

mind all the time. So? I'm sure if you became big and famous and sold lots of albums, you would have a big head too.

Supergroove are an awesome band who have finally made a big success, and are now travelling overseas to make it bigger. Supergroove are a bunch of down to earth guys who are great performers, and I am sure a lot of you out there would agree.

Support New Zealand bands, [don't] slag them off.

**A Saxophonist, Wellington.**

#### Do the Hokey Pokeys

Hokey Pokey demands that:

- 1) The Northern Steamship Building be retained in its entirety.
- 2) Everyone plants a tree tomorrow, or on the weekend. Preferably one that bears some sort of fruit.
- 3) People take their hands off their hearts when talking, or even thinking about Levis.
- 4) No more shopping malls be built.
- 5) A clear picture of Jennifer Weather-Centre be published somewhere in this issue of *RiptUp*.
- 6) People stop quoting and imitating *The Face*, ahem.
- 7) Pancakes be restored to Habanero's brunch menu.
- 8) *The Herald* returns to its old text.
- 9) The South Auckland rapist be restrained in manacles and frog marched down Queen Street.
- 10) President Chirac meets with his timely demise.

**Hokey Pokey, Auckland.**

#### Slagger Slag

I get enjoyment out of reading your letters page now and then, but in just about every issue you can find someone who is whingeing about somebody else's musical tastes. Unbelievable. Why can't people just say: 'Oh well, that's what they like. Good on them.' That's their opinion, that's what they like, so don't write them off because of it.

Reading July's issue, this is what you get:

- 1) Blah, blah, blah, John Russell can't do his job, blah.
- 2) Blah, Pearl Jam sucks, blah, blah.
- 3) I hate Silverchair, blah.
- 4) Kick John Taite in the balls, blah, blah, blah.

What is the point? Open your eyes and try and appreciate all sorts of music. Think about what people have to say about things, instead of writing them off completely.

I, myself, do happen to like Pearl Jam, as well as bands such as Dog Eat Dog, Rancid and Massive Attack, right through to Björk, Soul Coughing, MC900ft Jesus and Dexty's Midnight Runners. If someone says to me: 'Hey, your music

sucks,' that's their perception. Half the time they haven't even heard of it, but they seem to get off on slagging it anyway. How one eyed can you get?!

Open your other eye Idiots, and stop wasting space with your boring anti-everything stance. Be a little more open with your ideas, and try and find something good to say.

Also, could you please translate the second letter, 'Word Out Housey'? I can't understand the language of people who think they are from South Central LA, when they are actually just from Middle Central Hawkes Bay. Y-puk is a good place, and I thought it would be safe from wannabes.

**Matt, Upper Hutt and Hawkes Bay (but not at the same time).**

#### Stand Proud Alone

Re: *Word Out Housey*, July *RiptUp*.

About three weeks ago, my mate got seriously dealt to on his way home from town in Napier one night. Three dudes biffed my mate in their car. He struggled to break free, but when three guys are smashing you, what the fuck can you do? They smashed a bottle on his head and stabbed his face with the broken bottle. He was unconscious for three hours, and woke up in hospital. His head looked like a slashed up basketball.

Anyway, I found out it was some Bloods who did it for their initiation into the gang. That is so weak, man. Why don't they beat each other up, instead of people they don't know?

I've just read the letter that some 'Waipuk' Bloods' wrote in, sticking up for some Merle H Thomas, whoever the fuck that is. Why do you people (oh, sorry, I mean scum, or shit) write fuckin' crap like that in this mag? I hate gangs so bad it makes me spew acid. What's wrong with you? Can't you stand proud by yourself?

Before I end this note, I want to say that Hammer (MC) is dead as a roadkill, and Pearl Jam is an out of it name for a band. I might even name my kids Pearl and Jam. Also, Pearl Jam surf, which is better than roaming in gangs and beating people for fun. You're fuckin' crazy man, and you're all going to hell.

**Dreads, Napier.**

#### Sensitive Slagger Slag

This letter is in response to just about every fuckin' letter I've read in *RiptUp* for the last few years. I have held my tongue for a long time and I've decided to break my silence. Why can't you all stop slagging off bands you don't like? Novel idea isn't it. This column has almost become a bitch column about bands. All bands that have managed to write, play their songs, and stick together for more than a few months deserve some respect, and those that have made the effort to record these songs do too.

Being a member of any band isn't easy, and I'm

talking from personal experience here. You have to cope with the differences of opinion and stress. If any of the people slagging off Pearl Jam, Nirvana, Silverchair, Guns N' Roses and any other bands would like to do international touring and could cope with the pressures of fatigue, jet lag and nagging press members, then they might have an excuse for slamming bands, but till then...?

Everyone on this planet has their own individual music tastes. If they didn't, then the world would be an incredibly boring place. If people like a band like Guns N' Roses, then that's a part of them which makes them an individual.

A quote from a song (I won't name the band or song as you'll probably judge it for that, not its worth) which seems to pinpoint this problem goes: 'If I damned your point of view, could you turn the other cheek?'

So, next time, instead of grabbing for your pen, stop and think about it. It is quite possible to like Led Zeppelin, Queen, Guns N' Roses, Skid Row, Deep Purple, Silverchair, Supergroove, Aerosmith, the Rolling Stones, the Police, Elton John, Metallica, Pink Floyd, Nirvana, Pearl Jam, Alice Cooper, Gravediggaz, Jimi Hendrix, the Clash, Offspring, Wrathchild America, the Doors, or any other combination of bands for their music and not their hype.

Open your minds to the incredible world of music. You may not like all of it, but don't limit yourself. Everyone has the right to make their mark, whether it's a three chord blues number or a 12/8 retro metal piece. After all: 'Time's short, your life's your own / And in the end, we are just, dust and bones.' So, you're entitled to your own opinion of what's cool and what could be destroyed by a mad elephant, but if it's gonna hurt someone else, please keep your mouth shut.

**From a very open minded person,**

**Rachel/Freddie Laurenson, Wellington.**

PS: I'm proud of what I have just written and if you don't like it, then that's your opinion and I won't knock it again.

#### More Slagger Slag

Attention Merle H Thomas and the 'I Hate Merle' Fan Club:

Guess what? It is possible to like Pearl Jam and Nirvana. I do. In fact, I like most music from Aerosmith to Zucchero, and everything in between, as long as it has a bit of beat and is not too light (ie. no Boyz II Men).

It seems I'm destined to keep opening my copy of *RiptUp* to find several letters declaring their hate for someone or some band. It annoys me that people can't keep their own small-minded opinions to themselves or their own group of cock-sucking friends. I don't want to know that The Amazing Clarence (not!) hates Silverchair's guts, or that half of New Zealand's teenage population hates Merle H Thomas' guts. I'd rather go on

believing there are still some decent people out there, looking for the good new bands (like Silverchair, Pumpkinhead and Oasis), plus acknowledging the old greats of music (Metallica, Black Sabbath and Led Zeppelin).

**Fuzzy, Wellington.**

PS: Anyone remember Freddie Mercury, the last great singer in rock?

#### Dream Raver

I just heard Jimi Hendrix is dead. What a shock. I had a dream last night, and what a wonderful dream it was, but I have no one to tell it to. I sit in my room, listening to Sleeper on my stereo, but this is none of your business. Why do we argue over which bands are best? We are who we are, we listen to what we like. Music is a gift we're given to enjoy. I told my friends, if they don't like the music I listen to, then leave the room; now I don't have any friends. One thing we all know is that this is a load of shit. A beautiful woman just walked into my room, naked. Dreams are free (at the moment).

**SP Kilpatrick (Super Penis), Waitara.**

PS: Many people have hurt me. Maybe I'll see you at the Urge Overkill concert. I'll be wearing an orange cardie.

PPS: This short note was written by a male.

#### Space Cadet Writes

I must assert a couple of points regarding Darren Hawkes' review of the one and only cloud-boy CD (*RIU* 7/95). Foremost is this 'album' tag: it seems Darren was disappointed with the CD's scope as an 'album'. As a more marketable term, we here at Space Cadet Academy Productions might be stretched to label the CD as a mini-album (but won't), where theoretically it 'is' a single which showcases the title track three times.

First up, track one is 'cloudboy', and the last eight minutes on the disc are credited seventh as 'cloudboy reprise', which contains an uncredited ID point (PQ 8) separating the two distinct halves. The conjoining five tracks clock in at well under 20 minutes in playing time, and this is duly reflected in the recommended retail price of \$19.95 (and if your local store won't comply, then send the loot to IRM, PO Box 5065, Dunedin, and a copy will be fastposted your way).

The debut cloudboy album comes later, 'cloudboy' should never contain any upper case characters.

Happy? (It's not an album, it's a concept disc.)

**Hag, Official Spokesperson of the Space Cadet Academy, Dunedin.**

Write to *RiptUp* Letters, PO Box 5689, Auckland 1 or fax us on (09) 358 2320

## THE FRANK ZAPPA CATALOG REVISITED

Frank Zappa, a trailblazer in the fields of rock, jazz, modern classical music and contemporary culture, recorded close to 60 albums in his 25+ year career. Now six albums have been produced as part of a two-part relaunch of Zappa's remarkable work. These updated re-releases have been produced with new FZ approved masters provided by his studio. Many titles have restored artwork and some have been remixed and remastered.

THESE  
ARE THE  
DEFINITIVE  
EDITIONS OF  
THE MUSIC OF  
FRANK ZAPPA.

LOOK FOR THESE TITLES  
AT FRANK ZAPPA  
AUTHORISED STOCKISTS



**WE'RE ONLY  
IN IT FOR  
THE MONEY**

Originally released 1968. Features track highlights 'Mother People', 'What's The Ugliest Part Of Your Body' & 'The Idiot Bastard Son'.



**LUMPY  
GRAVY**

The first FZ solo record, recorded with a 50-piece orchestra and a few stray Mothers. Digitally remastered.



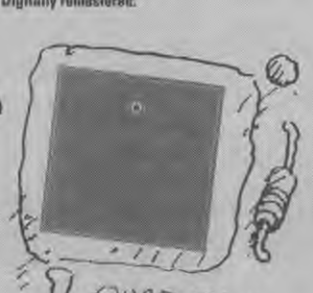
**OVER-NITE  
SENSATION**

Released 1973 and one of FZ's classic rock records. Features 'Dirty Love', 'I'm The Slime', 'Dinah Moe Humm' & 'Montana'.



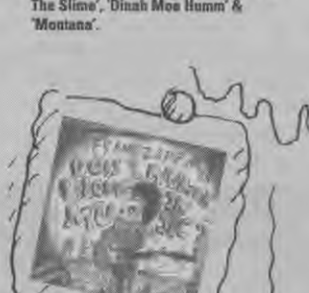
**Apostrophe**

1974's Top 10 album featuring the single 'Don't Eat The Yellow Snow'. The first Zappa record to achieve gold status.



**LONDON  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA  
Vol. I & II**

This 2 CD set features a 102-piece orchestra & has been completely remixed & remastered. Tracks include 'Strictly Genial' & 'Beh In Dactyl'.



**DOES HUMOR  
BELONG  
IN MUSIC?**

Previously only released in Europe. Humour is made up of various live performances from Zappa's 1984 tour. Completely remixed & remastered.