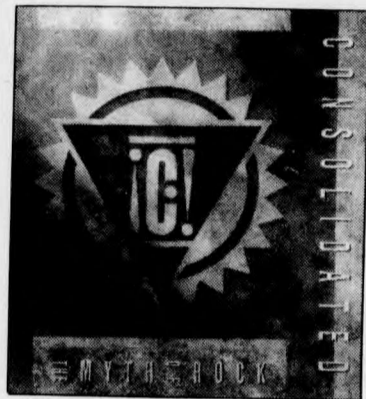


# PLATTER CHATTER



## The Myth of Consolidated



**Consolidated**  
The Myth of Rock  
Nettwerk Records

by Peter Stathis

Solidarity is about the fight against corporate fascism.

A sharp-edged hybrid between Tackhead and Public Enemy, Consolidated's album, *The Myth of Rock*, lampoons the implicit prejudice directed against minority groups by big government, big business and mass media.

The song list reads like a political call to arms: Fight The Fascists, White America Male (which samples an actual Ku Klux Klan chant), Stop The War Against The Black Community (a conspiracy to invoke martial law under the guise of the war on drugs), There Is A Mountain Filled With Blood, This Is A Collective and Message To The People.

Consolidated shows a flawless use of sampling mixed in with a massive drum/bass assault. The music sounds like a shotgun blast of anger — all encompassing and devastating. A perfect blend of meat-beat and sword-words, Consolidated songs will have youngsters dancing in the discos, and everyone else waking up from their slumber of ignorance.

Mass consumerism, the profit-minded music business, the two-tiered school system (which supports an elite and ghettoizes everyone else), and anti-abortion legislation are all on the Consolidated chopping block.

*The Myth of Rock* is anti-conspiracy to combat the cor-

porate offensive on individuality and authentic democracy. Information and entertainment in one loud bang! Buy this record and snap out of it.

## Buckwheat's Creole mix is hot



by Andrew Sun

**Buckwheat Zydeco**  
Where There's Smoke, There's Fire  
Island Records

From the red peppers on the cover, it should be obvious that this record will be hot!

Zydeco is a musical style from southwest Louisiana with only one purpose — to move bodies! It's a gumbo mix of dixie, blue grass, polka, rural blues and other things Creole French.

Among the most popular propagators of this style is Buckwheat Zydeco. Born Stanley Dural Jr., the nickname (yes!) is due to his resemblance to the *Our Gang* character.

With his *Il Sont Partis* Band, Buckwheat has been preaching his brand of Zydeco in bars and clubs across America and the world since the late 70s. It's a music infused with a hard driving rush that is more urban than rural, more bluesy than melodic.

Where *There's Smoke, There's Fire* is a good example of Buckwheat Zydeco's version of this American traditional music.

Buckwheat gains something and loses something from recording in the studio. On the plus side, this album achieves a more soulful feel, even more than his previous studio work, with subtleties not properly appreciated on a sweaty dance floor. No doubt the introspection is attributable in part to producer David Hidalgo, better

known as the lead singer of Los Lobos, a group known for its respect of traditional music on both sides of the border.

What the record loses is obviously the unrestrained liveliness found on a stage. However, the choice of material — especially covers — help to cover this handicap, providing some particularly stirring moments.

Buckwheat's renditions of The Stones' "Beast of Burden," and Hank Williams Sr.'s "Hey Good Lookin'" (which features guest vocalist Dwight Yoakam) are two choice cuts of melancholic zydeco. These tracks are somewhat hindered by Buckwheat's weak vocals, but his accordion playing could move crocodiles to cry real tears.

The up-tempo stuff is very infectious; Buckwheat's zydeco hybrid demands to be blasted loud in a steamy bar. The playing is spirited, and one can only wish the songs could be played out without having to fade after four and a half minutes. Some of the tunes really demand a no holds barred accordion spree from Buckwheat.

Where *There's Smoke, There's Fire* may not be a five alarm signal, but there's certainly enough heat there to make it worth warming up to.

## Hey — Lava Hay



by Gary Verrinder

**Lava Hay**  
Lava Hay  
Nettwerk/Capitol-EMI

This debut album from Toronto's Lava Hay is a departure from what they were like a few years ago, when I had the chance to see them at the Cabana Room, opening for some band I can't even remember.

Lava Hay, who now reside in

Vancouver, are the duo of Michelle Gould and Suzanne Little. On this album, they recruited members of Grapes of Wrath, The Waterwalk and The Tear Garden to back them up.

"Baby" starts the album off in a sort of John Cougar-Melloncamp way, but Lava Hay's voices soon take over. Michelle and Suzanne have the best voices I've heard in a long time. A great organ solo makes "Baby" more than just another pretty boy meets girl song.

"What Will You Do" starts more like a Lava Hay song — two folksy guitars and the women singing in tandem. The third song features great flute work from Bud Korz. "Holding On" is a country gospel song that even has lap steel guitar adding to the effect.

"The Alley Song," a sort of psychedelic song which ends side one, is a drastic change from everything else on this platter. It sort of reminds me of The Incredible String Band and Donovan (without the LSD).

"Won't Matter" is more of the same, this time sounding more like Patti Smith. "Waiting For an Answer" contributes to Lava Hay's mellow atmosphere. This is a beautiful pop song that is enjoyable to listen to.

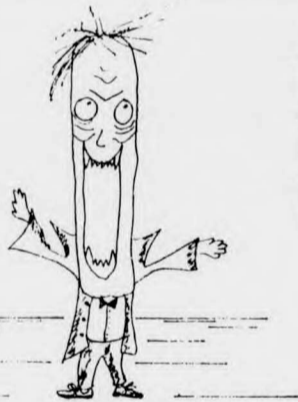
My favourite song on the album is "My Friend," which starts off as a country ballad, but turns into a foot stomper; it's one of those songs that you would put on to get every one to dance. Play this at your next party — no spectators at this hoedown. The great vocal work and drumming make me wish the rest of the album was as spirited as this song.

Lava Hay's debut album is definitely worth checking out, although the slower songs like "My Friend" and "The Alley Song" are what makes *Baby* a must for any person who is serious about pop music. At times, Lava Hay are reminiscent of Suzanne Vega, K. D. Lang or The Feelies.

Lava Hay has definitely changed since its days as a Toronto bar band; they seem ready to make the jump to higher levels of success. Of special interest to York students: Michelle Gould is actually a graduate of the university. All the more reason to go out and buy this album.

Lava Hay will be touring Canada with 54:40, so look for them at the Diamond Club in Toronto within the next month.

## Write for Excalibur



graphic by Dave Dumto

they'll sing your praises

# HIT LIST

CHRY-FM 105.5 FM TOP TEN  
for the two week period  
ending May 21, 1990



ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1 <i>Look People (C)</i>	Small Fish, Big Pond	Quantum
2 <i>Lou Reed/John Cale</i>	Songs For Drella	WEA
3 <i>Consolidated</i>	Courage	Intrepid/Capitol-EMI
4 <i>National Velvet (C)</i>	Courage	Intrepid/Capitol-EMI
5 <i>the Stone Roses</i>	Fools Gold	Silvertone/BMG
6 <i>Public Enemy</i>	Fear of a Black Planet	Dee Jam/CBS
7 <i>the Fall</i>	Extradiate	Polygram
8 <i>Michelle Shocked</i>	Live	Polygram
9 <i>Eleventh Dream Day</i>	Borsch	Atlantic/WEA
10 <i>Digital Underground</i>	Sex Packets	Tommy Boy

Compiled by CHRY's Music Department from programmers' playlists over a 2-week period ending May 21, 1990. Programmers choose their own material. (C) denotes Canadian material.

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