboys, the Wigs, and now the X-Cleavers put out their own albums, and An Attempt (formerly the Tense Experts) are going into the studio to do an EP, but some bands are resorting to releasing cassettes. Milwaukee's the Kingdom the Power the Glory are releasing their NOW AND FOREVER once technical difficulties are resolved. It's an interesting mix of Young Marble Giants and Cabaret Voltaire, with KPG's own surf guitar and

percussive influences thrown in. Waukesha is making a strong debut with the Shemps' RED CULT, a fun punk EP with great packaging, the Surfing Fuhrers, the Flower Children's DOUBLE LIVE ASS-HOLES and, I'm told, more to follow. Skid Magazine will hopefully be releasing a compilation of Wisconsin bands at the end of this summer and will be involved in other releases. Write me for more details and addresses for the above.

Fanzines: SICK TEEN, Madison's WHITE NOISE (12 N. Franklin St. Apt. 1, Madison, WI 53703), and Milwaukee's END OF THE WORLD (634 W. Wisconsin Ave. Suite 21, Milwaukee, WI 53203). As for me, I put out SKID, and I love getting letters, so write me at 34233 S. Bayview Rd., Oconomowoc, WI 53066. Be sure to send money to all of these mags (especially me!).

With the release of the Oil Tasters and Violent Femmes albums and the Skid comp cassette, Wisconsin will hopefully get some of the attention it deserves. There are many other bands that I would like to see have albums out (AMA-DOTS ROOL!!), and this or next year may see our state recognized as a viable national scene. Until then.... (Jon Hope of SKID magazine)

Late additions from Jon: Flower Children do not have a tape called D.L.A. and White Noise mag has moved to D.C. or New York or someplace....



"Liberty without socialism is exploitation:
Socialism without liberty is tyranny"
- Michael Bakunin

ART: FRED PIOTO

"RADIO FREE LIVING ROOM" TOP 30

"Radio Free Living Room", Miami's weekly broadcast extravaganza of new and independent recordings, got its name from the feature in Mouth of the Rat, in which editor Dave what's-his-name used to sit around and list the songs his kid requested in the living room, then print the list in the paper. Something like that.

Nearly two years after the premiere of the radio show that plays stuff they don't play on the radio, the Monday night program had a special survey of its listeners. "RFLR" fans were asked to phone or write in their all-time favorite tunes. The thirty that got the most votes were played on July 5 (the day after Independents Day, in which our nation celebrates small record labels' contributions to mankind). It's all come full circle, because the Radio Free Living Room Chart is back in print.

1. "Holiday in Cambodia".....Dead Kennedys
2. "Let's Have A War"....Fear
3. "London Calling".....The Clash
4. "Going Underground".....The Jam
5. "Never Say Never".....Romeo Void
6. "God Save the Queen".....Sex Pistols
7. "Slow Death".....Charlie Pickett & The Eggs
8. "Sex Beat".....The Gun Club
9. "Johnny Hit & Run Paulene".....X
10. "Silly Drug Songs".....The Eat
11. "Love Will Tear Us Apart".....Joy Division
12. "Pretty In Pink".....Psychedelic Furs
13. "Mirror In The Bathroom".....The Beat
14. "Sex Bomb".....Flipper
15. "Too Drunk To Fuck".....Dead Kennedys
16. "If This Is Love, Can I Get My Money Back?".....Charlie Pickett & The Eggs
17. "Once In A Lifetime".....Talking Heads
18. "Favourite Shirts".....Haircut One Hundred
19. "Atomic Shockwaves".....Spanish Dogs
20. "Marie, Marie".....The Blasters
21. "Wild In The Streets".....Circle Jerks
22. "Rise Above".....Black Flag
23. "To Hell With Poverty".....Gang of Four
24. "Heroin".....Velvet Underground
25. "She's Like Heroin To Me".....The Gun Club
26. "Absolute Beginners".....The Jam
27. "Take Me To The River".....Talking Heads
28. "Radio, Radio".....Elvis Costello and the Attractions
29. "Louis Quatorze".....Bow Wow Wow
30. "Stray Cat Strut".....Stray Cats

"Radio Free Living Room" host Eric Moss thanks everyone for their votes, and promises to do another Top 30 real soon. But he wishes there hadn't been so many votes for "Never Say Never" and "Heroin". Those are long songs. The show almost ran over.

"Radio Free Living Room" can be heard every Monday evening at midnight, on WLRN (FM 91.5). (Mailing address: Penthouse West, 1410 NE 2nd Ave., Miami, Fl. 33132)

HOW TO GET YOUR RECORD PLAYED ON THE RADIO:

by H.B. Stillano

SEND STATIONS YOUR RECORD WITH A COUNTERFEIT LABEL IDENTIFYING IT AS THE NEW FOREIGNER RELEASE - AND, IF POSSIBLE, IN A REAL MAJOR-LABEL ENVELOPE...

GEE, THIS ONE'S EVEN FASTER THAN "URGENT."



MAKE RADIO PROGRAM DIRECTORS THINK THEIR STATION IS ALREADY PLAYING THE RECORD - BY PLAYING FAKE CASSETTES IN PUBLIC PLACES. AFTER HEARING A SONG THREE OR 4 TIMES - IN THE CAR, THE MALL OR AT THE BEACH, HE'LL THINK IT'S A HIT!



ANOTHER TIP: MAKE YOUR RECORD SOUND JUST LIKE ALL THE ONES THEY PLAY NOW.

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF PAYOLA. SURE IT'S EXPENSIVE, BUT IT MAKES THOSE MUSIC DIRECTORS SIT UP AND TAKE NOTICE!



THREATEN TO BLOW UP THE STATION IF THEY WON'T PLAY YOUR SONG. EITHER WAY, LOCAL RADIO WILL IMPROVE.

THIS LOOKS LIKE THE WORK OF PUNKS!



BLAM

IF CAUGHT, SAY YOU DID IT FOR JONNE FOSTER, YOU CRAZY GUY!

