



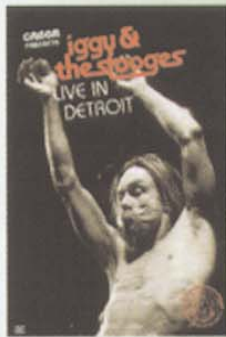
**SWEATSHOP UNION**

**Natural Progression** (Battle Axe Records)  
 Progenies of Swollen Member Madchild's label, Battle Axe, this Vancouver collective was recently nominated for a Juno for Best Rap Recording for their sophomore release, *Natural Progression*. Comprised of four independent un... Creative Minds Sweatshop Union ('P.O.T.B.'), lyrical bangin'-ass b... supplementing delivery. Lead s... (currently in rota... SU's ability to t... pretension, and '... Only) keeps thi... friendly realm. A... lyricism: "We're... bombs/ We built... It's insane all th... us/ But we can ch... These boys c... themselves, and... honest flair for... the fifteen buck... 7.5  
 Theresa Micallef



**THE VINES**

**Winning Days** (EMI)  
 The fertile minds of The Vines are prolific in their growth. *Winning Days* is the sophomore effort by these burgeoning rock & roll saviours, breathing youth and excitement into



No, Iggy! Don't go stage right! There are no stage lights there! **IGGY & THE STOOGES: LIVE IN DETROIT** is a low-budget, high-energy souvenir of the proto-punk band's hometown reunion last August, and the spectre of the big blackout (which scotched the original date) is in effect, especially when the Ig struts stage right into total darkness... and the camera follows him! Then there's Pop's demand to extinguish the houselights ("Blackout!") during 'TV Eye'... for 30 seconds! The middling production values, though, somehow make sense for a band as loose and volatile as The Stooges were. Brothers Ron (guitar) and Scott Asheton (drums) look a lot worse for wear 30 years after the Stooges' bust-up but they still make a lovely racket, and Iggy Pop can still hump a bass amp like a champ. (Ex-Minutemen bassist Mike Watt fills in for the late Dave Alexander and saxophonist Steve Mackay shows up.) The classics are well-represented, including '1969', 'I Wanna Be Your Dog', 'No Fun' and 'Funhouse'. Extras include the band's NYC in-store performance (with Pop detailing the origins of each song), Watt's spoken diary of the Detroit gig, and "sing-a-long" version of four tunes. *SP*



rehearsed and... and... Toronto's Tangiers ignited a local firestorm of hipster and critical praise last year with their matinee idol looks... live shows and...

Indie heroes The Von Bondies have moved up to the majors and have delivered a major album. Produced by... ing Heads drummer Jerry... *Pawn Shoppe Heart* is a fine... up to their first independent... brimming with heartfelt... rock grit and competent... Guitarist Marcie Bolen and Carrie Smith's backing vocals... aural equivalent of rolling... die drummer Don Blum offers... persuasive percussion. Only... bbing 'Not That Social'... Bolen singing lead, which is... she could stand more of... ht - but vocal interplay is... band's great assets, as... ed on 'The Fever'... and guitarist Jason... can sing convincingly... d, but his over-the-top... velled out nicely by his... erparts. While most... start with a bang and... *Pawn Shoppe Heart*'s full potential until... with the infectious

MUSIC DVD...

COMPILED BY SEAN PLUMMER AND KEITH SHARP



With the first album in 20 years featuring the original-line-up imminent, Duran Duran's former masters at EMI are positioning themselves to reap the rewards of renewed interest in the Fab Five. *SING BLUE SILVER* and *ARENA* (both available April 13) are dynamic reminders of the hysteria that surrounded these New Romantics back in the '80s and the

ularity; their *Ragged Tiger* as the crew e girls. *Arena* ran could get ising his role io battle with ia. It doesn't ist how much s behind-the-imon Le Bon

lights there! budget, high- town reunion :kout (which / when the Ig imera follows a houselights The middling for a band as cott Asheton but they still i champ. (Ex- i saxophonist 969', 'I Wanna NYC in-store diary of the



You have to admire Rammstein. The pyro-wielding industrial rock sextet has weathered multiple arrests, accusations of fascism and associations with Columbine's Trenchcoat Mafia to become the only German-speaking group in recent memory to have any sort of North American success. The magnificently designed **LICHTSPIELHAUS** DVD compiles their highly art-directed and controversial videos, incendiary live performances, and five comprehensive making-of-the-video documentaries which are actually interesting. Aside from the Tarantino-influenced video for their best-known single, 'Du Hast', we get the provocative clips for the Depeche Mode cover 'Stripped' (which incorporates footage of Hitler favourite Leni Riefenstahl's *Olympia 1. Teil: Fest der Völker*, her documentary of the 1936 Berlin Olympics); 'Sonne', featuring the band as gold-mining dwarves in servitude to an overbearing, gold-addicted Snow White; and 'Ich Will', a *Dog Day Afternoon*-style fantasy that highlights the media's celebration of villainy. *SP*



Her famous 'wardrobe malfunction' aside, it's ridiculous that Janet Jackson should succumb to such sleazy self-promotion, particularly when she has the talent to override such cheesy stunts. Her live performance on **THE VELVET ROPE TOUR** is all about her pure talent as a singer, dancer and overall performer. Shot at New York's Madison Square Garden, Jackson's performance is broken down into four sequences: the opening hip-hop set (featuring 'Velvet Rope' and 'Control'), the carnival atmosphere of the 'Escapade Medley' (complete with over-the-top-costumes), the jazz-flavoured 'Alright'/I Get Lonely' set, and the rock/dance finale of 'Rhythm Nation' and 'Together Again'. Jackson's dancing, singing and stage presence are superb, her band and supporting dancers tight and well choreographed, and there's a professionalism about the entire presentation that projects sheer class. And not an exposed boob in sight! *KS*

**Access**  
 10th Anniversary Issue!

AVRIL LIVE  
 LET'S WORK!  
 ROCK STAR JOBS

THE JANET  
 CONTROVERSY  
 WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

WILL QUENTIN  
 TARANTINO KILL BILL?

THE ROCK WALKS TALL  
 FEFE DOBSON  
 MELTS THE ICE HOTEL

NIKKI SIXX: "I DON'T GIVE  
 A \*\*\*\* IF YOU LIKE ME"

SOUTH AFRICA:  
 IS IT THAT SCARY?  
 HOW TO BE A (MP3)  
 PLAYER

PLUS...  
 SARAH HARMER  
 FRANZ FERNINAND  
 HELLBOY TOYS  
 NASCAR REVS UP  
 REVIEWED: EAMON +  
 THE VINES + ALANIS +  
 BLONDIE

**Scarlett**  
 FEVER  
 SCARLETT JOHANSSON goes  
 from acclaim to fame

69 APRIL-MAY 2004  
 WWW.ACCESSMAG.COM  
 FREE