



The Music Beet



New Traditionalists - Devo

Devo (which, by the way, is an acronym for De-evolution) are a sign of our fickle times. Five years ago, they and their music were collectively labelled "weird". Now that "weird" is commonplace, many new wave bands are doing quite well, thank-you. So what about Devo - one of the pioneers of synthetic rock and music's so-called "New Wave". The fact is, most new wave bands - if they were honest - would admit owing a lot (perhaps even their existence) to Devo.

The material on New Traditionalists is pretty much what we have become accustomed to hearing from Devo. Which

is to say, if you like the group's past material, you should be quite satisfied with this LP. One noticeable alteration in style is that the band seems to be gradually edging toward a more mainstream sound. That is, they appear to be preoccupied with finding another "Whip It", the group's first commercially successful single which must have caught radio programmers (and Devo) by surprise. Well, what the hell - we all have to make a living.

None of the songs on New Traditionalists can beat "Whip It" (pun intended). However, there are some very catchy tunes on the album. If there are any singles released, "Through

Being Cool" and "Going Under" get my vote.

Devo continues to utilize their patented synthesized sound and robotic vocals. Their lyrics remain relatively intelligent and witty, and sometimes insane (e.g. "It's a beautiful world").

Recommended cuts: "Through Being Cool"; "Soft Things"; "Going Under"; "The Super Thing"; and "Beautiful World".

Completion Backward Principle - the Tubes

By Dave McInnis

"The Tubes latest effort is a somewhat down to earth undertaking; the result of budget cuts and marketing strategies. The crunch is on and record companies

are no exception. This, once extravagant sounding band has toned down much to this listener's pleasure. It is definitely a "commercial" album designed to reach the mass, pop rock market.

The music is somewhere between the Doobies and Steely Dan, if that's possible. Notable cuts are: "Swishi Girl", "Attack of the Fifty-Foot Woman" (this song is reminiscent of the band's previous style), "Don't Want to Wait Anymore" (an AM D.J.'s standard single) and the zinger "Talk to Ya Later."

Although off beat for this band, the album should sustain old fans and attract a lot of new ones. Try playing two copies at the same time.



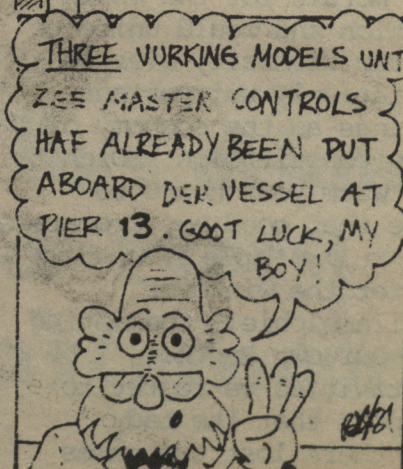
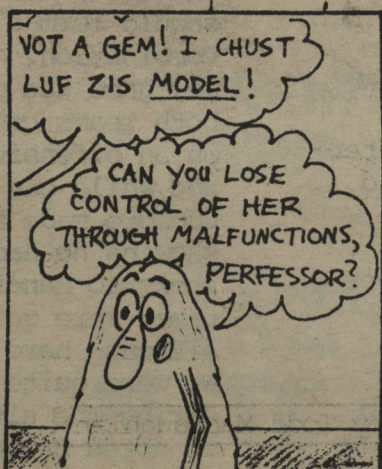
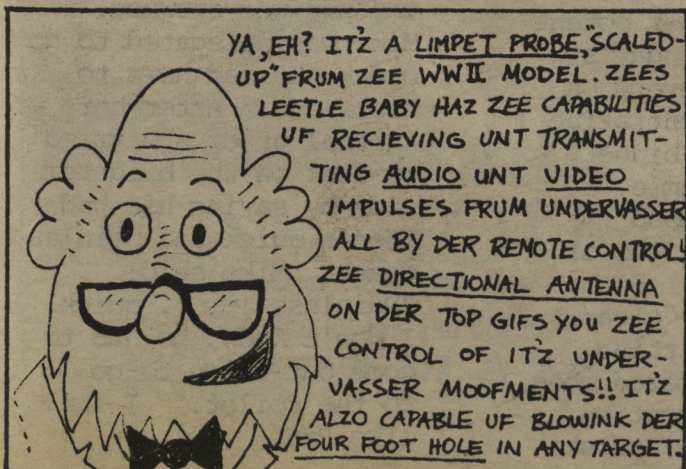
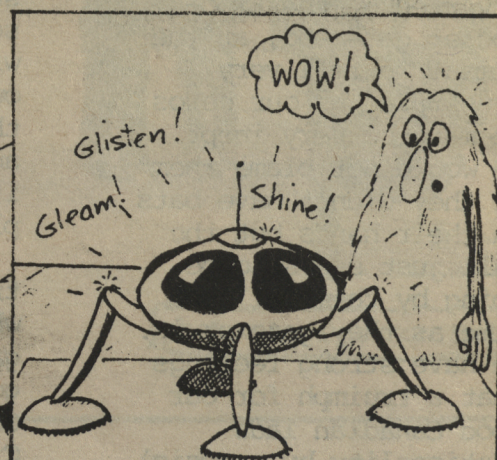
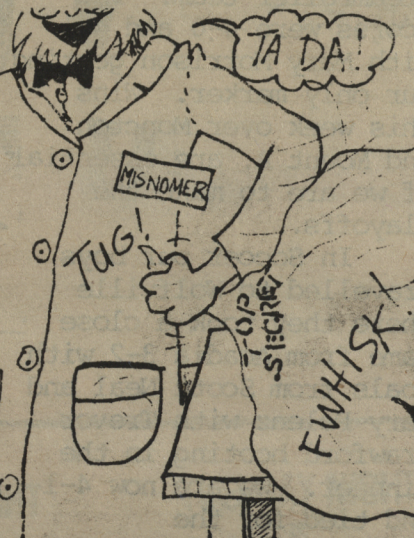
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