



Rhythm Tracking

By Jimi LaLumia

Radio X Reaction!

WLIX-LP, a low power FM radio station on 94.7 based in Ridge, has recently orchestrated a major expansion of its coverage area. The station, known as "Radio X," can now also be heard on translator stations (that translate, or carry, the same broadcast) 104.5 in Farmingville, and 94.9 in Hauppauge – which gives the station the potential to reach up to 1 million people. The expansion made WLIX one of the largest low power stations in the country.

Scotty Hart, veteran radio personality and former Record Connection customer, runs the show at the hot rocking X, and it is, indeed, hot rocking, with a focus on today's alternative and hard sounds. The bold and exciting Radio X looks to be a contender coming into the spring/summer of 2006, and I have been called upon to provide "Music X-tra" news reports which will serve as an extension of what I normally do. This will provide a great opportunity to plug *Good Times Magazine* and *Rhythm Tracking* as often as I can.

It's radio for the rest of us, so do check it out.

Heads-type artists, as music lately has become wallpaper, background music for "Road Rules" and "The Real World." Do people get excited about bands now the way they once did? Sadly, the answer seems to be no.

Tommy Boy Reissues

Tommy Boy Records is to be commended for a great new multi-CD series they've launched, *Hip Hop Essentials*. The first four have hit the streets covering the years 1979 through 1991, a period of time when Tommy Boy held its own with labels like Sugar Hill, Def Jam, Profile, and numerous independent labels that filled the record stores and the streets with a sound and cultural movement that swept the world.

They're all here in these four CDs – Public Enemy, Grand Master Flash, Eric B, The Fearless Four; the list is endless and breathtaking. If you're a DJ who needs to touch up the crates, or a hip hop fan looking to catch up, *Tommy Boy Hip Hop Essentials* is a must have.

Lennon Remembered

It's amazing how the legacy of John Lennon still manages to overshadow all the pop and rock artists that have followed since his tragic murder decades ago. To commemorate his death, every daily newspaper and many newsweeklies carried Lennon on the front cover with extensive remembrances and up-to-date reports of the gatherings that were happening worldwide to mark his passing. Of course, a slew of new books (including one by Yoko Ono) and other products hit the streets just in time to cash in on this event.

Vinyl Resurgence!

Billboard Magazine has reported that sales of vinyl records (45s and 12-inch DJ singles, full albums) have doubled in the past year, while all other music formats tumble. The superior sound quality of vinyl records and the enhanced experience of owning the full size artwork and booklets, and the entire reality of buying, owning and playing records seem to be making inroads into the induced iPod mania that seems to have already peaked after all the hype subsided. The iPod failed to save the tanking music business, but a return to vinyl records will save the day.

If you choose to listen, collect, and own vinyl, then you actually buy records and support the music industry, as it is not possible to download onto a blank record nor would anyone want to place the distorted, horrible sound of a music file onto a quality vinyl record.

Be good to yourself – buy a turntable or record player this holiday season.



Hilly Krystal

CBGB: A 'Reprieve'

Yes, Hilly Krystal has now been given until Halloween of 2006 before he has to close CBGB at its present location so put away your placards and your protest sneakers till the fall. Hilly has been itching to set up shop in Las Vegas with the CB's imprint anyway, so all this hoopla and publicity will only help to re-establish and re-sell the brand wherever he chooses to take it.

Sadly, the type of bands that first made themselves felt at the legendary Max's Kansas City and later at the copycat CBGB no longer seem to pop up any more. The MTV generation has failed to produce any Ramones, Blondie, Johnny Thunders, or Talking

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