



Diana D'mocher and son tend their pink punk alternative record shop.

Photo by Erich Boekelheide

Plastic Elvis doll and Weirdo magazine — you must be entering the pinkish walls of **Punk paradise**

By **DAWN GARCIA**
Of the Emerald

"Say I'm mean, and I'll blow your head off," wails the record inside the pink building with the plastic Elvis doll in the window.

Buddy Holly and the "Bonzo Dog Band" grin down from the 8-by-10 glossies near the ceiling as customers browse through the record stacks and Devo-style shades.

"I thought it was time to open up an alternative record shop," says Lenny D'mocher of Diana's Records and Tapes on 8th and Lincoln streets. "The other shops seem dull."

That's one thing Diana's isn't.

Advertising "Eugene's best selection of imports, new wave, vintage rock, 45s, blues and reggae," Lenny and his wife,

co-owner Diana, run a record collector's paradise.

"Hardly anyone does special orders and maintains the quality selection of out-of-print collector's items like we do," Lenny says.

Although they stock all types of records — mostly new and some used — new wave music is becoming one of their biggest sellers.

"New wave was just starting in 1979 when we first opened up our shop in Eugene, and the shop didn't make it," Lenny says.

They re-opened the shop on Diana's birthday — March 7 — and have been surprised with the response.

"Now people come in here requesting new wave music I've never heard of," Lenny says.

Even without the records, the shop is

an experience. A magazine rack on one wall includes publications titled Weirdo, Wet and Fotopunk, featuring such articles as "Bondage Basics for Beginners."

The shelves of a glass case beneath the counter are lined with buttons, ceramic pins and different styles and colors of punk shades, ranging in price from \$5.95 to \$9.95.

Betty Boop, Rocky Horror characters, Blondie and the B52s grace the faces of the buttons that sell for \$1 to \$1.50.

Diana's collection of 45s overflows on the back wall shelves with "Are You Lonesome Tonight" by Donny Osmond, "I Gotta Get Drunk" by Willie Nelson, plus other oldie-but-goodie's.

Selling records is Lenny's main concern, but his musical interests don't stop there.

Lenny and friends "Crazy" Carl Stolz

and "Damage" Dave form a band called "The White Tones." The group has played at local taverns such as BJ Kelly's and Grand Illusions.

He and his group also put together a radio program called "Crusin'" that plays on KLCC. That station plays all new wave music on the first Friday of every month from 11:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Lenny and Diana hope to at least make their shop more well-known by moving it to 5th and Willamette streets within a few weeks.

Although the move will make Diana's the third record store on the same corner, Lenny says each store's specialization will make for variety.

"I think we'll complement each other," Lenny says. "The focus of the record business of Eugene will be in that corner."

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