Have you grabbed the new Radio Void yet? Find one — like this thing in your hands, it's free. Illustrations by Chris Bing are immense; Saturday catch the Radio Void Roadshow at AS (ask John Grey about his new Radio Void tape. Or ask Joe Auger. Or Brian Gallagher. Or Fish Bundy. Try Fish first; she runs this town). Totally Wired brings Sourpuss, City Hobgoblins, Major Honeybunch and Flower Gang to the Ahtspace Friday night before the Les Pauls hit 11 downstairs. Ty and Ron don't book garbage. And finally, The Greg Abate Quartet graces Caffé Rosci this Friday and Saturday, featuring some new arrangements he plans to put on an upcoming CD. Till next week, remember: if you didn't vote, don't worry. It was fixed. What other explanation for what happened could possibly exist? [TNT]

**MUSIC.** It's the voices — supple, pliant, true — that make the Shams what they are. They've opened for Indigo Girls, but the don't claim to have been to the mountain, the valley, the ocean and wherever the nimrodian duo have trod on their way to poetry class. No, the Shams — bassist Sue Garner (the rose in Fish & Roses), guitarist Amy Riby and Amanda Uprichard — seem a tad more mature than that. Their loneliness is palpable, their yearning resolute. All the emotions the trio essay are aided by their minimalist stance. Nothing but gentle vocals and guitars makes their S.O.L. single, "Only a Dream"/"3 A.M.," a must-have, and their gig at AS220 (71 Richmond Street, Providence) a panacea to the whirlwind that's going to come during the holiday season. Take a breather and check 'em out. Call 831-9327.

Later dates to plan now: Raindogs at the Church House next weekend; Duke Rabillard at the Last Call on December 30 and The Ordinaires at Club Baby Head on January 4. Baby Head has a surprise middle band for The Connells show tonight (as if), and AS220 has jazz Friday (Debris, Ron Vierra Ensemble) and Saturday with Sir Guy (Mark Helias Quartet) and Dennis Downey, a Zen stream-of-unconscious comedian. Hear Sir Guy last Saturday? Unfortunately, the confusion is mounting with the fear. The desert must be a lonely place. Peace.

AS220, this weekend ... Friday will prompt a Sound Happening featuring Debris, a composition/improvisation ensemble, with modern classical compositional techniques seasoned with jazz and the Ron Vierra Ensemble, also seasoned with jazz and the like. On Saturday, AS220 will have (as a matter of course) Cabaret of the Oddly Normal with your flagrant and fragrant host Sir Guy D' Guy Da Potagée and Hiss Band. This week's Cabaret will focus on magician Chris Carbone, Zen comedian Dennis Downey, "A Christmas Story" by Tom Hurdle and the jazz-jazz-jazz of the Mark Helias Quartet. Performances begin at 8:30 (pm) and will run you about four bucks. Not bad considering the Showcase Cinema gets about seven bucks a head. And you can't touch.