

PAG

ishoo #27

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P

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**MENTAL
ADVISORY
CRAP CONTENT**

free
FAT
wreck group
cd inside!

ONE HELLOVA FAT ISHOO!

HI PEE PEOPLE...

WELCOME TO ISHOO #27 OF PEE, GIVING YOU 84 PAGES - OUR BIGGEST ISHOO TO DATE! A NEW BUNCH OF PEE CONTRIBUTORS HAVE MADE MY JOB A LITTLE EASIER, I'D LIKE TO THANK STU, SHAYNE AND CASSIE FOR THEIR GREAT INTERVIEWS AND WELCOME THEM TO THE PEE FAMILY! WITH THE NEW FINANCIAL YEAR WE'VE GIVEN YOU A NEW COVER PRICE... GEEZ WE'RE GOOD TO YOU! YEP, UNFORTUNATELY AS ANOTHER YEAR GOES BY EVERYTHING FROM POSTAGE, PRINTING AND STORE & HAVE INCREASED, SO TO SURVIVE PEE'S HAD TO SLIGHTLY INCREASE THE R.R.P. BUT I'M SURE THE CONTENT & FREE SHIT YOU GET WITH PEE MAKES FOR A WELL SPENT 3 BUCKS!

WITH THIS ISHOO YOU GET IN-DEPTH EDUCATIONAL INTERVIEWS WITH AUSSIE BANDS "GYROSCOPE", "BEST KEPT SECRET", & "FRENZAL RHOMB". PLUS A CHAT WITH CANADIANS "DEAD LETTER DEPT" & "SOMEHOW HOLLOW", ALONG WITH AMERICAN HEAVY WEIGHTS "RISE AGAINST", "MATCHBOOK ROMANCE", "AGAINST ME!", "ALKALINE TRIO", "HALFWAY HOME", "GREYFIELD" & "YELLOWCARD". ADD TO ALL THAT EPISODE EIGHT OF "THE PUNK ADVENTURES OF SHAZZA & DAZZA", THE THIRD INSTALLMENT OF GLENN SMITH'S "THE RETARDS" COMIC, A SHIT LOAD OF REVIEWS, A COUPLE OF FREE STICKERS & A FREE FAT WRECK CD SAMPLER & YOU'VE GOT A PEE BURSTING AT THE SEAMS... PHEW! THAT TRULY IS ONE HELLOVA FAT ISHOO! THIS ISH ALSO CONTAINS MORE BROKEN PROMISES. LAST ISHOO WE SAID THAT BLUELINE MEDIC WOULD APPEAR IN THIS ISH, WELL, I LIED. THEIR HECTIC TOURING SCHEDULE ALONG WITH MY SLACKNESS OF FRONTING TO TWO OF THEIR SHOWS THIS LAST MONTH WITHOUT MY TRUSTY RECORDER MEANS THAT WE'LL ENDEAVOUR TO GET OUR SHIT TOGETHER FOR THE NEXT ISHOO. I'M NOT GONNA MAKE ANY MORE PROMISES ABOUT WHAT "MIGHT" APPEAR I FUTURE PEE'S FROM NOW ON! I ALSO MENTIONED LAST ISHOO THAT MY BRO WAS SENT TO DO "HIS JOB" IN

THE MIDDLE EAST. I'M HAPPY TO REPORT THE WANGA'S BACK HOME SAFE 'N' SOUND! HE EVEN TOOK PEE #26 ON HIS "TOUR OF DUTY"! HA! WELCOME BACK BRO. SINCE THE LAST ISHOO PEE RECORDS HAS SIGNED IT'S FIRST BAND TO THE LABEL - I'M PROUD TO ANNOUNCE WE'LL BE RELEASING A NEW EP FROM "AWAY FROM NOW" LATER THIS YEAR! KEEP AN EYE ON THE PEE WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ON THAT ONE. WELL, UNTIL NEXT, ENJOY THE PEE!




P27

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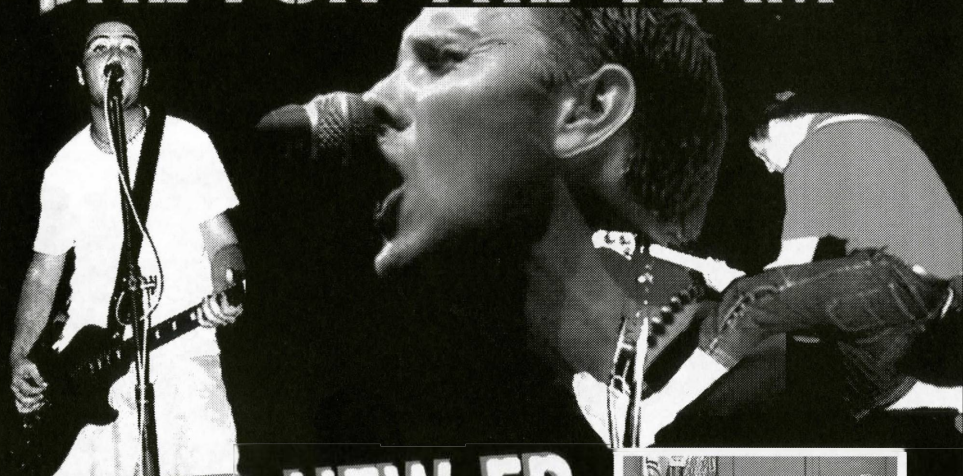
PRINTED BY: Adelaide Copy Office

Ph: 83620050

COVER ART: Pete Pee © 2003

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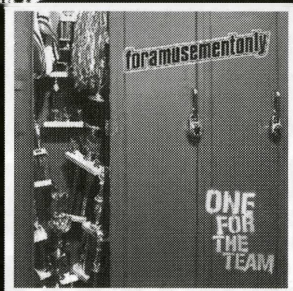
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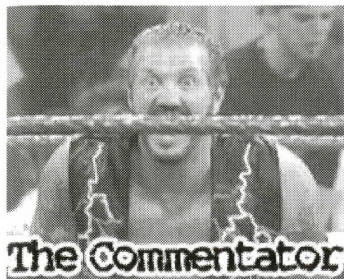
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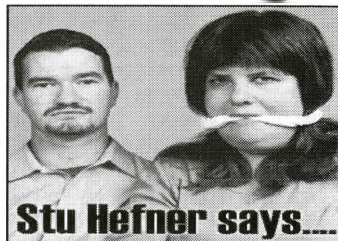
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IN STORE NOW



After another five-day stint at the office, it's somewhat comforting to find the TV knows me well. Having endured the brain numbing antics of coworkers for 38.5 hours, I find it really comforting to come home and watch the equally brain numbing antics of two houses filled with boring people. Oh the conversations, the entertainment of it all. I find the analyses particularly stimulating. There's something about Nathan and Marty which just scream expert. But then I guess expertise can be realised through real life experiences, right? (though whether their experience is really real life is another thing altogether). It does make you wonder though what Ten is cooking. Anyone who saw the overseas Big Brother compilation show knows that sexuality and nudity were well-explored, as were rather more vile topics like pissing in the middle of the living room. What happens in Australia? Well, someone wears playboy rabbit ears and invents the bum dance, which later inspires a CD single and range of pyjamas. Then some farmboy and hyper blonde find true love second time around, followed by a bunch of bratty celebs who either exposed themselves or jumped on beds til they broke. If I've lost you by now I'm not surprised. Considering the show employs psychologists to handpick the housemates, how the fuck do they end up with such a bloody boring one dimensional selection? Maybe those with extra

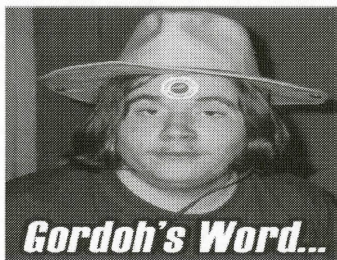
dimensions have an extra level of awareness as well that while it's one thing to watch a group of boring people perform on telly, at least there's a magical wand called the remote control which can change the scene to some stupid Americans eating cheeseburgers and chips in the middle of the jungle. But lets not forget the producers have tried really hard this time to promote some soft porn. Open showers in the backyard, too few beds, cameras in the can... but it must be because we're all curious about what others do in there, right? How many times have you walked into a public toilet and seen the cubicle with an engaged sign and wondered, I wonder if that guy is actually spraying shit in the bowl or just pretending to because he prefers the company of his shit to everyone else around him? I thought so. But you have to admit you're hankering for soft porn has increased dramatically since Ta Tu burst onto the big screens. Two russian underagers dressed in school uniforms and screaming angsty songs about the joys of lesbianism certainly has me hooked. Funnily enough, if it's on someones computer its called pedophilia, but if some marketing twat comes up with the concept it's perfectly legit? Makes sense huh. But I think my biggest gripe is that Surprise Wedding show. Fark me. Can you imagine how betrayed you'd feel being paraded out and told, hey mate, this is your real wedding. The funniest thing was though that it actually wasn't, since both parties need to sign a declaration at least 30 days prior to tying the knot. Thank god for his wisdom, right? Until I give you another dose of my special brand of handpicked cynicism, stay off the soft porn! Rycore!



In 1996 The South Australian Brewing Company was sued by Twentieth Century Fox for "exploiting a strong association" with The Simpsons by marketing a beer called Duff. When they caved to the lawsuit and withdrew the beer from the shelves, people got the idea that Duff was suddenly going to be rare and valuable. Soon cases of Duff were being advertised for up to \$10000 and empty cans for up to \$100 in the Trading Post. I say being "advertised" rather than being sold, because I'm pretty sure no one was buying. Soon afterwards, empty cans dropped to \$5 and probably still didn't sell. Sometimes the idea that a particular item is valuable or going to be valuable seems to grab hold of the public consciousness like a pervert with your soiled footy shorts. Take commemorative coins for example; at the slightest excuse the Australian Mint whips up a coin with a different picture on it and people collect them. They're legal tender so they're already worth something, and they're only going to be worth more as time goes on, right? Something tells me that you would be better off investing any commemorative coins you find rather than hermetically sealing them and keeping them in a cool dark place. Mass production goes hand in hand with disposability but these are opposing forces when it comes to the supply side of the supply and demand equation. The items that achieve a market value greater than the

the cost of storage seem almost completely arbitrary. Keep a doll in its original packaging and, in 40 years time it might turn out to be worth as much as a small Japanese car, but it will probably still only be worth the sticker price plus inflation. Remember, the odds are good that your collection of Hello Kitty merchandise is always going to be worthless, your signed baseball cards will actually decline in value and the bicentennial medal you were given in primary school will turn out to be worth its weight in scrap metal. Is the urge to collect motivated by simple greed? Is a collector attempting to create completeness and order? Searching for permanence in a world with an always-accelerating rate of change? Or does it all come back to a subconscious belief that - like a bird who collects shiny stuff - your collection of Star Trek memorabilia will make you more attractive to the opposite sex? People certainly take their collecting to extremes; the sort of thing that makes you shake your head when you flick through the Guinness Book of World Records. But for every record holder there are thousands who collect literal garbage and are destined to die, crushed to death, under a mountain of old newspapers and aluminium cans. However, the hoarder's polar opposite seems even stranger. Extreme minimalism, where nothing is owned can only be achieved in a society where the individual is unimportant, such as ultra-socialism where the group takes priority over the group's members, or Buddhism which rejects the concept of self. Perhaps, as products of Western culture, where collection is an extension of the ownership of property, we are all defined at least to some degree by what we collect and own. So, the obvious

final question is what do *you* choose to collect? Empty beer cans? Novelty postcards? Old sporting equipment? Teaspoons? Tattoos? Rusting car bodies? Nose hair trimmers from around the world? Life is short; collect something interesting. I recommend bedpost notches and an array of nasty looking sexually transmitted diseases. Or perhaps you prefer Star Trek?
Stu Hefner

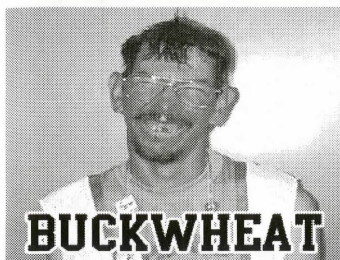


This won't hurt a bit...

It took my dentist 5 patient years to convince me that I REALLY needed to have my wisdom teeth removed. The thought was always disturbing and I'd always go 'Nah, fuck it. I can wait awhile longer'. Then last year I went as far as organising an OPG X-ray to check what was really going on in the back of my mouth. Damn. That was a mistake. I discovered that invisible nasties had been hard at work eating the back of my jaw away. Scary stuff. Eventually it might have gotten to the point where things could go horribly wrong. FUCK ME, I didn't like that idea one little bit. So, in May of this year I went to see the man who wields the knife and we fixed an appointment to meet for surgery. I ended up opting for a short hospital stay because the thought of being in the chair, aware of what was happening, absolutely fucking terrified me. So I checked in to the hospital, chilled out, pulled on my disposable blue gown and trotted

on down to the chop shop. It actually felt like I was in a butchers shop! I lay down on the narrow table; my left arm running along a little extension, and stared up at the big white light overhead. The anaesthetist went about his business and I went down for the count. Bling! I'm awake in the post op room, feeling no pain. I wasn't quite sure whether the deed had actually been done so I tentatively stuck a couple of fingers into my mouth. Sure enough, all four of the geezers were gone. Well, that wasn't actually too bad. The nurse told me through the haze that I had already ripped out all the absorbent gauze and removed my oxygen mask about four times. I guess I must have wanted to go home! Half an hour later they wheeled me back into my room and left me laying there quietly dribbling blood for a couple of hours (still no pain). So far, so good! Eventually they told me I wasn't stoned any more (I didn't realise I was stoned in the first place) and that I could go home. A couple of friends picked me up from hospital and we cracked up every time I spoke because my swollen tongue was slurring my conversation pretty badly. On the way home we dropped into the chemist so I could grab some codeine. Aaah, codeine... (It makes you feel better. Say no more). Well, after a solid week of bliss the codeine ran out and I started to feel the pain. Whoa there, I didn't expect to feel any pain after a whole week. Damn those roots must have been deep. I suffered through but you know what, it took almost three more weeks for the pain to go away...and it hurt a lot.

Gordoh



CASH FOR MOTHER FUCKING COMMENT (music)

Hey, my name is Buckwheat. I've been invited by Pee to write some shit for you cunts. I grew up listening to metal and diversified to all forms of music, taking in pop, hip-hop and other crap. In the last five years or so though I have found solitude in punk rock and particularly hardcore and the genre most people call emo. These forms of music pull my heart-strings because I now know other people feel the same way I do: share the same anger towards oppression, misplaced aggression and violence, ignorance and racism. In the last twelve months though I have been exposed to some stuff that really pisses others and myself off. It involves our beloved punk rock (and all music for that matter) being raped. How you ask? It all began with a friends' band being wrongly accused of radical ideals by a so-called youth radio station of being.... not politically radical, not racist, not sexist, not condoning drugs, sex or any other morally corrupt behaviour, but for having a faith in a Religion. Now this rant is not going to be about God because that's not my cause to follow. That will follow in my "Allah is Great" rant! The band had been number one on the Net 50 for six weeks straight. For those who don't know the program, it is a popularity contest. You vote for your favourite song and they are ranked 1-50. Subsequently they were banned for being "dare I

say" too Christian. That's way too radical for Australian youth. But how fucked up are this institution, not naming the actual organisation but they have three letters in their station call and they are all the same, J's in fact. That was the first instance of misconduct that I know of. (Admittedly I don't know very much, but I'll make an opinion anyway, fuck it! Freedom of speech and all that.) The second occurred when a little research was conducted about how to get music played on a national scale. Although I dispose of these stations, they are a means of spreading a message and deserve to be exploited. Here is the deal. If you can afford a publicist, you get played and promoted in high rotation time slots. So all those bands you listen to on the radio (those who do still listen to the radio) all pay big bikkies for their airplay. That's nice for those who have fat record deals and can afford, but what about the rest. Does that mean that if you've got no money then your music is shit and that people would not like to hear it. FUCK OFF! My hat goes off to those radio pirates who lead the way and play what they enjoy and what is good. Cash for comment will continue to shape a nation of sheep and shit music. We will forever be plagued with popular rip-off bands like For Amusement Only, Avril LavBORING, Good Charlotte and Blink 182 style bands. If you go to these shows it's all sideways hats and colourful shirts. On stage it's funny faces and thumbs up bum wanker antics. How boring is it when every band on the bill plays the same song thirteen times. It is happening across the country and will eventually lead to people getting bored and dropping off. All because of those cunts on air showing off the latest fucking shite. My advice to every aspiring

wannabe punk rocker in whatever style tickles your fancy: STAY AWAY FROM THE RADIO AND SUPPORT LOCAL BANDS. You will find a more diverse and talented bunch of people doing punk the way it's meant to be done....at street level. It's dirty, mean and ugly. Not about break-ups and high school sung by thirty-year-old homophobes. Hope to see you there....! BW.



Punter watching, I've decided, is not healthy for you. It does nothing for me except raise my blood pressure. Thankfully it's not something I regularly do as I'm usually facing the band during their show, but on the rare occasion I get to "hang" back stage and watch from the sidelines, you're kinda facing the crowd. The particular punter that upsets me most is the fucker known as "Mr. Get Off". This jerk is usually a redneck yobbo who's paid for his ticket to see his favourite band, which is almost certainly the headlining act. And because "Mr. Get Off" is a complete moron, he doesn't wanna stand around and wait for 'his' band to come on and entertain him, he wants them on stage NOW! This of course means any support bands at 'his' show are nothing but fucking annoying to him, and really oughta "get off the stage". There are many unoriginal ways "Mr Get Off" gets his message across to these support bands that he's a

a complete fucking dickhead and wants [insert headline band name here] on stage now. There's the "tough man stance" which involves standing there staring at the band with a "big meanie" frown on his face whilst flipping the bird. That one's a ripper. There's the "I wanna be heard" method which involves yelling obscenities and abuse at every opportunity during the quiet moments between songs. Some intelligent remarks "Mr Get Off" can be heard blurring out include the classic "Boo, get off the stage", "Fuck off and bring [insert headline band name here] on", and everybody's favourite: "You fucking suck". All great stuff. Then there's the violent side of "Mr Get Off" who might lash out and throw his plastic cup at the band, once he's finished his beer of course. I really don't understand the

mentality of "Mr Get Off", coz I'm sure if he thought about it [insert headline band name here] was probably an "annoying" support band in the beginning of their career too. So let the support bands play and gain much needed, and 'most' of the time deserved, experience playing with big name bands. If you don't like support bands, go lean on the bar and talk footy, or even come to the show later when the support acts have finished their set! So to "Mr Get Off" I say a big FUCK OFF. You think you're an intimidator but you're nothing but a waste of valuable oxygen. You're probably the same small dick moron I watch drive dangerously close to the car in front of you, or swerve from lane to lane just about every day in this city. Go to the night footy instead. Live music doesn't need you. Pete Pee

away from now

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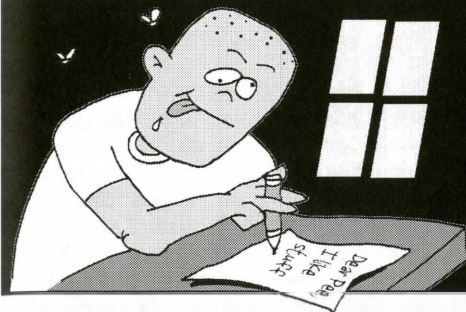
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Thanx to all who have taken the time to write into Pee since last ishoo. Once again, thanx to NITRO and SHOCK Records the author of Pee's 'letter of the ishoo' receives a huge Nitro CD Pack containing: Divit - Broadcaster, Lost City Angels - S/T, Original Sinners - S/T, Stavesacre - S/T and the new Rufio EP. This ishoo's prize goes out to Lindo of SA... So if you've got something to say it could definitely be worth your while saying it to Pee!

Howdy Pete

Thanks a heap for the rave in the latest Pee, I am glad you enjoyed the record. Thanks again for your support while we were together and all the best for the various Pee projects, Cheers mate,
Neil Thomason
Ricaïne
VIC

Pete,

Got the new ishoo man. May punk be with you! I'm stoked you asked Name Taken ten and a half questions.. although I feel like their answers were kinda short, boring and lame. We met those guys when we got out to California and sold them our old school Over It trailer... then the turned around and sold it to another band when they got hooked up with Atticus. Oh well. We get to play with them next month so I can pee on their new trailer. The Duncan Snuff interview is RAD. The Lucky 7 sticker is on our fridge. um... yeah. I love getting' Pee. I need to send you another Over It care package soon.
Rock the fuck on Pete.
Seth Under It / Over It, same thing.
USA

Pee,

Wow a day of finally's for me, most importantly finally I get the RAW album and what a wicked album it is, up there with the best I reckon, something is definitely going on in Texas, though whether it's the isolation factor or not I'm not sure, I was thinking about it today, Perth as a city is very isolated yes but the people of Perth are not, there is an amazing sense of comradeship there particularly in the original music scene, and being that writing music is a personal thing does physical isolation have a bearing on it? I mean in Perth I never felt isolated because there was always something happening, always friends dropping in, always the local pub, yet when I first moved here to Adelaide I felt incredibly isolated cut of from my friends by a couple of thousand k's of desert, but physically I'm less isolated from the rest of the world, yet is my song writing better or worse for it? I can't answer that one. Or perhaps the physical isolation leads to a greater comrade amongst the people creating a stronger collective conscience (or whatever its called) outputting itself in more creativity hence the large number of fucking wicked bands from Perth and Texas. I don't know, interesting thought though, whatever it is it's a good thing the world needs more good music. anyways I hope I haven't confused you too much with my psychobabble about isolation and I gotta say I dig the RAW album!!

Lindo
SA

Hey Pee people

Thanx for sending us #26 of your cool fanzine
Good luck with the next issues and keep rocking.
Ltr, Kevin
Stardumb Records



Pee Mail

mail@peerecords.com

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South Australia 5070

Hey Pee,

I just bought a copy of Pee #26 and without sucking up to you guys too much, I just wanted to say a big well done for producing such a great fucking zine! I'm also a fan of melodic punk, so I think it's great that you guys aren't afraid to promote these great bands in a time when all my friends act like pop punk is for teeny boppers.

Without trying to tell you how to run your zine, do you think you could possibly print the contact details for the record labels somewhere in future? There were some records I'd like to check out after reading your reviews but as usual, my local record store hadn't even heard of them! Just a suggestion.

Anyway, keep up the good work and I look forward to "ishoo 27"!

Cheers
Darren
NSW

Dear Pee,

I've been reading your zine since "ishoo" 24 and I've gotta say it's getting bigger and better every time I pick up the next one! Love your 'honest' reviews too, if it's crap it's crap! Too many other zines seem afraid to upset the artist with honest reviews. Is there any way I can get copies of the earlier episodes of "The Punk Adventures of Shazza & Dazza"? Because I'd like to see how it all started. Will you be printing them again at any stage? And while I'm asking for stuff, could you possibly interview Frenzal Rhomb in a future "ishoo"? Those guys are sick!

Well, that's about all I've got to say, except can you please send me a catalogue and some free shit, I've enclosed two stamps! Cool
Ian
VIC

[we're planning on printing every episode of "The Punk Adventures of Shazza & Dazza" once the saga ends! You want Frenzal, you got 'em.]

[Don't forget to include your postal address if you want to be in with the chance to win a FREE CD!]

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free shit

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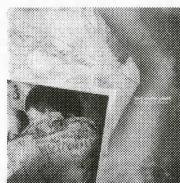
Write or email Pee and tell us why we should spend our own money on posting the CD out to you... (be nice!) be sure to include your name and postal address!

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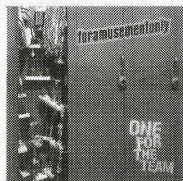
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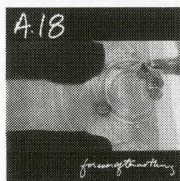
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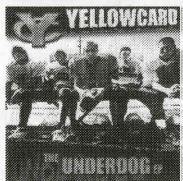
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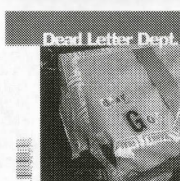
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The Punk Adventures Of *Shazza & Dazza* Episode 8

**With Kazza doing most of the yappin'!*

WARNING:

For the second time an episode does not contain the word "fuck". But there's a "cock"!

Ok, so if this is the first time you've read an episode of "Shazza & Dazza" [where have you been?], here's what's happened so far: Kazza won the "Blink fuck ya mum label party comp", in which she invited Shazza & Dazza to the big event at Tom's castle, but the when they arrived they learnt that the Blink tour van had a flat tyre, so there'll be no Blink at the party... not a lot for 8 episodes huh?!



Why are we now sitting at a table having breakfast?

See bucko, it says right here on the entry form: "prize winners attend the Blink label party & hang with cool people"!!

Oh yes my dear, I assure you there will be cool people

We have an extensive celebrity guest list attending, including popular male porn star Mr Ron Jeremy...

Oooh Ron Jeremy... why didn't you say so! It will still be a "fun" night then!

Yes maam, now if you'd like to take your belongings upstairs...

Hey Kazza, look what I found!

Put it down Dazza, we're staying!

Ron Jeremy, I can't wait! He has a huge cock! Much bigger than Tom's...

Hey!
it's

THE RETARDS

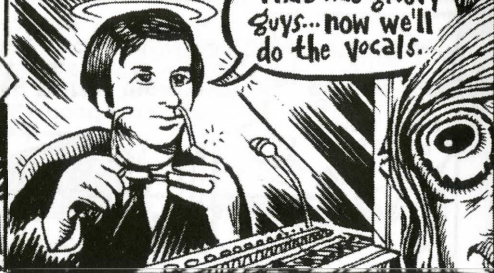
By Glenn
retardmetal
@hotmail.com
4/2003

re-cap

Jeremy Shark, talent scout for the Gold-disc-berg recording co. has just signed a band that 'defies definition'. Unearthed from the mental hospital region of town, the 4 boys: Shane, Nuffy, Gilroy and Graham are travellin' head-first into the realms of rock...

The story kicks on to find the guys in the massive studios of Bill Spectrum, working his famous "Wall-of-polished-turd" magic on the debut e.p.

That was groovy
guys... now we'll
do the vocals.



Take a break
Graham. I think we've
got it all!!



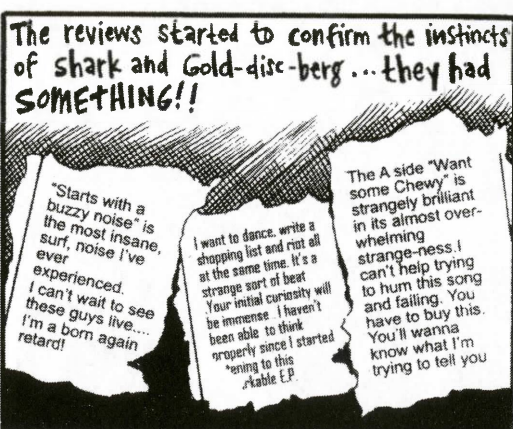
Whataya reckon
Bill my mah!

Gold!

Spectrum's done it again!
He's really captured that...
er... retarded sound good.



First we hit
Generation
Idiot...



FRENZAL RHOMB

After numerous requests from Pee readers we thought it was time those loveable [?] Aussie punks Frenzal Rhomb graced the pages of Pee again. Interview by new Pee member Shayne!



I Caught up with Jay Whalley while they were driving somewhere in NSW countryside before their tour for probably their best album Sans Souci, via a somewhat shitty mobile phone line...

PEE: What's goin' on Mr Whalley?

JAY: We're about to play Triple J live at the wireless tonight, and we're gonna play all the songs off the new record, which we've never tried to do before, and quite frankly we're not that good. (he giggles) But Y'know, we're gonna have a good laugh. The whole thing only goes for about thirty- two minutes or something and live at the wireless goes for something like half an hour so I figure we can probably cram it in. I know, unless we play it all really fast.

P: I hear you just got off a reasonable Asian tour, obviously you haven't got SARS or anything yet..

J: Yeah, we went on a crazy tour, we went to Taiwan and Japan, and Israel, South Africa and the UK and played to lots of people who didn't know where the Wyong Leagues Club is. That was just the pre SARS, we just got back when the first cases were coming out, I'm sure that we were all stricken by it somehow but we avoided that actually. There's not so much SARS but explosive devices going off strapped to people's stomachs and again we managed to miss all that and again we managed to miss all that and eat good falafel and hommus, smoked some pretty average weed, but lots of it, yeah we managed to on our merry way. There was a piece of road we went drove through and two days later that piece of road exploded, killing like thirty people or something like that so that was that was the closest we got stuff like that.

P: Any other crazy stuff go that I should know about?

J: I mean sort of, but a place like Tasmania, that's scary. A couple of weeks ago we were up near Launceston in the middle of the night, it was raining and we picked up some random hitchhiker dude that then started to pull out all these wallets out of his bag and he started saying how he picked them up at the side of

the road. Then he started telling us his girlfriend was the first to get killed in Port Arthur and we were like we don't wanna talk about this, it's so dark, it's raining, we're in Tasmania. With that guy we just picked up by accident coz' Lindsay needed to do a piss and we pulled over in the middle of the night and as soon as we pulled over to the side of the road this guy just kind of appeared out of nowhere in front of the car so he just assumed we'd stopped to pick him up and was half way in the car before we could even say anything. We kinda tossed a coin and said yeah, get in. It was OK, he didn't kill anyone.

P: How'd the shows go generally?

J: That went for a month so we were only in each place a few shows. We did three shows in Taiwan, two shows in Israel, about six shows in South Africa. We did two shows in the UK, one show in Japan so it was a lot of travelling and not too much playing. It was definitely worthwhile. The album wasn't out over there but we were playing a lot of stuff from the new record, it was just prior to that.

P: You split the album recording between Japan and the US. Was the Russell Crowe thing pretty much just off the cuff?

J: We did the bulk of it in LA with a friend of ours that did A Mans Not A Camel just mainly because he doesn't mind being called a cunt twenty four hours a day, most Americans don't like that sort of shit, they don't think it's very funny, but he thought it was funny. We recorded some of it in Japan with this guy that couldn't speak English but made signs with his fist which meant stop and go. The Japanese stuff was just luck because we suppose to turn up there and record a couple of covers of this Japanese band and they paid for all the studio time but as the consummate professionals that we are managed to get it all done in two minutes so we had all this spare studio time so we just banged out a whole bunch of songs. Then in LA we got this really good deal, it worked out cheaper than it was to do here surprisingly enough.

P: Do you think Russell's heard the song?

J: Fuck I hope so. I keep hearing all these different things, like some people say that one of his security guards he took on his honeymoon was a Frenzal fan and took him one of our T-shirts. We know a friend of a friend is his publicist and she's sent him a CD so we're looking forward to some onstage fisty cuffs at some stage on the next tour. Yeah, he loves to punch on. We've got these guys out from Israel and we took them down to the Rugby League on Saturday just to show them what it was all about. He's from Coffs.

P: You've got a few other tracks about hippies, teenage parents, and other stuff. Have you met any at all ages shows and stuff lately?

J: I think both of those two things although they're completely unrelated have an element of truism, I don't think that anyone from the central coast is going to argue about the fact that all their mates are thirteen and having kids, it's just endemic up there a lot of regional areas. We were in Esperance recently and did an all ages show and this kid was actually thirteen years old talking about how he got his fourteen year old girl pregnant and how they were gonna have the kid and stuff, he was just this real nuggety little dickhead, and I'm just thinking you can't be a dad, come on. But it happens everywhere.

P: You've roped in Adelaide channel nine newsreader's Kevin Creases son Tom (also of Enuf Said) he'd already be use to all the free cocaine and cheap hookers already huh?

J: I know, he's always at the channel nine parties getting on Kevin's cocaine. We've had Kevin come onstage a few times and he's a great sport. We tried to get him to keep his pants on this time but he just wasn't into it, we were like saying you don't have take your pants off but he said oh no, it's for continuity purposes, next thing we know he's onstage with his satin blue persuading boxer shorts on. He's a good sport, a good all round bloke. I think he's looking to branch out into a few different fields, he's been in that job for a long time.

P: Speaking of stage antics, the big day out looked like a lotta fun. Kevin even joined you onstage, and I hear Tony from Blood Duster even smoked a bucket up at the Melbourne BDO.

J: Yeah that's right, it's all a bit of a haze. Our show on the big day out became more and more cabaret as tour progressed, it was some sort of a strange broadway show where we didn't have to play too many songs at all, we just had a lot of extra half bastard half celebrities getting up on stage and doing the show for us. We've put the word for Russell that he's welcome onstage anytime that he'd like to, so hopefully we can sort it out like adults.

FRENZAL RHOMB

P: You didn't invite Russell Crowe and his band up there, though. Maybe he's not fond of your nice song about him.

J: Even if you don't know that Russell Crowe has got a band, saying that it's shit, somehow people just know that we're right. Someone like that that goes around the world punching people, if he did have a band, he's got like millions of dollars; it would be a complete fluke if their music was any good. Everyone knows who he is but as far as our general sense of humour, it doesn't go down that great in some circles, but that's kind of why it's funny I guess. It's like this comedian, Neil Hamburger, he calls himself America's funnyman and he's just terrible, he's just not a very good comedian, his jokes are bad and really poorly delivered but therein lies the humour. You see the crowd these people in the crowd getting really hostile and they're just like 'fuck of, I can't believe this guys torturing me with this such bad talent' and if it wasn't for the majority of the people really hating him it just wouldn't be funny. Not to say that that's exactly what we're about but it's a good example of how humour can often be misconstrued I guess.

P: Sans Souci seems a bit more well, mature than your other albums. Are you kinda surprised at many critics perceptions that your new one is more 'serious' than some of the others, and that some have looked on you guys as a bit of a novelty?

J: I think we only thought about it more to the extent where we really wanted to have only good songs on the record. Most of our records are five what we reckon are good songs and then the rest of it are the songs we write and they just exist so they go on the record. With this one we wanted to make sure that all the songs we can stand by and be able to play

them live and be able to go they're not all filler. Yeah it's funny, people do consider us a novelty I guess most of the time and we seem to have been doing it for ten years and managing to stay off the dole since 96'so I guess the novelty value has some kind of value somewhere. We seem to get some new fans when we put out new records and some of the old keep turning up, punishing us all, people just keep turning up.

P: The album's come out on Epitaph here and Fat Wreck worldwide, does this mean we're gonna see a concerted effort to get big in the US and Europe and stuff?

J: The albums on Epitaph for Australia and New Zealand and Fat Wreck Chords for the rest of the world. He's (Fat Mike) done great for us and all those comps that he does they seem to sell more than the individual artists on his label so it enables us to tour everywhere in these random places and there's always kids that come to shows so it helps

us a lot in that regard. It's good for use to be signed to those two labels, they've been around for a long time and they really know how to work out. We've never made any attempts to conquer anywhere, we tend to tour because it's good fun and it sounds a bit cliché but if it's not fun you shouldn't be doing it. We've made a concerted effort to make sure that all the processes of what we do whether they're touring or recording it's like a good time. Otherwise it's this horrible soul destroying machine you don't wanna be involved and to start going we want to start making money in America you'd just get depressed all the time and where's the fun in that. So if we can go to America and play to a couple of hundred kids than it's worked out really well for us.

Huge thanx to Jay and Shayne for the interview



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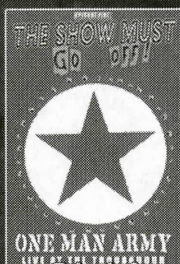
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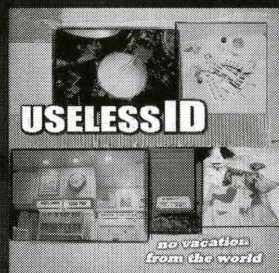
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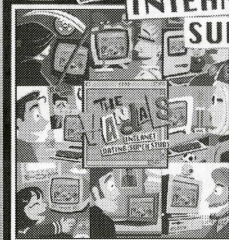
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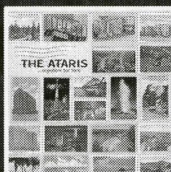
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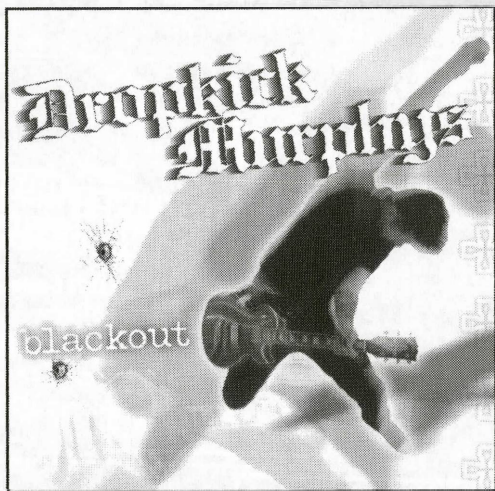
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MATCHBOOK ROMANCE

New York quartet Matchbook Romance are Epitaph's awesome new signing. The release of their debut ep "West For Wishing" blew the cob webs outta the crusty Pee stereo in such a way I had to get in touch with vocalist and guitarist Andy to learn more...

PEE: *Tell us about the birth of Matchbook Romance... the band emerged from previous bands "Fizzlewink" and "The Getaway" right?*

ANDY: Man, how does everyone figure that out? Yeah, Ryan (bass) and I (singer/guitarist) are the original members of Fizzlewink. The Getaway was basically us changing the band name, and adding Aaron, and Judas into the equation.

P: *Why so many band name changes in such a short time?*

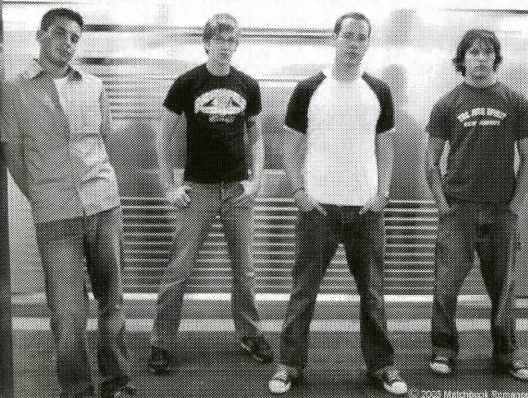
A: Well, we thought that Fizzlewink was a little to "high school" sounding so we changed it to the Getaway which created some problems with another band who had the same name. It was our fault, so we decided on Matchbook Romance. We didn't want to follow the typical emo fad with band names containing either the words, "The" or a day of the month, or a month name. Its a good name for us.

P: *Before settling on Matchbook Romance, what was the worst band name you guys had thought up? Or was that Fizzlewink?*

A: Hey now, Fizzlewink rocks bro! You can't knock the creativity on that one. The worst band name we thought up was probably The Shitty Beatles. Wait isn't that a band? Matchbook Romance was thought up by Aaron. We were just brain-storming band names, and he mentioned that one. We had way cooler names, but everyone seemed to like Matchbook Romance. So, we went with the majority.

P: *The Epitaph signing came about from some heavy duty self promoting over the internet and hard work by you guys with Brett Gurewitz downloading one of your mp3s right?*

A: Yeah, you could say that. A lot of it was just done on its own though. If a band has really good music it will spread by word of mouth. I personally didn't believe everyone telling me, "you have to tour, get your band out there, sacrifice your life and bills... etc". I wanted to prove them wrong! I believed that if we just worked, finished some schooling, and kept perfecting our writing skills, that it would pay back big. People underestimate how much the internet can help you. Make sure you have a phat site with lots of information about you, and an MP3.com page so you can actually make money off kids downloading your free music. If you have the music, you'll have the future. That's the bottom line. I believe we had a lot of luck though. Our story is a little to "Cinderella".



matchbook romance

P: I read somewhere that you guys thought it was just a cruel joke by someone when his email arrived... is that true?

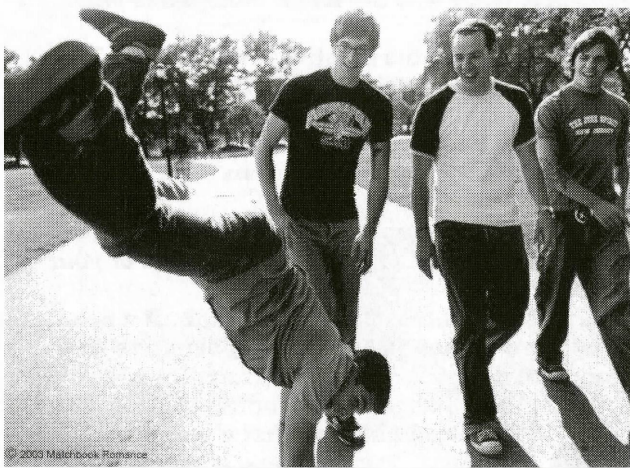
A: Oh yeah! When I opened the email I was floored. I didn't know whether to reply or to delete it. I figured it looked pretty authentic so I replied and took my chances on someone playing a good joke on me. After I emailed him back, I called all the guys and asked if they were playing a prank on me. I didn't tell them what the "joke" was because I wanted to surprise them if it was for real.

P: Must be an awesome feeling to go from a relatively unknown NY punk band to suddenly having Epitaph release your ep...

A: Yeah its pretty unbelievable. I really don't know how to handle it. All I can say is that I'm going to work my ass off for them believing in us so much. I owe them a lot. Thanks Mr. Brett!

P: Do you think you guys serve as a good example of what a bit of hard work can do to other young bands striving to get 'noticed', or was it just a timing thing?

A: I think it was a little of everything. Someone, or something in a higher power has been looking out for us. I think that every band has to work hard or else your not going to be a band for very long. So take what we did, and create your own formula. It will come if you truly want it enough.



P: What does being signed to Epitaph mean to the band personally? Has it refueled your passion and enthusiasm for what you do etc?

A: Being signed to Epitaph means, get ready cause this is your chance. We have the backing of the best label in the world, and all we have to do is have fun, and stay true to the people who believe in us. Our passions for playing will never die.

P: At what point did you realize that Matchbook Romance had the right mix and members to make it special?

A: When we wrote our first song. That was enough for us.

P: So tell us about the recording of the "West For Wishing" ep. One day your doing a bunch of punk shows on the east coast, next your flying out to California to record with Brett Gurewitz at the dials...

A: Actually, Brett flew out to a small New York studio called Nada Studios to do the EP. He figured since we such an unknown band that he would fly out to NY and do our record for FREE. How many people do you know that would do that for you? It was an amazing experience.

P: Have you been happy with the way your ep's been received? Do you read or take much notice of reviews?

A: I love the EP, and have been getting great replies from people about it. A few reviews were bad, but that's just cause we're a different style. People who don't like change can't accept it,

so they destroy it. Of course their the ones singing the songs to themselves when no one is around. Its cool though, cause I do the same thing. We all do. The people that hated the EP will love the full-length. The people who loved the EP will love the full-length too! Hope that isn't egotistical.

P: Do you guys all have day jobs to support your band habit, or is Matchbook Romance becoming a full time thing now?

A: Matchbook Romance is now a full-time job. Its a whole lot of fun

P: You guys have really grabbed hold of the melodic punk with emotional screamo vocals thing and kinda made it into something that stands out from the hundreds of other bands doing it - is there any one thing that you think makes MBR different from other bands who fuse melodic [pop] punk and hardcore?

A: Hmmm... I really can't put my finger on it. I think it just might be my melodies. There is a lot of emotion behind the lyrics and melodies. That could be it cause some bands just sing about nothing. Whatever it is, it works and I'm happy people dig it.

P: If MBR were to release a consumer product what do you think that product would be?

A: We would buy out Dr. Pepper, and slap our logo on there, and then get some MBR action figures up in the hizzy.

P: Who would you get to star in your tv commercial advertising your new MR product?

A: Good one... Pee Wee Herman. He's the fucking man!

P: So what's in store for the band in 2003? You're working on your full length album now?

A: We are going to tour a lot. We're going to become touring machines hopefully covering a great deal of this earth. Its crazy cause we'll have had two albums come out in the same year. I still can't get over that. Yes, we just finished our full-length. We're home now for another week and then we start our first tour as a band.

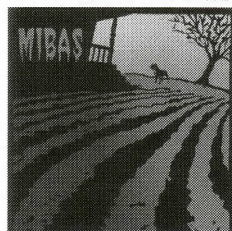
P: Are there any hopes or plans to bring your rock 'down under'?

A: Oh we are so going 'down under'. My goal is to play for anyone that will stand there and listen to us

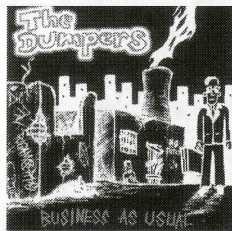
P: Thanks for your time Andy. Any last words of encouragement for the kids, or people you wanna thank?

A: I'd like to thank you guys for this interview. I love the magazine name! Pretty tight. I'd also like to let all our existing fans know that I promise we'll make it out to your area this year to play for you. Wherever you may be. Keep cool, and take care of each other. Late! Andy - MBR

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CRAP QUESTIONS WITH... **HALFWAY HOME**

Halfway Home are an Orange County four piece who've just released an awesome album on Italy punk label Wynona Records. Halfway Home is Chas, Jesse, Keith and answering the Pee Q's was Chuck's job...

1. Can you give me the how Halfway Home came to be story?

CHUCK: I moved out to Orange County after the drummer in my old band quit to join Guttermouth. I met Keith, who was playing with some friends of mine. He quit that band, and we started playing together. We weren't playing too seriously or anything, until we met Chas, who had just moved from Florida. At the time I was playing guitar, so we got this guy named Tony to play bass in the band. But that didn't work out, so I started playing bass when we met Jesse last summer.

2. Is there anything in choosing a band name?

C: I think you can go about it differently for different bands. Some bands choose a funny name that might not mean anything and it works for them. We were trying to come up with a name, and we came up with something stupid we were going to use. I don't even remember what it was, but someone said "Well, you've got your name. Now you're halfway home." And then we realized that was a better name than whatever we were going to use. It just means that you're always moving forward. Or trying to anyways.

3. What word in the dictionary would have a Halfway Home band photo beside it?

C: Cock Rock

4. "Let's Start This Over" was just released on

Italy's Wynona Records. How did you get the attention of and deal with Wynona?

C: We have this website on MP3.com where you can go and listen to a few songs and download them for free and stuff. I didn't think anyone actually listened to it, but I got an email from Joe from Wynona last winter and things went really fast from there.

5. Halfway Home play great melodic [pop] punk, what do you say to those who label pop punk as 'brain dead generic music'?

C: Unfortunately, there are a lot of bands that play brain dead generic music that gives the whole genre a bad name. There are a lot of bands who put their hearts into their music and do it because it's what they love to do and those are the kind of bands people need to listen to. I think when frat guys or people who've never been to a show decide to form a band just to pick up girls or whatever and there's no heart in it they can put out some really shitty music.

6. Have your folks ever been to one of your shows?

C: We tour a lot, so I've been lucky enough to play around where my folks live a few times, so they always come out to the show. They're not really into punk, but they still support us. And we have a few beers after the show. My parents are great.

7. What's in your fridge that shouldn't be?

C: We've been on tour for about a month now, so I'm not even sure what's in my fridge at all. I'm sure anything that's in there from before I left is going to be pretty nasty when I get home.



HALFWAY HOME

8. Is it normal to vacuum your dog?

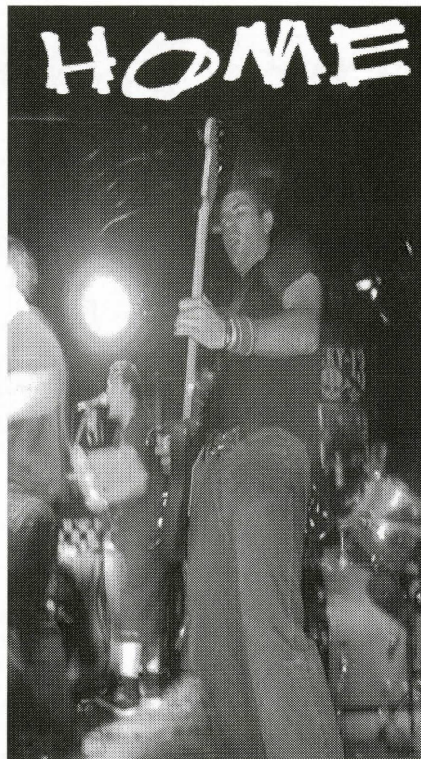
C: I've seen little hand-held things you can use to suck dirt off your dog. My dog has got short hair, so I don't think it would work. Plus he hates the vacuum anyways, so he'd probably get pretty pissed if I tried anything like that.

9. What three bands would you most like to share a tour with?

C: Juliana Theory, the Ataris, Get Up Kids.

10. For those who have never heard your tunes, tell us why should kids buy your record and what's next for Halfway Home?

C: I think kids should check it out because it's the only way we can get to know them, or for them to get to know us. We put everything we have into the band, and it's great to get to meet kids from all over the world through the music. As far as what's next, we're working on touring for the summer, playing some Warped Tour dates and all that fun stuff. Rock and Roll!!!! I know I can make it ... a long as I have halfwayhomerock.com to guide me.



"Let's Start Over" CD out now on Wynona Records
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Dead Letter Dept

Dead Letter Dept.



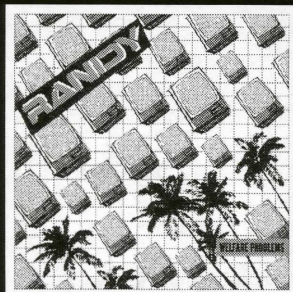
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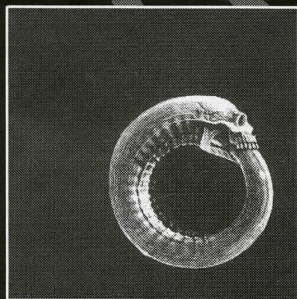
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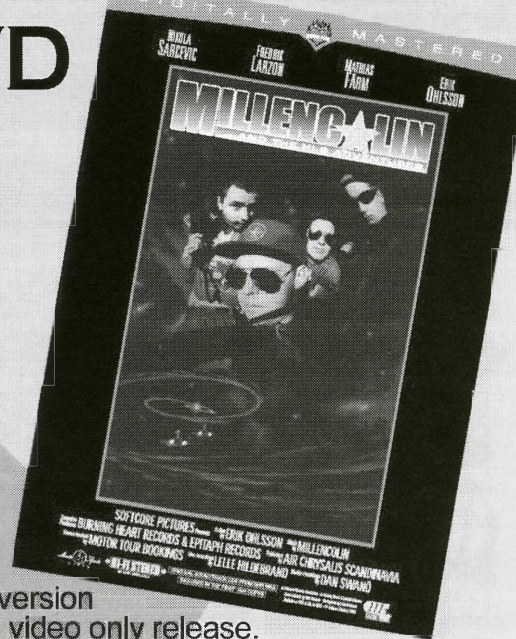
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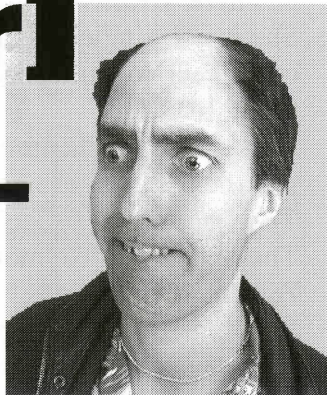


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late 2003 / early 2004!



there's still PROBLEMS with [your] MUSIC...

Pee article by Moe



Another Pee issue, another bitch session by myself. I love it. Enjoy.

I would just like to start off with making my prediction for the next wave of style to be cool in Australia, which will hopefully kill off all the Blink and Good Charlotte cover bands. Not that it is deviating too far from the current wave but I think bands like Saves The Day will soon become huge in America therefore the trend will shortly follow in Australia. (I use the term huge compared to the likes of Blink, New Found Glory etc. STD are big but not as big as the bands previously mentioned)

Connections

The secret to a bands success depends on their connections. Whether it be their manager, agent or label. But I am at the stage where I don't exactly like shit being shoved in my face. I apologise about the bluntness but it always seems to be the same shit bands playing the support

slots to the big overseas bands. They are shit and any amount of support slots they play will make them a decent and respectable band. I hope that the decent overseas bands don't judge all Aussie bands on these pathetic US rip off bands. Credit to the bands that have moved on from playing only support shows to being able to hold their own headlining shows. Please bring on another "new wave" of music.

Criticism

Bands seem to cop a lot of criticism once they start to succeed. Which is the case of one band that I have been closely following the foot steps of. I think the majority of this criticism comes from opposing band members that just can't seem to crack the market. Years and years of trying to make a name for themselves and to no avail. Maybe it's because they are crap or maybe it's just that they have no connections. More than likely they are just crap. Either way, give these bands a break. I am sure a fair percentage of muso's would like to be in there position.

Being F@#ked Over

I am not sure on what other people's thoughts are on how best people represent bands but I prefer be friends with them. I am not sure or how bands can put their band in the hands of someone they don't know, let alone how they could trust them?. I have heard heaps of stories lately about bands being fucked over by agents/managers etc. I for one would not touch a band that I had not previously established a friendship with. I am not saying that it's not a good idea to not no a band first as I have also heard of friends fucking over bands that they are so called "representing". Either way, I hate hearing stories about bands being fucked over but shit happens and it always will. Bands should be more careful.

Moe's 5 Quickies:

Avril Lavigne's Aussie Tour

Thank fuck it's over. Please don't come back again.

Michelle Branch

She is hot, single and she can sing and play guitar. Please come back to Australia...

Straight Edge

How many people are in it for the right reasons???? Not just the image...


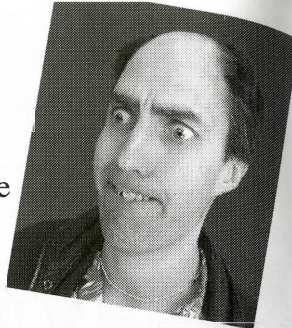
Top 40 music

The older I get, the more appreciative I get.

Big Brother


It is time to go...Big Brother. Stop shooting a dead horse.

Moe!



settlefish

dance a while, upset in stores



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RISE AGAINST

One word springs to mind when describing Illinois quartet Rise Against - fuckin' awesome! Oh wait, that's two words. Their new album is worthy of album of this ishoo, so I contacted RA vocalist Tim McIlrath to ask when they're coming Down Under...

PEE: You've been getting some great reviews for "Revolutions Per Minute", do you read or take much notice of reviews or feedback?

TIM: It's a good measure of how people are reacting to it, but I don't put too much too much stock in them either way.

P: The songwriting on "Revolutions.." seems to have progressed nicely to produced a bigger more mature sounding record than the Unraveling... is that how you look at album now?

T: Definitely, I'm really happy with our record. Bill and Jason at the Blasting Room did a great job on it and I'm really proud of all of us for writing that record.

P: Many years in the future when you're an old man sitting on the porch reminiscing about your Rise Against days, what's one message you'd like to be remembered for trying to put across as a band?

T: A positive message. A message of hope, and that you don't need to do what this world wants you to do to survive.

P: A lot of people overlook an albums cover art - how much thought and planning do you guys put into your album's art?

T: Our buddy Mike Jackson (www.satellitebleu.com) did the cover. It was an image he had before we named our record so when he heard what we were going to call the record he showed us the image and it was perfect.

P: You've just completed a European tour - how'd that go off? Any stand out memories / shows of this tour?

T: We had a great time in Europe with all the bands. Neil from the Larry Arms and I acquired bicycles and rode thru the towns all day before each show, that was a good time. We just got back from Japan with NUFAN and Anti-Flag, which was an amazing experience as well.

P: You wrote "In the wake of so much internet pirating, please support bands who still do records on independent labels and try to maintain a DIY ethic" on your website, obviously downloading of recordings is a real concern for you guys...

T: It's a concern for anyone who plays in a band, records music, runs a label, a zine, a distro, or a venue. Internet pirating will be the death of us all.

P: What would you say to the punk kid who says "but I only burnt copies of your album for my three closest friends"?

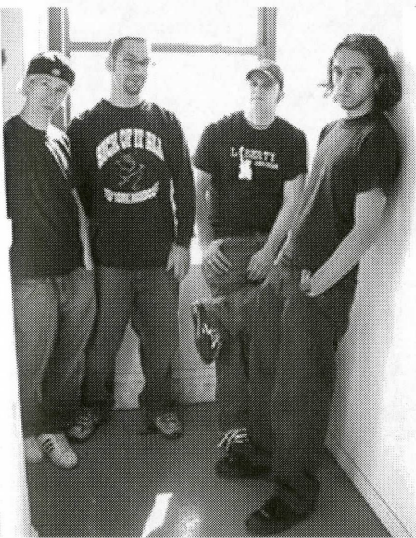
T: That's cool, but please come out to a show and support the band in some way, or buy a copy of the record at some point.

P: Put me outta my misery - what's the sample at the beginning of "Last Chance Blueprint" lifted from, coz I know I've heard it before...?

T: It's from the movie American Beauty.

P: Where did the quote "If you're not angry, you're not paying attention." come from? Who said / wrote that?

T: I don't know if anyone ever said it or if it's just an expression from somewhere. Either way, I think it's a pretty moving statement.



RISE AGAINST

P: Tell me about the experience of recording of "Gethsamane" for the Thick Records "Oil" comp... that was done in an old Chicago oil refinery right?

T: Yeah, the same place we filmed our video. It was an amazing experience with Billy and Zack from Thick, a true show of Chicago unity and we were stoked to be a part of it.

P: Was "Gethsamane" written especially for the comp or a song you had left over from "RPM"?

T: It was written before we'd finished writing RPM so we used it.

P: I take it from your website's bio you guys somewhat respect AC DC... what other bands would you be proud to overhear Rise Against mentioned in the same sentence with?

T: Milli Vanilli, Michael Bolton, Puff Daddy, Ricky Martin...

P: Hahaha What kinda non music related stuff do you guys do for fun outside of the band? Do any of you still skate, surf or do extreme sports like croquet?

T: Joe skates a lot, I go mountain biking, we all have stuff we do. Is croquet an extreme sport down there? weird...

P: You were making / have made a video clip for "Heaven Knows" right? If you could have *anyone* star in a Rise Against clip who would it be and what would you have them doing?

T: I'd have Parker Posey in it cuz I'm in love with her. Ok, I guess that's a little selfish...

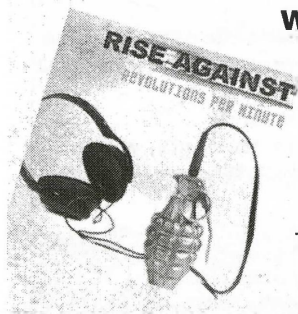
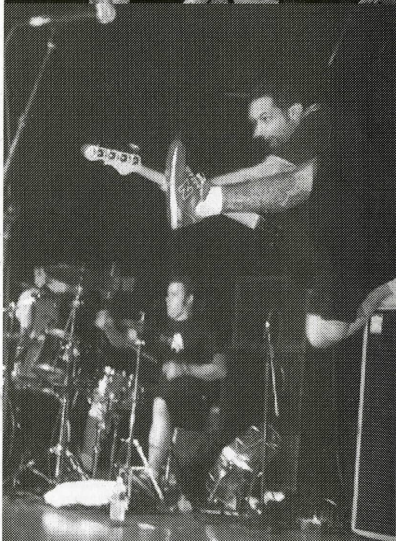
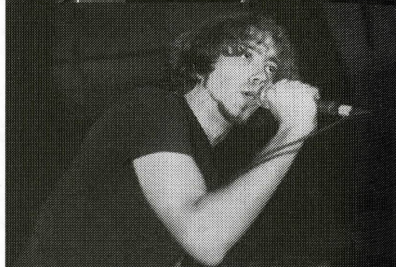
P: Any chance of you guys "borrowing" Fat Mike's private jet and getting down to Aus any time soon for some live action?

T: Yeah definitely! Maybe we'll actually play some shows too!

P: Thanx a shit load for your time! Any last words or people you wanna thank?

T: Thanks to all our patient fans in Aus, we'll get there soon!

www.riseagainst.com



Brandon = Drums
Jim = Bass and Backing Vocals
Tim = Vocals and Guitar
Todd = Guitar and Backing Vocals



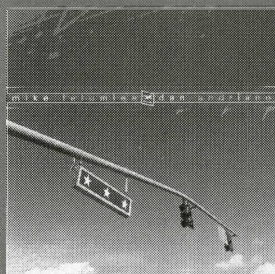
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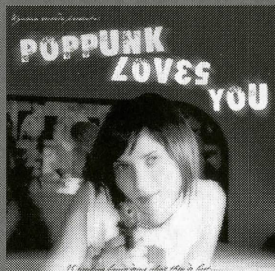
DIGGER
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CDEP

Live, rare,
unreleased songs
+
Tattoo broken
hearts VIDEO

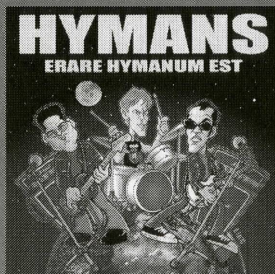
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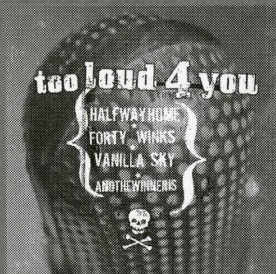
MIKE FELUMLEE/DAN ANDRIANO



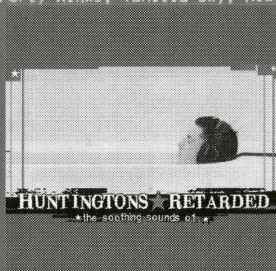
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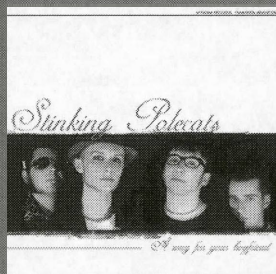
THE HYMANS "Erare Hymanum Est"



4 WAYS SPLIT: Halfwayhome,
Forty Winks, Vanilla Sky, Atwi



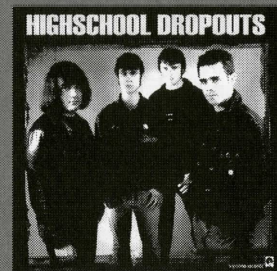
HUNTINGTONS vs RETARDED



STINKING POLECATS "A song for..."



HALFWAYHOME "Let's start this over"



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GYROSCOPE

It's been a few ishoos since Perth quartet GYROSCOPE appeared in Pee. They've gained a strong following, and Pee, well... Cassie caught up with guitarist Zoran at Melbourne's metro...

PEE: *How did you find the show at The Arthouse last night?*

ZORAN: Yeah we had a really good reception and we were really excited to play that venue again.

P: *Last time you played there you were largely unknown – how does it feel to be able to witness the progression of your fan base?*

Z: Its really good. We've been playing in Perth now for five years solidly but its only the last year or two that we've been able to get over here (to the east coast) and its good that people are starting to notice us and make the effort to come out to our shows.

P: *You've got a stack of releases, compilations, a new sampler with Alkaline Trio, loads of local shows and some international supports under your belt – what is next for the band?*

Z: Well the Alkaline release was just - we never thought we'd see the day that we'd be on the same release as them. As for what's next, we are just really going to try to saturate the east coast – with this tour we get up to Queensland and New South Wales. We are looking at recording an album in the next few months also.

P: *How has Alkaline Trio influenced you personally?*

Z: It's a different outlook on life I think - The music can be compared to a lot of bands, with the new album for example there's songs that have a few Ramones style riffs, but they are not Ramones lyrics. Matt Skiba is awesome - the lyrics are out there on their own. The concepts behind the songs are really, really good.

P: *Perth has had a pretty rough deal in the past in terms of tours and festivals not stopping by in WA. Now Perth seems to have a building reputation in terms of a live music scene...*

Z: The scenes great at the moment there's a lot of good bands coming out of Perth. I think there's always been good bands there, there just hasn't been much of a focus on them. Its great to see, because there's so much talent.

P: *What Perth based bands do you think people should look out for.*

Z: Well we grew up on Jebediah. Bands like the Sleepy Jacksons I think are awesome. We've had a lot of bands kind of look after us like Eskimo Joe, bands that aren't necessarily our favorite musically, but they are all great guys and there's a really great friendship between the bands. My personal favorite is The Critics; they've moved over to Melbourne now, they are a great band.

P: *Do you think the fact that these bands have all struggled in the same kinds of ways has resulted in there being some sort of family?*

Z: Yeah. I mean Jebediah were the first band to come out of Perth, tour Australia and still live in Perth. I think at the moment we are all able to everyone has friends and family .



Jane Hakanson © <http://mtasmia.cjb.net>

P: How would you describe the musical differences between the first EP and the new release?

Z: I think the new EP is a really big progression for us. The new EP actually sounds the way we want it to sound, the last EP was a bit too nice and clear. People would say how the EP didn't sound like our live stage sound. So, with the new EP we've tried to get across the sound we strive for in a live show, because playing live is what we are all about.

P: Your live performance is something we haven't seen in a while – you guys really get into it, and use a lot of basic effects, such as dual vocals instead of effects. Do you think this grass roots vibe will remain as an element of the band?

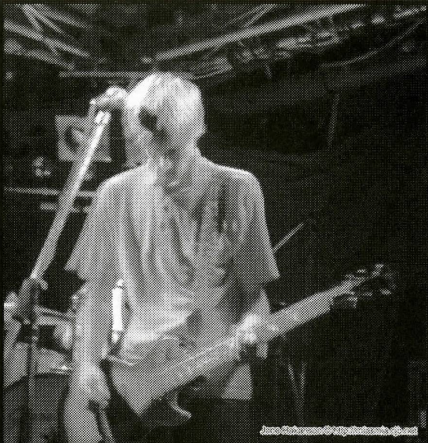
Z: Yeah I think anything that we record in future will have even more of a scary sound to it. We've always loved bands, no matter what the genre, who really get into the live shows – I hate going to see bands where they just stand around.

P: Getting on the bill with bands such as IKTPQ is a really, really big deal in Melbourne – do you think you guys have an understanding of what it is that you are on the brink of?

Z: Um not really. We read a bit about bands like IKTPQ, but we hadn't seen them before. At this point we are just happy to be playing with all sorts of bands – although it is good to get outside the regular punk rock rotation and play to new audiences.

Thanx to Zoran and Cassie for the interview

[pix stolen from the Gyroscope website]



GYROSCOPE

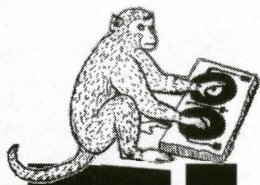
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www.gyroscope.com.au
www.fmrecords.com.au





AGAINST ME!

AGAINST ME! are one of those punk gems that with one listen you're hooked.

The Florida quartet have just released a new single on No Idea records and signed to Fat Wreck for their next album. I fired a bunch of q's at founder and front man Tom to learn more...

PEE: Could you give the readers an Against Me! history lesson, how did you guys get together to form the band that is now Against Me!?

TOM: It started out just me by myself... I wrote a bunch of really bad songs on my guitar in my bed room and recorded them on a four track... dubbed a bunch of copies and gave them out to friends... it just kind of grew from there.... we've been as many as a four piece and then back down to just me again... back up to a four piece... to be honest I don't know how the hell its gone as far as it has.

P: So what do you guys do outside of AM!? Do you all have day jobs to support your band habit or is AM! becoming a full time thing now?

T: Its definitely becoming more and more of a full time thing... if nothing else because its really hard to keep any kind of job when you go out of town on tour every other month... we've toured something like 8 months out of the last year. Some of us work at this bar here in town called the Top.... its an awesome place... the owners Scott, and Hal have been more than supportive of us being in a band

P: The Against Me! Sound is pretty unique, what do you attribute that to? Does that just come with being a punk band from Florida rather than from California or New York?

T: I don't know really... I think ideally when you set out to make music you want to make something unique and original... I've never gone to a practice or approached writing a song like "lets try and sound like this band..." we definitely have our influences.... and we definitely get compared to other bands. Florida is the greatest state in the union though.. maybe that does have a little something to do with it.

P: The addition of the horn section on your "Disco" single really kinda 'fills' the song out - can we expect more of this kind of sound on your next album?

T: Maybe.... we will see what happens... I think its important to never put limits on something like making music.

P: Against Me! won't be slowly transforming into a ska band then?

T: Oh no... we are totally becoming an all out ska band... I really think that ska is going to make a come back in the next year or two.. we want to cash in on that as much as possible.

P: How did the Fat signing come about and why the move from No Idea? Was it just a case of your deal with No Idea was up and you went shopping around for a new label - or was there more to the move?

T: They asked us if we'd be interested in doing a 7" and I asked them if they'd be interested in doing the next full length.. they said yes. It had nothing to do with being unhappy with No idea... they are an awesome label and all the people who work there are good friends of ours. When your in a band its nice to try working with different people though whether that be labels or studios or whatever... just to keep things interesting and feel like your growing.... stagnation is the enemy.

P: Were you ever hesitant at all about moving to Fat Wreck Chords? By that I mean there are a lot of punk kids out there who love Fat Wreck, but probably a whole heap of fans who blindly hate the label... were you worried about losing fans?

T: We knew we would get a lot of shit for it... but we didn't hesitate for a second. There's so many ways that you can look at it... first I think people are going to have a problem with what you do no matter what sometimes. I'm not going to make a choice because I'm worried what someone else thinks. It's ironic in a way.. for me when I was younger one of the things that was really appealing about punk rock was the whole "fuck you" attitude... It doesn't matter what anyone else thinks.... think for yourself... and then here I am in this situation where I feel like people are making judgements as to whether or not we are sellouts... fuck it.. I don't care. I know I didn't broadcast it but I never tried to hide it either... I've always listened to bands on fat wreck chords... they've put out some of my favourite records ever. I forget who said it but I think this quote applies "fat hate is so '96".

P: I noticed you guys have copped a lot of shit online about "selling out" moving to Fat... how does that kinda shitty attitude effect the band?

T: The fact that people will talk a lot of shit on line is really annoying... no one wants to say anything to your face but they will post whatever they want on a message board. If anyone ever has a question or would like to discuss something I encourage it wholeheartedly... communication is a really important thing.... we try and make ourselves really accessible you can reach us directly through email the address is on our web site. That was another thing I though was really really funny when this all first happened there was a bunch of posts on our message board from people saying that they had just read on the fat web site that against me! signed to fat wreck chords and how we were sellouts blah blah blah.... why the hell were they checking the fat web site in the first place.

P: Tell me about "Tonight We're Gonna Give It 35%"... is it a personal relationship song, or about just becoming tired and jaded? Coz you could take it either way the more you listen to it...

T: I wrote the song while I was on tour... which I think kind of comes out in it. It definitely has to





do with a "personal relationship".... I didn't mean for it to sound like I was becoming tired or Jaded... more so just that sometimes you think things will be different then actually end up being.

P: The photos of the show on the "Disco" single artwork... looks like it was a great show...

T: The cover was a picture taken in Portland Oregon at a space called the meow meow... the show was insane. I remember I was standing basically on a piece of plywood covering up a hole in the stage so every time I moved the mic stand would wobble back and forth... it was like playing on a trampoline. The show was complete chaos... one of the best.

P: The AM! monkey and turntable logo - are monkey's an important ingredient in the band's make up?

T: I don't really know what to say... I mean come on... monkeys... you either get them or you don't.

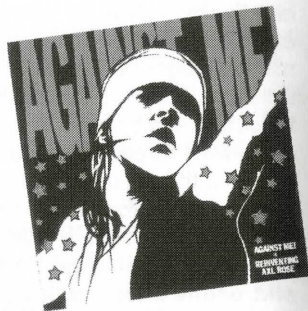
P: What are your hopes for AM!'s future?

T: Really we just want to keep playing and touring... I know that's a really really cliché answer. We record this August... we are all really excited about that. This past year was amazing I hope this year is better.

P: Thanx heaps for your time. Any last comments or people you'd like to thank?

T: Thank you very much for doing the interview.

www.againstme.net

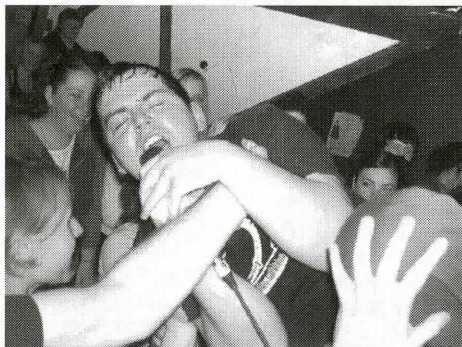


dead letter dept.

It's weird sometimes how you stumble across those bands who end up being a favourite. The self titled ep from Canadian quartet DEAD LETTER DEPT. was forwarded to me by webzine "pixel dot revolution" coz they thought it would better suit Pee... how right they were! After countless emails I feel I've struck a friendship with vocalist and guitarist Rob Muir. Time to test the friendship with a crappy Pee interview...

PEE: Hey Rob, tell us the birth of "Dead Letter Dept." story - like most bands DLD was formed from the ruins of a previous band right?

ROB: We always knew we were a good match... We met in high school and fell in love through records and movies and skateboarding - and one night it happened. A little bit of fine wine, a little carelessness, things got hot and we got crazy. Some call it an accident, most call it a surprise, but 9 months later we had a baby. A 3-piece power-pop punk rock group, and we boast the exact same lineup up until now. Recently however we've started to swing a little with a gentleman named Danny Christopher on the 2nd guitar, allowing me to salsa-dance live while singing freestyle.



P: So why the name change from 'The Stiffs'?

R: When our baby was born we gave him his Christian name of The Stiffs, but as he grew older started doing more than drooling and puking all over the place, we thought to let him pick his own name. The lil' slugger came up with Dead Letter Dept - strange for a child who has only just celebrated his 7th birthday (at Chuck E. Cheese's). As loving parents, we've never felt that he was "better" than the other kids... Just a bit "above" them.

P: Not knowing much about Toronto - except it must get fuckin' cold there in winter - how does being a Toronto punk band differ from a long island or west coast US band?

R: Toronto is an amazing city that is so rich in culture and diversity it'll make you want to cry - Not even SARS or a real life version of Diamond Joe Quimby as a mayor can dampen it's spirit. We love it here and from the months of being on the road we've realized it's such an amazing place to come back home too. What has living here all our lives done to us? I would say it has

indirectly fostered our need to spread our little minds in both our music and our travels to far off places... It has bent us in a way that has allowed us to fall into a left-wing-ideology-band-sub-category, and we couldn't be more proud of where those roots or where we stand.

P: You mention other bands sharing the same political beliefs as DLD, can you share some of those beliefs with us...

R: One of the many appealing factors when we started listening to punk rock back in 1994 was the very political side of the music certain bands went off with. It was a lot different then than it is now... Unfortunately for the younger generation of today, there aren't many bands passing along the message that homophobia isn't cool and should under

no circumstances be accepted, or that judging people by the color of their skin is fuckin retarded. Maybe I'm an old 22-year old, but I remember going to so many punk rock shows where bands actually talked between songs about these issues... Maybe it's been lost through the Atticus shirts and hair gel. I guess when I say "political beliefs", I'm coming from a very left-wing point of view, a point of view that is very open-minded and very accepting. I mean, to each their own. Even if it's Atticus and gel. Some of my favourite websites are: www.nologo.com www.michaelmoore.com www.antiracistaction.com www.peta.com

P: Your songs on your self titled EP revolve more around relationships and self examination, how has your song writing changed or progressed since the recording of that EP?

R: Ha, The songs on the EP were wrote when I was still in high school and was of the train of thought that getting the girl in math class was tough and that everyone should share my agony through power chords and melodic backups. The new songs I'm writing come from the ashes

Dead Letter Dept.



of a real relationship gone sour. Becoming familiar with the EP as most DLD fans are, when the new record comes out it won't be at all what many expect. Instead of 14 generic, sappy pop songs about love and love-lost, I've taken my imagination and creativity through the depths of my own hell and brought them to the exact same place my life was at that point. What you'll find is an angry-as-hell-record... A big fuck-you to everything. My art has to come from the truth, and when a real relationship turns into a real-life hell and you turn into a mess, gain 15 pounds, never sleep, can't hold down a single job and look like shit, you gotta let loose. The end result has my writing turning darker and more exciting in a way, a bit more experimental. I'm also starting to come to the conclusion that it's ok to have more on a record than just guitar, bass and drums. So for you anti-Darwinists out there who don't believe in evolution, buy our 5 song EP, memorize it (it's not hard) and then sample our new record. Explain THAT.

P: There's a lot of great punk bands who have been able to get their message across in their lyrics without being overly preachy.. would you like to model future DLD recordings in a similar way to any other particular band that's been able to get their message out to the fans?

R: My song writing has always been very personal to me, I've always written a certain way and I've never once thought my band could change the world through political songs (even though I really wish it could). I guess I've always been sort of negative in that area. I truly believe I am incapable of writing meaningful political songs and I've never had an urge to really try and just focus too much on direct issues. I'd rather advertise and support local

grassroots activist organizations both on my own and through DLD than I would try writing a series of "issue" songs. I suppose if DLD had a message it would be... In the end just make sure you're having fun - life is too short for you to be reading about how much we all hate the music scene, and how "punk rock has shed so many skins for the worst since the early 90s". Take something negative and re-route it as a positive. The main reason everyone got into this music was because it was fun, the politics DLD carry are very personal... Our own personal politics. For example, the little DIY code-of-ethics our band swears by is ours, and ours alone. We can't ask or expect people to think the same way as we do, nor would I want everyone to think the same way as I do, even if I believe it to be right, true and just. I guess my point is with my song writing, it would be contrived and forced if I tried being preachy, just as much as it would be hard for you kids to see from our art that as a band, we're more likely to get a hard-on over left wing/ anarchist/ activist politics than we are from smut magazines and skateboarding.

P: I know exactly what you mean. So you say DLD are all about having fun, what do you guys do outside of the band for entertainment? Do any of you skate, snowboard, moto-x or play nude twister?

R: None of us really skateboard anymore, we're so old for being so young. It's kinda sad, really. We do however approach our band-mentality as a hockey team (hockey is big in Canada - imagine the popularity of the AFL, rugby, soccer and cricket all rolled into one). Whenever our drummer (mike) drops a drum stick while playing, it's the "goalie dropped his stick" rule - we get him another ASAP. We stand in front of the net, take hits and block shots for the team - our live set often produces mild sprains and bruises... Even the odd stitch-up job. When someone interviews us at a show we give interviews as if we were doing a post-game press conference. We even grow playoff beards during our tours, and if we play a good set, you'd better believe the underwear we wore ain't gettin' washed.

P: You mentioned that you have Mayor Quimby for your mayor there in Toronto, if DLD could appear on a cartoon show which would it be - The Simpson's or South Park?

R: Mel Lastman is the mayor of Toronto for the time being (our friend Adam Cook is going to boot him out of office next election)... Lastman's wife is a well-known kleptomaniac who has gotten herself banned from many shops here in Toronto, our Mayor was best known for telling the press that he didn't want to visit Africa because he was worried villagers would tie him up and cook him in a cauldron of boiling water. We'd definitely be on the Simpson's.

P: What would the episode be about??

R: The episode would be about Dead Letter Dept. challenging New Found Glory to games of intellect like RISK and Scrabble, it would be a lot like Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure 2, where Bill and Ted have to play board games with Death in order to become alive again. We would beat NFG each and every time and in the end we'd settle down for a "knowing is half the battle" lesson and teach them how to read and write and not make stupid faces while playing. It would be fun. And homer would say "doh" every time one of their members stopped to re-apply palm-aid to their hair or announce to the world that they were "single, ladies..."

P: You've been getting some great reviews down here for your ep, do you read or take much notice of reviews and what's being said about the band in music media?

R: We're very grateful that people have been saying nice stuff about us... It's tough when it comes to Indie music - because of the nature of it, reviewers feel a little pressure to ease up and not tear something apart when they hate it, just as they will usually put more emphasis on something they like and treat it as if they have totally loved it for years. When it comes to our band and our recordings, I just hope people are honest when they say they like it. I know if I was in their shoes I would be honest as possible, and looking at what kind of records have been coming out over the past few years, I wouldn't be making loads of friends... that's for sure. So bottom line? You have permission to trash our band. We'd probably respect you more than if you loved us. Haha

P: What about zines, do you ever read zines?

R: (gun to my head) Hello, my name is Rob and I play in a band called Dead Letter Dept. I read Pee Zine and Pee Zine only. Thank you for your time.



P: Hahaha So what's the most annoying question you're always being asked? Or have I already asked it?!

R: Pete you can do no harm, No one has asked any annoying questions yet, but if someone found out about how I used to date Sarah Polley and grilled me about our love, that might be a little annoying.

P: How would you answer it?

R: With a shit-eating grin on my face.

P: Many years in the future when you're an old man sitting on the porch reminiscing about your DLD days, what's one message you'd like to be remembered for trying to put across as a band?

R: I think just that we we're an honest band, we meant what we said, we wrote songs for ourselves and not for anyone else, but when people paid to see us play we played our hearts out for them. We sound so melodramatic and egotistical hahaha

P: Thanx for ya time Rob, any last words or people you wanna thank?

R: On behalf of Dead Letter Dept. We'd like to tell people that they should definitely support small print zines like *Pee Zine*, and that more girls should play in bands. Punk rock is about whatever you want it to be about so have fun with it and look out for each other along the way. In case anyone is wondering what Toronto, Canada is like, I've heard from Simon (of Sekiden fame) comment that it's a cross between Sydney and Melbourne. So quit your jobs and backpack the world. Thanks so much Pete!

www.deadletterdept.com

Best Kept Secret



Out of the NSW central coast comes a rockin' new melodic rock band with the apt name BEST KEPT SECRET. They're the first signing to enthusiastic local label ECP Records and all involved couldn't be happier with their debut ep. I finally cornered guitarist and vocalist Tim long enough to get the Best Kept story...

PEE: Most would know you from your time spent in One Dollar Short - can you give us the love story how you hooked up with the 4 guys to form Best Kept Secret...

TIM: I think it was early 2001, I'm pretty sure it was, I'd been split with One Dollar Short for about two months and the guys had a band called Slideshow, I'd met Mitch previously when I was with ODS, they'd actually played a show with us down on the central coast. Then they put an offer to me a couple of months down the track, after I'd had some time off, asking me to join the band and take up a role as guitarist / songwriter... I was a bit hesitant at first after doing that amount of time with 'Dollar Short and having what happened happen... just the doing nothing right on the point of where the band started going somewhere so I was a little bit exhausted from it all. But um, we got together and just went thru a riff that Mitch brought over and that riff was "Another Night". We kinda just gelled

that night and the song just happened and went from there...

P: So did Mitch already have the rest of the guys in Slideshow lined up?

T: Yea, it was like a new member's joined, total new sound and facelift hence the new name "Best Kept Secret" and there we were.

P: Well that's probably why BKS could easily be forgiven for thinking you guys have been playing together for years, if most of BKS had been together previously...

T: Yea, every song off the ep is absolutely brand new, they're all new BKS songs with me in the band. Their old stuff was scrapped all together except for the 'secret song' on the ep, that's actually a track from the ep that Slideshow put together probably about a year before I joined. It's called "A Hundred Deeds". It's the only song that made it thru the filter...

P: [laughs] Thru the "BKS Filter" huh...

T: [laughs] Yea thru the "BKS Filter"!

P: You and Mitch harmonize well, did that come naturally, or did you guys have to work on it a lot by practicing in the shower?

T: [laughs] No we don't take showers, it's baths. We bathe together...

P: [laughs] I'm not going there...

T: [laughs] No don't! Um, I don't know. I guess we're different voices but still a little bit similar, but I think we kind of work off the same notes. It does work, I think when we practice well it pulls off. But we spend a lot of time in the rehearsal room practicing before we recorded the ep. We spent twelve months straight rehearsing and writing before we started laying down the demo, so I guess it's just a lot of practice...

P: So do you think all that practice and initial hard work has paid off and shows on the ep?

T: Oh yea, I definitely think so. We actually did a couple of demos that we were thinking about actually using as a release, but we're glad now coz we kind of set up a plan that we wanted to come out and make a bit of an impact when we hit the

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www.bestkept-secret.com

unorganised
INSTOR

scene and not just be another ordinary band that has people saying 'oh they'll get their shit together eventually', we wanted them to say wow where did these guys come from'. That was the whole plan. I guess it's all paying off coz the response we've been getting from people has been great.

P: So you really get out of it what you put in to begin with...

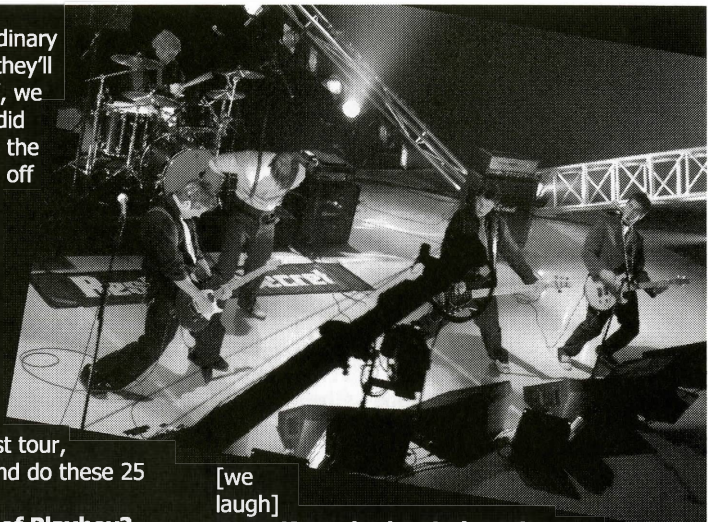
T: Yea exactly. All the frustrating time in the rehearsal room we're starting to see some of the rewards for it now. Hence the first tour, we're excited as hell to get out and do these 25 shows...

P: So who owns the old copy of Playboy? ["Dorothy Stratton"]

T: [laughs] It was actually when Mitch and I first got together and started writing songs he spent about a week over at my house just going thru material, and I had this riff, it was "Dorothy Stratton", and I'd been reading this book on true crimes and there was a story about Dorothy Stratton who was a Playgirl... Playboy model, who was gorgeous in her time and got murdered by her jealous husband. We just thought let's just throw in a curve ball and see if anyone can figure out what it's about and we decided to do it. It's been amazing, we've had people at shows saying "we looked up Dorothy Stratton on the internet" and "I've asked my mum and she's a Playboy model" and people have done their own research to figure out who it is. Coz no-one had any idea because she was an ol' 80s model. So that's where that came from

P: Suddenly her website's been getting all these hits and they're thinking "what's going on"...

T: [laughs] Yea exactly. It's re-birthed the website and now they're selling a re-issue of her calendar



[we laugh]

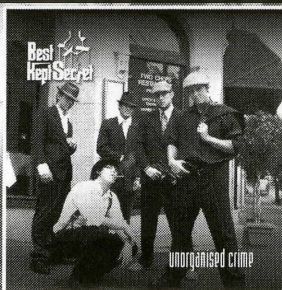
P: So if you had a choice who you could have star in a BKS video who would she be?

T: Oh I'd probably say... I'd like to have Cameron Diaz. She's an American girl I know, which is probably a bit far out but she's always been pretty cool. She was pretty foxy in "Something About Mary" which has burnt a permanent image in my mind...

P: Tell me about the dressing up as gangsters for the cover shoot...

T: Yea well we threw a couple of ideas around the table, I work at channel 9 so I had access to all the channel 9 memorabilia, so we were thinking of doing a kind of wacky "Wide World Of Sports" kind of theme... but that was going to take too much time so we threw around the idea of being unorganized gangsters. And around where I live there's all these old 1930s buildings, so we went out and got a bunch of clothes from a costume hire and got a friend to shoot some photos and had some fun with it running around pretending we

BUT EP
crime
ES NOW!



were old school mafia.

P: So you didn't get arrested for running around the streets with imitation fire arms?

T: [laughs] ...It was quite funny coz we were walking thru this place and it was like little Italv, and there were these old Italian men who were seeing these flashbacks of these old gangster guys with 1930s equipment coming down the street, they were yahooing and yelling something out in Italian, we didn't understand what they were saying but it sounded pretty funny.

P: So are you any good at keeping secrets?

T: I think I'm pretty good. Um, I can't say much for Mitch - he should have his own spot in Women's Weekly gossip column. He likes to tell a few "jokes" around the camp fire...

P: [laughs] So have you got any secrets about one of the guys you wanna air in Pee?

T: [laughs] I actually told a false story about Mitch in the last magazine interview about him cross dressing, so I might give it a rest in this one or he might think I'm out to get him. [we laugh]

P: It hasn't come back to bite you yet then...

T: No not yet, he hasn't read it. He'll read it when we're on tour and go "what the fuck is this" [we laugh] and there's me sitting in the corner twiddling my thumbs... [we laugh]

P: Just say it was a misquote...

T: Yea the media, they put things outta context!

P: Seems to be a lot of great bands pouring out of the central coast these last few years, is it a competitive kinda scene that makes for the quality of bands emerging outta there?

T: I definitely think so. The central coast is a bit of a small community, and once 'Dollar Short came out of the central coast all the other bands that were playing around them realized how well they could do I guess, it was just, y'know we've got a chance at this. There's been so many bands coming out of there it's really competitive just to get a spot at some of the clubs and pubs around, coz there's so many good bands around. They're getting the international supports that are coming out. So I guess the standard has been set and any bands that wanna do well have gotta aim up to it.

P: Do central coast bands look out for and support each other or is it every band for themselves?

T: Um, actually I'd like it a lot more for central coast bands to stick together a lot more than what they do. I guess we're not all y'know, a big Brady Bunch family... you see each other at rehearsals and say hi and what not, but it'd be good if the bands stuck together a bit more and we kind of attacked around the states y'know, and toured together. That's

maybe something in the future we could all do.

P: Hard sell time Tim, why should kids buy your ep over that packet of fags or stick mag?

T: Well it's our first release, we're happy with it and we'd appreciate people to give us their opinion if they like it or not. We're open to criticism. And if they like it to come along to our shows and give us a bit of support, we'll try to get to your town as soon as possible!

P: So after the tour what's next for BKS?

T: We're stinging to get into these new songs. We've got these whole new songs that we've been playing in the rehearsal room for about six to eight months... then see what's up ahead finance wise coz if you wanna do an album you've gotta have someone paying the bills... so we've gotta see what happens I guess...

P: Thanx for your time mate, any last words?

T: Um we've got a message board and forum on our website so just drop us a line and let us know if you want us to come to your town, and we'll try to organize something. Thanx Pete that was very cool.



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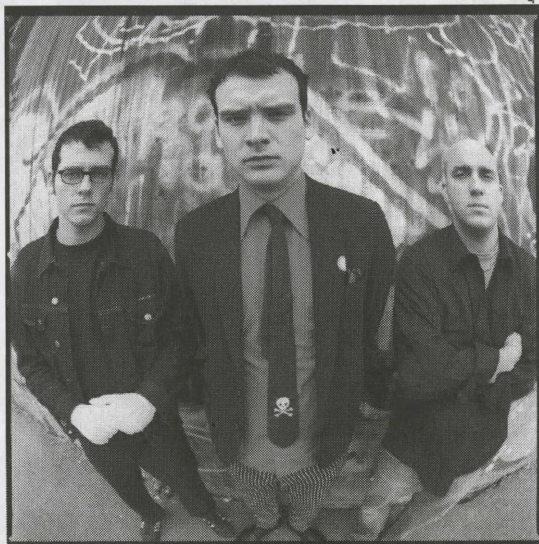


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ALKALINE TRIO



Awesome Chicago outfit Alkaline Trio haven't appeared in Pee since ishoo #14. So with a great new record out it was time to catch up. This interview with 'Trio drummer Derek Grant was originally aired on 3RRR's Mondo Bizarro program and coughed up for Pee readers by host Stuart. Check out Stu's show Monday night at 8pm if you're in Melbourne on 102.7fm, or anywhere else via real player at their website: www.rrr.org.au

PEE: Derek morning my friend how you doing today?

DEREK: Excellent, thanks for talking to me.

P: My pleasure. So where are the trio at the moment, you're out on the road?

D: We're actually out on a tour of our own in the states, we're about half way through it, you know we've just been playing basically some of the same venues that we have been playing for the past couple of years but this time selling them out, for a change – and we're fortunate enough to be touring with some great bands that are friends of ours.

P: Who are you playing with, anyone interesting, anyone we would know?

D: I'm not entirely certain how much recognition the bands have gotten outside of even their owns states, cause they're all pretty small. There's a band called Pretty Girls Make Graves, which I believe are on Matador records now...I could be totally wrong.

P: Yeah, they left Lookout and have signed with Matador

D: They're a great, great band. A group called The Start from Southern California that are another amazing band, both our those bands have sort of electronic, kinda dance elements to them. Very reminiscent of like maybe old Siouxsie and the Banshees or something. And then One Man Army which is an amazing group that was on Adeline records and now they're on BYO records - they're some friends of ours. Then there was another group from San Francisco called Pitch Black, that I believe was on Revelation records. That pretty much it, they're all friends of ours, and bands we enjoy seeing, so we brought em with.

P: Some nice line ups, particularly Pretty Girls Make Graves. That's a big act to follow.

D: It was certainly is, all the acts have really challenged us. Its good that way though, it keeps everybody on their toes.

P: We should start talking about the new album *Good Mourning*. First congratulations on the album, it is fantastic you must be very happy with it.

D: We're ecstatic. It was a lot of hard work making it, and certainly something that we hoped that all the time and dedication that we put in would translate onto the album and so far it certainly seems like it has. I'm glad that you enjoy it.

P: I'm glad you could bring it to me. When you were out here earlier this year, you were saying that this were looking dodgy and whether it was going to get finished, how long it would take etc, because Matt had just blown out his voice.

D: Right, yeah. He actually discovered while we were making the album that he was having some difficulty singing for the first time in his life. Rather than go to a doctor or specialist right off the bat he just decided to try some vocal lessons, and maybe it was just a matter of him not singing properly. So that was the first approach that we took, and when that didn't work he went to see a specialist who determined that he has a thing called acid-reflux which is basically an over active stomach. The stomach acids were eating away at his vocal chords. There was kind of a strict regiment of what he can and can't do, things he can and can't eat, and things that he can't really partake in that he has basically adhered to since in order to save his voice. I'm happy to say that things are going well, his voice isn't quite back to normal but he hasn't had that many problems singing night after night.

P: That's good news.

D: Everything's good, everybody's happy and healthy and his in full recovery.

P: The vocals that he layed down on the album, are they before all the troubles?

D: There were some of vocal tracks that were laid down as we were finding out about it and looking into medication and what not that he could take for it and then I believe he went and re-did all the vocals at the very end. So I believe that what's on the album is pretty much the last things that we did.

P: His voice doesn't sound too bad on the album, so he must have it under control. You worked with some amazing people this time around being Jerry Finn and Joe McGrath – what was it like going into the studio with those guys, was it intimidating?

D: Not at all, Jerry Finn, I have known for years, he worked with me on an album with the previous band I was in, and he had also mixed the last Alkaline Trio album, *From Here To Infirmary* so the other guys were familiar with him as well. So working with him was really a matter of going into

the studio with a good friend, with made for a really relaxing atmosphere. Joe McGrath, we didn't know, but he's essentially Jerry's right hand man. He's worked on a lot of the albums that Jerry's done in the last couple of years and we get along with him great, so we had complete trust in the people we were working with and really felt like everyone had a voice and everybody got their ideas out and we made the best record that we could all possibly make.

P: Now his work with you guys in the studio is it more helping you craft and structure songs, or is it more to help with the sounds you're creating?

D: It was mainly stuff involving sounds. Joe specifically has a really good ear for guitar sounds and helped us develop some of the guitar parts, as well as some of the back vocal and the harmonies. But for the most part we had done demos for a lot of the songs, and for the most part there is not a lot of difference in the arrangement and there's really not a whole lot of things that were added to the songs, as far as extra percussion or vocal or keyboards or whatever, they wasn't a whole lot of that stuff added while we're in the studio, it was all kind of pre thought out by us.

P: You mentioned harmonies and it really seems like a bit more of a focus was made to them on this album, was that part of the album plan?

D: Yeah, due to some time constraints that the band had when they recorded from *Here To Infirmary* there really isn't a lot of background vocals on that album at all and essentially the way that the band has always worked is that Matt writes the songs he sings, and Danny writes the songs he sings and on *Infirmary* they really didn't have a chance to work with each other on the songs and typically when Matt's singing one of his songs, Matt will sing back ups and vice versa, and they really didn't have a chance to develop that when they were in the studio working on *Infirmary* so this time around we really tried to take the time, to make sure that everybody had a crack at singing at we could really fill all the harmonies that everybody heard. So there really was more of a focus on it.

P: Now you're still the new kid on the block in the band, how was the situation with joining the band, especially a band with guys like Matt and Danny, who really seemed to be so focused on what they are trying to do musically

D: I've known the guys for a long time, so it was essentially like working into a situation where it was very much like family. We had grown up in separate states but we were relatively close together and had similar upbringings, as well as

10¹/₂

CRAP

QUICK QUESTIONS WITH... GREYFIELD

Jacksonville melodic pop punks GREYFIELD have recently released their "Soundtrack To Summer" ep which is full of pop punk gems. Enough reason to drill guitarist Matt Quitter with the 10¹/₂ crap Pee questions...

1. Can you give me the how Greyfield came to be story?

MATT: hmm...good question. Greyfield, in the very very beginning, wasn't anything serious. Mike and Allan were in a ska-punk band, and Chris and Mike were in a technical punk band. The three of them got together one day all wanting to just play something really poppy and catchy, not like the other bands they've been playing with...so they just sat down and wrote How Could I and recorded it like a week later...after that Allan left for tour with another band, so Greyfield never was meant to be something serious. Then Allan eventually got home a couple months later and by this time the other two bands broke up, and Chris wanted to start playing again, so he, Mike, and Allan started Greyfield and Chris asked me (Matt) to join as the second guitarist, so I said sure why not, then we just all sat down in Mike and Allan's apartment and wrote like 5 songs in one week then recorded them all for our first EP. (Party After the Show EP, available on our mp3.com page

2. "Soundtrack To The Summer" was recently released only to have half of your line up leave the band. How has that effected Greyfield?

M: The only thing that was affected by Mike and Allan leaving the band is that we had to cancel a couple shows that we had coming up. We had a few really big beneficial shows that we had to cancel...but everyone understood our reasoning. I'm actually kind of relieved that it happened now rather than a year down the road. I'd rather be in a band with people who are dedicated to it 110%...this way, people that have never heard of us, when they finally do, they'll only know the new Greyfield, not the Greyfield that

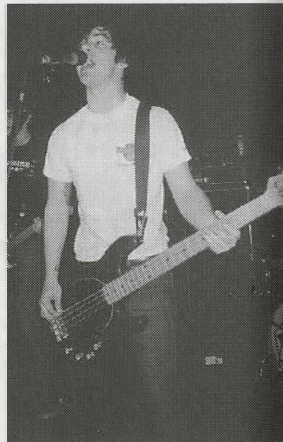
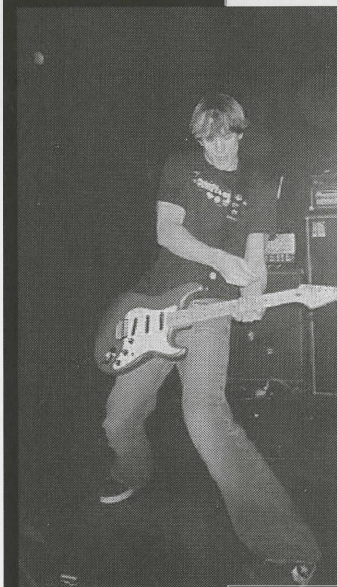
lost two members. This way, hopefully, no one will get the wrong idea and think we broke up or anything like that.

3. If you were to look up the word CRAP in the dictionary there'd be a picture of Pee Zine there. What word would have a Greyfield band photo beside it?

M: I'd have to say...Fun? I don't know...every word that popped into my head just now seemed like it wouldn't fit or that it wasn't the right word, but we're just fun people. We're great friends who love playing music together...and we act like a bunch of 6 year olds when we're together, which I think makes for a fun time

4. Is there anything in a band name?

M: I'm sure there is...but we didn't spend a lot of time deciding. Greyfield is actually the name of a street here in Jacksonville. There's no deep, emotional background to our name.



5. Greyfield play great melodic [pop] punk, what do you say to those who label pop punk as 'brain dead generic music'?

M: Brain dead generic music? I've never heard that before...but I wouldn't label us anything more than rock and roll. We might have a few more pop punk influences than the next band, but our writing style and passion for music is just the same as Linkin Park, Green Day, ACDC, or any other band or musician. We play the music we play because we love to play it, and we love to be on stage playing the songs. So...to really answer your question...to each their own. Everyone has their own opinion.

6. Have your folks ever been to one of your shows?

M: Yeah all of our parents have come out to see us play. They get more and more supportive of what we do every time they see us play or read about us in a magazine or hear about us in some way. My grandmother actually came to one of our shows in her wheelchair... now that's supportive!

7. What's in your fridge that shouldn't be?

M: Well...I'm only 20, and you have to be 21 to drink legally in the US...so the Corona shouldn't be in there, but it is. There's probably some really old food that needs to be thrown away.

8. Is it normal to vacuum your dog?

M: hahaha. Does this question have a double meaning??

9. What three bands would you most like to share a tour with?

M: Only 3? There are so many good bands out there that put on a great show that I would love to play with...but I'd probably pick the Ataris, Yellowcard, and New Found Glory, just because I love their music and their live performances.

10. Why should kids buy your record and what's next for Greyfield?

M: Our music is becoming so diverse that no matter what music you listen to, you'll most likely like our songs. And if not, our cd makes a great drink coaster or frisbee. We are actually writing new songs right now...we have 8 brand new songs that we are working on. We will be demoing the new stuff shortly, then will most likely be in the studio by the end of the year to record all the new stuff, so keep checking the website for samples of the new stuff.

www.greyfieldrock.com

{ G A T S B Y S → R I B B O N S }
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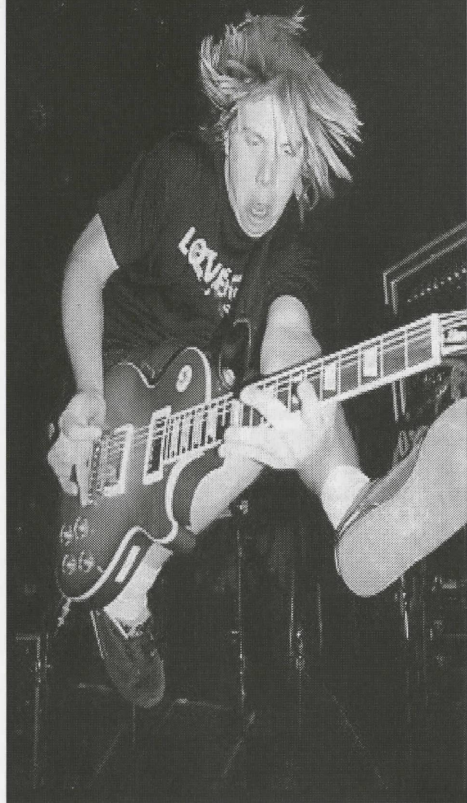
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YELLOWCARD

Aussie punk label Below Par Records have recently released the rockin' "Underdog EP" from Californian punks Yellowcard. Reason enuff to bug the guy who plays the violin and sings - Sean with some pesty Pee questions...



PEE: For those who don't know the YC story, you began playing together as a band during high school right?

SEAN: Yes, and then got Ryan in 2000 when we lost our 2 lead singers.

P: In the early days of Yellowcard what made you guys decide to add a violin to your punk? Where any of you fans of "That Dog"?

S: Ben and Sean were friends who wrote music together and when Ben started the band Sean was asked to play on a song and the rest is history. Second part, what is "that dog"?

P: Shame on you Sean for not knowing who That Dog are... that's your homework for today! So which band member was the ugliest kid at school?

S: It was me, Sean

P: Your Underdog ep is about to be released down here, how has it been received in the U.S and what can we expect from it compared to previous YC recordings?

S: The kids love it, but it is only an EP. It is still an independent recording, but we wanted to tie fans over until the full length was release in the summer of 2003. We are pretty proud of it.

P: Do you read or take any notice of record reviews of your work?

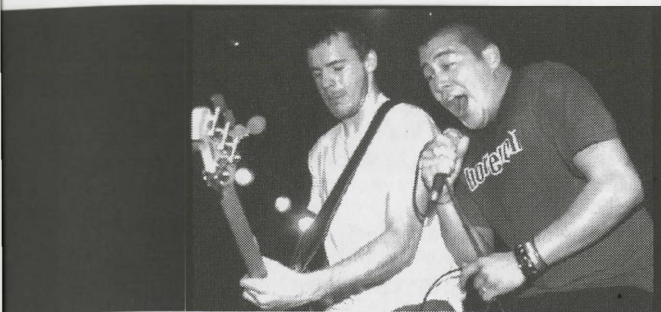
S: No not at all

P: You guys have moved on from Lobster Records now and signed to Capitol for your next album, how did the Capitol interest and signing come about?

S: Word of mouth, lots of shows, and crazy fans plus Louie is the man haha

P: Was the parting with Steve and Lobster Records a friendly one and just a natural progression for the band?

S: No.



P: Shame coz Steve is a great guy. The Underdog ep was released on Fueled By Ramen in the U.S right? And is being released by Below Par Records down here... it almost seems as if you guys are collecting labels!

S: We were still signed to capital, but Fueled released it so that it could hit the streets earlier. Below Par released it so we would have something to tour with in Australia.

P: Tell me about the ep's cover art - were any of you ever in the school football team? Or were you always picked on by the school "jocks" and the Underdog ep is a payback?

S: We went to art school and there were no such thing as jocks there.

P: You guys recently did the U.S Warped Tour for the first time - what memory of your time on the tour stands out most?

S: Our new hometown show of Ventura, CA. That was crazy!!!

P: Which YC member has the worst eating habits?

S: LP our drummer.

P: Are you guys looking forward and excited about your upcoming tour of our shores?

S: Fuck yes.

P: Have any of you been to Australia before?

S: Negative.

P: What do you know / expect of Australia? Does Steve Erwin have a lot to answer for??

S: Part one, hot women and good surf. Part two- crikey, it's hotter than a dead dingo carcass in the middle of the Sahara.

P: What can Aussie punks expect from a YC show?

S: Energy, good vocals, and a hot new bass player

P: Any last words or people you wanna thank?

S: All our fans for helping us out, we wouldn't be anything without them. And thanks to you Pete for the interview

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SOMEHOW HOLLOW

Out of Ontario Canada comes the rockin' quartet Somehow Hollow. Their awesome Victory debut "Busted Wings & Rusted Halos" got enuff rotations here @ Pee for me to want to earn more about the band. I spoke with guitarist and vocalist Kent recently over a really shitty phone connection...

PEE: Hi Kent, some would know the story of Somehow Hollow being your "other" band before joining Grade, although most think SH came about from emerging from the ashes of Grade...

KENT: Yea I don't know, it didn't really emerge from the ashes of Grade, we kind of already had it [SH] when we moved to that area where Grade was from, then we got asked to join Grade... and we kinda kept coming back home from tour and playing with Somehow Hollow.

P: I guess a lot of that can be thanked to the "featuring ex-members of Grade" sticker on your cd too... I felt that sticker was a little out of place coz it was almost encouraging Grade fans to buy the album when you're two completely different bands... how did you feel about it?

K: Yea we didn't really have a say in that at all. If it was up to us we just kinda wanted it to be something new y'know. I dunno... it was really neither here nor there for us, it really didn't matter. But it did urge a lot of Grade fans to buy the cd when it's nothing like that y'know...

P: Yea exactly, you really couldn't get two bands further apart in sound than Grade and Somehow Hollow...

K: Oh yea, some Grade fans actually like it. I mean it's kinda like half and half...

P: Did you guys cop a much shit from hardcore Grade fans in those early days for forming a pop punk band?

K: Yea a little bit. Just shit like "Grade was way better blah blah blah"... I mean if anybody knew and had listened to Somehow Hollow's first record that we put out on an independent label then you'd kinda understand where we're comin' from y'know.

P: Was the "SH sucks" flipping the bird shot under the tray a reaction to any of this feedback?

K: Ah, no that was kinda before we'd even put the cd out. That was a girlfriend of mine and when I came back from tour we went our separate ways... she was really juvenile and gave me that picture so I used it to our advantage. [we laugh] Coz we were lost for some artwork so I used that! [we laugh]

P: How has she since reacted to you using her photo?

K: Oh at first she was like "you'd better not use it or..." and then after I did she was kinda like trying to be super nice. It's kinda funny. We just like having fun, so it's just cool to in the end have people making fun of themselves.

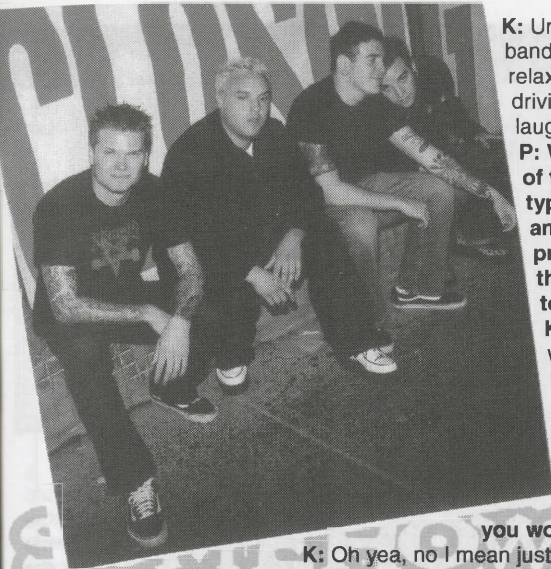
P: Releasing "Busted Wings.." on Victory obviously came from your past Grade relationship with the label, did you ever feel you were under an obligation to release your new bands records with Victory? Or was it simply an easy choice for you coz of your past dealings?

K: Um no we never felt obligated to do anything really. We had some other friends... we were talking to Hopeless and Kung Fu and labels like that and we just wanted to talk to Victory because we knew that as Grade was breaking up y'know, some of our friends were on that label, um, I think we just like the way that Grade was treated. So we kind of went where we felt the most comfortable y'know.

P: And Victory are really expanding their label with the range of bands they're releasing lately...

K: Yea. That's the thing, it's not so much segregated or the one style of music on that label anymore.

P: I read somewhere that you're [Kent] even into country and folk music... is that true?



K: Um... no, I mean there's some Canadian country bands but it's kinda more emo-ish. It's just kinda to relax to you know what I mean. I'm not going to go driving in my car listening to fuckin' country... [we laugh]

P: What would you like to get from SH at the end of the day? **A)** become a 'huge' Rolling Stone type band still touring the world when you're 60 and on every guest list to some shitty movie premier? Or **B)** just release a bunch of records that you're personally satisfied with whilst still touring and meeting new people?

K: [laughs] Oh I think B on that one. That's the way it's always been, y'know releasing records that we're personally satisfied with and touring and meeting people. Um, I dunno I never thought that we'd be signed to a record label. So even this is kinda cool to me right...

P: Oh really, that surprises me because of the quality of "Busted Wings..." I thought that you would've been pretty confident with it...

K: Oh yea, no I mean just like before playing in the band we're kinda like younger guys and we didn't really expect really anything of it. We knew that our record would be out and around everywhere, but to just sign a record deal with Victory before the album was even done, that was kind of surprising to us.

P: Have you ever had somebody come up to you and tell you how one of your songs has effected them in their life, like helped them thru a dark depressed moment, or they lost their virginity whilst your album was pumpin' out on the car stereo etc?

K: [laughs] I've never had that virginity thing but that would fuckin' rule...

P: Which song would you suggest they loose their virginity too?

K: It would have to be "Busted Stereo and Myself" you know what I'm saying... with the outro [we laugh]. But a buddy of mine, his sister died two summers ago, and the chorus of "The Witch of Glen Cedar Gate"... he told me that the chorus of that helped him get thru a lot of grief in that dark time in his life.

P: So how did that effect you?

K: That to me is what I'd rather have happen than the Rolling Stone kinda being 60 years old and still trying... y'know what I mean...

P: Tattoos - I read that you have the Morrissey song title "Sing Your Life" on the back of your neck... tell me about the inspiration behind getting that tatt...

K: Um I think the inspiration behind that was like how Morrissey says "any fool can think of words that rhyme..." but if you have something to say and you wanna let it out get up to the microphone and sing your life... you know what I mean. It doesn't matter, it's better than singing what somebody else wrote for you...

P: It's more from the heart...

K: Yea exactly. It's part of you. It's not like nsync or backstreet boys or shit like that right.

P: Obviously that tattoo you put a lotta thought into. Are tattoos ever a spur of the moment thing for you or well planned out beforehand?

K: Um, well some I kind of get for the art of it and some are more for the meaning... right now I'm working on finishing my one sleeve. It's kinda weird, I use to live next door to my tattooist Corey Ferguson, so we could just talk, I could just go over whenever, but now I live like an hour and a half away from him so I try to kinda see him as much as I can or call him. He was on tour when we were on tour in Europe, he was doing conventions, and uh, he did some work with us coz he rode with us for about four days. He won some awards in Europe so we were pretty happy for him...

P: Do you have a favourite tatt?

K: Um, I'm thinking probably the motto on the back of my neck, coz every other is kinda fake, kinda like whatever y'know but that one... [we then spoke of the possibility of an Aussie SH tour]

P: Thanx for your time Kent. Any last words or people you wanna thank?

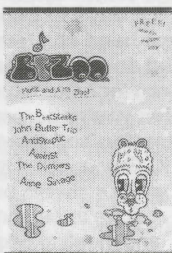
K: Oh thank you... a I'll give a shout out to Resist Records coz it fuckin' rules. Go buy more shit from there. Thanx again Pete, take care of yourself.

www.somehowhollow.com



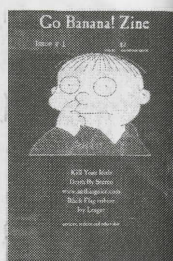
BIZOO #14 (A5 Free P.O Box 2269 Toowoomba, QLD 4350 bizoo@thoughtsacrine.zzn.com)

"Dr Jerm" sent me my first copy of Queensland music zine Bizoo just as the last ish of Pee came back from the printers. I couldn't believe then [and I still can't!] that this is a free zine. Apparently the Bizoo crew are able to sell enuff advertising to offset their costs, meaning you the reader is the winner. More power to 'em too I say. Bizoo is another Aussie zine that doesn't concentrate on the one particular genre of music, with interviews hoping from all punk to indie pop rock, dance and acoustic folk kinda stuff. Therefore not everything within the pages of Bizoo overly interested me, but made for some educational reading anyway. This issue features chats with The Dumpsters, The Beatsteaks, John Butler Trio, Anne Savage - a techno DJ, Against and Antiskeptic [which was printed a little dark making it hard to read]. Bizoo also feature a 'band profile of the month' spotlighting an independent band each issue, with local Toowoomba punks "The No Shows" gracing issue #14's pages. There's a gig guide, rants and reviews - not all opinions of which I agree with - but that's a good thing! In all Bizoo's a good read, especially for the price. Fire a few stamps their way to cover the postage.



GO BANANA! ZINE #1 (A4 \$2 No Address Supplied integritylieswithin@hotmail.com)

Adelaide punk zine Go Banana! is the impressive debut handy work of local punter Russ. He handed his zine to me at a show recently and I devoured it like a hungry chimp the very next morning. His writings are impressive, amusing and thought provoking. Again, I didn't always agree with what was written [especially the tiring and 'very old' bashing of pop punk music...



let's move on, that's such a 90's thing!], which is fine, coz it's good to read other peoples opinions and be able to respect their views. This issue features an in depth tribute to Black Flag showing Russ knows his stuff! Add to that more hardcore offerings from Kill Your Idols and Death By Stereo, along with Ivy League and online comic Nothing Nice To Say. There's music, movie and Playstation game reviews, rants in which Russ even slips in ads for his '94 Hyundai Excel and a "casual job wanted". Great first issue. Drop Russ an email and throw a few bucks his way, any zine with Ralph "my cat's breathe smells like cat food" Wiggam on the cover's cool by me!

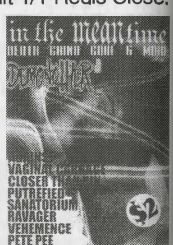
BLACK VELVET #35 (A4 £2.25 336 Birchfield Road, Webheath, Redditch, Worcs. B97 4NG England shari@blackvelvetmagazine.com)

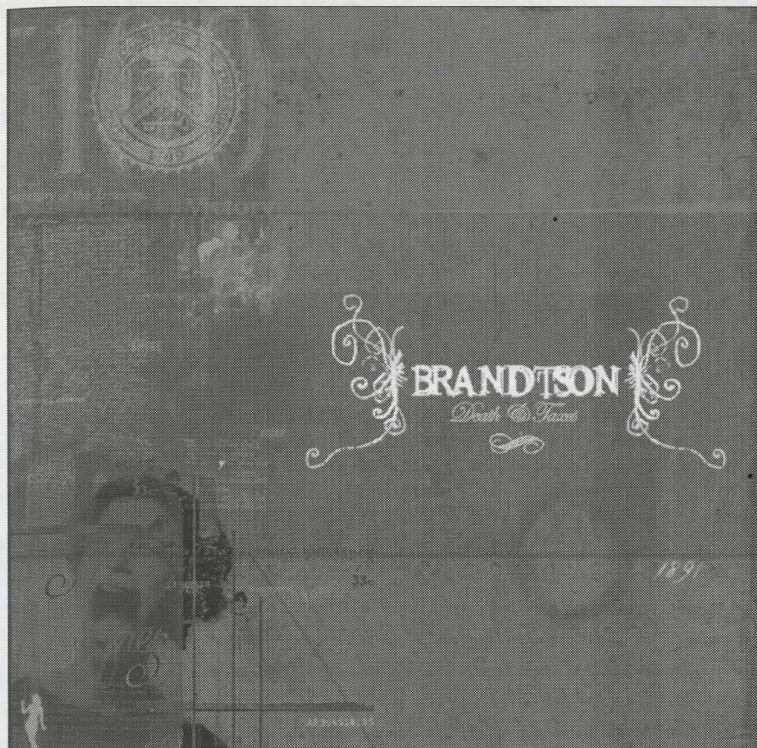
Black Velvet was sent to me by its author and editor Shari, and like Bizoo they cover a pretty wide range of music. Especially in their huge review section! The interviews switch up between magazine style "article" format and Q&A. I know I've said it before but I prefer the Q&A style simply because it's far more honest and less of the writers interpretation of what was said. This ish features The Reunion Show, Finch, Midtown all of which get my thumbs up, plus loads more, including a chat with Skid Row's Sebastian Bach. Like I said, there's a huge review section, covering gigs to singles and albums, bits of music news scattered throughout and some great live photos. Shari has a love for her rock, and even if it does include Bon Jovi [hmmph] she must be doing something right, coz you can't survive for 35 issues if you ain't!



IN THE MEANTIME #2 (A5 \$2 Unit 1/1 Regis Close, Werribee VIC 3030 inthetime@optus.com.au)

What a huge difference one issue can make to some zines eh! John's gone all out and improved not only the layout and print quality of his zine, but the amount of content. Still focusing on most things hardcore, metal, death grind and gore, ITM #2 makes for another educational read for me, coz I really know nothing of metal! Like Bizoo this issue also features Queensland hardcore outfit Against, along with chats with Closer Than Kin, Demonother, Sanatorium, Ravager, Vaginal Carnage, Putrefied and more, including loads of reviews. If you recognize any of those bands you really should throw a few bucks John's way coz this is a well written read. Oh yea, there's also an interview with the goose who does Pee Zine. Nice work John. looking' forward to ITM #3!



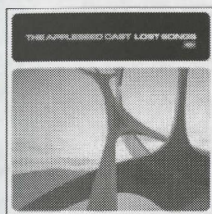


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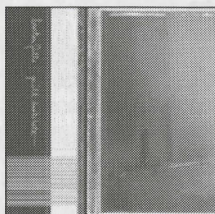
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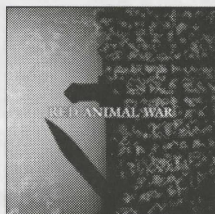
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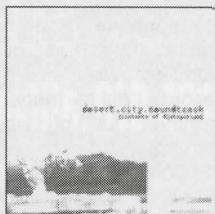
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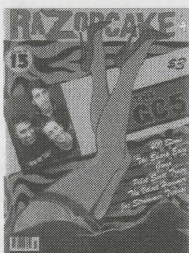
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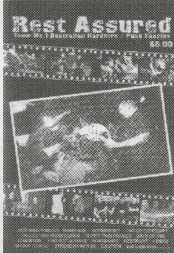
RAZORCAKE #13 (A4 kinda \$3US P.O Box 42129 Los Angeles, CA 90042 USA www.razorcake.com)

Sean, one of the editors of U.S punk mag Razorcake, sent me a few copies of their huge rag in trade for Pee. Boy, did Sean get ripped off. This is a great read for all things punk and rock. With a similar feel to it's print and layout to MRR, Razorcake makes for hours of reading, in fact I *still* haven't read everything in the copies sent to me. There's quality reading in Sean's comprehensive column in each issue alone. In this issue Sean airs his views on the "war against terrorism" on Iraq. There's interviews with Oderus of Gwar, more columns, The GC 5, 400 Blows, more columns, Pilot Scott Tracy and shit loads more including a huge tribute to Joe Strummer. If you enjoy the big reads you get from punk publications like MRR and Punk Planet, then you should really get your mitts on a copy of Razorcake. It's available in Australia thru Demolish Distro.



REST ASSURED #1 (A4 \$5 P.O Box 459 Engadine, NSW 2233 restassuredfanzine@yahoo.com)

Not since the days of Sydney hardcore punk zine "Buzz" has there been such a great Aussie publication catering for fans of the genre. Rest Assured is the brilliant debut from Ryan of Commonbond Records, along with a stack of contributors including Graham of Resist Records. It's a huge A4 zine crammed full of well written interviews void of the annoying "Pepsi or Coke" type questioning. Issue one offers up huge informative interviews with Hot Water Music, Day Of Contempt, Snapcase, Sommerset, Champion, Days Of Iris, I Killed The Prom Queen and shit loads of reviews and great columns. Especially Ryan's column about supporting your local live music scene. There's a couple of pages full of tattoo photos featuring the body art of Rick and Pete, former Restraint band members, plus a great section featuring relatively unknown local bands called "New Blood". I really like the way Ryan is able to write about the styles of punk music he loves without shit canning or putting down the more melodic or pop types of punk. Once again, this is an impressive quality debut and definite must for any hardcore fan.



SPLEEN ZEEN #3 (A5 \$1.40 Suite 111, 2 Crofts Avenue, Hurstville NSW 2220 spleenzeen@hotmail.com)

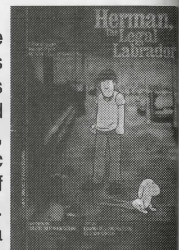
Issue two of Sydney's Spleen Zeen arrived at Pee just as our last ish went to print, and Brad and the Spleen crew have spat out #3 just this last week. So what you missed in Spleen #2 was features with The Nation Blue, Seraphs Coal, Gersey, Machine Gun Fellatio and more. Issue 3 sees a slight increase of pages and content, continuing with their music news section, reviews and a rant or replied comment from a Catholic that really didn't make a whole lot of sense, and only cemented my view that religion is hypocritical and naïve. Interviews in #3 are with Last Years Hero, The Porkers, Sparta and Cassette. There's a bunch of gig and record reviews and some giveaways, but no zine reviews this issue. Good to see this Aussie zine getting bigger with each issue.



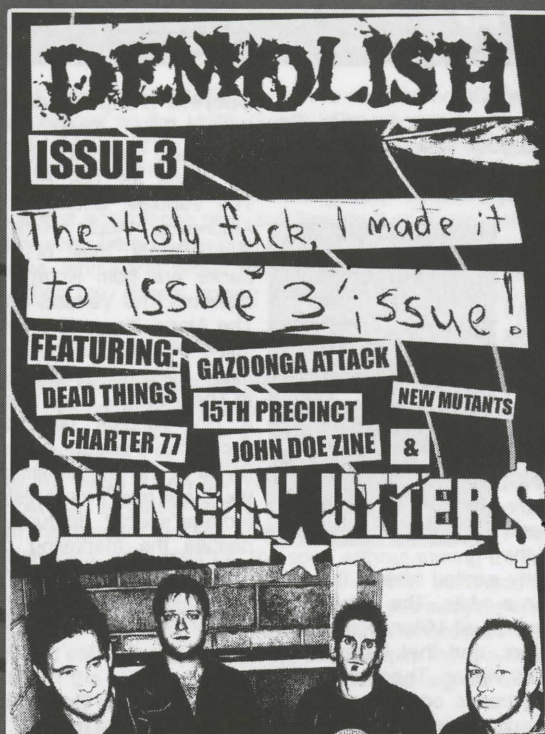
COMIC:

HERMAN, THE LEGAL LABRADOR (A5 \$5 P.O Box 77 East Caulfield, VIC 3145 david@nakedfella.com)

I picked up this great Aussie comic from Polyester Books whilst in Melbourne recently. It's the creative work of talented Aussie artist David Blumenstein, and even features an artistic appearance from Glenn Smith [of Pee feature comic The Retard's]. The comic is based around a cute Labrador named "Herman", who, as the title implies is a world-class defense lawyer. In this first issue of 'Herman' we learn how he and Chuck met, and grew up together. Herman is then approached to join the 'World Council of Evil Doers'. It's a pretty bloody funny concept for a comic having a pants wearing dog who is a lawyer! A nice thick full color cover adds to the overall quality of this publication. Check it out at herman.nakedfella.com



Got a zine you want featured in Pee? Simply send it to Pee P.O Box 238 Marden, South Australia 5070 and we'll help spread the word!



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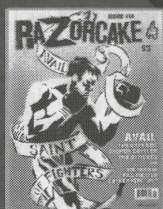
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This isshoo of Pee brings with it the addition of Pee music DVD reviews. And who better to enlist the task of parking it on the sofa to watch hours of music dvd's than our very own Pee reviewer "Cal", who loves sittin' around on his butt watchin' the box! [Sorry Cal!]

Hang The VJ – V/A (Burning Heart) DVD

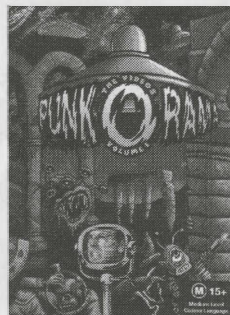
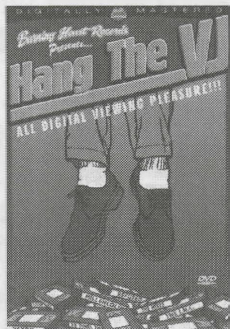
I know Pee doesn't advertise [eh?? P.] but this DVD is 20 bucks and contains every Burning Heart video up until and including 2001! It contains Bodyjar (early stuff), 59Xthe Pain, The Hives, T(I)NC, NFAA, Raised Fist, Randy, Samiam, Refused and Millencolin, to give you the bigger names. I was pretty excited when I first got this DVD but it has been a while. The highlights I found were that I now owned all Millencolin videos until Pennybridge Pioneers, and that I owned all Refused and No Fun At All videos. There are a few interesting Burning Heart bands on here that I've never heard of that were quite good too. There is no bonus features, all music videos, and 190 minutes of them.

RATING: 92 REVIEW BY: CAL

Punk O Rama The Videos Vol. 1 – V/A (Epitaph) DVD

I eagerly awaited the release of Punk O Rama since I was handed a flyer after a show. There is a bit of all the great Epitaph bands, NOFX, Rancid, Bad Religion, Pennywise, The Bouncing Souls and Dropkick Murphys. The Refused video for New Noise is killer. Guttermouth 'most pop' song She's Got the Look is a good one with some interesting dancing from the girls, not quite the R'n'B video it's taking the piss off. Hot Water Music is on this, so too are Descendents and Millencolin's Kemp single. The best part of this DVD comes in the bonus features however, and it is The Epitaph Story. A documentary of the history and humble beginnings of what is now one of the biggest independent labels in the world. Features interviews of those involved in the early days and some interesting stories to boot. The music videos rate 85 but The Epitaph Story rates 100.

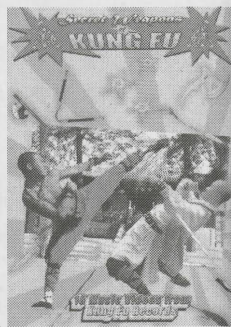
RATING: 93 REVIEW BY: CAL



Secrets Weapons of Kung Fu – V/A (Kung Fu) DVD

18 videos from such Kung Fu bands as The Ataris, The Vandals, Useless ID, Antifreeze, Audio Karate and NUFAN. Most of the tracks are from Kung Fu stalwarts The Vandals and The Ataris. It's good to see some of The Ataris tracks that I have not before. So to The Vandals. If you were a big Vandals fan you should have picked up their DVDs at the shows earlier in the year. I didn't, but you'd get much more value from them. The bonus footage/special features' are not that special despite the marketing ploy on the back cover. Overall I was pretty disappointed. Particularly compared to the other DVDs reviewed this issue.

RATING: 78 REVIEW BY: CAL



Victory Video Collection 2002 – V/A (Victory) DVD

I knew this DVD was going to be a go-er as soon as I saw the names Thursday, Taking Back Sunday, Voodoo Glow Skulls and Catch 22 on the cover. For those old Victory fans that don't like the new line-up direction, I'm sorry. Anyway, this DVD opens up with TBS's Great Romances of the 20th Century, followed by a Snapcase track that has made me look differently at the band. Atreyu are, for my mind, the bolters of this DVD shall we say. I've not heard of them until now, but really enjoyed their mix of melody and hardcore screaming. The two Thursday tracks are Cross Out the Eyes and Understanding In A Car Crash, the last of which entails some great live videography. Student Rick's Falling For You has probably the best story line to it with an interesting twist on the end, and probably makes for the best video, until... Taking Back Sunday's Timberwolves At New Jersey, a music video masterpiece/thriller. There are other good story lines to some of the other videos too that make this DVD worth your while.

RATING: 88 REVIEW BY: CAL



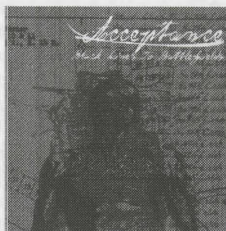
ACCEPTANCE - Black Lines To Battlefields

(The Militia Group)

CD

After their impressive appearance on the Militia Group's "Stepping Stone" comp [reviewed Pee #26], Seattle's Acceptance have released their 7 track ep "Black Lines To Battlefields", which has apparently since scored them a signing with Columbia Records. There's probably not a lot of originality in the style of harmonious indie pop rock that Acceptance play, but they do it so damn well it's hard not to enjoy it. Every song here is a winner, with five studio and two live tracks, this ep should have Jimmy Eat World fans trading in their faded JEW t-shirts for a new Acceptance tee. Here's hoping Columbia can keep their ball rolling.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: PETE



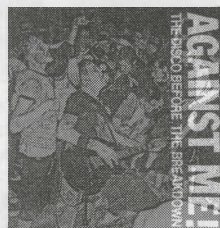
AGAINST ME! - The Disco Before The Breakdown

(No Idea)

CD

If I were to release another Pee comp cd tomorrow I'd definitely want the title track of this new Against Me! single on it! It's such an intense and moving song that really gets me going. I haven't heard a lot of Florida's Against Me! in the past that grabbed me by the throat like these 3 new songs have, and now I can't wait for more. "The Disco..." almost has a Rancid feel to it with the raspy, strained dual vocals of James and Tom that scream for your attention. The addition of the horn section certainly isn't out of place, adds depth to the song without turning it into a ska number. Awesome song. "Tonight We're Gonna Give It 35%" continues the emotion and great lyrics in a rockin' mid tempo song that'll have you swaying whilst still screaming your lungs out. The single's finished off with the acoustic track "Beginning In An Ending" that still manages to win me over despite my low tolerance for acoustic rock. I urge you to get your mitts on the single coz now this quartet has signed to Fat everyone will soon be giving this band the attention they deserve.

RATING: 94 REVIEW BY: PETE



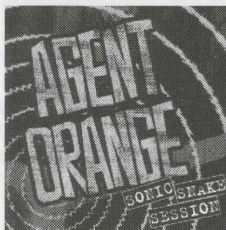
AGENT ORANGE - Sonic Snake Session

(Rykodisc)

CD

Maybe I'm missing the point on this one, but it seems like complete major label wank. Agent Orange are a mid-80's surf punk group who boast they have influenced legendary punk bands like the Offspring, No Doubt and Bad Religion. So what we have here is two CDs of commercial friendly surfpunkrock digitally remastered (ie airy fairy vocal fx and polished sound) and including 31 tracks from their Enigma and Restless Records albums. Actually the track listings for both CDs are almost identical (why???) so there's only like 15 tracks in total here. Funniest thing is the "extensive liner notes", which is a generic 4-page CD booklet (!!!!) in black and white with 200 words buttsucking about why AO are sooo cool. OK so the songs are kinda neat but in an early 80s commercial rock way. I don't even know if fans would bother with this.

RATING: 75 REVIEW BY: RC



AIRBAG - Voy a Acabar Con El Invierno

(Wild Punk Records)

CD

This band is Spain's answer to Mach Pelican. Poppy three chord punk rock with a few Beach Boys type harmonies thrown in. This stuff has been done a million times before but when a band can bring a sense of enthusiasm and an ear for a good tune like these guys do it'll always sound great to me. There's something really cool about the sound of the Spanish language with Ramones type songs too. With this five song CD you also get a Cyndi Lauper cover (The Goonies 'R' Good enough) and if you stick it into your computer you get a filmclip for "Prefiero la playa" in which the band rocks a Telefono Booth, rocks on the beach and drives all over town in their little red convertible.

RATING: 78 REVIEW BY: ERIC



DON'T TAKE MY WORD FOR IT! Reviews are only the personal opinion of those who wrote them... so for the artists sake go have a listen for yourself, be a 'grown up', make up your own mind and quit moaning about what's been written!

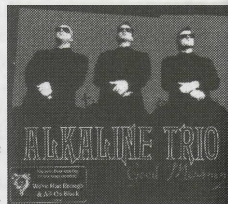


ALKALINE TRIO - Good Mourning

(Vagrant Records) CD

There's certainly been a lot of excitement and hype preceding the Alkaline Trio's follow up to their brilliant "From Here to Infirmary" album, and I've gotta admit I've had to give "Good Mourning" a whole bunch of rotations before forcing myself to type this review. It's not that I don't enjoy the Trio's new record, quite the opposite. Just look at it's rating below! It's more that I'm trying not to over compare it to "Infirmary". Being a Trio fan the first thing I noticed about this record was Matt's vocals. They sound almost strained and hoarse. Then Stu's interview in this ish of Pee explained it all. Still full of their trademark dark lyrics, Alkaline Trio make sense of fatal attractions and hating the world. Dan's unique style continues to mix the Trio vocal duties, "Every Thug Needs A Lady", "One Hundred Stories" and "Emma". All great songs but "Blue Carolina" gets my vote. I guess the best thing you can do for yourself is grab this record, and leave it on repeat all afternoon, coz by then "Good Mourning" will have seeped into your pores. Finishing a great album with an acoustic song, now there's an idea!

RATING: 97 REVIEW BY: PETE

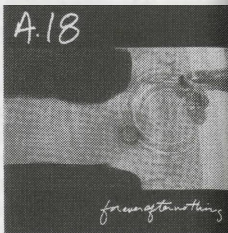


AMENDMENT 18 - Foreverafternothing

(Victory Records) CD

With founding members of legendary sXe bands Outspoken, Insted and Chorus of Disapproval, you know this is going to be solid oldskool hardcore. And dammit if this doesn't rock extremely hard. Benefitting from the usual Victory production values, forever... is 12 tracks of hardhitting, solid hardcore that will no doubt keep fans of the Amendment very happy. The songs are well dynamic-ed (???), it's not just a flat out Snapcase-style assault on the senses but rather splits the songs into circle pitting mayhem and quieter moments for lyrical reflection - and there's enough variety between solid 80s style hc ("Dis") and awesome full metal tilt riffage ("public apology") to get the heads nodding. Worth it.

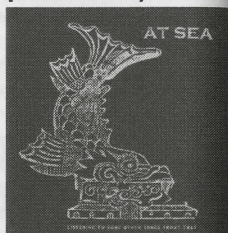
RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: RC



AT SEA - Listening to Some Other Songs About That (Unstable Ape Records) CD

At Sea is another of the many projects of Richard Moffat (Disaster Plan). The outstanding sound is one of percussion with drums and the acoustic bass providing the backbone for the music with lilting guitar, strings and soft piano providing the melodic undertones. Combined with Richards at times raw vocal sound Listening to Some Other Songs About That can be at times a very challenging listen but if you persevere you will feel very satisfied at the end of the day. Sit back with a glass of red and let At Sea's waves wash over you.

RATING: 85 REVIEW BY: STEPHEN



BACKWOOD CREATURES - Living Legends (Stardumb) CD

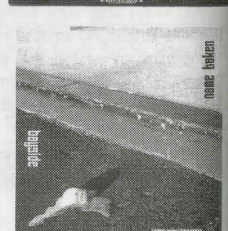
This is the second full-length release for this German band. I didn't really find this as overwhelming as their bio suggests I should but it's a pretty strong release all the same. Fairly standard pop-punk kinda fare with a singer who sounds a little bit like the dude from Rocket from the Crypt. Or the Devil Dogs meet the Queers as the bio puts it. I probably won't listen to this a whole lot although the song "Rock'n'Roll is Lame" will get a few listens.

RATING: 72 REVIEW BY: ERIC



BAYSIDE / NAME TAKEN - Split EP (Dying Wish Records) CD

From the mail I've received since the last ishoo of Pee, I'm certainly not the only Aussie who's been looking forward to getting their grubby mitts on this new split cd from these two great melodic US bands. And thankfully it hasn't disappointed. Both bands serve up the goods with four new songs each. Bayside get things started and are sounding better than ever. In fact, they could easily be tagged to Alkaline Trio from years gone by. Great stuff, even their acoustic song sits ok with me - especially for the drum machine ending. This split gave me my first chance to hear more than just a single song on a comp from Name Taken, and again they



didn't disappoint, with a little better production quality than the Bayside songs. Four big, mid tempo melodic rock songs that will definitely pick up new fans of the melodic genre. Great fold out cd sleeve finishes off an impressive 30 minute split. But Bayside won this round in my books. Available in Australia thru Pee Records.

RATING: 93 REVIEW BY: PETE

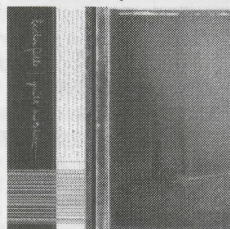
BENTON FALLS - Guilt Beats Hate

(Deep Elm Records)

CD

This Santa Rosa trio are everything I think an "emo" band should be. Full of emotive, angst ridden powerful vocals that both soothe you then tear apart the silence, layered perfectly over incredible musicianship. These guys know how to write a song that holds your interest throughout. Benton Falls have perfected the mix of melancholy and aggressive moments within the same song here without ever seeming to over do the screaming, a trap many "post-punk-emo-whatever" bands fall into. After opening with their rocking "This Housecall Could Kill" you know this is going to be a rare gem of an album. Flawless production [enter Ed Rose] and original sounding songs that are well described in their bio as "brutal as they are tender" make for a record the band will look back on as a benchmark. Deep Elm certainly know how to pick em. Highly recommended.

RATING: 98 REVIEW BY: PETE



BEST KEPT SECRET - Unorganised Crime

(ECP Records)

CD

New central coast melodic rock quartet get their bands' career off to a impressive start with this debut ep that blends all the best parts of bands like Unwritten Law, The Movielife and perhaps a dash of Blink into a sound that's perhaps not 100% ground breakingly original, but fuckin' rocks all the same. The mere fact that this is a debut is hard to believe with the depth of their songwriting skills. All five songs are winners mixing up the tunes and tempos nicely, no filler here! Jam it into that thing that pops out on your computer to get extra stuff like bio, photos and video. A must for melodic pop [punk] rock fans. Take a bow BKS. Already lookin' forward to your follow up!

RATING: 93 REVIEW BY: PETE



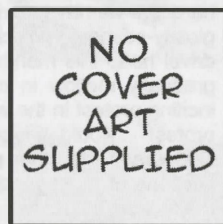
BITCHIN' - The Night Life, The Tight Style

(No Idea)

CD

[This review appeared in Pee #26, but I somehow chopped half a sentence out of it whilst doing the layout, which made it hard to understand! My apologies to Nigel who wrote the review, and Bitchin'. P.] Complete with an assertive moniker and edgy title this record is both bare and frantic, though in absolutely no way raw or gripping. From the dated vocal delivery (think bad 80's type phrasing) to the sub-standard bass fills there is nothing here that you haven't already heard done better elsewhere. Songs suffer from pointlessly abnormal structures, terribly clichéd lyrics and a lack of musical highlights whilst the album itself seems bizarrely sequenced. Perhaps the only redeeming features are the moodier, discordant guitar moments, which sadly aren't used to full effect. When an instrumental clocking in at track 2 is the most memorable piece it's hard to see many going back for another inspection. The aggression may be somewhat appealing initially but if angry female rock is of interest to you check out a Bangs album.

RATING: 40 REVIEW BY: NIGEL

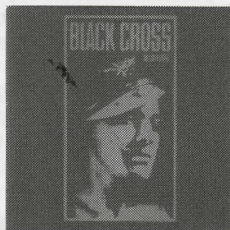


BLACK CROSS - Art Offensive

(Equal Vision)

CD

Very powerful and awesome frantic hardcore in the vein of Man Afraid, Swiz or Drive Like Jehu. The production is characteristically raw thanks to J. Robbins, better known for producing output for Jets to Brazil, The Promise Ring and Braid, and also for his own bands Jawbox and Burning Airlines. Black Cross is actually the ashes of two previously good bands - By the Grace of God and the National Acrobat and no surprises have ended with a sound halfway between the two. Maybe thats enough name dropping! It takes just 26 minutes to blast through these 12 tracks of discordant, thrashy and raw hardcore but you'll be hooked from the time Ryan Patterson belts the opening chords to the impassioned screams





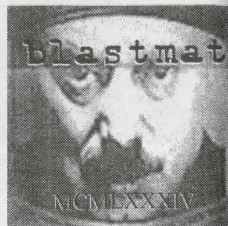
'What are we fighting for?'. Well, actually I can't answer that, and there's really no point fighting it anyway. Be drawn into the blackness.

Rating: 95 REVIEW BY: RC

BLASTMAT - Theme For A Dying World (Independent) CD

Not really my thing, Blastmat are a hardcore band from Connecticut. Sounding much like Discharge I'm wondering if this band has actually figured out the direction they're heading. The album doesn't seem to mesh very well, although there are some higher moments. "Fire In The City" is a standout with some nice quick guitar solos and a kinda oi sing along chorus. If you're a fan of hardcore check them out, you might actually like them, unfortunately I'm not and they sounded like every other very average hardcore band.

RATING: 45 REVIEW BY: KRISTEN PUNKRAWK

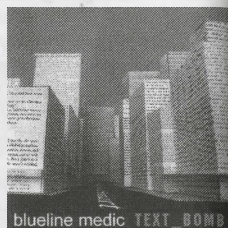


BLUELINE MEDIC - Text Bomb

(Redline Records) CD

To write an objective review on an album you totally enjoy isn't an easy thing to do. And the more I see these guys play live the harder it's become to actually force myself to write this review. Text_Bomb has had a great lead up to it's release with the guys touring their butts off, and the opening track and single "Sleepyhead" getting some serious rotation on national radio. Donnie's powerful vocals shine thru more than ever thanx to the incredible production quality of this record, powerful without having to scream. And I think that's where the maturity and progression of Text_Bomb over Apology Wars stands out, in Donnie's singing voice. Like Jay said to me backstage at Frenzal Rhomb's Adelaide show - "any band that sing with an Aussie accent is ok by me". International reviewers will still no doubt draw comparisons to Jawbreaker, but Blueline Medic have in my opinion stamped their own claim on emotional rock with this record. Highly recommended.

RATING: 98 REVIEW BY: PETE

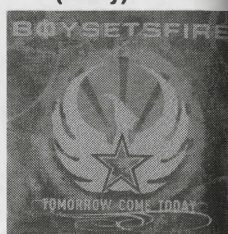


BOY SETS FIRE - Tomorrow Come Today

(Sony) CD

This equates to one of those rare moments when some A&R rep had a brain explosion of magnanimous proportions and signed up one of the most amazing hardcore bands around. Naturally, tomorrow... is not so much the raw emotive hardcore we have come to expect from BSF - the result is a lot more polished and glossy-sounding, which still leaves it a cut above the rest of the tired hardcore drivell heap this month. Beginning with the powerful "Eviction Article", the tracks gradually mellow in melody but retain the lyrical anger aimed at squarely at inciting protest in the wake of the US-led war on Iraq. The message - patriotism is protest - would be great had I not just witnessed the pro-US drivell on the Osbournes the other night. Let's hope people take more notice of this. Despite sections of this sounding more like Linkin Park with Scotty Mac from T2T on vox (put that down to the major label influence), BSF have still managed to produce a very solid record. Worth it.

RATING: 94 REVIEW BY: RC

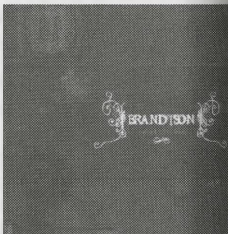


BRANDTSON - Death & Taxes

(Deep Elm Records) CD

Cleveland, Ohio's Brandtson have released a hellova impressive six song ep here, keeping their harmony packed energetic indie rock well and truly alive. The polished finish on this recording could again be possibly attributed to the talented recording ear of Ed Rose, which certainly adds some 'oomph' to the punchy rock that Brandtson showed they were capable of with their previous album, "Dial In Sounds". All six songs here get the thumbs up, making for 19 minutes of imposing melodic rock. Finishing the ep off with their soothing "In A Word" rounds out a well balanced ep perfectly. Recommended for fans of harmonious rock similar to Jimmy Eat World and the like.

RATING: 94 REVIEW BY: PETE



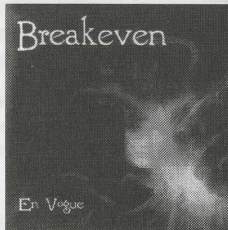
Got stuff you want reviewed? No promises! Pee P.O Box 238 Morden South Australia 5070

BREAKEVEN - En Vogue

(Independent) CD

I was pretty glad to see this in the mail after hearing some of what I thought was an impressive EP last year. A self-described hardcore ska sound, they're not far wrong. I not sure about the mixing, but that aside, the title track is an impressive blend of catchy tunes coming from the horns, ska riffs and drumming. The lyrics and vocals on this track are just the icing on the cake. Minimum Bet is a similar styled track with a bit more of a reggae-ish feel to it. They slow it down a tad and ska it up. The Collective Ignorance of the Masses has a cool breakdown in it. This single is a good follow up, and is definitely a keeper. It's so much harder to write a review when you like something! A decent band with a good political agenda.

RATING: 92 REVIEW BY: CAL

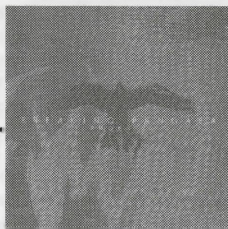


BREAKING PANGAEA - Phoenix

(Equal Vision Records) CD

Here you get a 5 track ep from Philadelphia trio Breaking Pangaea who play "dark" melodic rock that these days gets tagged as "post hardcore emo blah blah who gives a fuck". Opening with the upbeat "Worst Part" was ironically one of the 'best parts' of the ep. It's a well paced melodic rock song that moves along nicely without being overly repetitive, but only just. The title track "Phoenix" switches things up to become a slower more grinding song before ending in a "please end soon" silverchair way! Thankfully "Better Off" and "Closer" follow and save the ep from the downward spiral "Phoenix" was taking it into. The ep's finished off with the slowest of all 5 songs "Picture Perfect". This is a good little ep from a band that shows signs of better things still to come.

RATING: 77 REVIEW BY: PETE

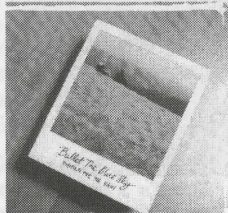


BULLET THE BLUE SKY - Waiting or The Rain

(Independent) CD

Melbourne's Bullet The Blue Sky's popularity skyrocketed after they appeared in the last ishoo of Pee! Well, I just made that up, but they have since released their debut five track ep. "Yesterday" opens the ep with a thumping mid tempo rock number that builds into the highlight tracks "I'm Getting There" and "3 1/2 Years Of Blame". Nice use of a violin in beginning of "I'm Getting There" makes it a perfect intro to my pick of the ep, the faster paced "3 1/2 Years Of Blame" that it flows into. Great use of sung vocals with backing screams that aren't overdone, along with a spoken word section of the lyrics all make this song the stand out track. BTBS have a big rockin' sound with distinctive vocals all captured well on this lil' ripper of an ep. Worth seeking out. bulletmusic@hotmail.com

RATING: 88 REVIEW BY: PETE

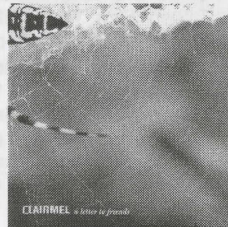


CLAIRMEL - A Letter To Friends

(No Idea) CD

Pleasing slightly offkey emo-indie crossover with sung vocals. These 11 songs include eight awesome previously unreleased gems, one from their out-of-print split with Hot Water Music and two compilation songs. Possibly the best thing about this collection is that it celebrates the band's tenth anniversary together - that is some achievement! To top it off though, Clairmel are good at what they do. The guitars are jangly and clangy, the vocals are sung beautifully with just a hint of roughness, and the recording really captures the band's energy. Completely rockin'.

RATING: 99 REVIEW BY: RC



CLOSER THAN KIN - The Machineries of Breath' (Punktuation) CD

While many new bands in the hardcore scene are opting for the latest 'screamo' sound, Closer Than Kin have quietly burst out amongst the masses with 'The Machineries Of Breath', a sensational debut release from this American outfit. Their sound has been described as "horrorcore", and that it is, extremely chaotic, aggressive and emotional hardcore. Along the line of POISON THE WELL, ATREYU and REMEMBERING NEVER, "horrorcore" is a fitting description to the sound of Closer Than Kin. Their demo 'Dead Flowers For A dying Lover' sold in excess of 15,000 copies and after listening to this band it's no wonder why. 'The





Machineries Of Breath' features some of the best hardcore punk one is likely to ever hear as well as a bonus film clip that'll blow your socks off. So if you like your hardcore a little emotional and bloody chaotic, get yourself some Closer Than Kin. www.ctk508.com

RATING: 100+ REVIEW BY: JOHN MEANTIME

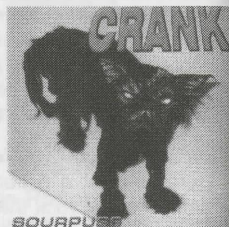
CRANK - Sourpuss

(Rabbit Records)

CD

Crank has never sounded so bloody good! The Sydney trio has grown into a quartet and the extra depth from the second guitar gets instant thumbs up here at Pee. For those yet to experience the Cranksters they play a melodic punk rock with snotty sounding vocals giving the band a British Crackle! Records band sound. Their opening track on this new 4 song ep "Backtrack", is a rockin' up tempo ditty featuring 3/4 of the band on vocals, which kinda gives it a pub chant kinda feel to it. Not a bad opener, but my choice tracks are the next two "Moving On" and "No Doubt" that are equally as quick paced but just have clearer vocals. Although the production has a 'rough' kinda 'punk' edge to it, if you didn't already know then you'd never be able to pick that the ep was recorded in the bands own home studio. A great little ep that serves as a teaser for their next album due out later this year.

RATING: 80 REVIEW BY: PETE



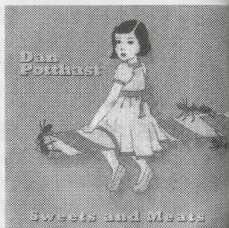
DAN POTTHAST - Sweets and Meats

(Asian Man Records)

CD

Delivered with a wandering, almost melodic voice and underpinned with tasty acoustic guitar work, we have one aptly titled, interesting record here. The older among us should think Elvis Costello while the younger say Matt Skiba solo but Dan has been doing his thing out front of ska band MU330 for quite a while now and sports a sound of his own. On "Sweets and Meats", his second solo offering, we are presented with a 15 track release that successfully walks the tightrope between pop, country, western and whatever else yet still retains a consistent quality. Sure that musically mixed bag will sit awkwardly with some, but for me it's these kinds of contrasts that see disc returning to my player. In fact, along with The Lisa Marr Experiment's "4am" album it would have to be one of the most refreshing indie releases of late.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: NIGEL



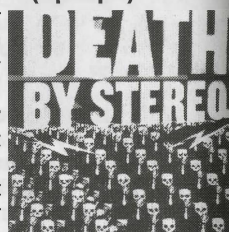
DEATH BY STEREO - Into the Valley of Death

(Epitaph)

CD

There's a good reason why DBS have become one of hardcore's most popular bands. It may have something to do with 'Wasted Words' appearing on the 10,000 selling Punkorama7 comp, or the fact that 'Into the valley...' is a well put together record blending the best elements of Time in Malta, System of a Down and Raised Fist. Thankfully the magnificent 'Wasted words' is on here, plus new classics such as the equally hard 'Beyond the blinders'. Some of the titles are a bit trippy, like the charmingly titled 'I wouldn't piss in your ear if your brain was on fire' (sure guys...) but the quality is there track after track and really thats all that matters! Multimedia kiddies take note - you even get the flash animation video for 'Wasted Words' if you buy the disc, so now there's no excuse.

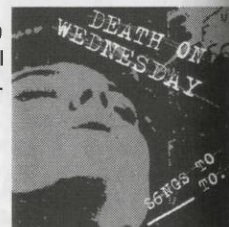
RATING: 92 REVIEW BY: RC



DEATH ON WEDNESDAY - S6ongs To __ To. (SideCho Records) CD

Fans of the Superjesus and Unwritten Law might like this recording from SoCal band Death on Wednesday. Hook loaded power pop for the You Am I generation. It's so pretty you almost want to fuck it.

RATING: 70 REVIEW BY: GORDOH

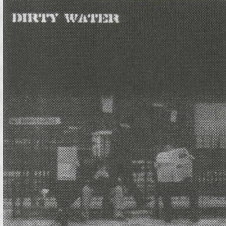


DIRTY WATER - S/T

(Street Anthem Records) CD

Boston punk rockers Dirty Water have released a snappy little old school DIY sounding self-titled mini album as their first release. According to Dirty Water, the songs can be described as a combination of influences from "Rancid, the Foo Fighters, Clash, Ducky Boys, AC/DC, Bruce Springsteen, and many more". Features Mark Lind & Jason Messina from Ducky Boys.

RATING: 85 REVIEW BY: GORDOH

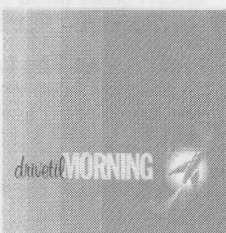


DRIVE TIL MORNING - S/T

(Deep Elm Records) CD

Drive Til Morning is essentially the New York solo project of Francis Garcia, formerly of Pop Unknown. The opener "Palmtrees Sway" is undoubtedly the stand out song on the 10 track album, it's an eerily light orchestral guitar song, that has an almost sad "soundtrack theme" to it with it's usage of the violin and viola. Worth buying the album for this song alone. "Orange And Tweed" follows up on a more electronica pop direction whilst still being one of those songs suitable for a long drive on an open road. From here the album took a turn and headed for steel pedal and acoustic 'country' territory, no surprise that that is pretty much where it lost me. Francis has unique warm vocals, but anything remotely country bores me. Points are for the first two

RATING: 65 REVIEW BY: PETE

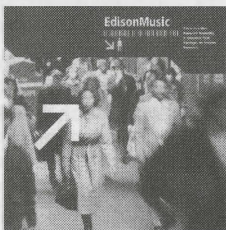


EDISON MUSIC - Blueprint Yesterday

(Independent) CD

This ep from Adelaide quartet Edison has been out for quite a while now, in fact the melodic [emo] rockers have just been in the studio recording their anticipated follow up. Playing a mid tempo, emotionally charged melodic rock that overflows with vocal harmonies, Edison have deservantly earned quite a strong local following. I think it would be fair to say the bands sound has progressed from the five songs on offer here. Or could it just be that they sound so much more intense live [as most bands do]. Although that intensity does make the occasional appearance on the ep, especially in "Goodbye, No Returns". Their third track "A Moment's Past" is my pick. Definitely looking forward to hearing more from these guys.

RATING: 85 REVIEW BY: PETE



EIGHTIES MATCHBOX B-Line Disaster - Horse Of The Dog (No Death Records) CD

Kinda psychobilly, kinda punk, kinda good. The whole album reeks of chaotic creativity. Good punk guitars, decent bass lines all fits together to give you a pretty decent listening experience. Short album, like 26 minutes, but shit, listen again if you want longer, it's worth it. Stellar track - Psychosis Safari.

RATING: 80 REVIEW BY: KRISTEN PUNKRAWK



FOR AMUSEMENT ONLY - One For The Team (Below Par) CD

An impressive new 6 track ep from Melbourne's For Amusement Only shows their extensive touring during the last year or so certainly hasn't done them any harm, and even a few obvious influences from bands they've toured with have rubbed off. Continuing with the tried and proven catchy melodic pop punk formula overflowing with energy, the first thing that you notice with this ep is the improved production quality over their previous ep. Starting off strongly with the bouncier "Strangers" the ep kinda 'misses a gear' with the following song "22", which I think lets the ep down. A few angst screamo moments in "Moving On" and "So Goes Life" show a little more almost out of place attitude with FAO, which was cool, just not expected. If the quartet is gonna start getting angry I can't wait to hear their next release. Another great Aussie release by the Below Par crew.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: PETE





FRENZAL RHOMB - Sans Souci

(Epitaph)

CD

Sans Souci restamps Frenzal's claim on Aussie punk rock. This is their best record to date in my shitty opinion. Full of trademark Frenzal lyrics and song titles giving the words fuck, fucked, fuckin' asshole cunt a good airing. Fuck me if it ain't a fuckin' ripper album for all you fuckin' fuckers eh! And anyone who records a song giving that twat Russell Crowe and his band a thrashing deserves to go gold! There's plenty of frantic Frenzal punk here along with the more melodic mid tempo songs, "Hippy Song" and "Cocksucker", the latter being my pick. Grab this one if you haven't already coz it now comes with a 30 minute dvd featuring live stuff from the BDO along with their singles video clips and the video for "Ballchef" which I doubt would ever get aired! Pretty bloody funny stuff. Buy I say.

RATING: 98 REVIEW BY: PETE



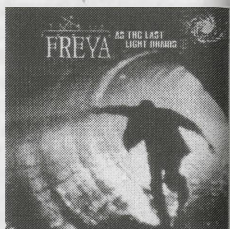
FREYA - As The Last Light Drains

(Victory Records)

CD

Formed by those who were once the foundation of Earth Crisis, Karl Beuchner, Eric and Bulldog together with Darien Lizotte (guitar & vocals) and Corey Koniz (drums) are now Freya and 'As The Last Light Drains' is their debut masterpiece. Featuring some of the most ferocious and melodic hardcore I have ever experienced, this debut release will be looked back upon in many years as a classic. Tracks such as the title track and 'Throwing Rocks at a Drowning Man' are little surprises that show how diverse Freya's hardcore sound is and evidence that this release will appeal to a greater hardcore audience. Lovers of Hardcore, Emo, Punk and Metalcore will all appreciate this release and that'll make Freya the hottest topic in Hardcore today.

RATING: 98 REVIEW BY: JOHN MEANTIME



FURTHER SEEMS FOREVER - How To Start A Fire

(Tooth & Nail Records)

CD

I really feel for these guys. To record your debut album only to have your singer, Chris Carrabba, leave to form the sappy Dashboard Confessional before you had even released the album must've been quite a kick in the nuts. So you get a new vocalist on board, Jason Gleason [who's vocal range kicks Carrabba's arse by the way] and play as many shows as you can fit into the last two years before you can release your follow up album, that is the "real" FSF, not the first record FSF. "How To Start A Fire" is the follow up album to "The Moon Is Down" that's gonna be picked to the bone by previous fans and critics alike, coz that's what we all do - compare. Overall the album has a mellow feeling to it, whilst still brimming with a healthy dose of passion, the majority of the songs are smooth mid tempo numbers. There are a few powerful moments with the opening title track, along with "The Sound" and "Against My Better Judgement". I'm sure old fans would be somewhat satisfied of the FSF that's emerged from such a trying beginning, and new fans will wonder what all the Carrabba fuss was about in the first place. I see this record as the beginning of a new FSF, and I can't wait to hear what they've got in store for us all next.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: PETE



GATSBYS AMERICAN DREAM - Ribbons And Sugar

(Rocketstar Recordings)

CD

This Seattle 5 piece discordant rock band play a style of melodic rock that's as unique as their band name. The album certainly keeps you guessing for almost the entire 29 minutes it takes the eleven songs to play thru. Guessing because of the discordant and very technical structure of their music, songs start and stop, chop and change then occasionally suddenly end with you thinking "surely they can't end the song there". Their opening track begins with a hand clap intro to the moody instrumental "The Taming" which only serves to lead you astray to the more melodic, emotional rock that precedes. You might well be asking "just who is this Gatsby character". Well I reckon it's worth hunting down to find out. Worthy of a few spins for the originality of it.

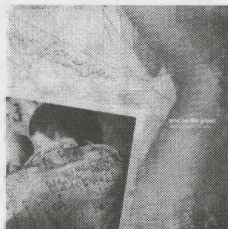
RATING: 86 REVIEW BY: PETE



GIVE UP THE GHOST - Background Music

(Equal Vision) **CD**

The wait is finally over! One of the world's most exciting hardcore bands returns with an eneregetic 11 track hardcore assault. GUTG are of course formerly known as American Nightmare, but had to change their name after the original AN came out of the woodwork. Onto the CD. If you sit still through this entire disc you are either lifeless or a John Williamson nutter because this is hardcore at its very best. Apart from a semi-shaky start by GUTG standards, Wes and crew explode into "theres a black hole..." and continue into the massive "am/pm" which brings back memories of the glory days of Endeavor/Trustkill recs, although better as you'd expect. Feedback swathed, chugga, beautiful melodies, aggressive vocals, big pits and singalongs. I guarantee you won't be able to turn this off once you start it playing. This will be absolutely massive, and deservedly so. Amazing, and ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL.

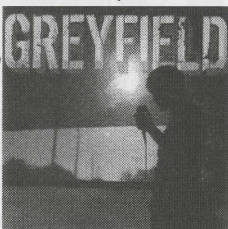


RATING: 100 REVIEW BY: RC

GREYFIELD - Soundtrack To The Summer

(Search And Rescue) **CD**

Ok, so there's no denying this is shameless melodic pop punk, the kinda stuff millions of punks cannot stand to hear! The kinda stuff that makes punks angry enuff to write aggressive columns stating this type of music has no right to even have the word 'punk' in it's name and how "baggy jean, chain wearing kids" who enjoy this type of music shit them. The kinda stuff that obviously stirs people's emotions one way or another. But it's also the kinda stuff that I enjoy sticking on the crusty Pee stereo every now and then and bounce around the office to whilst I work, or dig listening to in the car whilst driving about town watching everyone around me get uptight and involved in their third road rage incident for the day. It has all the New Found Glory / Starting Line / Good Charlottesque parallels in the opening track "Note To Self" and "I'm Not Human" that again, you either enjoy or hate pop bands for. Add to that Blink moments ["Party After The Show" and "Stay Tonight"] and you've got a 6 track ep from a young Jacksonville band who's influences are obvious, but still produce some quality tunes. Hardcore kids steer clear!



RATING: 83 REVIEW BY: PETE

GYROSCOPE - Midnight Express

(Festival Mushroom Records) **CD**

A new ep on a new label for Perth quartet Gyroscope that shows signs that this band is only just beginning to show what they're truly capable of. The six track ep is torn open with the punchy "The Lesser Me", probably my choice track off the ep that gives you a swift kick in the nads before disappearing in about a minute forty. This song sets the scene for all the powerful emotive rock to follow. The ep's single "Fire Away" continues the upfront intense melodic rock formula that the band has successfully stamped a claim on, managing to lure you into a soothing calm a moment before ripping the peacefulness apart with a wall of energetic rock. The title track begins urgently only to slip back into a more mellow ballad song, that is before the soaring guitars again rip the song wide open. "Sharp Words" and "I Wish I Did" slow things back a gear or two before "Chapter 13" closes of a great ep almost perfectly with all the power it opened with. Great lyrics, flawless production and a new depth to their rock make for a winning ep that has me eagerly awaiting a full length... bring it on!



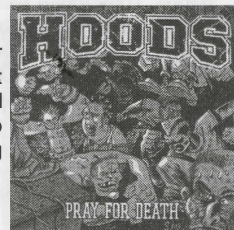
RATING: 94 REVIEW BY: PETE

HOODS - Pray for Death

(Victory) **CD**

Drop-D metallic hardcore with definite references to Madball, Hatebreed and their militant metallic ilk. In fact, from the Gridiron font and cover art by Sean Taggart it would be pretty hard to believe this would be anything else. Tough, energetic and badass 14 tracks from four very young looking Californian hardcore kids who know exactly how the kids want to hear their hardcore. Aggressive floorpunching and circle pit action definitely... GO!!!!

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: RC





HOT CROSS - Cryonics

(Building Records)

CD

Members of You & I, Saetia, Neil Perry and the Level Plane crew combine for a lesson in discordant emo-core. After the massive success of "A new Pair of Lungs" and the Light the Fuse split, Hot Cross are back with their first full length, and these 10 tracks do not disappoint. My picks are the strangely time -signed "a weekend spend askance" and "pretty picture of a broken face" with its triple sung, screamed and shouted vox and rocking emotive hardcore action. If you liked 'Saetia or You and I then probably you already want this. Good on Building Records then for licensing this masterpiece in Australia, and letting you buy it from them for \$17ppd. Nice one.

RATING: 97 REVIEW BY: RC



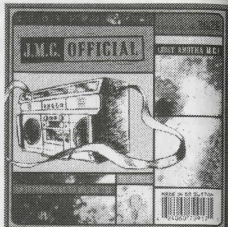
JMC (Just anotha MC) - Official

(Intelligent Records)

CD

Considering this is his third release, Official is a somewhat unremarkable record. Produced by Dash Rip Rock (creators of the obscure JJJ hit 'Lets go smoke some pot'?), the beats are mostly strings-based samples and drum machine beats in the thin Cash Money/No Limit vein, while the overall feel is more introspective like Common or Phil da Agony, though less good. The lyrics are also a mixed bag, with some great lines in the title track while really flailing in the opening 'Sometimes'. Best track is the menacing 'Playground', which departs from the mediocre production skills of Dash Rip for the talented Streaks, who melds vibes/bells, bass pads and bitchin drums for JMC to spit, challenging others to step up battlstyle. If only the rest of the disc was this good. If there was a 12" with Playground on the A, and Official (original and rmx) on the flip this would be anotha great record. As it stands, a mixed bag that deserves a listen for said tracks.

RATING: 77 (89 for possible Playground/Official 12") REVIEW BY: RC



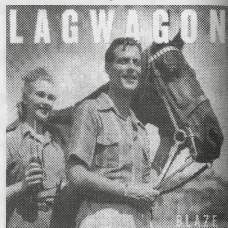
LAGWAGON - Blaze

(Fat Wreck Chords)

CD

Hey look, Lagwagon's back! Joey Cape's been so busy pumping out Bad Astronaut and Gimmes records that I'd thought the wheels had almost fallen off the 'wagon. But Blaze has blasted out 14 new Lagwagon songs keeping their trademark blistering tempo and metal guitar moments alive whilst still throwing in those slower laid back mellow portions. Once again on Blaze, Cape's lyrics mix up the piss take and serious subjects almost perfectly. Could the lyrics in "Falling Apart" ["Blue hair, brown teeth - Failing livers, defeat - Maybe we will try to pull it off - For another year"] be telling us that this may be the last Lagwagon album? Or just another piss take at their age? And the political lyrics of "Never Stops" make it another stand out song. After an acoustic intro it blasts into a quick paced punk song that condemns the retaliatory hysteria that followed the Sept 11 attacks... "Vengeance will be ours - Fanatics on their knees pray for a swift and just revenge - Become what they condemn - Mirror image men". Brilliant. No doubt this record will be compared to their past, but there's no need. It's a Lagwagon record and I love it.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: PETE



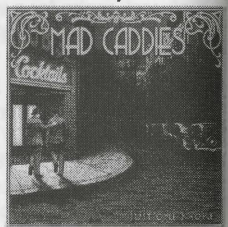
MAD CADDIES - Just One More

(Fat Wreck Chords)

CD

After making the mistake of telling you all that 7/10 Split (RIP) were a ska band, I won't make the same mistake by classifying the Mad Caddies in a particular genre. They make staunch the fact that they are more than just a ska band. This album makes proof once again of the varying elements in their sound. But the Mad Caddies would rather be described as 'a punk band with a horn section'. The Caddies have three other full-lengths the last of which Rock The Plank didn't really rock my plank unfortunately. The use of the horn section is excellent. They are fantastic. My highlights of this album are Rockupation, Villains, Drinking for 11 and Day by Day. Be sure the Mad Caddies are back, rocking out once more. Let's hope they'll return to our shores.

RATING: 92 REVIEW BY: CAL

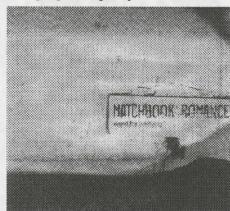


MATCHBOOK ROMANCE - West For Wishing

(Epitaph) CD

I'm a sucker for the melodic [pop] punk with intense screamo backing vocals in the Glasseater / Finch kinda style, so this 5 track ep from new Epitaph signing Matchbook Romance has been on repeat here for hours. I guess there's nothing overly original about their style of music, in fact this technique of combining harmonious melodic pop punk with hardcore screaming second vocals is almost the norm now, but regardless of how many bands are doing it there's always gonna be those who do it best, and MBR manage to put their own stamp on the style. This is an awesome debut ep for this young New York trio, which probably has Mr Brett Gurewitz to thank for the flawless production as he tweaked the dials and produced the record. An energetic and bouncy release with a definite hard hitting edge to it. Nice pick up Epitaph.

RATING: 95 REVIEW BY: PETE

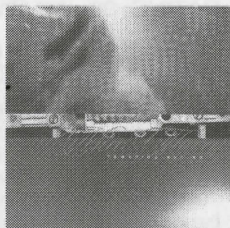


MERE THEORY - Towering Sun EP

(Building Records) CD

Adelaide melodic rockers Mere Theory have released one helluva impressive debut ep here, with the 15 minute four song cd getting a real "repeat" workout here at Pee. The quartet have mastered being able to produce intense emotional rock that's insistent and hard-hitting yet subtle and soothing. All four songs here are winners and showcase the awesome songwriting talents of the band. I can't wait to hear what they've got in store for their next release if they can begin with a release this good! The great production of the ep must also be mentioned, and a quick read of the cd sleeve shows it's had what's becoming the "golden touch" of Darren Thompson [Thinktank] tweaking the dials. Pee recommended.

RATING: 92 REVIEW BY: PETE

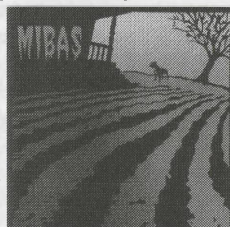


MIBAS - The End Of An Error

(Strike One) CD

This will be the last cd from Sunshine Coast "anti core" punk outfit Mibas as the band broke up [for whatever reason] during the recording. It's a real shame too coz this is a great record. Their previous offering "The Big Boondoodle" really didn't leave a lasting impression on me, but "The End..." certainly has the goods. They offer something for all melodic and hardcore fans here on this 8 track cd [plus a "hidden gem"], with almost 28Days sounding urgent vocals in "Legacy" and "Time To Fall" make them my choice tracks along with "The Ghetto". Metal guitar moments and enuff frantic paced punk throughout make this cd a must for anyone who considers themselves remotely "punk". Love the reggae piss take final track "Pragua" too. If ya gotta go, this is way to pull the plug!

RATING: 93 REVIEW BY: PETE



MISCONDUCT - ...United As One (Side By Side Records) CD

Woah! This is fuckin' great. Swedish punk quartet Misconduct have apparently been thumping out their awesome melodic hardcore [punk] rock since '95 or '96, but until this "limited edition" 14 track album arrived here at Pee I never knew they existed. Boy, have I sat up and taken notice... these guys have blown the cobwebs outta my crusty stereo! They've brought back that feeling I had the first time I heard Bigwig, Pennywise or 30foot Fall. Chock full of 14 chantable, intense, aggressive yet still melodic songs. Bring it on. Highly recommended. Contact Pee Records and tell them you want this album now!!

RATING: 98 REVIEW BY: PETE

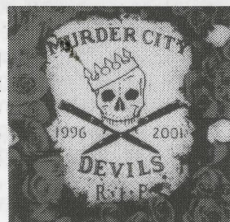
 MISCONDUCT



MURDER CITY DEVILS - R.I.P (Sub Pop) CD

The Devils left this album as their legacy when they quit on Halloween 2001 and a fine album it is. There sound is just as passionate as their other releases but this recording is some what more refined, even for a live album containing all the fun stuff like fucked equipment, missed notes and their fans jumping all over the band. Heavy garage rock at it's best. Best track, Broken Glass. This band went out like they came in, loud and drunk.

RATING: 70 KRISTEN PUNKRAWK



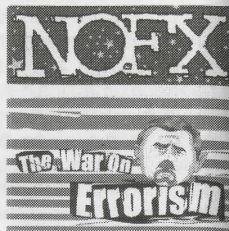


NOFX - The War On Errorism

(Fat Wreck Chords) CD

I've gotta admit I was pretty well wetting my pants to get my mitts on this album the moment I heard they were recording again. A highlight of any NOFX album is always Fat Mike's lyrics, and on "The War On Errorism". Mike is a smoking gun, with plenty to fuel his fire Fat Mike serves up an album full of witty lyrics that tell it like it is along with a healthy dose of sarcasm. Unless you've been living under a rock, we all know he hates and didn't vote for George W, something that's been obvious since the launch of his punkvoter.com website and is staring right at ya from the album's artwork, so of course "The War..." has it's share of political songs, "Franco Un-American", "Idiots Are Taking Over", "Anarchy Camp" etc. But they haven't forgotten their sense of humour either with "She's Nubs", "Mediocre" and "Mattersville". What you have here is another classic NOFX album with it's mix of pop punk, hardcore and ska moments that you can't help love NOFX for. So what if they haven't strayed too far from their proven formula. It's getting a thrashing here at Pee!

RATING: 98 REVIEW BY: PETE

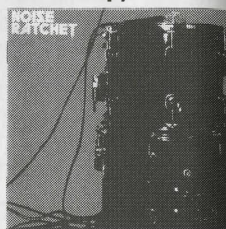


NOISE RATCHET - S/T

(The Militia Group) CD

After reviewing their "Till We Have Faces" album in the last ish of Pee I honestly can't admit to having played that record since reviewing it. That doesn't necessarily mean I didn't enjoy it tho'. Well now the Californian 5 piece have released a new 6 song ep and gotten my attention again, I might dig out their album and give it another spin. Their self titled ep starts strongly with "When Losing Ends" which seems to punch in with a bit more power than I remember the band having previously. The ep's single "Fiction Arms" continues the same powerful melodic rock formula, as does "New Room", all very similar but very rocking songs. There's a couple of slower ballad tracks "A Way From The Heart" and "Desire" [which drags on for seven and a half minutes] proving the band can slow things down to a mellow pace, but it's the three upbeat, loud guitar driven rock songs mentioned above that get my vote.

RATING: 88 REVIEW BY: PETE



NOTHING FACE - Skeletons

(TVT Records) CD

At a time when the whole "nu-metal" thing has become quite nauseous to many, Nothing Face has emerged amongst the masses with its popular style of not-quite nu-metal. 'Skeletons' is the bands fourth release and they just keep getting better and better. Combining the most ferocious riffs with extremely harmonious metal is what makes Nothing Face so damn good, taking you from one end of the scale to the other. It's definitely for fans of Slipknot, Disturbed etc... and there is no doubt that this is metal, but it's full of that much emotion and change that this bands sound has often been described as schizophrenic. Lyrically Nothing Face attacks the Catholic Church and its abusive priests, organized religion and political issues and these words combined with this bands sound will sure get their point across to many. So if you're a fan of nu-metal you'll dig this release and even if your not, there are tracks on 'Skeletons' that are bound to hit a soft spot with many.

RATING: 88 REVIEW BY: JOHN MEANTIME

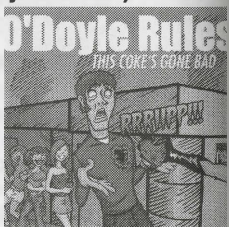


O'DOYLE RULES - This Coke's Gone Bad

(Good Guy Records) CD

This 6 song ep from Houston melodic punk trio O'Doyle Rules has been out for a couple of years now, but only recently arrived here at Pee. Released on their own "Good Guys" label the ep opens strongly with "40 Minute Drive" which is their stand out track. It thumps along nicely with a rough, almost J-Church rawness about it. Their following song "Cutie" is my second pick off the cd. The guys have a new demo out seeking what all bands want = label interest for their next record. I reckon if they can recapture what they've produced here on "This Coke's Gone Bad", then they shouldn't have too much trouble getting a deal, coz it's quite a good record.

RATING: 79 REVIEW BY: PETE



ONE DOLLAR SHORT - Keepsake

(Rapido)

CD

Oh yea, I remember these guys. It's been a while, and with the flood of awesome new Aussie releases it's easy to kinda forget about a band unless they're touring or releasing new stuff. Well the guys who put central coast punk in every Aussie skaters walkman are back in the tour van, pushing their new tunes offered up on this new single. The title track is a mid tempo melodic rock number sounding more like any number of U.S or AUS bands at the moment. I'm not saying it's a bad song by any means, it's just probably not gonna leave it's mark in your underwear time and time again. Insert 40 second filler instrumental track here. Track 3 "A Measure Of Stride" gets the points for the more melodic punk stuff we've come to expect from ODS in the past, it's more upbeat and catchy. But the standout here for me is their final song "After The Fire", which for a 'demo' sounds fuckin' great. [demo my butt, this has been mixed down as well as the other tracks here!]. Repetitive chorus with plenty of tempo changes and a darker sound make this one a big winner with me. Nice usage of the popular 'screamo' second [backing] vocals make me secretly hope this is the direction ODS plan to evolve their sound for future releases.

RATING: 88 REVIEW BY: PETE



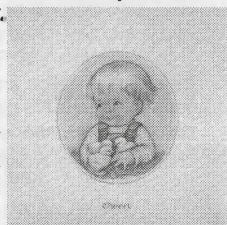
OWEN - No Good for No One Now

(Polyvinyl Record Co)

CD

On my first listen, I have to admit Owen didn't enthrall me but after the second or third I found it starting to grow on me. Owen (Mike Kinsella) is based in Chicago and No Good for No One Now is his third release. He plays all the instruments Guitar, bass, Drums, Keyboards and Loops and comes up with some very rich sounding acoustically based tunes. The immediate comparison that sprung to mind was Josh Rouse, and on a more local note Adelaide's No Through Road (with tidier production values). A nice relaxing listen with the odd 80's style lead guitar break thrown in for good measure.

RATING: 75 REVIEW BY: STEPHEN



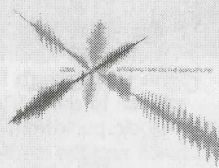
OZMA - Spending Time On The Borderline

(Kung Fu Records)

CD

Ozma continue to be the kinda 'out of place' synth power-pop rock band on the predominantly [pop] punk Californian label Kung Fu Records. The band's third album "Spending Time..." is supposed to break them free of the Weezer comparisons they're no doubt sick of reading about, and although there's a variety of tunes and tempos on offer throughout the 12 tracks here, Ozma's sound still comes back to the Weezer meets Pavement tag I gave their previous album [Pee #20]. After opening with their catchy "Spending Time" Ozma slow things down for the following two tracks which almost had me nodding off. "Bad Dogs" picked things back up with a rock number that sounds like a mix of Weezer and Faith No More, making it my choice track along with "Gameover". Award for the most boring artwork I've seen this year, plus it's another "enhanced" disc, so stick it in your 'puter for extra shit.

RATING: 68 REVIEW BY: PETE



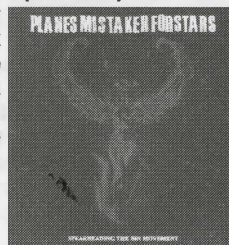
PLANES MISTAKEN FOR STARS - Spearheading the sin movement

(No Idea)

CD

Charming soundbite to start this little three-tracker off. Planes... are very reminiscent of Man Afraid, in that these three tracks are of the speedy hc punk variety with gruff vocals and some emo-ish parts. The emo parts are quite intricate but work to build suspense in the tracks rather than just being planted there for a quick-fix dynamics alteration. Apart from the lyrics, there's not much info with this one, and with just three tracks to choose from... well, it's not going to satisfy the swarms of Planes... fans for very long at all. I guess we always want more, right???

RATING: 94 REVIEW BY: RC



THE PEE REVIEW POLICY: Our review policy here at Pee is not to have a review policy!

Our reviewers are only here to tell you what they think of the record. Read the review and if you think you'd like the sound of it, even if we didn't, go check it out for yourself.



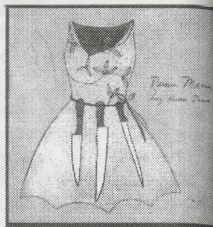
RAINER MARIA - Long Knives Drawn

(Polyvinyl Record Co.)

CD

Hey this is kinda cool. I'm new to Rainer Maria so I didn't know what to expect. What I should have expected was some seriously well put together rock music that seemed to creep into the CD player with startling regularity. My pick of this set is the opener Mystery and Misery which sees the band pushing their song structurally chops a little. It starts lean and still before gushing forward like a teenager. From that moment onward the album stays solid adhering to some strong melodies throughout the remaining tracks. Caithlin De Marrais' vocal work and bass playing is all good but both are displayed little too prominently for my tastes. Hiding in the back there is Klye Fischer who hammers out some inventive guitar work. The other guy, drummer William Kuehn loves his cymbal action and last time I checked that's a good thing for the rock. This is a good record. It could be better and if they nail it, its going to be great listening. I think you should definitely have a listen.

RATING: 85 REVIEW BY: SATANIC IAN



REGGIE AND THE FULL EFFECT - Under The Tray

(Vagrant)

CD

Before I go any further with this review, the person responsible for the artwork [or complete lack of] on this new album should be immediately led away, blind folded and shot. If like half of the tracks on this record, the artwork was meant as a "joke", then I'm hoping ol' Reggie is having a good laugh, coz my guess is he's possibly the only one who finds it remotely funny. The annoying thing is reading the track list thinking you're going to get 17 songs when about 6 of them are just outtakes of drunk conversations thrown in as [humorous?] filler between songs. Add to that the two complete shite tracks "F.O.OD" and "Linkin Verbz" and you're down to less than 9 tracks worthy of listening to. There are thankfully a few synth pop rock gems on this album, "Your Bleedin' Heart", "Happy V-Day", "Getting By With It's" and the melancholy closer "Megan 2K2" that are worth repeat spins. But how annoying is skipping thru all the crap to hear some great pop rock? My suggestion is get the cd, then burn those 5 or so songs onto another disc and throw this one away.

RATING: 67 REVIEW BY: PETE

Reggie and the Full Effect
under the tray...

RISE AGAINST - Revolutions Per Minute

(Fat Wreck Chords)

CD

Whoa! How fuckin' good is this record eh?! Two years after their debut album "The Unraveling", Rise Against has torn open my stereo with Fat Wreck's best release to date. "Revolutions Per Minute" has something for anyone who enjoys melodic punk from blisteringly fast drumming, catchy harmonious melodies, great lyrics and the perfect amount of screaming and angst during the more hardcore moments - making it appealing to just about everyone I know who loves punk. A melodic punk gem, without a single acoustic song or sappy piano intro! This album is sure to appear on the top of everyone's Top 10 albums for 2003... hell, I've had it on repeat here all day! [available for \$20 thru Pee Records mail order!]

RATING: 99 REVIEW BY: PETE



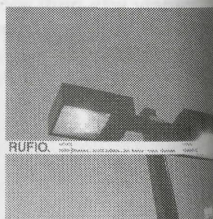
RUFIO - EP

(Nitro Records)

CD

My first Rufio encounter was their impressive "Perhaps, I Suppose" album reviewed in the last ish of Pee. The Californian quartet has since signed over to Nitro and released this 3 song SINGLE deceivngly titled "EP", that will keep their fans happy to learn that their sound hasn't changed. Rufio play a well paced pop punk with Scott Sellers smooth melodic vocals placed over the top, and all three songs here are winners. They do what they do bloody well, although the heart broken girl lost lyrics are not surprisingly a little over worked. Definitely worth picking up for fans of New Found Glory, New School Hero, Something With Numbers and any other band with three words in their name! I deducted a couple of points coz I'm afraid that three songs is a single not an ep in my opinion!

RATING: 76 REVIEW BY: PETE



RHYTHM COLLISION - All Bombs Away

(Does Everyone Stare? Records)

CD

Californian trio Rhythm Collision have been blasting out their speedy melodic punk since the late 80s. They're an influential punk band that I've read about over the years but never heard more than the occasional track on compilations, until I got my mitts on "All Bombs Away" their most recent recording. Pumping out 13 songs in 34 minutes the pace is aggressive, frantic and relentless whilst still being chock full of melody and catchy hooks. Harlan's vocals are kinda gruff and snotty with great lyrics and loads of chantable choruses. This records a must for punks who've had enuff of the more poppy stuff with songs about girls. My choice tracks are "B.R.C.", "All Bombs Away" and "Whatcha Gonna Do". Available now in Australia thru Pee Records.

RATING: 89 REVIEW BY: PETE



SANDRO - Christmas

(Unstable Ape Records)

CD

The EP opens with the title track, which rocks along in the standard indie rock vein, however with the catchy line "I was born under a wandering star" it still managed to hold my interest. The pace slowed somewhat for I will not go into the light with you and remained that way for the remaining 2 tracks. With some backing vocals which had thoughts of Morrissey and The Smiths come rushing into my head a very nice mellow indie rock EP. It will be a shame if as rumoured this is really Sandro's final recording.

RATING: 80 REVIEW BY: STEPHEN



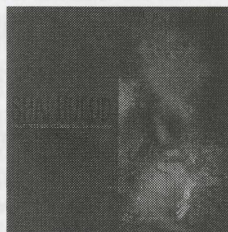
SHAI HULUD - That Within Blood III Tempere

(Revelation)

CD

"Rest assured. This is sincere, this is true". Revelation favourites Shai Hulud are back with ten new tracks of intense melodic metallic hardcore. Following very much in the vein of Time In Malta, Dillinger Escape Plan and Cave In, Shai turn in another great record with heart, passion and sincerity to burn. The band build on a strong opening track to the epic second track "Let us at last praise the colonizers of dreams" and from there the intensity levels never drop below fever pitch. There are a lot of samples fronting the tracks, which remain aggressive throughout, but never really danceable. Very much a listening experience then.

RATING: 94 REVIEW BY: RC



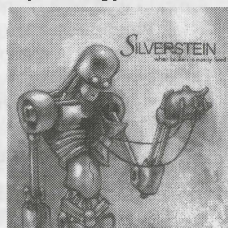
SILVERSTEIN - When Broken Is Easily Fixed

(Victory)

CD

Victory have an amazing knack for attracting generically brilliant bands. Silverstein are just a Get Up Kids ripoff, they can't have any illusions about it. But these songs are brilliant in a 'Something to Write Home About...' way, minus the keyboards which turned a few people off that record. They also utilise a Reggie & The Full Effect type thing in some of the tracks, mainly just harder parts with screamed vocals. The first two tracks "Smashed into pieces" and the formulaic slower second tune 'Red Light Pledge' (Red Letter Day anyone???) really set the scene and Silverstein are able to continue to build on these tracks thanks to the solid opening foundation. Only criticism of this is that all the tracks are about such depressing stuff. Surely life can't be that bad, can it?

RATING: 99 REVIEW BY: RC

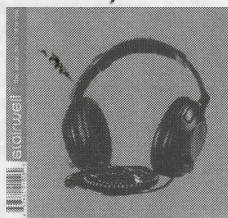


STAIRWELL - The Sounds Of Change

(Hopeless Records)

CD

When Jimmy Eat World released their 'Bleed American' album [later renamed to become their self titled album] it kinda sent the bench mark for a whole heap of melodic pop rock bands to aim at, and follow along they certainly have. The weird thing about this Stairwell album is it was written by the band three years ago and recorded two years ago on a small indie label Takehold Records, only to be recently picked up and re-released by Hopeless. So with that in mind can Stairwell be accused of being yet another JEW clone, when "back then" when it was recorded the band were onto the "popular new" indie pop rock sound that now has the JEW name known by knobs who listen to commercial radio? Don't get me wrong, in 2003 there's not a lot of originality left in this Stairwell record, but if you





think about it in the end *every* band sounds similar to some other band. End of the Pee review states: Stairwell offer up some quality pop rock here full of Unwritten Law / JEW harmonies. Buy it if you like those bands.

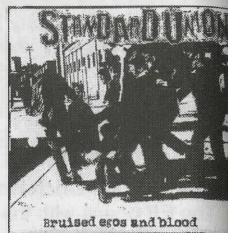
RATING: 89 REVIEW BY: PETE

STANDARD UNION - Bruised Egos And Blood

(Independent) CD

Local Adelaide boys Standard Union's first cd "Bruised Egos And Blood" is something every street punk fan should have in their cd collection. This band 'fucking rules. From the first track which is a rearrangement of "When The Saints Go Marching In" called "When The Punx..." comes on, you know it's gonna rock, and rock it does. This is street punk at it's finest. Owen has a great voice, suits the style perfectly, Paul doesn't sound to shabby either. The energy on the cd is fantastic. In fact, if I had to pick something that sucked about it, I couldn't. Powerful lyrics, awesome arrangement, fucking good shit! Obligatory comparisons to commence...Think Rancid, early Swingin' Utters with some Casualties thrown in for good measure. Fave Tracks - Will Yer Overcome and Treading On Familiar Ground.

RATING: 95 REVIEW BY: KRISTEN

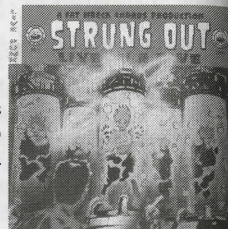


STRUNG OUT - Live In A Dive

(Fat Wreck Chords) CD

Strung Out's "Live In A Dive" record is the fourth in the Fat Live series and has 21 songs from every release, plus a few rarities - making it a must for all S.O fans. Add to that the awesome comic book artwork done by Strung Out vocalist Jason Cruz, the faultless Live In A Dive sound quality for a live recording and you're on another big Fat winner. Strung Out are so tight on this record, their performance is flawless! The between song banter of Jason and the guys whipping the crowd into a frenzy thankfully isn't too over the top and "had to be there". Again, this one's a must for fans. Their cover of "Bark At The Moon" dedicated to Ozzy Osbourne deserves a mention too.

RATING: 92 REVIEW BY: PETE

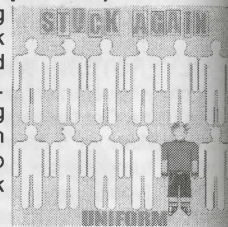


STUCK AGAIN - Uniform

(Independent) CDR

Stuck Again are a young Melbourne punk band who've recorded this four song demo which shows a hint of promise for the band. They play a rapid paced punk rock with spoken, er, shouted vocals. The four songs here mix up the tunes and tempos well which shows they're not getting stuck on one particular style of punk. Their influences are kinda obvious with the frantic opening riff of their second song "Stuck" reminds me of a 30foot Fall or Bigwig song. Being a demo the production quality could certainly be improved, but that said it *is* a demo! Again, the demo shows glimpses of a future for these four guys, especially if they put in a bit of work on the vocal department. Nice start. stuckagainmusic@hotmail.com

RATING: 62 REVIEW BY: PETE

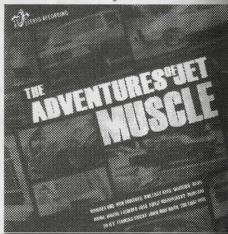


THE ADVENTURES OF JET - Muscle

(Suburban Home) CD

Outta Dallas comes The Adventures Of Jet who play a synth-pop kinda 80's rock that you'd expect to hear today if you threw Nerf Herder and Weezer into a blender then added Elvis Costello style vocals. The album is opened with the aptly titled "Number One" song which has an almost soundtrack theme to it with the drag racing conversation played out at the beginning of the song. For some strange reason I really enjoy this track. Overall I think at times the keyboards are a little overcooked for my liking, with the next song sounding similar to the last. That said this is still a great "light" sounding power pop record suited for those days when you just don't wanna be screamed at any more.

RATING: 70 REVIEW BY: PETE



Se your band 'racks' huh? Pee P.O Box 238 Marden South Australia 5070

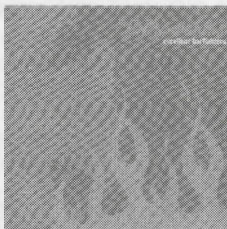
THE COLLYWOBBLES - Excellent Barfighters

(Deadlock Records)

CD

Whoah! Flames AND an Iron Cross on the front cover, Team photo on the back cover, these guys really know how to sell themselves. I can't top this marketing blurb from their Bio "The Collywobbles: Ass'kickin', Hard drinkin, Fast drivin' Rock'n'Roll that knocks you down hard. Join a barfight with The Collywobbles and get seriously harmed. Nothing beats the experience" Yeah, right.... Let's say the name one more time...Collywobbles!

RATING: 70 REVIEW BY: GORDOH



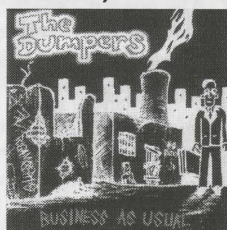
THE DUMPERS - Business as Usual

(Strike One)

CD

It's "an interesting blend of ska/punk and some death metal" apparently. They're not far off track, although it definitely stays on the side of Snuffy-style melodic surfpunk mixed with a bit of Mach Pelican-esque ska and rarely is metal at all really. Don't be fooled by the grotty cover art, which leaves you thinking "oh no, not more amateurish anarchist punk", because this is actually a good disc with some great moments. If you like any of the Rabbit comps put out by Matt and Magoq from TMT/Yeah Yeah in Perth then this speedy UK-style ska/punk is sure to be right up your street. Check the awesome track "Ghetto" for what this band is really capable of. Considering they formed as a novelty band for backyard parties, these guys have really got some potential. Good stuff all round then.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: RC



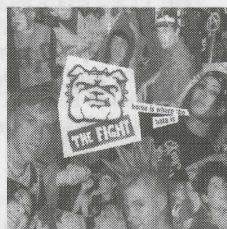
THE FIGHT - Home Is Where The Hate Is

(Fat Wreck Chords)

CD

I almost feel like Fat Mike was either 'swept up in the moment' during a live show, or had a few too many beerskis and made a promise to record The Fight, which he later realized should have remained drunk "I'll call you tomorrow" talk. The thing is, The Fight are really quite "average", which is an unusual for a Fat band. The most unique part of their punk rock revolves around the vocals of "K8", which are kinda flat but seem to work. Although her habit of finishing almost every line with "ah" gets kinda old pretty quickly. But that's about where the interest in this young UK band ends. Fat Wreck are extremely successful in what they do so The Fight must have some extra potential that I'm just not seeing. For a band who play traditional punk rock they just seem to lack their name sake. There's not a lotta fight in this bulldog.

RATING: 62 REVIEW BY: PETE



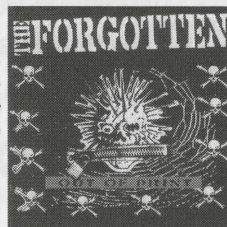
THE FORGOTTEN - Out Of Print

(BYO Records)

CD

Could you ask for more than this? Rare B-Sides, singles, demos and compilation tracks all show up on this release from The Forgotten. Those of you who were fans when they were back on TKO will know these songs but the fact that they're on one convenient disc and that's special my friends. Standout tracks are Nothin' To Lose and Guilty. This cd just cements how good The Forgotten are, have been and always will be.

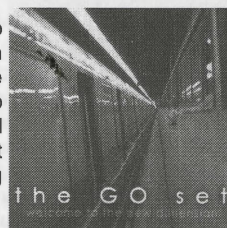
RATING: 95 REVIEW BY: KRISTEN PUNKRAWK



THE GO SET - Welcome To The New Dimension (Karvin Records) CD

Aussie pub rock with bag pipes thrown into the mix on a few occasions just to confuse anyone trying to slot them into a particular genre. This new 5 track ep from Melbourne quartet The Go Set mixes up the tunes and tempos nicely to give a taste of what the band is capable of, although nothing overly stood out or made me sit up and take notice. I should point out that this kinda rock really isn't my thing, but I did enjoy their occasional 'tongue in cheek' lyrics. Hell, they even worked "kickin' out the jams" into their lyrics ["Salvation"] along with a hand clap. Rock! Their closing song "Standing Out In The Rain" is my pick. Sound like a good live pub band.

RATING: 65 REVIEW BY: PETE





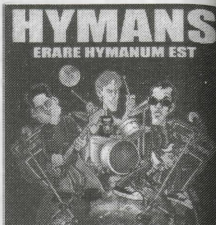
THE HYMANS – Erare Hymanum Est

(Wynona Records)

CD

This rates as one of the more successful "Ramones" bands I've ever heard. The singer has gotten all of Joeys vocal nuances down so well it's almost creepy. These Swedes have been doing this shit for almost twenty years so I guess they've had plenty of time to refine this. This album sounds like if the Ramones had recorded an album in between "End of the Century" and "Road to Ruin" and then decided to shelve it because the production was just not quite right and a few of the songs just weren't quite up to standard. The opening track "Abandon Paradise" is pretty killer.

RATING: 76 REVIEW BY: ERIC



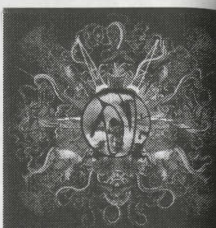
THE JULIANA THEORY - Love

(Epic / Sony)

CD

The Juliana Theory have come to the release of their 4th studio album 'Love'. To coincide with the release of this disc, the band is currently touring Australia with One Dollar Short. I haven't yet seen the outfit in flesh, but if they're as intense live as their music is on their new album, I'll be in heaven. *Love* showcases the bands emotionally charged rock, entwined with a vocal contrast between conventional singing, soft whispering and gut wrenching screaming. The album composition doesn't compare to the highly acclaimed 'Emotion Is Dead' but is definitely a step forward in the bands musical progression. The disc opens with 'Bring It Low' which is currently getting a lot of radio airplay. The track is very guitar orientated with a mid-tempo rock coating. Also featuring upon the album, once again, is 'into the dark'. A fantastic song, but why the band re-released the song on this album, I don't know?

RATING: 78 REVIEW BY: CINDY



THE LOCUST - Plague Soundscapes

(Anti)

CD

Psychotic thrash infused blast beats spewing electronic synth mutations and general noisy weirdness. 23 tracks in as many minutes and song titles like "twenty-three lubed up schizophrenics with delusions of grandeur", "the half-eaten sausage would like to see you in his office" and "who wants a dose of the clap?". Of course if the Locust had done anything different it wouldn't be a Locust record would it? It defies convention in every sense of the word, even choosing to defy its own defiance in favour of conventionality, which it sticks with for just long enough to make a statement about conventional defiance. My favourite tracks are "priest with the sexually transmitted diseases, get out of my bed" and "anything Jesus does, I can do better". You'll already know if you want this or not, but if you like Slap-aham, three one g etc then this is going to be your cup of decaf. A real grower.

RATING: 89 REVIEW BY: RC

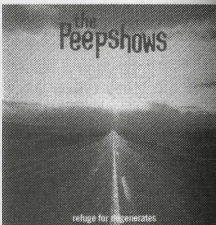


THE PEEPSHOWS - Refuge For Degenerates (Burning Heart)

CD

Almost every time I play this CD I forget who I'm listening to. The Peepshows certainly have that Hellacopters 'Big 70's' rock sound, with lots of melodic guitar lines (and occasional honky-tonk piano). The Bio suggests that Nicke Andersson of the Hellacopters reckons 'refuge for degenerates' is the best rock'n'roll album to ever come out of Sweden. Who am I to argue? Sweden ROCKS.

RATING: 85 REVIEW BY: GORDON

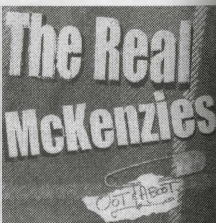


THE REAL MCKENZIES - Oot & About

(Fat Wreck Chords)

CD

This was surprisingly good. By that I mean it is not something I would usually listen to and enjoy. I didn't think I would enjoy this, but their tunes are really catchy. Playing a quick, no-holds-barred type of punk rock, they blend the sounds of their Scottish heritage in well. The bagpipes make an interesting an relish blending in the background; distinctly noticeable but not overpowering. The Scottish twang to the vocals I also found surprisingly pleasant. Maybe I was after change? But I waited and waited for a bad song to come along, so I can resort to my superficial judgement. It never came, or by that time I was already won over I'm not sure. It took a couple of quick listens however before I could bring myself to listen this one



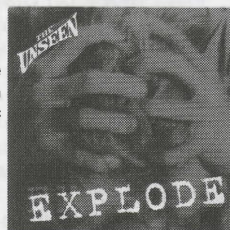
out a few times. But it was time well spent. If you too are wondering why these guys might be touring Europe with NOFX, check them out. My highlights were 'Cross the Ocean, Droppin' Like Flies, Oot & About, and Drink the Way I Do.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: CAL

THE UNSEEN - Explode (BYO Records) CD

One of my favourite labels brings forth the release of The Unseen's - Explode. Fans of street punk will love this release which sees The Unseen harder and more energetic than their last album. Their 4th full length and second release on BYO makes The Unseen one of the best street punk bands around today. Pissed off lyrics and honest street punk will make this one of the best albums released this year. Songs to look out for are Negative Outlook and Your Failure Is My Revenge. Go get it, you won't pissed off you did.

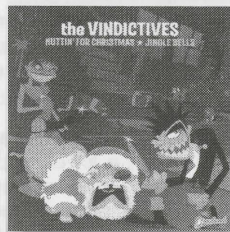
RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: KRISTEN PUNKRAWK



THE VINDICTIVES - Nuttin for Christmas b/w Jingle Bells 7" (Stardumb) VINYL

A little over three years, a little over ten thousand words and one long suffering zine editor later, my high flying career at the Pee corporation paid off big time when this little slab of transparent wax arrived in the post. I'm something of a Vindictives completist but I'd more or less given up on adding this one to the collection given the unreasonable cost of getting the thing here. The Vindictives have always been big on cover songs and I don't really recommend this 7" to you if you've never heard the Vindictives other stuff before ("The Many Moods of the Vindictives" is essential). That said, this 7" is pretty fucking rocking, a couple of disturbed takes on christmas tunes. A word of advice: if you're anything like me don't listen to this record just before walking out of the house because you might catch yourself walking up the street whistling "Jingle Bells" in front of a cute girl and then feeling like a bit of a twat.

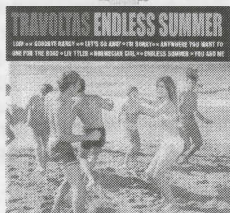
RATING: 81 REVIEW BY: ERIC



TRAVOLTAS - Endless Summer (Brand New Hero Records) CD

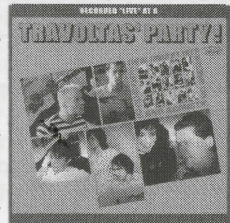
Finally my first full length Travoltas experience. I've read a lot of praise for this album over the last year, and after giving "Endless Summer" a few spins I can say the five piece surf - power pop band from Holland have undoubtedly earned the glowing reviews they've received. This is a great pop record! Wearing their Beach Boys hearts on their sleeves like The Queers, Travoltas also have that Ramones inspired sound that's highlighted no more than in their second track "Liv Tyler". Their love for that 60s pop style is evident from the artwork to the Beach Boys harmonies throughout the whole record, although they do managed to give it a unique Travoltas twist in "Lori". Their title track is a standout that begins with a similar keyboard rock as Nerf Herder who also have that catchy 60s power pop sound. This is a perfect "summer" record that's catchy enuff to have it on repeat all afternoon. Can't wait to hear their next record.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: PETE



TRAVOLTAS - Party! (Knock Knock Records) CD

I've just decided that I'm a fucking asshole. [I hear ex-girlfriends saying "well duh"] I'm an asshole [this time] coz the recorded sound of people enjoying themselves shits me. In the last ish of Pee I griped about how the whiney sound of fans singing along ruined the Dashboard Confessional unplugged recording, well here we have another live acoustic recording complete with the sound of people having a jolly ol' time. This time around we have Holland rock band the Travoltas, a band I quite enjoy, getting together with a bunch of their friends to record a "party" album, and for a live album the production quality is great. But it's the constant hand clapping and "yea", "whoa", "yee-ha" and "awf-right"s from their "best friends" in the background that eventually wore me down. I should point out that this is a 14 track album that churns out 45 minutes of acoustic pop and had it only been 4 or 5 songs long I probably would've given it a higher score, but remember, I'm an asshole. Their "One For The Road" and "Sorrow" tracks get the nod, but why oh why didn't they tape everyone's hands together to shut 'em up!? They were





hoping to emulate the Beach Boys Party album, which they've probably succeeded in doing, [they cover a few of their songs] but the fucking clapping goes on...

RATING: 64 REVIEW BY: PETE

V/A - Black on Black: a tribute to Black Flag

(Initial) CD

You're probably familiar with these tracks, if not from the limited 7"s they are pulled from then the kickass original versions. If not, here's the lowdown. Nine of the biggest hardcore bands around cover their favourite Black Flag song for a 'limited 7" series, all of which are put on a CD at the end. American Nothing (aka American Nightmare) turn in an aggressively raucous version of "Depression" and Dillinger Escape Plan an equally good take on "Damaged 1 and 2". There are also some slow metal interpretations from Anodyne, Coalesce and Converge, while Planes Mistaken For Stars put their stamp on "Wasted/policy story". I think Ryan from Initial sums it up perfectly in his liner notes: "I'm generally not a fan of tribute albums. They can get to be overblown and annoying - 20 random bands doing their best to ruin a perfectly good song. Most lack focus, leaving me thinking, 'what's the point?' Undoubtedly a number of Black Flag fans will feel that this tribute doesn't do such a classic and legendary band justice, that these bands don't represent anything about Black Flag in 2003". Which is pretty spot on. It's a good comp and all, but couldn't we write our own songs for once?

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: RC

V/A - Emo Is Awesome / Emo Is Evil

(Deep Elm Records) CD

I've got a lot of respect and time for the crew at Deep Elm. For such a small independent label they certainly churn out a helluva lot of quality releases. Pick up any back isshoo of Pee in the last year or so and I guarantee there'll be a quality Deep Elm record in the review pages. The DE guys also continually pump out regular label samplers showcasing the talent on their books whilst holding a torch to new found talent, something they seem to effortlessly be able to achieve. Here DE serve up a dirt cheap 19 track compilation that covers all genres that could ever hope to fall into the "emo" basket. Features the powerful rock of Red Animal War, Slowride, Planes Mistaken For Stars, Benton Falls along with the label's mellow favourites The Appleseed Cast, Lewis, Desert City Soundtrack and Brandtson. Impressive new talent here is The White Octave and Cross My Heart. Add to that Last Day Of April's awesome "Aspirins And Alcohol", the haunting and [dare I say it in a 'punk zine'] beautiful songs from Logh - "Yellow Lights Mean Slow Down", along with "Clean" from This Beautiful Mess, and this cd is definitely worth 72 minutes out of your life.

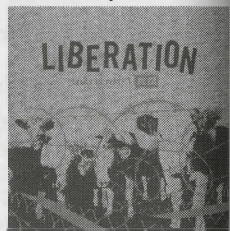
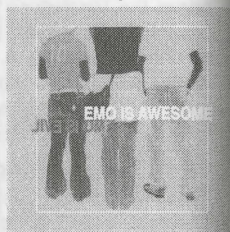
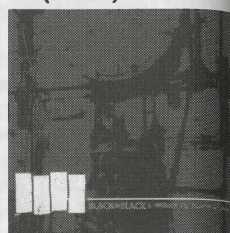
RATING: 89 REVIEW BY: PETE

V/A - Liberation

(Fat Wreck Chords) CD

A great compilation of 16 bands offering up a song each to raise funds for the animal rights organization PETA. Now before I go any further with the review, I'm gonna point out that I'm definitely not a vegetarian, I don't eat meat every day either, but when I have that burger or lasagne I want bits of cow or chicken in it. So I guess I'm not a true PETA supporter. I do however endorse PETA's stance against using animals for any form of experiment or entertainment. Liberation features tracks lifted from previous albums from some huge names in rock such as Hot Water Music, NOFX, Bigwig, Propagandhi, Frenzal Rhomb, Good Riddance and a pretty funny offering from Goldfinger. There's also a couple of new numbers from Midtown and The Used, along with an awesome song from Story Of The Year - a band I hadn't heard of before this and can't wait to hear more of! You also get the extra stuff we expect these days when you shove it into your 'puter. So I guess I'm a little hypocritical by telling you all to go out and buy this cd and support PETA. But those cows and chickens taste so damn good.

RATING: 95 REVIEW BY: PETE

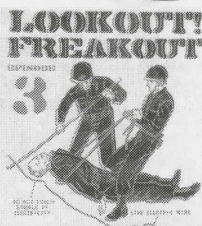


DON'T TAKE MY WORD FOR IT! Reviews are only the personal opinion of those who wrote them... so for the artists sake go have a listen for yourself, be a 'grown up', make up your own mind and quit moaning about what's been written!

V/A - Lookout! Freakout Episode 3 (Lookout Records) CD

Samplers that include rare & unreleased tracks are often worth picking up and Lookout! Freakout Episode 3 is a little gem. I've just discovered Pretty Girls make Graves, who contribute a great pop punk track called 'Speakers push the air', and The Cost, who contribute an emo classic called 'The land of the giant birds'. These tracks alone are worth the price of admission. 20 tracks in all by bands including The Pattern, Bratmobile, The Queens, The Enemies & Mr T Experience, 5 rare tracks & 2 music videos. Enjoy!

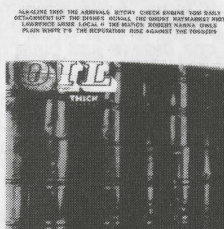
RATING: 88 REVIEW BY: GORDOH



V/A - Oil (Thick Records) CD

This compilation is impressive in more ways than just the notable bands it features. Impressive because this independent Chicago label has managed to get together 19 Chicago bands to each record a previously unreleased song in an old oil blending factory, all within 15 days. First thing that pops into your head when you learn of the brief production time is "surely the quality has suffered". Well that's definitely not the case! Rise Against rip the album open with their track "Gethsamane", this song is gold, full of power, melody and emotion. Worth buying the comp for this song alone if you ask me! Other standout tracks for me here are from Lawrence Arms, Plain White Ts, Alkaline Trio, The Ghost, The Arrivals, Duvall and Haymarket Riot. There's really not a dud song on here, although with such a wide range of styles not every track is gonna please everyone. This is by far my favourite comp at the moment. Did I mention how fuckin' good the Rise Against song is??

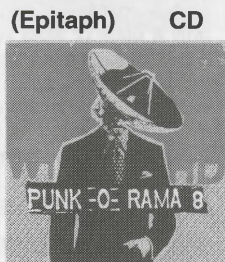
RATING: 94 REVIEW BY: PETE



V/A - Punk-O-Rama 8 (Epitaph) CD

I can't believe Epitaph's Punk-O-Rama compilation series is up to it's eighth release... geez I must be getting' old! Regardless of my age I reckon #8 is their biggest and best to date, serving up 33 tracks, and a Death By Stereo video, over the big two cd release. There's seriously something here for ALL the kids! How can you go pass a cd that offers up tracks from NOFX, Bad Religion, Hot Water Music, Frenzal Rhomb, Pennywise, Bombshell Rocks, Pulley, Transplants, Matchbook Romance, No Fun Att All, Raised Fist, Millencolin, T(I)NC, Guttermouth, Dropkick Murphys and still more!! Ok, so most of the tracks are from the bands previous albums, but there are a few unreleased gems onboard. This cd now lives in my cars stereo!

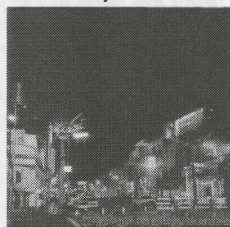
RATING: 93 REVIEW BY: PETE



V/A - Skyboys vs Highscalers (Brand New Hero Records) CD

This rockin' melodic punk compilation is the debut release for new independent UK punk label Brand New Hero Records, and they've kick started things on a winning release too. Featuring a whole bunch of bands from around the world that get my thumbs up - Lucky 7, Travoltas, The Reunion Show, Brodie, and Don't Look Down. But there's the pleasant surprises from bands I haven't heard before that make this comp more than just another melodic pop punk comp cd to add to the bargain bin. New offerings from Four Star Day, Second Class, Shuriken, Agent 51 and Long Since Forgotten, great bands that were all new to my ears made this one added value for money. A comp fans of melodic punk will definitely enjoy. Available now in Aus thru Pee Records.

RATING: 91 REVIEW BY: PETE



V/A - Underground Screams (Asian Man Records) CD

A huge new compilation featuring 26 unsigned bands from around the world discovered and compiled by Californian independent label Asian Man Records. The comp opens with the only hardcore track to feature on the disc by Laydig, "And Then The Lights Went Out" which is a brutal song from the Illinois quartet definitely worth seeking out for those who like it hard and fast. From then on you get a whole bunch of pleasant surprises from unknown bands covering all genres of rock from





indie, emo, pop, punk and reggae. I only recognized two bands [The Critics and Dead Letter Dept.] from the 26 that appear on this great comp, which both get instant thumbs up along with new tunes for me from The National Pastime, Scout You Devil, Division, The Common Place, Split Habit, The GhettoBlasters, The DSC Project and more! The cd booklet unfolds into a huge page detailing every band's contact details and lyrics, which is great for when you wanna seek more of the bands that impress. So if you're after a cheap comp that's gonna introduce you to a whole bunch of new bands, then "Underground Screams" is bound to serve up the goods.

RATING: 89 REVIEW BY: PETE

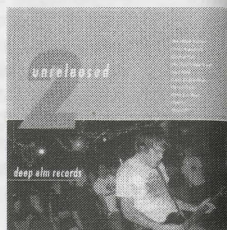
V/A - Unreleased 2

(Deep Elm Records)

CD

As the title suggests, this is Deep Elms second compilation featuring tracks of previously unreleased songs from bands on their label, plus a couple of extra gems. The reason tracks are previously unreleased most of the time with bands is coz they're just plain ol' bad and should forever remain 'unreleased'. But the folk at Deep Elm seem to have a great "filter" for sorting out the good from the bad. "Unreleased 2" serves up 10 tracks from Slowride, Benton Falls, The Applesseed Cast, Race Car Riot, Drive Til Morning, Camber and more. And whilst it's probably not the best release to come outta Deep Elm it's certainly a must if you're a fan of any of the bands that feature on the disc, and makes for some good new rock listening.

RATING: 78 REVIEW BY: PETE



WAIK - S/T

(Independent)

CD

Think of the melodic, yet powerful sound of TOOL combined with the chunky nu-metal riffs and tuned down guitars of SEVENDUST and you are pretty damn close to describing the catchy metal sounds of WAIK. This promotional CD features only a taste of what WAIK are capable of. There are 3 tracks here that show that these guys are definitely good at what it is they are playing; emotive, melodic and powerful 'nu-metal'. The sound is crystal clear, great for this style of metal and exceptional for a 'demo' release. Having already supported big names in the local metal scene such as SEGRESSION, CRYOGENIC and COG, WAIK are making quite a name for themselves, so if it's nu-metal that tickles your fancy, definitely check these guys out. www.waik.net

RATING: 80 REVIEW BY: JOHN MEANTIME



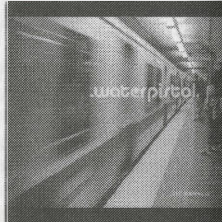
WATERPISTOL - The Subway EP

(Emplane Music)

CD

Five guys from Massachusetts make up Waterpistol, who play an emotional indie rock similar to what you'd expect from any Deep Elm Records band. The Subway EP serves up 4 songs that offer a lot of promise for what might come from the band in the future, but I've gotta say the mix really lags here with the snare drum and vocals being too prominent over very washy guitars. My choice tracks are the opener "Scars And Halos", along with their second song "The Traffic Theorem" which takes a turn for the "heavier" towards the end of the track with the added screamo vocals, giving it a slightly more "Thursday" type sound. But again, the overall the poor production quality of the recording lets down what could have been a stronger ep. Perhaps next time.

RATING: 67 REVIEW BY: PETE



YEAH YEAH YEAH'S - Fever to Tell

(Interscope)

CD

The latest recording from New Yawk's Yeah Yeah Yeah's is actually pretty good, in a major label kind of way. Geffen/Interscope must spend millions to uncover the sounds the kids want to hear...and guess what, in 2003 the kids wanna ROCK. It's a cheap description, but I think Yeah Yeah Yeah's sound a lot like JSBE plays PJ Harvey and The Birthday Party. It's a sexy, arty 37-minute punk record. Not a bad thing, but not a new thing.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: GORDOH



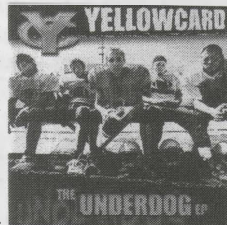
YELLOWCARD - The Underdog EP

(Below Par Records)

CD

Aussie indie punk label Below Par have licensed and released Yellowcard's Underdog Ep to coincide with the band's tour down here, and a great little 5 track ep it is. If you haven't heard Yellowcard yet, they play catchy melodic skate punk with a violin thrown in to give it a unique twist. Although they claim not to know who the incredible band "That Dog" are, I'll still describe them as a male poppunk version of "That Dog". Their title track gets things started on an upbeat winning tune which continues with "Avondale", which rolls along with a stack of energy and finishes nicely with a bit of a 'screamo' ending. Thumbs up. A similar energy flows thru the rest of the ep until the closing track "Rocket" slows things down to produce an almost Weezer "Sweater Song" sounding track that rocks back and forth under a repetitive chorus. Another great song. They might be crap at answering interview questions, have no idea who one of the best pop rock bands to ever use a violin are, but they certainly know how to write a catchy tune which is probably why they're now owned by a major label. Another one bites the dust? We'll see.

RATING: 90 REVIEW BY: PETE



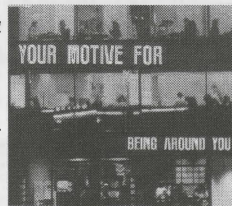
YOUR MOTIVE FOR - Being Around You

(Independent)

CD

An independent debut single from Adelaide pop rock quartet Your Motive For that shouldn't have too much trouble getting airplay. The title track bounces along nicely with a repetitive chorus, it's definitely the pick of the 3 songs here. YMF is made up of former members of previous Adelaide bands Yakspit, Honeyfix and Tenderhook and with shared vocal duties between Heath and Josh, YMF has a slightly different sound from one song to the next, although not veering too far from their keyboard pop rock formula. A great debut even if it's not really my thang.

RATING: 68 REVIEW BY: PETE



YOUR NIGHT SKY - No Place For A Broken Heart

(Independent)

CD

This is a 3 song single from young Gold Coast 5 piece Your Night Sky certainly shows a vast improvement from the demo they sent me last year. Playing similar melodic rock to NFG or Aussies Last Years Hero etc. the band certainly has the right idea. I just feel that Nathan's vocals don't come across very strongly, almost sounding like he's holding back. With a little vocal training and some more studio experience I reckon YNS could've been on a winner. I say "could've" because they since broken up. Pity.

RATING: 69 REVIEW BY: PETE



Guest Dad's View

FRENZAL RHOMB - Sans Souci CD

Regular Pee readers would know that every ishoo we feature a "Mum's View" where I give my mum a cd to listen to and she usually bags it. Well my mum is getting her first ishoo off this ish coz we've got a special guest "Dad's View". Adelaide channel 9 news presenter Kevin Crease is the father of Frenzal Rhomb bassist Tom and has offered Pee his thoughts on their new record. Thanx Kev!

Frenzal Rhomb's "Sans Souci" is a great return to high energy, old time punk rock. The band is obviously enjoying new bass man, Tom. In fact lead singer, Jay, is having such a good time these days that rumor has it that he's just invested in a "Frenzal Rhomb" tattoo somewhere on his anatomy. As usual Frenzal is taking the piss out of just about everything. In this case, from Russel Crowe to the local cops but all in a sense of good fun. In a word or three, true punk is back. **HEY FRENZAL!**





review addresses

for all releases reviewed in this ishoo
of Pee...

- Anti:** 2798 Sunset Blvd. Los Angeles CA 90026 USA www.anti.com
Asian Man Records: P.O Box 35585 Monte Sereno CA 95030 USA www.asianmanrecords.com
Below Par Records: 6 Kimberley Road, Hurstville, NSW 2220 AUS www.belowpar.org
Blastmat: P.O Box 380152 East Hartford, CT 06138-0152 USA
Breakeven: P.O Box 1728 Sunshine Plaza, QLD 4558 AUS www.breakeven.live.com.au
Bug Records: www.bugrecords.tk
Building Records: 16 Lothian St. Annerley QLD 4103 AUS www.buildrecords.com
BYO Records: P.O Box 67609 Los Angeles, CA 90067 USA www.byorecords.com
Deadlock Records: P.O Box 324, 7900 AH Hoogeveen, Holland www.deadlock.nl
Deep Elm: P.O Box 36939 Charlotte, NC 28236 USA www.deepelm.com [AUS: Pee Records]
ECP Records: 2/3 Glenview Cr. Terrigal, NSW 2250 AUS www.ecprecords.com
Emplane Music: Oranjestraat 42, 7607 BK Almelo, The Netherlands www.emplanemusic.com
Epitaph: 2798 Sunset Blvd. Los Angeles, CA. 90026 USA www.epitaph.com
Equal Vision Records: P.O Box 14 Hudson, NY 12534 USA www.equalvision.com
Fat Wreck Chords: P.O Box 193690 San Francisco CA 94119-3690 USA www.fatwreck.com
Good Guy Records: P.O Box 90368 Houston, TX 77290-0368 USA www.goodguyrecords.com
Honest Don's: P.O Box 192027 San Francisco CA 94119 www.honestdons.com
Hopeless Records: P.O Box 7495 Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA www.hopelessrecords.com
Initial Records: P.O B17131 Louisville, Kentucky 40217 USA www.initialrecords.com
Intelligent Records: 203 Washington Street #102 Salem, MA 01970-6500 USA
www.intelligentrecords.com
Interscope Records: 1790 Broadway, 20th Floor, New York NY 10019 USA
Karvin Records: P.O Box 1060 Bundoor VIC 3083 AUS
Knock Knock Records: 394 Hewlett Ave Patchogue NY 11772 USA www.knockknockrecords.com
Kung Fu Records: P.O Box 38009 Hollywood, CA 90038 USA www.kungfurecords.com
Nitro Records: 7071 Warner Ave. Suite F736, Huntington Beach CA 92647 USA
www.nitrorecords.com
No Death Records: www.nodeathrecords.com
No Idea: P.O Box 14636 Gainesville, FL 32604-4636 USA www.noidearecords.com
Polyvinyl Record Co: P.O Box 7140 Champaign, IL 61826 USA www.polyvinylrecords.com
Rabbit Records: P.O Box 31 Greenwood, WA 6024 AUS www.rabbitrecords.cjb.au
Redline Records: P.O Box 1551 Freemantle, WA 6959 AUS www.redlinerecords.com.au
Revelation Records: P.O Box 5232 Huntington Beach CA 92615 USA www.revelationrecords.com
Rocketstar Recordings: P.O Box 54108 Redondo, WA 98054 USA www.rocketstar.com
Rykodisc: 329 Latimer Road, London W10 6RA UK www.rykodisc.com
Search and Rescue Records: www.searchandrescuerecords.com
Side By Side Records: Carls Åbyvägen 4 B 691 33 Karlskoga, Sweden www.sidebysiderecords.se
SideCho Records: 1215 Red Gum St. Suite L, Anaheim CA 92806 USA www.sidecho.com
Stardumb Records: P.O Box 21145, 3001 AC Rotterdam, The Netherlands
www.stardumbrecords.com
Street Anthem Records: 6201 15th Ave. NW B306 Seattle WA 98107-2382
www.streetanthemrecords.com
Sub Pop: P.O Box 20645 Seattle, WA 98102 USA www.subpop.com
The Militia Group: 1215 N. Red Gum St. Suite L, Anaheim CA 92806 USA www.themilitiagroup.com
Thick Records: PO Box 220245 Chicago, IL 60622 USA www.thickrecords.com
Tooth & Nail Records: 3522 West Government Way, Seattle, WA 98199 USA
www.toothandnailrecords.com
TVT Records: 23 East 4th Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10003 USA www.tvtrerecords.com
Unstable Ape Records: P.O Box 1099 Carlton, VIC 3053 AUS www.uar.com.au
Vagrant Records: PMB 361, 2118 Wilshire Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90403 www.vagrant.com
Victory Records: 346 North Justine Street Suite 504 Chicago, IL 60607
Wild Punk Records: P.O. Box 849, 18080 Granada Spain www.wildpunk.com
Wind-up Entertainment: 72 Madison Ave. 8th Fl. NYC 10016 USA [AUS: thru Sony Music]
Wynona Records: Via della Libertà 6/11, 16100 GENOVA ITALY [AUS: thru Pee Records]

thank to...

MEL♥! MY LOYAL COLUMN GURUS: RYCORE, STU, GORDOH & NEW COMER BUCKWHEAT! SHOUT OUTS TO THE "PEE TEAM" FOR PEEING IN EACH CITY = CIN & NIGEL - PEEING IN SYDNEY, MAT - PEEING IN PERTH, IAN - PEEING IN BRISVEGAS, STEW - PEEING IN NEWCASTLE, & CAL STILL #1 ADELAIDE STREET-TEAMER. ALL THESE ROCKERS FOR THE INTERVIEWS - TIM BKS, KENT SH, ROB DLD, ANDY MBR, CHUCK HWH, TIM RA, SEAN YC, MATT GREYFIELD, & A BIG THANX TO STU FOR THE ALK3 I/V, SHAYNE FOR THE FRENZAL I/V, & CASSIE FOR CHATTIN' WITH GYROSCOPE! THESE LABEL GODS WHOM I LOVE - IAN, STU & SANDIE @ SHOCK, ERIC @ EPITAPH, SARAH @ REDLINE, KAYTE @ FEARLESS, VANESSA @ FAT, JAI BPR, MIYA @ ASIAN MAN, CHUCK @ DEEP ELM, JASON EVR, MARIA BLUE GHOST, KATE & NAT @ FMR, DELPH @ VICTORY, BEN @ STOMP, KATE @ UNIVERSAL, JOE @ WYNONA, JAKE @ DW, SHILO INT. REC, MIKE EARSHOT, STEVE @ ECP, ED @ BNH, BRUNO @ SAR, CHLOE @ INERTIA, STEVE IGLOO, RYCORE, CAL, IAN, GORDOH, STEPHEN, KRISTEN, ERIC & KEVIN CREASE FOR THEIR ROCKIN' REVIEWS. "MOE", ALL THE FEATURED ZINES PLUS ALL PEE STORES FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT & A SPECIAL THANX TO YOU FOR BOTHERING TO READ THIS MUCH OF MY PEE... NOW GO BUY SOME PEE MERCH!

adverts...

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BRISBANE: ROCKING HORSE, SKINNYS

CANBERRA: IMPACT RECORDS

GOLD COAST: MOSH PIT MUSIC

GOSFORD: VOYAGER

MELBOURNE: POLYESTER BOOKS, MISSING LINK

NEWCASTLE: THE ROCK SHOP

PERTH: 78 RECORDS

SYDNEY: RED EYE, RESIST RECORDS, WATERFRONT RECORDS

PENRITH = RE-PRESSED RECORDS, WESTGATE = HUMBLE PIE RECORDS

USA =

CHICAGO: THRESHOLD RECORDS & JET BLACK RECORDS

MILWAULKE: ATOMIC RECORDS

NEW YORK: DYING WISH RECORDS

SAN DIEGO: HENCE THE NAME

WORLD =

CANADA: DEAD LETTER DEPT.

ENGLAND: ALL AGES RECORDS, BRAND NEW HERO RECORDS

NEW ZEALAND: PUINKILLA PROJECTS

SINGAPORE: SYSTEMLESS.ORG, 29 CORNFLAKES DISTRO

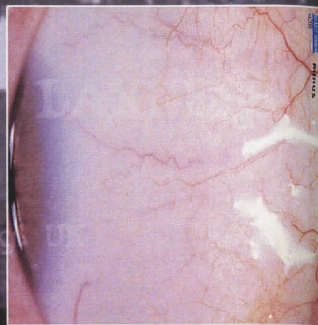
DISTRO: YEAH YEAH M/ORDER, VOX POPULIS DISTRO, VALIDATE RECORDS, DEMOLISH DISTRO

VICTORY RECORDS

minus - Halldor Laxness

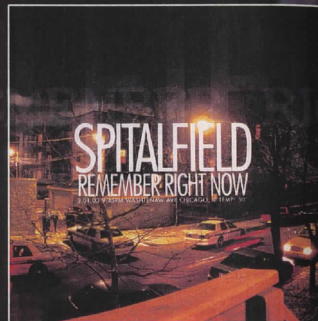
"It's certain that Minus are the best band in Iceland. F**k, they're probably the best band in the world."

KKKKK - Kerrang! UK



Spitalfield - Remember Right Now

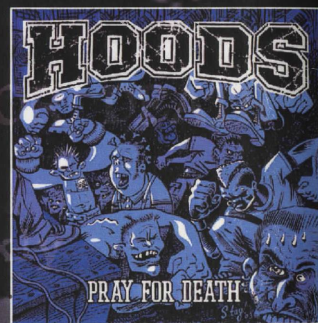
"Driving indie-pop / emo with ultra subtle hardcore undertones"



Hoods - Pray For Death

"Bone crunching, head numbing streetwise **HARDCORE**"

Real Detroit Weekly



STOMP
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VICTORY



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