

New Luna and Its Roots, P. 4A

2A Thursday, April 21, 1994



Courtships, trickery and funny servants are in Girvetz Theater! Tonight begins the second weekend of performances of Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" by UCSB's American Shakespeare Company.

The potent humor of Shakespeare's comedies comes through more easily when viewed than when read, and this company does a brilliant job of making it all very funny.

The two overlapping casts will alternate, each playing twice over the span of Thursday to Sunday. Cast A, featuring Heather Piccotto as the central figure, Kate, plays Thursday and Saturday. Cast B (pictured), with Jen Gamble as Kate,

plays Friday and Sunday. The band of servants in colorful, ragged

clothing will have you cracking up and falling in the aisles with laughter, especially after the intermission. The action is fast and the plot developments involving mistaken identity and romantic rivalry are numerous. Even if you watch the scenes come and go in semicomprehension, as I did, you will enjoy the niches carved by the excellent performers and appreciate all the slapstick, innuendo and iokes.

"Taming of the Shrew" plays at 7:30 p.m. in Girvetz Theater from Thursday, April 21, to Sunday, April 24. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance from Arts & Lectures, which can be reached at 893-3535.

-Kevin Carhart



The American Shakespeare Company Presents

Taming

the

Shreu



Babes in Gotham?

of interest in comics and animation has surely seen by now the award-winning "Batman: the Animated Series," currently airing weekday afternoons on FOX-TV. For those of you who passed this excellent series by, thinking it merely more of the same cookie-cutter Saturdaymorning-style "Superfriends" pablum, I highly recommend you give it a

that merely watching the show just isn't enough, DC Comics has been concurrently publishing The Batman Adventures, a monthly series that mirrors the funky, simplistic style of the animated serics. At first glance, the comic may look to be aimed at the under-12 crowd, but don't let that deceive you.

Not restrained by all the ultraviolent, depressing TAS" fans need to go out to the comic shops and start searching now for Batman Adventures: Mad Love - A Harley Quinn Romance. Released in January, it's a little difficult to find, but well worth the effort.

Written by Paul Dini, story editor for the animated series and writer of most of the best episodes, the graphic novel reveals the origin of Harley



second look.

"Batman: TAS," pro-duced by Warner Bros. Animation, is an animated from 50 years' worth of the scripts, eye-pleasing charproduced for television.

television series who find

claptrap currently found in the "real" Batman comics, writer Kelley Puckett and artist Mike Parobeck drama, pure and simple. consistently turn in some Taking the best elements of the funniest, most engaging and occasionally Dark Knight's adventures, most heartbreaking stories the series boasts excellent around. Of particular note is Parobeck's art, which siacter designs and some of mulates the feel of the sethe best animation ever ries without merely parroting it. This is what all com-For those fans of the ics should look like. Finally, all "Batman:

Quinn, the Joker's adoring "hench-wench" introduced in the TV series. The book is illustrated by Bruce Timm, supervising animator and creator of all the original designs for the TV series.

Mad Love is stunning; possibly the best singleissue story you'll read all year. It will make you laugh out loud and put a lump in your throat. Don't miss it. -Scott Tipton



Directed by Homer Swander

7:30 pm April 21-24 In UCSB's Girvetz Theatre (1004)

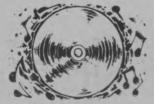
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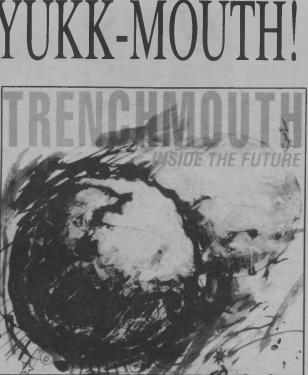
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Trenchmouth, also called Vincent's angina, is both a disease and an innovative punk rock band from Chicago. Consulting the Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, "The Voice of Authority" regarding the former, we find, "a progressive pain-ful disease of the mouth that is marked especially by dirty gray ulceration of the mucous membranes, spontaneous hemorrhaging of the gums and a foul odor to the breath that is associated with the pre-sence of large numbers of a bacillus (Fusobacterium nucleatum syn. F. fusi-forme) and a spirochete (Treponema vincentii syn. Borrelia vincentii) in the lesions." We find further that it was not named after someone called Vincent who suffered from trenchmouth, but after Jean Hyacinthe Vincent, a treacherous French bacteriologist.

Regarding the latter, The Voice of Authority has nothing to say. Consulting myself, The Collegiate Voice of Arbitrary Taste, and other schemelnes and and other shameless rock critics, Trenchmouth is a dynamic mix of emo-core, Latin jazz, reggae, feed-back and other choice noises. Their music is hard to describe, each song



containing a virtual stew containing a virtual stew of surprisingly different sounds. What first im-presses the listener, though, is this cathartic wave of energy coming and going as the vocals modulate between a monotone Gang of Four speaking voice and an ex-plosive, maniacal rant more similar to Fugazi's more similar to Fugazi's Ian MacKaye. Under discordant spurts of flanged guitar, the omnipresent drums threaten to overwhelm you, beating a frantic rhythm on the cowbell and toms.

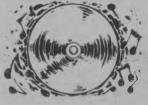
After a couple of listens, this initial vertigo is balanced by a more intellec-

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tual appeal. Trenchcoat doesn't just experiment with all of these different genres; they forge them into a coherent style within individual songs. What could be a poten-tially ludicrous mix of styles (Latin, jazz and punk rock?) becomes

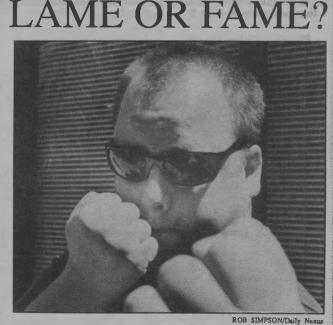
three-dimensional music; an intricate, multilayered space with critical mass.

The UFCW is in Goleta on Hollister Avenue across from Lucky's Mega Consumption Center. The dumb editors around here don't know any of the other specifics. -Chris Dunlap



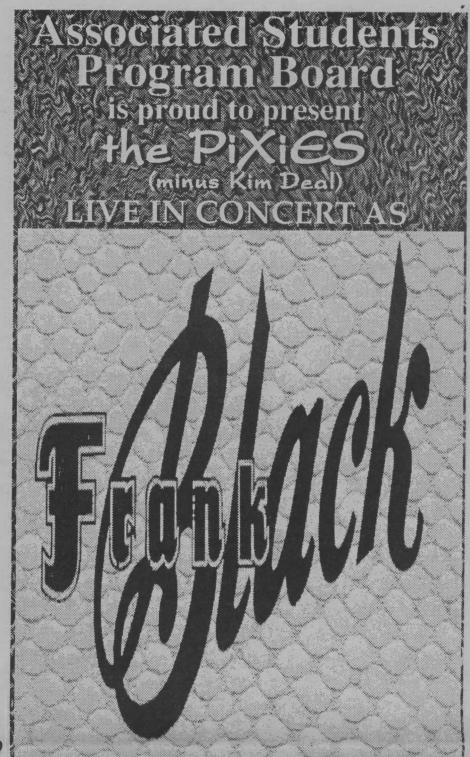
My good friend Tony interviewed Frank Black for Artsweek just last July. He was very excited on the phone, asking his idol about the Pixies, Kurt Von-negut and SPIN magazine. Tony was riding high in a stream of bliss that only box seats for a Cubs game could match.

Unfortunately, Black turned out to be a condescending bastard who refused to give my man Tony a quotation of any substance. Let alone an ounce of respect. The former Black Francis was a straight-up punk, clown-ing one of the only people to have graduated from UCSB with a sense of real-ity. Now I hear that my other good friend Tony, who works in an I.V. coffeehouse, is really looking forward to seeing Black perform in Campbell Hall this Friday night at 8 p.m. What should I tell him? Should I tell him that Black's former band, the Pixies — with Kim Deal, later of the Breeders - is the best band ever formed in America? That Frank Black's solo album, Frank Black, is an amazingly complex record in which every song, backed by Black's nasal and frilly voice, helps redefine rock 'n' roll? Or that Black is a patronizing chump who is in it for himself? Well, I told him what Tony told me right after Frank let him down: "Black is beautiful." Because it doesn't matter how eccentric or accessible rock stars are, as long as they entertain. And if they want to be rude, get arrested or kill themselves,



fine. As long as they enter- Patagonia. tain us the way jesters

Thursday, April 21, 1994 3A



8рм Campbell Hall April 22. 1994 \$14 STUDENT TICKETS Tickets now on sale at the AS Ticket Office, 3rd floor of the Ucen, or charge by phone :893-2064 (SERVICE CHARGE NOT INCLUDED)

KUBRECK'S

should.

The situation has always been that we cannot all be famous. Most of us have to lead drab lives rife with ennui, while a fine eighteenth-of-a-percent live in worlds we think we desire. A.S. Program Board knows this. So rather than sponsoring some nice young man from Montana who plays de-cent and healthy sounds, they naturally decided to for more bring somebody to campus who really rocks.

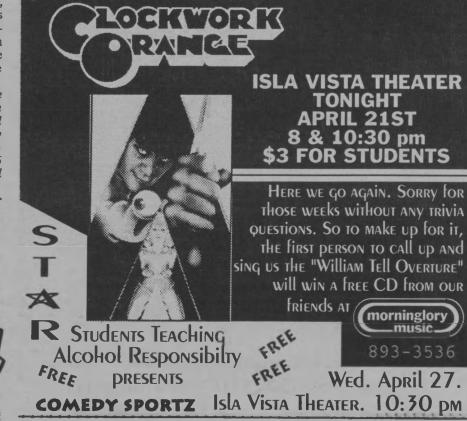
I had the pleasure of seeing Frank Black and the Reverend Horton Heat last July, with Tony, at the Ventura Theater, and while the big howlin' re-verend could sure tug those strings, it was obvious who the audience came up and went down for. Black's element howled the lines of his song about the Ramones, "I heard Ramona Sing," and to "Los Angeles," an urban tale about seeking

His Beach Boys cover, "Hang On To Your Ego," got the moshing started, and soon everybody was frenzied up properly. I suspect the same will happen here, as Black tests the boundaries of our pristine campus.

STAD

Frank Black will be performing along with Inch at UCSB's Campbell Hall at 8 p.m. this Friday night. Contact A.S. Program Board at 893-3536 vital information.

-Martin Boer



4A Thursday, April 21, 1994



Luna by Kevin Carhart The new album by Luna, Bewitched, is a lazy wonder. It is also the next step of a pop "supergroup" with roots going back years and years, all offset by talent and a devotion to good lying-around music. The lead vocalist and guitarist, Dean Wareham, was previously in Galaxie 500, an underground trio that could be as scary as it was beautiful. Bassist Justin Harwood used to play in the New Zealand group The Chills. Drummer Stanley Demeski used to be in the Feelies, a longtime favorite of many. And guitarist Sean Eden used to be on a golf course, where Dean and Justin found him.

With this kind of li-neage, you know that they know how songs work. Every new step Luna takes is likely to be finely honed, and it is. When he was in Galaxie 500, Dean had a tendency to stretch his vocals out, dividing them into five parts. The first Luna album, Lunapark,

kept this feature going with a sped-up tempo. The new album sounds that much further away from Galaxie 500 - very slow and mellow, generally put-ting Dean's vocals in new situations.

Where Lunapark ran out guitar spirals like a waltz might, but etched onto a different beat, Bewitched stretches out the spiral until it's a straight line. It goes for lounge relaxation. It's like the singer in a San Luis Obispo hotel bar, amid the weekend psychic faires and beauty contests. He is accompanied by Hammond organ, and vibes, and he makes you drink. Bewitched is to Lunapark what dub is to reggae.

Is it a next step of something? I guess not - all it means is that these four musicians are still with it, still in California in spirit, hanging out in the "egg chair." This is an album that takes advantage of the "moon" connection in being called Luna — it is nocturnal, rounded, like bells.

New Zealand pop by Kevin Carhart

Justin Harwood, coming from the Chills, brings with him some cool New Zealand pop from the Fly-ing Nun label. Justin played bass on The Chills' Submarine Bells, a shimmering album full of promise. The first track is "Heavenly Pop Hit," and it is not a hollow assertion. The bass bobs, Martin Phillips' vocals reach to extremes and the tunes chug like a train. Especially on "I Soar,"

whatever ambitions the Chills set for the song, they attain with the words and the sounds at the same time. "He rises in the air," Phillips sings, and a line from a high clarinet or something similar — it could be a keyboard propels the ear while the vocals propel your visual imagination. The Chills hit a wide range of popularity with Submarine Bells, while Phillips and various other members created a body of songs like "Pink Frost" and "Rolling

Moon," revered by a smaller audience.

imer

The members continued to come and go. Justin Harwood went to Luna, and the next album, Soft Bomb (pictured), is reportedly the Chills' last, although Phillips surely has more songs up his sleeves.

There is a relentless core of magically talented songwriters at the heart of Flying Nun - Phillips, Robert Scott of the Bats, the Kilgour Brothers of the Clean. Alongside these groups are the wonderful Able Tasmans.

On their 1990 album Hey Spinner! the Able Tasmans keep up that chugging pop sound, matched with a ringing guitar and harmonies by Graeme Humphreys, Peter Keen and Ronald Young. Carousel organs on "Patience" lead you into tight, synchronized songs that are frenetic, then eerie, then chugging again. The echo-play that Michael Brook or the Kitchens of Distinction like to set out

meets a pacing that turns the music on and off with precision, over the course of a couple of seconds, within a distinctive, chirpy frame. It's assertive music that knows what it's doing, impressing you on every listen. The chugging changes

faces at every turn, with every band and every songwriter. It wears the droning face of the Terminals and Bailter Space, the high howl of the Chills or the keyboard pound of the Clean. It runs hot and cold, clean and unwashed, with a head for smirks and images.

For Justin to emerge in Luna is especially cool since many of the Flying Nun bands have dispersed to other labels and are difficult to find and keep track of. One aid in doing so is the huge Flying Nun discography, all of which is worth hunting for, avail-able by FTP (on the Internet) from Dave Datta's huge music-related site at cs.uwp.edu.

Galaxie 500 by Miz E. Like the car it was named after, Galaxie 500 has become part of the cult of American myth. Both were big and spacious, with plenty of room to lounge around in the back seat, where you could just as easily spend an afternoon listening to the band or gazing up into a pale blue sky. While they existed, Galaxie 500 were

in his apat On Fire. Of cou bassist] songs, to starred se Ono's "Li

fused to lo

formed us

July" (fro Music).

"Wnen

home?/W alone/wa

on my ow



When Galaxie 500 split counterparts and compleprocal relationship. life with the opposite sex up and Dean formed ments to the female cotton Luna, the remaining candy cadence of the pre-The darker side of the to counterbalance our human voice is invoked in complacency and consci-"Memories," in a an endmembers recorded an al- vious song. The lyrics ence. "I hear you calling, I less swirling spiral of hope, hanging the listener if he let the phone ring on. I bum as Damon and Na- swaddle in solitude and omi. More Sad Hits was alienation, recurrent don't answer, can you released on Kramer's themes in the male diaallows its progressive perhear? Now that you're suasion of the tone to take driving on, you should keep on driving and stay as Shimmy Disc label in logue of this post-modern age: "And when the hold. bubble breaks, will we fall Unfortunately, many of you are. Are you near Damon and Naomi by too far, will we fall in me?" the album's bridges are a place, or will we ever fall?" mixture of hopelessness It's folk music with flair. and happiness. On "Astra-fiammante," wobbly wind A combination of the "Sir Thomas and Sir Damon and Naomi canvas sexes executes a ballad of Robert" belts brass instruthe songs on More Sad confusion, regret, desolainstruments weave the ments, begging an almost backdrop as the colors of tion and realization in Middle Eastern feel. Like a "Laika." Isn't that the way the painting come alive sinuous snake strapped to The female voices are it always goes — "our lives with words and phrases. A the whip of the melody, sweet, melodic and mus- are not the same, they bluesy jazz gospel choir the listener feels his very ing to the ear. But alas, never were, we're not the sounds as an organ sings body move in relation. they find a placid place to same, just nostalgia"? its version of salvation and "The Car Climbed Mt. seduction, moving your And on "Once More," song "G.T.A." I see rolling Washington" conjures up soul to sensation. the soaring sound of free-"Boston's Daily Tempdom bleeds onto the pretty fluffy phonation, day I stay away from the flowing and fanciful in an erature" is very blanket of reality, where noise of the engines rac- adrenal dream state while Cranberries-sounding. life takes its turns and falls ing." Undulating electric bringing in the notion of The bridge moves into the and bends back to the guitars, remarkable and frustration and fascination chorus, climbing, reach-ing, releasing and feeling realm of operatic voices unpredictable like molas- in love. "Turn your head and cerie chord progresthat that's what it all abses candy, pave the way to and let me see you, see you sions as a nice switch from backwards in my eyes" the monotonous. Perhaps out. "You've seen it all be-"Little Red Record Co." the only way to accomwe are in a modern melodfore ... and I'll be back engages male voices as plish satiation in a recirama, meandering through once more."



1992

Jenniffer Chedar

Hits with polyphonic background progressions. put their problems in the fields and soft horses. "All pleasure.

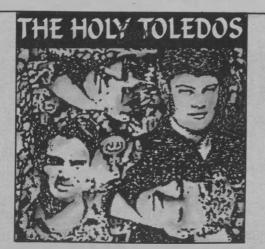
unwitting heroes for a handful of misguided souls.

They only released three albums: their 1988 debut for Rough Trade Records, Today, which was subsequently reissued on CD in 1991; their critically acclaimed and marginally overlooked sophomore release, On Fire, in 1989; and This Is Our Music in 1990.

What Galaxie 500 did was create hushed masterpieces that glimmered softly like the moon on newfallen snow. Covering Joy Division's "Ceremony" as one of their Bsides, Galaxie added a languor and spaciousness to the song without sacrificing its angst-filled yearnings. Dean Wareham's wry, weary voice always seemed to hang somewhere between a private joke and the quiet snowstorm of his guitar. "I wrote a poem on a dog biscuit/but the dog re-

Falling," f Music, or ment"An On Fire. 1 uid basslin hidden t Dean and mon Krul to build a both fragi they prog occasiona on Today and flow Music. What (was cool lent. Not have ever talented, the Velve would ha they were both can s latively sr fan base. who love languid, l tions (an videos of Galaxie missed.

aily Nexus



The Flying Nun label has been a large part of jangly New Zealand pop since the late '70s, but the two are not inseparable. It's exciting to see great bands popping out of the woodwork to this day.

The Holy Toledos by Radha Patel

Roll out the red carpet for New Zealand's new rock foursome, The Holy Toledos, and their new album, *Blood*, from TriStar Music. The band fits the post-late-'80s makeup: a drummer, a bassist and a few guitarists. Brothers Michael and Brendan Gregg write and sing the songs

My reaction to the album as a whole is varied, because of the Toledos' insistence on changing their styles. Several songs, in-cluding "Only For You" and "Love's Not Fair," tame their guitars to blend into the recipe for your average pop song (if such a recipe exists — use your imagination for this one). In other words, it sounds like the kitchen sink of a few electrics and a bass just scrambling to fit the chords in so the vocalist can push his lyrics through the mic.

There are, however, other tracks that rather im-

used to look at it," he inormed us on "Fourth of uly" (from This is Our Ausic). "When will you come

ome?/Watching TV all lone/watching 'Kojak' n my own," he mourned n his apathetic falsetto on)n Fire.

Of course, there were assist Naomi Yang's ongs, too, like the suntarred serenity of Yoko

pressed me. Michael Gregg sings "Mistakes in Remembering," a good up-beat remedy to the couch potato blues (definitely something to dance to in your living room, curtains closed, of course). His voice definitely carries for-ward, and he almost sounds like Paul Heaton, the vocalist for the Beautiful South and the Housemartins, a few times in the

song. "Waking Up" is to me a cruising ballad about every individual's oblivion in life. The title track, "Blood," is delicately de-corated with sweet guitars and accompanying vocals that sound very similar to Cy Curnin (lead vocalist for the Australian '80s band The Fixx). My favo-rite was "Sunday's Whi-skey," which is the kind of song you'd wanna have a chocolate malt to. Actually, you could do the Midwestern Sidestep to it, and get away with it.

In closing, The Holy Toledos have the confidence of the Miltown Brothers and a pop energy nearly equal to that of Blur. They also have some notable vocal deliverances. Their lyrics sound clever and satirical — it's a shame they aren't printed.

SIDE OF SAUSAGE

Riddles are Abound Tonight Interscope/Prawn Song

Sausage

Sampling the first few beats of the new release by Sausage, I could swear I heard the familiar twappin' of Les Claypool from Primus. My heart leapt to my throat as I pondered the thought that Primus must be kaput and this must be Claypool's new band and damn ... I really need to read the paper, cuz I'm out of it.

Anyway, for all you Primus fans, who I'm sure are more in tune than I am with these matters, the band is still together, and yes, that is Les Claypool as lead singer and bassist. Sausage, containing the phat ingredients of Claypool, drummer Jay Lane and guitarist Todd Huth, features the original lineup of Primus, and is actu-ally the name of the classic demo tape that initially gained the band strong local notoriety.

Huth shared co-writing credits on some of the tracks from Primus' first two releases, Suck on This and Fizzle Fry, but as the band's popularity grew outside the Bay Area, Huth left to raise a family and Lane moved on to other projects. Mark-

blues harmony.

The Next 100 Years Geffen

As I first pondered Ted Hawkins' The Next 100 Years, I found myself drawn to the photography, the acoustic guitar and the bluesy feel I received. I have since found out that Ted Hawkins is a distinct guitarist and vocalist who performs primarily on streets. Ted spent eight years playing on the streets of Venice Beach. The street feel is fine-tuned and integrated into his per-sonal style on the CD.

This album reminds me of a slice of bread with all the goodies and lots of cheese. Put a slice of bread in the oven and toast it up. The music makes the room real hot. Pretty soon, you notice that cheese is dripping everywhere. But who cares?! You're loving it because the cheese adds to the musical sandwich of goodies, making it real goodl

Ted's music does con-

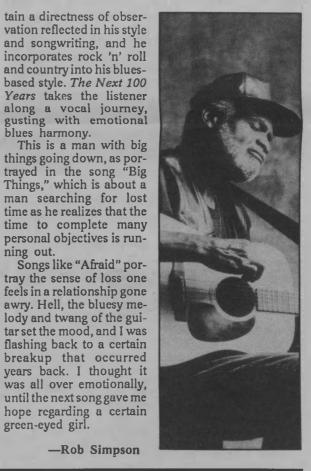
ing the fifth anniversary since this trio has played together, *Riddles are Abound To-night* is a collaboration of old songs that never quite left the drawing board.

"We had all these tunes that we thought were great, so we revamped 'em," explains Claypool. "A lot of these songs on this record are old Primus songs that nobody has heard. Folks who are already 'in the know' are gonna figure that out, but I don't want to harp on the Primus connection."

The production of *Riddles are* Abound Tonight commenced last fall in Claypool's home studio in coalition with his Prawn Song label and Interscope re-cords. Though Huth's performance is bluesier and more melodic than Primus, the two bands seem one and the same. With Claypool's distinctive vocals and hard-hitting bassline, it's difficult to leave behind any affiliation with Primus. It's kinda like Perry Farrell moving from Jane's Addiction to Porno for Pyros: regardless of the absence of Dave Navarro's orgasmic guitars, it's still Jane's ... only weaker.

So, to reiterate the most important fact, no, Primus has not broken up. Sausage is only a side project for Claypool. However, the sizzling threesome has plans for a summer tour of gin joints and other small clubs, so keep your eyes peeled and your mouth open.

-Erin Wilson



Ted Hawkins

ning out. Songs like "Afraid" portray the sense of loss one feels in a relationship gone awry. Hell, the bluesy melody and twang of the guitar set the mood, and I was flashing back to a certain breakup that occurred years back. I thought it was all over emotionally, until the next song gave me hope regarding a certain green-eyed girl.

Ono's "Listen the Snow is alling," from This is Our *Ausic*, or the groovy lanent"Another Day," from On Fire. But Naomi's liqid basslines were her true idden talent, allowing Dean and drummer Danon Krukowski the space o build sonic cathedrals oth fragile and febrile as hey progressed from the ccasionally choppy work n Today to the gentle ebb nd flow of This Is Our *Iusic*.

What Galaxie 500 had vas cool, irrefutable taent. Not that they would ave ever said they were alented, in the same way ne Velvet Underground vould have never said ney were musicians. But oth can still boast of a retively small but devoted in base. For those of us ho loved them for their inguid, lonely introspecons (and their groovy ideos of exploding cars), alaxie 500 is sorely nissed.



LAXIE 500

The Damon and Naomi album was on Shimmy Disc, the label synonymous with a man named Kramer. He ran the label, he played in Bongwater and he produced other bands, like Galaxie 500's On Fire, and now I Could Live in Hope by Low. If there is a distinctive Kramer production style, it is still around today.

Low by Brenda Maxwell

Consisting of 11 soothing, almost entirely instrumental tracks of repetitious words and minimal phrases, Low has produced I Could Live in Hope. This threemember band has created an album with a sound of melodic tunes and mellifluous lyrics.

Comprised of tracks with single-word titles, the CD develops this notion of simplicity in each piece by keeping with the fundamental components of an easygoing compilation of comforting tunes. Phrases and words are repeated throughout individual songs in order to intensify their meaning and importance

to the piece, and, in turn, the listener. The opening track, "Words," initiates the theme of words being overused, as lead singer and guitarist Al reiterates, "Too many words, I can't hear them." Like all of the songs on the album,

"Words" includes very few lyrics, but emphasizes the instrumental quality of the piece and uses vocals only as an accompaniment to the music itself.

-Rob Simpson

Al's subdued vocals blend smoothly with the musical sound of "Cut," a selection about a possible breakup of the lead singer and his girlfriend. "She used to let me cut her hair" is repeated throughout the piece until the music reaches a crescendo and finally mellows out in the end. This is one of the few pieces that demonstrates dynamics in a range of musical beat as the majority of the tracks are kept to a more repetitious rhythm.

'Lazy" is in direct reference to a lazy girl named Sarah. The echoing vocals and melodic, almost trancelike tune give this song a hypnotic quality in which Al sings over again, "Sarah, Sarah, you are lazy."

Mimi, percussionist and vocalist, sings solo on "Lullaby." This emotionally pow-erful piece is perhaps the slowest on the entire album, but carries the most weight and sensitivity. Like children, Mimi sings, "We all want. We all yearn." The "Lullaby" ends in a peaceful instrumental spanning the second half of the track.

The final piece, "Sunshine," is a remake of the famous folk song "You Are My Sunshine."

6A Thursday, April 21, 1994





24-Hour Budget Headaches in a Plastic World Clotting the Wound that is Rock

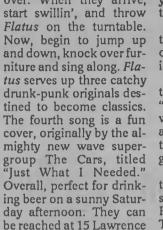
Jawbreaker 24-Hour Revenge Therapy

Tupelo What can one say? The toughest album of the year, so far. Let's see, it's like ... a full-body massage: smooth, aggressive, gentle, rough, soft, removing all of the pain from the past week. It's complete and thorough auditory medication that analyzes our post-modern hip culture - which we remain separate from. Eleven confessional songs. You'll laugh. You'll cry. You'll jump up and down with joy. Imagine tying the first

and second Jawbreaker albums, Unfun and Bivouac, into a musical Headache Remedy square knot, combining energy and emotion, leaving everyone with a big honkin' smile on his face. Overall, this platter of vinyl deserves a gargantuan thumbs-up.

Flatus **Budget Beer** Self-Released

First, go down to the nearest liquor store and purchase at least one case of the cheapest beer possible. Next, return home and



Victim's Family

Street, Hamburg, New Jersey 07419.

Alternative Tentacles Try pounding nails in your head. Try drinking another beer when you awaken. Try putting a Victim's Family song on re-peat. An instrumental is good. I don't have this album on CD, but I think songs from this would do the trick. The artwork and lyrics from the newest album offer a suggestion or two on how you can cure the headache induced by your urban surroundings. You can drive through put those puppies in the You can drive through fridge. Call up your friends grand natural scenery and

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and tell them to come on absorb tranquility through over. When they arrive, your windshield. Or try this:

> "Back at the house I put the Tar Babies on. Pulled out a poker, started clean-

> ing my bong." This is the solution to the throbbing you feel: "Third world sweatshop workers making 15 cents an hour. Welcome to the trickle-down economic golden shower."

> These are the erratic, thrashing, screaming sounds of the Victim's Family, from Petaluma. They mix odd time signatures with the kind of groove you get when you listen to bands like the Tar Babies, the Blochunks and Plaid Retina, all of whom are subtly mentioned somewhere on this album. Don't miss their shit, because these three have been at it since the early '80s, along with bands like No Means No.

Naked Aggression Plastic World **Mighty Records**

Naked Aggression al-ways seems to take an extremely political stance, and this new 7-inch is no exception. They have gained speed, with the new rhythm section going

back to its original, aggres-sive sound. The singer, Kirstin Patches, addresses issues of capitalism, class war and media — which seem to go hand in hand. Imagine a round from a machine gun of politics shooting right down your throat. This is a fast-paced political lesson coming straight out of an earthquake-trodden L.A. squat. Check it out, punk.

We are the coagulators, and as of now, we will be infecting Artsweek. To us this represents an opportunity to say "fuck you" to the mainstream rock critics and supporters of shitty rock. We do not feel

the need to waste precious time writing nega-tive reviews of shitty music when there's a lot of really good, thought-provoking music out there that is worthy of discussion. We are purvey-ors of mayhem, dammit! -The Coagulators









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