

f you missed Supergroove on their recent North Island tour, you won't see them around the place for awhile. The Auckland sevensome left the country last month for a lengthy jaunt around the world.

They're currently tripping about Australia, filling support slots and playing headlining dates, including four gigs on the Alternative Nation road show that also features L7, Pop Will Eat Itself, Ween, Tool and Nine Inch Nails.

From Australia they travel to South East Asia (Korea, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia), where a sponsorship deal to assist them with touring costs has been struck with a local cigarette company. 'Can't Get Enough' has been released in Asia and Traction will hit the shops in time for the band's arrival.

By early June, Supergroove will arrive in Europe for shows in France, Scandinavia, Holland, Austria and England. BMG New Zealand are supplying tapes to several UK DJs, for potential remix projects, while the band will release an EP later this year featuring remixes by Auckland DJ DLT.

America's the next stop, where they'll play dates in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York, and make a lightening quick trip to Canada. This leg of the tour has been organised by ex-pat Australian Ian Gardiner, the former Jane's Addiction manager, who currently looks after Tool and Porno For Pyros. While in the States, Supergroove will link up with ITB (International Talent Booking), a worldwide promotion agency whose roster includes Cypress Hill, Björk, Counting Crows and Aerosmith, and the band are hoping to

secure several major support slots.

August sees Supergroove touring Japan, and possibly South Africa, then heading back through Australia (where on the band's Big Day Out trip a punter was heard to remark to guitarist Ben Sciascia: "Don't stop playing that red guitar mate, 'cause it burns like tits") before arriving back in New Zealand in September.

A day before the band's departure, a very tired Karl Steven only had this to say about the daunting task ahead: "It has been so chaotic in the past few months that it doesn't register to me that we're leaving tomorrow to go on tour for six months. But I think everyone in the band is, deep down, excit-

JOHN RUSSELL



## MUSHROOM BALL TIME

New Plymouth will rock to the eighth annual Mushroom Ball on May 12 and 13 when 10 local and out of town acts "disgrace" the stage at the Nitespot (ex-Section 8) in Gill Street. Bands performing are: Ape Management, Snort, Ashvins, Dog Tooth Violet, Sticky Filth, Dead Centre, Iris, Warners, Nefarious, Hideously Disfigured and Schizophrenia. Tickets can be preordered from Ima Hitt Records (PO Box 407, New Plymouth) or phone (07) 758-9988 for



The legendary Doors' album The American Prayer has been released on CD for the first time, and contains new and previously unreleased material. A Collector's Edition Audiophile Vinyl Pressing (with double gatefold and 8 page booklet) will also be available. Originally released in 1978, the CD version of The American Prayer features three new, unreleased tracks, 'Babylon Fading', 'Bird Of Prey' and 'The Ghost Song'. The three remaining Doors, Ray Manzarek, John Densmore and Robbie Krieger, reformed recently to shoot a video for 'The Ghost Song', which will feature previously unseen footage of Jim Morrison.

Meanwhile, Paul Rothchild, who produced the Doors' six studio albums, died of lung cancer in Hollywood on March 30. Rothchild also produced Janis Joplin's legendary Pearl album.



The 31st Annual New Zealand Music Awards were held at the Carlton Hotel in Auckland on Wednesday April 12 (see Elvis Slag for further details). The winners were: Single Of The Year: Message To My Girl (Purest Form)

Album Of The Year: Traction (Supergroove)

Top Group: Supergroove

Top Male Vocalist: Dave Dobbyn

Top Female Vocalist: Fiona McDonald **Top International Performer:** 

Headless Chickens

**Most Promising Group:** 

Sisters Underground

Most Promising Male Vocalist: Brent

Milligan (Pumpkinhead)

Most Promising Female Vocalist: Sulata

Foal (3 The Hard Way)

Film Soundtrack/Cast Recording: Once Were Warriors

Video Of The Year: Can't Get Enough (Jo Fisher/Matt Noonan)

Producer: Karl Steven and Malcom

Welsford (Traction)

Engineer: Malcom Welsford (Traction) Country: Kevin Greaves (I'm Not Scared Of

Women)

Jazz: The George Chisholm Quintet (Perfect

Strangers)

Classical: The NZ Symphony Orchestra (Douglas Lilburn/The Three Symphonies)

Folk: Windy City Strugglers (Windy City

Strugglers)

Gospel: Derek Lind (Stations)

Cover Design: Wayne Conway (Broadcast) Songwriter Of The Year: Dave Dobbyn

(Language)

Special Award: Ian Magan

