



VOLCANO PATROL

A GLIDING DRONE THAT HAULS ASH

NEAR AN ERUPTING VOLCANO is nowhere you want to be: spewing molten lava, air dense with asphyxiating ash. Even beyond the blast site, tiny shards of airborne glass can wreak havoc, melting inside jet engines and blocking fuel nozzles. To protect passengers after an eruption, airlines sometimes call off flights because even radar and satellites can't predict where particles might do the most damage. So researchers are trying a new way to map airspace ash: an autonomous glider that collects and geotags samples. After hitching a ride on a plane, the NavSonde drone gets the heave-ho, releasing its retractable, servo-driven wings and rudder. As it floats through volcanic plumes, the ash collector opens and closes at precise points so researchers know where each sample originated. And once the glider belly flops to the ground, scientists can analyze its contents for density and ash type, learning exactly where it's safe to fly. Eventually, the NavSonde will collect all kinds of airborne troublemakers from dust storms, plumes of pollution, and even burning forests—gliding into the line of fire so we don't have to. —KATHERINE KORNEI



COBAIN'S MASH-UP

Brett Morgen's documentary on Nirvana's front man, *Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck*, takes its name from what might just be the weirdest mix-tape ever. The half-hour audio collage, which a 20-year-old Cobain made in the late 1980s, is a hodgepodge of classic songs, rare novelty records, TV audio, nature sounds, scraps of demo material, and a few disgusting sound effects—it's Cobain's talent at its most cacophonous.

—K.M. MCFARLAND

TRACK LIST

- Telly Savalas**, "The Men in My Little Girl's Life"
- Traditional**, "Ring Around the Rosie"
- Earle Hagen and Herbert Spencer**, "The Fishin' Hole" (*The Andy Griffith Show* theme)
- The Hobbit** (1977 version)
- Saccharine Trust**, "Remnants"
- Simon & Garfunkel**, "The Sounds of Silence"
- The Monkees**, "The Day We Fall In Love"
- Black Sabbath**, "Sweet Leaf"
- Butthole Surfers**, "Eye of the Chicken"
- Alan Mills and Joseph Raposo**, *Curious George Rides a Bike* (1970 7-inch record)
- Van Halen**, "Eruption"
- Peter Brown**, "Do You Wanna Get Funky With Me"
- James Brown**, "Hot Pants (Pt 1)"
- Cher**, "Gypsies, Tramps, and Thieves"
- Donny Osmond**, "Go Away Little Girl"
- Bay City Rollers**, "Rock and Roll Love Letter"
- Traditional**, "Star Light, Star Bright"
- John Denver**, "Rocky Mountain High"
- Oscar the Grouch, Bert & Ernie Sing-Along**
- Dean Martin**, "Everybody Loves Somebody"
- Winnie the Pooh and the Honey Tree** (1966)
- Star Wars** audiobook
- Kiss, Alive!**
- Traditional**, "Little Green Apples"
- Eddie Bond**, "Buford Pusser Goes Bear Hunting With a Switch"
- Sammy Davis Jr.**, "The Candy Man"
- Frank Churchill**, "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?"
- Iron Butterfly**, "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida"
- Traditional**, "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"
- The Flintstones**
- The Troggs**, "Wild Thing"
- June Foray, Monster Shindig**
- Jimi Hendrix**, "Hey Joe" (*Jimi Plays Monterey* version)
- The Beatles**, "Taxman"
- The Partridge Family**, "I Think I Love You"
- News report on **Martin Luther King Jr.'s** assassination
- Carroll O'Connor and Rob Reiner** dialog from *All In The Family* episode "Judging Books By Covers"
- The Barbarians**, "Are You a Boy? Or Are You a Girl?"
- Butthole Surfers**, "The Shah Sleeps in Lee Harvey's Grave"
- The Velvet Underground**, "New Age"
- Queensrÿche**, "Queen of the Reich"
- Iron Maiden**, "Run to the Hills"
- "Cottleston Pie"** (lyrics from the book *Winnie-the-Pooh*)
- Led Zeppelin**, "Whole Lotta Love"
- Thor**, "2045"
- The Jackson 5**, "ABC"
- Black Flag**, "Salt On a Slug"
- "Introduction to Manned Mercury Spaceflight"** (on a record released with Hasbro's GI Joe Mercury Space Capsule)
- George Michael**, "I Want Your Sex"
- Queen**, "Get Down, Make Love"
- Nirvana**, "Unidentified Demo"
- Commercials for **Olympia Beer** and **Froot Loops**