UPFRONT

Sinead O'Connor will play Joan of Arc in a forthcoming Hollywood movie. Her new single is 'My Special Child', a song written after she miscarried on tour last year . . expect a new Public Enemy album Apocalypse '91: The Enemy Strikes Back in September . . . Living Colour will release a six song EP Biscuits with covers of Jimi Hendrix's 'Burning of the Midnight Lamp', Al Green's 'Love & Happiness', James Brown's 'Talking Loud & Saying Nothing' and live Talking Heads' 'Memories Can't Wait'. on the new Alice Cooper album Hey Stoopid, Nikki Sixx (Motley Crue), Steve Vai and Joe Satriani, all play on 'Feed My Frankenstein'. Cooper has remade Hendrix's 'Fire' . . . Elvis Costello recorded two albums last year, his recent release Mighty Like A Rose and a "loose recording of covers — maybe we'll put it out sometime," he said . . artists to attend the funeral of 60s Temptations lead singer David Ruffin included Stevie Wonder and Aretha Franklin who sang, plus Diana Ross and Dave Stewart. Fellow ex-Temptation Eddie Kendricks was arrested at the ceremony for non-payment of child-support. The funeral was paid for by Michael Jackson's company MJJ Productions. Ruffin died of reaction to cocaine, he arrived at the hospital dead in a limousine after visiting a "crack house." \$40,000 Ruffin was known to be carrying was missing . . . rapper Slick Rick has been jailed for three years for attempted murder. While out on bail (\$800,000) paid by Def Jam, he recorded two new albums for the label . J Mascis of Dinosaur Jnr has joined "satanic" Boston band Upside Down Cross. He may face a breach of contract action from Dinosaur Jnr's label, Warner Music . . . Axl Rose brawls with Terminator II star Arnold Schwarzenagger in the Guns N'Roses video for 'You Could Be Mine', their song from the soundtrack . . . copies of the new N.W.A. album EFIL4ZAGGIN (reads backwards) were ceased by London police after complaints. Their label may face charges of distributing material of a "depraved and corrupt nature" . . . Black Crowes singer Chris Robinson was charged with assault and disturbing the peace in Denver after a shop assistant refused to sell him beer after midnight. He apparently assaulted (spat on) a customer who asked the question, "Who are the Black Crowes?" . . . Fat Boys rapper David Robinson was fined \$10,000 USA for videotaping a 14 year old girl having sex at the group's party . . . rappers Gang Starr have been

dropped by Chrysalis after the group threatened an executive with a gun . . . rapper Ice Cube stars in the movie Boyz N The Hood. Performing in the film are 2 Live Crew, Quincy Jones and Tony! Toni! Tone! . . . bo>James Brown has resigned to Scotti Bros. Records and has completed a new album Love Overdue . . . Billy Bragg co-wrote with Johnny Marr his new single 'Sexuality', a duet with Kirsty MacColl . . . R.E.M. are expected to appear at New York's New Music Seminar under the name Flight of Mavis . . . Teddy Riley's "New Jack Swing" dudes Guy were involved in the second fatal shooting in their career. This time their 26 year old bodyguard was gunned down in a Manhattan club. Eddie Murphy was one of the witnesses. The last fatal incident was when their soundman was shot by the rival road crew of New Edition . . . Prince's new look has been described as Godfather III meets Barbarella. At Los Angeles' China Club he previewed his new album and new band New Power Generation in a 90 minute set. Guests included Rick James, Flea (RHCP), Sandra Bernhard and Narada Michael Walden . . . EMF have recut the track Lies after Yoko Ono threatened to sue for their sampling of Mark Chapman reciting the lyrics of John Lennon's 'Watching the Wheels'. . . Australian singer Kate Ceberano is a guest vocalist on the new Arthur Baker LP . . . best band name this month: Overweight Pooch. Worst name: Pretty in Pink a group featuring Chaka Khan's 17 year old daughter Milini Khan . . . Shaun Ryder of Happy Mondays commences his solo

career with a remake of Thin Lizzy's 'Running Back . . . Lloyd Cole is recording another album with his former group, the Commotions . . . Axl Rose injured his left foot at a New York warm-up show. The tour is continuing with Rose in a knee-high sneaker-like splint . . . Manchester rapper MC Tunes was cleared of assault charges after using a baseball on guys who followed him home . . guests on the next John Lee Hooker LP are Van Morrison, Keith Richards, Ry Cooder, Robert Cray and Albert Collins . . . an Elton John tribute album will include the Beach Boys doing 'Crocodile Rock' . . . Annie Lennox is recording a solo album but will record with Dave Stewart as the Eurythmics in 1992 . . . Liverpool legend Pete Wylie has made an album for Siren, called Infamy: Or How I Didn't Get Where I Am Today . . . Robert Plant's arch rival David Coverdale will join up with Plant's former Led Zeppelin accomplice Jimmy Page to record a joint album for Geffen with bassist Richie Phillips (Bad English) and drummer Denny Carmassi (Heart) . . . Iron Maiden drummer Nicko McBrain has recorded an instrumental single 'Rhythm of the Beast' . . . B.E.F. is back, the collective created by Martyn Ware (Heaven 17) to record unusual cover versions. First single this time is Lala Hathaway on Sly Stone classic 'Family Affair' . . . expect a live record from Neil Young's recent USA tour including Young & CRazy Horse's version of Bob Dylan's 'Blowing in the Wind' . . .

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WRITE TO: RIU LETTERS, PO BOX 5689, WELLESLEY STREET, AUCKLAND; OR FAX: (AK) 761-558.

AN AXE TO GRIND

In reply to the letter in the June RIU: why is it out of three letters, two of them are shifting on the AXEL GRINDERS, one a rabid Nun fan — proof all Nun fans are diseased and nearing a nasty death — the other, 'Crap' a perfect title for a fuckfaced, sausage breathed, sexist pig of a bodily function who thinks the Renderers are a band (the Renderers are in fact the dog who bit the Nun fan). The third and final bowel movement of a letter a metaller who hasn't yet worked out if he sold his TV. He could buy the records his TV won't

play (do we get coffee from a toaster Mr Heavy Bloody Metal?). I think these three people need a bunch of flowers and a hug because if Perry Farrell was right they must be finding it hard running the world with such wonderful views. May we all grow old and die slowly because I liked the Axel Grinders along with many others. Schardel Mench "The Skinny Puppy" CHRISTCHURCH

PEOPLE

Congratulations are in order. I read my first RIU and was more than a little impressed. The majority of names I had never heard of before. I felt a litte in the dark. But now your paper has made me see the light. I am now converted and at the beginning of the long arduous journey that all true disciples embark on. Curiosity for Jane's Addiction and Enuff Z'Nuff are at the forefront of the adventure

initiated by well written reviews.

I couldn't truely appreciate the Kerry slurs. I'm told this shall come to pass.

Personally I also feel that it doesn't really matter how U2 get to where they are because it was obviously done well. This too could also come to pass though.

Yours, Ali.

OUR AMERICAN FRIEND

A stranger to this part of the world, I came to New Zealand expecting little more than great scenery and 60 million sheep, so I was totally unprepared to get blown away by your fantastic local music! With bands the calibre of the Chills, the Straitjacket Fits and the totally amazing JPS Experience (whose recent live performance left me stunned) it's obvious New Zealand is headed for great things!

Cheer up kiwis, your dollar my be

down but your musical future is looking bright — just let the rest of the world in on your secret sometime, ok? PAT GRISSON, Maryland, USA.

TVNZ SUX

I would like to make it known that TVNZ has done a really shitty thing by cutting RWP. What's the fuckin' use of making a video of great creative power when there's no fuckin' programme for it. And I'm talking hardcore, thrash, expero, whatever, not wimp jackoff kiddios. Let it be known Shakedown and RTR are shit corporate adventurers. Nothing home-grown about it. Artists unite! NZ music (a couple of "new" bands, guess who?) is about to take off faster than a Jew's foreskin and TVNZ couldn't give a fuck. Die corporate yuppie scum. Signed, MR X.



