



MUSIC

With DOUG NEEMS

Doug Neems, deejay at *The Scorpio*, holds a journalism degree from the University of North Carolina.

Though winter continues to dominate Charlotte and surrounding area, relief from the seasonal music slowdown is in sight. Record companies are gearing up for summer and the trend toward regional sounds continues to prevail. In 1986, Chicago influences were felt throughout the industry. The difference for 1987 is merely a shift in focus.

Florida is the new sweetheart of the music business. Independent labels have thrived in this hotbed for the past few years and the majors have taken note. Expose — a female trio whose hits include "Point of No Return," "Exposed to Love" and "Come Go With Me" — is probably the best known example of the Florida sound. Now mega-giant Atlantic records has gone berserk and gobbled up many independents for its company stable. Included are Company B's "Fascinated," Genuine Parts' "Did It Feel Like Love," "Move Out" by Nancy Martinez, and Erotic Exotic's "L.O.V.E." All are excellent and highly recommended. Watch for other companies to follow Atlantic's lead.

More hot items on the domestic front include Cheryl Lynn's sleazy scorcher "New Dress" and the latest from Jocelyn Brown, "Ego Maniac." Warner Brothers features remixes of Nick Kamen's "Each Time You Break My Heart" and Kraftwerk's "The Telephone Call." Omni Records has purchased the rights to Sinita's "Feels Like the First Time" (very like Regina/Madonna) and is preparing the

former import for stateside release.

High Energy (or Eurobeat, the current preferred moniker) abounds with new vinyl from all shores. Italy sends us Fun-Fun's "Baila Bolero," one of their best efforts to date. Domestic release is pending. From the United Kingdom come Poison #9's excellent remake of Abba's "Lay All Your Love on Me," a remix of the Communards' "So Cold the Night," and "Heartache" by Pepsi and Shirley. Back in the U.S., outstanding new product includes a remix of Michael Bow's "Love and Devotion," Oh Romeo's "Call My Number" and Dead or Alive's blistering new mix of "Something in My House." Interested in alternative music? Seek out the current issue of Razormaid Records which features a 4-on-the-floor remix of David Harrow's "Loose Tonight" (with guest vocal by Jeanie Tracy), Frankie Goes to Hollywood's "Warriors of the Wasteland," and "Satellites" by the Microchip League.

Doug's Top Ten

1. SOS Band, "No Lies," Tabu 12-inch.
2. Debbie Gibson, "Only In My Dreams," Atlantic Arista 12-inch
3. FunFun, "Baila Bolero," Energy 12-inch (Italy)
4. Paul Parker, "One Look," Dice 12-inch
5. Michael Bow, "Love and Devotion," RJM 12-inch
6. Company B, "Fascinated," Atlantic 12-inch
7. Poison #9, "Lay All Your Love On Me," Boy 12-inch (UK)
8. Dead or Alive, "Something in My House," Epic 12-inch
9. Phil Fearon, "Ain't Nothing But A House-party," Chrysalis 12-inch
10. Transdance, "Do the Dance," Epic 12-inch

Loving Family Discovers The Tragedy Of AIDS

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PWAs. They asked, "Does this have something to do with AIDS?" A weary intern looked back at eight PWAs filling all intensive care beds and replied, "You can almost count on it."

"She was a bitch," offered Bill.

"But I sympathized with her," Mary said. "The (AIDS patients) were all critical, all in comas. It tears (the people who work with them) up — constantly dealing with death. Nine out of ten of them were to die completely abandoned by family and friends. There are so many who have absolutely no one."

Mary stayed for three weeks with Bobby until he was well enough to go home and care for himself. His second lover, Tony, moved back in to offer financial relief and friendship. Bobby recovered well enough and began building a foundation of strength which he shared with family and friends. Ironi-

cally, his last job had been with the Gay Men's Health Crisis center. Now he turned to them for the support he had given only a few short weeks earlier.

His battle was beginning. It was a journey down a one-way street and there was no turning back.

■■■

NEXT MONTH: Bobby is diagnosed as an AIDS patient and his family bonds to support one another during the next cruel months.

At this writing, Mary and Bill had returned from yet another trip to New York as Bobby battled PCP (pneumocystis carinii pneumonia) and treatment-induced diabetes. His first lover, Frank, has been confirmed with ARC (AIDS-related complex).

To talk about AIDS, contact the Metro-lina AIDS Project (333-AIDS). Families with gay children may contact PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) at 364-1474.



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(& others)

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Cheap Trade

The AIDS Benefit for MAP, Wednesday, March 11, with 11 p.m. show donated by Jamie Monroe, Boom Boom Latour, Kasey King, Tina Terrell, Gerri O'Neal, Amber Blake, Brooklyn Dior, Cheri, Blair Williams and the Cheap Trade Camp Drag Review. Admission: \$3 members, \$4 guests.

Mardi Gras '87, Wednesday, March 4.

U.S. Male with all-new show, Friday, March 13. Performances at 11:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m.

"Wearin' O' The Green" presented by QCQ with show at 11.

House shows every Sunday, 11:30 p.m.

SCORPIO

2301 Freedom Drive • Charlotte, N.C. • 373-9124

