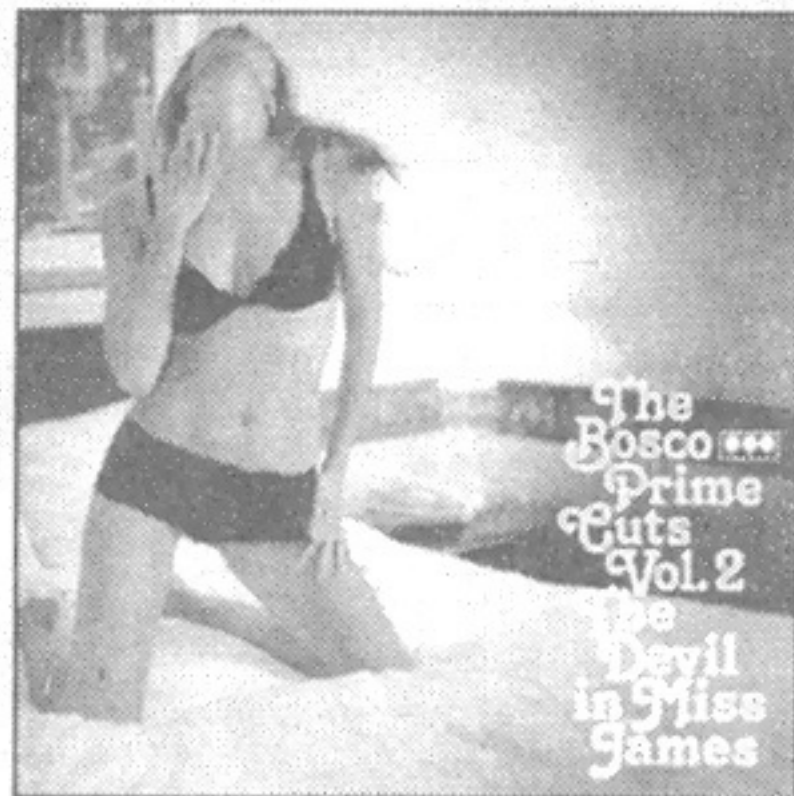


Late-night lounge lotharios

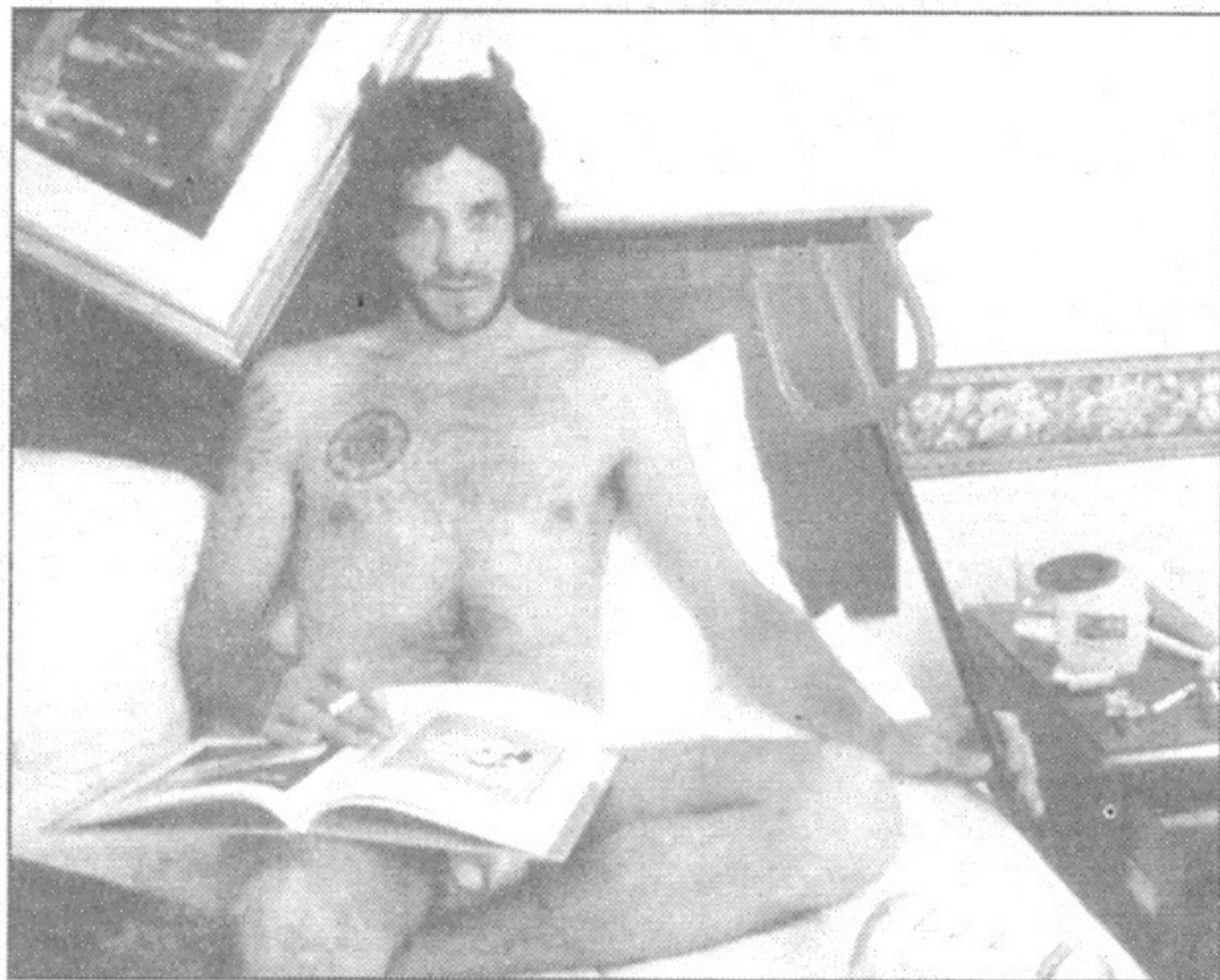
For Round 2 of their Bosco-branded compilation series, the brains behind Ferndale's sleek three-treed nightspot sidestep the pitfalls common to lounge-friendly collections. Instead of an imperfect ratio of jams to empty beats, the Bosco's *Devil in Miss James* is a cohesive, near perfectly sequenced set of hazy soul, flinty hip-hop sheen, and lingering crackle and echo of dub. Quannum Projects affiliates Poets of Rhythm open with the smoldering "Discern/Define," which leads into some sweet soul from the Chi-Lites, whose "Stoned Out of My Mind" chorus call is appropriate for the comp's sticky vibe. Sly & Robbie give way to a tense, energizing dub remix of Roots Menuva's 2001 classic "Witness," which itself blends into the hip-hop high point of the set, a cleverly foul-mouthed Baby Blak



Various Artists

**Bosco Prime Cuts, Vol. 2:
The Devil in Miss James**

Bosco



track called "Friends." *Miss James'* second half is equally curvy, with a scratchy Francophonic party cut from UK producer Quantic setting up the steel drums of "Calypso Rock" and the Bad Medicine funkstrumental "Trespasser" (the latter courtesy of the Stones Throw comp *Funky 16 Corners*). Boston MC Mighty Casey gets gimmicky on closer "Liquorland 2." But his boozy rhyming over a Cure-crafted bass pluck is a nice comic relief ending to another prime cut set. —**Johnny Loftus**