Kecords

Topp Twins Go Vinyl Festival

In the wake of the Topp Twins telly debut a re-issue of their vinyl debut has hit the shelves, with the added extras 'Graffiti Raiders' and 'Paradise' — both songs taken from the Web Women's Collective album Out of the Corners. All the favourites are here — 'Good Sis-ters Gone Bad,' 'Untouchables,' 'Bastion Point' and 'Mr Ronald Reagan.

The EP is interesting historically, when compared to Twinset and Pearls — the straightforward gui-tar backing on Vinyl sounds fine in comparison to the instrumentation on Pearls. Those who said at the time "where do they go from here" were silly to think the Topps couldn't add a backing. In fact, I doubt there's anything the Twins

What can I say? The Topp Twins are like a national treasure — a taonga if you like! Hopefully, lots of people who saw the Topps on telly will rush out and buy te recru and start being set free!

Flona Rae

Taj Mahal

Gramavision

Taj has turned up the sweetest, clearest and possibly to our shores, the dearest example of his artistry to date. Included are two tracks penned by Herbs, 'Light of The Pacific' and 'French Letter,' IIlustrating the bond held for some time between the two parties.

Included in his stack of supporting musicians are characters such as Jesse "Ed" Davies, a guitarist whose history runs through the Faces and solo projects by Ringo Starr and George Harrison, Taj's cast of thousands is thick with horns, vocals and percussion, with Babatunde Olatunji "putting the Juju in what we-do and you-doo."

The result is a rich and impec-cably bright blend of calypso, reggae roots and blues. Don't leave off the rhythm either "Do I Love Her" grooves along with a strainer post of a bass line — and groove is the operative word on all tracks. Crying mouth harp and guitar lend themselves to the shady smoke filled nightclub and dark winding alley — but remember, this album is as *clean as*.

Hove the steel drums on 'Kauai Kalypso' ... an amazingly pretty and pacey tune that weaves the ol-

dest of blues formulas in a way that Malcolm McLaren (joke) could only dream of doing with black soulsters. Other tracks 'Soothin' and 'Pillowtalk' slink away in a very humble form of jazz shuffle. None of the 10 tracks are in the least offensive or brash ... if you insist on being complex, then yes, it is a sophisticated album, but it never strays from the bottom line; never betrays itself.

From the charismatic opener 'Everybody Needs Somebody' to Herbs' 'French Letter' (given added beauty by Taj), the album clips through 40 minutes of the warmest sunshine you'll find this summer. You must have it. **Barry Caitcheon**

Everything But the Girl Baby the Stars Shine Bright (WEA)

Yeah, they've come a long way

from their cover of Cole Porter's 'Night and Day;' These days they're writing their own Cole Porters. This third album, with an orchestra in tow, sees Tracey Thorn and Ben Watt turn the corner into a maturity that results in ballads as strong as 'Careless' and 'Little Hitler.' But of the 10 songs here only the classy 'Don't Leave Me Behind' and 'Sugar Finney' break out of the cocktail dinner jacket. Too restrained for me but if you think the night time is the right time then here's your backdrop. GK

Out of the Grey (Bigtime)
As the sun sets on the guitar resurgence the likes of the Del Fuegos, Rain Parade and now the Dream Syndicate are struggling to find the ideas to survive. For a while they all basked in anti-tech accolades and Steve Wynn's Syndicate deserved applause for the psychotic lineup that was The Medicine Show. Out of the Grey slips down several notches into routine beginner's guitar songs borrowing more than they create. 'Boston' and 'Now I Ride Alone' remain the exceptions on an album from a band in danger of losing the little identity they had. GK

Fame and Fortune (WEA)

A reformed version without singer Paul Rodgers, now busy with the Firm. Unfortunately it doesn't live up to the Bad Company name but still contains some great pieces, like the title track and 'Burning Up.' With Mick Jones at the controls it sounds more like a new Foreigner album than a Bad Company one, so it's hardly another Straightshooter. GD WASP

Inside the Electric Circus (EMI)
Blackie Lawless welcomes you

HAVE A GREAT EASTER WITH THESE WONDERFUL NEW

DISCS . HEY BOOBEP OO OO AH

Sneaky Feelings Sentimental Education

(all Dwarfs throw a Sickie 12"e.p

BOX 3000 CHRISTCHURG ALSO MEBBE SOME BIRD NEST ROY TOO OO AH

The Bats Made up in Blue

The Chills - Leather Jacket

The Clean Compilation

Look Blue Go Purple

Jay Clarkson

to the wild wicked WASP world of

ex and outrage, so hang on as they rip through these nasty nine and two covers. Delivered with all the grace of ... well, a buzz-saw cod-piece, this offering is sure to please WASP's ever-increasing swarm of followers. Triumph

The Sport of Kings (WEA)
After more than a decade of making good rock records without a great deal of commercial suc-cess, it seems Triumph are aiming for wider audience appeal. An acoustic guitar piece called 'Em-brujo' precedes the hard-hitting song 'Play with the Fire.' The rest is pretty light material, though all finely played with nice crisp production. Still good but maybe too mellow for some.

Megadeath Peace Sells, But Who's Buying (EMI)

Second recording from this new band and they sound sorta like Metallica's little brother, which isn't surprising since guitarist Dave Mustaine was in the first line-up. Sure they play hard and are tight enough, but they seem limited lyrically with nearly every track being about death. If you like your metal very heavy this will be your cup of tea; to others it'll be more like a cup of cvanide. GD

cup of cyanide. GD
Various Artists
Masters of Metal (K-Tel)
As far as compilations go, this ones alright if you want to sample the range of heavy rock artists around and don't want to fork out the bucks for all the original al-bums. A fairly good coverage and there's a couple of local back in there's a couple of local bands in-cluded too. Knightshade's 'Blood and Money' is the better produced and fits in well. Now what do you do with the free plastic patch of a bald evil moron wielding a big stone hammer? **Geoff Dunn**

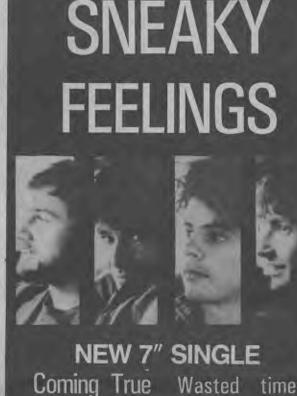
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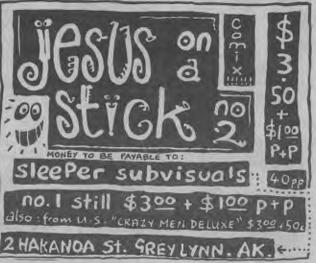
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30 Sweetwaters issue programme; 61 Graham Brazier & Harry Lyon, Fall, John Martyn, Elvis Costello, Renee Geyur. No Nukles, Squeeze, NZ Band proSingles, Dropbears. er, No Nukes, Squeeze, NZ Band pro-files, Split Enz, Toy Love, Hello Sailor Citizen Band, Th' Dudes, Street Talk.

34 Tom Petty & Street Talk interviews, Mi-Sex, Virgin supplement, Whizz Kids & Pop Mechanix bandfiles. 38 Howard Devoto, Tim Finn interviews.

39 XTC, Lip Service, Motels, 40 Martha Davis, David Byrne, Dave McArtney, Doors, Bruce Springsteen. Hammond Gamble.
42 Clash interview, Cold Chisel, INXS, Tigers, Jo Jo Zep, Borich/Tilders.
48 Cold Chisel, Blams, Wgtn Zone.

49 Angels, Beat, Lemmy Motorhead, Desmond Dekker, Heavy Metal Guide, 50 Swingers, UZ, Psyot Furs, Clean 51 Newmatics, Cramps, Stray Cats, UB40, Blind Date & Gordons interviews

52 Echo and the Bunn men, Dans 75 Tim Firn, John Cale, Jonathan Richmacabre, Penknife Glides, Mickers, Valentinos, Jimmy & the Boys, 54 Daw Machana. 54 Dave McArtney & Pink Flamingos, Go-Gos Interview, Sunnyboys, INXS. 56 Teardrop Explodes, DD Smash, Mick

Jones Part 2, Neighbours, i 57 Clean, Pretenders, South Island bands, Joan Armatrading, Mental As Anything, Chaz Jankel.

58 Blams, leardrops, Hall & Oates, Bill Wyman, Kottke/Redbone interviews. 59 Human League, Men At Work, Chills, Tim Finn, Motels, Elvis Costello live,

63 Simple Minds' Jim Kerr interviewed, Split Enz Part 2, Renee Geyer, Nocturnal Projections, Willie Dayson Blues Band, Hunters & Collectors. 65 Yazoo (Alison Moyet Interview), Joe Cocker, Zoo (ex Pop Mechanix), Gurlz,

68 Herbs, Culture Club, Bauhaus, Kiwi Animal, No Tag, Sharon O'Neill, Thomp-son Twins, ChCh Special (Wastrels, Fly-

Nun, Bill Direen, etc.)
Joni Mitchell, Dance Exponents, os jori wichel, Jance Exporents, Who, Neighbrurs, Dire Strats, Talk Talk Miltown Stowaways, Blond Cornedy, 73 Witan Dead Kvinnedys, Cocoput Rough, Angels, Marginal Era, Grammai Boyr, Fishschorl, John Cale, 74 Malcolm McLaren, Heaven 17, Joan Annatrating, Sharon O'Neill, Childrens Hour.

man, Hammond Gamble, Dick Driver, 80 Police, Paul Young, Motown feature, John Peel Wastrels, Bryan Adams, 81Smiths, Mockers, Def Leppard, Vio-lent Femmes, Miltown Stowaways, Chills, Doublehappys, Marvin Gaye. 82 Billy Idol, Pamela Stephenson, Four

Tops, Temptations, Vertaines.

83 Elvis Costello, Thompson Twins, Netherworld Dancing Toys, Mockers, Paul Morley.

84 Style Council (Paul Weller interview),

87 DD Smash, U2, Bill Direen Pt.1, Nick
Cave, Stevie Ray Vaughan.
88 Herbs, Talking Heads, Aztec Camera,
Narcs, Car Crash Set, Axemen, SPK.
102 Thompson Twins, Tom Petty, Violent
Femmes, Chills.

90 Lou Reed, Go-Between, Paul Hewson, Topp Twins.

Boys, David Puttinin, records:

92 Hunters and Collectors: Toyit Cole:
Pelicans, Peter Garrist, Left Right &
Centre, Economic Wizerds.

93 Dunce Exponents, Husy Lewis,
Rubert Palmer (Power Station), Peking,
Mari Circus, Block 4, This Kind Of

94 New Order Interview, Iron Maiden, 34 New Groer Interview, fron Maiden, Stranglers, Johnnys, Michael Winslow, Plans For A Bullding. 95 Chils, Killing Joke, Dazz Band, Expendables, Jason & the Scorchers, Last Man Down. 96 Netherworld Dancing Toys, China Crisis, Robert Plant, Doublehappys, Kiwi Anneal, Nils Loffern.

Animal, Nils Loigren.

97 Bryan Ferry, Dynamic Hepnotics, Men Ar Work, Bats, Shriekback. 98 Mockers, Mental As Anything, Reggae, John Boorman, Bird Nest Roys. 99 Narcs, Bangles, REM, Jerry Harrison, Christchurch in Spring. 100 NZ Music 1977-85, RIU's Believe It Or Not.

103 Feargal Sharkey, INXS, Fetus Productions 104 Atlantic Soul, Bob Dylan, Stevie Ray, Go-Betweens, BiFM LP, Johnnys, Roy Harper. 105 Hunters & Collectors, Tim Finn, Flesh D-Vice, Kiwis in Oz, Nico Gilliam, Music Quota, Orange, Every-

thing That Files, Chrome Salai.

107 Peking man, Amy Grant, Cramps,
Marin Plaza, Psychic Pet Healers,
Huby Turner, Ardijah.

108 Pogues, Bats, Famin Groovies,
Wilko Johnson, Braille, Tex Pistol.

109 Young Ones' Vyv, Cramps,
Residents, Herbs, Fetus Film, Saints110 Patea Manor Club, Huser Du, Patil
Labelle, Art of Noise, Last Man Down.
Alpaca Bros.

111 Simple Minds, Dance Exponents,
Shriekback, Dwight Yoakam, Jason &
Scorchers, Texas Rangers, Screaming
Blue Messalas.

Scorenes, least sangers, Screaming Blue Messiahs.

112 Genesis, Del Jam, OMD, Jean-Paul Sartre, Manawatu.

113 Helio Sallor, Sneaky Feelings.
Dream Syndicate, Frankle,
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