



ARIGHTANING THOUGHT, BECAUGE IT MAY INVOLUTION FUTURE. INTERPRETING MUSSO COMIX

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## BY H.B. PROPHET

February has been designated budget month at Pennylane. For consumers this will mean special discounts on albums and tapes which are normally priced in the \$1.99 to \$4.49 range. Noteworthy bargains indeed, but perhaps more im-portant is what this sale portends for the future. Some record prices are act-ually coming down.

Six or seven years ago CBS shocked the industry by offering a brand new pop release by an exciting young duo at \$2.00 less than the standard manufact-urers suggested list price. I am cortain that the airplay and general high quality of the performers work are what caused it to develop into the smash seller it has become. But I remember how much easier the selling process functioned when potential customers spotted that pricetag. One could afford to take a chance on an unknown like KENNY LOGGINS.

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Giving price incentives to generate sales for new artists is certainly a reasonable approach to developing talent. However, like many things in the record business like many things in the record business there seems to be something a little backwards. The expensive part of put-ting a record together occurs at the beginning. Studio time, promotion, artist advances, jacket design and producers fees are only some of the initial costs incured. One must expect that a record would cost more when it comes out and these up front costs need to be recovered. It seems to work something like that in the book business. New books come out first in hardback at a high price and get cheaper with later a high price and get cheaper with later printings

LEO SAYER - ENDLESS FLIGHT

### THE PENNY PITCH

Have you ever wondered why a Bob Dylan album which was produced in 1961, for which a substantial profit has already been made, only minimum royalties due and no further expenses other than the vinyl and cardboard to be spent carries nearly the same price as the newest Dylan? The answer is that we have always been willing to pay it. Year after year through 1978 the record business grew at a phenomenal pace. Growth of 25% a year became expected and there seemed to be no reason to cut prices. Only so-called "cut-outs", which are in reality over pressings more often than actual deletions from manufacture's catalogues, reached the market at bargain prices. reached the market at bargain prices. And these surface only because warehouse space for faster moving merchandise was desired.

In 1979, the booms went bust. Again, it was CBS who acted first. Trying to turn the slow sales period around CBS selected steady sellers from their vast catalogue and dropped the list price from \$7.98 to \$4.98 or \$5.98. Besides several Dylan titles this first batch included popular material by established artists. Dan Fogelberg, Dexter Gordon, Simon & Garfun-kel, Miles Davis, Barbra Streisand are only some of the musicians that pop to mind. The response was immediate and positive. Warner Bros. followed with a \$5.98 program of their own. Later MCA, RCA and Capitol jumped on the bandwagon.

The result is what you are going to see during the month - long sale coming up. Budget product no longer consists of off labels or remaindered merchandise. You are going to see first line copies of the Eagles, Little Feat, Elton John, The Band, Jefferson Airplane, David Bowie, Billy Joel, The Who and much more. The \$5.98 stuff will be on sale at 3 for \$12.00 Other budget merchandice will Billy Joel, the mix and the state of the \$5.98 stuff will be on sale at 3 for \$12.00. Other budget merchandise will have similar discounts. It's a great opportunity to replace some of your favorites that might be a little scratchy orites that might be a little scratchy with new mint copies.

With the already positive response these price reductions have received, we can expect to see more in the future. This trend suggests that the record business is growing up and starting to respond to the needs and expectations of you - the to customers.

As I was pondering this development it occured to me that perhaps there might be other aspects of the book business that could be transferred to records. Obviously, the system of selling music is not perfect even with this new level of maturity. I called my friend Peter, who has had experience in both industries and asked him what were some of the differences. "The systems are identical," Peter told me. "The book system is more organized but it's really just the same. The retailer doesn't get screwed around as much because he has more information."

Oh well, getting screwed around will have to wait for another article.

How about you? Are you tired of being how about your ALE you thread of being treated like you don't count? Tell me-what's wrong with the record business? How should it work? Write me, H.B. Prophet care of the PENNY PITCH. Who knows, care of the PENNY PITCH. Who k maybe CBS will have the answer.



# KANSAS ( Missouri, K Kansa City Sector 12

Greetings from the North Store. A lot Greatings from the North Store. A lot of changes have taken place since Dec. 5th when we opened our doors to the Northland as a PENNYLANE. Notice-able changes are, the moving of pre-recorded cassettes from wall racks recorded cassettes from wall racks to the display cases. Several people have voiced their aproval of this new arrangement, making the cassettes more visible. We have greatly expanded our prerecorded cassette line in all areas of music: rock, jazz, country, soul, soundtracks, and at present we are working on our classical cassette section. Any ideas from our customers in this area are greatly appreciated.

We now have 2 differant sets of record wall racks, in the front and back of the store. These are our PENNYPINCHER walls and feature the top new releases on sale. You can be sure that when a new record is released you can find it on the wall at a dollar off the regular price. Also all Beatles records and tapes are always on sale at PENNYLAME North. Our Jazz selection has really jumped. We now feature the finest selection north of the river. Once again, anything you want, that we don't have, tell us about it and we'll get it for you. Also, Jazz fans should be checking out our excellent selection of jazz cutouts. We now have 2 differant sets of record of jazz cutouts.

That brings us to Country. We've added to, and are working on increasing our folk, bluegrass and country selection. This is another area in which you the customer can help us stock what you want. Country fans can look forward to new releases from Glen Campbell, Dave & Sugar, Hank Williams Jr., Austin Roberts and more in the next month. A new addition to our store is classical section has grown and in a short time we should have a fine selection of classical records and tapes.

We have also increased our catalog in reggae,soul, rhythm & blues, show-tunes, audiophile and cutout records, with more to come.

Last but not least, no we didn't for-get our rock-n-rolling friends in the northland. If anything has grown in our store it has been our selection of new releases and some catalog, now encompasses more than half of our total rooted rolection You have encompasses more than half of our total record selection. You have responded by making REO, Pat Benatar, AC/DC, Kansas, Queen and Bob Seger your favorite selections. In the area of rock-n-roll PENNYLANE NORTH has acquired the fine talents of Rage 'n Rick, to go along with our own in-house expert Brian Colgan. So don't come crying to me if your ears start bleeding. Lots of new releases coming soon - Shoes, Stvx, New Riders, Jorma bleeding. Lots of new releases coming soon - Shoes, Styx, New Riders, Jorma Kaukonen, Grace Slick, 38 Special, Nazereth, 707, Clash, Ian McLagen, Jam, Jimmy Buffett, Steve Cropper, April Wine, Henry Gross, Journey, Elvis Costello, Rolling Stones, Marshall Tucker, Todd Rundgren! Whew! The list goes on, so you'll just have to come in and see for yourself!

Till next time,

Debi, Brian, Rick, Joe & Marc

P.S. We're now a <u>ticket outlet</u> for several differant shows, so give us a call or stop by.

BULLETIN--I-Sheryl, window wonder, has just been named assistant Manager at PennyLane on Broadway.....

THE PENNY PITCH



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DUKE TUMATOE & THE ALL STAR FROGS/
Naughty Child
Blind Pig 980 \$7.98 list
Produced by Greg Riker & the band

This record is quite different from their first release on Trouserworm Records. It's not that smooth, champagne sound anymore. The harp is gone. But don't give up hope. Where the smooth is gone, the edge is on. This is a hot little blues rocker that makes you fever-ish. With more emphasis on guitar and keyboards and Duke's killer vocals, they've came up with another humdinger. they've came up with another humdinger.



THE BLUES BROTHERS/Made in America Atlantic 16025 \$8.98 list Produced by Bob Tichler & Paul Shaffer

This record doesn't make it. It's the same old crap. The songs were all done better by the original artists and very few of them would qualify as blues songs. These guys were good for a laugh and have done a lot for dwindling careers such as James Brown, but enough is enough. The noveltv has worn off not to mention my patience wearing thin. This is the 1st frisbee of the new year. Fly it in peace.

\*\*\*\* BOBBY "BLUE" BLAND/Sweet Vibrations MCA 5145 \$8.98 list Produced by Monk Higgin's & Al Bell

To my pleasure, Bland has come up with a real gem this time. He's gotten away from trying to make the disco crossover and is now singing with his gutsy, soul-ful style again. He has attempted to make a very sensuous record and with a nice blend of strings, horns, and his vocals he has more than accomplished this. This is one of those records that when played at the right moment it will make the girls tremble and the boys sweat. It's definetly a fine mood maker.



NICOLETTE LARSON/Radioland WB 3502 \$7.98 list Produced by Ted Templeman

This is a big improvement over her last record. Her choices of material are much better this time which is the main improvement. There are a couple of poten-tial hit singles , such as "Straight from the heart". One disappointment is her version of Lowell George's "Long Distance Love" which lacks the feeling of the or-iginal. Overall I would say that this record will be very pleasing to Nicolette fans, but may not win any new fans.



Le Roi

DOUG & THE SLUGS/Cognac & Bologna RCA AFL1-3887 \$7,98 list Produced by Doug and the Slugs

This is a great exercise in bad taste, which it's meant to be. Just look at the cover and you'll know what I mean. The music is good, especially side two, but the best things are your Slug Sound Enhancers, TM. that come inside. These are bound to be the next big thing in the stereo industry. That is if you can stand the nails in the side of your head.



\*\*\*\*

<u>STEVE WINWOOD</u>/Arc of a Diver Island 9576 \$7.98 list Produced by Steve Winwood

Winwood is a very amazing man. He is one of the few rock musicians that keeps getting better. From his early days with Spencer Davis Group, through his years with Traffic till now in his brilliant solo career he has never produced any-thing but excellence and this record is no exception. Even the cover is excellent. Winwood plays all the instruments and does all the vocals. Once you hear the distinctive vocals it jogs all your memories of past works by him and leaves you drooling for future works.

FIREFALL/Clouds Against the Sun ATL 16024 \$7.98 list Produced by Kyle Lehning

This record will please Firefall's big fans but that's about all. It still comes nowhere close to the first album. It has about two songs that could be hit singles and the rest is filler. The title song is the best song on the record but it's not enough to save the record as a whole. as a whole.

FLV FRISBEE OF THE MONTH AWARD

THE O-WOW SEAL OF PLEASURABLE WOV LISTENING

BLONDIE/ Autoamerican Chrysalis 1290 \$8.98 list Produced by Mike Chapman

Well folks, here's another bunch of

Well folks, here's another bunch of stupid short reviews for your viewing pleasure. There was a major shortage of new releases at press time so I had a heck of a time finding anything to write about. These were very last minute reviews so please excuse any mental lap-ses which I've been more and more prone to lately. What was I saying? Oh well, see you next month...

In the last year, BLONDIE became one of the leading forces in music as well as one of the biggest sellers. With this their first effort for the new year, they seem to be feeling their way as a trend setter one toe at a time. It seems they 've setter one toe at a time.It seems they't tried doing any style they could think of and will sit back and see which ones catch on. They do anything from reggae to new wave to Broadway musical tunes. The songs are very well done with a lot of Jimmy Destry influence, but there is a definite lack of fluidity on the whole. whole.

KATE BUSH/Never For Ever



Canadian Import Harvest 6476 \$8.98 list Produced by Kate Bush & Jon Kelly

Kate Bush is fast becoming my favorite female artist. She has a very high pitched, haunting voice that is shocking at first, but becomes appealing very quickly. She writes her own material and does one great job of it. She has appeared on the English stage in musicals since she was seven years old so she has a great background. Her songs are very weaving and winding and almost bring to mind fairy tales. Kate Bush, besides being extremely beautiful, is extremely talented but alas, I'm afraid she won't become a hit in America because of a lack of record company faith and commerciality. commerciality.

HOMEGROWN 1980 / Various Artists KY 102 Presents - \$7.98 list

This is a compilation of local bands This is a compilation of local bands and musicians that supposedly are the best rock bands K.C. has to offer. Whether this is true or not is not up to mé, but I can say there is a wide range of music on the record , some good and some not so good. One standout on the record is the cut by Pedestrian. It's a nice idea, but I'm just sorry other good local talent didn't get re-presented. Maybe next time bands such as Marsvas will show up on the record. Marsyas will show up on the record.



## LE ROI'S REVIEWS (cont.)



THE CLASH/Sandinist. CBS E3x37037 \$ - cox37037 \$14.98 list - record set Produced by the Clash

The Clash in the last year have become the front runner in making inroads for new wave music. They have shown that they're not afraid of trying anything, including having a very low list price for a triple record set.

Once again they show this versatility on these records. They try different styles, including jazz, dub, reggae, soul and rock and roll. At times this gets to be a little too self-indulgent, but the good music they do come up with is more than enough to make up for any self-indulgence. I really think this record is a hot one and may win them over many new fans.

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MILLIE JACKSON/I Had To Say It Spring 6730 \$7.98 list Produced by Millie Jackson & Brad Shapiro

Millie Jackson is one of my favorite singers these days. She takes a song and can also it with as much soul as anybody. My favorite thing about her is her raps in her songs.She's funny, sexy and yet what she says always hits home and has you saying, "that's right" I really think she's a great act and she can come to my place and talk dirty to me anytime she wants to.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

JOE "KING" CARRASCO & THE CROWNS/ self titled Hannibal 1308 \$7.98 list Produced by John Wood

This is it folks! This is gonna be the big new sound in '81. Reagan may be president, but when you kear these guys play you won't even give a shit. It's called Tex-Mex Nuevo-Wavo, and it It's called Tex-Mex Nuevo-Wavo, and it cooks. It's high energy, sixties sound-ing rock with a slight Latin feel and Farfisa organ that just won't quit. This stuff is just plain old good time fun music that's unafraid. It's bound to get even the most downed out person at your party up shaking his rump. This one is hotter than a jalapeno! JACK BRUCE & FRIENDS: Clem Clempson, Billy Cobham, David Sancious/I've always Wanted to do This

CBS 36827 \$7.98 list Produced by the band

This record was a pleasant surprise. When I saw the lineup I didn't know what to expect. I figured it might be a half-assed attempt at jazz fusion but lo and behold it was rock. Some of the songs are a little lame but Bruce's singing and the bands great playing really bring this record up front.



#### STEVE CROPPER/Playin my Thang MCA 5171 \$8.98 list MCA 51/1 \$8.98 1150 Produced by Steve Cropper & Bruce Robb

Steve Cropper is not the world's best Steve Cropper is not the world's best singer, not by a long ways. Even if he was, this record would have been a little disappointing in the lack of guitar work. There are a few hot tunes that make the record at least worth listening to if not owing the record. The real stand out is the title song, "Playing my Thang." The one good thing is at least he didn't use the Blues Brothers on the record.

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PAUL BUTTERFIELD/North South Bearsville 6995 \$7.98 1 Bearsville 6995 \$7.98 list Produced by Willie Mitchell

This is a fairly good record, but if your expecting a blues album with lots of hot harp, don't hold your breath. He only plays harp on a couple of cuts. This record has lots of strings and funky rhythms instead. There are some standout tunes such as <u>Get Some Fun in</u> Your Life and Bread and Butterfield, but don't expect miracles.

<u>RUMOUR</u>/Purity of Essence Hannibal 1305 \$7.98 list Produced by Alan Winstanley

This is fairly characteristic of the previous Rumour albums. It has some really good tunes and some very medi-ocre ones also. The first side is the superior of the two. As usual, the weak-est points of the record are the vocals and the material, with the high point being the instrumental work. The real standout is their remake of My Little Ded Baet which really a standard the standard to the standa previous Rumour albums. It has some Red Book which really cooks and should be released as a single.

CLIMAX BLUES BAND/Flying this Flag WB 3493 \$7.98 list Produced by John Ryan

For a band that has often shown bril-liant talent, the Climax Blues Band are fast plummeting into the abyss of mediocrity. The last few things they've done have not had the crisp sound that they used to have. It seems they need some sort of shock to the system to bring out some fresh sound bring out some fresh sound.

ى بەر بەر يە <u>ANY TROUBLE</u>/self-titled Stiff America Use 6 \$7.98 list Produced by John Wood

This is a real sleeper. It's got a real Elvis Costello flavor to it, but still Elvis Costello flavor to it, but still maintains enough individuality to make it fresh sounding. All the songs are up tempo enough to keep your new wave party hopping, so if you're looking for something new and different...

THE JAM/Sound Affects Polydor 6315 \$7.98 list

This record is slightly disappointing. It has all the energey that the Jam always has but it is a little weak in material. Some of the songs really get you cooking but when it gets hot the edge just isn't there.

\*\*\*\* IAN MCLAGAN/Bump in the Night Mercury 4007 \$8.98 list Produced by Rob Frabon

This is another straight ahead rock record by McLagan. He keeps putting out good records and John Q Public keeps ignoring the talents he has to offer. Although he still has a chance with this record, I'm afraid if he does not get radio airplay he may be headed for oblivion.



REN ZEVON/Stand in the Fire Asylum 5E-519 \$7.98 list WARREN Produced by Warren Zevon & Greg Ladayni

This one was recorded live at the Roxy and contains three previously unreleas-ed songs plus versions of most of his best songs from previous records. This best songs from previous records. This comes off real well for a live recording and really gives you a good live feeling. It also shows off his very fine touring band instead of his usual slew of famous studio sidemen. This is a must for Zevon fans and if you've never heard him you should because he's got a great sense of humour.



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# AFTER 500 PLAYS OUR HIGH FIDELITY TAPE STILL DELIVERS HIGH FIDELITY.







	Model	Special Features	Base Material	Tape Length (ft.)	Recording Time (1% ips)	PennyLane price
METAL BIAS	MX-46 MX-60 MX-90	Extended dynamic range Extended frequency response Highest Maximum Output Level Reinforced, high-precision cassette shell	Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester	225 295 440	46 min. (23x2) 60 min. (30x2) 90 min. (45x2)	\$5.49 \$5.99 \$6.99
UD HI-LEVEL BIAS	UD-XL II C 6 0 UD-XL II C 9 0	Wide dynamic range Lowest noise level Wide frequency response Super, high-precision cassette mechanism	Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester	295 440	60 min. (30x2) 90 min. (45x2)	\$3.49 \$3.99
NORMAL BIAS	UD-XL I-C60 UD-XL I-C90	High Maximum Output Level Lowest distortion Wide frequency response Super, high-precision cassette mechanism	Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester	295 440	60 min. (30x2) 90 min. (45x2)	\$3.49 \$3.99
UD	UD-46 UD-60 UD-90 UD-120	High sensitivity/high output Wide frequency range Wide bias latitude High-precision cassette mechanism	Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester	225 295 440 585	46 min. (23x2) 60 min. (30x2) 90 min. (45x2) 120 min. (60x2)	\$2.49 \$2.99 \$3.49 \$5.99
	LN-46 LN-60 LN-90 LN-120	Low noise Strong head room Heavy-duty cassette mechanism	Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester Tensilized Polyester	225 295 440 585	46-min. (23x2) 60 min. (30x2) 90 min. (45x2) 120 min. (60x2)	\$1.49 \$1.99 \$2.99 \$3.99

SPECIALISTS IN RECORDED MUSIC

RY COODER/Borderline WB 3489 \$7.98 list Produced by Ry Cooder

Thoused by Ky cooler This record is top notch all the way around. From the music to the cover, you just can't beat it. This record was digitally recorded, the music is highly compressed, so you should play this very loud to get the full effect. When we play this in the store by the time it gets to the 3rd song "Why Don't You Try Me" which is the best song in my opinion the whole store starts to rock out and at least tap their toes if not start dancing. Cooder is so hip on this record that when he does <u>Down in the Boondocks</u>, he even plays the guitar slightly out of tune to get the feel that the original had. This is definitly some of the best stuff I've ever heard Ry Cooder do.

THE TEARDROPS EXPLODE/Kilimanjaro Mercury 4016 \$7.98 list Produced by Bill Drummond & David

WON

This is one of the hottest bands out of England these days. They are out of the psychedelic school of bands, such as the Mekon, et.al. The vocals are very similar to those of the Jams' with very acid rock style guitars ala Moby Grape with a horn sound that sounds like a cross between The Ides of March and John Entwhistle. Believe it or not, if you put this all together you have one of the hotter sounds I've heard in a while.

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JORMA KAUKONEN & VITAL PARTS/Barbeque King RCA AFL1-3725 \$7.98 list

Produced by David Kahne

Although he's using fresh new musicians Kaukonen still sounds basically the same. The songs are a little more up tempo but it's still Hot Tuna to me.

THE ALVIN LEE BAND/Free Fall Atlantic 19287 \$7.98 list Produced by John Stronach

This is one of the strongest records from Alvin Lee in many a moon. It's taken many tries, but he has finally come up with a nice piece of work with lots of participation from the rest of the band.

**PENYPINCHER**® PENNYLANE ТОР 3 JOHN LENNON/YOKO ONO - Double Fantasy STEELY DAN - Gaucho NEIL DIAMOND - Jazz Singer POLICE - Zenyatta Mondatta STEVIE WONDER - Hotter Than July 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. STEVIE WONDER - Hotter Than July ROCKPILE - Seconds of Pleasure REO - Hi Infidelity STYX - Paradise Ballroom DIRE STRAITS - Making Movies RY COODER - Borderline TALKING HEADS - Remain in Light BLONDIE - AutoAmerican BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN - The River BARBRA STREISAND - Guilty -DAVID BOWIE - Scarv Monsters 9. 11. 12. 14. BARBRA STREISAND - Guilty DAVID BOWIE - Scary Monsters PAT BENETAR - Crimes of Passion JOHN LENNON - Shaved Fish FLEETWOOD MAC - Live NICOLETTE LARSON - Radioland STEVE WINWOOD - Arc of a Diver KENNY ROGERS - Greatest Hits RAMPAL/BOLLING - Picnic Suite ALAN PARSONS - The Turn of a Friendly Card 15 18. 20. 23. ALAN PARSONS - THE TURN OF A Friendly Card
BUS BOYS - Minimum Wage Rock & Roll
CLASH - Sandinista !
DONNE IRIS - Back On The Streets
OUTLAWS - Ghost Riders in the Sky
JACK BRUCE - I've Always Wanted to JACK BRUCE - 1'Ve Always wanted to Do This
 ROBERT PALMER - Clues
 ROBERT PALMER - Clues
 DELBERT MCCLINTON - Jealous Kind
 RICK NELSON - Playing to Win
 BEATLES - White Album

\*based on sales as of 1/25/81

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LE ROI'S

PICK OF THE MONTH

THE SIR DOUGLAS QUINTET/Border Wave Takoma 7088 \$7.98 list Produced by the band

This is what's happening baby! This is the original sounds that brought forth the likes of Joe "King" Carrasco. The thing is they did it 15 years ago. Now Sir Doug has reformed and made an album that has all the freshness of the early works yet sounds as Tex-Mex Neovo-Wavo as the youngsters. Augie has dug out the Farfisa and it has a sound that bands in New York would kill for. Why they've even got Alvin Crow playing guitar and Doug Sahm has never sounded better. It's amazing but they've got them dancing in the aisles again. My hats off to the Sir Douglas Quintet for putting a little spice back into life.

# (PENY PITCH) TRIVIA QUIZ

- 1.) In what year was the Lovin' Spoonful single "Do you believe in Magic" released?
- ) What are the last names of the popular R&B singers Sam & Dave?
- What was Credence Clearwater Revivals' first hit single?
- What year was Doc Watson born?
   A)
  - Peter & Gordon, popular 60's English duo, were given their big break when Lennon & McCartney wrote a song for them to record. What was that song?
- .) What jazz pianist overcame his stuttering problem, and went on to become one of the most popular vocalist in the 60's?
- 7.) Who wrote & performed the soundtrak to the movie "The Exorsist"? Hint: He played all the instruments on the LP.
- 8.) What famous family from Philly, have given the jazz world 3 outstanding musicians, and what are their names?
- ).) What famous guitarist emerged from the Kentucky Colonels, played with the Byrds - and met with his untimely death in 1973?
- A)\_\_\_\_\_

A)

A)

A)

A١

A)

A)

PENNYLANK

- 10.) What year was the song "Who put the Benzodrine in Mrs. Murphy's Ovaltine," by Harry the hipster Gibson recorded? A)
  - (answers next issue)

## PITCH Musical Trivia Quiz Rules

Contest is open for all to participate except anyone affilliated with or employed by PENNY LANE Records or HOUSE Dist.

All entries must be postmarked or received by us by Feb. 28, 1981.

Winner will be contacted by phone or mail so be sure to include address & phone number.

In case of a tie, winner will be randomly drawn by Editor Warren Stylus.

WINNER WILL RECEIVE A \$20.00 GIFT CERTIF-ICATE FROM PENNY LANE RECORDS! NEW YORK NOTEBOOK

## An Evening with the B-52's And Rev. Howard Finster

by Rev. Dwight Frizzell

The dreamscape of New York unfolded above and below me. My visit here was improvised. When I arrived at Tom Rubnitz's apartment I had no idea I'd be spending the evening with the B-52's Kate Pierson and Robert Wilson.

Tom Rubnitz is a video artist extraordinaire, art curator, friend, and performance-art associate from our student days at the Kansas City Art Institute. His Soho apartment was covered with lifesized drawings of humanoid figures surrounded by auras, paintings of TV trays on TV trays, photographs of a half-woman, half-mannequin creature that is star of Tom's latest video tapes, and a giant bee painting by Rev. Howard Finster.

Kate and Robert arrived at the apartment along with Jesse Murry, the art critic who lived upstairs. I had scored in Cleveland (see the Pere Ubu review for that experience in PENNY PITCH Vol. 1, Number 3). We ingested these potent herbal refreshments along with ample drafts of polluted New York air.

"Einstein had hair like a porcupine," "Said Rev. Howard Finster over the video monitor that permeated the room. Rev. Finster is an Alabama "folk" artist whose work includes inventions, environments, paintings, and sculpture. Tom made a video tape of Rev. Finster at his show in New York, where Finster's art is exciting everyone, including the critics. "New York has never seen anything like Howard," Jesse commented.



Rev. Finster disappeared into the fading dot of light on the turned-off TV. This was not the last time we encountered his work that evening. We departed for Burt Hemphill's house, perhaps the only house in Manhattan.

Tom arranged the meeting with Hemphill, whose extensive collection of American folk art is revered worldwide.Hemphill's house, amid buildings and basements, was hallucinatory. Every corner, wall and floor was covered with folk art images. Dum-dum dolls (with new-wavish glasses), a life-sized Navaho carving of a baboon with a turtle on its back, a pre-LSD Groucho doll made from stones and plaster, a woman-math teacher doll with a book full of equations, robot dolls (from Texas) composed of electric insulators, swords made from swordfish, a lunar landscape with an earthrise, various sizes of penguin figures, a bear and Uncle Sam fighting in the clouds, dirgibles, eagles, and Eve as a snake winding around Adam's thigh found their way into our vision.

Acrobat monkeys danced in Kate's hand as she squeezed the bottom of their platform. Burt Hemphill and I discussed how McLuhan's concept of the global village had reversed to specific organic visions. Folk art, said Hemphill, is at once "nouveau naive" and "hyper-self conscious."

"VISION OF CRAFT FROM 14 DIFFERENT PLAN-ETS OUT OF AN ENDLESS SPACE NUMBERED UN-KNOWN," was the title of Rev. Finster's painting, now in Hemphill's collection. The canvas was populated by UFO's, each with a unique system of travel. Some were constructed like kites with "center air channels all the way through the craft." Others were anti-gravity disks from "TRENAL, SUPER-N, DUEL, TEDWELL, DAVRAIN, HUMPREL, NORCIN, PROV. 23-12, FREN, FRONZIAL, TUMULTOE, TREDEL, TENO-PILE, SNARDNLIN, SOREDNIK ‡3, FUNDON, and THROB," as the painting indicated.

L'invitation au voyage continued as we walked on the streets of New York, leaving Hemphill's house. Robert constructed his own folk art--a barn out of a trashed out crate propped against a fire-hydrant. A car rounded the corne: full of people with their arms out the windows holding a mattress on top. Kate and I turned towards each other. Their arms were in the same position as the angelic figurines we had seen in Hemphill's collection--reaching up, palms ascending but facing the ground.

We walked onto a corner two blocks down from the cafe featured in TAXI DRIVER, and I saw the most grotesque image in my life. A couple, who appeared to be a man and woman in torn clothes, were rolling and apparently vomiting into each other's mouth. We walked quickly on, motioned a cab, and returned to Tom's studio-apartment.

CONTINUED ON page 9





IAN MCLAGAN "BUMP IN THE NIGHT"



<u>COZY\_POWELL</u> "OVER\_THE\_TOP"



WINNER OF LE ROI'S O-WOW SEAL OF PLEASURABLE LISTENING!

# FOUR TO EXPLORE







# PENNYLANE PRICED AT \$5.49!

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Well Mutha's, first I gotta tell ya that December and January have been real good to you denizens of rock. There's been to you denizens of rock. There's been some hefty portions of heavy metal thunder served up that's guaranteed to rock ya till you're raw and blow the teeth right out'cha jaw, if you know what I'm saying. What I'm trying to tell ya is that some of these new tunes will put you in a "Strangle hold" you ain't likely to shake. But why take my word for it? Go ahead, check these out and shrug off your doubt.

Nuff said.

## WHITESNAKE LIVE/In the Heart of the City Mirage WTG 19292 \$7.98 list

You "Purple" fans are going to enjoy this one 'cause it looks like David Coverdale and crew have come up with another killer set. I can't honestly tell ya that this is the best live recording I've ever heard, in fact it's far from it. However, the potentcy of the material offered more than off sets this short coming. The album is a comp-ilation of some of the most powerful Tunces from the first four Whitesnake LP's, and is dished up with the high liation of some of the most internation times from the first four Whitesnake LP's, and is dished up with the high voltage energy that's so characteristic of Whitesnake.Lead guitarist Micky Moody is hotter than ever with some very tasty solo's that will leave ya pleading for more. Their rendition of "Love Hunter" off the second Whitesnake LP, all eleven minutes of it, will more than likely... bring you to your knees. All in all, Whitesnake...Live, is a hell of a col-lection and a must for metal fans.

B~52's CONT. FROM page 8

The B-52's had cited Sun Ra as one of The B-52's had cited Sun Ra as one of their influences in the liner notes of Ra's new album, OF MYTHIC WORLDS. Kate and Robert told me they had seen a spec-tacular Sun Ra show at the Squat Theatre. Three days later I would speak with Sun Ra (see the Sun Ra interview in PENNY PITCH Vol. 1, Number 5).

It was Tom's turn on the Exquisite Corpse as I began dancing with Kate to a recording of Sun Ra's DISCO 3000. I had practiced this surrealist Exquisite had practiced this surrealist Exquisite Corpse game many times in the midwest, but this was the first time in New York City. We folded a large piece of draw-ing paper into thirds, and each chose a section drawn by one person at a time and folded to become invisible. Kate drew the head, Tom the body, and I con-tributed the feet. Here is a recon-struction of those feet, as I remember them: them:



Suggested cuts - Sweet Talker, Walking in The Shadow of The Blues, Love Hunter, and Ain't no Love (In the Heart of the City)

CASTLE DONNINGTON/Monsters of Rock Polydor PD 1-6311 \$7.98 list

Monsters indeed! What we have here is a live recording of the Castle Donington Metal Festival in Ragin' Old England featuring the bone-crunching talents of six of the giants of rock. Included are Rainbow, Scorpions, April Wine, Saxon, Riot, and last but not least, Touch. What a show this must have been. Nothin' but metal mayhem plain and simple. I don't know about you but Ragin' Rick would've given his eye-teeth to have been there. I mean to tell ya, this is state of the art stuff. When ya burn these sides be sure to take them to crank city so you gain full benefit of the head-bangin', foot-stompin', kick-ass rock & roll trapped between these grooves. grooves.

<u>707</u>/The Second Album Casablanca NBLP 7248 \$7.98 list

707's second album has got to be one of the surprise LP's of '81 so far.Jeeez, what a strong record. If any of you got to see them at the Uptown a couple of months back you know what to expect. Few bands can cut the mustard as a three piece group but these guy's obliterate it. Every tune is a potential killer and I sincerely hope our AOR stations have the good sense to jump on it. The white hot guitar work of Kevin Russel can singe the hair right off your bodies and the bass and drums of Phil Bryant and Jim McClarty are guaranteed to pound you to the turf. Once again...I'm afraid you'll need to crank this one too, and let the sound of 707 take you to new heights. heights.

Suggested Cuts: "Millionaire," "Pressure Rise,""Rockin' is Easy," and "The Party's Over"

IAN GILLAN/Glory Road RSO-Virgin VR-1-1001 \$7.98 list

Vocalist Ian Gillan, late of Deep Purple, has come back with yet another album and it's the best yet. There is little doubt in my mind that the high-energy ferocity of Glory Road was designed to blow your socks up over your head. Every cut rocks hard, fast, and furious and leaves ya with little time to catch your breath. Side one features a

CHAPTER 23

Long past rush hour, January 16th: in the bowels of Jackson County, you can pull down the shade, or bundle up and go play electronic games at Quick-Trip. Or..you can saddle yourself with all the lackadaisical sanity you can muster, foot it to the door of the Downliner, 4719 Troost, go in and get pleasantly lost.

After a brief, spirited opening set by Get Smart, the stage is swarming with shrub-and-machinelike figures--who turn out to be the featured band, DuChamp.

What de DuChamp do here at the Downliner is de kwayziest, but let me back up for a moment, listen to Ornette, run my eyes over a page of 20th Century music score, reinvent myself or be reinvented, and pick my teeth with Jarry's toothpick. DuChamp have taught me nothing, I insist, yet, opening a drawer, I put my poison away.

Here is the recipe, the <u>recitative</u>, that DuChamp pours into you PBR: I want, I want, I want, like a finger in the eye, a red-handed snatch of pie. Poems of Will Scanlan, or F. Frenge, DaVink, Jon, or Tom Cat, with or without words, flow, blare, flower and hunker. "The Phoenix," Will Scanlan assures me, "lays one egg

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by Charles Chance, Jr. as told to J. Mandeville

The Du Champ Files



solo by guitarist Bernie Tormé that cuts like an industrial laser. Play this one loud and don't be shy to take that journey down "Glory Road."

APRIL WINE/The Nature of the Beast Capitol Records S00 12125 \$8.98 list

Capitol Records S00 12125 \$8.98 list This album was definitly worth waiting for and the nature of this beast is anything but tame. Canadian hard rock veterans, April Wine, have put together their most ragin' lp to date and offer solid evidence that a good band can only get better. With this, their third Capitol release, the distinctive sound of April Wine has surely become a major influence on the rock music industry. The raw vocals and energetic guitar of Myles Goodwyn, backed by the gut-wrench-ing guitars of Gary Moffet and Brian Greenway, bass of Steve Lang, and skins of Jerry Mercer lend this set some guite awesome overtones. Cut for cut, blow by blow, April Wine explodes with the force of an atomic bomb. If you crank this up, (please do, by all means) I'd advise exercising caution in using that loudness switch, 'cause windows don't come cheap these days. So strap yourself in and pre-pare to experience "the Nature of the Beast."

Suggested cuts: "Sign of the Gypsy Queen," "Caught in the Crossfire," and "Crash and Burn

One final note; next issue holds some very pleasant surprises for ya. Here's a clue...Ya ever heard of Rush? See ya

at a time, and looks a little vacant. The short, stubbly tips of dark-rooted tie-dye-blonde hairs bristle on his head as he talks, between sets, a disarmingly

as he talks, between sets, a disarmingly sensible young man. Everyone is, in this band. Yes, I admit to them, I did stop at the bookstore on the way over. But any lingering wince of outraged sensibility has long since yielded to this harvest of barley-malt, wattage, and Rousseauesque primitive-big-band music. Who would have dreamed that these poor,

That-chested, paper-mache-mad loser sclemiels would get up the simple interest needed to form a kickass-rock-pop-fall-down-or-crawl-back-in-the-womb Wave band?

Getting toward one a.m. now, and the Getting toward one a.m. now, and the bodies dancing seem to expand, escape collision less and less. Ultimately, DuChamp have nothing to show for their talent but these late-night cigarettes drooping from everyone's mouths. The room has grown shapeless from the sounds bouncing around in it.

Other, more successful, lounge-type bands I've seen around town, with their metro-nomes ticking right on stage, slick where these guys are rude and ragged, should watch out these old Moses-snake tunes and rhythms don't wrap themselves around their temples some lost weekend.

When you've been three days running, your head is spinning, your buttons are missing, and your pocket's full of marked bills, these geezers will be jumping like mad, in a microscopic spot right near the center of your third eye's ear.

JAZZZZZ

#### by Lonsum Chuck Haddix

It's been a good year for Jazz in Kansas City. Lots of good records have been released and a lot of excellent live jazz has happened. Hopefully 1981 will be more of the same.

This time of year most of our thoughts turn toward spring. And what spring would be complete without the Women's Jazz Festival. I understand Ernestine Anderson, Flora Purim, Shirley Scott, and Judy Roberts are slated to appear. The Women's Jazz Festival should be bigger and better than ever. Let's hope they make lots of bread so they can continue the good work. We all know what summer brings to K.C. The music in the parks series which has been responsible for so much great music for the price of a couple of six packs and a blanket. The Friends of Jazz always manage to brighten our autumn with some fine talent. Although many of us would like to see some of the great black jazz artists perform in Danziger auditorium.

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Then comes Hal's and my favorite time of year--Winter & X-mas. About 75% of all records sold nation wide are sold at X-mas. Speaking of records, here's some that will get you thru until the W.J.F. If these don't do the job then your ears are frozen and you need to go see the Scamps at the Sni Blue Lounge or have an extended vacation at Milton's to thaw them out.

Atlantic has recently decided to get back in the jazz record business. Who knows, maybe they developed guilty consciences from getting rich selling AC/DC 8 tracks and decided to throw the jazz consumer a few crumbs. Promos are scarce but I managed to snag a copy of a recent Lennie Tristano reissue titled Requiem. Requiem is a 2 LP set of a couple of long out of print recordings by the catalyst of the white cool school, pianist Lennie Tristano. Tastefully packaged, Requiem contains the original liner notes within and new insights by Barry Vlanov on the back.



One record is from two sessions recorded in 1955 and is Lennie in a trio; Peter Ind bass, Jeff Morton drums and in a quartet Lee Konitz alto sax, Gene Ramey bass, Art Taylor drums. The second, recorded in 1961 and is all solo piano. The voicing and harmonies Tristano uses make this record not accessable to the casual Pop-Jazz fan, but for the true heart and soul jazz buff this is the real thing: truly great jazz.

Our friends at CBS have the strongest commitment to jazz of any of the socalled Major labels. CBS is constantly actively marketing and reissuing jazz records at very reasonable prices. Recently, CBS reissued twelve outstanding records by the likes of Bob Brookmeyer, Art Farmer, Count Basie, Art Blakey, Phil Woods, Bud Powell, J.J.Johnson. All are extremely nicely priced at \$5.98 suggested retail. Which means a PENNYLANE price of \$3.99.

A good example of the excellence of CBS' Jazz Odyssey series is the Bob Brookmeyer album titled Bob Brookmeyer and Friends. What friends Bob has: Stan Getz sax, Gary Burton vibes, Herbie Hancock piano, Ron Carter bass, and Elvin Jones drums. What more needs to be said after those names? Nothing except brilliant!

Also from CBS is a new album by Dexter Gordon called <u>Gotham City</u> <u>Dexter's</u> accompanied by George Benson guitar, (on two of the four cuts), Art Blakey drums, Percy Heath bass, Woody Shaw trumpet (on one cut). Everyone on this LP plays like the seasoned veterans they are. Especially impressive is Dexter's tender interpretation of a nightingale song in Berkeley Square and his lyrical treatment of Randy Weston and Percy Heath's-"Hi-Fly." This record is as 1st class as the players on it.

JAZZ

Ernestine Anderson Slated for Festival

The exciting vocal talents of Ernestine Anderson have been added to the roster of artists who will be performing at the Fourth Annual Women's Jazz Festival, to take place in Kansas City March 25th through the 29th. Ms. Anderson, who is also a highly respected jazz singer in the Japanese and European markets, will conduct a vocal jazz clinic in addition to performing as part of the Main Concert. Other Main Concert artists include Flora Purim and Airto; Shirley Scott; and the WJF All-Stars led by Judy Roberts. TNT Concert artists include 1981 Combo Contest winners Sojourner, an octet from Chicago and Detroit; Alive!, a San Francisco based feminist jazz sextet; Salamander, a contemporary quintet from Sweden; and Deborah Brown, jazz vocalist who makes her home in Las Vegas. Other Festival events include five free and open jazz jam sessions; a lecture/ film series hosted by Leonard Feather; a full day of clinics and workshops that, in addition to Ms. Anderson's vocal jazz guitar; reeds; rhythm section; and the business of music. A free jazz program for Head Start students will kick off the endeavor (Wed. March 25th), followed by several days of jazzwomen-oriented activities, among which are a Student Big Band Invitational featuring the "Yes M.A.A.M. (Musicians Ain't Always Men) Band" from North Texas State University. On Sunday afternoon, a jazz dance component, "Music in Motion...The Art of Jazz Dance" will be offered at Crown Center Shops.

Tickets for the Women's Jazz Festival will be on sale at PennyLane, along with the recordings of the Festival artists. Some titles from the basement to help you prepare:

ERNESTINE ANDERSON on CONCORD JAZZ:\$7.98

cj-31 Hello like Before cj-54 Concord to London cj-102 Live at the Concord Jazz Fest, cj-109 Sunshine

FLORA PURIM ON MILESTONE RECORDS:\$7.98 list

9052-Butterfly Dreams 9058-Stories to Tell 9065-Open Your Eyes, You Can Fly 9070-500 Miles High 9077-Encounter 9081-That's What She Said 9095-Love Reborn Steeplechase has come through with some real winners in it's new releases. Tete Montoliu's latest <u>I Want to Talk</u> <u>About You</u> and Archie Shepp's <u>Trouble</u> <u>in Mind</u>. Tete's Trio with George Mraz, bass and Al Foster, drums is up to his usual level of technical proficency. These three guys move together like a well oiled machine.

Archie Shepp's new album <u>Trouble in</u> <u>Mind</u>, is a step forward and a step backward. Archie and pianist Horace Parlan go back to one of the roots of American jazz;the blues. Archie did the same with spirituals on his last Steeplechase record with Horace Parlan, <u>Goin' Home</u>. Shepp and Parlan's interpretations of blues standards such as "Trouble in mind,""See, See Rider," and "St. James Infirmary" is truly from the heart. This record should appeal to both jazz and blues fans.

If you handed a fish to Ira Sullivan, he could play it. This is obvious by the array of instruments he plays masterfully on his new album on Stash records, which is appropriately titled, <u>The Incredible Ira Sullivan</u>. He plays flugelhorn, trumpet, alto and tenor saxes, flute and afuche cabasa. Accompanied by Hank Jones, plano, Eddie Gomez, bass, and Basie-ite Duffy Jackson on drums, Ira Sullivan is a oneman band. Although overdubbing was used to accommodate Ira's musical gymnastics the sound is balanced and bright.

Ira Sullivan may not be "a household name in Jazz," he should be part of your collection.

I'll have more reviews next month until then buy some records, they'll make you feel better.

LENNIE TRISTANO/Requiem Atl 2-7003 \$13.98 list

BOB BROOKMEYER AND FRIENDS CBS 36804 \$5.98 list

DEXTER GORDON/Gotham City CBS 36853 \$7.98 list

TETE MONTOLIU/I Want to Talk About You Steeplechase 1137 \$8.98 list

ARCHIE SHEPP/Trouble in Mind Steeplechase 1139 \$8.98 list

IRA SULLIVAN / The Incredible Stash 208 \$8.98 list

## Public TV Airs Local Jazz Series

January brought a taste of what is to come on Kansas City Public TV with the launching of a new monthly series featuring area jazz musicians. The series on KCPT, channel 19, called JA22 FROM KANSAS CITY, was launched by airing a tape of the FRANK SMITH TRIO on January 16. The Trio was joined by violinist Claude "Fiddler" Williams.

On the 23rd, KCPT ran a tape of STAN KESSLER AND THE FLAT FIVE, (see Lonesum Chuck's reviews Dec. Pitch) Who was joined by Karen Johnson, a member of the local group JUSTUS. The 2 shows were recorded live at the KCPT studio on Jan. 5th.

The folks at KCPT share a strong belief with the musicians that K.C. could be a top jazz city if the act was promoted and thus recognized more.

"You'd be surprised at the amount of true talent this area has," Ms. Johnson says. "These KCPT shows are a great way to bring it to the people."

Past as well as present talent will be featured on the "Jazz from Kansas City" program, with "Jazz Flashbacks," recalling (via slides & tunes) some of K.C.'s Legendary talents: Count Basie, Jay McShann, Mary Lou Williams, Pete Johnson and Bennie Moten.

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### by Davey Dread

The Blue Riddim Band has signed a The slue reduction shows a signed a recording contract with Flying Fish and were in the studio in Chicago as this issue goes to press. A pos-sible April release date is in the works. Something to look forward to for all you fans of the band.

## DESMOND DEKKER/Black & Dekker Stiff #7 \$7.98 list

This LP from the man who introduced This LP from the man who introduced Reggae to the states with his top 40 hit <u>Israelites</u>, belongs in every reggae fans collection. There is not one lame song on the record. Listen to the ska version of <u>Israelites</u> and realize where this stuff came from. <u>Good spirited dance</u> <u>music</u>. Desmond is backed by members of the Pioneers, the Equators and the Rumor. Move over Specials, Madness and the Beat! The originator is here!

AUGUSTUS PABLO/Meets King Tubbys in a Firehouse Shanachie 43001 \$8.98 list

Augustus Pablo at 23 is Jamaica's young rebel. He is one of the prime movers in the Dub style of Reggae. Dry & heavy, this is meditation music. Pablo plays melodica and keyboards and is backed by members of the Agrovators & Jah Malla. Production and sonic wierdness lies at the mixing board of Prince Jammy, King Tubby and Augustus himself.

Check out the other Augustus Pablo re-

leases available at Pennylane and dis-cover his progression from melodic R & B style to dub.

## RITA MARLEY/Who feels it Knows it Tuff Gong \$7.98 list

From fourteen years of professional singing comes Rita's first solo LP. Rita's voice soft and powerful in harmony with the other musicians flows together in a way that can only be gotten through friendship and musical understanding. It is now simply understanding. It is more simply stated on the back of the album jacket "Great is the company that establish the work of our Father". The title song clinches the feeling of the music on this record.

I-Sheryl

## 1980 Third World Hit List

## by

debranderson

Allow me to preface this '80 Hit List with a very old and profound saying, and that is, opinions are like ass-holes-everybody's got one. And though mine is well developed and highly discriminating, I won't intrude on your intelligence by suggesting that these are THE records of 1980. Pecking order lists seem divisive, limiting and just plain impossible with the large just plain impossible with the large number of innovative and creative musi-cians out here, producing music that is stimulating, inspirational and irresistable.

Let me say instead that the below men-tioned musicians and albums got me up each morning and through this circus. The musicians' committment to be wholly themselves and to share that self with themselves and to share that self with me, the listener, expresses a faith in me and confidence in our ability to live well and in harmony. Intelligent. Sensual, even orgasmic. Body and Soul. They all express a quest for excellence, to be the best, to give it, and that indeed is godliness. I hope you will enjoy. enjoy.



# **SATELLITES**

Our series of Video Articles will begin with the most advanced technilogical tool in communications; the satellite. The Latin translation of satellite is "attendant." Until recently, satellites have been attending to the needs of governments, and corporations. Technology has advanced to a point where the con-sumer is now able to enter areas that were thought impossible not too long ago. The sky is packed with information and entertainment. The prerequisition for obtaining these is simple. The yield, is priceless.

There are 8 U.S. communication/video satellites in a parallel orbit with the earth, (geostationary). Each of these corporately owned satellites is equipped with either 12 or 24 transporters with either 12 or 24 transponders, (transmitters). The transponders, are leased to other corporations who inturn schedule and distribute television programming. It took a while to beat around the Bush, but there it is, up to 24 television stations per satellite. We're not talking about channels 4,5,9, we're talking about channels x,y,z.

Think



### AFRICA/TEARS & LAUGHTER/Dollar Brand

Dollar Brand is exiled from South Africa. He plays plano and soprano sax, though he's known chiefly as a composer and planist. This album is witty (Tsakve) graceful (Liberation Dance is subtitled "...When Tarzan meets the African Free-dom fighter) and has passages of tenderness and a quieting, ancient beauty.

Try one and tell me what you feel.

## treasure chest

**TREASURE Chest** That branch of black music variously called rhythm 'n blues, soul, race, disco music--whatever guise--is a treasure chest of emotions. It moves from the heart, the mind, the gut. "<u>Come</u> to my World" is a first album by Michael Wycoff and covers a nice piece of that spectrum. It is hopeful, danceable, tender, world-wise. Kid Creole & the Coconuts new release "<u>Off the Coast of</u> <u>Me</u>" is funk with a sense of humor, a gumbo soup of funk, a hint of new wave (an ADDED twist) and just enough of an easy latin feel to flavor. The bass will sneak up on you...As will <u>Defunkt</u>, a group of St. Louis musicians playing a music I'd call funky punk. They could use a lyricist and must stretch out to incorporate more of their musical back-ground, still, they are calling up rhythms our folks used to dance to, and it is catching... For you old heads, Lou Rawls' new one, "<u>Shades of Blue</u>", is like fresh fish smoldering over an open flame, smoke and silk. Something fast, something slow...I am happily surprised with Shalamar's newest work, "<u>Three for</u> <u>Love</u>." I expected popcorn music. Instead, sophisticated funk...Earth,Wind,and Fire and Stevie's newest releases, though several months old, deserve attention here. These musicians have contributed art that is mature, seasoned, wise. These musicians have contributed art that is mature, seasoned, wise. Stevie can still write a ballad that will make you holler or cry and nobody beats E,W &F at what they do.



These three men bring to mind and sense the lushlife Billy Strayhorn must have imagined. They play the works of the master musicians -- Coltrane, Ellington, and then some. Embracing.

#### THE EUROPEAN TOUR/John Coltrane

This music is emotional, living, joyous. A rush on your senses. Everytime I play it something in me rises like it wants to answer Coltrane.

OCTET/Music for a Large Ensemble/Violin Phase - Steve Reich - Steve Reich

Steve Reich has studied Balinese Gamelan music, African drumming and traditional Hebrew Scripture chanting. The synthesis is natural, contemporary, airy and even danceable (do the Monk dance!) music.

#### BLACK WOMAN/Judy Mowatt

Judy Mowatt is a member of the I-Threes, Judy Mowatt is a member of the I-Threes the female vocal group backing Bob Marley and the Wailers. Her songs are strong both in message and music. Vocal work, harmonies and arrangements bring a special treat. Do I hear Supremes under palm trees crooning?

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**NEW RELEASES** 



Tiny & Merle

TINY MOORE/Tiny Moore Music Kaleidoscope F 12 \$7.98 list

-

Tiny, somewhat of a legend in the mandolin field, has a great new album here. The tunes range from jazz oriented Benny Goodman's, Charlie Christian's "Air Mail Special" and Duke Ellington's "Don't Get Around Much Anymore" to Bob Wills' western swing song "Maidens Prayer." And if that isn't enough variety for you, turn the record over end enjoy a Merle Haggard tune "Things Aren't Funny Anymore" and the vocals of the McKinney sisters (including Tiny's wife,Dean) in a song Dean wrote called "Life's Greatest Treasure."

Some of the guest musicians on this album include Merle Haggard, David Grisman, and Jethro Burns. Tiny keeps good company and that special mandolin sounding great!

MERLE TRAVIS/Light Singing & Heavy Pickin CMH 6245 \$7.98 list

This is a collection of Travis originals featuring the wry humor and nimble fingers of one of the giants of country music. An easy-going enjoyable album where Merle is supported by a full Western swing band, sure to put you in a good mood.

Features: "Moon over the Motel", Voodoo" "It's Kinda Wonderful"

Other new releases on CMH:

JIM & JESSE TODAY! CMH 6250 \$7.98 list

JOSH GRAVES / King of the Dobro CMH 6252 \$7.98 list

## Celtic Corner

While folk music from the British Isles is growing in popularity on both sides of the Atlantic, I almost hesitate to use the term "popular" as it might imply that the interest is faddish. Although the past twenty years have seen a revival of Irish, Scottish and English music played by professionals on the stage and on records, this music has continuously survived for several hundred years rather a prolonged fad.

Today there is as much variety in all types of British Isles music as in jazz or rock. Interpretations range from ultra-traditional to avant-garde and modern players utilize every imaginable instrument from bagpipes to bouzoukis. Recordings are available in such quantity that the new listener is often mystified as to where to begin a collection.

As an experienced listener, familiar with most available recordings, I will attempt from time to time in this publication to advise those interested in British Isles music concerning a few of the records available. Remember, however, that my taste, although cclectic, is my own, and half the fun is finding out about the music on your own.

Here are three excellent albums representing Irish, Scottish and English music: BUDDY SPICHER & BENNY MARTIN/Great American Fiddle Collection CMH 9025 \$7.98 list 2 record set

NU-GRASS

BYRON BERLINE/L.A. Fiddle Band. Sugarhill 3716 \$7.98 list

Strickly for fiddle lovers!

On Kicking Mule Records: <u>FLATFICKING GUITAR</u>/w. Dan Crary, Dick Fegy, Eric Thompson, Barry Solomon, & Steve Kaufman Kicking Mule 210 \$8.98 list

Various flatpick guitarists each showing their particular style.

UTAH PHILLIPS/All Used Up : A Scrapbook Philo 1050 \$7.98 list

This man is one of the few folksingers I know of that is constantly working to better living conditions for all of us. This is a collection of some of the songs we know best by Utah. All have a message. My favorites are: "All Used Up" and "Hallelujah, I'm a Bum".

If you ever get a chance to see & hear Utah Phillips, please do. You will be impressed and maybe even get inspired.

MARK O'CONNOR/On The Rampage Rounder 118 \$7.98 list

Hot off the presses from Rounder comes a new release by Mark O'Connor, a young championship fiddle player who has been touring with the David Grisman Quintet. All tunes are written by Mark and produced and arranged by him. I can't help feeling that some of the jazz influences of David Grisman (and possibly Stephane Grapelli) are surfacing with this LP. Don't be expecting hot bluegrass fiddle tunes on this one. Side A is a flowing violin concept that comes straight from the heart. Such as Midnight Interlude and Ease with the Breeze.

Side B opens with <u>Rampology</u> (could this be in the same catagory as Dawgology?), a fast tempo tune with a full band sound including drums and mandolin outstanding. Joining Mark on this LP are Sam Bush, Bill Amatneek, David Grisman, Tony Rice, to name a few.

My only complaint is that to my pointed ears the violin is not mixed far enough to the front. Sometimes it sounds like it's off in the other room. Yet, you should give this one a listen and see what direction Mark has taken off to.

k "duckie" roths

Planxty - After the Break

Planxty, while decidedly untraditional, has been one of the most influential Irish groups. Formed in 1972, they broke up after five years,but reformed in 1979. Much of the group's creativity derives from the presence of Donal Lunny, one of the most respected Irish musicians today. His bouzouki playing (an instrument he helped introduce to Irish music) provides the band's foundation, playing intricate harmonies behind the songs and tunes. The singing is done by Andy Irvine and Christy Moore, both well known to folk audiences, and both are accomplished musicians on mandolin and guitar respectively. The melody lines are played by Matt Molloy on flute and Liam O'Flynn on uillean (Irish) bagpipes. This album may be the finest all around collection of Irish music to date.

Silly Wizard - So Many Partings

Scottish music, though very similar to Irish, was not played by modern groups until after a number of Irish bands paved the way. The Wizard is one of the oldest of these Scottish groups and unegualled in musicianship and drive. This, their latest album, is highlighted by the virtuoso playing of brothers John and Phil Cunningham on fiddle and accordion. (They also have a solo album together, to be reviewed later.) Much of the band's energy results from the electric bass playing of Martin Hadden.

## Frontier Festival Goes on Record

The Jefferson National Expansion Historical Association has just released an album of live recordings from the annual Frontier Folklife Festival held on the grounds of the Gateway Arch in St. Louis.

The collection, entitled Down by the Rio Grande, containing hi-lights from the 1977-1979 festivals, honors a few of the fine traditional artists who have appeared at the festival from 1977-1979. Each of the featured performers represents the best in his cultural genre: Indian flute tunes and songs; cowboy songs; tales and verse; mexican border music; old time and swing fiddle; Texas country/ blues.

Inspired by the guiding westword expansion themes of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, the festival provides a forum for the traditional artists of the West, the Midwest and Missouri to present their work to the public and to mix with artists of like or contrasting backgrounds from other parts of the country.

A copy of <u>Down by the Rio Grande</u> can be obtained by sending \$6.00, check or money order to: Jefferson National Expansion, Historical Association, 11 North Fourth Street, St. Louis, Mo. 63102.



Old Uncle Bob's Lament

The trees old bones against the sky The leaves everchanging Like an old man growing more outrageous with each passing year

c. haddix

While the songs on this record are well done, the biggest criticism I have is that there are not enough instrumentalsbut the few of them are well worth the cost of the record. All Silly Wizard records are highly recommended.

Nic Jones - Penquin Eggs

Martin Carthy is probably the best known English singer/guitarist, and for good reason. Although he is less familiar, Nic Jones surpasses Carthy, in my opinion, in terms of musicianship, singing and sensitivity. Nic's guitar style is based on open tunings and he plays fingerstyle. His accompaniments are complex but do not muddy the songs. Rather, the voice and guitar combine to create one integrated sound full of innumerable subtleties. The two highlights are the songs Canadee-i-o and The Humpback Whale. Also notable is the instrumental Planxty Davis, an Irish tune.

For more information on British Isles music, listen to Ballads, Bards and Bagpipes every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. on KCUR-FM 89.



CLASSICAL NOTES ΒY

D. CONN



NEW NONESUCH LP'S JUST IN:

WALTON: Symphony #1 / Handley, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic None H 71394 \$5.98 list

This 20th century masterpiece has been This your century masterprice and being missing from the catalogue since the deletion of the RCA release many years back. The work is a powerhouse and de-serves a spot on any symphonic collectors shelf.

R. SCHUMANN: Sonata in A minor op. 105 C. SCHUMANN: Three Romances op. 22 MENDELSSOHN: Sonata in F Major./ Sergiu Luca Violin, Anne Epperson, piano Nonesuch Digital D 79007 \$11.98



### SOLER: Sonatas for Harpsichord / Igor Nonesuch digital D 79010 \$11.98 list

MOZART: Sinfonia Concertante k.297, Ballet music from Idomeneo / Orpheus Chamber Orch

1:25

Nonesuch digital D79009 \$11.98 list

BRAHMS: Liebeslieder Walzer and the Neue Liebeslieder Walzer / Los Angeles Arts Ensemble

Nonesuch digital D 79008 \$11.98 list

ROSSINI: Overtures / London Sym. Abbado RCA ARL1 - 3634 \$8.98 list

Clean, spirited performances of six over-tures including the William Tell and Semiramide. For a composer who wrote most of his music lounging in bed, his bubbly vivacious style as evidenced in performances like these show no signs of laziness.

PISTON: Symphony #6; Martinu: Sym. #6. (Fantasies Symphoniques) / Charles Munch,

boston Sym. RCA Gold Seal AGL1-3794 \$4.98 list

Thank you RCA! This is the first stereo Thank you RCA! This is the first stereo release of these two works. Both were commissioned for the 75th anniversary of the Boston Sym. The Piston dates from 1955 and is typical of the composer's richly rhythmic and harmonic style. Mar-tinu is finally enjoing the appreciation he has deserved some 20 years after his isorth give crule would heat be described ne has deserved some 20 years after his death. His style would best be described as neo-classic and very accessable. It is easy for one to become a fanatic for Martinu in a short period of time. The performances are top-notch; well recorded and the pressing is clean.

BACH: Preludes, Fuques & Fughettas/ CBS M 35891 \$8.98 list

The eccentric Mr. Gould provides us with another view into his world of Bach. Since his first recording of Bach's Goldberg variations at 21, Gould has been recog-nized as a revolutionary musical mind. Whether you agree with his interpretations or not, to ignore this keyboard genius is a mistake. He breathes new life and excitement into his performances of Each's keyboard works. **Take off the** powdered wig and enjoy Bach through 20th century ears.



- MARTIN LINDE, flute; KONRAD HANS RAGOSSNIG,guitar/Music of Mozart,Schubert, Praeger and Furstenau Angel Seraphim S60347 \$4.98 list

If you are looking for some very pleasant sounds for your early morning dining or mid-afternoon relaxation this record fills the bill. These are light, airy pieces well done by two long-standing European artists. The quality is ex-cellent and the price is right. A little sunshine for your day.

<u>PURCELL: Dido and Aeneas</u> ; Kirsten Flagstad, Elizabeth Schwartzkopf Thomas Hemsley Angel Seraphim 60346 \$4.98 list

This mono recording was made in 1951 at the Mermaid Theater, St. John's Wood, England. What a wonderful legacy is offered here. Although mainly known for her Wagnerian roles, Flagstad's Dido is classic on its own.

The recording is clear and bright & the pressing is quiet.



RAVEL RAVEL: Piano Concerto in G, Concerto in D for the Left Hand/Jean-Phillippe Collard, Orchestre National de France. Lorin Maaze

Angel S2-37730 \$8.98 list

This is the Angel records debut of the pianist Collard. An impressive debut at that. The works both come from the same jazz flavored roots, composed within a year of each other. If your only know-ledge of Ravel is Bolero (God forbid!) this album would make an ideal point of departure. The performances are very fluid and leave an impressionistic cloud hanging above your speakers. The solo melts into the accompaniment like a cat into the night. a cat into the night.

CHABRIER: ESPANA; Ravel: Rhapsodie Espagnol; DEFALLA: The Three-Cornered Hat Suites 1 & 2/Philadelphia Orchestra, Ricardo Muti

Angel digital DS 37742 \$10.98 list

This is my pick of the latest Digitals to cross my desk. Muti takes over the Philadelphia from Maestro Ormandy who took the helm in the mid-thirties and molded it into a great orchestra with a characteristic sound. If this recording is any indication of the future, Phila-delphia fans have nothing to fear. Wonderfully crisp and exhilerating performances expansively recorded using EMI digital process. Bravo A+.

MENDELSSOHN: SYM #4 "ITALIAN;SCHUMANN: SYM #4/Berlin Philharmonic, Klaus Tennstedt

Angel Digital DS37760 \$10.98 list

Although the digital recording done here via JVC seems a bit compressed to my taste, these two romantic symphonies are given invigorating performances by Tennstedt. The Mendelssohn is vibrant and the last movement is probably one of the saltiest "Saltarellos" I've heard.

The Schumann #4 actually #2 in order of

composition is heavier handed romanti-cism, full of rhythmic accent and lyrical "schmaltz". The over-orchestration which was one of Schumann's downfalls as an instrumental composer is even more evident with the clarity of the digital process. None the less, a good addition to audiophilia.

CHOPIN: The Fourteen Waltzs/Leonard Pennario piano Angel Ds-37332 \$10.98 list digital

The waltzes are delightful listening done up here by one of the poet laureates of the "popular" classical pianists.

Another sonic delight from Angel.

My thanks to Cliff Schultz our Capitol-Angel representative who made these gems available for perusal & comment.



For you who are into "Neue" wave, Deutsche Grammophon has recently released seven fine albums of 20th century music:

MAURIZIO POLLINI plays piano music of the

MAURIZIO FONIARI PLAY FRANCE 20th century. DG 2740229 \$49,98 list This 5 LP set features music by Bartok, (the Concerti #'s 1 & 22 Boulez, Nono, Prokofiev, Schoenberg, Stravinsky and Webern .

TORU TAKEMITSU: Quatrain; A Flock Descends into the Pentagonal Garden/performed by Tashi and the Boston Symphony/Ozawa DG2531210 \$9.98 list

One of my favorite 20th century composers, Luciano Berio conducts his CORO for voices and instruments. This is a piece based on multi-lingual folk songs. DG 2531270 \$9.98 list

Probably the best Known Avant-gardist Karlheinz Stockhausen is featured on two LPs in this series:

SIRIUS: An electronic composition linked to the constellations, seasons & elements DG 2707122 \$19.98 list

Stern Klang or Starsound (Park music for Five groups) meant to be performed outdoors, this composition is based on astronomical/astrological elements. DG 2707123 \$19.98 list Both Stockhausens are 2 LP sets.

MADERNA: Aura; Biogramma; Quadrivium/ The North German Radio Symphony Orches-tra conducted by Giuseppi Sinopoli.

Three orchestral statements by one of the pioneers of contemporary musical thought. DG 2531272

\$9.98 list

LIGETI: Monument;Self Portrait;Bewegung Zimmerman: Perspectives; Monologues Modern piano works performed by Aloys & Alfons Kontarsky.

Thanks to DG for these offerings of music by some of the most important and adventurous spokesmen of new music. I hope this is just one installment of a series.

Be sure to tune in to KXTR on Thursday Be sure to tune in to KXTR on Thursday evenings from 10:10 pm - 12 pm. for a new program devoted to music of our time. Modern Times is hosted by Scott Cooper and Byl Strother, two friends of modern music, who provide enlightening comment and insight into understanding and appreciation of music of today.

d za

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#### PAGE 14

THE PENNY PITCH

The Juke Joints by Lindsay Shannon

"Blues was the Original thing! It come from church songs and they sung it from there. Then people wrote the soul part out, put in a rhythm, and thats where the blues comes from. They was trying to kick blues down an bring up this rock & roll - I call it humping music - but they can do what they want: the blues will never die cause its the original thing. It's coming back up from where they tried to stomp it down; its coming back up again, and its gonna get better. Blues will be blues until the world ends." J.B. Hutto 'Blues was the Original thing! It come

J.B. Hutto

There is a new organization in town that wants to make J.B. Hutto's words come true. The Kansas City Blues Society which was recently formed to promote rhythm & blues music for the benefit and education of the K.C. Blues Society and the general public. Five bucks is all it takes to be a member.

## **More Living Blues**

Volumes 4,5 & 6 of the <u>Alligator</u> "Living Chicago Blues" series is an excellent addition to the already existing Vols. 1, 2 & 3. Vol 4 features A. C. Reed and the Spark Plugs, Scotty and the Rib Tips, along with Lovie Lee and Carrie Bell. A.C. Reed, Albert Collins' sax man, is the high point of Vol. 4 with "Going to New York" the stand out tune.

Vol. 5 gives us Lacy Gibson, Big Leon Brooks' Blues Harp Band and Andrew Brown. All three artists are excellent with Andrew Brown giving you more of a big band blues sound.

~

Vol. 6 features <u>Detroit Junior</u>, <u>Luther</u> "<u>Guitar Junior</u>" <u>Johnson</u>, and <u>Queen Sylvia</u> <u>Embry</u>. Queen Sylvia features Buddy Scott of Scotty and the Rib Tips.



Beginning Febuary 4th, the K.C.B.S. will hold jam sessions every first and third Wednesday of the month at Parody Hall. All local blues musicians are welcome to perform with the house band lead by Chick Willis singer, guitar player. This jam session adds to the already great jam sessions being held every Monday by Colt 45 at Blaney's in Westport.

## Now all we need is for someone to open up a night club dedicated to promoting Blues & Rhythm & Blues.

February is gonna be a great blues month in the K.C. area. With Eddie Clearwater, Little Jimmy Valentine & the Heart Murm-mers, Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson, Muddy Waters, B.B. King & Bobby Bland all playing the Blues for you.

J.B. , it's coming back up again and it's gonna get better.



Some of the artists on these three LP's are relatively unknowns, but that should not stop you from giving these a listen. This is Chicago Blues at its finest.







by Alfred Packer

A belated Happy New Year food fans. Welcome to 1981 where eating may be the only pleasure we members of the immoral minority have left to enjoy. This time I'm going to try to wrap up my random meanderings about the various favor-ites that make my stormach smile ites that make my stomach smile.

What better way to begin than a dis-cussion of the All-American creationcussion of the All-American creation-the hamburger! It seems no other topic can so divide otherwise friendly people than where the best burgers are. Thick or thin, plain or "all the way", grilled or brothed; round or equare, single or double and the myriad of combinations of these all enter in the classic example of the two kinds of classic example of the two kinds of people in the world--those who agree with me and those who don't know what they're talking about. As far as I'm concerned, a quality burger has one important characteristic -- slightly important characteristic -- slightly raggeddy edges. No kidding!! It usually indicates that they have been made by human beings. A perfectly formed patty was probably stamped out and frozen so they stack (and taste) like poker chips. When I get that hollow feeling that only a double cheeseburger can fill I head for : NORM'S ZESTO BURGER (prepared in sight-it must be right). BURGER in sight-it must be right), BURGER

DELITE, VISTA (Lawrence,Ks.), WHATA-BURGER (Nashville, Tenn. - with a name like that it has to be good) and the "Big Elmer" at SANDERSONS LUNCH in down town K.C. Some other places of blessed memory: WINSTEAD'S - a mainstay of my highschool days but inflation has over Come nostalgia, STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE, MOORE BURGER (R.I.P.), and something called a Southsider from ROY'S and RAY'S. If you remember this one and your mouth isn't watering, fold your arms on your chest and lie down -- you're dead!

The mention of SANDERSON'S LUNCH above, reminds me of another couple of delights. But first a few words of explanation about SANDERSONS. It's open 24 hours and at almost anytime could pass for a be a separate article (or a TV series) about this classic diner but 'till then about this classic einer but till they try the hashbrowns - crisp with onions added, and order a salad. It's simple but served with vinegar and olive oil in a bowl large enough to allow you to toss it and enjoy.

If you've read my , avious columns you may have detected a trend in my dining habits as epitomized by the preceding paragraph. You're probably wondering if I eat anywhere where you don't need either a bodyguard or a dirty T-shirt to feel at home. Well, I will admit hat decor, ambiance and style play very little role in determining where I eat. Rich Corinthian leather, 3 foot high peoper mills and guys in tuxedos I eat. Rich Corinthian leather, 3 foot high pepper mills and guys in tuxedos aren't as important to me as how the food tastes. However, there are some places on my favorite things list that combine great chic and great chicken.

One place where I enjoy dining (as opposed to just eating) is STEPHENSON'S APPLE FARM RESTAURANT. It is one of It's neither one of the carbon copy meat, potato and salad bar clones or meat, potato and salad bar clones or pseudo-posh food botiques where more creativity is used in writing the menu than preparing the food. From the apple cider offered while you wait, to the special desserts; STEPHENSONS offer a complete dining experience. Start with a couple of apple or peach dai-quiris and check out the sequence of cocktail napkins. Then cruise thru the fork tender smoked brisket or either of the two excellent chicken dishes, served with hot crispy apple fritters with apple butter, green rice casserole with apple butter, green rice casserole and a variety of side dishes all design-ed to make you'test your limits. By no

means quit just because you are uncommeans quit just because you are uncom-fortable. Go all the way -- hot apple pie with brandy sauce ala mode! If you're not in pain when you leave, you have done something wrong. Either be-fore or after your meal, take time to walk thru the many rooms to see the attention to style that help make this restaurant an award winner. restaurant an award winner.

There are some other restaurants where both the chef and the interior decor-ator have been given the opportunity for quality. Here are some of my faves:

PLAZA III - It's hard to eat there without getting that after the prom feeling, but the steak soup helps make up for it.

HOULIHAN'S - This place, with the noise, crowdedness, and hipper than thou clien-tle has tried to make me dislike it, but I always manage to enjoy my meal and the experience.

LE CARROUSEL AT THE MUEHLBACH - For a LE CARROSEL AT THE MURLEACH - FOF a truly elegant and delicious Sunday brunch , try this buffet. Fabulous pastries and breads, breakfast and lunch entrees with tables of other goodies make for a great time especial-ly if the string quartet is playing.

Another classy place...wait a minute! Until Scrooge McStylus puts me on an expence account you'll have to wait for my charming and witty insights into places like the AMERICAN RESTAUR-ANT, LA BONNE AUBERGE or the PEPPER CORN DUCK. Since that will happen about the same time LeRoi buys a record Pace 'n Plack gross to a Lobn record, Rage 'n Rick goes to a John Denver concert or Col. Lee Schuester becomes host of the 700 Club, I'll be sticking to more modest fare. Till next time, keep on munchin'.



Ed. Note: Who is Col. Lee Schuester? Just ask about anybody in the Westport Triangle and you'll find that the Col. is a living legend, ex-cept nobody knows exactly where he's living.



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smoke-free and clean. You'll find a serious selection of nutritional books, numerous cookbooks and current issues of health magazines. We are the sole local distributor for Shakti shoes which offer practical tootwear designed to massage the feet and provide support for both men and women. There is a section reserved for chemical free toothgastes and women, there is a section cosmetics among support for both men and women, there is a section the feet and provide support for both men and women. There is a section cosmetics among support for both men and women, there is a section the free toothgastes and mouthwash, lotions and cosmetics and support for both of the section of the section that the other offers serveral lines of bothled water, raw milk cheeses made without animal ensymes (rennetless), dried unsulphured fruits, hereages without caffeine, unfiltered fruit and vegetable juices, herbal teas and coffee substitutes. You wourd go hungry at Farthwonder, you'll go healthy.

hereau teels and contex substitutes. You won't go hungry at Farthivender you'll go healthy. There are too many goedics offered in our store to mention all of them now. We offer our efforts of Service to guide these destring a more healthful approach to eating. Take the adventure into a natural way of good nutrition at EARTHWONDER in Westport.

