

LOCAL MUSIC

by Michael Draper

The News, The Reviews of the Muse

THIS
MONTH:

Jeremy J. dePrisco, *Mindspeak*
 I really liked what I heard on this 13 song tape from Hazleton songwriter Jeremy dePrisco. Described in the *Mindspeak* bio as originating from a desire to produce intelligent music that has a message, these tracks soar through your heart, soul, and mind like an electric eagle whose eyes can pierce the dusty clouds of 90's society and pick apart the varied illusions and realities of the post-industrial complex in a way that is both refreshing and nostalgic. *Mindspeak* is the name that dePrisco gives to his music as way of tying it all together as a conceptual whole. He also works with singer/songwriter Michael W. Maguire under the moniker Looking Glass, and has been in such varied bands as the heavy metal group Psychosis, the classic rock band Ranzan, and as a member of the Greater Hazleton Area Philharmonic Orchestra — this dude is busy!

This is a fine folk/art rock tape. Jeremy apologized in his cover letter for the sound quality of his 4-track recorder but he needn't have bothered. The sound quality is better than some of the 24-track recordings I've received — top-notch home engineering.

The only nit-pik I have is that some of the music sounds too much like Jethro Tull. I'm not saying that's necessarily a bad thing, I've been a rabid fan of Tull since I bought *Minstrels in the Gallery* back in '75, it's just that at times the influence is overt. But considering dePrisco has only been out of high school two years and has written such fine, intelligent music, it's almost a given that his craft will come into its own distinctive voice. Excellent stuff here, kids!