

Biography

NEW MATH

Kevin Patrick writes:

"New Math is a band from Rochester NY, formed in fall 76. At that time, even Newsweek hadn't yet distorted new wave into the contagious disease it was to be tagged for almost two years following. Yet, local bands playing original songs thru minimal equipment were seldom tolerated in the major metropolis, not to mention the smaller 'burgs' of America. And as radio fought to preserve the past - believe it - so did the club owners. Unfortunately, they were the ones with paychecks that literally allowed bands to survive day to day. It was real rough in the beginning, but then times changed. And somehow, New Math survived it all, finding they'd built up a healthy following around the New York state area in the process.

Founding members Kevin Patrick, Gary Trainer and Dale Smeadley were eventually solidified by Bob McCarthy and Mark Schway, and were accepting gigs anywhere: the circus, shopping malls, weddings, church socials and even a car wash grand opening. The usual ploy was claiming they were whatever type music was required for the occasion, and thereby shocking bystanders. In addition people began learning about their spicy pasts! Dale for instance, played the part of a child from Saturn on an early Star Trek feature, Kevin solicited rock stars autographs thru the mail and just recently scored the final signature of Dave Dee, Dozy, Beaky, Mick and Tich, Gary lost his job in the purchasing dept. of St. John's Nursing home by ordering \$1700.00 worth of guitars and amplifiers thru his office, and 'butch' Bobby has been arrested more than once for hustling pool game wagers in gay bars to make ends meet. The resulting recognition got the band some opening slots for national acts passing thru the area. Response was more than favorable, and the confidence gained thru work with bands such as John Cale, Ultravox, 999, Damned, Willie Alexander and Eddie and The Hot Rods,



gave New Math the ultimate chance to move to the forefront of their local territory.

Always thinking about their financial situation, the band began asking audiences for contributions. Its been a great gimmick, backfiring only once at a gig with the Ramones. They, were becoming extremely annoyed as the opening band (NM), filed past for a second encore, and so, instructed their road crew to scarf up the change that some 1200 people had showered the band with - and ultimately refused to give it back at the end of the night. Yet, with their odd earnings, the band managed to record "Die Trying" and "Angela" in a 5 hour session at Christmas '78. After we did the recording we found we didn't have any money to press it. Luckily, Reliable Records in London loved it, and put the thing out. The resulting press and radio play in the UK garnered attention from major labels, and the band has finally signed with CBS. Sure we still think about money, but don't worry as much. We just finished some more songs - unrushed - in the studio and they are steller! promises Dale.

The real thrust behind New Math is still the same guiding light that started them out in '76 - to make people dance and watch them have fun. They do it everytime - so catch them as soon as you can. Oh yeah, chant "New Math adds up" to yourself in your spare time as well!

SINGLE

CBS 7916

"DIE TRYING"

12.10.79



Roy Stein Chris Yockel
Gary Trainer Mark Schwarz
Kevin Patrick



NewMath