

record."

And partly because the band had reached a plateau in the music business:

"What happened to us is we got an American deal and we saw a little more of a comfortable side of it, and then we sort of lost a lot of footing and we were kind of hovering at a point where there just wasn't enough positive things happening to keep us wondering what was around the corner, sometimes it felt like we peaked."

When things ended with The Inbreds, O'Neill released a demo tape of some songs he had written. He released a 12 song cassette exclusively in Halifax, on which he played all the instruments. He gave copies of the tape to friends of his, friends he wanted to play on his solo record.

He enlisted Matt Murphy, now in the band Flashing Lights, and once the lead singer of The Super Frenzy, Don Kerr, drummer for the Canadian legends Rheostatics, among others, and asked them to help choose the songs they thought he should record; by and large their choices were the same as his.

The result is this year's stunning "What Happens Now?" The album, like O'Neill's live show, kind of climbs up around you, and before you truly notice, you have been playing it all night. Or you have seen it twice in two days.

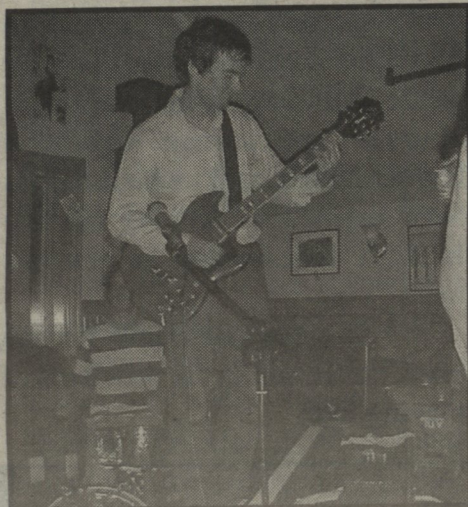
Recording What Happens Now? was clearly done at a frantic pace, and this effected the result in a multitude of ways:

"We had about 12 days to record, so that gave us about 5 to learn the songs. There are some songs that came out way better than I expected and there were some that might have benefited or we might have found a better way of presenting them if we had a little bit more time."

There are several stand outs-among them 'Andy', the song that is responsible for Ron Sexsmith's name being mentioned on the liner notes, even though Sexsmith can never seem to remember O'Neill face to face.

"He had left a guitar in the studio where we were recording, a heavy telecaster and it just fit the sound of the record perfectly."

Mike O'Neill will be playing on the main, upstairs stage at next Friday's Triskaidekaphobia. □



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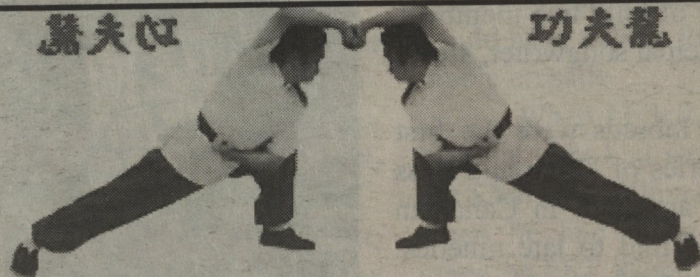
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THE EVENT TENT

**Wednesday,
October 4**

Baba's Lounge: **Mitch Schurman Band**
Brennan's: **Big Picture**
Myron's: **Ray Bonneville**

**Thursday,
October 5**

Baba's Lounge: **Zebradonk**
Myron's: **The Posterboys**
Olde-Dublin Pub: **Banshee**

**Friday,
October 6**

Arts Guild: Improv comedy with **4Play**
Baba's Lounge: **Carolyn Mark and Her Roomates**
Brennan's: **Great Balancing Act**
Olde Dublin Pub: **Banshee**
Panther Lounge: **The Pocket Dwellers**

**Saturday,
October 7**

Baba's Lounge: **Great Balancing Act**
Brennan's: **Scott Parsons**
Myron's: **Great White North**
Olde Dublin Pub: **Banshee**
Panther Lounge: **Downtime**

**Sunday,
October 8**

Brennan's: **The Datsons**

**Monday,
October 9**

Baba's Lounge: **Saltines/Eyes for Telescopes**

**Tuesday,
October 10**