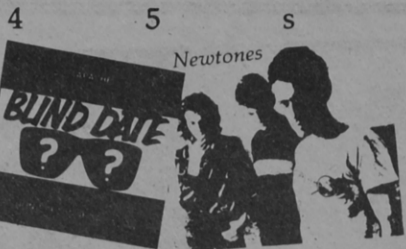


The Swingers
It Ain't What You Dance (Ripper)

This one has to be top of the list, if only because it is going to be top of the pops for the foreseeable future. Phil Judd takes another giant step into psychedelia with a song that probably has less substance than 'Counting the Beat', but which still bristles with hooks. Back in the days when Judd was Split Enz, they made the mistake of hanging around the Antipodes until their moment had passed — let's hope he doesn't make the same mistake twice.

The Techtones
State of Mind (CBS)

The Techtones are a bit confusing. After last year's sprightly 'That Girl', and pronouncements about pure pop, they sure didn't seem to be heading for a record like this. It's an interesting hybrid with some Pettyesque guitar and a great, world-weary, almost British, vocal from Jimmy Juricevich. The words don't



bear too close a listen, though. 'Same Old Game' on the other half seems to be on the same subject — whatever it is — but takes it at a brisk clip.

The Newtones
Paint the Town Red (Newtones)

You all remember the Newtones from *Class of 81*. 'New Way' was the longest track on the album, a very linear song featuring an awful lot of guitar flanging. The news with this self-distributed single is that Tony Peake has turned down the flanger. 'Paint the Town', and 'Christchurch Part 2' are both overlong, and based on a single repetitive chord sequence. 'China' seems like a



backwards look at the band's 77 roots, but the instrumental 'Santa Anna' shows real promise, with a rhythmic drive and edgy funk that shows someone in there knows where the 80s are going.

Greg Clark
The Green Room (CBS)

This record is silly. I can't decide whether I hold that against it or not.

Playthings
Coloured/Sit Down (Playthings)

A democratic DIY record with no apparent A-Side. 'Coloured' stomps, while 'Sit Down' chugs. 'Coloured' is longer than 'Sit Down'. Only

the drummer really shows a determination to move out of the seventies' mood, and even then, only on 'Coloured'. Toy Love showed the way out of this particular blind alley two years ago.

Steroids
Credit Card (Bunk)

This record could surprise a lot of Aucklanders. I presume Wellingtonians already know that the Steroids are more than ramalamadolequeue, but it isn't that widely realised up north. 'Credit Card' is intriguing, with a nimble bass, snappy drumming and intelligent (read sparing) use of punky fuzz guitar. The vocal performance is a little short of that standard, but the words have flashes of all-too-painful truth. Buy this one.

Blind Date
Apache/Don't Let It Get To You (WEA)

Another guitar instrumental, and not a lot more I can say about Side One of this Double-A sided single. You either like the Shadows or you don't. The other side of this one, though, is a song — with words. 'Don't Let It Get To You' is solid with a catchy chorus, and features a vocal which is a definite step up from Mike Caen's previous recording. The words, though, are better not listened to.

The Red
Just Starting Over (Bunk)

Another rich, lower-register vocal performance in the current British fashion. The Red show some affinity with ska, and a nifty bass-player. Once again, though, 'Just Starting Over' seems too long. The flip, 'A Bunch of Fives' is shorter, and could be said to boogie. This record has a guitar solo on each side.

Ray Columbus and the Invaders
Till We Kissed (Epic)

Anyone who thinks of Ray Columbus as a lightweight country singer, on the strength of his TV appearances of the last few years, should get a load of this. Somehow, with a minimum of studio equipment, Columbus comes on like Scott Walker at the beginning, before letting loose over a deranged string section on the choruses. The flip has a curious instrumental and a live version of 'If I Fell' with great harmony singing by two of the Invaders.

Larry and the Ladders
Looking For An Answer (Ripper)

The Ladders have a profile so low it's almost horizontal. Apart from an abysmal video on *Kulcha*, I've never seen them, but that glimpse and this record suggest a slight identity crisis. Larry (if it is him) has a good R'n'B-ish voice, and the tune is certainly hummable, but the whole enterprise seems a bit lacking in direction. Then again, it could all be part of Ripper's master plan — something else I've never seen.

Francis Stark

INDIES MAIL ORDER

- 45s (ps) indicates picture sleeve.
- Features: City Scenes (ps) 2.99
 - Spelling Mistakes: Feel So Good (ps) 2.99
 - Spelling Mistakes/Whizz Kids (ps) 2.99
 - Proud Scum/Terrorways (ps) 2.99
 - Swingers: One Good Reason 2.99
 - Counting the Beat 2.99
 - Gordons: Future Shock (ps) 2.99
 - Herco Pilots: Wonder Book (ps) 2.00
 - Steroids: Mr Average (ps) 2.99
 - Screaming Meemees/Newmatics (ps) 2.99
 - Pop Mechanix: Now 2.99
 - Jumping out a Window (ps) 2.99
 - Mockers: Good Old Days (ps) 2.99
 - Red Mole: E.P. 2.99
 - Zolo & the Bantams: Deep Crisp & Even (ps) 2.99
 - Crocodiles: Hello Girl (ps) 2.99
 - Techtones: That Girl (ps) 2.99
 - New: Blams: No Depression In NZ (ps) 2.99
 - Ainsworths/Regulators (ps) 2.99
 - Newtones EP (ps) 2.99
 - Aims For Children: Danny Boy (ps) 2.50
 - 12" EPs Blam Blam Blam (ps) 3.99
 - Features: Perfect Features Exposed (ps) 3.99

- Albums**
- Various *The Class of 81* (Blams, Meemees etc) 7.99
 - Various *Hits and Myths* (NZ hits 1977-80) 7.99
 - New: Digits: Dog Wrestled to Ground ... 9.99
- Post and packing is 50 cents for first single, 25 cents for each additional single and 75 cents for an album. Circle the records you want, complete the form and post to Propeller Records, PO Box 37-371, Parnell, Auckland 1.

Name

Address

Phone



rem records ■ 39 sonia ave ■ remuera
auckland 5 SEND \$3.00pp included

NOW
OPEN

BLUEBEAT

MENS' & WOMENS' CLOTHES

Bledisloe Street — behind Civic Theatre

**Ethnic,
Oriental
&
Asian**



Narnia
probably has it!

- ★ Textiles
- ★ Clothing
- ★ Footwear
- ★ Giftware
- ★ Handknotted Carpets
- ★ Pipes & Roach Clips
- ★ Asian Handcrafts
- ★ Cigarette Papers
- ★ Caneware
- ★ Incense
- ★ Jewellery
- ★ Thai Silk



**The Merchant
Adventurers
of Narnia Ltd**

His Majesty's Arcade
Queen St, Auckland. Ph 34-970
154 Willis St, Wellington
ph 849-149, 846-634

REGGAE TOUR

BLACK IS STATE

BOOK TODAY \$10.90 plus booking fee

PLUS N.Z.'S OWN HERBS

TOURING IN AUGUST!

- WELLINGTON ST JAMES SAT. 1st 11pm. Book at Majestic
- WANGANUI OPERA HOUSE SUN. 2nd 8.30pm. Book London Town
- NEW PLYMOUTH OP HSE MON. 3rd 8.30pm. Book Collier & Co
- PALMERSTON NORTH OP HSE WED. 5th 8.30pm. Book C&C
- NAPIER MUNICIPAL THURS. 6th 8.30pm. Book DIC
- ROTORUA CIVIC FRI. 7th 8.30pm. Book at Tattersal & Bailey
- TAURANGA Q.E. CENTRE SUN. 9th 8.30pm. Book P.R.O.
- HAMILTON FOUNDERS MON. 10th 8.30pm. Book at Hamilton Piano Co
- AUCKLAND TOWN HALL WED. 12th 8.30pm. Book St James