

the village

# VOICE

Switzer p65

New York Rocker Andrew W.K.

Nelson, Dershowitz p37

Louima Case: Guilty Men Walking

Higgins p182

Skateboarders Versus ESPN

name it. Still, their verbal eccentricities are their own, and their body English looks unfeigned. The Panthers' songs are self-parodic revolutionary blather in search of a tune, riff, or original thought. With the Walkmen and the Natural History. **Mercury Lounge**, at 7:30. (Wolk)

**MANHATTAN VIBES** The just released eponymous album (on Khaeon) reveals Christos Rafilides as a gifted vibes and marimba player, who, backed by the tightly unified duo of John Benitez on bass and Steve Haas on drums, runs the gamut from Latin originals to Ellington, the Beatles, and an especially agile "All the Things You Are." They all double on various percussive instruments and paint the lily with electronic ornaments. **Arka Lounge**, at 10. (Giddins)

**PINBACK** People often ask me, "Have you heard anything that's new and good?" After usually saying "no," the first thing that pops in my head is the most excellent *Blue*

the kind word for their pacing is "deliberate"; Elbow have a frontguy with actual character in Guy Garvey, and pleasant shocks in their arrangements that offset their pomposity. **Bowery Ballroom**. (Wolk)

**MIKE STERN** On his latest, *Voices* (Atlantic), the Eddie Van Halen of fusion guitar—a player who evokes the priapic fluidity usually confined to the heavy metal theater—leaves his big dick in the woodshed and cuddles up to atmosphere and melody with gentle but firm encouragement from some A-list vocalists. The moods are exotic, the singing is plush and longing, and Sternie plays with delicious restraint. **55 Bar**, at 10. (Behrman)

**TESLA** Irving Plaza, at 8.

**'VOICES ON THE VERGE'** What started out as a way for four folky females to showcase their talent has turned into several tours, a live album, and even more proof that women really are the great cooperators of the world. There's the warbly-voiced

Thursday /

**NEIL ALINE** Chez Music's Aline brings his French party music

several vaguely blues-rock bands from the early '70s, though you'll hear a lot more Skynyrd and less Foghat in

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