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country in April ... **Blige Festival** have a European distribution deal for *Cape Goat* ... the new **Antipodes Bar** is quickly gaining a reputation for its eclectic range of bands on offer. Recently their acts have ranged from the bouncy **CCDs**, to a Cook Island dance troop, to **Emulsifier** ... the Wellington *Fringe Festival* has started, bands of a 'fringe' nature performing this year include the wonderful **Wendyhouse**, doing weird things in the Wendyhouse, **Electric Puha** and **Stefan Wolf**, with a band that includes members of **Apollo 10**, the **Justin Payne Orchestra**, the **Skin Darlings** and **Skapa** ... **Banana Revolution** have kicked off 95 with their operation World Domination, starting with a show at Antipodes. They plan to take over the entire Southern North Island by April ... the **Brainchilids** have been cruising back to their jazzy roots, entertaining eaters and drinkers at Downstage Theatre's cafe during the fringe shows ... founding member of **Robber's Dogs**, Rob Joass has been busy performing unplugged shows the Dubliner. Playing with him have been members of Banana Revolution, **Banshee Reel** and good old boy **Wayne Mason** ... once New York, now Wellington resident, **Tim Strong** has been performing monthly jazz shows at Circa ... the **Desert Road** band are about to head to America for a tour around the southern states ... reggae/soul artists **Southside of Bombay** are embarking on a tour of Australia ... **Access Radio** in Wellington has a new New Zealand music show on Saturday nights, covering new and old material, all with that sharing - caring Access Radio approach.

DONALD REID

CHRISTCHURCH

Warners Hotel was the venue for a fitting tribute to the late **John Greenfield**. The likes of **Leonard Nimoy**, **I & I**, **Snort**, **Loves Ugly Children**, **147 Swordfish**, **EST**, **Trawler**, **Al Parks**, **Jeremy Taylor**, **Atomic Blossom** and **Chameleon** donated their time for a night that showed the respect and friendships John had within the city. John will be missed by all of us ... **Salmonella Dub** have received the pressed copies of their second CD for release in the near future, while it appears that drummer Dean Deacon will remain involved with the band ... recording at the moment (or just finished) are **Trawler**, **Squirm**, **Ape Management**, and **Loves Ugly Children**, who recorded 16 songs in 23 hours as demos for their follow up album to the *Cold Water Surf* EP ... **Creely** have also finished mixing recordings for their second of three cassette releases, which is due out in March ... **Hampster** are (or have just finished) touring to promote their second CD *Syzygy* and the re-issue of their first release *Hampsterdam* ... a new band to look out for is **Holocene**, featuring former members of **Shyster**, **Two-Bob Bit**, and **Squirm**'s old drummer ... **Pouamu** have released an excellent second cassette called *Uha*, and have further recordings targeted for a CD release in the future ... a success for RDU were the live to air performances of **Snort**, **Trawler** and **Loves Ugly Children**. RDU will also be producing the second of their *The Sheep Technique* cassettes for the

student radio network. Any bands with demo recordings interested in being a part of this promotional compilation phone 379-6320 ... anybody who has a piece of the ceiling that **Trawler** managed to dislodge from the roof of Warners Hotel during their set at John Greenfield's wake, or who understands why Dave Wernham believes that pressed trousers and short sleeved shirts are a hot fashion item, or has any rumours for this column, phone 379-6320.

HAT

DUNEDIN

Dunedin is once again full of musical activity after the usual festive break ... venue news: The music community will soon mourn the loss of **Viv Crowe**, who is to leave her job as the manager of the Empire ... the **Empire** is also currently up for tender but looks set to continue as one of the best intimate venues in the country ... the **Crown** has been attracting large crowds to touring bands over the past few months, including a blistering and sweaty **Sticky Filth** gig last month ... the **Provincial** is booking original bands again, with the **Puddle** playing there regularly ... newish group the **Cheeseband** has built up a sizeable following by playing support gigs at the Provincial with high profile local acts ... the Wharf Hotel played host to **Gate**, **Handful Of Dust** and the **Dead C** in late February. The gig was set up because Mac, founder of the Philadelphia based **Siltbreeze** label, has been in town for a few weeks. The noise loving crowd drank the pub dry of draught beer — a great night all round. The **Dead C** will tour the States later in the year to promote new album *The White House*, out on Siltbreeze ... Recording news: **Trinder** compilation *Does It Float* has been selling well in Holland, UK, Germany, USA and even NZ. Future releases from Trinder include **Fats Thompson**'s debut CD, *Loneliness Is OK As Long As You've Got Someone To Share It With*, and limited edition 7". Trinder Music will also be releasing Geraldine pressings of **Omit**, **Stephen Kilroy**, **Nigel Bunn**, **Melita Johnston**, (West Coast) and maybe **Crude** (Christchurch) ... the **Clean** have just finished their new album at Fish Street, which will be out on Flying Nun in May ... **Loves Ugly Children** are also rumoured to be recording there soon ... Volt Studios are fully booked until June. Recent recordings there include **Sandra Bell**'s new CD *Net*, to be released through IMD in June. Other musicians involved include **Kathy Bull** (ex Look Blue Go Purple), **Shaun Broadly** (Chug), **Matthew Thornicott** (Nimrod Diabolique). Look out for a tour in June ... **Two Foot Flame** (Michael Morley, Peter Jeffries and Jean Smith from Mecca Normal) are mixing a four track recording which will be released soon ... **Snapper** have recorded a new album which will be released through Flying Nun ... **Cloudboy** (Demarina from Mink), is busy completeing a CD which will be released through Infinite Regress ... **Deadboy**, who are Demarnia and Volt engineer Brendan Hoffman, are soon to release a CD ... **Trash** are recording four-track material and will mix at the Volt in March ... new **Gate** album available through IMD soon ... **Nimrod Diabolique** are recording their debut album for IMD ... **Puddle** single 'Power Of

Love'/'Mamelons d'Amadou' is out on Acetone records and available on mail order from IMD, PO Box 730, Dunedin ... **Swarm** are about to release a split CD on Atomic Action with US band the **Laurels** entitled *Rabbit Vs. Pig*. Their full length CD *Forever Bled Hollow*, also through Atomic Action, will be available March/April, and is pre-selling well — Cargo Distributors in Chicago have made an initial order of 3,000 ... **Trash**, **Swarm** and **Nimrod Diabolique** are touring nationally in April — not to be missed ... what's happening in Port Chalmers? Well, a lot of material which was recorded last year is due for release soon. Here are some edited highlights ... **Doramaar** and **Rain** are both releasing Geraldine singles, and **Doramaar** are releasing a CD on **Hermescorp** (Bruce Russell's new label). **Doramaar**'s second CD will be released in August on Siltbreeze ... **Files Inside the Sun**'s CD, *An Audience Of Others (Including Herself)*, is to be released on Chicago label Kranky. They also have a single coming out on Siltbreeze ... **Pieters Russell** and **Stapleton** are to release a CD, *Last Glass*, on Hermescorp ... the **Renederers** new CD, *That Dogs Head In The Gutter Gives Off Vibrations*, is out now on Ajax ... local weirdo **D Baser** is releasing his debut 10" *Un-Plug*, with three acoustic and three experimental pieces ... **Gaylene and the Undertakers** have released a single, 'She Could Cause Death' ... new group **Drugs Vs. Grandchildren** (Shaun Jury and Kez Bizarre) are expecting a single soon ... Andrew Spittle is pressing **Dating Godot**'s back catalogue through Geraldine ... **Das Phaedrus** have been playing around town again ... **Piers Graham**'s collection of drum kits is expanding still ... **Critic** editor **Victor Billot** has been promoted to band publicist ... **Polyp** are releasing a single soon through Dutch Label Rotten Windmill ... local cult heroes **Too Many Daves** are now a three piece ... metallers **Axiom**, will tour the South Island over Easter. Come stoke the velvet thunder ... **Mantis** have split ... **Bungalow** have lost another drummer ... **Liquid Chaos** need a bass player. Contact Radio One for info ... there have been a series of successful dance parties held around town recently, the largest of which was *She Comes In Colours*, a free all-night dance party in the Octagon during festival week ... Friday wet lunches at the university are to be broadcast live on Radio One this year ... **Operation Music Storm** entries close March 24. **OMS** starts in Christchurch at Warners April 6, with the final at Sammy's in Dunedin on Friday May 12. Prizes include a single to be distributed through Festival, an NZ On Air funded video and heaps of recording time. Spaces are limited. Contact Doug Nuttall (03) 455-1462 ... the Super 8 collective have lost their permanent home, but are to continue at a number of different venues in town. The University of Super 8 is conducting the inaugural *Sex and Drugs in New Zealand Literature* symposium from April 1-9. If you are interested in participating in this multi-dimensional festival of activity, openness, cheap thrills and hedonism write to: PO Box 459, Dunedin ... if you have any info to share phone David on 477-6115.

DAVID MUIR

NEW ZEALAND SINGLES

MAREE SHEEHAN Past To The Present
CD Single (Roadshow)

'Past To The Present' kicks off with a melody that sounds suspiciously like Upper Hutt Posse's 'Ragga Girls', before settling into a bright and bass heavy dance tune. There's four versions here, English and Maori language, plus dance and extended mixes. Unremarkable but certainly not unlistenable.

RUIA APERAHAMA
Ka Tangi te Tiitii Ka Tangi te Kaakaa
CD Single (Tangata)

A weird one this, written and recorded to celebrate Maori Language Year, but it has this distinct, up-tempo Kantuta feel about it. On 'One September Morning', Rula sings the story of TW Ratana's world expedition over a broken drum pattern, soaring guitar and vocal beatbox.

PUMPKINHEAD I Like
CD Single (Wildside)

'I Like', an ode to vegetables, *Shortland Street* and marijuana (amongst other things), represents the heavy riffing, repetitive side of Pumpkinhead that is not my choice. The equally impacting, but more melodically appealing, 'Lights Are Out' pushes Brent Mulligan's vocals out front, and this is the tactic that works best. 'Decaf', the menacing third track, shifts into industrial territory, with a guitar assault that again swamps any semblance of a tune.

CHRIS KNOX One Fell Swoop
CD Single (Flying Nun)

When song four, the noisefest of 'Shrapnel', comes on the radio I have to switch stations 'cause it's so utterly dire, in total contrast to the unashamed beauty of 'One Fell Swoop'. A simple but effective guitar melody lies under the purest of Knox vocals, interspersed with occasional bursts of fuzzbox. He's still got it. Next up is the pacey 'Giving Her Away', and finally, desperate and pleading renditions of Abba's 'SOS' and Lennon's 'Mother.'

D-FACTION First Cut Is The Deepest
CD Single (Southside)

Four versions of a very 80s sounding reggae rendition of Cat Stevens' 'First Cut Is The Deepest' feature within. Sugar-coated to the extreme, the *Maximum Vocal Mix* leaps out of the stew as the most pleasing.

MR ME Rush Me Colour
Cassette EP (Spasim)

Christchurch's Mr Me have come up with four new tracks plus a remastered version of their first single 'Fireman.' Overall, more jangly, polite, smiley-pop without an edge or spark to draw attention to itself. However, the female backing vocalist featured on the title track can hold a tune — perhaps a switch in positions may help.

TRUCK
Cassette (Ratshitrecordings)

Tuneless punk metal-for-noise-sake from Nelson, and why not? Quite possibly devoid of any musical ability whatsoever (and proud of it). Truck know that rock 'n' roll doesn't give a shit — so they don't either.

JOHN RUSSELL

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WELLINGTON	ANTIPODES	SAT 4TH MARCH
HAMILTON	WAILING BONGO	SUN 5TH MARCH
AUCKLAND	SQUID	MON 6TH MARCH