88 Somethings About 44 Whatzits

By now, we all know the routine. The College Music Journal (CMJ) Convention comes to town, and desperate college kids run around handing out business cards and trying to get on mailing lists. Meanwhile, regular guys and gals benefit from many fine concerts, while all I can do in this column is go minimalist, sorting through a large stack of the good, the bad and the ugly records whose makers will be in town for the festivities.

Foetus, Gash (Columbia): Crammed full of influences from The Avengers theme to Louis Armstrong to the industrial-rock genre that’s mostly his invention, Jim Thirlwell’s latest shows he’s still the most commercially savvy and adventurous guy on the post-apocalyptic dancefloor. And if that sounds like hyperbole, he’ll be sounding like the Messiah when appearing between the awful modern soul of Machines of Loving Grace and another band composed of rejects from the Cult and the Wonder Stuff. At Limelight, Thurs., Sept. 7. 660 6th Ave. (20th St.), 807-7850.

Various Artists, Music From the Motion Picture Blue in the Face (Warner): Selena

J.R. Taylor

I SHOT J.R.