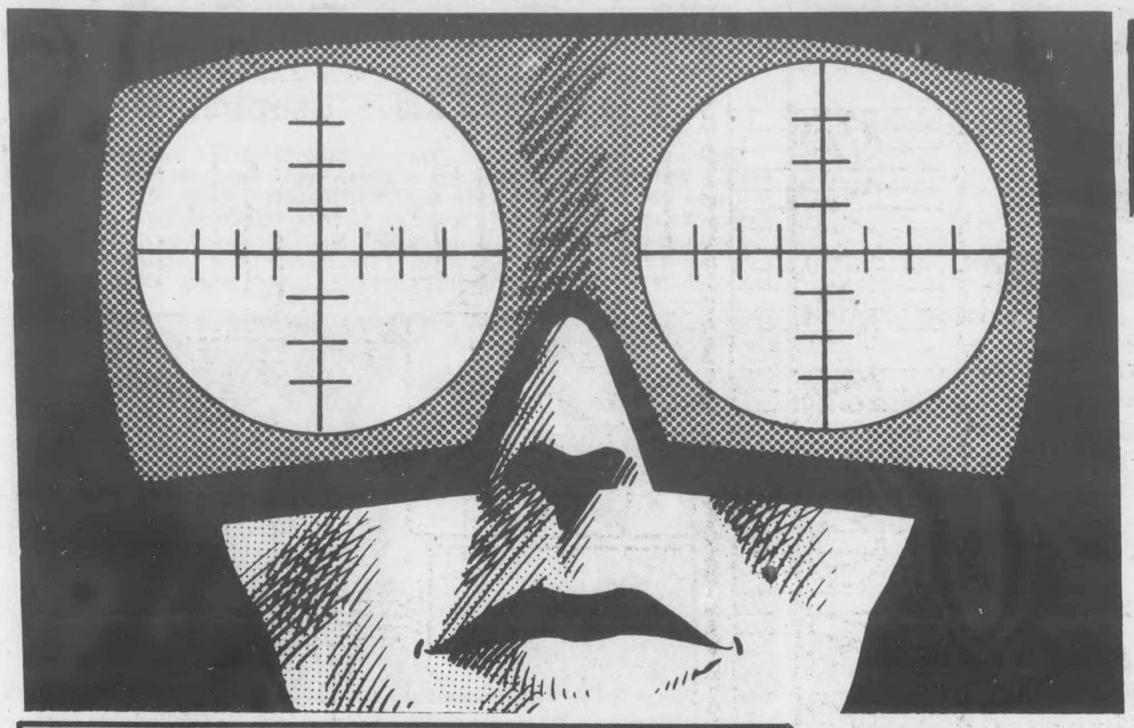

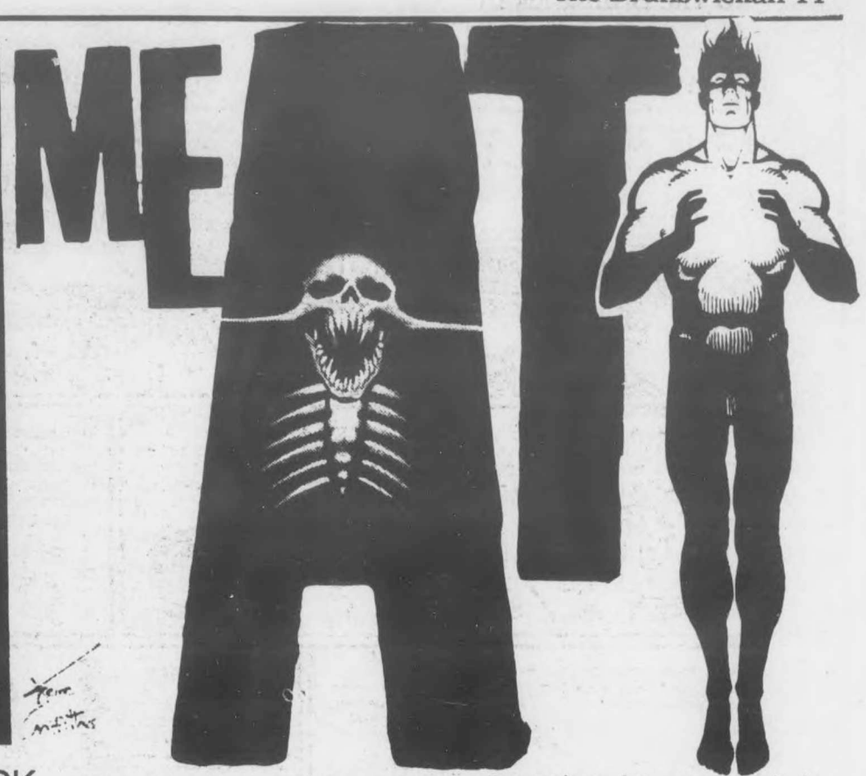

WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT?

soundtrack

(Touchstone Records/Fisher Music)

The hoo-ha over semi-demented **Roger Rabbit** and well-endowed **Jessica** would appear to be over and done with. After all, a motion picture can only endure so much, despite the fact that Who Framed Roger Rabbit was last year's most successful movie, making approximately $150 million at the box offices (although, if **Steven Spielberg's** reputation indeed follows him, if he does as he did with **E.T.**, and senselessly so, we may not be seeing Roger for a long time. P-p-p-please!). Setting this fact aside, allow me to approach a topic I myself haven't heard much about: the soundtrack.

The music of **"Roger Rabbit"** had much to offer and, except for occasional quirks where **Judge Doom** was concerned, rather delighted me. These songs can be put into three categories as far as one-word description is concerned: Normal **Toon**-oriented, **Eddie**-oriented, and **Judge Doom/Weasel**-oriented. (Normal **Toon**...well, typical **Toon**.) And I can pick out the best of each category at the drop of that stupid hat Judge Doom insisted on wearing (what's wrong with baldness, Patrick Stewart will say). But, to be fair, the better music was most often the Toon music.

"Why Don't You Do Right?", Jessica's nightclub scene song, was by far my favorite of the cassette. Amy Irving has a wonderful voice that should be used more frequently. (Singing!) This is closely followed by "Hungarian Rhapsody/Dueling Pianos," recorded with the voices of Daffy and **Donald Duck's** making the cracks heard in the movie ("This means war...."). You look for something weirder to play at a social.

I have no idea why they called "The Merry-Go-Round Fell Down" by that title, since the song has absolutely nothing to do with merry-go-rounds and doesn't plan to. Of course, the song was merely an example of **Roger's** dementia praecox. (Dementia is sel explanatory. Praecox is prematurity). Guy bashes his head with a stack of plates and you really start to wonder about his sanity. The guy sings "Merry-Go-Round" and you have no doubt that he has no sanity!

"Smile, Darn Ya, Smile!" is definitely not a piece to play to your children, for this is the type of music that a child is prone to sing constantly... and it is very grating on the nerves. It fits

"Valiant & Valiant" is virtually identical to "**Eddie's** Theme" for obvious reasons, but "Valiant & Valiant" is shorter and slower. "**Eddie's** Theme" is the better theme by far. In the same vein, "Judge Doom," "The Weasels," and "No Justice For Toons" are nearly identical songs with the same, repeating, set of notes....AAGH!!

The best instrumental is "The Gag Factory." This is the type of song you get genuinely scared by. It uses the recurring notes of "Judge Doom" but in a more effective way.... more softly. Second to this is "Maroon Logo/Maroon Cartoon" and **Jessica's** Theme." The Maroon pieces are your typical **"Woody Woodpecker"** or **"Bugs Bunny"** pieces, and listening to these give the impression of the Toon of your choice wandering around aimlessly in your bedroom, causing havoc. Lovely. "Jessica's Theme" is part terrifying, part mild repressed sexuality (don't get ideas, guys). OK, maybe not "repressed," but please remember that Jessica is not bad, she was just drawn that way.

All in all, this is one of the better soundtracks I've heard, and I recommend it to anyone that can find it. The **Roger Rabbit** stigma of excellence is something that comes with this cassette. But good luck; I can't find this ANYWHERE in FreddyTown!

ROXIE

PAY IT ALL BACK VOLUME 2

On-U Sound

(Nettwerk Records)

It's the rhythm that **Adrian Sherwood** likes. great slabs of percussion blasting down fifteen storey buildings with vicious impunity. Seen live, the artists in **Sherwood's ON-U sound stable** produce an incredible and unforgettable experience. Internal organs are shaken into a frothy cocktail as **wave eyes** a wave of pounding infiltration bludgeons the ecstatic audience into a smoldering paste of ecstatic protoplasm.

If I were to put together a list of my favorite examples of musical excitement, they would undoubtedly include selections by **Gary Clail's Tackhead, Fats Comet** and **Mark Stewart and the Mafia** - pieces of work that walk you along a knife edge of tension in a haunted house of wicked sampling. BOSH! BOSH! BOSH!

On this second sampler from the Beatmaster's boys and Girls, the eager bosh-fiend can experience all kinds of wondrously fresh stabs to the soul.

Side One will likely appeal to **Mark Stewart's** fans with relentless thumps and whallops providing a back drop to a plethora of wriggling, writhing sound lextures and found dialogue. The love of tribal rhythm and soccer coalesce again on **'Billy Bonds MBE'**. Adrian frequently takes his pro - walkman to **English Soccer Matches** to record the belligerent chants of a nation's obsessive thugs. Canbroung this with snatched samples of sports centers, the result is remarkably effective (afficianados should get hold of **'Sharp As A Needle'** by **'the Barmy Army'** for a really wonderful experience).

Sherwood's interest in world music also adds itself rather commendably to this stimulating collection. About three years ago I was convinced that **African music** would take the western music world by storm with groups like 'the **Bhundy Boys'** gaining rapid prominence but sadly this was not to be (yet). The sort of thing I had expected to flourish is represented on this album by two songs from **'African Head Charge'**; gloriously unrepentant jerky little belters that cause invisible hands to spank you out of that **Laz-E-boy** in a second.

For those of us that like our reggae meaty, beaty big and **megabastard** bouncy, side two is also a real treateroonie. Rather than the drugged out repetition of wanga-wanga-wanga, rastafari, jah and multitudinous references to ganga, the likes of **Prince Far I, Dub Syndicate** and **Bim Sherman** dip into the custard with a bloody big ladle and make all the ornaments on the mantlepiece go **mudderforking bonkers**! Turn it up Real loud and see if the snow stays on the roof. It won't.

Despite the huge influence that Sherwood has had on the lucrative pop market, his gang have yet to have the spectacular success that they undoubtedly deserve. Unless you still have some dusty old tapes of the Tea Time Show, chances are that its going to be pretty difficult to get your sticky paws on the absolutely excellent material that ON-U has produced in the past. For information regarding available merchandise write to

ON-U SOUND RECORDS LTD
a BERWICK STREET
LONDON
GREAT BRITAIN W1V 3R6

Remember if you like watching your own feet detach themselves from your body in a frenzy of the dance attack wibblies while summarily experiencing sonic depilation, ON-U records are for you!

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Support 'em bosh-fiends!!

GRIFFITHS

COMING SOON TO MEAT

RETURN OF MR OPINION

by Wm. (ubiquity) Sykes

God, the things I've seen, mate.
You wouldn't bloody credit it.
Not at all.
Imagine! The bastards.
Details forthcoming.

Hasta luego,
Bill