



BEHIND THE BARS

With a lot of new bands appearing on the "scene," it often becomes difficult to keep track of who is doing what. This makes people less inclined to support new bands. As a result, people seem to be neglecting a valuable resource. Evidence of this is the lack of attendence at the debut of not yet established bands.

So. This column will be dedicated every issue to those bands just starting out who need and deserve the publicity. We hope to benefit both the bands as well as those who just love music.

On that note, we'd like to acquaint you with four local bands: The Big Thing, Mudpie, A Subtle Plague, and King Carcass.

We were able to meet The Big Thing after witnessing one of their practices in a basement in Manyunk/Roxborough. The Big Thing is Steve on bass, Andrew with vocals, Greg on guitar and Tony from Hypnotizing Chickens as the temporary drummer. Although some of their songs "grooved" on a funk-rocky beat, they are by no stretch of the imagination a "funk" band. So the burning question is, "What is the big thing about 'The Big Thing'?". What we saw and heard was quality rock 'n roll taken a step beyond. Greg is able to make use of all \$14.95 his 1978 wood grain guitar is worth, with wailing solos in several songs. The song writing highlights all of the lyrical and musical talents of the band. Their diversity is illustrated by songs whose themes range from slow ballads about Vietnam to fast songs about cars and the city. Greg and Andrew had been playing together for six months before Steve joined the band, and they are currently searching for a permanent drummer. You: have the oppurtunity to see them January 22nd with the Serial Killers at Tyler school of Art. They will also be playing January 29th at Club Pizzaz with Scram and the Electric Love Muffin. On February 13th they will play a benefit for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. They are tentatively scheduled to have a single out by March 26th on which night there will be a record release party at Topps.

Mudpie is Tom on bass, Steve on Guitar (and the wheel of fortune), and Bernie on drums. Both Tom and Steve play drums for More Fiends. Their debut performance was Saturday, January 16th at Topps. It was a darn shame that more people didn't experience the intensity of their set. They were really tight and had a unique sound which seemed to have evolved naturally over time. We were surprised to find out that they have only been together for six months. Their uniqueness stems a combination of refreshing change from those bands who clone everyone's "favorite" rock group. Along with producing a unique sound, they have also developed a unique instrument-the wheel of January 27th at Bacchanal with Trained Attack Dogs. They are currently working on a tape entitled "Mudhenge" which will contain 11 songs and will be available at the Philadelphia

Record Exchange.

Arising from their discouraging debut at a pharmaceutical continue opening ears and minds to new music. fraternity, A Subtle Plague is beginning to get the recognition and the audience they deserve. A Subtle Plague is Peter on guitar, vocals and percussion, Jonathon on congas, metal percussion and saxaphone, Earl with drumkit and vocals, Pat doing vocals (or in his own words, "fractured prose"), Benjii on bass guitar, vocals and percussion, and Chris on snare and toms, rythym guitar, congas, and metal percussion. The band comes from all over the world and by some bizarre twist of fate formed A Subtle Plague in upstate New York. Perhaps a more bizarre twist is that they chose Philadelphia as their home base. The myriad of instruments inventively implemented by the band has resulted in a gamut of categorizations ranging from African dub-pop to funk-punk. The lighthearted and danceable melodies, accented heavily with percussion, subtly captivate the audience so that Pat's political yet poetic message can be heard. Future opportunities to witness A Subtle Plague: on January 23rd at Houston Hall, February 5th at Topps with the Trace, and February 28th they will be opening up for the Feelies at Revival. Also in the making is a single containing two songs which will be distributed to various radio stations and record companies which will hopefully lead to a recording opportunity. This single will be available by mail by writing PO Box 40161 Continental Station Phila., PA 19106.

Another basement experience

King Carcass consists of Neil on bass, Steve on guitar, formerly played with Jack Lord's Hair, and Bernie used to Steve on drums, and Chris on guitar. The bands achieves their sound working with a variety of guitar tunings and a bit of distortion. Their methodology of song writing is based on the musical theory that four stupids make one good. The layman interpretation: each individual instrument in and of itself may sound like aural (as opposed to oral) vomit. However when blended as a band into song, the result is an intense musical assault that just plain works. Live elements and styles they have seen in different bands-a performances incorporate films created by Chris as well as other visual effects handled mainly by Steve-guitar. The final product is a saturation of their audiences senses. Upcoming performances may include an extra special treat! fortune, a percussion instrument which consists of a tire On the 23rd of January you will have the opportunity to without the rubber. Mudpie's next show is Wednesday, experience King Carcass at Houston Hall. January 29th they will be performing at Tyler with Sink Manhattan and Oriface. They will also be playing with 9 Fireman 9 and Oriface on February 3rd at Bacchanal.

> We'd like to conclude by encouraging bands to continue sending music for airplay on WKDU, and audiences to



"TEENAGE BLOODLUST!" If you listen to 'KDU then you know what I'm talking about. The new king of "Blood-n-Guts Rock'n'Roll" is Paul Bearer. What? Too much dead air? Well, DJs are mysteriously disappearing and the station is littered with bloody kitchen utensils and body parts. Roadside Rendezvous, the debut Serial Killers album, is taking its toll. By far, the #1 record played in the last two weeks. What a pleasant surprise (?) from Paul and his partners in crime. KDU's fave is "Serial Killer Pt. 2", with the incredible back-up chorus, "got your brains on it...", but I suppose the "hit" is "Illegitimate Son of Ed Gein" (according to Serial Killers pronounced Ed Gine but Killdozer says Ed Geen). Both bands hold rocks. Contains the "Lead Me Astray" single and this man in reverence. On the back of the new much more. Also the Lizard Train 13th Hour Killdozer LP, Little Baby Buntin' is a CAT scan of Ed Daydream EP and Slippery LP are getting much Gein's skull. Musically, Killdozer at their best - Favorite deserved time on the airwaves. cuts are "Cottonballs" and "Never Gave Me a Kiss". Killer show at Revival, too.

personal favorite record in the whole wide world right days of "Leichenschrei". now (1/18/87).

Some singles that caught my ear were the What of some of the better records you're hearing: Now Small Record with 4 Songs, Fly Ashtrays's The Day I Turned into Jim Morrison, and Philly's Trained poppy English voices - pretty good. In that vein, the Attack Dogs. Flamehead. K Records and Cassettes Pastels do it a little better with their Comin' Through give us Mecca Normal, Canaanes, and Girl Trouble EP. This effort blows their Bigtime record away. 7"s. Girl Trouble's Tarantula sounds like the Cramps Gloomy mood music is how to describe the making the soundtrack for a James Bond movie. If soundtrack from Derek Jarman's The Last of England you're looking for some good hardcore (hard to find on Mute. Gaye Bikers on Acid Drill Your Own Hole is these days), check out Think Tank's 7" on MindMatter cool as is Nimal on the wonderful Rec Rec Music records. Also out is Danbert NoBacon's acoustic, Billy Label, New 1/2 Japanese, Borghesia(gloom death), Braggish single on the same label.

Breaking Circus Smoker's Paradise and a quite and psycho-trio The Shamen Drop LP. White Zombie different sounding Live Skull, Dusted. This is the first Soulcrusher is pure noise and I am in love with the Live Skull record featuring new singer Thalia Zadek Party Boys Daddyland, a kind of bluesy, empty, lonely and drummer Rich Hutchins, and they've give Live record that is tooo good. Skull the kick in the ass they desperately needed. That's what's hot here. Biggest disappointment of will be out on Homestead. They've also signed the Sob!). Not too thrilled about FOC either. Chills(!) from New Zealand and Honor Role from Until next time, keep listening and supporting Virginia.



Direct from Australia, the new Cosmic Psychos LP

Nettwork fans be happy! Single Gun Theory, SPK, ' Severed Heads, and the Tear Garden arrived in great Opening up for Killdozer was Bongwater, one of the condition. Severed Heads is the standard fare of the hep Shimmy-Disc bands featuring Kramer. Once now sound (nothing like "City Slab Horror" again, here I am singing the praises of Shimmy-Disc. unfortunately). SPK's new one is better that "Machine." Everything on this label is great. B.A.L.L. is my Age Voodoo" crap, but once again I long for the old

I think I'm running out of room so here's a rundown

Wedding Present George Best - strumming guitars, Laughing Hyenas(Killdozer meets Nick Cave in a dark The latest package from Homestead contained new alley), Fuzztones Live, New Jersey's Original Sins,

Hopefully by the time you read this, the new the last couple of months was Sudden/Howard's Verlaines, Phantom Tollbooth, and Nice Strong Arm record. Such potential but nothin' happenin' (Sob,

> college radio. And hang that Serial Killers insert up high, so you can wake up to the sight of "Blood-n-Guts Rock'n'Roll" every day.



THE BLACK EXPERIENCE IN MUSIC

JAZZ TOP TEN

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FOREVER YOURS

BY AL KNIGHT

BLACK EXPERIENCE

PASTICHE

R & B TOP TEN

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FOR DIETRICHSON

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DANNY GOTTLIEB

OLIVER LAKE

FIRST BRASS

TOM SCOTT

DAVID MANN

KIT WALKER

HENRY BUTLER

PRINCE GERALD ALBRIGHT TYRONE BARWELL SHADES OF LACE

LOVE CONFESSIONS A.F.R.I.C.A. MADE IN HEAVEN SDTRK ANOTHER GOODBYE **GUESS WHO'S COMIN TO** THE CRIB? HOT THANG JUST BETWEEN US MEMORIES SINCE YOU CAME OVER

PROGRESSIVE AIRPL

BORGHESIA

BALL

ANNA DOMINO THIS TIME PERIOD(ANOTHER AMERICAN LIE NO HOPE NO FEAR SMOKER'S PARADISE BREAKING CIRCUS COSMIC PSYCHOS

CREEPERS WIG OUT AT DENKOS DAG NASTY FIREHOSE FLUX OF PINK INDIANS NEU SMELL/TAKING A LIBERTY

FUZZTONES GAYE BIKERS ON ACID DRILL YOUR OWN HOLE HALF-JAPANESE HULA KILLDOZER

LAUGHING HYENAS

LIVE SKULL LIZARD TRAIN MARK STEWART MISSION OF BURMA NIMAL **PASTELS** PAY ATTENTION SERIAL KILLERS SEVERED HEADS SHAMEN SUGARCUBES SWANS

TEAR GARDEN WEDDING PRESENT WHITE ZOMBIE

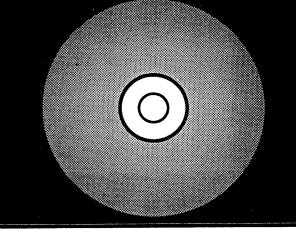
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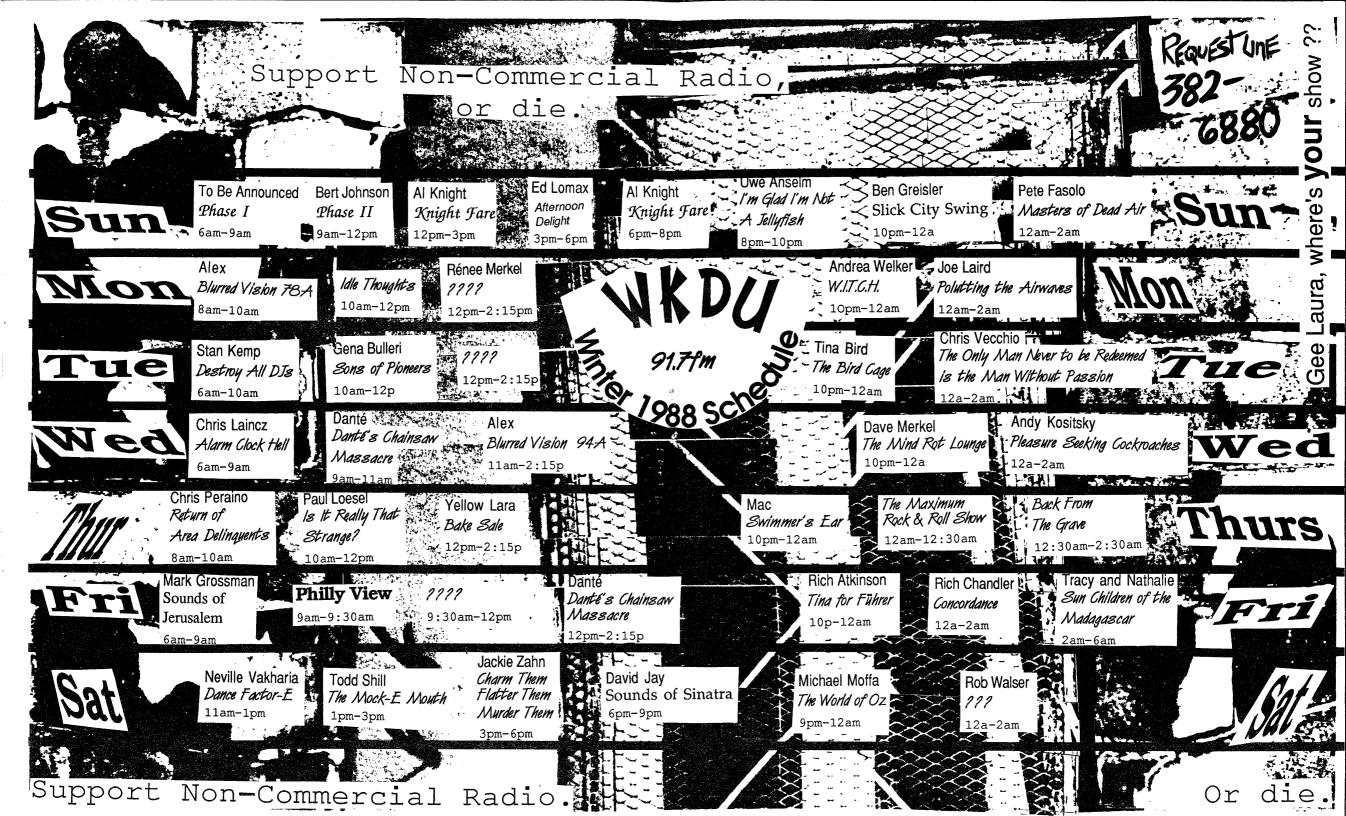
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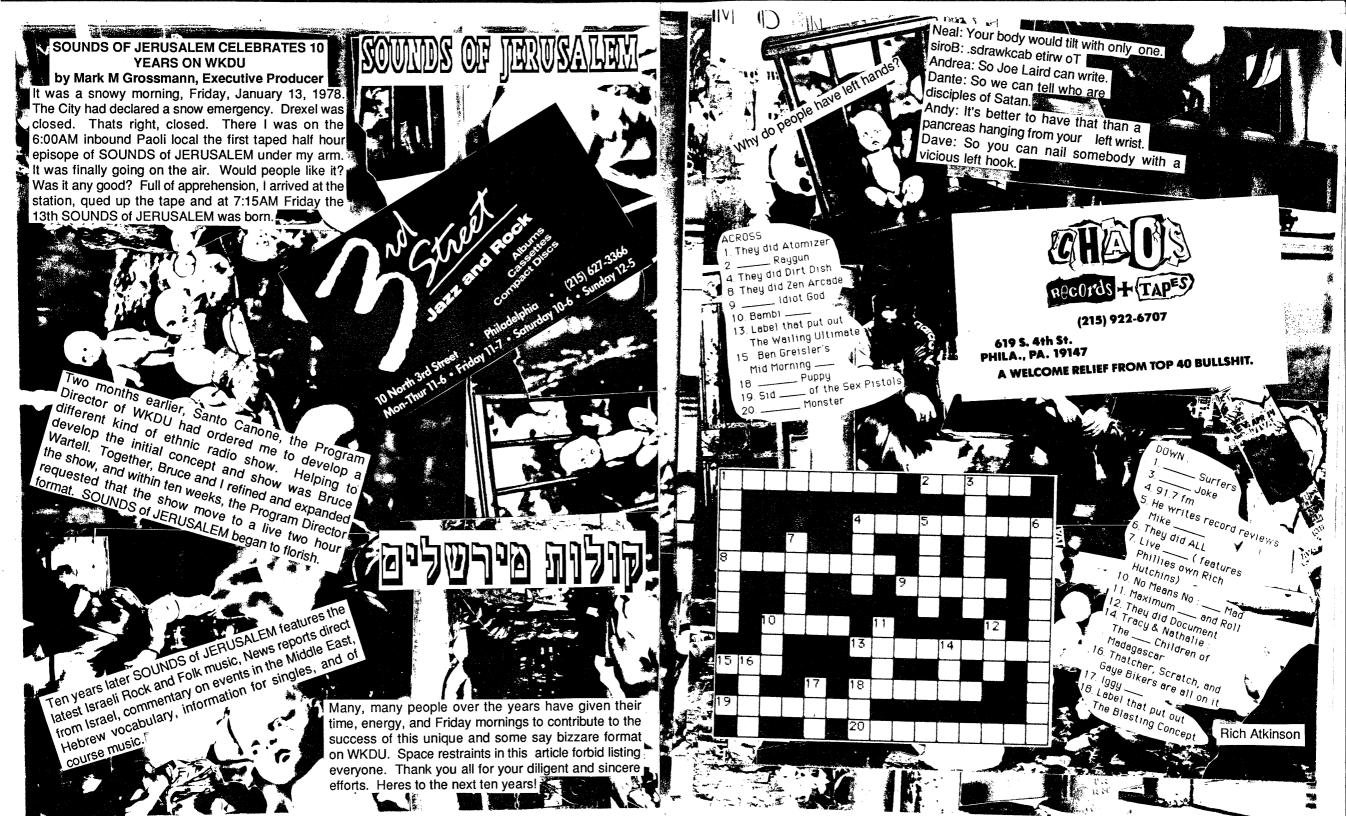
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N. About the title of the band, I am aware that "No Means No" is an old anti-rape slogan. Does this reflect on the band in any way? R. Well, I saw it on a garage wall in Vancouver, and I thought it was quite snappy. We tend to look at things with a negative perspective. A lot of our songs are about what's wrong, and not about what's right. We don't offer solutions, we just offer pictures. That's the way I am. Some people write horror stories, I write horror songs. Not to say that the energy of the band is negative- we don't get up there with skulls on and play death rock. I think the band is very positive and very much alive. N. When I spoke last Spring with your brother John, he said that a lot of the songs dealt with sexual politics. R. The songs tend to deal with people, and the relationships between men and women, families and all of the cliches that accompany them, what is like to be a man, what it is like to be a woman-how you are supposed to act in those roles, how you are suppossed to act in general as a human being in society. It sorta takes those ideas and tosses them around a bit. Maybe that's not the way it has to or should be. We transpose genders into a lot of our songs. We want to get away from the cliches that people base their lives on, the whole facade of who you are, which really may not bear a lot of resemblance to the potential you have inside of you. Things like that just limit a person, we try to break those limits. N. "Sexmad" is actually your second lp, isn't it? You had another ip called "Mama" out before and from what I've heard, it's pretty difficult to find. R. At that point just my brother and I were in the band. It was just a rhythm section with vocals. We only made 500 copies, and we basically distributed them ourselves. We just redid it ourselves again, Alternative Tentacles (the label we are now on) wants to reissue a lot of old material, one ep called "You Kill Me", "Mama" and another ep called "Fear, Betrayal, Anger, and

N. How did the band grow from just you and brother? R. We started out recording in our basement, on a 4 track and we put out 2 records on vinyl, without ever playing live. We played for a while in a bar band, just to learn how to do it, and then we decided we wanted to play live, but we didn't want to form a band and have to argue with a bunch of other people about what we should do. We knew what we wanted to do. So we thought why not start something unusual? Let's strip it down to total basics. So we wrote about 9 songs based on just bass, drums and vocals. and played live, and people seemed to buy it, much to our surprise. We kept at that for about two vears before Andy joined the group (he's our guitarist) and he sings most the material now. N. Do you have any new material that you are playing tonight? R. Yeah, we've been playing a lot of new material on the tour, because we're going to record a new album, tentatively entitled, "Small Parts-Easily Isolated and Destroyed", which will hopefully be out by February.





One of the things that I simply loathe about the end of the year is all of the self-serving, pretentious "best of" lists that everyone and their third cousin spews out at the drop of a hat. Well, someone just dropped a hat outside my window, so that must mean its my turn. My list is my five "favorite" flicks of the year 1987. Now, when I say that I don't necessarily mean the "best" films, simply the ones that I had the best time watching...and would watch again in a second. Here goes...

1) HOLLYWOOD SHUFFLE--Made on a miniscule budget through the use of credit cards and other inventive means, this searing put-down of Hollywood's treatment of blacks is one of the funniest films to come around in quite some time.

Director/co-writer/star Robert Townsend is a force to be reckoned with in the future of comedy.

2) EVIL DEAD 2: DEAD BY DAWN--A wonderfully, gory film that also whacks you over the head with a non-stop stream of Three Stooges-esque slapstick. The sequel to one of my fav films ever made, ED2 set new highs for bile, grue and all out nastiness while maintaining a giddy sense of humor. As our hero Ashley says in the film, "Who's laughing NOW?!?!?"

3) ROBOCOP--While EVIL DEAD 2 is technically brilliant, but intensely stupid, this non-stop actioner tries its hardest to make intelligent observations about technology, entertainment and corporations. Dutch director Paul Verhoven succeeds brilliantly in his first film made in America. Peter Weller is excellent as the kevlar-covered cop and Ronny Cox, Kurtwood Smith and Nancy Allen are all brilliant in supporting roles. Sadly, the sequel is being shot for a PG-13 rating.

4) THE HIDDEN-- What do you get when you cross sci-fi, horror, the buddy film and the cop drama genres? The answer: This wonderful little homage to those great 1950s B-films. Kyle MacLachlan and Michael Nouri star as two cops chasing a nasty alien that can take over any body it wants. A gory, funny, exciting, repulsive and well-done flick that took me by surprise.

5) SUMMER SCHOOL-- The biggest surprise of the year for me. What more can you ask from a film than Kirstie Alley, a character named "Chainsaw" ("as in Texas...Massacre") and two guys that worship horror flicks. Not much! However, when two of the main characters are basically a compilation of you and all your friends it shoots to the top of the list!

This was a very stupid question. I can assure you that any time that you get hauled in by the police you will not be experiencing one of life's little pleasures. I answered in the only way I could. By screaming

let's get outta here." I really shouldn't be too hard on Tandy. He's alright for the most part. It's just that these encounters with the police can take their toll. This time I was hauled in for "creating a public nuisance". I guess next time I take to playing a guitar in public I'll forget to

bring strings. But I guess you get what you pay for when you go against what's "normal".

"Briggs, hey Briggs, are you feeling all right?"

"Christ, Briggs, do you have to do that? Jesus, "

obscenities back at the cops as loud as I could.

My mother, of course, was the first to notice my eclectic tendencies. "Julia," she would say, " why do you have to be so different? Are you just trying to annoy me?" I'll have to admit, all I was doing was simply enjoying myself. Whether that meant banging away at some pots or pans or making the piano make some new and interesting sound, it would invariably end up irritating somebody.

School and work were no more than a replay of this whole episode. For some reason people just couldn't understand a need for something different. As usual I was left pretty much as an outsider, a "weirdo", even if I dressed pretty much as they did. Any kind of abstract thought, that may even slightly have differed from what they knew was "true", was often met with hostility and anger.

There finally came a day, though, when I had enough. The boss at work, idiot that he was, decided to pipe in some music in our workspace. I had a bad feeling about all of this. When I came in the next day to find "Oldies Gold" blaring out at me, I knew what to do. That night I found where the speakers were plugged in and with a little wiring magic, connected them to the light switch in the boss's office. The next morning, at exactly 8:31 am, my boss managed to blow out every speaker in the office.

franted, I lost my job, by I didn't lose my principles. I soon found friends like Tandy, who were just as fed up with the bullshit as I was. We manage to do ok and we can't complain. I guess the only problem we have is the cops rousting us, but lately they seem to be getting bored with the whole thing. That may be a good sign, actually. If everyone else starts getting bored and dissatisfied, they may start looking for something that's just a little different. In the meanwhile, I'll just sit back and enjoy those things that I like. They may not be "normal" to some people, but then again, when was I just a somebody?





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Can you think of a good WKDU question

Mike G.: Why do you never see any

baby pigeons?

Brian: How soon is now?

Denise: What do you have against art fags

anyway?

Andrea:Where does pocket lint come

from and what does it want?

Ellen: What # am I thinking of? Chris V.: How tall are you?

Diane: If you could be any bug in the

insect world what would it be and w Mike E.: The band you most regret

seeing?

Uwe: Where's Herb?

Rochelle: Where does Boyd's valet park?

Who would you elect for president?

Husker Du at Temple

Punk Rocker with the chicken stapled to his

ear Opus

Sandra Bernhardt

Lyndon LaRoache - because he ain't no

phony

Klaus Barbie

Perry Como - just as dull, but less

dangerous

Papa Smurf

Donny Osmond

Ralph Nader

- Darth Vader

Julia Child

Sickie Wifebeater

Frank Perdue

Tina for pres dictator fuhrer

Face facts... the only person that deserves to be president in '88 is SPEED RACER. Why? Because he's got a bitchin' car; Trixie is one fabulous babe; Spriedel, Chim-Chim and sparky could be cabinet members; and Racer-X could be Vice Pres and keep his little too' out of serious trouble. Case closed.

Dante

SPEED RACER IS A WIMP! Boy, he always runs away from Trixie any time they get close etc... I believe it should be...POPS Racer for pres. He built the car dammit! (Speed can play a guy like Ron Regan Jr.) - DFN

Bullshit! Pops Racer is in prime shape for a stroke or a heart attack! Do we really want a balding, overweight man that closely resembles a walrus running our country? -DT

How many different words can you make with the letters W.K.D.U!

Mike G.: KUD KWUD DWUK DUK

WUD Jes: BAT

Chris L.: Ku Wu (my Chem III instructor)

Pete: 6

Ellen: U

WKDU spelled backwards in Mesopotamian

is: SATAN

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