classic 70s films • Love arms & Toast girl • Activist media • Reclaim the Streets • Tsypo’s’ • more Typo.s’ • cricket • wrestling • cold-cut • degrassi • revyoose
THINGS THAT WERE FUCKED UP THIS MONTH

1. The closure of two of Sydney's centres of popular culture. The Annandale, with its shitty PA being pushed ever further into the red and its nowhere location was like the little engine that could. Seemingly against the odds, it survived and flourished until the ass fell out of the Sydney rock scene and the owners realised that two live pubs were too many in an ever more disparate scene, where punters would turn out in increasing hoardes to see shitty overseas bands play at festivals and stadiums but couldn't be fucked paying five bucks to see the same stuff locally. The cultural cringe had struck yet again. The Valhalla on the other hand simply faded away in a quagmire of big bucks and lack of distributor support. Starved by the major players...

2. The re-opening of the sandringham as a pokie joint. Part of the charm of the sando was the falling-apart-at-the-seams nature of it—a slice of the pasty-faced smack dishveillance of Melbourne in the flashy wasteland of coke-snorin sanctums that is Sydney at its worst—and the fact that the place was, on paper, a really shitty place to see entertainment, with its open plan and square bar. But in reality it was one of the few places in Sydney with a scene that meant that no matter what night you played or went there, there would always be a few local punters out for the night interested in seeing new music. The fact that its now a pokie joint is just icing in the cake.

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4. The drug crackdown. The fact that the current government sees fit (as do many others) to make me break the law by outlawing the use of illicit drugs is bad enough. When they start making it unsafe, against all conflicting international evidence, and won't even give alternatives such as shooting galleries a try, its time to start worrying. As the prohibition tightens all that happens is that safety decreases, profit margins increase and rates of incarceration increase. Very little happens to rates of abuse. And I won't even mention moves towards both zero tolerance and mandatory sentencing in some states and territories.

Peas (preferably split yellow)  
dale

What a crazy month February was. With the plethora of Sunday festivals attendances at Frigid were unsurprisingly below expectations and rain forecast for Cryogenesis February was about to become a bad month for us both financially and mentally. But at the last minute, Cryogenesis escaped rain, sandwiched between two days of torrential downpours. Cryogenesis, the last one until December, was perhaps the most musically coherent yet with a very solid musical flow throughout the day. Then last week at Frigid the first Fromage collaborative film event coupled with Mark N brought around 350 people down to Frigid. Despite a problem where the Globe had double booked two rock-electronic acts from Brisbane (Gota Cola and Soma Rasas), the night was a massive success and one that has raised our spirits at this, the beginning of a slide into Winter. So, what am I getting at here? Well, Frigid needs your support weve got some very strong lineups over the next few weeks and some excellent double-floor events coming up in March and April including the second Frigid/ Fromage film night complete with a surprise international guest on April 11. You'll see in the Frigid lineup section that weve got some good films too and some DJs who people on our internet mailing list have requested. In this issue, too, you'll find that weve got quite a few people giving us adverts for stuff which means we can afford to keep sending this out to you free of charge.

The end of March sees the State election. Again its a choice between some idiot who we know and a bigger idiot who we dont. Sorry to be cynical but 2000 is going to be a fucked year regardless of whos in power. The Olympics are going to screw us big time and afterwards everyone who was down with the whole Olympic scam will go into a huge post-binge depression. Im voting for the Greens or the Democrats and I know my preferences will end up with Labor but at least that one small step removed from the privatised, slash and get tough on crime approach of the Libs. To cheer you up over this depressing period this months Cyclic features a bit of an extended whats on with some other recommended events too. Don't say we dont give you value for money.

The next issue has an Easter deadline and will be out on April 6th so get your stories, pictures, articles and adverts into us. If youve moved house, email us and tell us and if you want any of your friends on the list too its becoming a bit like a secret club email us also there over 500 of you out there somewhere too!

Oh and by the way, there's a competition hidden somewhere in the mag, find it and send your answer and you'll get the prize . . . . . . the prize is one of two Pilfernator's cassette albums the Pilfernators have kindly donated to us.

Next month, too, its a food theme so we want restaurant reviews and bizarre eating experiences. We will be visiting some fine establishments over the next few weeks including the famous Zucchini Factory and, mor eimportantly, getting to the bottom of the Video Ezy Brothel in Epping with the one and only Brothelowner.

Dale


dale

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PEAS (PREFERABLY SPLIT YELLOW)  
DALE

YELLOW PERIL

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ICY POLES

John Molnar's essential 1970s

John went a bit crazy over the 1970s and we've had to split his 70s into two sections. The second instalment will be in Issue #8 next month but you'll never get through the films he's listed here by then in any case! John loves feedback and reviews so send them to us and we'll pass them on. Maybe you took a tab of acid like the 5000 Fingers Of Dr T told you to do last month and bugged out in front of the video and dropped in something like the Attack Of The 50Ft Woman if you did, we want to know . . . and you'll get the prize mentioned in the editorial if you are one of the first two people to send your acid story.

Films already shown at Frigid are marked with an (*) asterisk.

1970
*Beneath The Planet Of The Apes / Catch 22 / Little By Man / Soldier Blue / M*A*S*H / Where's Pappa? / The Magic Christian / Count Yorga Vampire / The Dunwich Horror / Beyond The Valley Of The Dolls

1971
*Escape From The Planet Of The Apes / The Andromeda Strain / When Dinosaurs Ruled The Earth / *The Omega Man / Straw Dogs / Dirty Harry / Play Misty For Me / The Abominable Dr Phibes / *The French Connection / Shaft / They Call Me Trinity / Macbeth (Polanski Version) / Little Murders / Vanishing Point / THX 1138 / Diamonds Are Forever / The Anderson Tapes / *Get Carter / A Clockwork Orange / Willy Wonka And The Chocolate Factory / The Devils (Ken Russell)

1972
Silent Running / The Adventures Of Barry McKenzie Across / 110th St / Trinity Is Still My Name / Deliverance / Dr Phibes Rises Again / Harold And Maude / The Burglars / Aguirre: The Wrath Of God / Prime Cut / The Mechanic / The Possession Of J oel Delaney / Brotherhood Of Satan / The Godfather / Play It Again Sam / Uzanas Raid / Everything You Wanted To Know About Sex But Were Afraid To Ask / *Fritz The Cat / The Ruling Class / *The Getaway / Fists Of Fury / The Posieden Adventure / Slaughterhouse Five

1973
The Final Programme / Sisters / The Exorcist / Alvin Purple / Theatre Of Blood / The Legend Of Hell House / Schlock! / Pat Garrett & Billy The Kid / Sleeper / Badlands / Magnus Force / Blazing Saddles / Enter The Dragon / Jesus Christ Superstar / Mean Streets / *Soylent Green / American Graffiti / *Westworld / Papillon / Dracula / High Plains Drifter / Serpico (Not The US TV Dub Version)

1974

From Phoebee Jeebee . . . .

I have just returned from a brief tour of Melbourne with my band Funky Terrorist and man is it happening down there. So much live music, performance, radio and cool places to hang out. I know where I'm moving to escape the Olympics.

The highlight was definitely a show at Revolver in Prahran. Billed as Ujino's Love Arm and Toast Girl, it comprised of Ujino on tour from Japan with his array of Love Arms and Toast Girl from Melbourne and her performance collection involving household appliances. Some of you might have seen her on stage at the Lilypad at the recent Big Day Out in Sydney. There was also a DJ and a backing band to glue the performers together.

The show was an hour of non-stop music and performance laughs. The DJ would provide sonic gags like Carmina Burana and the theme from 2001 as introductions to the awesome Love Arms. They were a variety of giant phallic objects covered in flashing lights that produce electronic sound. The sound was then fed through various processors to create some seriously fucked up effects, anywhere between high pitched electro weirdness to super distorted bass. There must have been some kind of panicking switch on the Love Arm itself because it was waved around the sound would swirl around Revolver's delicious stereo PA. However this was far from a self-indulgent noise performance. The band and DJ provided killer backup music and the Love Arms were used with a real sense of rock cliché humor.

After a burst of the Love Arm, Toast Girl would appear for a turn. Her name comes from a number she does where she sings a song about toast with a toaster on her head and at the perfect moment she puts the mic to the toaster and the toast pops up in time with the song. Killer! She later appeared with and old fashioned telephone as a backpack and a wig of old coiled phone cords singing a song about phone calls with the backpack ringing on cue.

The show swapped back and forward between Toast Girl and the Love Arms with them sometimes performing together. At one point they shaved an audience member with Ujino's latest and smallest Love Arm derived from hair clippers. This was easily the greatest show I have seen for a long time both musically and as entertainment. If you get a chance, check it out.
In 1924 the BBC was founded with the mission to educate, inform and entertain. These ideals, which were outlined by Lord Reith, the father of public broadcasting, were adopted by subsequent national broadcasters including Australia until the sixties, when commercial television began to realise the moneymaking potential of television.

As we reach the millennium the primary aim of our TV industry is solely to deliver audiences to advertisers. Ratings are the measure by which programs are valued. '57 Channels and nothing on' to quote Gil Scott-Heron in 'The revolution will not be televised.'

This view was reinforced late last month when a prominent executive at Fox Studio Australia stated that the production of film was similar to that of chewing gum. It all boiled down to supply, demand and the servicing of the market.

Sydney has been blessed with a number of groups who, thankfully, do not agree with these sentiments.

These independent media production groups from diverse political backgrounds are all driven by the need to produce intelligent, independent media free from the influence of corporate moguls and state censorship.

Current political events such as Jabiluka and Reclaim the Streets have had the effect of bringing diverse political and activist groups together in a common cause much as the Criminal Justice Bill did for activist groups in Britain in 1994.

Thus one finds C@T setting up live internet link ups from Kakadu to the EMU cafe in a benefit for the Jabiluka Action Group while Reclaim the Streets events are filmed by activists, edited at Radical Transmission Syndicate and distributed by tape by News Unlimited and on the web by C@T.

With recent developments in digital technologies, several groups have emerged which have taken advantage of new technology to get their message across.

While this is not a comprehensive list of who's who in the Sydney media activist scene it does give some idea of what's out there and who is doing what and where.

If you want to see works by these groups, up-to-the-minute activist films are screening every month at Fromage in conjunction with Frigid.

**Actively Radical**

Actively Radical has been producing a regular television show for Sydney's free to air community station Channel 31 for the last five years. The program is produced on a voluntary basis with the aim of developing a left-wing and progressive media presence in Sydney. Prospective program makers (no experience required) are welcome to drop in to the program production meetings on the second Saturday of the month at Art Resistance, 73 Princes Highway or contact Jill Hickson on 9565 5522.

**C@T (Community Activist Technology)**

C@T has come about through the merging of CATV (Community Access TV) and Cat@lyst (the anarchist on-line media project).

CATV was one of the oldest community media organisations in Sydney with its beginnings 10 years ago in the pilot broadcasts for the free to air community television in Sydney which is now Channel 31.

Cat@lyst were the media arm of Black Rose anarchist bookshop and developed to provide an anarchist model of media production and exploit the bottom up production possibilities of the web as opposed to the top down style of conventional broadcast media.

More recently the two groups have joined forces, working to develop video content for their websites and, on a more strategic level, developing video production service to community activist groups.

RTS are contactable at 9519 0204 or <radtransyn@yahoo.com>

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**News Unlimited**

News Unlimited is dedicated to producing and distributing independent media on issues of the environment and social justice free from pressures of commerce and state.

The organisation is run on a voluntary collective basis.

Since its inception in 1996, NUL have produced two video news compilations, NUL 1 & 2 and also the 40 minute ERA of Destruction. The group have also been successful in staging several screenings and broadcasting material on Australian television. They can be contacted at <eagle@cat.org.au> or at monthly meetings at 6.30 on the first Monday of the month at 17 Lord St.

**Radical Transmission Syndicate**

Radical Transmission Syndicate are a group of likeminded people who have pooled together to purchase a Media 100 edit facility for community use.

Radical Transmission Syndicate aims to bring together media workers who would like to contribute to alternative forms of media production and also provide a video production service to community activist groups.

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Although the parties are most closely associated with transport issues, RTS has always been more than the sum of its parts. The vigour and energy generated at the previous 4 events opened people's eyes to a range of problems confronting urban populations today. Eyes have also been opened to alternative modes of transport, alternative modes of protest and alternative modes of communication. It is the vibe and the music that brings people together, but the message is that diverse groups can form a united front, even in a cliquish town like Sydney. Reclaim the Streets fills some gaping holes in the scene, in the community and in the collective imagination of the masses.

Politicians would do well to take note: small groups of motivated people with the guts to make a difference can spark a change. But, of course, that is the last thing politicians want to notice. Only a pollie that had lived under a rock for the past decade would believe that anyone has the smallest iota of trust in them. We have become desensitised to lies and deceit, and have come to expect nothing from them.

Movements like RTS show we that we don't have to wait for the bureaucratic OK. Reclaim the Streets has never waited for official approval before moving on anything: if the powers that be deem it acceptable, then it obviously poses no threat.

That may sound like textbook teenage rebellion, but how long can we take government inaction as benign neglect? Lack of infrastructure, especially for young people and most chronic in the suburbs, leads to urban despair. Watch as the barricades are erected at an RTS party, and inproptu skating, street sports and playing occurs as the streets is reopened. Minds boggle at the lack of safe places for today's youth, statistically the group most often victims of violent crime, suicide and drug addiction. Where do they belong? Roads are symptomatic of a society that privileges those who contribute fiscally, and disses those who don't.

Symptomatic also of the amoral vacuum we are forced to live in. Car culture is violent - it is the single biggest contributor to the fucking over of our atmosphere, and the number of Australians killed in or by cars each year is second only to the number of people killed by state-sponsored drugs. Car culture is violent and agressive, like the petroleum industry it supports. Those who prescribe wholeheartedly and without reservation to the cult of the car are as amoral as the companies that pull the trigger. In Sydney's case, public enemy number one is the state government puppetry in place for the Roads and Transport Authority, puppetry in turn for the construction, automotive and petroleum industries.

But when I see little kids running about in between the black and yellow tripods and their parents totally at ease, I believe there is hope. If you have ever sat down with someone's grandparents and actually listened, you'd reach the conclusion that shit has gone backwards fast. There really was a good old days, when people knew their neighbours and the street in front of the house was for communication. These days in the city parents are afraid to let young children out the front door without supervision. Cars are symbolic of the greater detachment that has occurred within society, where you can be run down by a driver rather than a person, and failed to stop after accident appears more and more frequently on police reports.

Come along on the 20th of March and support urban renewal in its most exciting and electric form to date. Everyone heard about the music (hopefully) and the carnival feel that the day has. The beautiful thing is that just by being there and smiling, you are making an important political statement. This time, let's try to remember that there are some important issues at stake, not the least our quality of life.

RECLAIM THE STREETS 5
20TH OF MARCH
BELMORE PARK (OPP. CENTRAL)
MEETING AT 1PM
GUEST DJAZ

DJAZ is maybe better known to some as Jasmine, formerly of Alternahunk and now of Minit. Minit (Jasmine and Torben Tilly) have just released an album on... featured people like Matthew Thomas, Rjoki Ikeda and selections from the Mego label so expect some nü-style weirdness.

SUNDAY APRIL 4

Seb, Kerri and Stu's Pre-Grooverider Birthday Chill

FILM

Monty Python & The Holy Grail

This is not so much a film as a way of life for a whole generation of people without lives. That is not to say that this is not one of the all-time greatest comedies ever made, but that the film suffers greatly from having been learned and recited by every little pimply nerd with no friends and an underactive imagination. I have friends who have never seen this film who could give you a description frame by frame. In fact there is probably a whole generation of young folk out there whose only exposure to Monty Python is having their older brother go Neek at them or do silly walks around the lounge room. This is probably not the best way to be introduced. Being old, I saw this gem when it first came out and laughed until I stopped. This is truly a masterpiece, and for those of you who haven't seen it a very influential one at that. It is interesting to see just how much Monty Python's style has gone on to influence virtually all other forms of comedy. But do not let this distract you from enjoying what is the ultimate distillation of absurdity taken to its logical extreme...and it's very very silly.

GUEST Seedy Stu

Seedy Stu is departing these shores for Canada shortly and he has become renowned throughout the northern suburbs for his chill sets and his record collection that stretches back deep into the worst days of rave. He has an excellent late night graveyard on 2SER already and has doing his bit for Dex and FBI too. April 2 is his birthday. Kerri and Seb's is April 3 so today on April 4, come and celebrate with us all before we go to Grooverider at the Palladium at midnight. Lucky it's a long weekend...

GUEST Deep Child

One of Clan Analogue's most hairy men, Deep Child is one half of Homologous Fent and tonight will deliver some of his hirsute vibes via an array of electronic devices attached to his woolly coat. But seriously, Mr Child will astound you with a solid set of varied tempos crossing the borders of trip hop and drum'n'bass.

SUNDAY MARCH 21

FILM

Breakdance

Hey you the rock steady crew, show us what you got make a break move. Hey you the rock steady crew, beat boys break is electric bogaloo. If anyone can understand a lyric like that then they can understand and possibly enjoy this film. Does anyone know anyone who is now or has ever been someone who could break? Well there is always Monkeyboy Ross, who has managed to damage his wrists and ankles trying to...at least the full size wall poster that came with the movie soundtrack was excellent. This film's only value consists in it being a snapshot of 1984 (need I say more? although it was the birthdate of the macintosh I? Ok and there's also a VERY young looking Ice T.

GUEST Nick Toth

Whilst Frigid manages to drag hip hop back to its most mainstream roots, upstairs Latyrx, one of the Bay Area's most inspirational hip hop crews takes hip hop forward and deep underground. To complement Latyrx upstairs we've convinced Nick Toth to drop in and spin a set of futuristic hip hop and turntable tricks all within the cramped confines of the downstairs DJ booth.

SUNDAY MARCH 28

FILM

Monty Python & The Holy Grail

Post-Election Frigid

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Professional Wrestling. To most these two words conjure up images of failed pro-footballers or steroid abusing gym junkies. However, when one looks beyond those initial preconceptions we can see that professional wrestling is in fact a dramatic microcosm mimicking our very own world. Or is it our world that bases its existence on the events that occur within the small universe of the squared circle. The fundamental question we as a society need to ask is, is it a case of sports entertainment imitating life, or is life imitating sports entertainment?

Professional wrestling is a tightly woven tapestry of politics, drama, loyalty, intrigue and conspiracies much like the politics of nations. In a world where success is determined by the skill outside the ring just as much as it is inside, professional wrestlers need to be skilled not only in art of the ring but also in the art of diplomacy and political alliance, again not unlike their real world counterparts in governments all over the world. I will sight as my first example the intense war in the ring between California native and then reigning World Wrestling Federation (WWF) heavyweight champion of the world Hulk Hogan and the Iron Sheik and Nikol Volkov from Iran and the U.S.S.R. respectively. The year was 1986, and the world was still deep in the midst of the cold war and once all of the U.S.A., Iran had turned foe when the Ayatollah had taken over the country. Now there were many deep rooted reasons for this distrust and one-upmanship between the USA and the U.S.S.R. and her ally Iran. Many analysts would cite reasons such as economic or political dominance, but I would propose a different theory. I believe that it was not the events in the ring that were being inspired by the real world events of that day, but in fact, that the entire cold war was started and was continued because of the U.S.S.R.’s failure to bring home the gold from the professional wrestling ring.

Now if we skip forward several years we see that former world power the U.S.S.R. has disintegrated and is replaced by smaller sovereign states headed by Russia. This created a power vacuum which the United States and to a lesser extent, China filled (as the last remaining bastion of communism). Many claim these changes were due to political and social unrest. I however believe the demise of the Soviet Union was because of their inability to breed a worthy heavyweight champion. The shame of it all being too much for one nation to bear, they subsequently split, thus the burden of shame was correspondingly shared over several nations.

Now around this time the WWF splintered and several prominent wrestlers defected to the new federation World Championship Wrestling (WCW) not unlike the shocking defections of the Soviet era. One notable example was Hulk Hogan, Randy “Macho Man” Savage, Rowdy Roddy Piper and commentator extraordinaire “Mean” Gene Oakerlund.

It was also around this time that Generation X was voicing its strong anti-establishment, anti-commercialism, anti-life attitude and concerns. This was a generation concerned with and obsessed by death and all things macabre. Is it any wonder then that all these changes were generated so soon after the appearance of WWF superstar, the phenomenon known as the Undertaker. A behemoth born of the dark side and a wrestler who enjoys immense popularity to this day. Professional wrestling’s influence is so great that it not only influences our political landscape but also shapes our social consciousness. As further proof, let us consider the theory I offer you this; not long after corporate advertising latched onto Generation X’s fears and thoughts, Pepsi’s “Generation Next” advertising campaign being a classic example, the concept of Degeneration X was born from the bowels of the Professional wrestling circuit. In this we had a concept that was even more anti-establishment. In fact it was anti-anti-anti-establishment. Here we had wrestlers saying to an entire generation of youth they can be individuals in a group; they can have money and not sell out; they can go around disrespecting women and still be feminist. Degeneration X were cavalier, brash and crass and it was no surprise to this writer that soon after Degeneration X’s inception, an inspired generation of kids were soon displaying those very same qualities again proving the far reaching sphere of influence professional wrestling has over our day to day lives.

The President of the USA enjoys immense power amid claims that the position holds the distinguished honour of being the leader of the free world. However, I believe that those claims are misguided and proportioned by political novices who are ignorant of the real spheres of power. For true power lies behind the throne; and who sits behind the throne? None other than professional wrestling. Now, it was the story of how Hulk Hogan, the man who started the concept of the New World Order (nWo), a policy later adopted by George Bush as his policy for the global community after much consulting with the Hulkster in the oval office.

Nowadays the political climate we live in is one of unity through diversity. Concepts like the United Nations, Nato and the European Union are all manifestations of their professional wrestling counterpart parts WWF, WCW and nWo. Here we have organisations set up in an effort to administer global politics and affairs, global security as well as handle monetary political and financial markets of world. Concepts which the UN, Nato and EU are now also trying to do. The concept of a faction within a faction is another idea inspired by the events inside the ring and then applied to the outside world. This can be clearly seen with the advent of ASEAN and G7 in the wake of their professional wrestling predecessors.

When the world remembers social leaders, people who voiced the word of the down trodden and the oppressed, names like Rev Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi are the first to roll of the tongue. But I would offer you a few more names. People who fought against oppression and racism with just as much vigour. People whose goals were welfare, equality and social justice for all. People like J unik Yard Dog and dynamite tag team duo Harlem Heat. This writer suspects that these were the people who Rev. Martin Luther King dreamed about. Here we had roll models, not just to the black community, whose actions were much louder than words could ever be. These individuals offered many youths something they had forgotten, pride in themselves and in their culture. These were the unsung heroes of the social revolution. And from which doctrine did they emanate? None other than professional wrestling.

So when you next think about or watch professional wrestling, try not to scoff or mock what you are watching, for as I have just explained, professional wrestling is a far reaching sphere of influence. A world within a world, from which we may glimpse at what the future may hold for us all.
This month we can't bring you the promised interview with Arjuna Ranatunga, as it took us too long to wrestle the videotape out of SBS who own it and who would probably have sued us if we used it. But it's coming next month. Promise.

At the time of writing, Australia have managed to wrap up the first of the five tests scheduled for their tour of the West Indies. Starting on the same weekend as the rugby league first round at Stadium Eroica in Homebush and the Australian F1 procession in Melbourne, Steve Waugh's test debut as captain could have been understood to have been overlooked in the deluge of events. Scoring 269 and 261 all out in their innings on a pitch that seemed to offer no-one any assistance, nobody in particular stood out, save for Michael Slater, who hammered a quick 106 in Australia's second innings. And then probably went through that nauseating display of mindless jingoism where he kisses his helmet. Slater's touch was spontaneous enough when it first happened, but you can almost feel the commentators, crowd and sponsors willing him to repeat the dose everytime he hits a century, which sort of waters it down on the one hand and enhances his marketability as a true-blue Aussie sponsor-mobile for the marketers.

But dismissing the West Indians for 167 and then 51 in their second innings was the crucial detail, with the West Indian batsmen showing how fragile their confidence is after their ordeal in South Africa. 51 all out. One batsmen, wicketkeeper Ridley Jacobs, managed to break into double figures, making 19. The rest fell away badly and the question now is whether the West Indians can do something to achieve some sort of parity in this series. We thinks not. The key to recovering from a sixmatch losing streak, with a cricket infrastructure that is fundamentally weakened by a lack of resources, a small domestic competition that is starved of players who find football and basketball more attractive and lucrative proposition, an administration that still behaves as if the Caribbean islands are its own personal colony and little to no revenue stream is a difficult one. Cricket tragi will have to consider it, or lose the Caribbean nations altogether as a cricketing Power. And arguably cricket NEEDS strong Caribbean cricket, which has contributed much in the way of innovation in cricket's development years, and which still has much to give a sport that even at its best is starved of real personalities. Other details to emerge from the Test which were interesting were that Warne bowled a total of 14 overs during the test (all in the first innings), taking no wickets for 35 runs, while Stuart McGill managed to take 3 wickets for 41 runs, with 5 maidens off 16 overs.

Has Shane Warne peaked? While the Australian team can afford passengers when it plays weak opposition like the West Indies and England, what about some recent record and little tourning under his belt in the last year or so, could be considered to be a superior spinner to Stuart McGill, who has taken 50 wickets from 9 tests played? And now they still won, and look like winning the entire series without much effort.

There was a strange reference to details of Colin M Illers personal life in the Sydney Morning Herald in late January. Muller had apparently discovered the fact that he has a girlfriend in Holland, perhaps as an attempt to quash a few rumours that his fashion sense and predication for long gold earrings and bottle-blondeness indicated he may have differing off-field plans from his nuclear-unit colleagues. I'll leave that one there, suffice to say that homophobia in cricket exists. Why else cough up evidence to support your straight-ness?

Over in the subcontinent, where cricket's popularity appears to have exploded, they're playing out the Asia Cup to decide who is the Subcontinent's best cricketing nation. In the most recently completed match, 25-year old, Peshawar-born Wajahatullah Wasti scored two centuries against Sri Lanka in his second test match, complimenting a hat-trick taken by Wasim Akram. Pakistan will play-off India in the final.

Look out for these matches on Cricinfo (http://www-aus.cricinfo.org/) in the coming weeks until the next Cycic/ Tragic cricket. Live from Dakhas Bangabandhu stadium between March 12-16 will be the Asia Cup final, the culmination of this proto-World Series of Test Cricket. Australia takes on the West Indies at the original killer pitch Sabina Park, inna yard (jamaica that is). Look out for Sir Coxene Dodd, Stone Love and Poison Chang to make a special appearance versioning the Australian national anthem for the benefit of the boy Aussie yobbo following the tour.

Coldcut have been around for over a decade. On the verge of a national tour, the release of a new album of remixes, and their own video sequencing software Vj amm, Yellow Peril caught up with Jonothan Moore to talk about digital democracy and sampling at the end of the millennium.

A lot of people think our first records were made with samplers, but actually they were done with turntables and tape recorders. We used the sampling attitude but we couldn't actually afford real samplers at the time. It was only when Casio brought out some extremely cheap sampling equipment that we started using a proper sampler. We moved on to the Akai samplers which have become a standard and are responsible for a phenomenal amount of music in all genres over the last decade. Now its moving onto video.

The falling prices and miniaturisation of computer technology have allowed the common people access to high end computing power whilst the Internet has opened up cheap communication and data transfer to people outside of government and academic channels. In music, cheap home studios have replaced the costly expense of studio hire for many bands allowing them more flexibility, more control and less pressure when producing their own tracks. Then CD burners, scanners and low cost laser printers have allowed many artists to self-release material that otherwise would never had made it to the shelves and music compression formats like MP3 have allowed this home produced music to be cheaply and easily distributed over the Internet without the interference of record companies.

Moore elaborates; 'A frustration that Matt [Black] and I always had was that when it came to doing a video clip we'd have a bit of say and input but we'd have been much happier to have had the money and invested it into developing video software. We couldn't convince the record companies we were signed to to do the time that this was worth doing. But now with Vj amm artists can escape the MTV clichés that are forced on them by the record companies.

When we putting together the Panopticon video clip we worked with Undercurrents, a video activist group, and Reclaim The Streets. It was a frustration that Matt and I always had was that when it came to doing a video clip we'd have a bit of say and input but we'd have been much happier to have had the money and invested it into developing video software. We couldn't convince the record companies we were signed to to do the time that this was worth doing. But now with Vj amm artists can escape the MTV clichés that are forced on them by the record companies.

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The democratisation of technology has also meant that the processes of technology have started to become democratized. As Jonothan explains, hands on use of video editing software begins to reveal the hidden editing practices that go into the general production of TV programmes. Now we have the access to real time manipulation of media which until recently had been the preserve of the privileged class and programme makers. Now with your digital cameras, video, low cost software like Vj amm, virtually anybody can take footage and
With a name remarkably similar to one of Sydney's own electronic outfits, this Pitch Black hails from Auckland. Comprising two key members, both of whom have extensive histories with some of NZ's finest electronic and non-electronic acts, Pitch Black is, in album sales, the equivalent of Norway's own Friendly. With several thousand copies sold in NZ alone, one would expect a pretty traditional affair with heavy pop elements, but fortunately it's not as disposable as all that. Instead, Futureproof comes on heavy in dub sensibilities and moves through seven long building tracks to traverse tempos from minimal house to drum'n'bass. The tracks rely on loops that mutate as they progress, and, much like Underworld's Dubnobasswithmyheadman, there is a heavy psychedelic element to this process — and not in a stupid obvious trance kind of way either. Apparently their live shows include MIDI-synced videos using homemade software and are spectacular — so you can be assured we are trying to lock them in for a Frigid gig when their July tour comes around.

Senking
(Karaoke Kalk)

Minimalism is in. Another Cologne crew, Senking push the less is more slogan to another level with this EP plus 3 extra tracks collection. Similar to artists like Chain Reaction's Monolake and the forefathers of this sort of mutated techno Maurice, Senking don't make much noise at all but as the album progresses you become more and more aware that it's actually pretty good. Maybe this is not furniture music in action but if it is its a bit like my couch - big, blue, comfy, and a little odd.

Godspeed You Black Emperor
F# A# Infinity
(Kranky)

The last album I bought with a black and grey cover (the Skam 0161 compilation) turned out to be spectacular and it's no different with this strange release from a band with a strange name Godspeed You Black Emperor. GYBE are a multi-instrumented crew from Montreal that make the most incredible fusion of Ennio Morricone, tape loops, violins, drums and track lengths timed just right for long 2am highway drives. Right from the opening spoken word lines — the car's on fire and there's no driver at the wheel, and the sewers are all muddled with a thousand lonely suicides, and a dark wind blows, the government is corrupt and we're on so many drugs with the curtains drawn and the television on... you grabbed my hand and we fell into it like a dreamon a fever; F# A# Infinity is a bleak but deeply immersive journey strung loosely over three twenty minute tracks, themselves made up of several link movements. This is soundtrack rock music stripped back but it makes a very young men's rock bands like Powderfinger, Living End and the rest sound pointless and as manufactured as the Spice Girls. Possibly the most amazing train journey listening experience I've had in quite a while.

Pitch Black
Futureproof
(Kog Transmissions)

Pole
2
(Kiff SM)

Back in Cyclic #2 I wrote about Pole's first album and now, six months later the second is here. 2, as it is imaginatively named, is cut back to six long tracks which vary little from its predecessor on Pole 1. With more of an emphasis on basslines and a edging out of the crackles and pops that were the trademark of Pole 1, the tracks on Pole 2 enter a musical space alongside Rhythm & Sound with a heavy and obvious dub influence. The only complaint is that at 35 minutes it's too short.

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guarana, vitamins B2, 6 and 12 as well as a hefty dose of glucose could be this potent or legal! (I was particularly amused to read the almost invisible warning on the label stating that it is not suitable for children under 15 years or pregnant women and should only be used under medical or dietetic supervision). Buy up big, punters, because it may suffer the fate of whipped cream bulbs and be relegated to a position under the register so that one must suffer the ignominy of having to ask the shop assistant for it! Viva V!

Since the recent fibre optic connection to my humble abode I have barely had cause to leave except to occasionally go to work, Cryo on Rodd Island and Frigid! There is only one channel to watch on Foxtel, and that is the one that is broadcast through a beige, mutton-chop-side-burn filter — TV1! I’ve given up sex, drugs, drum ‘n’ bass and chocolate; who needs them when you can satiate all your desires with (in no particular order): The A-Team, Good Times, The Cosby Show, Starsky & Hutch, CHiPs, Young Talent Time, Wamp, Happy Days, Myk & Mindy, Hawaii Five-O, Wonder Woman, T.J. Hooker, The Partridge Family, Magnum P.I., Welcome Back Kotter, Buck Rogers in the 25th Century, Battleship Galactica, The Six Million Dollar Man, The Bionic Woman, Knight Rider, Simon & Simon and The Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour. My god, I’m simply overwhelmed! All I can say is that from now on Dear Degrassi should prove to be more fulfilling a read as a result!

Dear Degrassi,

I am absolutely obsessed with my motorcycle. To me, it’s more than a mode of transport, it is my friend, lover and driving companion. I realise that this is twisted and I feel that this may have something to do with a traumatic childhood experience. I have tried to work through this problem with my therapist but due to a massive black out from 1977 to 1983 where I can’t remember anything, we are having difficulty.

If it’s any help to you, I should also mention that I have a strange habit of using capital letters in an appropriate way and I also develop a facial tic when I hear the opening theme song of CHiPs. Help me Dear Degrassi, you are my only hope left to help me conquer these terrible afflictions.

Oh Boy! Degrassi didn’t do deadline this month!!!! And it’s just so unlike me. (I can only thank the eternally optimistic and tolerant editors for allowing me to hand this in just a tad later than usual!) Why would Degrassi miss her monthly deadline when her purpose in life is to impart her vast (and relatively useless) knowledge of by-gone pop culture? It can be summed up in 7 letters: V and FOXTEL!

Please let me clear up any confusion before I go further: when I say V, I’m not referring to the lame-ass, poxy 24 hour music channel (although, it has its oddly sporadic moments), I am in fact paying homage to the brand new energy drink so powerful that I have had to limit myself to a maximum of 350ml per day, lest I interrupt my already severely impaired biorhythms. Who could have thought that such a unique blend of

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Oh, Uncle L, I really feel for you! You are displaying the classic symptoms of Chip’s withdrawal (with the exception of eating your meals with your motorbike; that’s just plain sick!) The traumatic childhood experience you have repressed for so many years was the axing of such a brilliant series of television viewing history which aired from 1977 to 1983. To deal with this extremely devastating loss, you have blocked the entire series from your memory. There is no need to continue living such a sordid existence any longer. The people at American TNT have developed a cure for the likes of you. CHiPs 99! Larry Wilcox (the object of many of my pre-school marriage fantasies!) teams up again with Erik Estrada to make criminals think twice, women swoon and to set roller discs on fire!

CHiPs is actually an anagram (sort of) for California Highway Patrol. You need only hear a few bars of the opening theme song (check out www.firefighting.com/breakroom/music.htm and click on the link) and see Wilcox as Jim Bakers and Estrada as Frank Poncho Poncherello in their oh-so-very lighty tighty beige motorcycle uniforms to see that this is a television show which captures an important moment in time. The partnership was a delightful mix of personalities; Ponch, the easy going Southern Californian ladies’ man who balanced out the somewhat more serious and logical Jon on (think Fox and Dana without all the paranoid crap). They would patrol the highways of Cali to solve approximately 5 cases per episode under the instruction of Sergeant Jon E Greer (played by Robert Pine). They would be called to investigate anything from hit-and-run cases to kids on roller skates hitching rides on the back of wood panelled vehicles to hippies smoking pot in the back of their kombis. It frequently boasted celebrity guests from Robert Englund to Phyllis Diller and even H R Puffnstuf! (Monkeyboy is still in my bad books for forcing me to miss the episode where Danny Bonaduce and Christopher Peter Brady Keith Knight guest starred as teen auto-thieves in favor of watching The Fifth Element!)

CHiPs was ranked one of the top 25 rating shows in the US for 3 years, but as the years went on, the show still seemed to be stuck in the late 70s. Larry Wilcox left to be replaced by Tom Reilly playing Bobby Hot Dog Nelson in 1982 and Estrada’s prima donna antics about relative dressing room size saw the show axed in 1983. The show has since gained such cult status that TNT had the foresight to create CHiPs 99, a low budget tele-movie shot in just 17 days, to help sad people such as your sad self to face your past and start living a real life again! Ponch and Jon on return to break up a car theft ring in looser fitting beige uniforms and BMW motorcycles! Fans have been reassured that the disco sound track will remain and the show will also feature music from the band Seven Mary Three who named themselves after Jon’s badge number. The producers are contemplating re-making the series if the film proves successful. The question remains: will the new series still endure with the somewhat stockier Larry Wilcox and the now silver-haired Erik Estrada? Only high television ratings will tell!

Wilcox is currently producing tele-movies for HBO with his company Wilcox Productions and is the president of a software technology company called MediaCore. Estrada has been doing the celebrity guest star circuit for quite a few years now including appearances on The Nanny and Married with Children, but is now the co-host of American Adventure and stars in the top rating series Dos Muheres Un Camino.
moozik
for the
discerning
electronic beats
listener

watch out for
new CD, available
shortly