

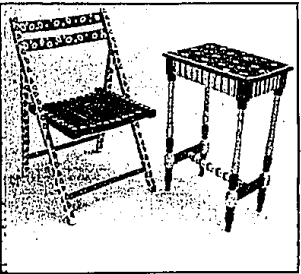
## STREET SEEN

Discoveries by Janice Tigar-Kramer 953-2047 mailbox # 1861



### Ohhh, baby

Tiffany & Co. and the New York Zoological Society teamed up to design Zoo Babies, a collection of pins and pendants of wildlife with their young. The deer, bear, whale and penguin are positioned to show the way they actually stand or swim with their babes in the wild, says Colleen Creagh of Tiffany's, Somerset Collection, Troy. Pins are sterling and 18-karat gold with sapphire accents; pendants are sterling. Wear one and you'll make a fashion and political statement. Part of the proceeds goes to Wildlife Conservation International. The collection is \$85 to \$350.



### Color it

Bloomfield Hills' Tricia Wein, a graduate of Center for Creative Studies, shops flea markets and garage sales to harvest old tables and chairs that she transforms into small works of art. Using bright enamel, the artist paints graphics on accent pieces and even adorns some with buttons or a line of pearls. Wein started painting furniture about a year ago because she wanted to add pizzazz to her own furnishings. When friends started placing orders, Wein knew it was time to market her work. She'll also paint new and old furniture to match wall coverings. Her work (about \$80 to \$300) is sold at Kerma in Orchard Mall, West Bloomfield.

## STREET SOUNDS

### Altered Beast — Matthew Sweet (Zoo Entertainment)

"Cursed by the past, held under glass, I was too hard to shake down . . . I'm comin' back with my 'Dinosaur Act,'" Matthew Sweet sings in the opening track "Dinosaur Act," presumably about the attention he and his last album received. The follow-up to his hit "Girlfriend," he's also coming back with a stronger, rockier, less-produced release than the acclaimed record. Opposite of "Girlfriend," the 15-song "Altered Beast" shows Sweet's bitter side. The strumming guitar ballad "Someone to Pull the Trigger" is the tale of someone who sees the light after being blinded by love: "I need someone to pull the trigger . . . So if you're what I think I'll be. If you're who I think I see — shoot me."

There are some similarities with "Girlfriend," however. Noted musicians, including Richard Lloyd (Television) and Ron Pangborn (Was (Not Was)), return to aid in "Altered Beast" along with Mick Fleetwood and Jody Stephens (Big Star). Sweet's jangly poppiness returns with the hook-laden fourth track, "Time Capsule." That sound coupled with his desperate love-love angst ends the first side in "Love Without You." The second side, which begins with a conversation from the film "Caligula," is more diabolical feeling than the first like "Do It Again." "Love that's bad is better than none. You know breaking up is half of the fun. And who would want a dream that can't be real. I'll do it again." In "Reaching Out," he sings, "If I can't know you, all my dreams are through. Every waking hour is filled with lead. I'm dead. I'm dead." The album definitely has a multitude of hit possibilities like "Do It Again," and "Dinosaur Act." — Christina Fuoco

# Reigndance has its 'Problem'

■ Andre Comeau would rather fans forget about MTV's "Real World" and focus on his "real world" that involves his childhood friends and Reigndance bandmates. The release of "Problem Factory" may help his cause.

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER



Royal Oak native Andre Comeau may have been a part of one of MTV's most successful shows, "The Real World," but right now he'd like his fans to concentrate on his "real world" — the band Reigndance.

"It's everything to me; it always has been, always will be," Comeau said. Always isn't exactly an exaggeration. Comeau, along with childhood friends drummer Bob Nick, guitarist/songwriter Dean Ferrita and bassist Constantine Ballard formed Reigndance long before the TV show came along. They were so determined to get a record deal that in 1990 the quartet moved from Royal Oak to New Jersey. Four months ago, it became the first band signed to Interference Records in New Jersey. This week it will release its debut, "Problem Factory."

## STREET BEATS

Presumably, after talking with Ferrita, the "problem" is the house pictured on the CD cover. During the two years the band lived in it, the "problem" was fires in the walls, collapsed ceilings and critters.

"One time we were shoveling the snow and we looked up and this squirrel was looking at us (through the window.) We were freezing and he's in there all warm, looking out," Ferrita said laughing.

Reigndance's bad luck seems to stretch farther than its home. During a tour prior to the release of "Problem Factory," the group got stuck in the blizzard that struck the southeast.

The tour also seemed to attract a much younger audience than they preferred; thanks to Comeau's stint on "The Real World." The younger fans and the hordes of women who came out to see Comeau, lowered the morale of the band. That should lessen a little now that Comeau has fulfilled his contractual obligations.

"The stuff we did means something to me," Ferrita said. "To play to someone who doesn't have a clue, I can't get motivated. I feel like we're losing the respect from the



people we were first playing to." Ferrita is one of the band's lyricists. Comeau, on the other hand, had little to say about "The Real World" except he's tired of talking about it and seemingly wasn't happy doing it. He did, however, participate in the filming of "The Real World" reunion shows which will begin airing Thursday. That stirred up some uneasy feelings for Comeau. "OK, the reunion, I did it for a very short amount of time. Being away from them (the cast) I had forgotten just how much I really

disliked them." He also seemed uninterested about his video being released to MTV. "I was supposed to go there today but I blew it off. . . I went to the beach instead," Comeau said. He's more at ease chatting about his life in Royal Oak, which includes employment at Noir Leather. It's there, he said, that he learned many, er, valuable lessons. "I loved the freaks . . . It was a crash course in deviancy. It opened my eyes. I got to see a lot at 16." Now, he and the rest of the band

live in the New Brunswick, N.J., the home of Rutgers University. Comeau said he feels much more at home there. "It's a very small, very big kind of community. It's collegy, the people are our age. It felt right," Comeau said. Reigndance performs at about 10 p.m. Saturday, June 26, at Industry, 16 S. Saginaw St., Pontiac. Tickets are \$5. Those 18 and older are welcome. For more information, call 334-1899.



Pretty generous: Members of The Pretty Green guitarist/vocalist Dave Goulette (from left), drummer/vocalist Mitch Kozera, lead guitarist/vocalist Mark Kozera and bassist Steve Kaminski are using their music to help others.

# Charity has a name — The Pretty Green

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER

When The Pretty Green writes a song, they put their audience's needs above their own.

"Our songs are written with respect for an audience," said bassist Steve Kaminski.

They're not passing themselves off as "light," however.

"We're gonna rock but it's not gonna be mindless."

Mindless isn't a word that is often associated with The Pretty Green. Like other local bands, it's not making a mint off of its gigs. Instead of whining about it, the Warren-based

band takes it to heart and schedules most of its shows at benefits to non-profit organizations earn the group's expendable cash.

"We're not living hand-to-mouth with the money we make off our music. . . so we're able to give some of it away," said drummer/vocalist Mitch Kozera. "It makes us look like decent people and it gives us a chance to help other people."

The group's latest benefit — July 6 at Alvin's in Detroit — will aid The Children's Center of Detroit, an organization which helps abused children and their families. The show

See GREEN, 10A

## IN CONCERT

**Tuesday, June 22**  
MICHAEL FEINSTEIN  
778-8004  
Five Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Clarkston.  
377-0100  
**Wednesday, June 23**  
NEW MODEL ARMY  
With performance poet Joolz and "electric violin virtuoso" Ed Alleyne-Johnson at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit.  
991-MELT  
MYK RISE AND MARY MCGUIRE  
Cocoa Chocolates, Royal Oak.  
396-0001  
THE MIND  
The Ritz, 10½ and Gratiot, Roseville.  
832-0569  
**Thursday, June 24**  
HOLY BLUES  
With the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra at Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75

and Sashabaw Road, Clarkston. (rock)  
377-0100  
TRAIL MIX  
New dance night with DJs Greg Scott and Bleeboob at the Majestic, 4140 Woodward, Detroit.  
334-9292  
DTS  
With Big Angry Fish and Amelia at Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac.  
334-9292  
HOLY COWS  
Avin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit. (rock)  
832-0569  
UNPLUGGED BLUES JAM  
Featuring Robert Noll at Q Club, S. Saginaw St., Pontiac.  
334-7411

HAMMERBOX  
Industry, 16 S. Saginaw, Pontiac.  
334-1899  
YUDD HUPPES  
3-D, 1815 N. Main St., Royal Oak. (alternative rock)  
669-3214  
THE STRANGLERS  
Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak.  
546-7810  
FOUR HANDS  
Java, 307 Main St., Rochester.  
669-3344  
**Friday, June 25**  
VAN HALEN  
With special guest former Motley Crie singer

at Vinco Hall at Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Clarkston. SOLD OUT. (rock)  
377-2100  
DEADHEAD SOCIETY CD RELEASE PARTY  
The A's, 637½ S. Main St., Ann Arbor. (folk)  
701-1451  
TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY  
St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. (alternative pop) CANCELED  
991-MELT  
LYLE LOVETT AND HIS LARGE BAND  
Meadow Brook Music Festival on the campus of Oakland University at Walton and Squirrel roads, Rochester.  
336-7600  
THE FALL  
Majestic, 4140 Woodward, Detroit. (alternative rock)  
833-9700

See IN CONCERT, 10A