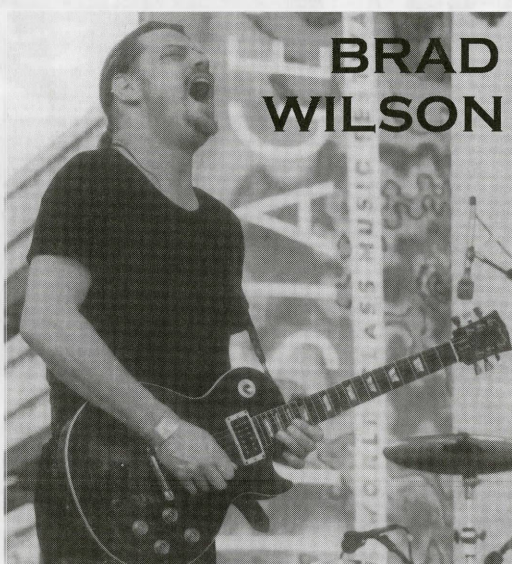


# ROCK BOTTOM

ISSUE #23

SEPTEMBER 2004



KNUCKLEHEAD, THE  
CONSPIRACY, URINAL PUCK  
MINISTRIES, MICHELE  
MCKINNEY, FLASHBACK ON  
JUDAS PRIEST & MUCH MORE...



cd art > flyers > leaflets > image manipulation > web > graphic > email: [illar@illardesign.co.uk](mailto:illar@illardesign.co.uk)

**illar**

**Marcy's 'Zine--Marcy's Way**  
**ROCKBOTTOM**  
**FANZINE**

**Issue #23 Sept. 2004**

WELL...HELLO you lucky bastards.  
YES, YOU...YOU THERE. YOU'RE  
lucky 'cos this mag is FREE, baby...  
FREE like my cat. What??? DON'T  
FUCKIN MOAN to me about your cat not  
being free. WE ARE FREE....FREE. Free  
for fuck all.

Just get on with it. Read this and then  
go out and help an old lady cross the  
street!!! DON'T send her on the wrong  
bus though..I did that once, JESUS...it  
was here in BATH U.K.....I felt so bad.....I  
don't even think she wanted to GO ON  
the bus.

Oh well...shit happens... 'eh'???  
So...what have you learnt??? YEAH  
YOU!! Your cat loves you and the grass  
is dry to sit on, and murdering those hours  
in your shitty job and then murder some  
more 'cos you're too tired to jack off  
when you get home 'cos you're NOT  
FREE.

WE ARE NOT FREE, BASTARDS.  
BOLLOCKS.  
ADIOS MUCHACHOS AMIGOS...  
I'm away to eat some grass....  
See ya...  
Scruff

**SORRY** this issue is a little late but I  
have reasons which I'd rather not go into  
that's why I asked Scruff to ramble on for  
me and he calls me a FREAK?? Oh  
well... Scruff is sweet and completely  
harmless, I think—HA...just don't ask for  
him to help you to the bus if you're an old  
lady. Good grief, boy. Also, I didn't type  
up everything and go through it and fix  
misspellings, etc.etc... Odd did so bitch  
at him for the boobos. Keep in mind he  
is Norwegian and his English sucks  
(paybacks are hell).

**SORRY** to Snake for not using your  
logo on the cover but this one fit better.  
**THANKS, PJ SCOGGINS!** I can NOT  
figure out what logo I want to use...  
**HELP!!!** Should I use the one on the  
cover, Snake's or Frank's or???? **GIVE**  
**ME YOUR OPIONION!!!** (Logos on  
page 5.)

One more thing....Odd Marwin and I  
got married on September 6<sup>th</sup> so WHERE  
ARE OUR WEDDING GIFTS, PEOPLE?  
...just jokin... Save your money!!!!

Gotta get...I have a six year old to get  
ready for school and then I need to get  
ready for work...

Marcy

[marcy@rockbottomzine.com](mailto:marcy@rockbottomzine.com)

SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2004  
MARCY & MARWIN



**MARCY A. MILLER**

[marcy@rockbottomzine.com](mailto:marcy@rockbottomzine.com)

*Kreator/Editor-In-Chief & Layout*

**ODD MARWIN NILSEN**

[marwin@rockbottomzine.com](mailto:marwin@rockbottomzine.com)

*Layout & Co-editor & Webmaster of*

[www.rockbottomzine.net](http://www.rockbottomzine.net)

**Keith 'kingpiN' Warren**

[master@digitalspine.net](mailto:master@digitalspine.net)

*The "MASTER" of*

[www.rockbottomzine.com](http://www.rockbottomzine.com)

*Contributors:*

**Paul Autry**

[creeper@sunlink.net](mailto:creeper@sunlink.net)

**Tim 'SKeeZer' Bettencourt**

[tim@planetcable.net](mailto:tim@planetcable.net)

**Brian Dempsey**

[dempseyb@hotmail.com](mailto:dempseyb@hotmail.com)

**Claudio Faggion**

[internospienne@libero.it](mailto:internospienne@libero.it)

**Chuck Fitzgerald**

[chuck@tongue-n-groove.com](mailto:chuck@tongue-n-groove.com)

**'Chicago Paul' Grabowski**

*No email yet!*

**Bill "BLOODWYN" Jannusch**

[www.ravensthorn.com](http://www.ravensthorn.com)

**Jeremy Othmer**

[spunkzine@yahoo.com](mailto:spunkzine@yahoo.com)

**Malcolm 'Scruff' Lewty**

[malcolmlewty@yahoo.com](mailto:malcolmlewty@yahoo.com)

**Mike sos**

[MIKEsos1@aol.com](mailto:MIKEsos1@aol.com)

**AJ "WILD" White**

[wilddliw@hotmail.com](mailto:wilddliw@hotmail.com)

**Matt Zelinsky**

*No email!*

**ROCKBOTTOM** was created in 1989,  
published 4 times per year until 1996 and  
re-entered the scene in 2003. Mail order  
is STAMPS! STAMPS! STAMPS!  
**MARCY MILLER, 10088 PLEASANT**  
**RIDGE RD, HARRISONVILLE, PA**  
**17228 USA** \*\*Any questions pertaining  
to **ROCKBOTTOM** can be addressed to  
Marcy A. Miller. \* **THANK YOU FOR**  
**YOUR SUPPORT!!**

**ROCKBOTTOM**  
**CONTRIBUTORS**

Who do you want to review your  
CD/DVD/DEMO/  
ZINE/project?????  
REALLY??? THEN SEND IT TO  
THEM!!!!

**Paul Autry**

P.O. Box 227

Shamokin, PA 17872 USA

[Creeper@sunlink.net](mailto:Creeper@sunlink.net)

**Chuck Fitzgerald**

P.O. Box 4752

Brockton, MA 02303-4752 USA

[chuck@tongue-n-groove.com](mailto:chuck@tongue-n-groove.com)

**Paul Grabowski**

6724 Colbath Ave.

Van Nuys, CA 91405 USA

**Bill Jannusch**

233 142<sup>nd</sup> St., Apt. #1

1<sup>st</sup> Fl. Front

Hammond, IN 46327 USA

[www.ravensthorn.com](http://www.ravensthorn.com)

**MARCY MILLER or**

**Odd Marwin Nilsen**

10088 Pleasant Rdg. Rd.

Harrisonville, PA 17228 USA

[marwin@rockbottomzine.com](mailto:marwin@rockbottomzine.com)

**Jeremy Othmer**

P.O. Box 102

Cobalt, ON

POJ-1CO, CANADA

[www.deadchretiens.com](http://www.deadchretiens.com)

**AJ White**

1204 13<sup>th</sup> St. NE

Hickory, NC 28601 USA

[wilddliw@hotmail.com](mailto:wilddliw@hotmail.com)

**Matt Zelinsky**

2504 Tralfalgar Square

Champaign, IL 61821 USA

**SEND IN YOUR MAIL....**  
**GOOD OR BAD,**  
**WE'LL PRINT IT!!!**  
**MARCY@ROCKBOT**  
**TOMZINE.COM**

# ROCKBOTTOM GOT MAIL...

Marcy,

Read my first issue of  
**ROCKBOTTOM** & loved it!

It was great to see **BORDERLINE INC.** in **ROCK TOCK**. I am a **BORDERLINE** fan. I have followed this band for 3 years & they have come a long way. The best thing about all the guys is that they are really down to earth & let the fans sing with them. KEEP ON ROCKIN **BORDERLINE INC.!!**

[www.borderlineinc.com](http://www.borderlineinc.com)

Evelyn Winter, Pennsylvania



**BORDERLINE INC.**

Marcy,

Thanks so much for **ROCK-BOTTOM!** I really think it's great. It's been awhile since I've seen a fanzine & never saw one 'geared' more toward the over 13 audience! Rock on, girlie! It's nice to know that headbangers my age have something they can enjoy!!

Keep rockin' & spreading the great music info! I look forward to reading more of your stuff.

Grazie!!!

Dawn, New York

[Belladawn13@aol.com](mailto:Belladawn13@aol.com)

Hey Marcy...

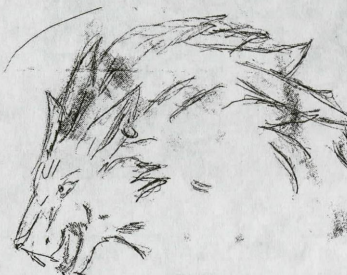
WOW! **ROCKBOTTOM** is the greatest zine I've read in a long time. Thank you for sending it to me.

In issue #22, the song that **TRIXY RED** wrote on Heroin, it's really great... it speaks. It's sad to say but I see some of my friends lose their family to it. My cousin's friend just lost her life to Heroin. She died with her two kids in the same room as her. Those kids have to grow up never knowing their mother. Yes, they have a father but he is lost without their mother. He'll never be the father he could be.

On to other things, here are some drawings that I thought you'd like to see! Also, hope to see you again soon!!!

Katie Rhone, Pennsylvania

[Katebug0488@hotmail.com](mailto:Katebug0488@hotmail.com)



--picture drawn by Katie Rhone

Hello Marcy,

Chris here from **Peace or Die Records**... I want to say I enjoy the **ROCKBOTTOM** fanzine thoroughly so keep up the good work.

Talk to you soon,

Chris L., Ohio, USA

**Peace or Die Records**

[www.peaceordierecords.com](http://www.peaceordierecords.com)

Hails Marcy!!

Wow! Thanks for the cool new issue of **ROCKBOTTOM**. Excellent as usual. Only one

small glitch...at the end of my interview, you listed my area code as (816) when it is actually (618). No biggie. People can always write for a catalog (the address is correct). People reading this can contact me for my latest catalog of DEATH, BLACK & GRIND METAL CDs, DVDs, TSHIRTS & ZINES...

Call: (618) 664-0862

Write: **BASEMENT MUSIC**

615 Wyatt St., Greenville, IL

62246-1473 USA

THANKS AGAIN FOR THE SPACE & KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!

Tim Buchmiller

Dear Marcy,

I personally acknowledge your efforts of bringing notice to the local scene.

**ROCKBOTTOM** Mag fuckin' rules!!!

THANKS!!!!

Bart, Pennsylvania

**POTENTIAL VICTIMS**

[www.potentialvictims.com](http://www.potentialvictims.com)

Hi Marcy-

There's no need to apologize for the delay in responding to my initial letter to you. Reading **ROCKBOTTOM** and the incredibly interesting content, interviews,

reviews, etc....I can certainly understand how increasingly busy you are.

I anticipate hearing from you.

I Am-Reggie

Reginald S. Lewis

#AY2902

175 Progress Drive

Waynesburg, PA 15370-8090 USA

**THE POET LAUREATE OF**

**DEATH ROW**

[www.ccadp.org/ReginaldLewis.htm](http://www.ccadp.org/ReginaldLewis.htm)

[www.survivingthesystem.org](http://www.survivingthesystem.org)

[www.legionstudios.com](http://www.legionstudios.com)

[www.todesstrafe-usa.de](http://www.todesstrafe-usa.de)

Hello Marcy!!!

Hey, the zine's a great read!!!

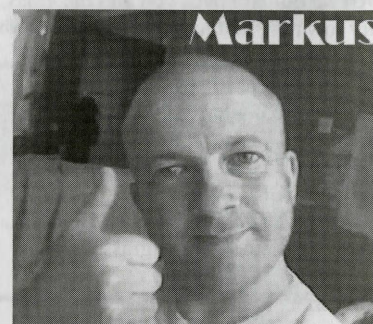
Good luck,

Markus, UK

**HEAVY WATER**

[www.markusabused.com](http://www.markusabused.com)

[www.heavywater.tk](http://www.heavywater.tk)



Marcy,

Just thought I'd write to let you know what a great 'zine you have going. Also want to thank Mr. Paul Grabowski for introducing me to **ROCKBOTTOM**.

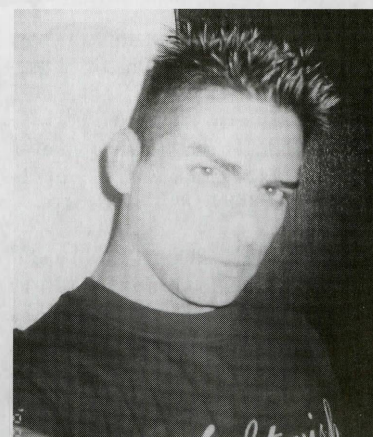
Continue the great work and keep me posted to new 'zine issues.

**ROCKBOTTOM** is eternal, baby!!!

Martin Garza aka Shadow

232 12<sup>th</sup> St. SE

Ruskin, FL 33570 USA



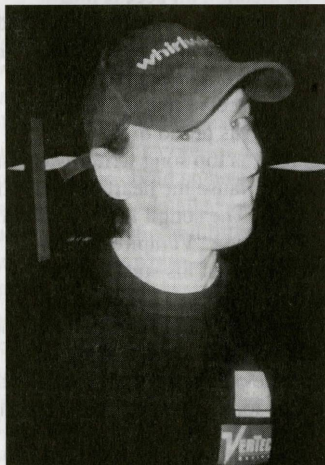
Martin Garza aka SHADOW

# ROCK TOCK

How do people put out a 'zine once a year??? Even if it has 100+ pages...tons of news and shit in it will be a last year's news.... I KNOW **ROCKBOTTOM** comes out every 2 to 3 months and some of the news, etc... in it is ancient. I am not putting down other 'zines because I **KNOW** ALL the work and ALL the money that goes into a 'zine and how stressful but yet enjoyable they can be... ANYWHO...here is what I am talking about....updates on a few bands interviewed in this **VERY** issue...

**CRUNCH MOB** has replaced their outrageous, eccentric lead throat Michele McKinney, after releasing a second CD which I think would actually get this band places, with Miguel (photo below). I am not putting Miguel down because I heard him sing but when I think of **CRUNCH MOB**, I will think **MICHELE** and probably **ALWAYS** will....**NEW CM** contact:

**VINI LUPO**  
17447 GENERAL LEE DR  
SHARPSBURG MD 21782 USA  
Phone #301 465 9134  
[www.crunchmob.com](http://www.crunchmob.com)  
and soon [www.crunchmob.net](http://www.crunchmob.net)



**HEAVY WATER**....where to begin???? They are writing songs for their second CD and **NICK PARSONS, SCRUFF, MARKUS & BROOKE** is singing on it as far as I know.... Should be an interesting listen and rather enjoyable...

I love how **SCRUFF** sings and **NICK!!!** **NICK** was in **HELLBASTARD, THE ULMIGHTY, WHATEVER, RUNT...** A little info on **RUNT**....check out....

[www.r-u-n-t.co.uk](http://www.r-u-n-t.co.uk)

**RUNT** put a CD out last year....Hell, I don't even know if they are still together... but I guess since **Scruff** is gonna interview **Nick**...oh **WHATEVER**...

**POTENTIAL VICTIMS** has a new drummer because their other one is now the singer for **URINAL PUCK MINISTRIES!!!** **UPM** is hitting the studio late



September...this is something you might wanna get your hands on. Also two guys from **UPM, Kingpin & Skeezer**, contribute to and distribute this 'zine...another reason you might want to get in touch with them.  
[www.urinalpuckministries](http://www.urinalpuckministries)

**QUORTHON** of the infamous Black Death metal band **BATHORY** (that has been around since 1984) passed away at the age of 39. He was having heart problems for years, an insider reported. The man leaves behind a major legacy. He had more influence on the Black Metal sound and style than any other thrash band of the early eighties.

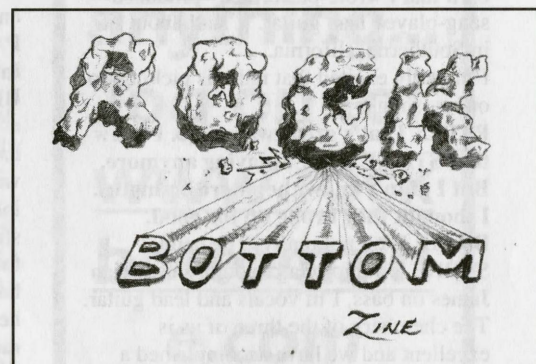
In other news, the new album from **RAVENSTHORN** "Hauntings and Possessions" will be released on German Hellion Records in late 2004. A limited vinyl is also in the works as well as other merchandise. Check out [www.ravensthorn.com](http://www.ravensthorn.com) for details or write **BILL JANNUSCH** (addy on page 2). Negotiations with Hellion are the reason for the delay in the release but Hellion took interest and it looks like deal will go down. Cover art painted by **TRAVIS SMITH** (artist for Abigail II by **KING DIAMOND**) on 18

page full color layout of latest photo session with make-up, blood, smoke and all the lyrics.



-Logo by Snake

Straight outta WV's **DISORDER**'s bassists **PETE GEDON**'s mouth...  
"**DISORDER** is finally recording a CD and releasing it soon." New website but in-the-works...  
[www.disorderkills.com](http://www.disorderkills.com)



-Logo by Frank

**RUMORS! RUMORS! RUMORS! I LOVE RUMORS!** Rumors has it that the lead singer of Norway's **DIRTY BOOTS**, Børge Rømma, has been thinking of leaving the band to pursue a solo career. We'll keep you posted on all developments.  
[www.dirtyboots.net](http://www.dirtyboots.net)

**JEREMY OTHMER** (**RB** contributor) has ideas about putting together a **RB** issue featuring articles, show reviews... just about **ANYTHING** on the **RAMONES** as long as we can dig up funds for it. If you want to contribute, send your stuff to me...**Marcy Miller**, 10088 Pleasant Rdg, Rd., Harrisonville, PA 17228 USA or [marcy@rockbottomzine.com](mailto:marcy@rockbottomzine.com) or send it to **OTHMER** (contact info-pg. 3)

# BRAD WILSON

Chicago Paul

**I'm here today with L.A.'s own Brad Wilson. A few issues back I wrote a review on him. The few lines of praise didn't do him justice so we're here to find out more about what makes Brad such a great musician.**

**PAUL: So Brad how are you doing?**

**BRAD: Outstanding and yourself?**

**PAUL: Great...so let's get a little background on you, Brad...**

**BRAD: Ok, I'm a singer-song writer and lead guitarist. I've been playing guitar for about 30 years. I have 3 albums two I did with the band STONE from Los Angeles- which I was the front man for the last seven years. The band is now on hiatus while I support my newest record-which is self titled. Brad Wilson. It has 13 songs on it that I wrote-performed-produced-sang-played lead guitar. It's all about life in Southern California.**

**I'm really excited that radio is picking up on my songs.**

**PAUL: That's great-way to go. I know that STONE wasn't playing anymore. But I didn't know they were on hiatus. I thought they broke up for good.**

**BRAD: Well not really. The band STONE is Junior Garcia on drums, Brian James on bass, I'm vocals and lead guitar. The chemistry of the three of us is excellent and we have accomplished a great deal together and having these years we needed a break so we did that instead of breaking up. I believe when you're in a band and real is hard to come by so we decided this was best.**

**PAUL: Definitely- you did the right thing keeping things open. Great move. I hope things turn out o.k.**

**BRAD: And with the chemistry of the three individuals to be able to make music and travel the country. We've opened for 38 Special-Cheap Trick-Paula Cole - etc. Playing major venues. The house of blues-BB-Kings- so on. So we had a great time but after 7 years of almost non-stop touring we decided it was time for a break. There was never a time the band exploded or anything but we thought this would be best for the moment after 7 years J.J and Brian needed a chance to get some roots here in L.A. and also to get their personal lives in order and I needed to keep performing and writing songs as a**

**song writer. So with these 13 new songs are on the new CD and I'm out promoting them and it wasn't possible for those guys to continue promoting so I did it myself.**

**PAUL: Let me say you did a great job you handled everything on it. You can do it all singing-guitar-writing-producing and etc.**

**BRAD: Well thanks glad you like it. I'm mainly a song writer that's what I'm mostly all about. I continue to write all the time and I look forward to hearing the songs live and getting them out there.**

**PAUL: It sounds like you did the right thing. Keeping the future open for STONE. You can always start back anytime. And this way you stay busy.**

**BRAD: Yes it's hard to find three individuals who have that kind of chemistry so it's best to take a break.**

**PAUL: That's true you have to get along or where's all the fun?**

**BRAD: Exactly**

**PAUL: So Brad what is your weapon of choice these days anything special?**

**BRAD: I have been playing the same Gibson- Lespaul standard for many years. I was playing with a rock band called Shame and we were on the sunset strip and Gene Simmons was our producer.**

**PAUL: I didn't know, that sounds very interesting!**

**BRAD: Yeah we were part of the Guns-n-Roses-Poison-Skid Row thing that happened on the strip and Gene Simmons was behind us. We were having an incredible run. Doing some amazing shows on the strip and I got a call from the East Coast Joe Perry from Aerosmith had ordered a black Les Paul standard and he decided to pass it on getting it so I raced down to the Gibson West Coast Rep. I got to play it. The sound was great. It's a 1988 black Les Paul standard and it goes everywhere with me. Hotel room-you name it and I'll have it by my side.**

**PAUL: Does she have a name?**

**BRAD: No**

**PAUL: Well Rick Brannon has a Suzie-B.B King has a Lucille. I just thought you might have a name for her.**

**BRAD: I'll have to come up with something-You've given me something to think about.**

**PAUL: So Brad how much time did it take to complete your solo CD?**

**BRAD: The CD took about 18 months to complete. It was a record that I had wrote all the tunes. Did all the lyrics also organizing. A lot of it was written on my acoustic guitar as always- my wife got me a amazing acoustic guitar when she ran into a great designer. The thing sounds fantastic. It's just one of these amazing sounding guitars. I worked on it to a certain degree then Doug Aldridge the**

**lead guitarist for Whitesnake. He and I did a song for stone on our 2<sup>nd</sup> CD. He was nice enough to help me with the solo CD. Doug the was in between Dio and WhiteSnake shows. He did so much with the guitar I learned so much he's such a great guitarist-tech and all around person. I also just did a CD at total access with Brian is a great guitar player Brian who engineered all the tracks and over dubs. We worked at total access studios in Rendondo Beach where Dio-No Doubt-Great White and other greats did their recordings with Brian D. at access which has a great live room all the tracks were recorded live for the mix down on the record. I worked with the Robb Brothers at Cherokee studios which is a famous studio up here in West Hollywood where Jeff Beck did "Wired"- Motley Crue did "Girls, Girls, Girls" there. So the Robb Brothers helped me with the mix down although I was at the control board during the whole thing making decisions on just how things would turn out so the CD is something I'm proud of being involved from start to finish so that was how I mainly spent the 18 months to finish it.**  
**PAUL: Well Brad you did a really great job on all aspects of the CD. Amazing stuff.**

**BRAD: Well thanks Paul.**

**PAUL: Any ideas for your next CD? Anything wrote yet?**

**BRAD: I've been writing a lot of songs lately because I'm a song writer at heart and I write all the time. So I do have a group of songs that are taking shape for the next CD. Recently I won an award Nov. 2003 all music access awards show by L.A. publication all access music magazine. I was recognized and received an award for best song writer for the year before the record. It was great out of all the awards to receive that evening. That was the one I was proud of the most. To be recognized as top song writer was just tremendous because the heart of what I do is write songs. The song I had with John Carpenter's movie "Vampires" John usually writes all of his stuff for the movies he makes. I had a song called Teaser. I had wrote and John put it on the soundtrack and it was the 1<sup>st</sup> song on the record and the only song with vocals and it is rare that John let anyone have control of a song in one of his movie's soundtrack. John Carpenter's movie Vampires is the number 1 movie in America. The soundtrack won a Saturn award which is like an Oscar award for science fiction or fantasy. So when John accepts the award over "Armageddon" by Aerosmith also by other great artist. So my song which was the 1<sup>st</sup> with vocals. It was in a typical scene with John Woops**

who starred in the Carpenter movie. "Vampires". So that was a huge, huge break for me as a song writer to have song be recognized by the Hollywood Film Industry and I have to continue to be a song writer for the last 4 years for the soap opera[Passions] which is a hugely popular soap opera. I help with the songs that are being produced for the show.

**PAUL:** You have a lot of great things on your resume you've done quite a bit so far mainly you did it your way.

**BRAD:** I'm a rock-n-roll blues guy who really hasn't had a major label release. It's been really great. One thing is that I perform all year long as a live performer but there is a lot to be said about a Indie artist independence for one and being able to continue to work. It is more than possible to keep going with out the support of a major label.

**PAUL:** Well Brad your living proof of that. It's amazing how far your career has gone so far I'm so glad our good friend Rick Brannon introduced us. I most likely would never have met you. Any plans to use Rick on a future CD?

**BRAD:** Well Rick and I are friends for many, many years and of course Rick is a great instrumental guitarist on the level of a JEFF BECK. He is an instrumental phenomenon and when I was recording the last one. I always like to have at least one instrumental on this self titled CD. I have a song called cruising the coast that was wrote about the feelings of driving down on the pacific coast highway in Southern California. It really turned out to be one of the strongest tracks and radio is grabbing a hold of it and most recently I got a call from ESPN sports network who wants to use the song as well.

**PAUL:** Wow that's a big break. I hope everything works out. You worked hard for it.

**BRAD:** Yes I'm very excited so anyway Rick who I sent a copy of cruising the coast to so he could so he could check it out. He's such a detailed musician. He came in the studio and little did I know he had the tune down to A.T. already. It just turned out so well he surprised me very much when you hear the truck you can hear the great work he done. He's the 2<sup>nd</sup> guitar on the track. So hell yes I'd love to work with Rick again. Sometimes when I play Rick will come up a rip up is a few tunes so anytime in the future would be great. He's a great guy so check him out he's just an incredible guy-to reach Rick log on to GuitarFreak.com.

**PAUL:** You both are incredible guys. I'm so glad we're all friends. I'm happy things are going so good for both of you. So Brad who are you listening to right now anything special or new?

**BRAD:** I'm mainly listening to older blues stuff. I like Muddy Waters greatest hits. A lot of Buddy Guy.

**PAUL:** That's one thing I miss about Chicago is going to Buddy Guy's place he's great sometimes in the middle of winter he'd walk right outside still playing freaking out the people waiting for the bus in front of his place play a few minutes and come back in he'd do crazy shit like that.

**BRAD:** I'd love to play with him he's such a showman that would be a dream come true. I've also been listening to some other Muddy Waters some of the old stuff. I like a lot of other blues people. I don't really keep up with new bands to much. I hear a lot of radio but don't keep up with the names to much.

**PAUL:** So true the music scene changes so fast. You really have to stay on top of things to keep up with what's new plus keep up with all your old favorites. It's a never ending subject.

**BRAD:** There are new things coming up all the time. I find that interesting.

**PAUL:** I've always said there is only two kinds of music good and bad-period- there is no between.

**BRAD:** I like that.

**PAUL:** Well that's how I've always felt. Well Brad is there anything else you'd like to say to our readers?

**BRAD:** Yes my new CD has a couple of songs that I'm really excited about and the title cut is called Black Coffee at sunrise it's a song I wrote about Hank Williams Senior and touring I wrote it when I was playing the southern states. I've also got a song called sundown and the cowboy on that one. I wrote about growing up in northern Nevada on a ranch. I think it turned out pretty well. There's a song also on there called Rocket. I wrote about going to some of the motorcycle rallies here in southern California. It kind of gives you the feeling of a Harley taking off. One day a Harley came up to us on the freeway doing about 70mph. Then boom up to 100 in 2 seconds so I thought that must be a great feeling to have that's how that one came about. I have a song called last call that one I wrote about being in a night club at 2:00am and the feeling that it's about to close-[we all know that feeling-Paul]. So there are songs on here that I'm very proud of. The CD is available from CB music. You can get it real easy they will send it right out to you and I also invite everyone to visit my website at BradWilsonLive.com. I've got tons of stuff with lots of info and photos and I want to thank everyone who bought this CD and everyone who will check out. If you happen to see me at a show, come up and say "Hi". Don't be

shy. I'd love to meet and greet everyone who comes out to my shows.

**PAUL:** Sounds just AWESOME.

We'll keep an eye out for you Brad. I hope things continue to go your way. ROCKBOTTOM will keep an eye on you because you're definitely a man to watch. Until next time...KEEP ROCKING!

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# HEAVY WATER

**HEAVY WATER** was **BAND OF THE MONTH** for August and September on **ROCKBOTTOM 'ZINE's** website [www.rockbottomzine.com](http://www.rockbottomzine.com) for the simple fact that they are fuckin awesome. Some things have changed since this interview but we'll be sure to update you all on that in the next issue...Between now and the next issue tho, why don't ya do yourself a favor and get your paws on a copy of 'Angry Ballerina'!

**MARCY:** You tell me to do a websearch on **HELLBASTARD**...okay and like 799 web results came up—**DAMN!!!** I checked out a few and they were rather interesting...like an interview from **KERRANG** if I am remembering correctly... something about **HELLBASTARD** being the poorest band around, blah, blah, blah.....and some other cool shit. Anyway...I also would like to thank you and your mate Sam for sending me all the CDs of **HELLBASTARD**, **NERO CIRCUS**, etc...!!!! **WOW...** besides listening to **HEAVY WATER** in between **HELLBASTARD** and **NERO CIRCUS**.... **I AM SICK OF YOU**, **SCRUFF!!** Noooooo....just joking!!! I am not going to ask you any specific questions on your previous bands even though I'd love to ask you tons (maybe we can do that later) but could you name them all and the style of music they were. Ohhh and of course, **YOU** are the **GOD** of '**CRUST METAL**'—**YEAH!!!** Do tell us a little about that... Actually, tell us **ANYTHING** you want about your bands before **HEAVY WATER**... **ANYTHING** at all...ramble on...**YOU** will NOT bore me...**NEVER!** As for you, Markus, start chatting....you're good at it, bud!!!

**SCRUFF:** Well, hello Marcy and hello **ROCKBOTTOM** readers. It's a usual story really—no big deal. I was living in a children's institution (state care facility) and I used to hear all these great records and tapes that my brother would bring from his travels. Anyway--going back to 1980-1984...he had this great record by a band named **THE APOSTLES**, it was a 7" single titled 'Blow it up, Burn it down, Kick it till it breaks'. I heard it and loved

it. All the sentiments expressed on the **HUGE** fold-out sleeve etc...Absolutely incredible. Cost a pound in UK money and was excellently produced. Everything about it was **AWESOME** and I joined that band in 1984 and never looked back. The main members are still playing now in a band called **UNIT** and they continue to release intelligent and thought provoking music. **THEY ARE VERY FUCKING CLEVER AND THEY PANDER TO NO BIG RECORD COMPANY OR MAGAZINE OR ANYTHING.** That is true Punk Rock to me. They do and release what they want. Oh Yeah,...anyway—so the very early beginnings of actively participating in music for me was a band in 1979 called **FEEBLE MINDED** (I sung for them) and then **THE APOSTLES**. Andy Martin, brainchild of **THE APOSTLES/UNIT** taught me my first important chords for guitar. I left **THE APOSTLES** and did my own thing 'cos I wanted to make heavier music than **THE APOSTLES** did. I succeeded but it was a whole different ballgame. In terms of art output, **THE APOSTLES** academic avante garde repertoire basically pissed all over **HELLBASTARD's**

... **HELLBASTARD** was my first band after **THE APOSTLES**. We were too 'metal' for the punk kids and too 'punk' for the metal kids. That was one of **HELLBASTARD's** success points—we couldn't be easily categorized. I enjoyed that very much. **HELLBASTARD** had intelligent lyrics which stems from the whole political punk rock scene we were into at the time. But musically we were influenced by **HELLHAMMER**, **VENOM**, **SLAYER**, etc... all the early black metal/thrash stuff. **HELLBASTARD** began in late 1984/5 and ended in 1992. I got bored

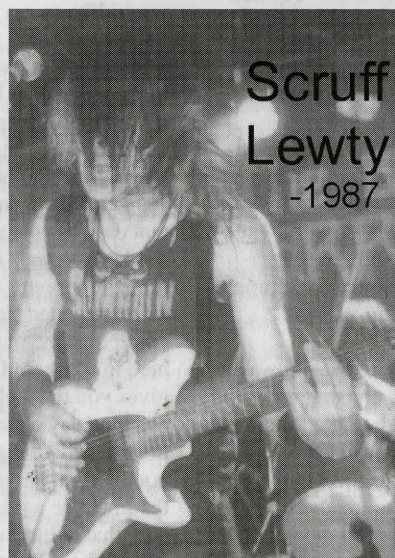
and moved south 500 miles and formed **NERO CIRCUS** in 1993 with friends in Plymouth. I worked very hard and it all fucked up then I formed **SIDEWINDER**... then a new band **KING FUEL** with 2 old **HELLBASTARD** members. Now I'm with that waster Markus and we have **HEAVY WATER**. I don't want to go into politics and musical styles with my old bands. That's your job, Marcy! That's why I sent you all the CDs as gifts—and so you can get an idea of where we're coming from. Sorry, like. Talk about my old bands' music if ya want somewhere in this interview?

**MARCY:** Hey...I appreciate **EVERYTHING** you sent me!!! **YOU KNOW THAT!!!** Also...**SORRY** for reading endless info on **ALL** your previous bands after this interview.

**SCRUFF:** The 'crust' categorization came about 'cos at a really early

**HELLBASTARD** rehearsal, the battery in my overdrive pedal was running out and it made my guitar sound really 'crusty'...kind of like dirty and over the top filth so we called the first **HELLBASTARD** demo 'Ripper Crust'. We started off a whole subculture of bands and a genre that called itself 'Crust-Core' (basically meaning political in lyrical stance and punk-metal in

music form). After that demo was released other people around the world exacerbated and perpetuated the 'CRUST' thing like in their style of dress, etc... (We lived on benefits most of the time and couldn't afford washing machines or things like that. Our 'dirty/crusty' image was only 'cos we were poor and really didn't care how we looked, really. Now that image has been adopted by the Nigh St. Fashion Houses and it's **FUCKIN' KITSCH**!!!! Oh, wow, how good I look in my fake dreadlocks and made-to-



wear 'dirty', 'worn' jeans." Fuckin' joke. So yeah... 'God of Crust' !?@\*!! Right, Yeah. Ok.

Ha ha, I got a visit from 9/10ths of the 'Long Beach Crust-Core Crew' when I lived up north in Gateshead...there were all these punk kids from Long Beach (CA) and Orange County, etc... A real good bunch of people...Let's see, there was Limen, Little Al, Marky -D, Calhoun, all good people who loved UK music like HELLBASTARD, HERESY, CONCRETE SOX, NAPALM DEATH, CARCASS, DISCHARGE, ANTISECT, AMEEBIX, CRASS...early thrash and hardcore right through to the Anarcho-punk genre. You can play any CRASS record and learn more in 5 minutes about the socio-political state of the world politics than reading a million books by the likes of Chomsky or Bakvain, easy. It's all about Anti-Capitalism, Anti-Authority and embracing a lifestyle of D.I.Y. over mass plastic production and fitting neatly into a category that can be exploited and sold as a fashion statement. That was the trouble with Punk Rock, it became categorized and sub-divided and that original angst was SOLD BACK to itself by a manipulating army of parasitical entrepreneurs.

**MARKUS:** Ok...I left the music scene for a while after 1984 'cos I got disillusioned with the whole anarcho-punk thing I was into. It was a big part of my life in the early 80s. I was heavily into bands like CRASS. We all were...none of us had jobs back in the northeast of the UK. It was horrible and grey, CRASS spoke lyrics that reflected the way our lives at that time were being ruined. I had to get out of it. It was depressing me also. I had big problems living at home in the northeast.

**MARCY:** So Markus, tell me about all your previous bands...which are not really mentioned in the band's bio only your early 80's inclusion on the Crass record label's compilation album "Bullshit Detector"...tell us about that—I know nothing...educate me!!! Also, more, more & more on the hugely inspirational "Public Image Ltd."... I am interested....TALK, Markus!

**MARKUS:** I had a great band in my home town Wallsend near Newcastle. We were based on JESUS AND MARY CHAIN but darker. We had it all...the sound was amazing. We got asked by a few labels to do things but the girl singer got into heroin and the guitarist was getting lazy so after that chance went, I got out of music all together and shortly afterwards left Newcastle. I was in other stupid bands not worth mentioning. I only

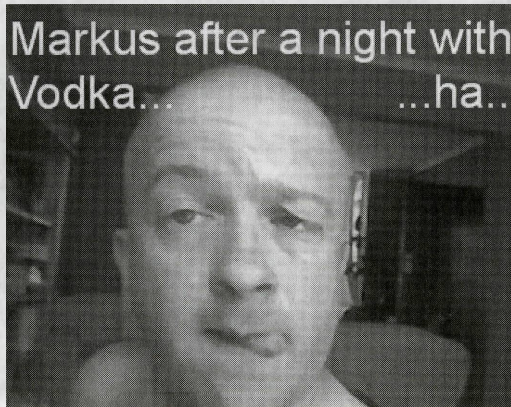
got back into playing again when I heard Scruff was still alive and well and playing.

I used to jump onstage at gigs Scruff's brother Nigel used to organize and rant poetry to the punters (crowd). I played drums but wasn't in a band then. I sent CRASS a tape and they stuck it on a compilation album 'Bullshit Detector', three which were albums any band could get on and you got a small royalty check from them.

Ok, I emailed Keith Levene (PIL founder member and first guitarist) out of pure chance and asked him if he needed a good drummer. It came to nothing. I still love early PIL. I'm a huge dub reggae fan.

**MARCY:** Scruff is the reason you got back into playing???

**MARKUS:** Yes. I went to see a longtime friend of his and mine (Howie)



in Newcastle. I asked him if he had seen Scruff. Still, I hadn't seen Scruff since 1983/4 this was the year 2000, I think and he gave me his postal address. The rest is history.

**MARCY:** That is cool...so you and Scruff go way back??? Been good friends or what?

**MARKUS:** No not really. I knew him and had seen him around in the punk days in the early 80s but wasn't close to him. We spoke on the odd occasion. Now we make each other laugh. He's as mad as a mongoose but it helps to have humor when you're in music, in a band, etc....

**MARCY:** In the studio, it is MENTAL MARKUS and SPIDER'S ASS SCRUFF...hahahaha!!!! That is a good one... Tell me more about that, Markus???

**MARKUS:** What spider's ass?

**MARCY:** Come on now...let's have some fun....

**MARKUS:** No...look let him guess 'cos

it'll destroy his fragile mind! I'll let you tell him. hahaha....

**MARCY:** I do believe he is quite aware now so as I was saying.... In the studio, it is MENTAL MARKUS and SPIDER'S ASS SCRUFF!!!! That is a good one... Tell me more about that...the studio experience???

**Scruff...are you a perfectionist when it comes to recording???**

**MARKUS:** Scruff is wild in the studio but a pain in the ass at times as most guitarists are egotistical wankers! I prefer just to keep things simple...just bang it down and get the fuck out of there 'cos I hate studios. Our debut CD we did was done on the back of three, two hour rehearsals then we recorded it in five days or should I say 'daze' 'cos we were in the bar every night. Scruff can't drink. I spill more than he drinks. He doesn't know how to buy a beer either!!!

**SCRUFF:** Am I a "perfectionist" in the studio? Well, umm...I don't think so. I've been in studios since the early 80's. One of the first records I was involved with was a 7" E.P. by London's Avant Garde Anarcho-pro-class-war freaks: THE APOSTLES - "Smash The Spectacle" it was called, then a load of APOSTLES' albums and all sorts of vinyl releases. That was 1983/84....then when I got my own band together I got a bit more "fussy" about song structure, sound etc. etc. But no, you learn with time I think plus try to give a song what it NEEDS. I hate solos and lead guitar. (Well, I love listening to SAN, RACER-X, VAI, SATRIANNI, etc. etc.) But I hate wanky lead guitar and if you listen to the SIDEWINDER CD "Lies, Half-Truths, Misinformation and Covert Operations", you'll see what I mean. Instead of there being a guitar solo where you think a solo will be-there's a sample. Cool, I think.

**MARCY:** We hafta get together and party, Markus...hahahahah.....NO VODKA!!!!

**MARKUS:** Sounds good to me. If there's a drink I'm there. NO VODKA NO... NEVER just mineral water.

**MARCY:** Onto HEAVY WATER...the music is one week's work you guys only practiced three times in one year?? Really??? Ok...so if you can put out music this good that easily, you could definitely do better??? Scruff, you write the lyric and I love them...they are easy to relate to. I read what I could of some of your other songs (from

previous bands) from those copies of the innersleeves you mailed me...you seem to be fueled by anger & pain but putting it in words is a good thing then let's say...killing someone... (that was a joke!) Anyway, Scruff... do tell us what inspires your lyrical rantings... you know what I mean!!! I find you to be very intelligent...

**SCRUFF:** Thank you, Marcy. I'm glad you liked my lyrics. I'm very flattered. I get inspired by various interests, you know. I like to read a lot. I completed my Bachelor of Arts- Modern English Studies Degree in 2002. My time spent at the university certainly assisted me in my thirst for

writing and reading. I enjoyed reading the "classics" of political theory like Hume, Kant, Plato, Nietzsche, Aristotle, Machiavelli, etc. etc. and of course, the Beat Generation 1950's writers: Jack Kerouac, Ginsberg,

etc. My absolute favorite has to be the German born, Alcoholic Nihilism of Charles Bukowski. He was a fucking genius!! I even did my University Dissertation on him!! (interlude: I'm sitting in the sun at my front door and I'm so fucking tired after finishing work 2day...I can hear the Glastonbury Festival music. It's not far from here at all. I went once and hated it. Never again. What's today's date? Yeah, 24.6.2004-it starts today...a load of shit bands and a stink which is really BAD, in a field. That's Glastonbury Festival all over. Thousands of people shitting + pissing + puking in the same place....YUK, AWFUL!!) Anyway-Yeah. One of the first books I read in one sitting was "A Sense of Freedom" by Glasgow hardman and small time gangster, Jimmy Boyle, a real tale of a Scottish bloke born on nothing and living on the breadline in 60's/70's Scotland. Then I remember reading a book by a German girl called "Christiane F. "Autobiography of a Child Prostitute and Heroin Addict" which is an awesome read. They made a film from that one, I

think. Then I went mad and read everything I could get my hands on. I like reading especially if it's good writing and true. I have a small library here at home. Everything from philosophy to occultism, to politics to semiethics, to literary theory, to U.F.O.s and conspiracies and all sorts of shit. Historically, I love a lot of old writers and poets. And by "poets" I don't mean soft fuckin' clammy-handed, spoon-fed middle class wet namby-pamby fools. I mean REAL PEOPLE that nail down the words and you can read and LEARN things. People like Walt Whitman, Dos Passos, Faulkner, Hemingway etc. etc. BUKOWSKI!! BUKOWSKI!!! Get ANY

"Giz a smoke and that BUKOWSKI book there...."



book of short stories, novels or poetry/prose by Charles Bukowski and you'll learn more about humanity in 10 minutes than in 20 years of living. Fuckin' TRUE! I couldn't write lyrics that portray a weak and uneducated view of the world. No love songs, or songs about big, fast motorcycles, Satan, God or any of that weak mass produced pop-shit that 1000's of bands seem to do. Most of these bands sell records 'cos the fucking people that buy 'em know no better. Punk rock came at a time when enough clever people said : "HEY! We can do it OURSELVES!!!!"..."We really do not need to accept this rubbish that we are fed everyday." People have even told me in the past that, single-handedly, I became a 'victim' of this manipulative rock'n'roll exploitation....with the "CRUST" tag/label that my old band, HELLBASTARD, spread around in the early eighties. It's not even a compliment. Like the crossover scene of the early eighties- I was into Punk rock and Metal music, but none of the metal bands I was listening to had any real passion or soul in

their particular kind of verbage. The music was great!! Fast, energetic as hell!! But lyrically- Jesus Christ!! I'd rather sit through 10 hours of a Tory Party conference. At least it'd be more interesting!! There is a definitive concerted effort by the power politic elite to KEEP humanity stupid to the point of mass control and acceptance. A huge percentage of the population of Earth doesn't even know the real meaning of "Individual Freedom" anymore. They've forgotten. We've been dumbed-down by a clever body of brains that George Orwell warned us of in his classic "1984" novel. The future consists of pure Totalitarianism. Just look at what's been going on historically. The C.I.A. and the fucking R.H.I.C.E.D.O.M. (Radio-Hypnotic-Intracerebral-Electronic-Dissolution-Of-Memory) M.K. ULTRA=Mind Control Programmes. These fucking bastards want total control of our lives. We will be governed by a computer board interface and E.L.F. (Extremely Low Frequency) microwave bombardment of our consciousness. When Reagan set up the S.D.I. (Strategic Defenses Initiative) in 1986, there was more to it than just what little P.R. went out to the public. Now we have H.A.A.R.P. out in the Alaskan wilderness. Apparently this "HAARP" transmitter has the capability of controlling the weather, and, something much more sinister - transmitting waves that can reach every single human beings BRAIN on this planet. Never, more than now, do we

need to shout our mouths off about this gross

obsценism of injustice, Personal-Individual freedom and the downright breaking of a moral and ethical code. Oh fuck!

Don't get me wrong-I'm not preaching- I'm just angry and pissed off that sinister forces hide behind policies and suits and ties and an image that sends out all the right signals and the face fits, but it doesn't.

And of course you mention anger and pain...well, yeah, absolutely. My father



died in 1978 and my mother committed suicide in 1981. I found her. I ran away from the scene and some time later I'm in a kids' home. Totally alienated and totally confused. I couldn't even understand WHY I was in a children's home!!! Talk about

confusion!!  
Jesus H.  
Christ!!

Anyway, my direct family is my Brother – who I love to bits, and he has been **THE** inspiration for me musically, mainly 'cos he was putting on bands when I

couldn't even play a guitar! He was promoting hardcore, punk and metal bands and he was known throughout the UK, Europe, USA and elsewhere as a solid guy that draws big crowds, pays bands well and looks after bands!! And it's no surprise to many (I hope) that the UK's minor-league venues basically treat home-turf (and visiting) bands like shit. At least that was my experience in the past and I say this with over 20 years experience. Step outside of the UK and they seem to treat music and bands with respect. Why is this?? Maybe it's a British attitude--always wanting something for nothing. So yeah, I'd see my brother give bands more money than they asked for if the door-money was good. Anyway, my brother introduced me to a band I later joined- **THE APOSTLES**. I first heard him play 1000's of early punk bands. He introduced me to **DISCHARGE**, **ANTISECT**, **CRUCIFIX**, **BAD BRAINS**, etc...etc... Some really good heavy bands....**CRASS** and all that political-Anarcho-Punk scene. Blah, Blah. So my brother inspired me tenfold. Plus he had his own band when I was just dreaming of getting a band together!! Me and my brother have a particular interest in writing, English language and philosophy and literature in general. Even now we swap books that we think each other will like. I just mailed him 4 or something like that today. One other thing that taught us maybe too much too soon was the Punk rock scene. Whilst all the other kids in school were getting hard-ons about football and sports and cars and all that typical teenage crap, we were all researching U.S.Govt. Death Squads, Military Massacres, Animal Liberation and Direct Action against the meat trade, fur trade and all kinds on injustice that we saw (in our own little world).

## Scruff Lewty--children's home 1979



**MARKUS:** We know, I know we could be awesome and I mean that. We do have a great chemistry in working. I know this project can be incredible. It's never going to be one form of music though it'll be angry /fast/slow/mellow and...why

not?...as long as it has meaning and is genuine.

**MARCY:**  
**Genuine is where it is at....**  
**Your track "Angry Bush" is quite interesting....**  
**Who's idea was that and what is your opinion on this**

**damn war over in the middle East????**

**MARKUS:** Oh God...I came about it on a site called [www.kontraband.com](http://www.kontraband.com) and thought although it wasn't a serious speech, it does sound like one if you listen to the words and really think about what he's saying, I think Saddam and co. need removing but I also think Bush and Blair aren't going about this the right way at all. It annoys me that innocent people on both sides are getting fucked up and killed. That's wrong. All in all it's making the world a more dangerous place. We are all to blame. It's the children and animals I feel sorry for. I don't know the answers anymore. It's a dangerous territory... they won't listen to us anyway so I don't listen to them. I do think the end will be upon us though, like it says in the bible code.

**MARCY: I agree with you on a lot of this especially about the end... We are self-destructing ourselves.**

**MARKUS:** I think so...we inherited something truly beautiful. We've plundered it raped and stolen from it for thousands of years. It's going to catch up on us... global warming, etc... You just can't keep going against the grain. The world is almost completely fucked and it's all down to man, the supposedly most intelligent species.

**MARCY: The most intelligent but stupidest!**

**MARKUS:** Oh definitely...the dumbest!

**MARCY: YUP....look at me.**

**Hahahha....**

**MARKUS:** No, you're not. We may be the minority, it's better than being the silent violent majority.

**MARCY: Yup...true.**

**MARCY:** You have been plagued by timewasters so therefore, you have a rehearsal in 3 weeks to try out two new musicians? Tell more... Your faith in people sux though for well-backed reasons. What type of person would be up to your standards for the band, Markus??? ME??? Just joking... Once you have a stable line-up, what direction is the band going from there or shall I say...got any plans for **HEAVY WATER**??? What about getting out there and playing live??? Is that in the near future???

**Markus...**you mentioned you want to move to more of a punk-style for the band...more noisy??? Go on... Scruff, you mentioned your next CD is gonna piss on this 5 song EP... Been working on new songs??? What can we expect with your next CD??? By the way, what bands do you guys listen to??? Also, who/what would both of you consider influences???

**MARKUS:** I don't know them and I'm not criticizing them but I've lost a bit of faith in people. We did our demo in Newcastle, my friend gave us the studio free that week and his time in engineering it, etc... We had a bassist in Newcastle ready to go and he wouldn't answer his phone on the day we traveled nearly 400 miles and he had to do ten at the most. It pissed me off to no end and made it harder for us. Scruff had to do bass. It was rushed 'cos I had to get home. Someone who would be right up for it and into what we do 100 and 10 percent and someone who wouldn't mind getting a round of drinks in.... you'd be ideal. We needed a female voice give it some variation especially the 'Angry Flower' song. Can you sing????

I don't know what direction....I don't think we know until we try these guys out. I'd like to do a few punk-like songs but I want to do mellow too. The ultimate challenge for me would be to do a CD where most people will like one or two songs. There's a lot to say, that's the easy bit, the hard bit is getting people to listen. Oh bands I listen to at the moment, **MY BAND**, **JANES ADDICTION**, various punk from the 80s, reggae. My influences were the **SEX** **PISTOLS**...**WERE**. **CRASS**/**RUDIMENTARY PENI**/**THE MOB**/**TV SMITH**/early **PIL**.

**SCRUFF:** **HEAVY WATER** seems to be on the up. Finally we've found a vocalist in a guy called Rich. He's eccentric and quite intense, appreciates humor and a good verbal fuckaround! We've rehearsed him and he's totally eccentric and I can see he could develop into a really good frontman. At least I hope so. All we need

now is a bass player. On our 1<sup>st</sup> CD it was left up to me to play bass...some of it is alright, but for the most part I'm bored with these songs-Yawn. BORED. It's been very difficult to get a solid 4 or 5 piece line up. I live in such a talentless area of southern England, I really do. The musicians that ARE around seem to talk about the WRONG things to me. Namely money and stuff. They don't seem to know the meaning of the term "SNOWBALL EFFECT". IE: You get out what you put in! Well, there's that and laziness. Southerners seem to be lazy. So, now we are 3. There are many plans but we need to establish a solid line-up. Unfortunately, this is our dilemma-after that, I'm confident everything else is a lot easier, Songwriting, getting a decent album deal etc. etc...

Influences!?! HA!! If I was influenced by what I listen to we'd be playing classicalMetalFunkBluegrassAvantGarde Rock! And I mean that. No shit. I like currently the following music: 16 HORSEPOWER, THORNETTA DAVIS, ELECTRIC 6, KYUSS, NO MEANS NO, BAD BRAINS, HANSON BROS., Q.O.T.S. AGE, DIAMOND GALAS, BLACK LABEL SOCIETY, CLUTCH, MELVINS, ROLLINS BAND, CALEXICO, HELLSONICS, old Punk like ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT, J.F.A., TOXIC REASONS, old 50's "crooners" like MEL TORME, some classical composers....although my heart (and head) lies with extreme metal/punk/rock music. I am forever growing fonder of the Avant Garde...This must be because my body rhythms are finally growing tired of the conservative patterns of much "heavy" music. Shit. I'd rather listen to MADONNA than a million of these "New Metal" bands. The forum of metal and punk swamped itself. I like the original creators of the heavy genre of my generation. I like "oldness" and very little modernity. I like "old" foundations of "rock" as we knew it, like THE WHO, THE KINKS, THE TROGGS, THE SWEET, THE YARDBIRDS etc. I was an obsessive, avid 'tape trader' in the very early eighties...I even produced a cute little booklet with a friend of mine....under the title "SKULL-CRUSHER" tapes. I loved it. In fact, I still tape trade. I have a healthy library of music on tape, vinyl and CD. I like so many different styles of music and it seems to grow all the time. When I'm down and really fucked off, I'll play something like HELLHAMMER, NATAS, SLAUGHTERLORD or WINTER. Actually, I'll choose something with anger in it. The ROLLINS BAND early CDs or whatever-fuck knows,

LUNGBRUSH or DEICIDE demos or DEVOSTATION or something? Early MASSACRE live tapes too 'cos KAM LEE fucking cracks me up, he's so funny. When I'm happy, I'll play something lighter. Actually, it's difficult to get the chance to even listen to music these days!! I'm going to see P.J. HARVEY in September. Am I a softie? Who cares. Hey I saw STEVE VAI and JOE SATRIANI in Rome this month. Fuck me man!! They had BILLY SHEEHAN on bass of RACER-X fame. MR. BIG were crap but RACER-X...I fucking love their stuff.

There is NO direction planned for HEAVY WATER at all. Whatever happens, will happen. I've got a full H.W. album in my head even down to what the artwork will look like even a live stage show BUT that's in my HEAD for the moment.

**MARCY:**  
I was told the scene over there is really awful... Is it really??? I know a couple UK bands and I really like them but then again, I

only am in contact with like maybe 5 from the UK (that sux!!). What style of music is popular over your way or shall I say... what do most of the unsigned/local bands sound like??? Over here, anywhere maybe....if you dig deep enough, you can find great variety in the underground not just punk or death...ya know??? I get so bored with the same ole' same ole'. We need variety...don't we??? Your CD has much variety and is different and that is good. ALWAYS good to be different and always allow room for improvement, because being good enough only puts you in a rut, right?? Always room for improvement w/everything??

**MARKUS:** The music biz in general here is into that pop idol crap or these nu punk bands that look really clean and smart. It has it's head up its arse. It blames mp3s etc for it's dwindling sales and profits but its the shit they force feed people and is aimed at three year old girls or young girls with three brain cells. It's all based on image and is complete stupidity. Record companies are run by

suits who know nothing about music. How silly is that? I sent about 70 CDs out to record companies in the UK. Some very small but they didn't have the courtesy to even reply and say no...just nothing. I find that rude. That's why the music biz in the UK is sinking fast.

**SCRUFF:** There will always be a steady flow of undercurrent "bands" just about everywhere I guess. The UK "scene" is, I think, still healthy. I don't really participate in such things as I used to. Rather than go to a local show in Bath, I'd rather stay indoors reading "Ask The Dust" by John Fante. Oh, yes Marcy, I would. The UK powers that be have clamped down on performances of struggling musicians-especially in the genre of rock. It's all part of the New World Order Totalitarian/Illuminatus overthrow of rebellious human consciousness. Give it 5 more fucking years and we'll be saying and thinking

what someone else wants us to think via an interface with a SPINAL-FUCKING MODEM covered in human DNA so it doesn't work it's

way out of the body. THE FUCKING CUNTS TREAT US LIKE PRICKS, over and over and over again, drilling into our skull with ineptness, doped up to fucking eyeballs to keep us stupid. Prozac, Mogadon, Valium, Largactyl: Crush any remaining individuality and any sign of freedom of thought and/or expression. We are slowly dying and we let these shits get away with the whole fucking lot of it. I simply cannot express my anger at the moronic abuse of our minds from these imbeciles we are supposed to look up to. FUCK IT.

**MARCY:** Sorry if I jump around a lot...it's my nervous energy and the fact that I have soooo much on my mind and want to ask a lot of questions on different subjects besides just the band....Let's see, Markus...tell us about your website??? I haven't been there lately but when I was, I loved it!!!! Makes one think...besides music, you have other 'things' on it... It is more about YOU and your views on many things...TELL US ABOUT IT especially for those who don't have a



computer and can't go to it... Throw us some of your intelligent thinking—**ANYTHING!!!** Also, are you going to add more on **HEAVY WATER** eventhough there is a website specifically for the band now???

**MARKUS:** The website was a way of telling people what had or has happened with my life so far. The band one will be linked to it. I've put a new link under the guestbook title and your fanzine is there. It was a way of telling people how I felt then and how I feel now, how I got to feeling this way etc. I will be adding more as I think it is credible. Now I have the band...that will probably have priority. It was made awhile ago and took up time I want to put my thoughts on politics and the music biz soon.

**MARCY:** That should make it even more interesting.....

**MARKUS:** I hope so. I've so much to tell but some I can't a lot of the times 'cos I feel so angry about it and it upsets me...it's like opening old wounds.

**MARCY:** I understand where you are coming from....in my own way.

**MARKUS:** I know. Most of my teenage life and my childhood was bitter and sad. It's made me the way I am.

**MARCY:** Mine too in different ways than yours tho...

**MARKUS:** I believe in destiny. Most people I've met and got to know have had a hard rotten time of it. You have to keep going and beat it though. What else is there? Death? I'm not in a hurry to find that out just yet. I have thought about it a lot though.

**MARCY:** OHYES SCRUFF....ya know the copy of the newspaper article you sent me about your paintings, and you wrote on it, "Long Story"??? I wanna hear about it, please... From what I could see from the pic, your paintings are beautiful. Annnnyway...you paint just because NOT because you LOVE to??? I want a painting, dammit...if you ever have time. I'd settle for your little postman or any of your comics but they wouldn't look that good on my wall. Well....the wall in front of my computer, maybe...

**SCRUFF:** Since I was a kid of about 5, I've had an itch that I can't scratch. I have a rage in my gut and it tells me to CREATE. Painting, drawing, reading, sculpting, music, writing songs, poetry, writing a beautiful poem (not necessarily in the historical context) of a sonnet (with iambic pentameter etal) is a good thing: Reading it back to oneself in the mind's eye: writing at night, scribbling your heart

onto any discarded bits of paper you can find@...do it at night-always try when it's dark-the darker it is, the more secretive it becomes to the person(al) and, to look at the WORDS...to cherish the words because they burn right into your eyes. They may contain blood, a makeshift bed, snow, a stolen motorbike? HELL. The words may contain anything. AND, if you're pleased with it...then maybe, just maybe...RIP THE FUCKER UP AND BURN IT!! PISS ON IT. 'Cos it's done now. So you can move on to the next one, and the next one, and the next one. When I was 14, I spent around 2 weeks with fine tip Berol 1:1 ink pens making a drawing. Using watercolors for the wings + the shaded areas were mere dots-yes, DOTS and it took ages and as soon as I was "happy" with it, I GAVE IT AWAY. Yes, this is only a part of "The Long Story". ART can consume the soul and it is sometimes a matter of SURVIVAL. Just to live or get through a week at work and literally SLAUGHTER your most precious TIME so that you can live and buy food, pay rent, buy 2<sup>nd</sup> hand clothes, feel decent-so that in turn, some MAGGOT PARASITICAL- FUCK OF A BOSS can have a longer holiday in the sun with his BITCH WIFE that enjoys fur coats, goats cheese and Chateau Rentiere. Having a manicure and bathing in milk, feeding on lavish decadence whilst another streetbum tries to masturbate in the cold as he's thinking..."Where the fuck am I going to find a warmer surface?"... HA! He doesn't even know if he'll

family in 1982 and although he was looked after and fed well he DID SUFFER. The "mentally unstable" family was a bunch of traveling gypsies who did not adhere to a "normal" existence. They wanted Markus to be a part of their circus show. Now, this IS all true. He probably won't even deny it!! Anyway, they saw the size of him. (3' 6") Yes, Markus is a natural born Dwarf. He's so little and cute looking that the circus wanted to adopt him as one of their own FREAKS!! The police in the UK spent 4 years looking for him and eventually gave up!! They closed the case as someone wrote a letter to the police force saying they saw a little "man" fall down a manhole cover in Wallsend High St. in 1987. They naturally assumed he was sent out to sea by the current and that was the end of that.- Years later(early 2004) I was near a river here in the south-west of UK and heard someone moaning and crying- I looked down and in front of me was this fuckin' weird looking kid. I cleaned him up and got all the mud of his face and saw that it was a cute little blue-eyed BABY-MAN-DWARF!!! I took pity on him and took him home. After he had a good meal of crushed banana and hot milk (baby food), he went immediately asleep!!! He started dreaming and he'd suddenly shout in his sleep...things like..."OH NO!! NOT THE BOX AGAIN, DAD"...and other things like:- "CAN I COME OUT OF THE CUPBOARD IN 20 HOURS TIME, THEN?"...When I heard all of this I was really shocked and I gave him the

...how HW got together...



survive the night!! Meanwhile-It's all survival. It is for me. To stay sane and survive the neverending onslaught of the HUMAN-CANCER-CIRCUS-HORROR-OF-HORRORS. My apologies Marcy, I often tend to digress into some form of doom redundancy. Enough!

To digress further, I must tell you something about our drummer! I don't mind talking about this because it'll leak out sooner or later- Markus was taken from his home by a mentally unstable

nickname "Markus Abused". I also discovered he could play drums quite well and his coordination is really good on account of the time (years) he spent living in a box + various wardrobes and cupboards, "damn those evil gypsies!" I thought. The poor Markus had nothing to do all day until showtime with his new "family" of circus travelers, so he spent all his time mostly banging on the sides of his boxes/cupboards etc. THAT is the TRUE story of how HEAVY WATER got



# KURNALCOOL

## live

By: Malcolm "Scruff" Lewty

### "Black Scorpions" Bikerfest Sat. July 10 '04

(Somewhere in some mountains,  
way off the beaten track, near  
Rimini, Italy)

by Malcolm "Scruff" Lewty

Well, well...This was a lovely location for a live rock show. The lush green pastures surrounding this event was a sight to behold!! The venue itself was absolutely amazing – quite a big stage with an excellent PA system and sound and a huge marquee-indoor-eating area for all the people that showed up (there must have been 800+ present) and lots of stalls selling crafts, clothes, biker memorabilia and assorted gifts. All put on, I gather, by the "Black Scorpions" biker club. A very professional layout, I must say!

It was an absolutely gorgeous day, the sun was warm until 9 PM and the humidity settled nicely 'cos of the altitude of the venue itself-way up in some mountains. Christ, LOVELY!

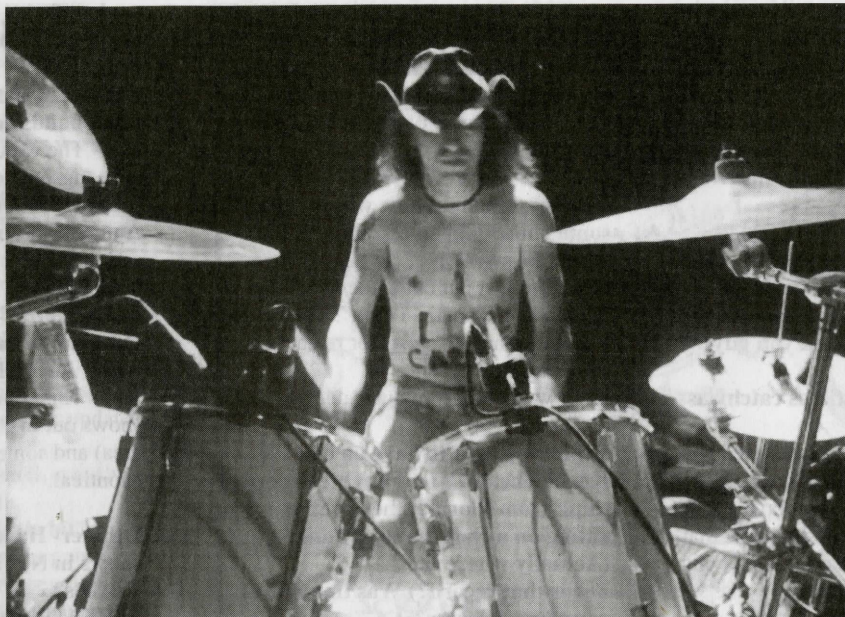
I first saw KURNALCOOL in 2000 before my freaky friend Massimo Di Prenda joined the band as 2<sup>nd</sup> drummer. It was somewhere near Ancona and although I don't remember too much about the show, I remember Big George,... a very charismatic and HUGE guy! Meeting up close with the guy 4 years later, he's not only BIG but has a very BIG heart and BIG kindness. (I'm a vegetarian and whilst eating free food

at this bikerfest, the only thing I could have was bread and bits of salad...I was soooooo hungry!) Big George and his kind lady took pity on me and gave me ALL their chips(fries)(co-editor: thanks for translating that for us Scruff!(us Yanks are dumb, so dumb we don't even know SPANISH!!!!)) and bread upon seeing my pathetic disappointed face at my meager amount of food during our meal.

Anyway-KURNALCOOL have 2 drummers, the whole band...Big George, Ricky, Michael, Johnny, Andreas, J.J. and Massimo just really love, LOVE what they do, they really LOVE IT!!!

A Country/Blues band were on first...They were Italians thinking they were in the

MAX (Massi)



U.S.A. playing to a field full of TRUCKERS!! 2/4 drumbeats and Rock-n-Roll scales all the way through...mildly entertaining. For a deaf mute, maybe?

Anyway, it starts getting dark and YAHOO!!! On stage comes KURNALCOOL. Each member looks different and each member wears different clothes and paraphernalia of what kind of music they are actually into yet the band is so tight and gel really well. There is no pompousness that was present with the country band. They just burst into the first song "Pogo Con Pogo" (I think!!)

...sung in Italian by the 2 vocalists (John and Ricky). The power and visual aspects were really interesting. Coupled with watching "MAX" (Massi!) and J.J.Guasto belt the "Batteria" (That's Italian for drums...mate!) and see them TOTALLY in synch., -well?, really powerful visual stuff. Adam and The Ants once had 2 drummers and KURNALCOOL make them sound like shit!!!

As the night wore on I was becoming more and more inebriated due to the free wine and plundered Black Scorpions beer (courtesy of Tron (aka Massi!)) and I'm very sorry, I can't remember anymore apart from going under the tarpaulin,

climbing up and over the security

fence, giving Massi (Tron) and J.J. a drink of cold beer whilst they were playing...well, they looked so hot and knackered, what else could I have done?

KUR  
NALCOOL...  
brilliant  
musicianship-  
good, friendly  
guys and a  
very  
entertaining  
LIVE band.  
Keep WINE  
METAL alive.

HAIL THE VINO!!! HAIL KURNALCOOL!! Here's to Max, Ricky, John, J.J., Andreas(nice bass playing mate!!) Johnny and Michael! You guys rock!!!!

\*\*The KURNALCOOL newest CD "Takki a Beve" is out now on **Svigrin Records**. Buy it and experience something brilliant about Italy!!! Go on...get it. The production KICKS ASS. Major Ass. Hail WINO ROCK. YEAH.

[www.kurnalcool.net](http://www.kurnalcool.net)

# KNUCKLEHEAD

**KNUCKLEHEAD** are Canadian street punk legends that have been playing for over 10 years and touring North America almost every year. With tons of releases out and probably a new 7" and full length out probably by the time you read this, **KNUCKLEHEAD** is one band to check out.

--Interview with Eric(drms) by  
Othmer.

**Othmer- Knucklehead...WOW! I thought you guys vanished off the face of the planet! So what have you guys been up too in the last 5 years?**

**KH** - In the last five years, we've been very busy putting out music and touring. Since 1998, we've released two full length albums, an EP, a few songs on various compilations and we've also added a few new guys. On the touring side, we've been out every year covering North America a few times.

**Othmer- I remember the old Knucklehead being kinda street punkish. Now a buddy of mine seen you guys in Edmonton and said you guys kicked some major ass live and the tunes are still as catchy as the old days.**

**KH** - Though our music has matured and evolved, we've stuck to what we do best and what we love doing. We have a lot of fun playing live and we always hope that this aspect translates into our fans having a good time.

**Othmer-So you said the new album is more mature, how do you figure?**

**KH** - The addition of a second guitar adds a lot to the over all sound of our songs with more intricate guitar parts to them. Knucklehead has recorded a lot of stuff over the last 10 years and have picked up a few tricks along the way.

**Othmer- So you're going on the road soon, tell me a bit about that?**

**KH** - Well I'm not sure when this will be printed, but we're touring through Canada at the end of August and beginning of September. We're also making plans to head down the west coast of the United States so look out for us.

**Othmer- Any new lineup changes?**

**KH** - Well if the last time you heard from us was 5 years ago, then yes. We were a 3 piece at that time but since then Kyle moved from the drums to full time lead singer and a second guitar was added, making us a 5 piece band now.

**Othmer- So Eric, when did you start on drums then?**

**KH** - Right after "Hostage Radio" was released, the old drummer quit so I tried out and got in.

**Othmer- What label are you guys releasing albums on now?**

**KH** - We've been working with Longshot Music for the last few releases. Longshot is based out of New York and run by a guy named Mike Josephson. The label has some of the best street punk bands that Canada has to offer so check them out.

**Othmer- Do you know where I can find some Knucklehead on Vinyl? That would be sweet!!**

**KH** - We just put out some new vinyl, a 7" called "Cosmetic Youth". The best way to get it or any of our other releases is off the Longshot website:  
<http://www.longshotmusic.com>.

**Othmer- I used to have an old Knucklehead 7" on Far Out Records I think from Florida, the cover was a guy sitting on a chair or something. (Actually where the hell is that record?) Was that one of your first releases?**

**KH** - We had released a full length and some vinyl prior to that but it was our first release on Far Out Records it came on green, white and black vinyl. "B-Anthem" and "Johnny's Dirge" are re-recorded and are on Little Boots.

**Othmer-What bands did you play in before Knucklehead and where are you from?**

**KH** - Well originally Jimmy (guitar) and I are from Ontario but I've lived in Calgary for quite some time now. Before this, I played in a local band called Sad State of Affairs and Jimmy played for a band called the Six String Rebels. Clay, Kyle and Matt are the founding members of Knucklehead but I know that Clay (guitar)

has played in a few other bands over the years as well.

**Othmer- Was it hard finding someone to release your first EP? I know with my band the Dead Chretiens some guy wanted to release a 7" and he wanted rights to our name so he could make Ts and all sorts of stuff, I wasn't down with having all these shitty shirts going around with my bands name on it. Do you think contracts are the way to go? How do you guys do it?**

**KH** - Well currently, working with Mike from Longshot has been really good, He gives us a lot of freedom to do what we want and he's a cool dude. We have yet to work with any label that wanted the rights to our name though.

**Othmer-What other Canadian street punk bands are on your label?**

**KH** - There are a ton of great punk bands on Longshot, to name a few: Wednesday Night Heroes, Rum Runner, New Town Animals, the Lancasters, the Operators and the New Breed.

**Othmer- Who are you going on tour with? Anybody worth mentioning?**

**KH** - This summer we'll be doing some shows out in eastern Canada (Toronto area) and some with the Ripcordz from Montreal.

**Othmer- Have you guys played lots of shows in NY, have you ever been to CBGBs?**

**KH** - We have played a couple of times in NYC but mostly at a place called ABC No Rio, it's a squat that housed an art space and playing space, I don't know if it's still around; it was really cool but we've never played at CBGB's.

**Othmer- What are you guys listening to now??**

**KH** - Bad Religion, Sham69, New Town Animals, Rancid, Joan Jett, One Man Army, the list would take up ten pages to name all the bands.

**Othmer- I heard the scene in Alberta is crazy, tell me a bit about it, bands, venues, etc..**

**KH** - The Alberta scene is very diverse and is still growing at a considerable rate. There is a bunch of very good street punk

bands in Calgary and Edmonton and a lot of support. Alberta has been great to us and anywhere we go, whether it be Edmonton or Lethbridge, it still feels like home.

**Othmer- So whats the best Canadian beer out? I have been drinking lots of Budweiser, and MGD and I'm not just saying this cause its for an American magazine.**

**KH** - Well we do drink a lot of beer and some of our favorite Canadian beers would be Moosehead, Alexander Keiths, Sleemans, Rickards Red and Big Rock Traditional Ale. Budweiser, by the way, is a Czech beer stolen by the Americans and bastardized.

**Othmer- Yeah Alexander Keiths is great!! I didn't know that about Budweiser, what a bunch of bastards! Do you guys read 'zines at all? I know myself I'm addicted to reading MRR on the shitter!**

**KH** - We all read the usual suspects: MRR, Punk Planet, Caustic Truths etc. And you're not alone, some of us also read them on the shitter.

**Othmer- Who would you guys wanna tour with the most?**

**KH** - Youth Brigade would probably be fun to tour with or maybe the Real McKenzies (Do they drink beer?).

**Othmer- Any plans for a new record?**

**KH** - We do have a new record in the making so expect a new full length from us in the fall check our website: <http://www.knucklehead.ca> for updates.

**Othmer- Tell us in a nut shell, what's going to be happening with Knucklehead in the next little bit?**

**KH** - In the next little bit, we're going to be promoting our new 7" and new full length. You'll be able to catch us playing shows around Canada and in the US.

**Othmer- Anybody you wanna thank? Do it now..**

**KH** - Thank you for interviewing us and remembering us from forever ago.

**Othmer- Thanks for getting in-touch with me and I wish you guys the best of luck on tour.**

**KH** - Take it easy

**Damn, the POPE must be cool if he likes SLAYER. Check him jamming out with Massi (KURNALCOOL) & Scruff (HEAVY WATER)....HA!!!**

By: The Troll

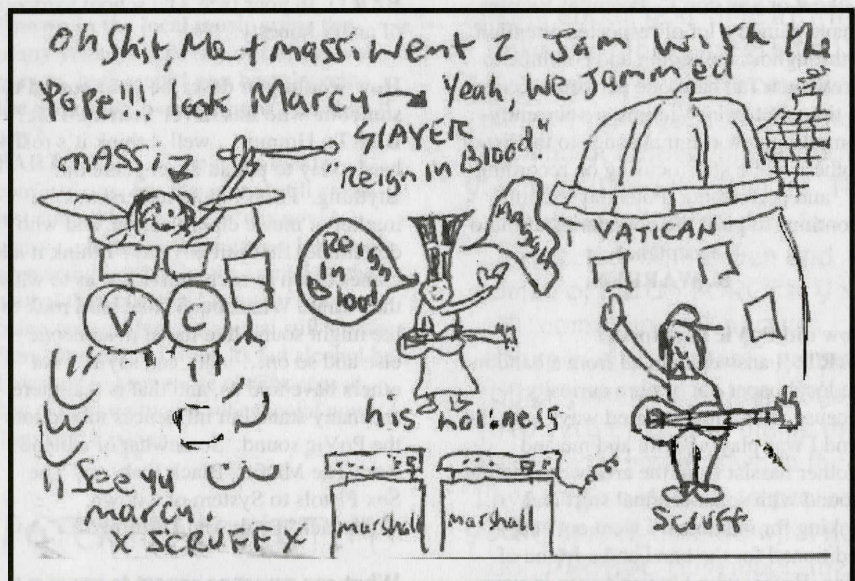
Blind faith is a dangerous thing to have. It's like putting a piece of shit in your mouth because someone told you it was a candy bar. That's why religion is such a bad thing. I have yet to see any religion, Christian or otherwise, express any doubt about what they believe in. The Catholic religion is a perfect example. They claim to be the one true religion...they're right, everyone else is wrong, end of story. I was born and raised a Catholic and, long before I got kicked out of the nun school, I knew this whole deal they were trying to ram down my throat was complete and total bullshit. I thought it was wrong to bow down to a false idol, yet, millions of people do just that when the Pope comes to town...and he allows these people to WORSHIP him. I hate to break it to all the mindless sheep out there, but, he's just a man...and a rather old man at that.

While we're on the subject of false idols, is it just me or do Catholic people pray to one too many statues? And how about confession? You tell a priest your deep,

that slice of life the priest would like you to chow down on...and say hello to da' Prince Of Darkness while you're at it. No, I'm not talkin' about Ozzy Osbourne either. The true power behind the Catholic church doesn't have his own MTV reality show...although he does have more viewers than our favorite, dysfunctional family. Even the Osbourne clan can't draw an audience like your little plastic Pope can.

Question your faith and question what you believe in. God won't mind. Just because someone/something claims to be right doesn't mean they are. A little common sense, that's all you really need. Believe me, I've experienced a lot of religion in my life...everyone told me that their way was the right way. The funny thing is...none of it gave me any comfort. Yes, even a Troll could use a little comfort every now and then...and I sure as hell never found it in a church.

Like GG Allin once said (yeah...the guy who ate his own poop), "Die when you



dark secrets and all is forgiven, right? I thought only Jesus could forgive sin. Am I missing something here?

That whole "costume party" called mass was a real kicker. It's kind of creepy because what they do for "mass" isn't much different than a satanic ceremony. There's a reason for that and there's a reason why the Catholic church goes to great lengths to hide what they really are...and who they're really workin' for. But, all is well, everything's cool, ain't that right? Yeah...have another death cookie and don't give it another thought. Death cookie??? Death cookie??? What's a death cookie??? Do a little research into

die, when you die you're gonna die." We only get one shot at this thing called life. So, make the most of it...seek and you shall find. Just don't believe in something because someone told you that's the way to go. Question that candy bar, people.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I'm gonna exit stage left and continue down that road to self discovery. Until next time, this is my opinion, through twisted eyes. I'm outta here like President Bush in the next election. WORD!

# Potential Victims

The band Potential Victims was formed in March of 2001 and has persevered through several line up changes. The current members of the band all grew up in the town of Chambersburg, located in South Central PA. Bassist Bruce Howe, Drummer Shannon Brown, Lyricist Bart Raifsnider, and Guitarist Jack Lyons decided to team up and lash out into a different musical direction by writing and composing music that mixes each members individual style and influence together to form a powerful blend of originality with past addictions, individual experiences, mental anguish, and sarcastic opinions being the common emotional pool the band finds honesty in.

By embracing the decision to stay true to themselves with an attitude of, "either you like it or you don't", Potential Victims have gained a lot of respected attention throughout the region and continue to grow their fan base one performance at a time. Potential Victims are currently compiling new original songs to the list of others while still focusing on recording and performing. Potential Victims continue to push the boundaries of radio acceptance.

**K. WARREN**

## How did PoVic first form?

**BART:** I answered an ad from a band in the local paper out of pure curiosity because at the time I parted ways with the band I was playing with and me and another bassist from the area were fooling around with some original stuff and looking for members. I went out and auditioned for the band and a friend of mine, Bruce, who I haven't seen in years, was playing bass for them. I thought the cover stuff they were playing was cool but I really dug the original stuff. I called later and declined the opportunity because I was determined to make my own thing happen. Days later I bumped into a guy that gave me the number of a drummer, and turned out that this was the drummer of the same band I auditioned for. We met a couple of times and he said that Bruce also plays guitar. After meeting a couple of times with the bassist, the drummer and Bruce, things just weren't happening and Bruce really wanted to go back to playing bass, so we sent the bassist packing and Bruce took over on bass which left the band searching for a guitar player. After

auditioning several very talented guitarists, none of which worked out, my friend called and said that his little brother Jack was interested in playing. Jack, I, Bruce and the drummer all met and listened to Jack rip out his own riffs right on the spot which I immediately identified with and that was it for me, Jack was in. When trying to decide on a name, Bruce said how about his old bands name of Potential Victims. Since that band was no longer in existence and the name was something we could all identify with. The name stuck, but the drummer did not leaving 2 years after the project was born. The quest to find a new drummer was over when my older brother Rob moved back from the state of Florida and was looking for something to get involved in. Rob played drums for the previous band I parted ways with before moving to Florida so it was a real easy fix. Me, Bruce, Jack, and Rob have endured ever since.

## If you could describe the band in one sentence what would it be?

**BART:** In your face, Old school hardcore of angry honesty.

## How would you describe your sound to someone who has never heard PoVic?

**BART:** Hmmm... well, I think it's really hard today to put an exact genre on anything. I don't quite understand the market of music classification, and who determines that shit anyway? I think it all comes down to each individual as to what they think. What sounds like hard rock to me might sound like metal to someone else and so on... All I can say is what others have told us, and that is that there are many stand out influences mixed into the PoVic sound. Somewhat of a blend from The Misfits, Black Flag, and The Sex Pistols to System of a down, Godsmack, Tool, And Disturbed.

## What can someone expect to see at a PoVic show?

**BART:** No bells, No whistles. No make-up, No false pretenses, just large amounts of sweat flying, Ugly facial expressions and a chaotic atmosphere. We are who we are which is honest and real and you will either fuckin love us or fuckin hate us, either way, you've heard us and we normally take the door.

## Any plans for a new release in the works?

**BART:** Yes, We've actually been unsuccessful several times in recording the songs we currently play for one reason or another and have not officially released anything yet, although there are lots of

poorly mixed bootleg tracks circulating amongst the public. We currently have 12 songs ready to re-record for the State of Mine'd album, and 12 more that are written which are currently being worked out for a follow up album, plus I'm adding new song lyrics to the workbench every week that's just driving everyone in the band nuts. We have spent the last seven months getting the state of mine material tight with a new drummer. Our old drummer walked out half way through the studio recording, which pushed the release back to square one. I anticipate a 2005 debut release and the follow up album soon following. The band is currently pondering what studio and engineer to make it all happen.

## What was the craziest thing that ever happened while on the road?

**BART:** I'll never forget the time we played The Speakeasy Café in Upper Darby Pennsylvania, which is about three plus hours east of us. We were scheduled to take the stage at 9:00 pm. We loaded up and started down the road in two vehicles, one vehicle with all the equipment and just enough room for Bruce, Jack, and the old drummer to uncomfortably sit and another vehicle which I drove solo cause I have somewhat of a passenger phobia. About 45 minutes into the trip, I pulled off an exit and made it to a gas station cause my car was losing power. The alternator was toast. Some dude was there fixing his own car along the road and offered assistance, so we drove to Auto zone and purchased another alternator with some lender tools and this dude fixed the car. Spending all my money on the part, I didn't have anything to give him for bailing us out, so I gave him a free sampler CD and the t-shirt off my back that I was wearing, along with some left handed cigarette enjoyable that seemed to surface from somewhere. We made the rest of the trip and got to the show an hour before we were supposed to be there after being lost several times down town. The two bands scheduled to play before us did not show up and the place was empty. The venue management asked if we would hold off playing until more people rolled in. At 10:00 we took the stage by storm. Of all 9 bands that were scheduled to play, only PoVic showed. Half way through our set, our booking agent ran up to us in the middle of a song and said that our equipment vehicle parked outside was just hit by a fed ex truck and that the police were outside wanting to talk to the owner of the vehicle ASAP. That pretty much killed our set for the night and we loaded up and limped home. The accident, by the way, was a hit and run to which

even today nobody knows anything other than it was a Fed Ex Driver involved. Goes to show you boys and Girls, Even Federal Government employees cant be trusted to do the right thing, but who already didn't know that. There was another gig where two guys in the mosh pit banged heads and blood flew everywhere, the two were knocked to the ground in front of my eyes and trampled over by the crowd, as bad as it sounds, that was some pretty cool shit. Thank you security..... But that's another story.....

#### What is your favorite club or town to gig?

**BART:** I don't really have any favorites, although, Baltimore, MD and Philadelphia, PA were cool. I love them all regardless of the reception. Coarse, I must say that our local fans have always been kind and supportive. I just really enjoy owning any stage for the short period of time that im there. Just knowing that many other musicians have stood in the exact same spot as I and have seen the same view from where im standing for that night gives me a fucking never ending hard on.

#### How is a PoVic song born...the song writing process?

**BART:** Wow. Well there is really no set method. I usually write the lyrics in a set pattern the way I plan to sing it, then sing it to the band, from there the guitar riffing is added. After the main riffing is recognized, drums and bass are incorporated. At that point, the song becomes basic verse and chorus. From there the process turns to a slug fest. Every member fighting for his own creative twist to the song most of which are transitions, breaks, intros, outros and the whole compositional flow of things, meaning, does the music in this part emphasize and flow with the emotion and meaning of what it is that I'm trying to get across and if it doesn't, what can be done to fix it. We've all walked out of the process at different times with hurt feelings, broken instruments and sometimes black eyes and broken egos but it's the creative fight in all of us, the respect we have for one another being musicians and friends and the final product that keeps it all together. Sometimes I win, sometimes I lose, but I wouldn't be happy without the fight. Constructive criticism has a way of being ugly and pretty. It all depends on what you do with it.

Songs that Jack and Bruce write usually have the guitar riff generated first, then the drums incorporated, and finally the lyrics and singing style. It just all

depends on who is writing the song and who can best sell there creative idea to the other members of the band. None of our songs are about showboating any one members talent. Only the unit matters.

#### What one song best describes what PoVic is about?

**BART:** Right now, I'd have to say it's a toss up between two, Educated Idiot and Not My Problem just because of the drive style they possess and the lyrical attitude.

#### What inspires you most to write the lyrics you write?

**BART:** Believe it or not, mostly CNN news and the local newspaper. Anything that I absolutely disagree with and wish to my format my own opinion instead of having someone else's opinion shoved down my throat. The news media has a way of successfully doing this. Cartoons and human impulses are there. I also find a lot of inspiration from within. Lets just say I'm not ignorant to loss in the cotton candy world and we'll leave it at that.

#### Known in the local music scene for many years as a pretty out of control person, how would you best describe the difference between now and then if any?

**BART:** Well.... I am more fuckin confined now but the animal still exists. I just control him a little better now I guess.....haha..... there were a lot of past time activities that let the animal be the animal then but now I actually enjoy being responsible, the animal still surfaces from time to time when its fed alcohol but I manage to keep those occurrences at bay. I'm more fuckin sober social now. Thanks for asking.

## POTENTIAL VICTIMS

Attn: Bart Raifsnider

204 Hartzell Drive

Fayetteville, PA

17222 US of A

**www.potential**  
**victims.com**

## MY TWO CENTS

*Odd Marwin Nilsen*

I'd like to introduce a new column in RockBottom. This should be a sounding board for all ideas, grievances and complaints. I would also love to see compliments and positive feedback on everything.

**PLEASE** don't use it as a wailing wall. This issue, I'll start out by talking about something that bothers me a LOT...YOUR treatment of American soldiers.

I know a lot of you disagree with US government policy everywhere. That is one of the things that makes this country great. I'm an immigrant myself, so I should know what I'm

talking about. You **AMERICANS** take everything for granted (freedom of speech comes to mind). Anyways, you have no idea why you have this freedom. You have it and that's it!!!!!! The

truth is, your freedom is protected by the men and women of the US FORCES. You complain, talk about conspiracies, protest against other countries unjust ways **AND** very often you blame the soldiers themselves when they have to go out there to protect YOUR (ass) right to do what you do. **PLEASE** remember, the men and women out there don't make policy. They do their job!!!!!! So please join me in thanking all peacekeeping troops everywhere for a job well done.

I hope this can be a forum we all can use without resorting to mindless accusations or foul language. I hope to have adult responses and intelligent questions.

# SAT 11

*This is an Italian band with an excellent female vocalist and yes, she sings in Italian but who cares...her voice is upstanding if I may say and what is the difference between hearing a song in Spanish on the radio in the good ole' USA or in Italian??? Think about it...NO, please do NOT just check this band out if you're into techno groove and need a new techno CD to throw in and get down and boogie to OR if you have an open mind and like to enjoy the pure and simple beauty of sounds of pleasure. Need I say more??? How about...I LOVE THIS BAND AND LISTEN TO THEM EVERY DAY AND I AM NOT A TECHNO-ELECTRO ROCK FAN...no, no, no NOT this chic. I prefer to bang my head—THANK YOU.*

Interview done by **CLAUDIO FAGGION** of the band **INTER NOS** (<http://internosrock.supereva.it>) from Italy (Check out April's Band of the Month)... A special **THANK YOU** to **CLAUDIO** from **MARCY—YOU ARE THE BEST!!!**

--Marcy Miller

**CLAUDIO:** A history of the band from the start till now...

**SAT 11:** The band was born 3 years ago and was composed of 4 members, Anna Busetto (voice), Giuseppe "Pippo" Merlino (guitars), Martino "Doc" Montanaro (synthesizers) and Giovanni "Nanni" Di Benedetto (drums).

We played in pubs and at some musical events; recently our band changed the drummer and now has a bassist, Davide "Dade" Badin. The new drummer is Giulio "Storm" Gini, a good addition because of his technique. The average age of Sat 11 is 24.

**CLAUDIO:** The members of the band have different musical backgrounds. Now, into SAT 11 band, all these musicians play a kind of music which could be defined as electro-rock. Is it a clear choice; is it a compromise, or what else?

**SAT 11:** Our genre is Electro-rock. We come from different musical backgrounds and the kind of music we play is an union of our styles. The guitarist played metal and he also likes progressive rock, Anna

was a lyric vocalist, Doc (who played all genres), Dade (who played punk) and Storm (he still plays blues with another band) likes electronic and industrial music for example Chemical Brothers, Nine Inch Nails, etc.

**CLAUDIO:** Your CD is self-produced. I know that this is almost a fixed course but do you think that this is the right attitude and the right choice for an amateur band? Are you looking for something better? Are you interested in becoming professional musicians?

**SAT 11:** We think that self-produced album is the most economic choice that an amateur band can do. Today the computer is very important because it is an invaluable tool in song recording; earlier it wasn't so easy to record sound. Of course we're looking for something better, and we would like to become professional musicians at least here in Italy...

**CLAUDIO:** You come from Pordenone (and its Province), which is a small city but it has a long history into the underground rock music. What's your opinion about it? Have you any contact with other bands, places which organize concerts, and so on? Or, on the contrary (and this is my opinion), in Pordenone there are "closed clans"? **SAT 11:** Pordenone is a city with a long history in underground music, but it's a "closed" city.

You can play in small pubs, but it's difficult to play in great events. If you don't know the "right" people who organize concerts, you can't play your music. Fortunately, at this moment, the situation begins to change, so we hope that there will more possibilities for playing at great events.

Therefore, it's difficult to have contact with other band. The only band which we have contacts with is "Inter Nos", an underground Band from Pordenone.

**CLAUDIO:** Talking about live-activity of SAT 11, what do you tell us about this matter? Then, I know a curious episode: a concert was interrupted after only two songs.

**SAT 11:** Yes. We were playing in a city near Pordenone. But it was organized very badly because we played in a street with no people interested in listening to music... After 2 songs the concert was interrupted because some people was disturbed by the high volume...

**CLAUDIO:** What are, in your opinion, the main qualities and the main defects of your CD?

**SAT 11:** The main quality of our CD is the great variety of different styles you can find on it. On the same CD there are "classical" Rock ballads like "Per un'ora sola" but also "tecno rock songs" like "Veleno".

The main defect of the CD is that you can sometimes hear that the CD is self-produced.

**CLAUDIO:** A particular question. A song must remain unchangeable from the moment in which it was written, or it could be modified, it could grow up and it could die, as a living creature. What kind of songs are the SAT 11's ones?

**SAT 11:** Everyone writes his part, the song grows until it reaches a good sound, so it changes and it's not the same song as we started out with. After we record the song, it remains unchanged.

**CLAUDIO:** What the musicians of SAT 11 do in their life?

**SAT 11:** We are engineers, architects and computer technicians.

**CLAUDIO:** Could your imagine your future (as single musicians, as SAT 11 band, and generally as persons) . in the year 2010?

**SAT 11:** It's a very difficult questions....We imagine us playing on Mars....eheheh...

We hope that in the year 2010 we will record a "professional" CD...

**CLAUDIO:** That's all. Thank you for this interview. Last words from the band.....

**SAT 11:** Thank you! We hope that YOU enjoy our music and we invite all the readers to visit our web site [www.sat11.it](http://www.sat11.it), where you can download some songs. For comments or suggestions, please email us at [info@sat11.it](mailto:info@sat11.it).

Martino Montanaro,  
via San Leonardo n° 20  
33170 - Pordenone (PN)  
ITALY



Greencastle Market Place  
502 Antrim Way, Shop A  
Greencastle, PA 17225

**Marcy Miller**  
Hair Stylist  
(717) 597-9003

## The Urinal Puck Chronicles --PART 2

So I find myself being humored by the band's usual Sunday afternoon ritual of trying to out do each other with shots of Scope...yes, Scope. There was a day old Salami hoagie put against my head so I was forced to down a few. Yuck, too much of a minty feeling after a Saturday night hangover. Dogg is the usual winner with 26 straight weeks of the on going championship. I also wasn't aware that usually right after the drunken fest of Scope shots, Dogg and Fudge argue over cheating and it results in Fudge getting all his drum sticks broken except one. During a break, Fudge retaliates by gutting out one of Dogg's cigarettes and mixing dried Habanera peppers with it and putting it all back together. Skinny Bob, which is the bands new singer, is the only one who won't participate in the drinking activity.

**Marcy-** So, Skinny Bob, you don't seem to take an interest in the contest, no pressure from the band???

**Skinny B-** I did the first week but it made me sicker than all get out.

**Fudge-** Yes, Skinny B brought up home-style chicken ala king straight from the gut. Very colorful, but still not good enough to win.

**Dogg-** Yeah, Skeez usually pisses in old beer bottles when it was cold out but never throws them away, he calls them his collection. He swears there is a dude on E-bay that will buy them. Anyhow, I took a little juice out of the bottle and mixed it with Bob's shot.

**Kingpin-** Bob's a baby...it only tasted like chicken broth mixed with a margarita.

**Skeez-** Bob has a delicate throat...Very delicate.

**Skinny B-** You have no idea of the crap I have to deal with. They screwed me twice at Denny's.

**Fudge-** Bob, you gotta go through the Urinal stress test.

**Dogg-** Yeah, ain't nuttin free boy!

**Marcy-** So did they come back for you???

**Skinny B-** Hell no. They have this retarded ritual of sneaking in Denny's after actually being banned from the two I know of. Once they went in with a huge

jam box, got up on individual tables and blared "Play That Funky Music" and did some stupid dance they call the "redneck dance". The waitresses just kept chasing them from table to table. Skeezzer would fall down on purpose and start crying uncontrollably and King and Dogg would start screaming at him and kicking him in the chest. By this time...Skeezzer will start yelling about "you broke my nut, the only one God gave me, you bastards!!!" And Fudge has split with the van and they all skip out. I'm the only one still standing there...

**Marcy-** Wow, that's cruel and weird...

**Skinny B-** No, that's not weird...spend an entire day drinking with them. That's weird. I was late once for practice and they all had on these old dresses they bought from the Salvation Army and they were out in the road walking in a circle with card board signs that read "Down

**Marcy-** Okay guys, so, what's going on with the CD???

**Fudge-** We'll we should have already been in the studio by now. They all keep writing more songs and won't stop. When we get together it seems like we churn out some good chillins'.

**Skeez-** I think we're actually starting to tap into our realm with some of the new stuff. Dogg keeps writing some good stuff. Years ago I remember he locked himself in a broken down van in my backyard for a whole weekend and wrote an entire concept album. It was all about dudes with coat hangers and dogs with web feet.

**Dogg-** Yeah, that was some deep crud. I wrote like 12 songs that weekend and it was all about coat hangers.

**KingPin-** We plan on going in soon, we are like months late. Everyone is giving us grief. Ever since Wal-Mart was created it



Skinny B, Dogg, Skeeze, Fudge & King

with Bob, he masturbates too much" while chanting some weird voodoo thing they saw off the discovery channel the night before. They're too far-gone.

They use to put my e-mail address and picture on all these gay chat groups. They started some fake club on the Internet using me as the founder. It was called- "Gay men that worship feet and think Elvis is the Devil".

**Skeez-** Hell, Bob actually had a small following in his little club.

**Dogg-** Yeah, 4 dudes and 2 of them transgender deals.

has been a godsend.

**Marcy-** So what's in store for the future of this band, what do you guys hope to accomplish???

**Dogg-** Play a few shows, drink some brewage, maybe...finally put the CD out. We would like to get into Chinese Water torture but King is allergic to delicate knits and exotic fibers.

**Skeez-** Yeah, plus I need a tetanus shot.

[www.urinalpuckministries.com](http://www.urinalpuckministries.com)

# THE CONSPIRACY

*I'd like to introduce you all to The Conspiracy. This band has a very unique style. They present themselves as English pop/punk but they are a whole lot more than that. They've been compared to The Kinks and some say they are the Pink Floyd of this century. (Quite a stretch, I know, but in some ways true). I've been in contact with them for only a short while and what I've heard of their music is just great. I'm very happy to have met such great people and they just verify that, through, indie music, there is hope for ALL music genres everywhere. And you know **ROCKBOTTOM** support ALL genres. I hope we can help these guys and benefit from their music for decades to come.*

By Odd Marwin Nilsen

**Odd Marwin Nilsen:** How are you guys doing? You have been around for quite awhile now. Since 1992 right? Why don't you tell the readers a little bit about yourself, you know, how it started, who's in there and so on.

**Duncan Pope:** Yeh, we're really cool. Dave has been working at Glastonbury Festival and I have been....working! Also writing lots of new lyrics for future songs. We hope to record some brand new T.C. in August 04. The Conspiracy actually began in 1988! We became a live band from 1991-1996, when some members moved away. Since 1996 TC has been based around myself (lyrics + vocals) and Dave Bell (music/recording). Clive Bray joined around 1998, and we've had lots of records, CD's and tapes released on indie labels worldwide since then. We are now ready to release our 3<sup>rd</sup> "proper" album and are looking for a CARING label to release some of our best music so far! ANYONE OUT THERE?

**O.M.N.:** You call your style English pop/punk. Would you care to elaborate a little bit?

**D.P.:** Well, I suppose we are very English in our style. Many people have compared us to The Kinks and Blur in reviews, but we have our own identity, we play what we like...a lot of pop, punk and rock, but ALSO ballads and folk!? Dave has an excellent, distinctive guitar style + my

lyrics/vocals are my own, love or hate them.

**O.M.N.:** I know that at one point you changed your style somewhat. From what and why?

**D.P.:** I suppose we did change in 1996, when we stopped being a live band and concentrated on studio work, like the Beatles in 1966. Old members left and Clive joined Dave and myself. I think we worked hard on developing our own musical identity, which remained eclectic, without really meaning to. Ours has been a story of constant development in terms of music, lyrics, vocals and production, which is why our music is still relevant in 2004- and we continue to get excellent reviews. We've become more "professional" whilst retaining the teenager's pure love of music as a way of



expressing inner thoughts, feelings and views on the outside world.

**O.M.N.:** Found that you at one point made a tribute to Neil Young for charity. How did that come about?

**D.P.:** We recorded loads of Neil Young songs between 1989 and 1995. The NYAS (Neil Young Appreciation Society (Wales)) asked us to record a tape for them in aid of Young's "Bridge" charity, which we did. It was fun to do and I still have some copies left, if anyone is interested! We did shit-hot versions of "Don't Cry" and "Keep on Rocking In The Free World", I remember.

**O.M.N.:** Standard question for you guys: Who are/were your major influences?

**D.P.:** Major influences? Well, we don't really copy anyone (except Neil Young, years ago!), but we like loads of artists including: Beatles, Nirvana, Fall, Nick Cave, Pixies, P.J. Harvey, Clash, Pere Ubu, Radiohead, Stooges..... and so on and so on!

**O.M.N.:** Where do you see your music going next? Any thoughts?

**D.P.:** Our music is open-ended and free flowing. It could go anywhere, except C&W and Opera!

**O.M.N.:** I know you are looking for a new label. How's the hunt going? (RB is still on the lookout too though!)

**D.P.:** Getting a new label is VITAL for us in 2004/5. We've been recording a set of really good songs since 2001 and we need to release it before we collect our pensions! We get so much positive feedback that I know there is a label out there for us. It is hard to find the right one, however. If anyone can help that would be great. Our most recent release was "The Ghost" CD on Jar Music (Germany) in 2000, but many of our newer, unreleased songs are better. We've had offers to appear on compilations but we don't see why we should pay to be on them; that is a backward step for us. We're happy to appear on CD or vinyl.

**O.M.N.:** What plans do you have for the future. Anything specific? New album?

**D.P.:** Our main goal is to release our 3<sup>rd</sup> album. It's ready now, apart from some mixing/post-production. WE JUST NEED A BLOODY LABEL!!! Can you hear our frustration?! There are over 10 babies waiting to be let loose on the world...

**O.M.N.:** Anything you would like to say to ROCKBOTTOM'S readers?

**D.P.:** I'd like to say that people like you keep people like us, Marcy and Marwin going: Keep interested in underground music because the Corporate-u-lead dominated charts are 99% talentless, thoughtless crap. Never lose the magic and mystery.....We're always interested in reviews, zines, radio stations, interviews...and decent indie LABELS, of course!! Over and out... D.P. Keep on Rockin'!!!!

**O.M.N.:** Thanks a lot for the interview and I'm very sure we'll hear from you again.

You can contact **The Conspiracy** at:  
47 Yealm park, Yealmpton  
Devon, England PL8 2NR  
U.K.

Email: [duncan.pope@virgin.net](mailto:duncan.pope@virgin.net)

**www.wearetheconspiracy.com**

# Chuck's Classic Picks

By: Chuck Fitzgerald

The year was 1971, a record was unleashed on the world that probably should never have been made with everything that went along trying to get it recorded. With the success of the album *In Rock* the band felt that they should try and write an album and record it properly. Up until this point recording sessions were booked in between show days. The album was *Fireball*, although it wasn't a huge success as *In Rock* was it's still regarded as one of the bands favorites. It was more funky trying to break new ground than the heavy riff rock displayed previously. The band felt they needed to really go back to what worked on *In Rock*.

Which leads us to this issues classic album pick Deep Purple's masterpiece *Machine Head*. This album in my opinion does not have a bad track on it. It also boasts a song that every guitar player of my generation and even non guitar players learned how to play *Smoke on the Water*! This songs tells the story of waiting for Frank Zappa to finish his gig at the casino that Deep Purple had rented for the recording of this album, and all that ensued after. But, as the song says "Some stupid with a flare gun, burnt the place to the ground" It never happened. I wonder what kind of album would have been made had it actually been done in the casino as originally planned.

With the casino burning down having to find a new place to record then another new place when the recording session for *Smoke On the Water* started. The sounds flooded the city of Montreux, Switzerland and police

were soon knocking on the door of the new "recording" studio which was a theatre called the Pavillion. Roadies were holding the door keeping the police from busting in just so they could capture this song on tape. With all these tragedies taken into consideration this album was recorded, mixed and made in 3 weeks and 3 days. An amazing feat by today's standards. I don't think Larz can record the verse of a Metallica song in that time frame.

The new studio that was found was actually a hotel. The band set up in little hallways etc. replaced bulbs with red lights just to give the place some atmosphere. Even just to hear playbacks was a process in itself. Since they were using a mobile recording studio the truck was parked outside of the hotel. And just to get to it the band had to go through a bedroom out the window over a balcony through another bedroom down some stairs through a courtyard to get to the truck. Then had to go back the same way to record again. Not the most ideal recording situation which can be stressful enough never mind throwing all this on top of it AND trying to make a great album because the previous one didn't live up to the expectations.. This was a do or die type of situation.

They had press follow them for some gigs, while riding the bus on the way to a gig Ritchie Blackmore was asked how he wrote a song.. He then picked up his guitar and proceeded to chug out the opening riff to *Highway Star* then looked out the window while Ian Gillan came in with some off the cuff lyrics. The song was born then worked out before the gig and debut that same night. You have to love that!!

Deep Purple was not a singles band, yet the record company wanted one. The band wrote what they thought was the most

commercial thing they had ever written. A song called *Never Before*, a few days after recording it the band was going around singing it. They had the hit they needed. It was put out and became the biggest flop they ever had. It's still a great song but with the success that *Highway Star* has had over the past 33 years you would think that would hit you as the "hit" single even back then. Before long the album was integrated into the bands set list. When *Space Truckin'* came about John Lord tried putting his Hammond organ through a Marshall cabinet instead of the Leslie speaker normally used. This gave him that extra push of heaviness to compete with Ritchie's guitar. The opening riff still sounds like a guitar not as much after I found out it was in fact the organ but will still fool you if you don't think about it. The song also features one of the greatest drum breaks ever recorded. Ian Paice as always amazing!!

The band released a 25th anniversary edition of the CD, complete with remixed album and a remastered one. This release also features the only song not included on the original release. The song is *When A Blind Man Cries* a great song and I am surprised it didn't make it on the album.

Deep Purple was one of the tops in British heavy rock in the 70's and are still enjoying success today. With Steve Morse taking over for Ritchie Blackmore and John Lord retired from touring with the band, they are a little more polished a little more safe, they don't take the risks they did in the early days but still an enjoyable show.

**Be looking for more  
CLASSIC PICKS  
By CHUCK in the  
upcoming issues!!!!**

# TALKIN' SHIT WITH MICHELE McKINNEY

By: The Troll  
The Troll Rocks@juno.com

When Janet Jackson was bouncin' her boob on national television, everyone got all bent out of shape over it...and they're still moanin' and groanin' about it. It was a rather nice nipple. Take a pill and get over it. You're about to read an interview with Michelle of Crunch Mob that features a lot of naughty language. It was done on purpose. So, if you wanna complain, it's gonna fall on deaf ears because WE DON'T CARE! It's funny, some people will get a kick out of it and, like Robin Williams once said, "Fuck 'em if they can't take a joke." So, if you don't get the joke...bend over...we'll drive. With that said, grab a roll of toilet paper and let's get down to business.

**THE TROLL:** Okay, well, in a previous interview, you mentioned that you were a lesbian, which is cool because I consider myself a lesbian too. You see, I'm a female trapped in a man's body and I like women...

**YEAH!!!** Anyway, I wanted to mention that because I'm probably gonna dwell on that because, to be honest, you're floating my boat already. You're also a chick who ROCKS and that's always a plus in my book. Didn't even ask a question yet and I'm already excited. So, I'll just roll with that and ask you about your first girl on girl experience. Tell me about it...did that rock???

**MICHELE:** My first girl on girl, eh? Well, to be honest with ya, I was pretty nervous, being that it was my first sexual experience ever. I was 20 years old and I was like, "Holy shit, this woman wants me to fuck her and I haven't got a clue." But, you know, when it all started to go down (pun intended) it was like a veil was lifted from the sexual part of my brain and what I was supposed to do came to me naturally, and I gotta tell ya, my first experience with the delicious wonder of girl on girl action kicked ass and is still my favorite thing to do. Nothing excites me more than pleasing a woman.

**THE TROLL:** If there's one thing I really, really like, it's a woman who knows how to drink. I've gotten laid by many a drunk chick in my time, which is why I started drinking in the first place. Anyway, I saw a picture of you

and you were holding a cup o' something and I'm pretty sure it wasn't chocolate milk. So, when it comes to kickin' back a few cold ones, what kind of ALCOHOL do you kick back with...and how much can you kick back???

**MICHELE:** Getting laid by drunk chicks, that's classic. There's a trick to it though, they have to be drunk enough not to care and sober enough to know what they're doing an enjoying it. Nothing's worse than a chick with whiskey pussy, that's one of the most frustrating things to deal with. If you're goin' down on a girl with the whiskey pussy, forget about it, they'll let you stay down there till you pass out from exhaustion. Now, as for getting to answering your questions, I'm a beer drinker, I love micro brews, my all time favorite is this ale from Scotland called Merlin's Pale Ale, it comes in pints and not your typical 12 oz. I have to admit though, my band just got back from NYC and a lot of free booze was at the after parties we went to while we were there. I discovered vodka and cranberry juice, I also discovered that I can drink a lot of them...LOL!!! So, basically, I can kick back quite a few. Over the years I've built a bit of a tolerance, which kinda sucks because I usually run out of money before I even get a decent buzz.

**THE TROLL:** It's no secret that I like to say naughty things about Rosie O'Donnell. Personally, I think she wears underwear with dick holes in 'em. But, that's just my opinion. Anyway, she's living proof that God does make horrible mistakes from time to time. With this whole same sex marriage thing being an issue now, she decided to take it upon her wretched self to become the poster boy for the cause and I was wondering what your opinion is on her and, while we're at it, what's your thoughts on the getting married issue???

**MICHELE:** Rosie O'Donnell, hmmm. I'm a boxer wearer myself...LOL. I think the whole poster boy attitude is a bit negative. I don't think breaking the law to get your point across is the right way to do anything. I support same sex marriage. But, I believe that supporting in a negative manner just ends up hurting the cause. There are more legal and classier ways to give support.

**THE TROLL:** Oh, before I forget, I also wanted to ask you what you thought of KITTIE??? I heard they turn you on, is that true??? You know, I hung out with the band for a few minutes. I was doin' an interview with

'em backstage, so, I was right there, up close and personal. I even got my picture taken with them and one of 'em had their hand on my shoulder when we took the picture. So, when you and I get together, would you be interested in licking my shoulder??? That would turn me on like a light switch!!!

**MICHELE:** You lucky dawg! I love those KITTIE women! They are so raw and mmmmm sexy! I would love just to hang with them one night, they look like a lot of fun. Ya know, party girls. They kick some serious ass with their music, I have a great deal of respect for their talents and for them as well. I can't help it that I get turned on by that bad ass look, what can I say? You want me to lick your shoulder? That's funny, you make me laugh...LOL. You're a cool guy. But, my tongue only has a taste for women. So, how about you watch me lick another woman's shoulder...LOL.

**THE TROLL:** Do you own A THONG??? How about a STRAPON???

**MICHELE:** Thong, no. Strap on, yes. No butch could be considered a real butch without one. Butches, such as myself, love to fuck femmes...and for those of you unfamiliar with the term "femmes," it's a hot chick you could have swore was straight, a lipstick lesbian if you will.

**THE TROLL:** Janet Jackson's boob...did that turn you on??? It gave me an erection, that's for sure. With that said, the question that I really wanna ask is...ever since that incident, there seems to be a crack down on this so called INDECENT material and, as you probably already know, I have a tremendous vocabulary of obscene words and it seems that talent such as mine is coming under attack and those who get offended at the drop of a dime would much rather I keep my mouth shut or talk about flowers, rainbows and...in other words, I should be NICE!!! Got something to say on this subject???

**MICHELE:** I didn't think there was enough airtime for the boob. Although, I do understand the problem with it being on national television and some parents getting upset. But, come on now, it really wasn't that big of a deal. Like I said, not enough airtime, it happened so fast that before I even realized what happened, I was watching a Budweiser commercial. As for assholes trying to "crack down" on the material, fuck those fucking fuckers. It's entertainment. I've gotten chastised for some of the thing I say during gigs and I think it's ridiculous. The FCC is cracking

down on shock jocks, which is the whole reason we listen to them is because it's entertaining. One of my biggest fears is that we will end up being like in the movie "Demolition Man," where we get fined for using colorful vocabulary and the only music on the radio is "I Wish I Were An Oscar Mayer Wiener," or some old Western Union jingle written by Barry Manilow. Fuck that shit. So what if there might be an incident here or there that offends a million people, there are a million more who enjoyed it. Get over it people, loosen up, enjoy life and stop trying to take the fun out of it.

**THE TROLL:** Have you seen Mel Gibson's movie, "The Passion Of Christ," yet??? Andy Rooney said he's a WHACKO for making that movie and I have to agree with him. Not because he made the movie. But, because he didn't tell the whole story. He left out the fact that Jesus has a great sense of humor. For example, he thought it would be funny to give Tammy Faye Bakker LUNG CANCER. I guess he figured, hey, she wants to wear more make up than Gene Simmons...let's see how she likes coughing up blood like him.

**MICHELE:** "The Passion Of Christ," nope, didn't see it. I don't like subtitles. But, what I did see was the South Park episode where Kyle saw the movie for the first time and wanted his money back. That episode was hysterical. It depicted Mel Gibson as a stark raving lunatic who wants to be tortured and in the end, he shat in Cartman's face. I was rollin'. I like Mel Gibson, don't get me wrong. But, that was just too fuckin' funny.

**THE TROLL:** Since I mentioned Gene Simmons, that brought RICHARD SIMMONS to mind. Did you hear about how some guy was making fun of him at the airport and Richard walked up to the guy and put the smack down on him? He told the police that he just had to BITCH SLAP the guy. I mean, sure, the joke almost wrote itself there. But, I have a new respect for the guy now. Never mess with a man who wears leg warmers!!! Any thoughts on the incident???

**MICHELE:** Well, I guess he just had enough, ya know? The guy gets ridiculed and made fun of by everyone but obese women sweatin' to the oldies. I wonder if he cried while he was puttin' the smack down on that guy, you know, his arms flailing and him screaming in that woman

like voice, "Just leave me alone you bastard!" and the proceeds to pummel the guy like Ralphie did to Scut Farcus in A Christmas Story. I would have paid good money to see that.

**THE TROLL:** In case you didn't know, I'm a huge fan of MARTIN LAWRENCE and I usually try to mention one of his movies in every interview I do and, the one that comes to mind right now is "TALKIN' DIRTY AFTER DARK," because that's something I'm hoping you and I will do after a show some day. Anyway, have you seen it? If not, have you seen any of his movies...which ones turn you on???

**MICHELE:** Yeah, I saw it. Martin Lawrence is a riot. I love his stuff. I remember when he hosted Def Comedy



Jam. I used to watch his sitcom religiously. I love all his movies and stand up routines. I can't say any of his movies turned me on, well, except for Tea Leonie in "Bad Boyz." But, one of my absolute favorites was "What's The Worst That Can Happen" with him and Danny Devito. Bernie Mac was in that one as well. I haven't seen one Martin Lawrence movie that I didn't like. They're all good in my book.

**THE TROLL:** I just thought of something. You have a really cool CD out and I pretty much know nothing about the band. So, I guess I should ask you something about them, huh? Especially since you offered to send me a check for writing nice stuff about 'em...right??? I think I can get my mind out of the gutter for a moment...at least long enough for you to tell people a little something about the band and

why they might be interested in checking them out. A word of advice though...saying that you're gonna laugh your ass off when Martha Stewart goes to jail will gain you the respect of the people who read my interviews.

**MICHELE:** Let me start by saying, your gonna laugh your ass off when Martha Stewart goes to jail and she has to hand sew her own sheets, "200 count biatch!". Also, I heard she already has some ideas for customized license plates, not only that but she has her bitch picked out too, a couple of them. Martha plays bitch to no one damn it! Now, about the band. We have been coined as Street Metal in Europe by AKOM Productions in Italy. Now, in all honesty, I'm not sure what that is but it sounds cool, so I'm happy. On our first CD we stayed close to the old school punk roots but throw a metal edge into it, if you like The Ramones, you'll like this CD, you can hear the influence in a couple of our songs, there are influences as well, you'll be able to pick up on them when you listen to it. To me it's kind of an addictive CD because basically it's fun, good vibe music, it's great for parties and if you ever get stuck in traffic it's a good one to jam to. Right now we're working on putting songs together for our second CD, we are going for the same old school punk but a bit more aggressive feel to it. Still the same feel good fun but with I know at least two of the songs with, I don't want to say dark, so I'll soften it with the word grey, lyrics. The second CD will be a more in your face type project and I'm really pumped about it. If anybody wants info on gigs just go to [www.crunchmob.com](http://www.crunchmob.com), you can also get contact info for bookings there as well. And some other stuff, hell, if you feel like it sign the guest book and give me some feed back on this interview, or anything else you might want to say. It's all good.

**THE TROLL:** The song I really got into was "Sniper Target." It's a really cool song...and it also made me think. You know, you've gotta wonder what kind of drug people are on when they come up with the bright idea of going around shooting people at random in an effort to get the government to give 'em ten million dollars. I'll bet they'll regret going to Wal-Mart to buy that gun when they're pumping those death chemicals into their veins, huh???

**MICHELE:** I totally agree. Hell yeah they're regretting it! You can't just go around jackin' people up like that, your ass is gonna get caught, I don't care how special forces you might be, they'll sic special forces on your special forces ass and then what, BAM! Caught and

awaiting punishment. Drugs or no drugs, I just don't get people who do things like that (and I'm going to get a bit serious here), I mean, unless your fighting a war and/or you are killing just so your not killed by the enemy, I don't know how anyone can take another human beings life. I'd say in order to just go around shooting people and depriving families of their loved ones for any reason that may seem beneficial to them have to be on some serious poison, if not drugs then in there hearts. Bad karma man, seriously bad karma, the world is full of it, and there are many but few in the huge spectrum of things that have enough compassion to try to make a difference in a negative world that needs to be embraced by positivity. There's too much hate, show me the love, that's something the whole world needs. Blah, blah, blah, sorry about that, you got me on a touchy subject, I have some pretty strong issues as far as drugs and violence goes, lol.

**THE TROLL:** What made you decide to get into music...was it to pick up women???

MICHELLE: I guess you could say women is definitely one of the reasons, a really nice perk to being a musician, but the main reason is to do exactly the thing I mentioned in the previous question, to be a positive influence and try to bring some good karma into the world.

**THE TROLL:** You know that old saying about how opposites attract???

Well, truth be told, we're different from each other...and I'm not saying that just to impress you. I can PROVE IT!!!

When you have to take a pee, you sit down on the toilet, right???

Well, I stand up to take a squirt!!! It doesn't take Sesame Street to see the difference in that. So...you're diggin' me now, right???

MICHELLE: HaHaHaHa! Man, maybe if you didn't have a dick and facial hair. You're cool. But, I don't dig you like that...LOL!

**THE TROLL:** Since I didn't dwell on the fact that you're a lesbian as much as I thought I would, I've gotta hit you with a serious sex question to make up for it. Okay, it's a question that all men ask, but, they never seem to get an answer for. When you go down on a woman...where the hell is that ONE spot that makes 'em explode with sexual passion???

MICHELLE: Every woman is different, I couldn't tell you the exact spot, but I will give you this tip; It's a pussy, not a fuckin'

cheese burger or a slice of pizza. I watched this porn last week where this guy was sucking on it like it was a fuckin' spaghetti noodle, he looked like a dog trying to tear up a chew toy shaking his head back and forth like an idiot, then he spit on it, don't fucking spit on it, what the fuck is up with that? If you can't get it wet the regular way, then you just need to stop. Any way, while I was watching this guy butcher this chicks pussy, I thought to myself, damn, if I was straight and a guy was doin' me like that, I would fuckin' punch him till he was unconscious. So, I'll tell ya a little secret that isn't really so much a secret, do the alphabet in cursive with your tongue, upper and lower case, that's about as much as I can tell ya, if I gave you more than that the keepers in the secret society of lesbian techniques would be after my ass.

**THE TROLL:** I spent some time on your website and I couldn't find a single NUDE PICTURE of you!!!

What's up with that???

Don't you know that's what the internet is all about???

That's the only reason I have a computer...these interviews are just an added bonus. I said nice stuff about your band and you know that your CD sales will go through the roof because you talked to me. So, when do I get to see you naked???

MICHELLE: LOL. You will never see a nudie of me. I know the internet is fun for that, but I couldn't expose myself that way. I don't find it degrading in any way mind you, but I just don't see myself as sexy like that.

**THE TROLL:** Well, you know, you should feel pretty special right about now. You're the first and ONLY woman who was brave enough to spend a few minutes in my world, answering my questions. It's not often where I get to have a conversation with a woman where PEPPER SPRAY isn't involved!!! Too bad that doesn't come with some kind of award, huh???

Best I could do is offer you a cookie. Would you like a cookie???

Or are you happy knowing that people will think you're cool because you were able to talk smack with me without going seriously mental???

MICHELLE: Man, you must get around some serious bitches with all that pepper spray action goin' on, hope you don't wear contacts. Let me tell ya, it has been a real privilege and being the first woman in this segment, I do feel honored that you asked me to be a part of your world. I've loved talkin' smack with ya, I hope to do it again

sometime. As for the cookie, I don't need no stinking cookie, I've had a blast.

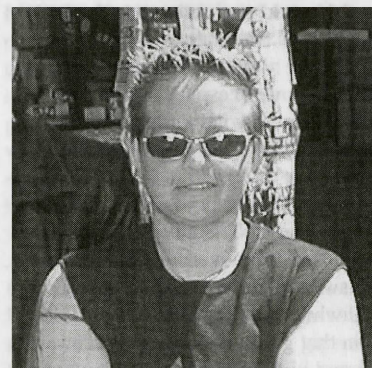
**THE TROLL:** I have this sudden urge to go listen to my Duran Duran records right now. So, I guess I should wrap this up. I'd like to say that it's been a real pleasure talking to you and, as long as I have a face, you'll always have a place to sit. With that said...got any final comments???

Make 'em good...my public is reading and they deserve nothing but the best!!! BRA!!!

MICHELLE: I see your face works as a place for women to sit as well. I hate to watch a beautiful woman standing around with her legs getting tired, I offer my face as a courtesy, just sit and enjoy. Final comments? Thanks to all of you who have made it to this point in the interview, if you've made it to this point then you are totally fuckin' awesome, if not, then your a fuckin' wet paper bag and it really doesn't matter that I've called you a wet paper bag, because you don't know I called you a wet paper bag because you were too much of a sorry ass to keep going. Now this doesn't pertain to those who stopped reading then finished at a later time, this is strictly for the sorry ass fucks who will never get to this point and you will never know that you have been tagged a wet paper bag sorry ass fuck in a fanzine. You make me sad. To the rest of you that are totally fuckin' awesome, I would just like to say, take it easy, live life to it's fullest potential and keep the party alive. See that, the wet paper bag sorry ass fucks could have benefited from that bit of advice. But...noooooo....they really do make me sad. Later!

All that naughty language... I guess we're all going to hell now, huh? So, what do you think? Was that fun or what? If you wanna see more, let us know. There's plenty of people out there who wanna talk smack with The Troll. The question is...how much can you put up with???

[kobauld@aol.com](mailto:kobauld@aol.com)  
[www.crunchmob.com](http://www.crunchmob.com)



## Historical Flashback Focusing on the Forefathers of Metal

# Judas Priest

## 'To Hell and Back'

By Bill Jannusch

From the late sixties at the tail end of the big blues boom, K.K. Downing was on fire for the molten sound of Jimi Hendrix and Cream. From the depressing Midlands area of Birmingham, England (the home of fellow masters of metal-Black Sabbath), Judas Priest was born. According to K.K., the name Judas Priest and the band had existed even before he had joined. Original vocalist Rob Evans, bassist Ian Hill and drummer John Hinch had all been a part of the early line-up. K.K. saw the van with the J. Priest logo on the side driving up and down the road and knew he would fancy being a part of it.

The skeleton of the original album was already written in the pubs and clubs of the day. But it wasn't until after he joined and soon after welcomed ex Flying Hats guitarist Glenn Tipton in that the blue print for all two guitar bands were forged. Rod Evans soon left, and the band, through a mutual friend of Ian Hill, auditioned Rob Halford.

They instantly fell in love with his multi-octave range and the line-up recorded "Rocka Rolla" for the small Gull label in 1974. Songs such as "Dying to Meet You", "Island of Domination", "Rocka Rolla", "Cheater" and "One For the Road" along with "Dreamer Deceiver/Deceiver" were very doomy, yet melodic forays into an original sounding, Sabbath influenced brand of hard rock. Halford's voice was soaring.

After some touring in Europe, the band released a second album "Sad Wings of Destiny" in '75. Many classic songs were born at this point that would live with the bands setlist forever, such as "The Ripper", "Tyrant", "Genocide" and "Victim of Changes". Touring continued all over Europe until the money ran out and it came to a point where Priest either had to secure a better deal or quit and become, as Tipton put it, "gravediggers".

There simply wasn't enough money to carry on.

After many legal battles, the group freed themselves from Gull and a "Best of Judas Priest" album as well as a retrospective "Hero, Hero" were released through RCA before the group signed with CBS.

When Judas Priest began recording "Sin After Sin" in 1976, a conscious effort was made to focus on shifting gears into a faster, heavier sound. Songs like "Call for the Priest", "Dissident Aggressor", "Sinner", "Starbreaker" and their take on Joan Baez's "Diamonds and Rust" upped the heaviness and power of Priest's metal delivery. Also included was the melodic ballad "Last Rose of Summer".



Photo by JERRY PARSLEY

Since the band was on their first major label deal, they enlisted the producer Roger Glover (bassist of Deep Purple) to bring some notoriety to the new band.

Drummers from the beginning had come and gone and this was no exception. Session drummer Simon Phillips took the Judas Priest throne to fill out the rhythm section for this album. The core of Rob Halford-vocals, K.K. Downing and Glenn Tipton-lead guitars and Ian Hill-bass always remained throughout all of the

early albums though. All in all, another classic album. A force to be reckoned with, the almighty Priest released the album in 1977 to little acclaim.

After continued touring until the point of exhaustion, and another drummer taking the helm, Les Binks, arguably one of Priest's best drummers, the group wrote and recorded "Stained Glass", a cross over into the real futuristic direction the group became known for ever after.

Some of the bands heaviest songs such as the almighty "Exciter" came out of this period as well as the controversial "Better by You, Better than Me" (which the group was accused of influencing the suicides of two young men who took their lives years later in the eighties). Also the title track "Stained Glass" and "Invader" as well as "Savage", "Saints in Hell" and "Beyond the Realms of Death" were given unholy life in this recording.

The band then embarked on a U.S. tour opening for REO SPEEDWAGON, FOGHAT and KISS. The leather clad biker image and power metal sound fueled by Halford's shrieking vocals and flamboyant Harley riding mania won them over to US audiences everywhere in 1978.

1979's "Killing Machine" (also known as "Hell Bent for Leather" in the US) was hailed as an instant classic. The single "Take on the World" was a big hit in England. "Hell Bent for Leather" was the big hit in America, hence the reason the record company decided to call the album by that name in the US. Many more classic songs such as "Running Wild" emerged.

The band decided it was time to go to Japan, and the results of their tour we've heard on "Unleashed in the East", an album that has gone on to be regarded as one of the best live metal albums of all time. It reached the Platinum sales mark several

times over.

Next came "British Steel", an album which many, including Halford, regard as the quintessential Priest album, featuring the big breakthrough hits "Breaking the Law", "Metal Gods" and "Living After Midnight", as well as heavier scorching material, such as "Rapid Fire", "United", "The Rage" and "Steeler".

The doors were open to the people and Priest was breaking through around the world, with the new MTV in 1980 supporting their videos on top of it.

"Point of Entry" in '81 was an attempt to break through to American audiences with a slightly more commercial sound.

"Heading out to the Highway" was the big hit off of that one as well as "Hot Rockin'" and "Desert Plains". The rest of the album though, left many fans scratching their heads wondering what Priest was thinking when they wrote it. It was very experimental, to say the least. But it didn't hurt their sales though. The tour was just as big as ever in the US and abroad.

1982's "Screaming for Vengeance" came as a big surprise for everyone. The band knew they had to top everything they had ever done and released the heaviest record of their career, a real "British metal" record. Sledgehammer drums by Dave Holland, who had joined on "Point" in '81, hellish screaming by Halford and chainsaw guitars abounded in tracks like "Electric Eye", "Bloodstone", "You've Got Another Thing Coming" and "Devils Child". Also the title track of this album set new standards in Priest's heaviness. Halford and the boys had set standards that were unreachable by any other band of the era back in '82.

"Screaming for Vengeance" and the tour that followed was the big breakthrough the boys have been awaiting all those long years.

Major American success hit immediately on this tour "You've Got Another Thing Coming" went straight to the radio and did really well. And MTV and the news media seemed to broadcast them at every given chance. Also, the big fest with RAINBOW and THE SCORPIONS in California that year set new standards in crowd capacity. Priest had arrived in a major way. There was no turning back.

1984's "Defenders of the Faith" took the metal savagery of "screaming" one step further and shunned all commerciality in it's ultimate goal to crush anyone willing to listen. The fans ate it up again. Gone were the humorous musings of their earlier videos. When they filmed the promos for this album, "Freewheel Burning" and "Love Bites", Priest were on fire with evil and metallic brutality and speed. In my opinion, the band never sounded better.

"Rock Hard, Ride Free" and "The Sentinel" were also spawned from the unhallowed fire of "Defenders".

On the road that year, a massive metallic creature known as the "Metallion" graced the stage, with lasers, smoke and fire shooting out of it's mouth as Rob and the boys grimaced and headbanged their way around the world in top form, raking in the biggest money of their career.

That is until 1986's "Turbo" redefined the band entirely.

When Priest began writing "Turbo", a new influence was taking the world by storm and unfortunately it seeped into

their sound, though the group was still able to use it to their benefit. Commercial Glam Metal, Hairspray Rock and the electronically synthesized sounds of ZZ TOP (in the day) all seemed to influence Priest's sound on this record.

Not to say that songs like "Turbo Lover" (which is excellent) and "Rock You all Around the World" were bad, but just not the type of Priest that we know and love (us die-hards that is!). But songs like "Out in the Cold" were refreshing and opened the band to an even bigger, unthought-of level of massive popularity never before reached. The group touched on the growing concern of the day (the PMRC) in "Parental Guidance".

The stage show was like something out of a Science Fiction movie. A massive lighting truss that on several occasions could've killed the band members when it's overpowering weight was almost too much for the chains to hold, overlooked the stage. It nearly collapsed at one show, though the band continued on as if didn't even notice. Also they used a mechanized machine that lifted Halford up over the crowd on "Electric Eye". The show was filmed and recorded for Priest LIVE, the album and the video in 1986.

Originally "Turbo" was supposed to be a double album, but the record company frowned on the idea, so the next record "Ram it Down" (1988) featured a lot of the same style, though some heavier material was added. Overall, it sounded like a half baked attempt at getting heavier. The title track as well as "Blood Red Skies" were excellent, though, overall, most of the material, especially their take on "Johnny B. Goode", the Chuck Berry classic, were left by the wayside in the wake of the big thrash metal explosion of the day, led by Metallica, Slayer, Megadeth, Exodus and Anthrax.

Priest had lost their way.

Another problem arose when two youth's from the US took their lives while listening to "Better by You, Better than Me" from 78's "Stained Glass". A lengthy trial in court ensued with Priest coming out victorious, proving that there were no backward messages on the record after all. Supposedly, the youth's parent's alleged that the song when played backwards said "Do It". Do what? Have sex? Jam? Worship the Devil? Kill yourself? It was a real stretch!! Anyway, it was dropped and the band soldiered on.

"Painkiller" in 1990 was like a "Defenders of the Faith" for a new generation. The band was furious and rocking harder than ever. Gone was drummer Dave Holland, who's limited ability was starting to hold the band back.

Scott Travis (of Racer X) added his double bass assault to K.K. and Glenn's guitar battery, and the result was trouncing. Halford screamed like he hadn't since "Vengeance" and the band made a major comeback, crossing the line once again (enough to please thrash fans and speed metallers alike).

The tour was massive and a huge success, reestablishing Judas Priest as a viable killing machine. But, sadly, Halford opted to leave and front his own solo project Fight, which produced two excellent sub-thrash albums, "War of Words" (93) and "Small Deadly Space" (95). Tipton released a solo album later "Baptism of Fire" and Priest released "Metal Works-The History".

After nearly calling it quits, Priest located Tim "Ripper" Owens, who fronted a Priest tribute band as well as his own project. His voice seemed to suite Priest's new heavier approach well, and Tipton and Downing wrote the whole new album "Jugulator" in '98. The album was similar to FIGHT in the fact that thrash seemed to permeate the new sound. Songs like "Bullet Train" seemed very much like "Painkiller" era Priest, and "Cathedral Spires" brought a new age melodic style to the forefront of their sound. Popularity wise, the group was seriously on the wane though. Gone were the days of the arenas and now smaller venues would sadly have to suffice. A live album followed.

The next record "Demolition" in 2000 wasn't much better. Not to say it was a bad record. It brought more melody back to Priest's sound, but Owen's voice just wasn't living up to Halford on the album or the live dates. Fans were quickly diminishing like never before. The band continued to tour. They swore up and down that there would not be a reunion with Halford.

Halford, meanwhile, had endured his own hell when his solo album TWO bombed. He had experimented with industrial, and nobody bought that, so he returned with "Resurrection" in 2000 and tore the heads off of all non-believers with one of the best records of his career. (With or without Priest!) This album really delivered and shocked all metal fans alike with Halford's new band that sounded more like Priest in their heyday than J. Priest themselves sounded anymore. A live album soon followed "Live Insurrection" as well as a follow up album in 2002.

Halfway through the tour, though, K.K., Glenn, Ian and Scott decided called Halford, whose financial backing by his record company was undergoing problems, and negotiated a reunion. Ripper Owens parted on good terms and

was later asked to join Iced Earth, whose vocalist had recently left the band.

And now 2004's summer brings us OZZFEST 2004, featuring not only Judas Priest with Halford back in the band, but the original Black Sabbath, Slayer, Dimmu Borgir, Zakk Wylde and much, much more.

Later this year, the new album of all original, new Judas Priest will be released as well.

The gods have returned...

## MUSIC REVIEWS

### ADARRYLL

This 3 song demo is of the R+B/HipHop genre. Good slow beat make this a good CD to relax to or to play when that special someone is around (wink wink) Nothing hardcore here. More like some toned down free styling to a steady beat. If that is your bag then check it out.

AJ WHITE

[lyricalcontent@yahoo.com](mailto:lyricalcontent@yahoo.com)

Adarryll Jackson  
4712 Fairley Rd  
Memphis, TN 38109 USA

### ALI DI VETRO

Un Primo Giorno

Another soft metal band...wish I knew Italian. This music is great. Tight and rhythmic. Musically they are excellent. Easy going style combined with good guitars make a great sound.

O.NILSEN

[www.alidivetro.com](http://www.alidivetro.com)

### ANAL BEARD

Din Noir

This is by far the stupidest CD I have ever heard. Stuff this stupid doesn't deserve a review! J. OTHMER

[www.bosstunage.com](http://www.bosstunage.com)

### ASH & ELM

Visions from The Past

Ash & Elm derive its name from two prominent horror movies (NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET and EVIL DEAD), and while the name of the band suggests some fright, there's nothing to be afraid of. This New Jersey quartet play intricate metal you'd expect from a Swedish troupe, and while the band's members are all under the legal age, the chops heard on VISIONS FROM THE PAST are nothing short of phenomenal. Taking heed to influences like Blind Guardian, In Flames, and Shadows Fall, the guitar parts are crisp, with a tinge of '80s thrash metal technicality, while the rhythm section aptly holds the whole metal maelstrom

down. Solid all around, Ash & Elm's brand of metal is a five-track tour de force, encompassing the Gothenburg sound in great depth without plagiarizing it completely.

M. SOS

[www.ashandelmm.com](http://www.ashandelmm.com)

### ATREYU

The Curse

(VICTORY)

Atreyu's breakthrough debut SUICIDE NOTES AND BUTTERFLY KISSES took the underground by storm with its hybrid sound and metallic overtones. Atreyu's sophomore effort, the 13-track THE CURSE retains the same fervor, but the Southern California quintet take a more melodic route this time around. The result finds Atreyu exhibiting the same heaviness that the underground fell in love with combined with the type of cohesive songwriting that could easily break into mainstream rock radio. Blending the wares of neighbors Avenged Sevenfold and AFI, Atreyu's teeth still gnash when playing tracks like "Corsetting" and "Bleeding Mascara", yet the big hooks of "Right Side of the Bed" and "The Remembrance Ballad" are tailor-made for the airwaves. Atreyu's latest is a well balanced release, fused with enough focus to sidestep that dastardly sophomore slump that rarely eludes bands and chock full of the sounds that made this band the forerunners of the post nu-metal regime.

-M. SOS

[www.victoryrecords.com](http://www.victoryrecords.com)

### BENNY

All Things Come To an End

First of all, I don't even know why people would care about this band...in the first place, I think they were just a studio band and I think they broke up now!! The guys in the band look like softball players rather than musicians and this is only a 6 song CD so what's the point? Other than that it's not as bad as I thought it was going to be. I remember back in the day we used an old Benny 7" as a Frisbee in the ghetto...it was cool because it was a multicolor vinyl but shit that thing was the shredder!

J. OTHMER

[www.bosstunage.com](http://www.bosstunage.com)

### BEYOND THE EMBRACE

Insect Song

(METAL BLADE)

Beyond the Embrace is yet another Massachusetts-based metal outfit whose latest 10-track CD confirms that the East Coast state does in fact rival Sweden in the output of metal bands. Utilizing a triad of guitars, this sextet's metal massacre falls somewhere in between the melodic

like Iron Maiden and Gardenian, old school thrash like Testament and the new wave of American heavyweights like Killswitch Engage and Shadows Fall with a hint of homegrown metal a la COC. Southern fried hardcore metal? Sounds good on the menu, and when Beyond the Embrace's "Plague" or "Insect Song" blare through your speakers, it sounds damn good on disc as well. While INSECT SONG tries a bit too hard to be everything for every metalhead, the band's adventurous nature and wicked guitar work steal the show, providing an interesting all around listening experience.

M. SOS

[www.metalblade.com](http://www.metalblade.com)

### BHANGRA BEAT

Another CD in Italian (which I don't understand too well)...Somewhat soft metal or maybe quiet is the right word. Pink Floyd with an attitude at times. Music you can relax to. Even if you can't understand the lyrics, this is good stuff.

O.NILSEN

[www.bhangrabeat.it](http://www.bhangrabeat.it)

### BILLY AND THE BULLETS

Pure Rock-n-Roll. Rockabilly at it's best. I actually didn't know anyone wrote this kind of music anymore. It's great. These guys really know their stuff. They go from soft blues to fast and fun rock-n-roll. On this CD there are 8 originals and 6 covers. All played equally well. If you like old fashioned rock-n-roll, you should definitely get this CD.

O.NILSEN

[www.billyandthebullets.com](http://www.billyandthebullets.com)

### BLAMESHIFT

Blamshift is a Long Island hard rock quintet that employs the dual female-male vocal delivery a la that hit song by Evanescence. In the band's three-song release, you'll find mid-tempo, radio friendly hard rock that sounds like No Doubt meeting Godsmack at a Linkin Park show. While the vocal trade off gives Blamshift a theatric quality, the band's deep rooted hard rock gives Blamshift the ability to reach countless youngsters looking for an outlet to let off some steam without insulting their intelligence.

M.SOS

[www.blamshiftmusic.com](http://www.blamshiftmusic.com)

### BLEACH

Astronomy

This is some up beat new age rock at it's best. These guys seem to write from life and its experiences and what life has taught them. Really good sound. Good lyrics. Strong and in your face songs that could be anthems to most of us. You can

tell these guys like what they do and they have fun doing it. Go to their website or write them at their record company.

AJ WHITE

[www.bleached.com](http://www.bleached.com)  
Tooth + Nail Records  
PO Box 12698  
Seattle, WA 98111 USA

#### BLOODCULT

The Hellfire Curse

By the middle of the 3<sup>rd</sup> track I was soul sold. This embodies everything I look for in a contemporary death/black metal release (and seldom find). -Raw eeriness and ear pummeling evil that's not afraid to pay homage to its roots. In some passages, the vocalist, Rev, does a perfect replication of King Diamond's unrefined falsettos from the early days of Mercyful Fate. I thought this worked very well alongside his death roars and blackened cackle. More than pretty interesting musically, too - if non stop blast beat speed is what you crave, then pass this up. Although there are some steadily fast songs, this is a well-versed collection. Some of it bordered on dark psychedelic, some reminded me of 80's thrash, death with punkish parts. Complete with a ballad, "Great Spirit" and other titles like "Ready for the Final War", "Fist of Belial" and "Up the Dose", this shit emanates the same unholy spirit my first Mercyful Fate album did when I was 12. I can't say enough about the strengths of this disc. Six out of six sunken seraphs. c/o Rev

2021 W. Sunset  
Decatur, IL 62522 USA

M. ZELINSKY

#### BLOODTHIRST

Forgotten Years of Killing (2003)  
(self)

Poland's Bloodthirst is probably my pick for a favorite demo I ever reviewed. This album (independently released) has a raw, underground production and brute force musicianship, but the groove takes you by the throat like an early Kreator record + slams you face first into the wall into a bloody pulp! Rambo-guitars, vocals sound just like a cross between Mille Petrozza and Vantor of Kreator. Nothing wrong with that!! Kreator kicks ass!! Koper bass and Slayer drums are very heavy players that hold the whole beast together and kick you in the ass with a steel toed boot!! The music is very old school speed metal with some killer lead solos, wicked riffs and very original sounding ideas. I love it!! "Victims of Terror", "Twilight of Humanity", "Broken Hopes", "Buried Sacrifice", "Warriors of Hell" and "Evil has no Boundaries" (Slayer cover). Like I

said, the production is very underground, but it doesn't hurt this killer display of first rate thrash one bit. I've already listened to it a hundred times!! It's raw, brute force!

B. JANNUSCH

Pioir Szymanski  
Os. Wl. Jagielly 3/3  
60-694 Poznani  
Poland  
[bloodthirst@poczta.fm](mailto:bloodthirst@poczta.fm)  
<http://bloodthirst.metal.pl>

#### BLUEPRINT CAR CRASH

Rhetoric of a Marionette

THE MILITIA GROUP

San Dimas, California natives Blueprint Car Crash make engaging music that blurs the lines between melody and dissonance. On the quartet's debut six-track release, the post hardcore stance the outfit displays is lined with jagged guitars and the type of angular rhythms one would find on an At The Drive In release. Yet, beyond the scathing heaviness that pervades tracks like "12.8.80", a spirited tribute to John Lennon, lies the type of spaciousness that early Rush and all of your favorite Pink Floyd albums have employed, giving Blueprint Car Crash the progressive edge on most of its hardcore peers. Throw in some high powered jams such as "Terminat Hora Diem" which juxtapose the Latin flavor of Santana with the edginess of Dredg, and RHETORIC OF A MARIONETTE becomes a captivating potpourri of left of center rock. M. SOS  
[www.themilitiagroup.com](http://www.themilitiagroup.com)

#### BODYFARM

I have a major problem when it comes to not being able to understand the lyrics to a song. But, there's just something about a female singer screaming at the top of her lungs which is what we have here. I happen to enjoy this release because of the musical style. In a word, it's metal. It's fast, it's heavy and it's got a slammin' groove which is something I can really appreciate. It's got a pretty good sound as well, which is always a plus. My only real complaint is the fact that there's only three songs on this release. Not enough to form an honest opinion. But it's enough to hold my interest. I believe Bodyfarm will make a huge impact with a full length CD which is what I'd like to see. There's a lot of potential here and, hopefully, they'll use it to the best of their ability and, if they do, anything that stands in their way will be crushed!

P.AUTRY

<http://www.bodyfarmmusic.com>

BROKEN HANDS FOR BRILLIANT MINDS

Remember The Past, Respect The Future

(ODD HALO)

Broken Hands for Brilliant Minds is one of those esoteric releases made by a one man band which captures the subtlety and texture of different noises and sounds. Clocking in at over seventy minutes and going six tracks deep, this is the kind of project that needs elaborate amounts of attentiveness from the listener for maximum understanding. It's a hard pressed ideal to call this kind of synthesized collection of sounds any one form of music, but ambient would probably suit it best, and if you are a fan of the brand of rock Neurosis makes, this release would be its lighter, more mind expanding counterpart. M. SOS  
[www.beautyandpain.com](http://www.beautyandpain.com)

#### CADABRA

Blood and Blades

Once again I find a band that takes me back to the illustrious 80's. These guys sound like most 80's bands without sounding like them at all. Refreshing. Good beats and a good production make this a winner for the 80's crowd.

O.NILSEN

Francesco Radicci  
Via Canudo 128  
Gidia Del Colle (BA), Italy  
[www.cadabra.org](http://www.cadabra.org)

#### CALIFORNIA GUITAR TRIO

The First Decade

WOW! I am really blown away by the talent and skill being demonstrated on this CD. These 3 guys are awesome. Any guitar player will appreciate the skill and expertise that this band has...some of the most technical playing that I have heard in a very long time. Sadly, my copy of the CD does not list the band members or I would list their names here to give them the accolades that they deserve. So instead--awesome, awesome job guys. Really impressive. Every musician needs to go and at least hear them once. 'Nuff said.

AJ WHITE

[www.insideoutmusic.com](http://www.insideoutmusic.com)

California Guitar Trio

InsideOut Music

Kolpingstrasse 9-11

47533

Kieve, Germany

#### CARNIVEAN

In Todes Banden

(self)

Technical brutality with lots of groove and breakneck riffs. Fans of old Cannibal Corpse and Deaden take note. An ever flowing stream of constantly changing bombardment. A shitload of talent on all players parts especially the guitars. One

helluva bad ass independent release and full length to boot! If you like no-frills death metal, support this shit, mother fuckers!!! Highlights that stuck on me were "Post Mortem" (no, not a Slayer cover, but an unoriginally titled original), "Dreaming the Dark", "Evil Be Thy Name" and "Welcomed by the Mass". Another solid release like this and they will be embraced with a respect reserved for old time legends.... Five out of six morgue slabs. M. ZELINSKY  
P.O. Box 138  
Salford, PA 18957 USA  
[www.carivean.com](http://www.carivean.com)

#### CONQUEST

No Boundaries

(Independent Copyright 2000)

One thing I can honestly say about these guys is they fuckin' kick ass!!! I had the pleasure of playing with these guys last year (2003) at Oasis 160 in Chicago Heights, IL in the late fall/early winter. All the usual "you think you're better than me" kind of jealousy seemed to manifest itself when they met Ravensthorpe, but I didn't let it affect my appreciation of their music. I received this disc early in 2004 and it brought back many awesome memories of their performance last year! Songs such as "Just Before the Dawn", "Ruin My Life", "Back Against the Wall", "No Mercy/ 9/11", "So Cold", "Nightmare" and more reaffirmed my belief in this killer metal machine of destruction. Derrick Brunley – guitar/vocals/production is as fucking professional as they get out in the underground and has a great voice in the Metallica/Megadeth/Sanctuary/Nevermore style of vocals and sounds totally original in his own right. Their songs (featuring Mike Crook-guitars, Robert Lloyd-bass and Tim Fleetwood-drums) are really tight, slow, mid-tempo thrash in a melodic mode that really sizzles in a vein untapped all it's own. In other words, get this disc and prepare for some serious devastation like you would never expect in a world of too many mediocre death bands and sub-par speed metal. This is metal by true musicians that really sets a fire of power, melody and emotion. Old school, melodic, thrash, though more of a slower, grinding type. Slickly produced.

B. JANNUSCH

[www.conquestmetal.com](http://www.conquestmetal.com)

#### CONSPIRACY

Demo 2002

Classically good metal. 4 song "dark" CD with some of the best instrumental work I've heard in a long time. Steele's vocals are excellent. Smooth performances on all levels. You kinda get the feeling this is

what Metallica should have developed into. Heavy riffs, clear vocals and a soft ending with "Shine" makes a great CD. Great work. O.NILSEN

Michael Dargis

PO Box 503

Traverse City, MI 49685-0502 USA

[www.conspiracyrocks.com](http://www.conspiracyrocks.com)

#### DEVIL TO PAY

Thirty Pieces of Silver

(Benchmark Records)

What can I say about this CD? Hmmm, so thick you need a chainsaw to stir it. I found this CD quite refreshing compared to the same ole sounds being force fed to our ears. Eleven tracks of pure unbridled heaviness in the Sabbath vein. I give this CD thirty silver thumbs up. Check this disc out! K. WARREN

6311 Westfield Blvd., Ste. 201

Indianapolis, IN 46220 USA

[www.benchmarkrecords.com](http://www.benchmarkrecords.com)

#### DIVINATION

Three Nails Of Fate

DRP Records goes death metal with the release of Divination's crushing, eight song CD, "Three Nails Of Fate," and, sad to say, this is probably the first album I've gotten from them that I can't get into. Truth be told, I can't stand death metal. It's a style of music that just doesn't float my boat. Truth be told, what really kills it for me is the vocal style. That whole "brutal death growl" style turns me off faster than the thought of Rosie O'Donnell in the nude. No matter how hard I try to like it...even tolerate it...I can't. Although, to be fair, the musicianship on here is pretty good. It's got a nice kick to it and the production is cool. Oh, can't forget the naked chick on the album cover...gotta love it. The tracks that kind of caught my attention were "God's End," "Enter Disease" and "Torment Of The Living Dead." Those three weren't too bad. Since I don't really understand what a death metal fan would consider a good release, all I can say is give it a listen. Maybe it will trip your trigger, maybe it won't. You decide.

P.AUTRY

<http://www.divinationmetal.com>

<http://www.drprecords.com>

#### DROP

Suckerpunch

(Dark Star Records/Direct Impact)

Straight ahead heavy-rock-metal.

Reminds me a bit of Godsmack. Good song writing with good radio-friendly hooks. If you are into a modern rock-metal vibe this disc is worth checking out. Solid front to back.

K. WARREN

1736 Norwood Ave., Ste. G-1

Itasca, IL 60143 USA

[www.drop-music.com](http://www.drop-music.com)

[www.darkstarrecords.com](http://www.darkstarrecords.com)

#### ESCAPISM

Industrial Scream

The band starts out Italian "story metal" slow and goes full power with dark lyrics and instrumentals. They stay true to traditions while staying themselves. Production could have been a little clearer but otherwise a very good CD ending with a nice ballad in Italian.

O.NILSEN

Lorenzo Cigaina

Via Cassi 23

Latisana, (UD) Italy

[Magnifico\\_lo@yahoo.it](mailto:Magnifico_lo@yahoo.it)

[www.escapism.too.it](http://www.escapism.too.it)

#### EXIT CONDITION

1988-1994

Cool, great UK punk playing in the classic UK SUBS, EXPLOITED style. This is the kind of UK punk that really gets me going. This is really some real kick-ass punk...fast, furious and raw--the way we all like it, I'm sure. 23 songs that have never seen the inside of a CD player 'til now...finally these songs are out for all those anti-vinyl people. One of Boss Tunage's better releases I have heard.

J. OTHMER

[www.bosstunage.com](http://www.bosstunage.com)

#### FISHKILL

Pineappleorangebanana

Finally had a chance to listen to Fishkill.

Heard a lot about it. To be a one man

band, Chris Nelson is very good.

Extremely good rock. It's hard to believe it's a one man band. Sometimes you think you're listening to the old time greats in a new package. He covers it all. Excellent work in the Kinks to Stones tradition. Me want more. O.NILSEN

[www.geocities.com/fillkillmusic](http://www.geocities.com/fillkillmusic)

#### GARGANTHA

Boy-cot-friendo

Another fast paced punk CD from Italy.

Good and tight but unfortunately nothing new or different. Sorry guys. You are good as musicians but you haven't moved me very much. O.NILSEN

[gargantha@hotmail.com](mailto:gargantha@hotmail.com)

#### GLISTER

Queensland

Rock/Power pop from the Blue Mountains near Sydney. Very catchy guitar-based music that sticks in your head the entire day. Love the singer's voice, reminds me of Lisa Loeb meets Liz Phare. Great

Power Pop CD.

K. WARREN

PO Box 300  
Blaxland NSW 2774  
Australia  
[www.glistner.com.au](http://www.glistner.com.au)

#### GOLEM

Dreamweaver

(NUCLEAR BLAST)

Taking liberally from both the death and grind metal scene, Germany's Golem have made its third album an unrelentless collection that growls, stomps, and ultimately makes your ears bleed.

Comprised of 11 tracks, DREAMWEAVER's darkened atmosphere can be likened to the early days of extreme metal, as tracks like "Breeder" isn't sickeningly fast, but will haunt you with its morose melody, while supercharged dirges like "Faces" contains the kind of incessant death drumming and lightning fast fretwork that all who like it heavy enjoy. Leading the depraved charge that mixes the best of Napalm Death, Morbid Angel, and Carcass, Golem's latest release ushers back the old school without any fluff or filler.

M. SOS

[www.nuclearblastusa.com](http://www.nuclearblastusa.com)

#### GREG McLEOD

Guns Into Guitars

12 melancholic songs against war and drugs, about depression and love. Slow songs and a sad voice. Not a CD I would put on at a party. Nevertheless, it does make you think when you listen to it. A good CD. Well worth your time.

O.NILSEN

Rainmaker Publicity

398 Columbus Ave.

P. M. B. #138

Boston, MA 02116 USA

[www.cdbaby.net](http://www.cdbaby.net)

#### HATEWORK

Thrash 'n' Roll

(BEER CITY)

Even though the old adage works more often than not, sometimes you can judge a book by its cover. Such is the case with Italian thrash trio Hatework's 12-track chaotic collection, aptly named THRASH 'N' ROLL, a frenetic old school metal assault spurred by an uncompromising mindset that mixes the best of Motorhead, Venom, and Exodus, creating a headbanging session of epic proportions. Does the double bass drumming ever stop? Nope. Does the band ever take a breath and lighten a track up for pacing purposes? Not a chance. From the churning "Radio Madness" to the feverish pace of the title cut, Hatework has little

regard for music trends, fashion statements, and all that other industry crap and instead focuses on its voracious thrashing to bash your brains in. For a pure shot of adrenaline, Hatework's new album is the perfect remedy.

M. SOS

[www.beercity.com](http://www.beercity.com)

#### HEAVEN SHALL BURN

Antigone

(CENTURY MEDIA)

The blurring of the lines between metal and hardcore has been done many times in the last few years, but none have conquered the venture with the precision or as concise as German quintet Heaven Shall Burn. Sounding like the bastard offspring of At the Gates and Earth Crisis, this 12-track endeavor has all of the sonic nuances of any well-respected Scandinavian metal troupe. But, it also employs all of the bare knuckled brutality of today's hybrid hardcore such as Hatebreed, creating an album truly worthy of being called crushing. While piano interludes such as "Risandi Von" bridge the gap between the pulverizing tracks "To Harvest the Storm" and "Bleeding to Death", if you listen closely to these soothing passages, you can still hear gunfire unrest in the background, proving that even the most calming moment in the eye of the storm is still a beacon for danger. Falling somewhere between Massachusetts and Stockholm, ANTIGONE is an album today's metal fan should heartily embrace.

M. SOS

[www.centurymedia.com](http://www.centurymedia.com)

#### ILLOGICIST

Subjected

(CRASH)

Italian death metal trio Illogacist wear its influences very clearly on its sleeves, as the technical grace and savage cerebral assault of the band's nine track release harkens back to the days of Death. Shifting time signatures, rapid fire riffs, and bellowing lead vocals are staples of tracks like the shredding "The High Price of Confidence", while the tumultuous thumping of "The Soul Feeder" will push your neck to its most headbanging limits. Drawing from other metallers as Pestilence and Kreator, Illogacist brings back the old school technical thrash movement with precision and grace.

M. SOS

[www.crashmusicinc.com](http://www.crashmusicinc.com)

#### ILTEATRODELLEOMBRE

Storie D'Inverno

Fast paced (sometimes it sounds angry) punk from Italy...very intense and tight.

More traditional than we usually hear in this part of the world. This combined with a soft touch make them something you'd want to listen to.

O.NILSEN

Beppe Francioso

Via Puntin 9

33051 Aquileia (UD), Italy

<http://digilander.iol.it/ilteatrodelleombre>

#### I WALK THE LINE

Badlands

Nothing too impressive here...another band from Finland. I don't think I have reviewed so many bands from this country at one time. They have an organ player if that means anything to you. Reminds me a lot of MANIFESTO JUKEBOX, I guess. Clean production, this is an easy listen.

J. OTHMER

[www.bosstunage.com](http://www.bosstunage.com)

#### JUNGLE ROT

Fueled By Hate

(OLYMPIC)

The ominous opening of marching boots trudging through the warzone sets the uneasy tone which Chicago-based extreme metallers Jungle Rot are accustomed to. Settling right in with a pulverizing array of guitar riffs, gargled vocals, and hardcore metal rhythms a la Hatebreed and Six Feet Under, FUELED BY HATE is an album chock full of full throttled aggression. Featuring 12 tracks of groove-laden brutality cuts like the pummeling "Gasping for Air" and the frenetic "Habit Fulfilled" may not be the most lyrically challenging songs, but will surely put your neck in traction from the whip lashed madness created.

M. SOS

[www.olympicrecordings.com](http://www.olympicrecordings.com)

#### KARYOKE

Disaster

This happens to be the daughter of Chris Nelson of Fishkill. Unlike her father, she has pursued a more goth style. Her somewhat clear and high voice fit's the genre perfectly. It's obvious she's got a future. I look forward to hearing more from this talented young lady.

O.NILSEN

[Love\\_j\\_44@yahoo.com](mailto:Love_j_44@yahoo.com)

#### KILGORE TROUT

Novocaine

A very good rock album. Too bad it only contains 3 songs. It's edgy without becoming aggressive. The title song "Novocaine" is a true masterpiece. I hope these guys will hang around for a long time and make more excellent music.

O.NILSEN

[www.kilgoretoutmusic.com](http://www.kilgoretoutmusic.com)

[info@kilgorettroutmusic.com](mailto:info@kilgorettroutmusic.com)

#### KILLWHITNEYDEAD

Never Good Enough For You  
(TRIBUNAL)

Killwhitenydead is a death metal outfit with a penchant for the movies, aptly shown by the outfit's 17-track release's bombardment of sound bites from films that range from AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON to OLD SCHOOL. Besides the band's flick fetish, the ultraviolent lyrics and grotesquely blood soaked album's photos work in unison, fueling unsettlingly brutal soundtrack homage to the horror genre. Can cinemacore be a new genre of metal? If the Arizona quartet, whose identities and legitimacy remains shrouded in secrecy, has its way, then the answer would be a big two thumbs up. Film buffs and metalheads unite, your new favorite band has arrived. M. SOS  
[www.tribunalrecords.com](http://www.tribunalrecords.com)

#### KLOWN

Egoista/Senza Te  
Renaissance metal. Absolutely fabulous. Tight, moving (even though I didn't understand much) and just right. I wish I had more than 2 songs to judge their music by. It's heavy yet mellow. Ends it with some really great riffs and vocals.

O.NILSEN

Marcello Bellina  
Via Mauri 71A  
26845 Codoeno (LO), Italy  
[www.klown.it](http://www.klown.it)

#### LEASH LAW

Dogface  
(BLACK LOTUS)

Leash Law is a new band comprised of accomplished metal veterans whose sonic output on the group's nine-track debut DOGFACE is a no strings attached, straight ahead attack that won't disappoint the spiked wristband contingent. In fact, Wade Black's falsetto metal shrill and the rest of the outfit, comprised of ex-members of such luminaries as Death, Seven Witches, and Iced Earth, play the kind of balls out music that combines the feel of galloping European metal like Helloween with the relentless crunch of American power like Savatage and Fates Warning at its heaviest. Tracks like "Martial Law" screams with the kind of vengeance of vintage Priest and early Mercyful Fate, while the operatic opening of "Banion" yields the kind of emotionally charged, deep-rooted power ballad that doesn't demean the term or the band. If you're craving a metal fix with old school tendencies, Leash Law's inaugural offering is a perfect disc to explore.

M. SOS [www.black-lotus-recs.com](http://www.black-lotus-recs.com)

#### LELAHEL METAL VOL.1

The Total Sound of the Underground  
(self)

18 songs of pure death and pleasure...A great collection of metal from all over Europe and from Lebanon. Beautiful. I just wish I had no neighbors so that I could really crank this baby up! After listening to it I almost felt like I needed a rest. This is Lelabel's first compilation and they've done a great job. From what I'm hearing, another one is in the works. KEEP'EM COMING!!!

O.M.NILSEN

[www.lelahelmetal.com](http://www.lelahelmetal.com)  
4 bis, rue Arezki Meziane  
16070 El Mouradia, Algieres, ALGERIA

#### LOCO LIVE

An all RAMONES cover band from Italy...now I have seen it all. 7 song demo...These guys play these songs a little over the speed limit for RAMONES' songs but I really like a lot of the songs. 'Pet Sematary' was done really well. E-mail Massi and I'm sure he can get one your way. This is well worth the effort to get a hold of... J. OTHMER  
EDITOR'S NOTES...or shall I say 'Marcy's Ramblings' (HA!!)...I am poor therefore I have a cassette player in my piece of junk car....ANYWAY, I listen to this cassette EVERY time I am in my car and just can't get enough of it. The majority of people who have been in my car have heard this demo and loved it even people who NEVER listen to the RAMONES and people who don't even like the RAMONES, go figure...excellent demo!!! GET YOURS!!!!

[mdiprenda@libero.it](mailto:mdiprenda@libero.it)  
[www.loco-live.cjb.net](http://www.loco-live.cjb.net)  
Massi's other bands....  
Stoner Rock

<http://welcome.to/vorticecremisi>  
\*\*Check out RB's Bands of the Month!!

Italian Heavy (Wine) Metal  
[www.kurnalcool.net](http://www.kurnalcool.net)

**RIP JOHNNY RAMONE!!!  
YOU'LL BE MISSED!!!**

#### LOW TWELVE

Unfit For Human Occupancy  
(HEAVYCORE)

Bruising Illinois metal trio Low Twelve return with the good old fashioned stomping style on the outfit's latest five-track offering. Laying down a thick wall of grinding grooves, Low Twelve pounds the hell out of its instruments and growls its way into your brain, crushing anything in its path. Mixing the best of Pantera, Propain, and the spirit of the early days of

thrash metal, Low Twelve's passionate pummeling will have your neck in a brace and your body in a cast if you're not careful. If you like your music brutal, Low Twelve truly delivers the goods.

M. SOS

[www.lowtwelve.com](http://www.lowtwelve.com)

#### LUNASUIT

Summer Season

It's always a great surprise when you are not expecting much out of a CD. This fucking rocks...female fronted with No Use For a Name playing in the back ground! HA not really. This band can easily be on Fat Wreck Chords or any other pop punk label for the masses. The band plays really tight and catchy melodic hooks and the vocals are amazing...they mix with the music so well. I wish I knew more about this band. Now I am a fan. It's been a long time since a band/CD has had this much of an impact on me. Things for Boss Tunage are really starting to look up!

J. OTHMER

[www.bosstunage.com](http://www.bosstunage.com)

#### MALEVOLENT SNEAKER TOOTH Housebroken

I have heard the Tooth and the Tooth is real. This is most awesome...very versatile sound. There is a ton of talent here. Some killer and mega catchy guitar riffs here folks. Reminds me of a mix of Slayer and Cradle of Filth...Totally rocking. Even more impressive is that this was done on a 4 track and then cleaned up on a computer. Really good sound. Awesome work Mark. Some aggressive songs that pump you up to tear a hole in the very fabric of reality. Get the Tooth people. You are missing out. 'Nuff said.

AJ WHITE

[malevolentsneakertooth@yahoo.com](mailto:malevolentsneakertooth@yahoo.com)  
[www.dishragrecords.com](http://www.dishragrecords.com)

#### MEMORIZED DREAMS

Cheater of Life  
(Sound Riot)

Another band from the peninsula of Fosen, Norway...Christian Metal this time. Incredible music from this 7 member band. They themselves are great and in addition they have brought in an army of guest musicians and singers. Excellent metal. Catchy, riffy and all around great. A very well put together CD. Check them out.

O.M.NILSEN

#### MORTUARY

Void (2003)  
(Buffalo Revenge)

This demo was actually recorded in 1991 by Serbian old school death thrash band

Mortuary. Similar in feel to the Polish band Bloodthirst, these guys really slam on the old Kreator style thrash, but in this case the production is even more underground sounding. It mostly just sounds like it has been dubbed a thousand times (it's on cassette only). Songs such as "Cause of Subsistance", "Affected Sufferance", "Storm" and "Void" are awesome songs, though, and can be enjoyed on full volume if you have a good equalizer. A very original sounding band compared to some of the newer death metal releases. The four songs repeat themselves over and over on both sides of the tape!! It drills the evil message into your brain!! Very cool!! I just wish the sound quality was better.

B. JANNUSCH

Contact:  
Max Butcher  
N. Pasica  
8/73 34000 Kragujevac  
Serbia

#### MUSIC BOX

Sunset Boulevards  
Two CD demo set. One with 4 fast moving tunes...3 classic heavy rock and a punk number. The second CD contains 2 slow and pleasant ballads. Both CDs contain tunes that display great musicianship and the vocals are great. Both bring me back to the 80's. The style is somewhat commercial for my taste but the music is good. Wish I had more info on the band though. Very good band.

O.NILSEN

105 Lucchini St.  
26100 Cremona  
Italy

#### NORTH SIDE KINGS

Organizing our Neighborhood (THORP)  
Resembling The Sopranos as much as Madball, Arizona's favorite mobsters have returned with another demonstration in violence. ORGANIZING OUR NEIGHBORHOOD marks the return of North Side Kings, and it delivers the kind of pull no punches, angry, and aggressive pit style hardcore you'd expect from these pisons. From the chugging riffs of "Right or Wrong" to the punkier hardcore of "A Family Affair", this 12-track disc is like eating a seven course Sunday dinner in Brooklyn; you may be stuffed as a pig, but the food keeps on coming, and you keep on eating, because it's so damn good. Substitute Grandma's macaroni for NSK's brutal metalcore blitz, and you've got yourself gorged on some of the finest brutal NYHC, meshing Hatebreed, Sick of It All, and Sheer Terror.

M. SOS

[www.thorprecords.com](http://www.thorprecords.com)

#### OPIUM WAR

Absolut Metal

I had the great pleasure of seeing these guys in WV recently and I must say, this spoke (make that screamed) to me. Extremely heavy. The kind that makes your ears bleed. Love it. Everything is well put together. The dark, throaty vocals of Householder combined with some of the best musicianship I've ever heard make for an unbelievable experience.

O.M.NILSEN

[Opium\\_war@hotmail.com](mailto:Opium_war@hotmail.com)  
[www.opiumwar.net](http://www.opiumwar.net)

#### PLEASE MR. GRAVEDIGGER

Here's To The Life Of The Party (PLUTO)

San Diego's Please Mr. Gravedigger's debut showcases a band that knows how to concoct a proper punk rock cocktail. This sextet, formed by three ex-members of As I Lay Dying and comprised of a twin guitar attack with keyboards, provide 12-tracks of well-textured chaos on HERE'S TO THE LIFE OF THE PARTY. Wanna hear an aural assault? Then check out tracks like "Last Call", which hit the mark by juxtaposing the early So Cal punk attitude of Black Flag, the jagged edges of Fugazi, and the backbeat of The Murder City Devils. PMG create the kind of consistent devilish delight that few bands can muster up even on one track. While PMG has a lot in common with the dissonant hardcore of bands like Everytime I Die and Amen, the sheer punk rock stomp behind tracks like "The Operator" and "Sedation Nation" is undeniable, making this disc something for anyone that enjoys well textured anger.

M. SOS

[www.plutorecords.com](http://www.plutorecords.com)

#### POINT 3

The Short Illustrations of Disproportion (FUNKLEBERRY)

Point 3 is a Bay Area trio whose brand of rock 'n' roll mixes the nuances of MTV's alternative music of the '90s with some of the more radio friendly rock currently audible over the modern rock radio airwaves. The outfit's nine-track release is big on melody and huge hooks, such as the Bic lighter inducing vibe of "Three Days" and the warbling crunch of Soul Asylum on "Macbeth". Point 3 is competent at what they do; yet the groups lack of uniqueness lumps them right in between Three Doors Down and Nickelback, vying for that coveted spot as faceless rock band of the week. M. SOS

[www.point-three.com](http://www.point-three.com)

#### QUINTESSENTIAL COMPILATION #2

Damn does this CD kick ass. This is some hard hitting jam. 16 ass kicking bands such as Antix, Factory of Art, Black Steel. Dead Air Radio plus others. This is some true let us go and tear the world apart and make it ours metal. All the songs are awesome on here. You just need to get it and give it a listen for yourself. Get in touch with Wayne. He can hook you up with some killer tunes.

AJ WHITE

[metal-essence@webtv.net](mailto:metal-essence@webtv.net)  
Wretched Productions  
c/o Wayne Klinger  
PO Box 134  
Mt Carmel, PA 17851 USA

#### REV.99

Turn a deaf ear  
Everything changed after 9/11  
(Pax Recordings)  
Did the talking heads have a nervous breakdown? Somewhat techno intermixed with semi-industrial chaos. Interesting mix of sounds. This is definitely not my kind of sound. (music?) Some of you might like it though. If you like random sounds combined with nonsensical sentences this is definitely for you.

O.NILSEN

PO Box 591138  
San Francisco, CA 94159-1138 USA  
[www.paxrecordings.com](http://www.paxrecordings.com)

#### SAHARA HOTNIGHTS

Kiss and Tell

(RCA)

Riding the same wave as currently rock darlings The Strokes and The Vines, the all-female quartet Sahara Hotnights have released its debut major label release after a few smash indie successes. Displaying a firm grip on the art of rock and the kind of no-nonsense approach found on "Walk on the Wire" firmly in tow throughout the 11-track release, Sahara Hotnights work hard to debunk the myth that girls don't rock. This Swedish outfit's garagey guitars and semi-squeaky clean fun time beats fall somewhere between The Go-Go's, Weezer, and The Cars, as tracks like the bouncy "Stay/ Stay Away" and the punchy "Empty Heart" typify KISS AND TELL's underlying pop sensibility with a real rock backbone. Despite the idea that four pretty girls singing rock anthems with style and substance seems out of reach, this band makes the fantasy a reality, relieving many rock fans of girls that rock that have turned sour on Courtney, Avril and Alanis.

M. SOS

[www.rcarecords.com](http://www.rcarecords.com)

#### SCAVENGER

Madness To Our Method  
(Sentinel Records)

Somewhat commercial but very promising...reminds me of TNT sometimes. (Anyone remember them?) Very tight and nice though. Good interplay. Nice instrumentals. Sometimes fast and furious, sometimes soft. All in all a very good CD in the DIO tradition.

O. NILSEN

Toghermore

Roundwood

Co. Wickland, Ireland

[www.sentinelireland.com](http://www.sentinelireland.com)

[www.sentinelrecords.com](http://www.sentinelrecords.com)

#### SKULGRINDER

Island of Lost Souls

(KM Records)

They call themselves the New Merchants of Molten Metal and when you pop the CD into the player you discover why. Metal music with dark stories. Very clear vocals and heavy grinding instrumentals make for some great pieces of music. Every song tells a dark story. This is the good stuff folks. Come and get it.

O. NILSEN

Here's Heavy Metal that takes me back to the Iron Maiden days. Pounding and screaming that makes me want to go out and wax my Ford Pinto with my Priest t-shirt. Overall good tunes, tight and to the point. A great CD for those into the older style Metal (Dio-Maiden-Priest). Check 'em out.

K. WARREN

PO Box 651

Floral Park, NY 11002 USA

[www.kmrecords.com](http://www.kmrecords.com)

#### SONIC WARFARE 1(comp)

(Peace or Die Records)

A Compilation Featuring Blood Drive, Piece Bucket, Soul Casket, C.D.P., Croatan, The Hypochondriacs, Driver, and Detached. A little bit of everything here but mostly Old School Hardcore. I love this shit...smack yer head into the wall stuff here kids. The CD also has a couple of Female-fronted bands. Lovers of old Hardcore will love this disc.

K. WARREN

PO Box 31045

Cincinnati, OH 45231 USA

[www.peaceordierecords.com](http://www.peaceordierecords.com)

#### SPACCIATORI DI MUSICA

STUPEFACENTE

Dove Ti Sei Perso

Pop/Punk from Italy...Strong songs with plenty of hooks despite the language

barrier. Fast paced, edgy. The Clash if they forgot to take their Ritalin.

K. WARREN

[spacciatori@hotmail.com](mailto:spacciatori@hotmail.com)

[www.spacciatori.org](http://www.spacciatori.org)

#### STRYK-9

The New Breed

Forget what you've been told...all metal is NOT created equal. There are those who choose to rise above everything else in order to make their mark in the music world. Stryk-9 is a perfect example. In simple terms, they're a metal band. However, as you go through each track on their 11 song CD, "The New Breed," it will become clear that metal is the foundation which their musical style is built upon. You'll also hear elements of hardcore, rap style vocals, rock and, to a lesser degree, death metal. It's aggressive, it's brutal, it's raw, it's got a groove...and it's all rolled up and presented to you in a nice, neat package. There's a lot of music out there that tries to pull off a sound like this and, for the most part, it comes up short. Stryk-9 is the band that's gonna help get rid of all that crap while they stomp their way to the top. Today the underground, tomorrow the world. Stryk-9...a band to remember, music that you will never forget. No doubt!

P. AUTRY

<http://www.stryk-9.com>

#### TAMMY RAYBOULD

Some Say Bruised Pretty

Beautiful voice, excellent production, incredible song writing best describes the three songs on this EP. Melodic pieces with just the right amount of bite...Catchy and addictive.

K. WARREN

[www.tammyraybould.com](http://www.tammyraybould.com)

#### THE CRINGE

Scratch the Surface

Great album. These guys do everything rock. They go from ballads to punk without missing a beat. The vocals are great and the CD contains some truly excellent guitar work. They all play very well together. A sure winner. I loved "song 13". Some great instrumental work here.

O. NILSEN

[www.thecringeand.com](http://www.thecringeand.com)

#### THE FORSAKEN

Traces of The Past

(CENTURY MEDIA)

Swedish death metal outfit The Forsaken have carved a niche for themselves as being both technically sound and savagely fierce, and the quintet's latest release furthers that belief. On TRACES OF THE

PAST, the dual guitars churn like Carcass meets At the Gates during an In Flames concert, while the expansive vocals vary from gurgled death to bellowed rage, all the while keeping the mood viciously heavy. Old school American metal such as Obituary and Testament are also included in the mix, making tracks like the ominous "Acid with Acid-Piece by Piece" and the gloom ridden jolt of "Serpent's Tongue" that much more foreboding. As an added bonus, the clan bangs out the most evil Metallica and Slayer covers on the face of the earth, giving a demonic gloss over such timeless metal gems as "Blackened", "Creeping Death", and "Spirit in Back". For a descent back into the catacombs of death metal's darker glories, look no further than The Forsaken to take you there.

M. SOS

[www.centurymedia.com](http://www.centurymedia.com)

#### THE HEAVILS

Heavilution

(METAL BLADE)

The Heavils have returned with a sophomore effort that is way heavier yet still as frenetic as the band's self-titled debut. Enlisting the services of uber metal guy Devin Townsend to twiddle knobs and lend some screams to the fracas, the 14-tracks which comprise HEAVILUTION are chock full of powerful metal compositions that mix the brutality of Slipknot, the volumizing blues metal of Motorhead, and the odd flare of Primus. The difference between most other metal groups and The Heavils is how the Illinois outfit's music is played; through the group's custom made instruments which emulate guitars but are shaped and built like weaponry, the unique sounds and ambient noises that are emitted through songs such as "Heavilution" and "Sinking Time" strike lower, hit harder, and come across a hell of a lot weirder than any 7-string Ibanez can muster. Coupled with the band's heavy-handed punk meets aggressive metal soundscape, The Heavils have made another interesting album that may confound your average metal fan, but will definitely appeal to the folks who like to headbang and dig music that is on the fringe.

M. SOS

[www.metalblade.com](http://www.metalblade.com)

#### THE INSTANT SINGLES

COLLECTION VOL. 2

Pretty medio-core as far as the bands go...we get ROPE (UK), BABY LITTLE TABLETS (Japan), INNERFACE (Belgium), SKEETER (USA), BEAUTY SCHOOL DROP OUT (Scotland) which I think was one of the better grounds

featured, and also, IN HARMS WAY from Edmonton Canaduh! The format is a CD but it comes in a 7" sleeve which is kinda cool. Pretty interesting comp--good as a novelty...Check it out.  
J.OTHMER

[www.bosstunage.com](http://www.bosstunage.com)

#### THE LOW DOWN ON LAY DOWN STUDIO 1 (comp)

Comp. CD consisting of everything metal. It's hard to write a review of a comp. CD because of the many elements. One thing is certain though, Laydown have gathered 12 great bands in one great compilation. I only hope we're able to do the same...great stuff. O.NILSEN  
111 Wichita Ct.  
San Antonio, TX 78225 USA

#### THE MARVELS , Cheat To Win (ABBEY LOUNGE)

From the opening sneer on The Marvels' eight-track release, you can feel the rock 'n' roll take over your soul. This veteran punk rock quintet take a driving backbeat, a handful of catchy punk rock choruses, and a sinister hood rat hex over CHEAT TO WIN, and damn near guarantee your utter satisfaction. Sounding like a beefed-up version of Sex Pistols meets Electric Frankenstein at a '80s metal show on the Sunset Strip, this CD is loud, sleazy, and secretes the kind of smarmy, smart ass attitude that so much of today's punk rock misses the boat on. Looking for the kind of beer-swigging swagger to get your rocks off to? You're in luck, because The Marvels are, too, and they're not afraid to throw out some of their equally debaucheries dirty punk boogies in the interim. M. SOS  
[www.themarvels.net](http://www.themarvels.net)

#### THE MILWAUKEES

Angel With a Knife  
Booo fucking Hoo, cry me a river!! I hate shit like this it's like I really need someone to tell me how much my life sucks cause I already know!! Geeeee what type of life do the people who write these songs live?? It's a scary to even think about it. 'Angel with a Knife'... that says it all. Well at least you get 3 unreleased songs. I understand these guys are HUGE on the college radio charts and I can see why! J. OTHMER  
[www.bosstunage.com](http://www.bosstunage.com)

#### THE RED WEST

The Red West  
This is a very melodic, clear sounding band with nifty, catchy tunes. It is like Sting meets Dave Matthews with a slight twist..really good lyrics here also. An up

beat and entertaining CD to listen to. I love the all acoustic sound these guys have. It is nice to hear clean music every now and then. The talent really comes out as these guys do their thing. If you like soft/mellow rock then check them out.

AJ WHITE

[www.theredwest.com](http://www.theredwest.com)

#### TILES

##### Window Dressing (INSIDE OUT)

Tiles is a progressive rock band that lays the grooves down like a cross between King's X and Fates Warning, making this Michigan quartet's latest 11-track endeavor a bit more palatable for those who lack attention spans. Mixing hard rock melodies into the technical musicianship, Tiles incorporate a slew of '70s era Rush tactics into its prog metal flexings, right down to the churning guitars and falsetto vocals. Armed with three instrumentals and three songs well over the five-minute mark, Tiles are out to make a mark in your subconscious. With songs like the nylon-string acoustic instrumental "A.02" and the majestic metal might of "Capture the Flag", this throwback rock outfit has all of the chops and credentials to appease rock fans that crave the more elaborate end of the spectrum.

M. SOS

[www.insideoutmusic.com](http://www.insideoutmusic.com)

#### TIME IN MALTA

##### Alone With The Alone (EQUAL VISION)

The Bay Area metal scene has always pushed the boundaries of the metal genre, whether it be through the initial speed metal assault of Metallica or the harder left of center approaches of bands like Faith No More and Primus. Time in Malta, a hardcore metal quartet who happen to hail from the same area, do its part to add to the legacy by breaking down the walls between seething hardcore like Earth Crisis and the kind of sledgehammered metal riffs you'd hear on a Testament record on ALONE WITH THE ALONE. The outfit's sophomore effort features 12 tracks of face-ripping aggression and pure bursts of jagged emotion suitable for any fans of Snapcase, Thrive, and crossover bands of that sort, as tracks like "Louder Than Bombs" and "Perform the Surgery" will test the output in your speakers. Time in Malta also reveals the kind of dynamics on tracks like "Ghosts" and "Fused as One" which many of its cohorts lack, making ALONE WITH THE ALONE the perfect bridge in your collection between your Hot Water

Music and Hatebreed albums.

M. SOS

[www.equalvision.com](http://www.equalvision.com)

#### TOC

##### Loss Angeles (INSIDE OUT)

TOC is a Swedish quintet whose melding of progressive metal, the band's native Gothenburg sound, and power metal's melodic traces makes for an enthralling listen on the young outfit's third offering, the playfully titled LOSS ANGELES. This time around, TOC implement the tried and true elements of hard rock a la Scorpions and UFO into the mix, adding yet another dimension to tracks like the pulsating "Acid Highway" and the emotive ballad "Bite the Bullet". There's also two cover tunes, the sped-up version of Deep Purple's timeless "Smoke on the Water" and the dead-on Judas Priest stomper "Night Crawler" to feast on, but it's the band's vivid usage of different genres and styles which makes this album such a treat for the metal fan whose interests go beyond one particular classification. Imagine the concoction of Dream Theater, In Flames, and Children of Bodom rolled into one mammoth metal conglomerate, and you've got a taste of the eclectic 10-track disc that TOC have created. -Mike SOS

[www.insideoutmusic.com](http://www.insideoutmusic.com)

#### TOM KAFAFIAN

##### In Through the Outside

Very talented young man. On many tracks he plays everything himself. It's music you can jam to all night. He mixes several styles into something entirely his own. He goes from soft to hard in the blink of an eye. Good stuff.

O.NILSEN

[www.tomkafafian.com](http://www.tomkafafian.com)  
[www.tomkmusic.com](http://www.tomkmusic.com)  
[www.checkouttom.com](http://www.checkouttom.com)

#### TRAGIC FIGURE

##### Tragic Figure

Tragic Figure is a Long Island quintet whose new skool approach to NYHC is documented on the group's five-track release. While the energy of hardcore is very much apparent here, there's a strong thread of metal running through each track. Tragic Figure's sound contains the kind of breakdowns and power on tracks like "Revenge" that made Leeway and Cro-Mags infamous, yet the street scrapings of bands like Suicidal Tendencies and E-Town Concrete also rear its head on songs like "Smiling Eyes, Lying Eyes". Tragic Figure walk the line between metal and hardcore well, mixing the right amount of VOD and All Out War

together for maximum moshpit activity.  
M. SOS  
[www.tragicfigure.net](http://www.tragicfigure.net)

#### TREEPHORT

Enchanted Forest  
(SPRINGMAN)

Treephort is a punk rock quintet whose quirky style and avant-garde outlook strays as far away from the current acceptable sight and sound of punk rock as possible. The result is an erratic array of nerd rock a la Weezer, '80s synth pop, and tongue in cheek humor which allows this Atlanta based clan to cover KD Lang's "Constant Craving" and have song titles like the delicious "Jesus Would Play This Show For Free" and the soberingly honest "It Takes Talent to Scream into a Microphone" and not be considered a joke. While the band may be a bit on the whimsical side, the interesting instrumentation of keys, deep bass, and jangly guitars give off a John Hughes movie vibe while Treephort's insightful, clever titles and lyrics suggest that these guys know exactly what they're doing; raising the punk rock standard a little bit higher by injecting its own brand of weird intellectualism.

M. SOS

[www.treephort.com](http://www.treephort.com)

#### TWILIGHT OPHERA

The End of Halcyon Age  
(CRASH)

Finnish metal troupe Twilight Ophera's third release is an epic journey through the annals of symphonic metal, as the nine-tracks that comprise THE END OF HALCYON AGE have all of the spirit and the similar arsenal of such luminaries as Cradle of Filth and Dimmu Borgir. This sextet render all of the majestic pageantry of black metal's most celebrated bands, complete with speed metal guitars, atmospheric guitars, non-stop percussions, and screams that cascade from the depths of Hell. If you're big on the Scandinavian metal tip, Twilight Ophera's paramount performance should make a nice addition to your collection.

M.SOS

[www.crashmusicinc.com](http://www.crashmusicinc.com)

#### UNIT

Untied & United. Volume 1  
(self)

What can I say about these guys. They don't really fit into any one genre I can think of. Unless it's technopunk-folkrockblues. That should describe it somewhat. They cover all the bases on this CD. Relatively short songs but there are 37 of them. Very good and interesting music. They are very good musicians.

Sometimes you think you are listening to a jam session where they go from one thing to another without missing a beat. Very good. Comfortable in all genres. Get it and listen to it again and again and again..... O.M.NILSEN

Unit HQ

Box 4 136 Kingsland High Street  
London, E8 2NS, ENGLAND  
[unitunited@yahoo.com](mailto:unitunited@yahoo.com)

#### VARIOUS ARTISTS

EVIL LIVES: A TRUE METAL  
TRIBUTE TO BLACK SABBATH  
(CLEOPATRA)

Black Sabbath, the veritable godfathers of heavy metal, have an illustrious 30 year career that bands would kill for. Maybe that's why so many tribute albums of the quartet's mammoth musical output have been done, yet the latest from Cleopatra Records claims to be a true metal tribute. From solely reading the lineup, it does look impressive, as Iced Earth, Vince Neil, George Lynch, and Racer X amongst many other underground and cult artists lend a hand to the homage. The most interesting thing about this 13-track release is that, unlike other Sabbath tribute discs, this one spans the legacy past 1978, when Ozzy abruptly left the group, giving Ronnie James Dio-era Sabbath and beyond its proper accolades. While many of the bands here would only be recognized by those entrenched in metal, each band lets loose and gives off some fist pumping renditions of classics like "Children of the Sea" and "Sabbath Bloody Sabbath". Another nice touch of this disc is the complete historic essay that documents all of the comings and goings of the band's members, something that most fans would need a scorecard for written in a lucid, easy to follow manner. For a Sab head, or for a real deal metalhead, EVIL LIVES is a nice conversation piece to throw on and make your friend's guess whose covering which track. M. SOS

[www.cleorecs.com](http://www.cleorecs.com)

#### VARIOUS ARTISTS

Gnarly Dude

(VOLTAGE)

GNARLY DUDE is a British-based compilation disc comprised of skater and punk rock bands. Containing 13 bands that run the gamut from Snapcase-esque hardcore to So Cal punk to trippy hip-hop to rockabilly, despite the poor CD layout and lack of band's song titles, this collection employs the kind of unbridled energy to throw caution to the wind and perform stupid skating tricks to.

M. SOS

[www.voltagestudios.com](http://www.voltagestudios.com)

#### VARIOUS ARTISTS

High Volume  
(HIGH TIMES)

The folks at High Times Magazine have provided an audio companion to the publication with HIGH VOLUME, a 14-track offering that boasts the who's who of stoner rock. Clutch, Nebula, Unida, Corrosion of Conformity, and High on Fire lead the charge, and with many of these songs being rare or released for the first time, this compilation is a must have for any of these band's ardent fans. For an excellent primer to the term stoner rock, HIGH VOLUME is the best place to steer the ever-growing populace that ask the resounding question "what is stoner rock?" M. SOS

[www.hightimesrecords.net](http://www.hightimesrecords.net)

#### VOW DREAMS

Dead Two Times

Somewhat special Intro...you get the feeling you're about to enter a graveyard. Truly dark and gothic. Doom permeates this CD. Good instrument work. Vocals are somewhat fuzzy but in this case it actually sounds right. All in all something I would create a horror movie around. It's the perfect soundtrack.

O. NILSEN

Antonello Mura

Via Napoli n. 7

08015 Macomer (NU)

Italy

#### WHORRID

Bitch Butchers

In an attempt to keep the true death metal alive, Ivan Galdamez and Ed Baugh joined forces to create REDRUM (murder spelled backwards) in April '02 (were reviewed in issue #19 of RB). They released this CD to great reviews here and overseas after many member changes. They found Andrew Rafacz in May '03 to play guitar. They are now called WHORRID. The new release 'Bitch Butchers' proves WHORRID has something to say to true traditional death metal fanatics. P. GRABOWSKI  
WHORRID-NO DRUM TRIGGERS, NO SPECIAL EFFECTS, NO BULLSHIT LYRICS, PURE RAW TRUE METAL  
P.O. Box 388639  
Chicago, Ill 60638-8639 USA  
[www.whorrid.com](http://www.whorrid.com)

#### WISE

Wise

(BUBBA JACK)

Wise is funky rock outfit from NYC whose six-track self-titled release has the late '80s and early '90s punk metal hybrid

sound made famous by bands like Suicidal Tendencies with a dash of D.C. punk circa 1984. Booming guitars and straightforward beats emit a near hip-hop feel, especially on the bouncy "You're Talkin' to Me". While there's not a whole lot of depth in the lyrics on Wise's disc, the music underneath it all kicks out the jams with the kind of free form feel that mixes Parliament Funkadelic, Infectious Grooves, and a slice of the Chili Peppers into one big heavy funk hodgepodge. M. SOS  
[www.wiserocks.com](http://www.wiserocks.com)

## say what you will and speak what you feel

### Fanzine/Webzine/Newsletter/ Book Reviews

**LASSIE LOVE LADDIE**  
Talvipaivaneislaus Special # 7  
Great collection of poetry from all over the world...actually it's 3 mags in one collection. One mag with contributions from USA alone. Timo Palonen (from Muuna Takena) has gathered some terrific work from all over the world. Of all the pieces in there though, Timo's own piece stands out. Read it and you might just recognize yourself in there.  
O.M.NILSEN  
Talvipalvanseislaus Prod.  
Timo Palonen  
Oritie 4 c 24  
FIN-01200 Vantaa, FINLAND  
(ED'S NOTE: Sorry for printing wrong address in issue #22!)

**MASS MOVEMENT #16**  
I don't know too much about UK zine...the only other one I know is a small 'zine called Propaganda. This is my second read of this UK punk zine and I tell you the publisher Tim knows what I like in 'zines! It's mostly all interviews with some great names in punk (new and old) and reviews. Sometimes time you will find an interview with some underground unknown wrestler, but that's cool cause Tim is a big wrestling fan. Myself, I skip those ones 'cause I know a couple pages down he will have a great interview I just can't wait to sink my eyes into. This issue features legends Vision and the Accused and So Cal melodic Fat Wreck punkers

Lagwagon and No Use for a Name. So you see the wide variety of bands here. That's not all, the other bands interviewed were Bouncing Souls, Stockholm Syndrome, Sound Pollution, My Revenge, etc... Shit the list goes on. This is a fat issue and a great read. Get in touch with Tim cause this is one of the better new 'zines I have come across. J. OTHMER  
[massmovement@currantbun.com](mailto:massmovement@currantbun.com)

**MAXIMUM ROCK N ROLL**  
If there could be a gold medal for punk zines this is what it would look like! MRR is my all time favorite zine to read, they pack it huge, with tones of great interview, and tones of reviews, on overseas, and underground bands. Also scene reports which are totally cool. They also have some of the cheapest ad prices around. This issue is jam packed with interview by Discharge, Superhelicopter, Jed Whitey, Black Friday 29, Find Him and Kill Him, The Lids, Impractical Cockpit, and Face Up to it. Great columns as well, one of the only zine were I actually read everything from front to back. Its rare that I skip an interview or column when it comes to this mag. J. OTHMER  
[www.maximumrocknroll.com](http://www.maximumrocknroll.com)

**PEEZINE #30**  
The first BIG issue of Pee, cause it marks the 30th issue. Man this zine is one of my all time favorites...I remember back in my old Spunkzine days we were neck and neck with issues, now I don't do Spunkzine anymore and this 'zine is fucking HUGE!! Sticking with the same Pee tradition of great interviews with bands such as Madball, Satanic Surfers, Park, plus tons more plus tones of CD reviews. With a rating after each review so you know if it's good or bad. Free CDs and stickers with every issue...I mean how can you go wrong? Great art work as well all done by Pete himself. This is a great read if you're into So. Cal. melodic, emo, screamo hardcore bands. I think this has to be one of the better Australian 'zines. Ohya, did I mention it was from Australia? You can pick it up from Dying Wish records in NY. J. OTHMER  
[zine@peerecords.com](mailto:zine@peerecords.com)

**RATCHARGE #2**  
This is a different type of 'zine done here by my buddy Alex Simon from France. It's focuses on 5 old school bands such as Crass, Discharge, Teen Idles, Cofuse, and The Stalin. Interesting stories on the history of the bands...I liked the format, and learnt a lot about bands I really didn't know much about before. Email Alex and ask him for a copy. I also got a spiffy

poster with it as well. That's Ratcharge!!!  
J. OTHMER  
[blacklung77@hotmail.com](mailto:blacklung77@hotmail.com)

**RAZORCAKE #20**  
Easily my second favorite mag to read on the shitter! Once again I was not disappointed...interviews with Sweden punk gods Randy done by Razorcake head hauncho Todd. Great interview which I might add. Also interviews by the Fuck Yeahs and The Shemps. A great story about the Evaporators and the yearly held punk rock bowling tournament in Vegas. Tones of great CD reviews...so on and so forth. 3 bucks you can't go wrong. Check this mag out. J. OTHMER  
[www.razorcake.com](http://www.razorcake.com)

**SLUG AND LETTUCE #79**  
This issue makes 18 years of S & L! Wow that's a long time. This was my first read of the mag. I have heard a lot about it and read lots of reviews about it but this is the first time I have one in my possession. I was impressed, lots of great writers on this team, lots of reviews from smaller indie labels in the USA which was interesting for me to check out...Although I noticed no interview with anybody. I wonder if every issue is like this? That's my only complaint about the mag as band interviews are my favorite. Also I found the font size they used was really, really, small and I had a hard time reading it sometimes. I guess I need better lighting in my bathroom? Ohya, this is a free zine so I'm sure stamps can get you a new issue. Also they need donations so keep 'zines like this free. I gotta go eat now...bye. J. OTHMER  
[chrislslug@hotmail.com](mailto:chrislslug@hotmail.com)

**SNAKE PIT "The Book"**  
What a great idea for a comic strip. Snake Pit kicks ass man...this is the first I heard of such a comic strip and I was hooked. Our lives are all the same is all I gotta say. Even in the comic we see how boring our lives are sometimes and it's great. It's like I got up this morning hit a bong, went to work, hung out with some friends and that was it! It's that simple! I read some reviews saying the drawing are sloppy, but I think it adds to the average joe style of the comic...I mean this is just your average dude doing everyday things. I think I like it so much because I'm a HUGE fan of Seinfeld...it's a comic about nothing. That's what makes it so interesting. I can't say enough about Snake Pit I think it's a great idea and it's kinda of a "cute" comic to read. It's tasteful, funny & realistic. I also like the fact that he has a kinda song of the day he puts on top of the comic...he has

everything from Anal Cunt to Kiss to GG Allin to Iron Maiden to even some Rush. Cool idea once again. I give this book a 10 out of 10 and I never do that!

J. OTHMER

[www.gorskypress.com](http://www.gorskypress.com)

## DVD/MOVIE REVIEWS

### ACID DRINKERS

15 Screwed Years

Nothing new here with Poland's Acid Drinkers. Medio-core death metal to me, although I never heard of the band before. I guess because they are from Poland? 15 years is a long time, so I'm sure they have a huge following overseas. I like the singer's...style he wears tight black leather pants, with white high top runners. Classic! He has a kick-ass style of playing bass. Good show and you get overall 24 live songs. Plus the art work and the packaging of this DVD is cool. What more do you want?

[www.musicvideodistributors.com](http://www.musicvideodistributors.com)

J. OTHMER

### BOSTON BEATDOWN "Vol #2"

Holly shit man, don't ever go to Boston and run your mouth off in the wrong area of town or wrong show cause these Boston fuckers will hardcore your ass to the streets! What ever you do don't fuck with the FSU! It's an actual gang of hardcore kids that stick together. If you fuck with one of them good luck on living buddy! It's all about fighting and hardcore music...this DVD. You get tunes from Blood for Blood, Ten Yard Fight, Wrecking Crew, In my Eyes and many more. These guys are so hardcore, at one point this guy is getting stitched up on a couch by his buddy after getting stabbed and it's a HUGE gash!!! Fucking crazy. It's only like a 10 min. documentary but its well worth it!

[www.crosscheckrecords.com](http://www.crosscheckrecords.com)

J. OTHMER

### CAPTAIN EVERYTHING, DIVIT, BELVEDERE

Live at the Camden Underworld  
What a great idea capture an entire live show on DVD. These are 3 solid bands so this is a show I'm sure a lot of was would be into checking out, now thanks to Punker Vision.net we can. The production and camera work is all pro done so it's solid. The sound is clear and it's edited. Belvedere was the first band on at this show and they fucking ripped it up. These

guys are the hardest working band in Canada and it shows then came along Divit with a medio-core performance. I guess you can't please everybody. Then the home town heroes Captain Everything came on stage and this 3 piece fucking rips it up. What a cool band. In case you're wondering The Camden Underworld is in the UK. This DVD is a kick-ass punk show captured for you... pick it up now!

[www.musicvideodistributors.com](http://www.musicvideodistributors.com)

J. OTHMER

### CARNAL FORGE

Destroy Live

This is fucking killer. I mean the first show is 22 blistering metal tracks from one of Sweden's finest metal acts. Killer! To top it off they ad a couple extra shows from Tokyo and NYC. Another thing that I give high props to is that they all use Ibanez guitars even the bass is an Ibanez. You gotta love that Ibanez sound! The production of this DVD is great and the sound is mint! Also the insert you get is full of info on the band and the extras on the DVD itself are killer! Not much to say when you get a DVD of this quality other then "Quality is Job #1."

[www.musicvideodistributors.com](http://www.musicvideodistributors.com)

J. OTHMER

### GREEN CARNATION

Alive and well...In Krakow.

This rocks...the concert that Green Carnation puts on is one for everybody to check out. What a great live show! These guys are all pro musicians and it shows. It's hard to compare this to anybody maybe that's why I'm so fascinated with them. It's like rock, metal and great music. I was far more impressed by this DVD then I expected. It comes with a great booklet and it presented really well. If you're tired of all those medio-core bands check out Green Carnation at

[www.musicvideodistributors.com](http://www.musicvideodistributors.com)

J. OTHMER

### THE ALKAHOLIKS

X.O. The Movie Experience  
YAAHHH!!! BOY! This is the shit homie. Live clips of hip-hops drunkest group so just think of the tactics these boys are up too. Lots of Hennessey and blunt smoking on and tones of Booty to go around. This is jammed packed studio footage, parties, freestyles, stuff on tour, videos, live shit and its phat yo! You also check the X to the Z in the studio busting out some rhymes. The best rap video I have seen since the NWA DVD last year.

[www.musicvideodistributors.com](http://www.musicvideodistributors.com)

J. OTHMER

### ROADKILL movie

Go figure this movie was filmed in Northern Ontario...close to where I live. Ha and Joey Ramone is in it. That's so cool Joey was in Sudbury! Anyways back to the movie. It's a low budget Canadian film. Its all in black and white and it won a bunch of awards in Canada. It's about a Canadian rock band which is doing a "BIG" tour of Northern Ontario and the singer skipped out for a couple shows and the rest of the band was pissing away all the labels money (good idea)! So anyways the label sends out this girl to find the band and get them back together for the last show in Thunder Bay for a "reunion show". Well if I told you anymore you would know the whole movie. Great for fans of underground type films...If you look in the inside notes you can see Cobalt on the map. Pretty cool stuff I tell yah! Like I said this is a party type of flick. [www.musicvideodistributors.com](http://www.musicvideodistributors.com)

J. OTHMER

**OCTOBER 30, 2004**

**5:30pm-11:00pm**

**Community Underground**

**Promotions presents:**

**TALES FROM THE PIT  
HALLOWEEN SHOWCASE**

**Local Concert Series 1**

**\*ALL AGES\***

**5 bands/beverages/door  
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FEATURING THE AREA'S  
BEST IN LIVE LOCAL  
ORIGINAL MUSIC...**

**URINAL PUCK MINISTRIES  
POTENTIAL VICTIMS**

**PIGEON  
TRIP HAMMER**

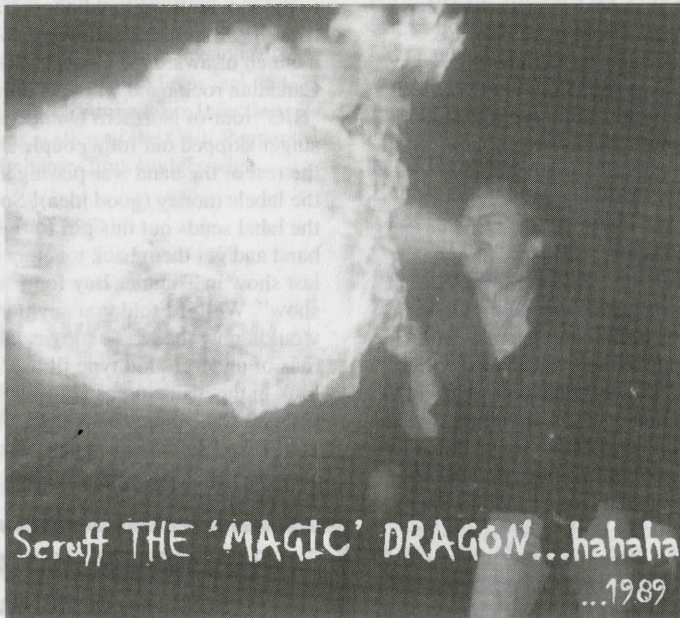
**with  
THE SPECTRAL FAÇADE**

**\$5 tickets \$6 door  
Scotland Community Center**

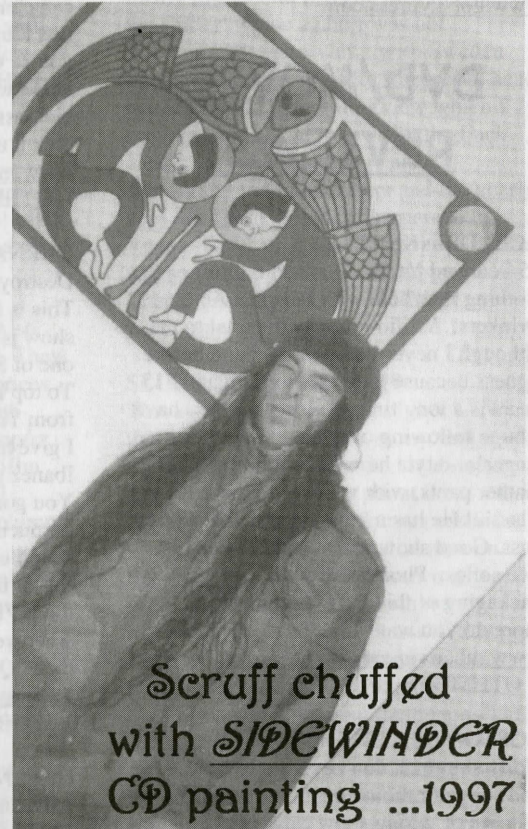
**Located beside Scotland Elementary  
School \*\*Free parking in rear  
Call for event info and directions  
717-352-4827 Staff Security on hand.**

**All costumes welcomed and  
encouraged.  
HELP SUPPORT LOCAL  
MUSIC!!!**

# FUNNY FACES



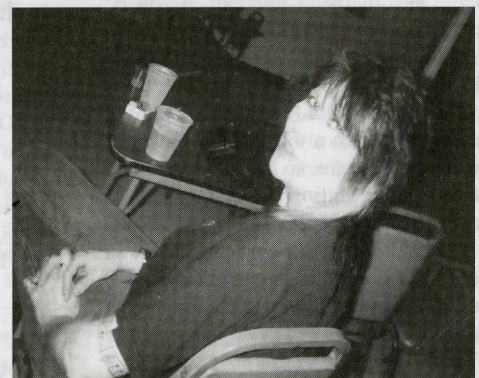
Scruff THE 'MAGIC' DRAGON...hahaha  
...1989



Scruff chuffed  
with *SIDEWINDER*  
CD painting ...1997



Dagg (UPM bassist) & wife...**GREAT** couple and very nice  
people!!! Bud in line anytime for your drinks!!!! heehee...



*How about another beer, Jrix??  
Looks like you need it...*



Sept. 200

Why doesn't anyone send  
me pictures??? What is  
up with that shit  
anyway???

0

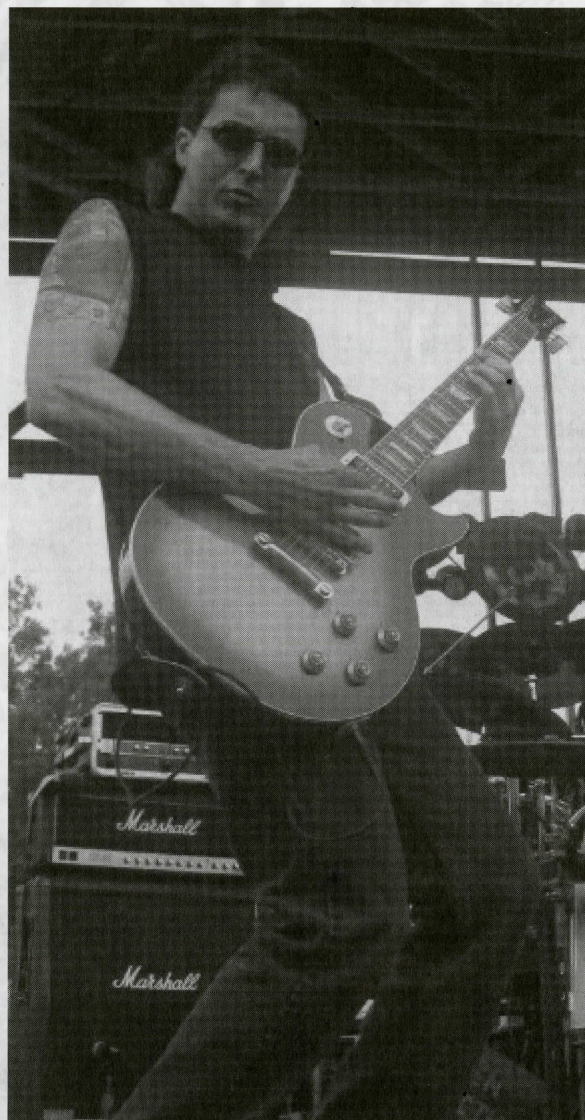
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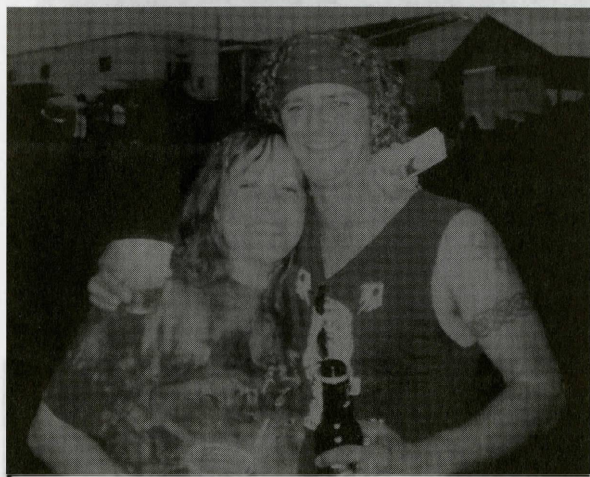
**Hey Jay (GO SMACK ALICE)  
...my head banging buddy, where  
art thou???? You owe me a  
body massage. HUH?!?  
Yeah...ya do!!!!**



What Marcy does best—  
blahblahblahblahblahblah...



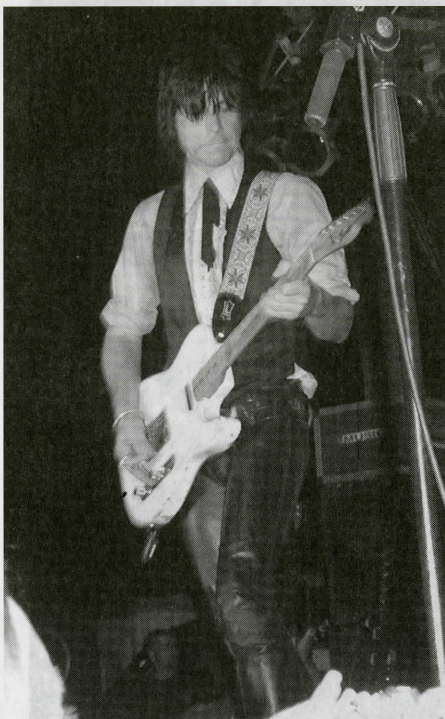
**Vini Crunch (CRUNCH MOB)  
rules...OHYEAH!!!!**



Marcy & Dogg (UPM)...need a drink anyone????

**•ROCK-  
BOTTOM's  
Lovely and  
VERY  
drunk  
editor...HA!**

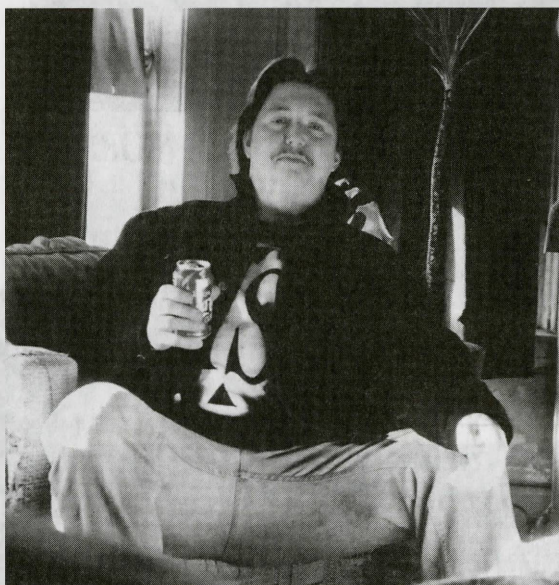




**Brian Forsythe at KIX  
Reunion show in  
Hagerstown, MD...NO  
THANKS TO VINI CRUNCH!  
AAAAAAAAAAAAARGH!!!!!!**



*Awwww...look at the baby. Looks just like her dad only  
taller... hahahahaha ...just jokin'...*



**Hey Paul (Grabowski)...is that a  
beer or soda, man??? Be nice...  
share!!!**



**PLEASE SEND IN YOUR PICTURES!!!!  
DON'T YA WANT THE WORLD TO SEE  
YOUR FUNNY FACE????**



## **SWEEPSTAKES NEWSLETTER**

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updates, pix,  
etc...on YOUR  
project or this  
group will be  
closed down by the  
end of the year!!!*

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ottomzine](http://groups://groups.yahoo.com/groups/rockbottomzine)

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9406 USA

## **Classified Ads**

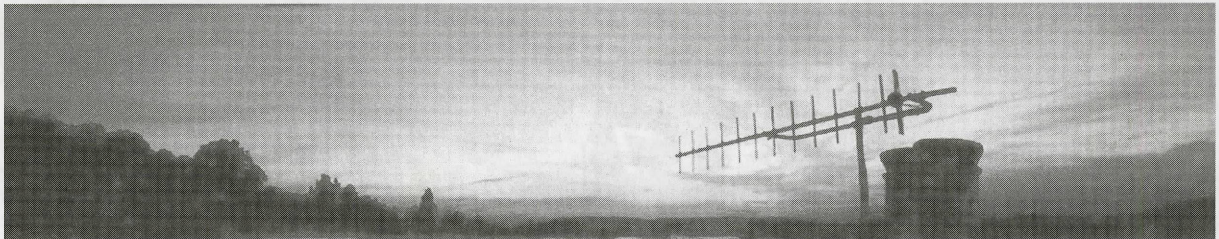
Personal, Misc., Wanted or  
Available, fanzines, merchandise,  
pen-pals, etc. are \$5 for 25 words.  
Each additional word is \$1.

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