

the Vinyl Exchange

a newsletter for deejays and vinyl junkies

JUNE 1996

In This Issue

This month we focus on the San Francisco Bay Area. Check **Red Rhymes'** interview with **Cue**, owner of Cue's in Daly City. **P-Minus** covers the Bay Area hip-hop scene. We review mix tapes by two Bay Area DJs, and our reviews are exclusively of vinyl by Bay Area artists. Please support labels, artists and stores that provide vinyl! Both Cue's and Zebra Records offer mail order service; check their ads on pages 1 and 3 for addresses and phone numbers. To quote Cue, "Keep Vinyl Alive."

- DJ STEF

The P-Minus! Potpourri

On April 21st, I spent a lovely (but long) day in Palo Alto at "Hip-Hop on the Hill," a local hip-hop show put together by radio heads **Spiderman** and **Dopestyle**, and held on the Foothill College campus. After my very first CalTrain ride I was picked up by the always composed and sober members of **Sacred Hoop** and calmly driven to the show. We arrived in the middle of the show-starting set by **San Francisco Street Music**. This crew is mad deep (or else they just have lots of rhyming friends) as 8 or 10 or 12 MCs (plus the DJ!) wrecked the mic for an impressive opening performance. Before the next group appeared I was granted my first look at DJs **Eddie Def** and **Quest** of the **Bulletproof Scratch Hamsters**, who spinned in between each set. One word: sick. That's all I really have to say about the amazing talent this duo displayed throughout the afternoon. The scratching, the mixing, the beats chosen, the 4-turntable interaction—straight sick! Plus they were really nice fellas. The Hamsters have an old breakbeat album out, *Hamster Breaks*, and a new one on double vinyl, *Hamster Breaks 3½*.

The next act in the line-up was **99th Demention**, three MCs with an interesting mix of lyrical styles and an impressive DAT library of creative beats. These kids showed a lot of charisma and potential, despite their final "bitch/ho" song. Next up was **Mr. Moon**, representing **Eclipse 4.2.7.**, who immediately became a crowd favorite with his friendly chatter and the effective call and response choruses in his songs. His most memorable track was "Gamekeeper," in which he deftly (and def-ly) dropped boardgame titles throughout his on-point rhyme. Maybe you have to hear it to appreciate it, but believe me, it was dope. Following the lunar one were those ram-

Head Knods of the Month

Submitted by Theory (713.415.3292)
& Mr. Grinch (713.915.6615), Houston

1. **Fast Life (Norfside Remix) - KOOL G. RAP & NAS** (Epic Street)
2. **Games - MONEY BOSS PLAYERS** (eastwest)
3. **You & You & You - FRANKIE GUTLASS feat. SADAT X** (Relativity)
4. **The Yearn - PETE ROCK & THE LOST BOYZ** (eastwest)
5. **Purse Snatchaz - ONYX** (Def Jam)
6. **Paula's Jam - PAULA PERRY** (INC Entertainment)
7. **Fear - TOMMY GUNN** (Interscope)
8. **Stages & Lights - SADAT X** (Loud)
9. **2 Minutes - PHILLY BATHGATE** (HMC)
10. **I'm Rhymin' - MR. COMPLEX** (Co-records)

bunctious Palo Alto representin' **Kid Rock** wannabes (you know I'm jus' playin')—**Sacred Hoop**! They performed one of the tightest and least technically problematic sets (despite the cursed O.D.B. instrumental) which included both new and old songs, plus some fantastic new beats. They are working on their vinyl LP as we speak (or as I type). After the Hoop came **The Dereliks** with **DJ D-Styles** (of the Beat Junkies) who played a dope set that was unfortunately abbreviated by equipment problems. During the set they handed out copies of their cool-ass 9-track vinyl EP to audience members who could repeat their lyrics. You can get your own copy by simply calling 408.729.0663, and asking politely for it. **Tony da Skitzo** was the second to last artist on

the line-up and his set was devastated by more technical problems and a migraine-inducing strobelight. So far, Tony is much more impressive on wax.

The final cataclysmic performance was bestowed upon the thrilled audience by Davis' own favorite sons, the **Solesides Crew**, featuring **Lateef the Truth Speaker**, **Lyrics Born** and **Gift of Gab** on the microphones, and **DJ Chief Xcel** behind the Technics. They had the cleanest sounding set of the day, flawlessly spitting rhymes all over the classroom, educating their eager fans. Solesides ended their set with an amazing freestyle that left everyone speechless and emotionally drained. One of the many remarkable traits about this crew is that they look so comfortable on stage and so incredibly happy to be rhyming together. Rarely does one feel so much positive energy flowing from today's MCs. All I can say is for them to keep it up!

Again I'm past deadline so these reviews will be a bit brief—sorry. First up is **Various Blends'** vinyl debut, "Chill As I Flex" and "Dopess" (Blueprint/Khalif Int'l). On "Chill...", **Rasco**, **Eb. F** and **Friz-B** aim to prove that "there's more to hip-hop than these girls, guns and shit," and they do an amazing job using complex rhymes and tight delivery. **The Real S.K.s** cook up a delicious Premier-like beat that will give you a stimulating ear massage. "Dopess" is a straight-up battle song, with lyrics like, "How do expect to win? Exposing that chin with no discipline." S.K.s provide a funky-hot groove

continued on page 6...

CUE'S

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This issue is dedicated to James "Squeek" Bell.

Read the Vinyl Exchange ONLINE! Articles and charts are posted on the San Francisco Bay Guardian Online BBS in Davey D's HipHop Corner. Dial 415.437.3600 on your modem or visit <http://www.sfbay-guardian.com> to download software. The BBS is free!

interVIEW: DJ Cue

Cue's, Daly City, California



How'd you come up with the idea for the store?

The store was basically about, you know, there's no stores out here and... I mean I grew up in Daly City. There used to be a store down the street. They stopped selling records; they sell tapes. That's like during the days when records was like, you know, when no one was making 'em and everybody's buying CDs. For me to buy records, I'd have to go all the way downtown or to Berkeley. That's like a lot on gas and transportation. Basically everybody out here's a DJ. I don't know if you could tell, everybody out here is usually DJing or throwing a party. But I figured, instead of going out and getting a job like most people do, I'd rather just work for myself. I've always been in the business you know, so I just opened up the store. It's taken a while but you can see it's grown in the past two years. There's a need for DJs. DJs are going all over the place buying stuff, so, why not just buy it close to home? It's a five minute drive and they can always buy what they need. We've expanded a lot of stuff. We're starting to carry everything so DJs can come get everything here now.

What's one thing you found to be learning experience since you opened the store?

People really change with the music. Music changes people a lot, you know. It's like, one minute they'll be into the hip-hop, hardcore underground hip-hop, and the next minute they'll be into the commercial, sell-out kind of stuff. A lot of people go where there's money. The underground shit always stays underground, even though the commercial people might buy it, it'll stay cool, you know? It's like certain things are just money makers.

Tom Thump's "Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner" Top Ten

San Francisco, CA • 415.282.7052

1. **Dredd Overboard - NIGHTMARES ON WAX** (TVT/Warp)
2. **Harp of Gold/Son of David - PETER NICE TRIO** (Hospital)
3. **Many Styles LP - HUSTLERS OF CULTURE** (Wall of Sound)
4. **Stuff Like That - QUINCY JONES** (Qwest)
5. **Bicycles, Flutes & You - UP, BUSTLE & OUT** (Ninja 7")
6. **Straight At Yer Head #2 - LIONROCK** (DeConstruction)
7. **Way of the Flute Mix - BLACK LIQUID & TOMBA** (Nation)
8. **1/4 of Solid EP - LEE VAN CLEEF** (Dust)
9. **I Can't Take This Feeling When It Hits - MOODYMANN** (12" US)
10. **Stickshift - LAJ AND QUARTERMAIN** (Fiasco)

Tom Simonian Thump's "Jazzy Jungle" mix tape available now! Check Tom out at Succotash w/ "Rasta" Cue-Tip, Tuesday nights at the Up & Down Club and at Metro Jazz, Saturday nights at 111 Minna Street, both in San Francisco. Also, go see Tom at Groove Merchant Records, 687 Haight Street, San Francisco, 415.252.5766.

Could you talk a little bit about the new album, its title and what's behind it?

The title of the album is *Hamster Breaks* 3 1/2. The crew is now not Bulletproof Scratch Hamsters. We changed our name because everybody's starting to get on that funny name tip, so we oughtta stay away from what everybody else does. Instead of that, when you get this album you're gonna see us on a whole new level, so that's why we call our new group the **Space Travelers**. See, it's like totally different, this album is like... I love this shit. I mean, it's taken us three years to make. Basically, we all work a lot so it's hard for us to get together. But it's taken three years and it was worth three years of waiting, you know. 'Cause even the first one, some people still never heard the first one. So this one is like the resurrection of the first one and just something people are gonna love forever. 'Cause see, one thing about our album... we make our album for every type of DJ. We're not making it just for a guy who scratches, that's it. You can take our album, you could listen to it, you could mix with it, you could make beats with it, cut with it, producers can find something they wanna take off it—it's for everybody. We didn't make this for ourselves, basically. We're not making records just for ourselves

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Name: _____

DJ? ☐ yes ☐ no DJ name: _____

Street Address: _____

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Favorite color vinyl: _____

E-mail address: _____

Where'd you get your copy of VE?: _____

Genres of music played/purchased: _____

Club(s)/radio station where you spin: _____

and maybe **Quest** and **Eddie** to enter a battle and win, you know. It's not a custom record. It's made for everybody. That's one thing I wanna make known 'cause people make stuff for themselves and we don't.

What's behind the motto, "Keep Vinyl Alive?"

That was our group theme when we came out with the *Hamster Breaks*. It was on every record—"Keep Vinyl Alive." We made stickers and put 'em all over the city. That was saying... that's when the records weren't really out there too much so we were like, damn, if records are gone, what we're doing is gonna be gone so we're gonna have to find new jobs. So we just started like, everywhere we went, "Keep Vinyl Alive." We put 'em on the Cue's shirts, on our receipts, we put 'em everywhere we go, all our flyers. Just keep the vinyl alive 'cause if there's no vinyl, there's no DJ. This magazine won't exist no more, you can't do no more interviews. There's gonna be no more hip-hop. Hip-hop will die. Clubs will turn into juke boxes, there'll be no more DJs. Radio stations will be all automated, they won't even have an MC on the air. You need DJs. You need the vinyl, you get creative with it.

Could you talk about the pool for those that are interested?

It's college radio, mix tapes... some pools don't let mix tape DJs or mobile DJs get in 'cause labels don't understand that. See, labels think that if you're not on the radio or in a club, you're not a real DJ. But basically in this type of music, there's no clubs, there's no radio stations that anybody can get on. So in this type of music, you have to have either mobile or mix tape DJs actually putting it out. The pool, it's for real DJs who are working 'em. If you're doing mix tapes, you know, you got 'em out regularly, we want you as a DJ, 'cause you're getting noticed and exposure. If you're a mobile DJ, you're getting a lot of exposure doing parties all the time, we want you. If you're just some kid that wants records for free, cheap, we don't want that kind of DJ. I mean, we would like to give everybody records, but bills got to be paid too. Basically in the pool—**Joe Quixx** runs the pool—we got all types of music: hip-hop, rap, some R&B, some dance, some house. We're starting to get some breakbeats, we get a lot of unreleased stuff. Basically, this is going to be the pool to be in for the next few years. There's a lot of pools that were out before but they're starting to die out. At this store, our whole thing is to handle a little bit of everything. We have a pool, a store, we do parties. We got our studio. We got **Quest** and **Eddie**, they perform. We got a rapper **Eddie K.** Their album's coming out. We do production. We do distribution too. We have a store but we also do our own distribution for our records. That's another company we have, so we're not just like your typical everyday DJ. We try to make this more of a business and do everything.

That's my part. We got our crew—very versatile crew. Everybody's different in our crew. That's what's good. I think this is one of the main things. This whole idea of what we do is to keep everything going 'cause nobody gives a shit. Basically the pool, it's very good. We got DJs all over the state. We got a lot of service. We got service form practically every major company and a lot of independents. Also, we're not just a pool, see. Check this, we're a pool, but we also do promotions in clubs, retail, street promotions. We got hook-ups with a lot of kids all

over. Basically, this is a record company that has everything: distribution, record store, promotions, a whole line of DJs all over the place... we'll be big soon. And we sell tapes too. And mix tapes and shirts—"Keep Vinyl Alive." Basically we want people to keep vinyl alive. Another thing—don't buy DJ videos. That's my thing. Make that a point. 'Cause people buy DJ videos, it's cool, but don't copy the tricks. Quote this: My man **D-Styles** made a good point.

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reVIEWS: Bay Area Underground Vinyl

The Bay is blowin' up with independent vinyl releases! Here's some of the wax being put out by some of the talented artists, producers and DJs that call the San Francisco Bay Area their home.

Mix Tape reVIEWS: DJ Sloppy J "Jamaican Oldies Vol. 1"



DJ Sloppy J drops jamaican oldies in an original rude bwoy stylee. This tape is filled with hard to find reggae oldies, classic Trojan and Treasure Isle label tracks, and many riddims being

laid by the **Upsetters**. Side 1 delivers such classics as "Help Wanted" by **Stranger Cole**, "Feeling High" by **Rupie Edwards**, "I the Third" by **Dave & Ansel Collins** and the slackness-filled "Black Pum Pum" by **Prince Buster**. Big tings a gwan on side 2 as Sloppy J takes us back to the Jamaican sound system killing days with "Get Ready" by **Delroy Wilson**, "Ghetto Organ" by **Jackie Mittoo** and cover selections by **Derrick Harriott** ("Why do Fools Fall in Love") and **Hopeton Lewis** ("Express Yourself"). Niceness comes in classics all over this mixtape and Sloppy J keeps it smooth with crisp fades and various blends. Big ups! (For information on this tape or "Jamaican Oldies Vol. 2," call Josh Rattner at 415.252.7817.)

- "RASTA" CUE-TIP

DJ Architect Demo

Straight out of the Town (Oakland, CA) comes a tape from **DJ Architect**. This kid pretty much plays it straight. He generally mixes from song to song throughout the entire tape with almost no cutting. His strength lies in his song selections (e.g., **Kool Keith**, "Slide We Fly" and **Saukrates**, "Father Time") and his ability to match beats creating a solid vibe. A nice effort.

- UPRISE

(For information on DJ Architect's demo tape, call Albert at 510.814.9237.)

The *Vinyl Exchange* will feature different geographical areas in upcoming issues. If you'd like to be a guest editor and contribute reviews on the vinyl comin' out of your home town, please write to us.

- DJ STEF

THE DERELIKS - *Dereliks EP* (White Label) Production: **Dereliks**. Contact Brandon at Low Self Discipline 212.838.0627.

THE DERELIKS are more interesting than their name would lead you to believe on this five-song EP. They impress with the convoluted extended metaphor of "I am a Record": "I am a fiend for the needle/I get juiced as I'm getting chosen from the crate/I then get slapped on the plate/For biting motherfuckers to tell me they still ain't full." They experiment musically, as on the drumless "Birds and Bees." Lyrically upbeat and off-beat, they remind me a little of daisy age era **DE LA SOUL**, from whom they cop a beat. Their experiments don't always come off (the choruses, in particular, are lacking), but they aren't scared to try new things. Give 'em extra dap for the group photo on the label, taken aboard a BART train.

- MATT AFRICA

LATEEF - *The Wreckoning/Latyrx* feat. **LYRICS BORN** (Soleisides Records) Production: **DJ Shadow**. Contact 916.759.1304.

LATEEF is an Oakland lyricist more in the tradition of **HIEROGLYPHICS** than **TOO SHORT**. On "The Wreckoning," Lateef flexes complex lyrics and flows, double-timing phrases and changing pitch as he delivers battle rhymes. I could probably do without the verse on forensic medicine, though I'm impressed by Lateef's knowledge of the anatomy. **SHADOW** provides two mixes: an atmospheric original and an abridged "live" remix that's kind of hot.

"Latyrx" is straight experimental shit, a little too experimental to my taste. Shadow kicks it off with some tweaked bass and electronic noise, even throwing in little jungle touches. Lateef and **LYRICS BORN** start it off rapping at the same time in different channels before taking separate verses. The doubled effect is a little overwhelming. Maybe Lyrics' shit is over my head, but I really don't feel him on this.

-MA

GROOVEROBBERs feat. **DJ SHADOW** - *Hardcore* (Instrumental) Hip Hop/**CHIEF XCEL** feat. **GIFT OF GAB & LATEEF** - *Fully Charged* on Planet X (Soleisides Records) Production: **DJ Shadow/Chief Xcel**.

The Soleisides crew, out of Davis, has been experimenting and innovating consistently for the past few years. This 12 is no exception.

Worshipped overseas but here consigned to the trip-hop ghetto, **DJ SHADOW** stretches for the overdue respect of hip-hop heads. Shadow is a triple threat—dope DJ, fly pro-

ducer and beat man with few equals (plus a cool bro, to boot). In "Hardcore," Shadow incorporates everything from **NU-SOUND EXPRESS** to **GRAND FUNK RAILROAD** into his musical melange, and then tops it off with a heavy dose of scratching. The result is dope but a little monotonous to my ears. On the "Scratchapella," Shadow lets loose with two minutes of nasty transforming on **SUPREME FORCE**'s "You Gotta Come Out Fresh."

The B, "Fully Charged," is kinda like two songs. First is some uncredited muttering from **LYRICS BORN** over an ill, ill beat. It's experimental shit that works. The second portion features more conventional verses from **LATEEF** and **GAB**, who both come off.

Technically, this crew is as fresh as anybody on the west coast, period. Sometimes I don't feel their experiments, but this is one of the better examples of their abilities.

-MA

MYSTIK JOURNEYMEN - 4001 the EP (Outhouse Records) Production: **Mystik Journeymen**. Contact 510.805.0619.

The **MYSTIK JOURNEYMEN** got love from Oakland to the French Riviera, and maybe one or two places in between. Over the past few years, they've produced a steady stream of "Unsigned and Hella Broke" tapes, parties and fanzines and even visited Europe. This is their first vinyl release, and they are improving steadily. My personal favorites are probably "Never Forget" with its catchy "Motherfucker uh-uh yeah yeah" chorus, and the spacy, townish groove of "Depths of Survival." On the down side, they can be long-winded and self-indulgent and a lot of their loops sound fucked-up, but they generally make up for that with enthusiasm.

-MA

TWISTED MIND KIDS - *Twisted Mind State* (No Exit Records) Production: **Ainzboogie**. Contact 408.815.2164.

Damn, this is a pleasant surprise. Before **RASTA CUE** threw this up my way, I'd never heard of this crew from San Ho, which is surprising

considering they're pretty dope. **TWISTED MIND KIDS'** lyrics are mainly metaphors and punchlines—you know, rapping about rapping, but their material is strong and the flows good. Even a cliché like the dead homie rap of "I Feel For You" comes alive because the specifics make it shine. Throughout, **AINZBOOGIE** surprises with simple but effective production, just crisp loops and drums. Definitely worth a listen.

-MA



PEANUT BUTTER WOLF and Various MCs - *Step On Our Ego's?* (Southpaw Records) Production: Peanut Butter Wolf. Contact Stonestrow at 408.631.3012.

This EP is a breath of fresh air. It showcases the talents of six acts, including the much-missed **CHARIZMA** (R.I.P.). PBW's production is dope, from the mellow keys on "Think Twice" to the bugged loop on "My Old Nasty Habit." My personal favorites are 50 **GRAND**'s "Max Mode" and **ENGORE**'s "Think Twice" (the whole shit is dope—concept, rhyme style, beat). P.S.—also check for Peanut Butter's breakbeat album, released last year on Heyday—about the only breakbeat I'd pay for. —MA

PEANUT BUTTER WOLF - *Lunar Props* EP (2 Kool) UK Import 0181.245.7424

Bay Area super-producer **PEANUT BUTTER WOLF** comes with a limited edition import 5-song EP (1,500 copies picture-disc) on 2 Kool titled "Lunar Props." The title derives from a remix that was originally released on PB Wolf's "Peanut Butter Breaks." This EP drops two new Peanut buttas, "Creeping Mardi Gras" and "When You Feel Good, Things Can Turn" as well as "Chronicles (I will always love h.e.r.)" from the "Return of the DJ" Bomb compilation with an unreleased instrumental version. On "Lunar Props," PB finds a way to add another twist to the **RONNIE LAWS** sample ("Who Got the Props"). "Chronicles" to me was the best-produced track on the Bomb comp, undoubtedly more fulfilling with an instrumental. "Creeping..." and "When You Feel..." both have a jazzy Sunday afternoon type mood swing to them. I love this wax! —EB.F

THE "RASTA" CUE-TIP

FANATIK - *Phanatik Beats* LP (Stonestrow) 408.631.3012

Out of the original "VINYLMINERS" camp (**PEANUT BUTTER WOLF**, **CHARIZMA**, **HOMELISS DERILEX**, **UNDABOMBERS**) comes beat-mechanic producer **FANATIK** with a double vinyl instrumental LP tagged "Phanatik Beats." Fanatik drops 15 tracks of sizzling instrumental hip-hop accompanied with tight scratches and cuts from PB Wolf, **G-LUV THE ARCHITECT** (**Homeliss Derilex**), **DJ STEPHAN**, **SIDE A** and myself. This record is ideal for those freestyle heads and beat junkies. Fanatik demonstrates versatile producing skills and an ample array of beats and loops. Standout buttas include "The Produce Man," "Ramadan" and "Q Vibe" which rocks a mesmerizing harp loop! Straight butta! —EB.F

WHORIDAS - *Shot Callin' & Big Ballin'* (Southpaw Records/Hobo Records/Interscope) 213.526.2932

Oakland's **HOB0 JUNCTION** unleashes their latest artists to drop major scale known as the **WHORIDAS**. Produced by **MERG-1**, Whorida MCs **KING SAANI** & **MR. TAYLOR** re-release the already Bay Area classic "Shot Callin' & Big Ballin'" with a Merg-1 remix featuring

SAAFIR. Merg-1 flips **VAUGHN MASON**'s "Rock, Skate, Roll, Bounce" with a sinister-like style production that definitely has that Oakland feel to it. The remix features Saafir laying his illified flava with new Whorida jargon lyrics. The B-side, "Townshit," is straight up Oakland! Produced by Saafir's DJ **JAY-Z**, "Townshit" displays how the Whoridas roll through your town "on some gold ones." King Saani and Mr. Taylor let it be known they're from the westside of Oaktown as guest Saafir reiterates that fact on this butta track! This vinyl features instrumentals of all the tracks. —EB.F

PLAN BEE - *Quest 4 Survival* (One Hundred 20 Records) 510.638.6595

PLAN BEE, out of East Oakland's **Sobranite Park** (11-5), comes with the long-awaited vinyl maxi-single release "Quest 4 Survival" and "Runnin from 5-0 (feat. SAAFIR)" b/w "Grindin'."



Plan Bee was fatally shot and killed in Oakland in a case of mistaken identity. Plan was an original member of the Bay Area rap family "Children of One Destiny (C.O.D.)," which included members of present crews

HOB0 JUNCTION and **VARIOUS BLENDS**. The title track drops Plan and potnas **POOHMAN** and Saafir over a JB loop similar to O.K.'s "Fudge Pudge." The remix delivers a rougher-edged bassline as these three MCs put down how to survive in the game. "Runnin from 5-0" sounds a little dated, but the rhymes are so dope that it travels through time. Flexed in the "spirit of Plan Bee," Saafir comes solo, droppin' true tales of dodgin' the po-po. Producer **TY** (I think Big Noze) flips "Funky Drummer" crazy ill. Plan's father, "Big Daddy," lets the youngstas know from an O.G.'s perspective. "Grindin'" is a self-explanatory song of how Plan got out of the drug game with straight Oakland-style tracks for the original and the remix. 120 Records headman **MIKE DREAM** has put in long hours seeing that Plan Bee's product is released on wax! —EB.F

TOASTED MARSHMELLO FEET BREAKS (Dirtstyle Records/Scarecrow Music)

Dirtstyle Records comes back once again with a second rendition of alien invasion wax known as the "Toasted Marshmello Feet Breaks."

Produced by **DARTH FADER** and **SCARECROW WILLY**, this record features multiples of noises, bits, loops, freaks, beats and more out of this world type sounds. Initiated by such champion DJs as the **INVISIBLE SCRATCH PICKLES** and the **BEAT JUNKIES**, all scratching selectors can find use of this record. Unlike the first Scarecrow Music wax, "Bionic Booger Breaks," "Toasted..." delivers more beats for the ultimate cut creators! This is a dope piece of vinyl. (Free the Toads!) —EB.F

Hip-Hop Slam Bay Area Top 35

(from a chart of 50)
submitted by Billy Jam 5/25/96

1. Gettin' It (Album #10) - **TOO \$HORT** (Jive/Dangerous)
2. Untouchable - **MAG MALL** (Relativity)
3. Cell Block Compilation - **VARIOUS** (Cell Block/Priority)
4. Shot Callin' & Big Ballin' - **THE WHORIDAS** (Hobo/Southpaw)
5. 99TH DEMENTION (99 Cent Records)
6. Wicked Streets - **LIL RIC** (Solo)
7. Off Parole - **RAPPIN' 4-TAY** (Rag Top/Chrysalis)
8. Ill Mannered Playas - **IMP** (In-A-Minute)
9. Killa Kall - **CELLY CEL** (Jive)
10. Gamers - **CONSCIOUS DAUGHTERS** (Priority)
11. Hardcore (Instrumental) Hip Hop/ Fully Charged on Planet X - **THE GROOVEROBBER**s feat. **DJ SHADOW/ CHIEF XCEL** (Solesides)
12. All Eyez On Me - **2PAC** (Death Row)
13. 4001 The EP - **MYSTIK JOURNEMEN** (Outhouse)
14. "Original Gangsters" Soundtrack - **VARIOUS** incl. **LUNIZ**, **THE CLICK**, **SPICE-1**, **X KRAZY** (Noo Trybe)
15. Straight Bumpin' - **WEST COAST RHYME SAYRZ** (In-A-Minute)
16. Oregano Flow - **DIGITAL UNDERGROUND** (Avex/Critique)
17. Ice Cream Man LP - **MASTER P** (No Limit/Priority)
18. Money B. Presents Folk Music - **VARIOUS** (Bobby Beats)
19. Playah's Mode - **YOUNG LAY** (Young Black Brotha)
20. Smooth Getaway - **THE DELINQUENTS** (Dank Or Die)
21. Talk Like Shh - **RICHIE RICH** (Def Jam)
22. The Wreckoning/Latyrx - **LATEEF** (Solesides)
23. Step On Our Ego's? - **PEANUT BUTTER WOLF** (Southpaw)
24. Life Of a Kingpin - **KING GEORGE** (Me & Mine)
25. Wanted (7" single) - **DREAM NEFRA** (Hatshepsut Music)
26. Black Attracts Heat - **MADFACE** (Corn Field)
27. Stickin to the Script - **PRIMO** (Black Power Records)
28. Kinfolks - **VARIOUS** (Extortion)
29. Soak Game - **GAME RELATED** (Big K)
30. Twisted Mind State - **TWISTED MIND KIDS** (No Exit)
31. Message to the Black Man - **ASKARI X** (Slow Motion)
32. View to A Kill - **COZ** (Ghetto Groove/Straight 8)
33. LIL JAZZ (Body Bag)
34. The Dangerous Crew - **VARIOUS** (Dangerous/Jive)
35. SACRED HOOP demo (Miasmatic)

P-Minus! Potpourri (continued from page 1)

with a blaxploitation soundtrack feel to it. The refrain is the only weak link in the track—I would have preferred one with scratching or a dope sample, but that's just the DJ in me. The more I listen to this 12" the more I appreciate its quality. It's nice being encouraged to pay attention to song lyrics, and this trio certainly has no attention deficiency syndrome, putting out an entertaining and thoughtful piece of wax. Buy your copy today or call 510.308.1583 for more information.

Next up is **The Conscious Daughters'** album, *Gamers* (Priority). I was wary of this record after being disappointed by TCD's previous effort, *Ear to the Street*, but after listening to just a few of the new tracks I hurriedly dismissed all of my apprehension. *Gamers* uses seven producers (including **Paris**) over its 14 tracks to keep the beats lively and varied, and the lyrics are a nice blend of "gamer" (playa) rhymes and positive messages (about AIDS and street violence). The track I was most excited about was "All Star Freestyle" because **Saafir** is featured in it, but unfortunately he offers only a tame 12-second verse, but the song is still cool. Other tracks to peep: "Strikin'," "She's So Tight," and "It Don't Stop" with **Suga T.**, **Mystic** and **Shuga Babydoll**. [Priority wins promo item of the year award for the pocket-size *Gamers* domino set!—Editor.]

Suga T. is also on the solo creep with the release of "If I Took Your Boyfriend" b/w

"Hustlas and Tendas" (Jive). "If..." uses a nice **Prince** loop, and Suga's delivery is smooth, but the song says nothing at all. Suga T. is so much better than this so I'm surprised that this track was chosen as a single for her *Paper Chasin'* LP. Suga shows a bit more heart on the B-side as she espouses the virtues of the Bay Area along with **Mac Shawn**, **G-Note** and **B-Legit**, but the song is still pretty dull and the beat becomes plodding, and is, hence, another disappointment.

Back on a more positive note, the break-beat record, *New Style Pt. 1*, is here and is encoded on DJ-friendly vinyl. [This review is limited to my white label copy so I can't give you any song titles—sorry]. I was initially let down that the record wasn't loaded with scratching, but I eventually began to appreciate the creative beats and the usefulness, DJ-wise, of the noises they had recorded (I had never transformed a jackhammer before). A couple of the beats are really fresh, a few pretty quirky, and four of the tracks display masterful scratching. The dramatic climax of this record is an awe-inspiring mix of single beats (yes, single beats) from 20 or so songs, vocal snippets, and noisy odds and ends, which results in an editing-room masterpiece, a true collage of sound. *New Style Pt. 1* is distributed through Cue's Records in Daly City, 415.775.1110. Give it a shot.

- P-MINUS!

InterVIEW: DJ Cue (continued from page 3)

He said that, the way all these videos coming out, like how-to videos, and you know, all these DJ videos, it's making DJing commercialized. 'Cause back in the days when breaking came out it was cool. But then all them breaking videos came out. It started being in commercials. It started being in every movie. That killed breaking, breaking was like phony, it got sold out. That's gonna happen to DJing if people start doing all this. It's cool to try something new but in the long run it's killing stuff. The longevity of DJing is going to get stunted. The true essence of it's gonna be like, dang, kids are gonna be like, naw, everybody DJs, I don't want to DJ, let's go do something else. That's what's gonna happen. That's like breaking, everybody was breaking, so everybody's like, naw I ain't breaking no more. It's just gonna be like, ah you DJ too, yeah I DJ. It's good for business, but in the long run it's gonna kill business 'cause everybody's gonna stop all of a sudden anyway, so just stick to something else. Don't make no videos to sell. Make 'em for your friends.

- RED RHYMES

Look out for *Hamster Breaks 3½*, available from Cues. Cue's is located at 6340 Mission Street, Daly City, CA 94014, 415.755.1110.

The Beni B Show Playlist

hosted by Beni B & Matt Africa
90.7 FM Berkeley, 6-9 pm Saturdays

1. Clap Ya Hands - **DJ Eclipse** (AV8)
2. Chill As I Flex - **Various Blends** (Blueprint/Khalif Int'l.)
3. Listen To the Lyrics - **Mytee G. Poetic** (Straight G'n)
4. Parlé - **Kavaliar feat. Master Killer** (Nikera)
Are U Wid Me - **Raw Soul**
5. Advance To Boardwalk - **Cella Dwellas** (Loud)
6. The Session - **Arsonists** (Fondle 'Em)
7. Get Your Swerve On - **The Dutchmin** (Street Life)
8. Properties of Steel - **Godfather Don** (Hydra)
9. Right Back At You - **Concrete Click** (Lifeline)
10. The B*tch In You - **Common** (Relativity)
11. America - **Wu-Tang** (eastwest)
12. Put It In Your Mouth - **Akinyele**
13. Your World Don't Stop - **AZ**
14. If I Ruled the World - **Nas** (Columbia)
15. Pose A Threat - **BBO Enterprises** (BBO)
16. 12 O'Clock - **Nasty Immigrants feat. Raekwon** (Def Jam)
17. My Brother My Ace - **Smothe Da Hustler** (Profile)
18. Real N*g** - **Heather B.** (EMI)
19. Real Live (Remix) - **Real Live** (Big Beat)
20. The Turnaround - **Real Live** (Big Beat, unreleased)
21. Stakes Is High - **De La Soul** (Tommy Boy)
22. Sun Up From Sundown - **Bon VI** (Gangrene)
Microphone Enhancer - **Most Desh** (Chop Shop)
23. Hyenas In the Desert - **Concubinez** (Slam)
24. Sweet Dreams - **Nas** (unreleased)
25. If It's Alright With You - **Capadonna & U-God** (Hudlin/Epic)
26. Big Up - **Defari** (Immortal)
27. Shine - **Mr. Voodoo** (Fortress)
28. NYC - **2 Face** (Blindside)
29. I'm Gonna Kill You - **Juggaknots** (Fondle 'Em)
30. L.A., L.A. (Remix) - **25 To Life** (25 To Life/Dolo)
31. My Crew Can't Go For That - **Trigger tha Gambler**
32. Cocbacda - **Camouflage Large** (Close Range/Messenger)
33. Hemlock - **Mr. Voodoo** (Fortress)
34. Mic To Mic - **Big Kwam** (Blindside)
35. Tastes Like Sh... - **Richie Rich** (Def Jam)
36. Listen To Me Now - **EightBall & MJG** (eastwest)
37. Purple Rain - **RubbaBandz** (Messenge)

The Live & Direct Hip Hop Mix Show

Jay Skilz & Craze One,
Wednesdays 6 pm to 8 pm
Worldbeat Radio 89.1 FM San Diego

1. The Bizness - **DE LA SOUL** (Tommy Boy)
2. Art of Facts - **ARTIFACTS** (Big Beat)
3. The Mad Scientist - **THE LARGE PROFESSOR** (Geffen)
4. Uknowhowwedu (Remix) - **BAHAMADIA** (EMI)
5. Operation Lockdown - **HELTAH SKELTAH** (Priority)
6. Hang Em High - **SADAT X** (Loud)
7. Men vs. Many - **MIC GERONIMO** (Blunt)
8. What's the Reaction - **KWEST THE MADD LADD** (American)
9. Heart Full of Sorrow - **HOUSE OF PAIN/SADAT X** (Tommy Boy)
10. Paper Chase - **DISCIPLINE** (In the Cut)

Charles Rice/Jason Madsen, 6161 El Cajon Blvd. B-196, San Diego, CA 92115. Phone/fax 619.466.0331.

CLASSIFIED ADS

VINYL for sale or trade

CONSUELO'S CORNER at Behind the Post Office, 1510 Haight Street, San Francisco. 415.861.2507. Jazz, breakbeats, vinyl treats.

STACKS OF WAX. Jazz, soul, funk, rap, etc... call or fax want list to 415.252.7817.

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VINYL wanted

LOOKING FOR Native Tongue house remix i.e. Queen Latifah's "Come Into My House," ATCQ's "Luck of Lucien," De La Soul's "Saturday." Call Miquel, 415.552.6328.

LOOKING FOR BDP's "Jack of Spades" 12", Pete Rock's first LP (domestic), De La Soul's "Plug Tumin'" 12" and Gang Starr's "Step In the Arena" 12". Call Albert at 510.814.9237.

WU-TANG CLAN WANTED: I am looking for the following vinyl goodies: "Protect Ya Neck" (the original 12" on Wu-Tang Records); Method Man - "All I Need"/"Sub-Crazy" (white label promo); The Genius - "Come Do Me." Also, on CD, I am looking for Ol' Dirty Bastard's "Brooklyn Zoo" (radio edit; must be the version you hear in the video). If you can help, contact John Book, 2502 W. Opal St., Pasco, WA 99301-3352. For you computer heads, e-mail YCAA10A@prodigy.com with information.

ATTENTION: Free airplay on Univ. of Oregon's college radio station KWVA 88.1 FM. Send all demos etc. to "Hip-Hop Don't Stop," KWVA 88.1FM, P.O. Box 3157, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403. Representing hip-hop to the fullest!

Soul Food DJ Family Top 30

(from a chart of 50) • Marty Smith
Oakland, CA 510.728.8087

1. Mr. Ice Cream Man (LP) - MASTER P. (Priority)
2. Killing Me Softly (Remix) - FUGEES (Ruff House)
3. 2 of Amerikaz Most Wanted - 2PAC feat. SNOOP DOGGY DOGG (Death Row)
4. Soul Food - GOODIE MOB (La Face)
5. Hoo Bangin' - MAC 10 feat. ICE CUBE (Priority)
6. Get Right - MAC MALL (Relativity)
7. E.M.B.R.A.C.E. - SOCIETY OF SOUL (La Face)
8. Where I'm From - PASSION (MCA)
9. Get On Up - JODECI (Uptown)
10. The World Is a Ghetto - GETO BOYS (Noo Trybe)
11. All the Way Live - COOLIO (Tommy Boy)
12. Bring It On - ORGANIZED KONFUSION (Priority)
13. The Mad Scientist - THE LARGE PROFESSOR (Geffen)
14. Kissin' You - TOTAL (Bad Boy)
15. Oakland Streets - ASKARI X (Slow Motion)
16. Everybody Get - YOUNG ZEE (Perspective)
17. The One - W.C. & THE MADD CIRCLE (Payday)
18. No More Games - SKIN DEEP feat. LI'L KIM (Loose Cannon)
19. Freak It Out - DOUG E. FRESH (Gee Street)
20. Can't Be Wasting My Time - MONA LISA (Island)
21. All Eyez On Me LP - 2PAC (Death Row)
22. If 6 Minutes Was 9 Minutes - AXIOM FUNK feat. BOOTSY COLLINS (Axiom)
23. I Feel It - L.O.D. (Interscope)
24. Space Age - EIGHTBALL & MJG (Relativity)
25. X.O. - LUNIZ ("Original Gangsters" soundtrack) (Noo Trybe)
26. You and You and You - FRANKIE CUTLASS feat. SADAT X. REDMAN (Relativity)
27. Banemi - YULARA (Higher Octave Music)
28. 1, 2, 3, 4 - COOLIO (Tommy Boy)
29. Time To Build - DARK SUN RIDERS (Island)
30. On a Sunday (Stepped On Remix) - THE BODY SNATCHAZ (Hood Rat)

TECHNOFIEND seeks anything by Juan Atkins (Model 500, Cybotron) and Derrick May. Also looking for Patrick Crowley, Detroit techno compilation LPs/mix tapes, especially the "Area Code 313" compilation LP. Michael Heath, P.O. Box 427072, San Francisco, CA 94142.

I WANT VINYL. I'm looking for any 90s rock/alternative and rap/hip-hop vinyl. Please answer ad via ground mail: Nick Batyko, 103 Chaucer Court, Moon Twp., PA 15108, or e-mail: DJSpice1@aol.com.

BREAKDANCE ERA (81-84) We're "Lookin' For the Perfect Beat" and others: "Clear," "Search & Destroy," "Planet Patrol," etc. So all you "Buffalo Gals" and "Space Cowboys" round up your old LPs and 12" singles and let's keep this "Planet Rockin'" J & T's Ole Skool, call 916.427.1501, fax 916.391.3032.

LOOKING FOR any Ultramagnetic MC's vinyl on the Next Plateau label (12"s and the LP). Also any promo items from Ultra or Organized Konfusion (hats, shirts, hoodies, etc). Live videos, radio freestyles, live tapes, pretty much anything from these two groups. I will buy or trade for this stuff. Dan Ladd, 61 Esker Ln, No. Kingstown, RI 02852.

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ATTENTION DJs! Become part of an international DJ network for and about DJs. For application and information, send a SASE to: DJ's Network, P.O. Box 284, New York, NY 10012.

FREE WAX for rap/hip-hop DJs. SF Bay Area promotion co. needs your feedback. Please leave name and number on voice mail and I'll call u back 415.313.3900.

The Sounds of Urban London Records/Rap Archives are updating their DJ mailing list. Hip-hop, soul, R&B, swing, funk, black dance music. DJs send name, address, phone

and club/radio details to: S.O.U.L./Rap Archives Records, 3000 W. 79th St., Inglewood, CA 90305.

EQUIPMENT for sale

CERWIN VEGA earthquakes for sale, \$950 incl. cables. Call Albert 510.814.9237.

MISCELLANEOUS

NAZ RECORDS, an independent record label, is looking to sign talented R&B and rap artists. If interested, send demo, name, telephone number and B&W photo to Naz Records, 5301 Diamond Heights Blvd., Suite A, SF, CA 94131.

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NEW WAX

AMERICAN

LP Here To Save You All - Chino XL

ATLANTIC

Single Feels Like the First Time - Intro (remixes by Clark Kent [feat. Li'l Kim] and Kevin Dean)

AXIOM/ISLAND

Single If 6 Minutes Was 9 Minutes - Axiom Funk feat. Bootsy Collins, Buckethead, Afrika Bambaataa, T.C. Islam (hip-hop remixes by DXT)

BIG BEAT

LP Trapped In The Game - The Hard Boyz
Single Ghetto World - The Hard Boyz

BLINDSIDE RECORDINGS

Singles I Don't Give a What/ Mic to Mic - Big Kwam (includes remix by NYU's Mr. Mayhem)
NYC/Hey Hey Hey - 2 Face (L Swift/A Butta)

BOMB MAGAZINE

LP Return of the DJ—Volume Two

CRITIQUE RECORDS

LP Future Rhythm - Digital Underground

DBK RECORDS

Single Everybody Knows Me - Street Poets (Contact DJ Excel at 617.433.0047.)

DEF JAM

LP The Nutty Professor Sound-track - Various Artists, incl. Richie Rich and Jay Z

FONDLE 'EM RECORDINGS

Single The Session/Halloween - The Arsonists
LP Juggaknots

FORTRESS RECORDS

Singles How Itz Going Down/ Check Da Style - L Swift
Lyrical Tactics - Mr. Voodoo

FREEZE RECORDS

Single Hardcore Hip Hop/Life That I'm Living - Rawcotics (produced by Premier)

HARDKISS

Single Joy to the World - T. Tauri

JUNGLE RECORDS

Single Life Is a Game of Chess - Redfoo & Dré Kroon

KNOWLEDGE OF SELF

Single Attic - Nas-T Howie (mixes by DJ Frankenstein and Eclipse)

LOUD/RCA

LP Delinquent Habits - Delinquent Habits

NERVOUS/SORTED

Single How's the Music - Winx (double vinyl 12"—UK and German remixes)

NERVOUS/STRAPPED

Single Is It Indare?/Party On the Dancefloor - Bozo Meeko featuring Sideshow Bob and Those Amazing Bongo Beats

PERSPECTIVE/A&M

Single Problems - Young Zee

PRIORITY RECORDS/DUCK DOWN

LP Nocturnal - Heltah Skeltah

PROFILE

Single My Brother My Ace b/w Hustler's Theme (Hill Playaz Remix) - Smoother Da Hustler feat. Trigger tha Gambler

RCA

LP A New Beginning - SWV

SAN JOSE SOUND RECORDING CO.

LP Do You Know the Way? - 10Bass T (408.244.3582)

SOUTHPAW RECORDS/INTERSCOPE/

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Single Shot Callin' & Big

Ballin'/Town Shit - The Whoridas

SPOILED BRAT RECORDINGS

LP Guess Who's Comin' to Dinner - DJ Cash Money presents WKIS

UBIQUITY

EP A Better Tomorrow - Automator featuring Sinister 6000 (known to most earthlings as Kool Keith) (Contact Ubiquity at 415.864.8448.)

VMAX RECORDS

Singles Nowhere Near Simple/ Don't Cum Strapped - Percee P
Scary Thoughts/It's Over - Sick Lyrical Damager (Found at Fat Beats, New York City.)

WHITE LABELS

LP Hamster Breaks 3½ (To order, contact Cue's, 415.755.1110.)

Singles What Can You Do...What Do You Know? - CE Squad (Contact 714.472.1787.)
A Tribute to Tina Turner - Shero

WRAP/ICHIBAN

Single To Da Beat Ch'all - MC Breed featuring Erick Sermon (Produced by Erick Sermon. Contact 770.419.1414.)

the Vinyl Exchange

a newsletter for deejays and vinyl junkies

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Interview with DJ Cue
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the Vinyl Exchange

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Bay Area Underground Vinyl Releases!
See reViews, page 4.