

alone touring the United States, Canada, Ireland, Denmark and Holland. Organizing these tours, as can be expected, is quite the undertaking.

Noted O'Byrne, "Having had a long career in the business certainly helps to knock on doors when trying to work on building tours and getting gigs, but it still requires a lot of leg work when not on tour...I find it just takes a lot of work at home and on the computer, especially, to put together these tours."

Beyond their work together as a duo, O'Byrne and Payne have many other projects that they are working on. Payne owns the Newfoundland record label Singsong, and is part of the comedy duo Sods and Rhymes. O'Byrne plays with the award winning group Tickle Harbour, does solo

work, and is involved with a production called Celebrating Our Heritage. "It involves slides, stories and songs of Ireland, Newfoundland, and also Atlantic Canada. Primarily, my objective is to give children a good sense and pride in their own culture and heritage."

Throughout his career, O'Byrne has been deeply involved with the preservation of local songs, a matter close to his heart. "It's getting harder to collect music right from the source as a lot of the performers of that music, unfortunately, are not with us any more. But there are vast collections of folk music that have been compiled by folklorists and collectors, such as Songs of the Newfoundland Outports by Kenneth Peacock.

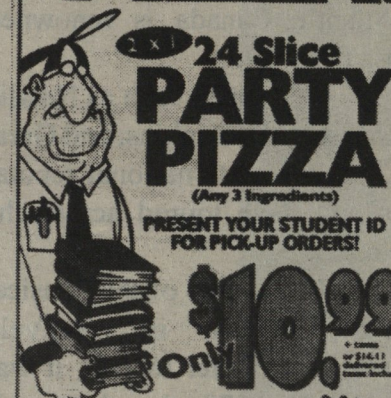
"I would like to see more concentration by bands and per-

formers from the various Atlantic provinces on their music from these local collections. There are literally thousands of songs that haven't been tapped yet."

O'Byrne notes that, although more support from commercial and private radio would be nice, he is not upset with his lack of coverage.

"I don't think myself and Jim Payne would fit the category of a 'boy' band. But seriously, I'm committed to my career as a musician and regardless of radio coverage or not, I intend to continue working at my trade taking the lows with the highs as they come along. And over a span of thirty-two years the highs and lows have come and gone — and I'm still here."

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Carl Stedman's "Kid A In Alphabet Land" is his "abecedarian roller coaster ride through the phallogentric obscurantism of Jacques Lacan." It's also the inspiration for the title of the new Radiohead album.

<http://www.freedonia.com/~carl/kida/kida_index.html>

HEAR IT!

Kid A, Radiohead's new album, which we heard illegally. Melodic, moody, difficult, amazing.

READ IT!

On a Cold Road: Tales of Adventure in Canadian Rock by Dave Bidini from the Rheostatics chronicles his band's adventures as they travel across Canada, opening for the Tragically Hip, and also seeks to explain the history of Canadian rock in its own words.

RENT IT!

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