

Records

Labyrinth

David Bowie/Trevor Jones (EMI)
The latest Muppet movie has given big kid Dazbo the adventure of his year. Lost in a ridiculous wig, he fights the orchestral score of Trevor Jones in order to escape the soundtrack album with a smattering of gospel and good humour. Aiding him are the cunning dwarves Arif Mardin and Scritti Politti keyboardist Robbie Buchanan. On his way through the golden gates of 'Underground', the mystic figures of Luther Vandross and Chaka Khan join Dazbo's Magic Choir. "Curses!" exclaim the EMI financial wizards. "The mighty Dazbo has escaped our contractual obligation clutches once more, yet keeping his credibility in-

tact! Fume!" This has been a true story. CT

Uriah Heep

Equator (CBS)
Their seventeenth album and the same line-up that toured here in 1984, Uriah Heep keep rollin' on. Plenty of vocal harmonies and keyboards but Mick Box shines through on tracks like 'Poor Little Rich Girl'. Not exactly the best from Heep, but not too bad all the same. GD

Blue Oyster Cult

Club Ninja (CBS)
Veteran heavy metal band Blue Oyster Cult, with a host of albums behind them, have never recaptured on their studio albums the punch that distinguished the popular *Agents of Fortune* featuring 'Don't Fear the Reaper'. There is no song on the present set in that class, but 'White Flags' and 'Perfect Water' are the best of an uneven set, muddled in conceptu-

al confusion. The grand design of Club Ninja fails, but there is enough here to satisfy the addict. **Katrina and the Waves** DP **Waves (Capitol)**

Although this band writes their own material, most of it depends on other people's well worn formulas. Nonetheless their first album did contain a few tracks where infectious exuberance overcame the cliches. 'Walking on Sunshine' deserved its hit status (though it took the Bangles to make 'Going Down to Liverpool' sound original). This time out nothing really rises above the competent. 'Is That It?' shows Katrina's been listening to soul music but, despite some punchy brass, the song remains simplistic. The ballad 'Sleep on my Pillow' is at best pleasant. As boogies go 'Money Chain' is okay ... ho hum. PT

Makin' Time

Rhythm and Soul (Stiff)
A four-piece from the Midlands (Britain that is), Makin' Time are out to resurrect the sound of mid-60s British R&B and soul. At best it's finger-snappin' Motown as in 'Here is My Number' or Zombies' melancholy like 'Honey' or the Kinks, whose 'I Gotta Move' they've had the good taste to update. At worst (the rest) it's rubber soul rebounding off pub walls. GK

Manfred Mann's Earth Band

Criminal Tango (Virgin)
Whether we're considering all the 60s hit singles or the 70s cult albums, Mr Mann's chief success as a bandleader has always been in re-interpreting other writers' material. Dylan and Randy Newman have been particularly rich sources in the past. Here, in the band's first album for yonks, half a dozen more writers get the treatment of big synths, medium tempi and a heavy rhythm section.

Purists will undoubtedly object but Paul Weller's 'Going Underground' comes off rather well. Here the melody is highlighted, whereas in the Jam version it seemed secondary to the attack. Joni Mitchell's 'Banquet' receives a tougher arrangement as if to emphasize the lyric (though why they've weakly rewritten one of its most hard-hitting lines is beyond me). Little is added to the Garland Jeffreys number and the Beatles', already minor-league, 'Bulldog' is further diminished. In fact the whole of side two is a waste. Expatriate New Zealander Chris. Thompson receives featured billing as the band's vocalist. PT

Various Artists

Dave Clark's Time (EMI)
Hey, here's an idea. Let's write a musical concept piece about the earth being tried by the High Court of the Universe to determine whether the planet should be entitled to continue to exist. (Heavy stuff!) Representing the Earth we have 'The Rock Star'. We'll get in some big names such as Cliff Richard, Freddie Mercury, Julian Lennon, et al ... Sound like a good idea? Dave Clark (of the DC 5) has done it, on a double album too (it took him five years to organise). Does it work, though? Maybe it would if we could see it as a stage production; still, the music is, shall we say, pleasant. SGE

Ted Nugent

Little Miss Dangerous (WEA)
The motor city madman is out again with trademark wild guitar-ing and pussy tales. Ted formed Amboy Dukes in the 60s and still shows no sign of letting up. He's even been given a couple of movie roles since his acting debut seen on *Miami Vice* recently. 'Little Miss Dangerous' captures the Nuge perfectly. GD

The Fat Boys



Singles Bar

Fat Boys

Sex Machine (WEA 12")
James Brown recorded his 'Sex Machine' in 1970 and has been taking it "to the bridge" ever since. The Fat Boys slow the rhythm down but don't lose the energy. Hugely funny rap and a nasty bass — can your heart stand it?

Frank Chickens

We Are Ninja (Not Geisha) (Kaz 7")
Yeah, I like Ninja, but they're better known for throwing sharp star-like objects than singing. Not too sure what this is all about, but I like Japan, it's real American, and I suppose this is what this culture shocked vinyl is all about.

The Silent Underdog

Papa's Got a Brand New Pigbag (Interfusion 12")
Well Paul Hardcastle is back with an electro version of Pigbag's old hit, taking out the brass

and putting the emphasis on the n-n-n-nineteen beat, plus the appearance of voices from the Evil Dead (we're gonna get you). Bit of a waste of time really, but the flip has the original, if you prefer.

GMC

(God Mother and Country) Foot on the Rock (Kaz 7")
Nice vocal from Nenah Cherry and attempted dance floor contortions from other ex-Rip Rig and Panic people. Lacking a certain "get down" quality, but interesting enough.

Belinda Carlisle

Mad About You (Illegal 7")
A MTV whine from an ex-Go Go. An attempt at high rotation on FM stations everywhere, which should work. Not exactly my glass of coke.

Randy Crawford

Can't Stand the Pain (Warner Bros. 7")
I like any songs with the word pain in it, it's always been a good seller. Ms Crawford handles it well, but not exactly a soul scorcher; there's better stuff on her new *Abstract Emotions* LP. **Kerry Buchanan**

DIRE STRAITS

BONUS COLOUR POSTER

New Dire Straits photobook with career dates, band members and lots of photos, colour and B&W including pix from Live Aid. Plus BONUS POSTER, 17" x 22" of Mark Knopfler.

To order post \$12.95 to BOOKS BY MAIL, PO Box 5689, Auckland 1.

Name

Address

..... enclosed \$

NEW

EVANS

All Weather DRUM HEADS

DODGE CITY, KANSAS 67801 U.S.A.

UNO 58

Strong, single-ply transparent and coated heads at new economical prices every drummer can afford.

The UNO 58 range completes an already full selection of Evans heads ...

Glossy BLACK GOLD, Oil filled HYDRAULIC GLASS and HYDRAULIC BLUE.

All available from your nearest drum specialist.

For further information contact sole NZ agent:
Lyn McAllister Music Ltd, PO Box 39-143, Auckland West. Ph: (09) 34-936

Prescriptions for ailing sounds coming from the body.

Martin strings: Martin Marquis Strings, Martin Strings, Martin Phosphor Bronze Strings, Martin Bluegrass Strings, Martin Rounds Strings.

APPLY TO HEAD, NECK AND BODY.

Special elixirs from the Martin Guitar Company

Sole NZ Distributor: **LYN McALLISTER MUSIC LTD.**
PO Box 39-143, Auckland West. Ph: (09) 34-936.

LAST MAN DOWN

ROSS MULLINS

THIS SPORTING LIFE

A MILESTONE IN NEW ZEALAND MUSIC
The Definitive Kiwi Album for 1986
Be in and get your ears between the uprights.

SIDE ONE	SIDE TWO
Pinehead	Mating of Rating and a Wren
Night of the Test	Marcy's in Love Again
Scratchings	Flight 501
Missing	Working for the Brewery
Standard Three	Sporting Life Blues

OUT NOW ON ODE ALBUM & TAPE

» THIN RED LINE «
2nd EP 'SIMPLICITY'
NOW AVAILABLE FROM ODE RECORDS
P.O. BOX 1535 AUCKLAND

Marshall

TRANSISTOR LEAD COMBO

Model: 5210 Retail: \$1795
50 watt. 1 x 12" Celestion

BASS COMBO

Model: 5510
Retail: \$2250
100 watt.
1 x 15" Celestion

For more information on the complete MARSHALL range contact: **VICOMM ELECTRONICS LIMITED**
PO Box 31-029, AUCKLAND. Ph: (09) 444-6085

STEEL BOX

132 ST. GEORGES BAY ROAD, PARNELL
PH: 388-117
NH: 574-392

MUSIC SHOP AND REHEARSAL ROOMS