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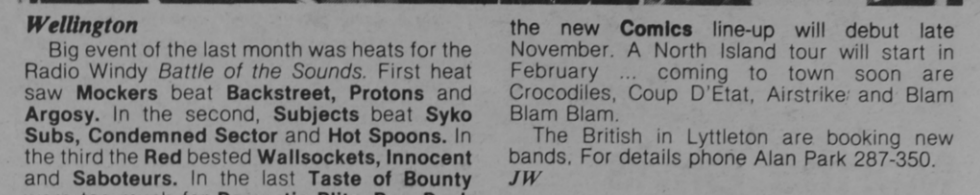
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Wellington
 Big event of the last month was heats for the Radio Windy *Battle of the Sounds*. First heat saw **Mockers** beat **Backstreet**, **Protons** and **Argosy**. In the second, **Subjects** beat **Syko Subs**, **Condemned Sector** and **Hot Spoons**. In the third the **Red** bested **Wallsockets**, **Innocent** and **Saboteurs**. In the last **Taste of Bounty** were too much for **Domestic Blitz**, **Raw Deal**, **Reply** and **Scanners**. After Heat Three, posters appeared claiming the contest was fixed in favour of Subjects, and naming Phil O'Brien as villain. There were also anonymous telephone threats of violence. All-in-all a disgusting spectacle.

Last Resort, under new management, and **Willy's** are to reopen as venues for touring bands. With the current operators of the **Rock Theatre** (the Ratana Church!) allowing the use of the building as a rock venue on an ad hoc basis, the capital is back to a healthy state for venues. **Nite Site**, formerly Slack Alice, is currently operating a new format which involves guest spots by rock acts.

Lost and Found Dept ... **Backstreet** have parted with bassist Don Mackay, and may work in the meantime as a 3-piece with Chris West on bass ... **Hot Spoons** are again drummerless following the departure of Jim Newman ... **Pup-petz** are back to full strength with guitarist Dave Berry and pressing on with plans for recording and touring in the new year.

Steroids back for a couple of months ... **Mockers** single available now ... the Red's disasters continue. Their new van lay down and died a day after purchase ... **Rodents** are steadying themselves for big tours December/January ... **Subjects** have been recording demos at Sausage.

New bands this month: **Rose Bayonet**, an heavy metal group with a quickly-gained following; and **Reserves** an R'n'B band who look suspiciously like last year's the Ducks.

The final of the Radio Windy promoted *Battle of the Bands* has been won by **Taste of Bounty**. The five piece band Roy Fuimoana (guitar), Kevin Hodgson (guitar), Elliot Fuimoana (bass), Mahia Samvuals (vocals) and Tai Fuimoana (drums) played an all original set combining elements of guitar flash heavy rock, sixties soul, and contemporary funk. Bounty simply had too much polish for other finalists. The **Red**, the **Subjects** and the **Mockers**, the latter having been effectively sunk by technology gremlins. The special prize for the best original song went to **Greg McKenzie** of the **Subjects** for 'Book Theatre'.

Les Crew

Christchurch
Androids are recording several tracks for possible single release. New titles are 'Maddest, Gladdest, Man In The World', 'Labels' and 'Gorgar' ... **Newtones** plan to record a single or an EP. Likely tunes are Tony Peake's 'Christchurch Part 2' or Mark Brooks' 'Drive Me To Tears'.

After sound problems at Cave Rock **Gutter-band** are now resident at New Brighton Tavern ... **Heatwave** at Jellie Park, November 30, will feature **Crocodiles**, **Pop Mechanix** and **Newz** ... Doodles will now open at 10pm and not open on Sundays.

Zero Bars are new ... Brent Williams (ex Jet) as joined the **Hoovers** ... the **Cowboys** are selling speakers, horns and a few amplifiers. See them at the Carlton ... **Narcs** may do stint at the Aranui when the **Newz** tour. The **Newz** definitely leave for Australia in February.

Playing with Alan Park are Leigh Perry, Martin Copeland and Paul Parkhouse ... **Road Angel** thunder into the Gladstone Nov 26-29 ...

the new **Comics** line-up will debut late November. A North Island tour will start in February ... coming to town soon are **Crocodiles**, **Coup D'Etat**, **Airstrike** and **Blam Blam Blam**.

The British in Lyttleton are booking new bands. For details phone Alan Park 287-350.
 JW

Dunedin
 Line-up changes: Wayne Elsie, bassist, has left **Bored Games** and is replaced by Terry Moore. The band won a hundred dollars first prize in a recent Kaikorai Valley High School talent quest judged by Roy Colbert ... the **Drones** under the influence of guitarist Lee Wood, have changed their name to Satan's Children. Drummer Brent Alexander has left the band but is replaced by ex-Same member Paul Baird.

Broken Models, with ex-Lear Jet and Tibet members, made a promising debut at the Hatch-cover. They could fit into the void left by the demise of the Heavenly Bodies ... another new band **Bootleg** has been formed, with ex-Velvet people, Will Stockman and his wife, and guitarist Stan Powley.

Mother Goose keyboards' player Steve Young is in town drafting new members for his own band before he returns to Australia in January to record another Mother Goose album which, apparently, will be under the auspices of another record company.

Andy Coombe has relinquished his position with **This Side Up** because he has too many commitments with Scooter but ex-Shuffle Steve Finnerty has joined as well as Richard Hall and ex-Pipeline Dave Wescott.

The **Knobz** whose single 'Culture' was on their own Bunk label will be returning to EMI to record a new single this month.
 George Kay

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