SCORING THE CLUBS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Gutbucket at Al's Bar.

The Afrodelic sounds of Gutbucket are about as far removed from the normal funkbox bands out there as you can get. Forget about professional licks, slick technique or any of that other garbage; when these guys play, they smash the jar. Basically an outgrowth of endless artschool percussion jams, the space funk of Gutbucket grinds you into a queasy state of sweaty tribal soul. Their grooves are long, repetitive rumbles that shake through your body like a crazy funk mantra. Squeezing Augustus Pablo-ish dub, Can, Sun Ra and Liquid Liquid together and straining it through sampled hip-hop beats and hazy stream-ofconciousness murmured vocals, Gutbucket rolls like no



other. Says vocalist Chrono, "You'd better turn around and check your ass. Make sure it's strapped on tight, 'cause we plan on shakin' it off." Ain't that a groove. (Jac Zinder)

WE ALSO RECOMMEND:

WILD CHILD, D'SANTI at Bogart's. DEATH RIDE 69, RED TEMPLE SPIRITS, WOOD & SMOKE, THE CHOIR at Club Lingerie. E.G. DAILY, AMEROUSO, BLACK SUGAR, SHARK SANDWICH, AMASA, ROMEO at the Coconut Teaszer.

ROSIE FLORES at King King. FIREHOSE, THE UNINVITED at the Palomino.

SKULL CONTROL, F-WORD, JOHNNY ANGEL & HIS ARMY OF BOZOS, BADMOTORFINGER at the Shamrock.

THE IMMIGRANTS, BUSH BABY at Spice. B.B. CHUNG KING at the Sunset. MILLIE JACKSON at the Sparkle Gub.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

The Afghan Whigs at Club Lingerie.

The Afghan Whigs are from Cincinnati, not Seattle, but they record on Sub Pop records, so MTV will feel inclined to play them soon — until they realize that the Whigs' idea of grunge is the stuff that grows on public-bathroom floors. They play epic messes of manic-depressive music with vocals that slide from the obnoxious to the emotional, though sometimes they do it to jingly pop beats. Whigs frontman Greg Dulli likes to sing about murder, junkies and sadly suppressed sexual notions, and no, it's not a perfect world. The band's tight, reeling sound has often been compared to the Replacements, but then, hasn't everything? They don't need the Westerberg-flavored hype; the Afghan Whigs do fine on their own, thanks. (Lorraine Ali)

Sativaluvbox, The Jakk and more at Al's Bar.

The time was the early '80s, and Patrick Mata's Kommunity F.K. was the coolest thing droning down the gloom canal. All was overcoats, dampness and gloom. 'Twas cold. Bleak. Miserable . . . It was great! So anyway, meanwhile, Mark Segal, a fine, modern drummer in a H. Cowish avant-rock sort of mode, was tumbling and angling his way quite merrily along with spontaneous music collective Paper Bag. Somehow Mata and Segal got together to do a new thing, a '60s-ish acid-punk kinda thing, no doubt inspired by Patrick's beloved partner Sativa and the sorely assertive fuzz bass of Steve Brundage. Gasoline Alley signed 'em right up, and the rest shall be history. It's tuneful, hard stuff, scary, somehow, with a delicate, creamy, sensitive core - Mata's passionate about his music, and when it all comes together, it's brilliant. Also Detroit-style non-pretty rock noise by the Jakk. (John Payne)

WE ALSO RECOMMEND: KEEP LEFT at Van Go's Ear. MORIS TEPPER, DIFFERENT WORLD, THE UNDERTHINGS at the Alligator Lounge. L7, CLAWHAMMER, TRASHCAN SCHOOL at Bogart's. THE JAMES HARMAN BAND at King King. THE FIVE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA at McCabe's. SAMBA NGO & THE NGOMAI PLAYERS at the Music Machine. THE BLAZERS, FLORIDA SLIM & THE HURRICANES at the Palomino. CRASH CLUB, THE BLACK WATCH, 3-D PICNIC, THE GRACES at Raji's. SWINGIN' THING, SHAKE CITY at the Roxy. THE LEONARDS, THE MUTTS, NAG NAG NAG, BOYS NAMED SUE at the Shamrock.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Carnival Art, Dos, Bottom 12, Kryptonite Nixon at Raji's.

Sunday nights at Raji's (17 and under not okay) is like a shopping cart full of odd-tasting, curious surprises, usually. Booker K.C. likes to jumble a lot of divergent bands together, pack a load of open-minded music enthusiasts in there real tight, then sit back and watch everybody try to make some sense of it all. This time around it's Carnival Art, stalwart progressive weirdos who enjoy inverting your hearing with their bizarre little songs; Mike (Firehose) Watt and Kira's Dos like to do that too; Bottom 12 is a dozen people, including dancers, who blast out some excruciatingly hard rock-funk — they'll be gearing up for a Euro tour soon; and Kryptonite Nixon are a super squadron of Valley-based punks carrying on and having their devil-may-care way with the fine thrash tradition. (John Payne)

WE ALSO RECOMMEND:

DEE LANNON & THE RHYTHM RUSTLERS at the Blue Saloon. NO BIG DEAL, CONGO/NORVELL, THEO HAKALA at Cafe Largo. WILD CHILD, D'SANTI at the Palomino. BOTTOM 12, CARNIVAL ART, KRYPTONITE NIXON at Raji's.

MORIS TEPPER, BLOOM, CYNTHIA TORONTO, BELJING THEATER, BOBBO STARON at the Shamrock. HAUNTED GARAGE, WHITE ZOMBIE, IN TOOL at the Whisky. . STRAWBERRY ALARM CLOCK, SPENCER DAVIS at Carlos 'n' Charlie's.

