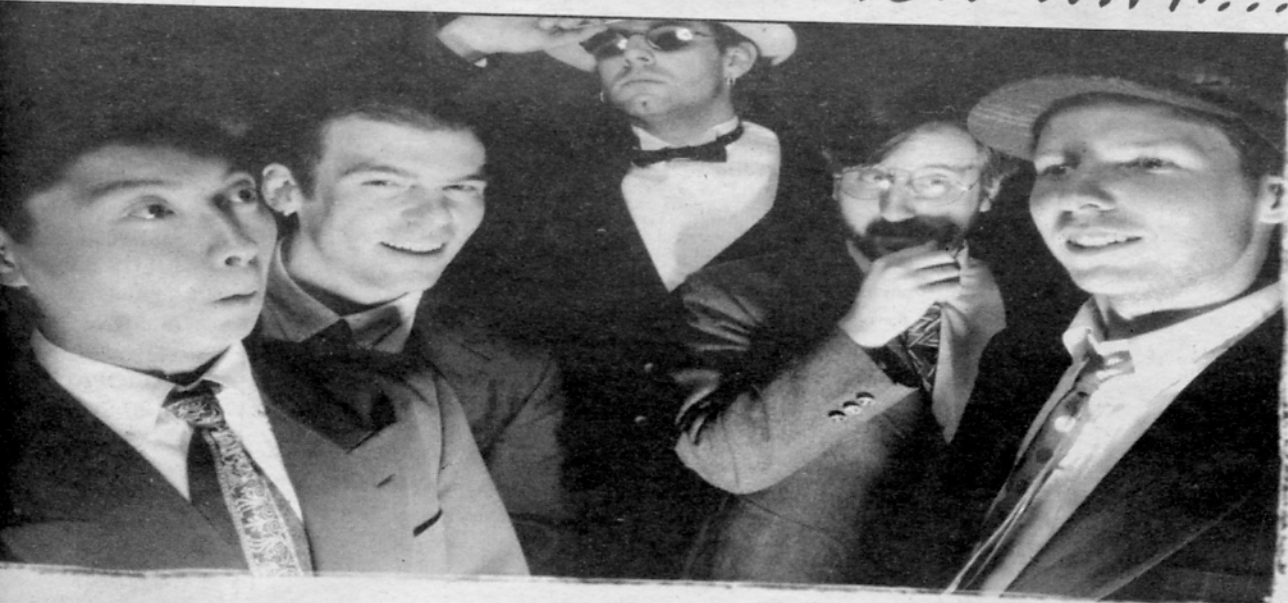


Shovel

8 parts of nov/dec 1998



an interview with...



THE BUCK DEWEY BIG BAND

We contacted **The Buck Dewey Big Band**. We harassed them about their new album **Friday Night Chicken Waltz** on Fruitpunch Records. We saved the email correspondence. It tells the tale. They just might have the **Best Local Album of the Year** and you probably don't know who the hell they are. Folks, roll the bones:

Shovel: When I first got this CD, I threw it aside as soon as I saw the name Jimmy Fox. *I am the spider was not my favorite album*. How would you describe this transition from Jimmy Fox, *i am the spider*, to **The Buck Dewey Big Band**, **Friday Night Chicken Waltz**?

The Buck Dewey Big Band began as a way for Jimmy and Matt to play their respective solo records (i am the spider; Matt Myers Plays the Buck Dewey Songbook) with a little help from their friends Chris Barrett, Daigo Fujiwara, and Rob O'dwyer. But when the five of us got together, we got a little stink going, and everybody was into forming a "real" band out of it. The solo records were like the blueprint (Kinda like if Queen recorded on a 4-track) for "Friday Night Chicken Waltz". We played live shows non-stop for a while and then hooked up with Tom Waltz (Waltz Audio) for some of his genius sound recording..... and oomph, like pies from the oven, we got baked.

Shovel: BDBB seems to have an influence in every genre. I hear everything from old school pomp, to early Bosstones and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. And even more recently, indie champs Cake. Is this the element of success for today's musicians? Deliver a package diverse and wide without pigeonhole?

For us being diverse is just a reflection of our record collections, and our 3 minute attention spans. We appreciate the 10 minute Isaac Hayes groove while also digging the great tight arrangements of guys like Tom Waits. We don't know why it seems like a new idea for rock bands to play Jazz, Hip Hop, Country, or old school R&B; but for us, the challenge is being spontaneous and free within the less than 4:20 format.

Shovel: What's your favorite condiment spice? How do you use it? and Why?

Matt (The Official Buck Dewey Chef) says: "We cooks all ou' meats with Chippawa on it. We sho' don' know what it do, but when we run out, I jus' feels like a dope."

Shovel: *River Road* has to be my favorite. Is this the single that has you guys opening for Garbage?

Well, if we were wishing, we'd probably pick Tom Waits to open up for, if he was on the road, but Garbage probably gets good

cheese in their dressing rooms, and a big tour bus would mean roadies so we wouldn't have to pack the gear, meaning we could spend more time with local girls named Mary Jane.

Shovel: Someone asked me to describe your sound and I couldn't say more than " ass-stomping, hip hop, dick-swing jive." Can you add to that?

Jive-Ass-Hop-Stomp-Hip-Dick-Swing with a side of

browns and buttered toast, says Matt "...An don' forget the Chippawa fo' dem browns...n' let tha' bread get real dark toasted!"

Shovel: Success has its ups. What are your current plans for expanding the **Friday Night Chicken Waltz** beyond the Northeast?

Hey, do you know what Garbage's dates are for this winter.....cause we noticed Hanson's got a waffle box and they don't so maybe we need to work with people who are going higher.

Shovel: **Friday Night Chicken Waltz** might possibly be the **Best Local Album of 1998**. What are your plans for 1999 and do they include another album, tour, etc?

We appreciate the BLA 1998 nod. We'd love to make another LP, but it seems like people in the A&R world would rather us pay to record and release 1,000 CD's, then send them the free promo, which they take home and play all the time, then call us and say, "Love the record, when you gonna cut another one?" Do you suppose Garbage got signed because they had a catchy name? We found our name on the bottom of a pot.

... like anything good there's always something behind the scenes, making it all work better. The most important ingredient to the **Buck Dewey Sound** is *the animals, the pets, props to the peeps*: Emily, Ariel, Pandora, Max, Dizzy, Gershwin, Ellington, Bear, Queenie, Crooner, Gus, Noah, and Smoky.