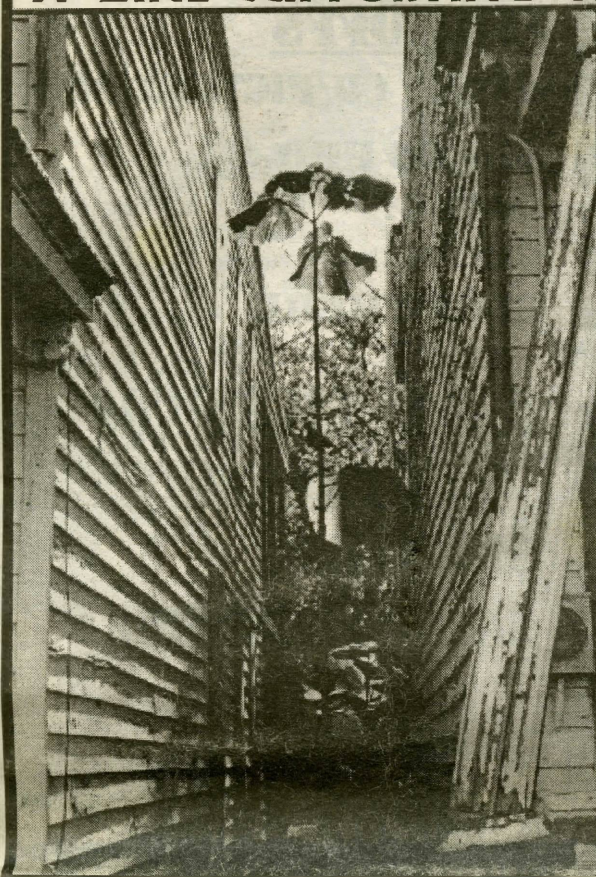


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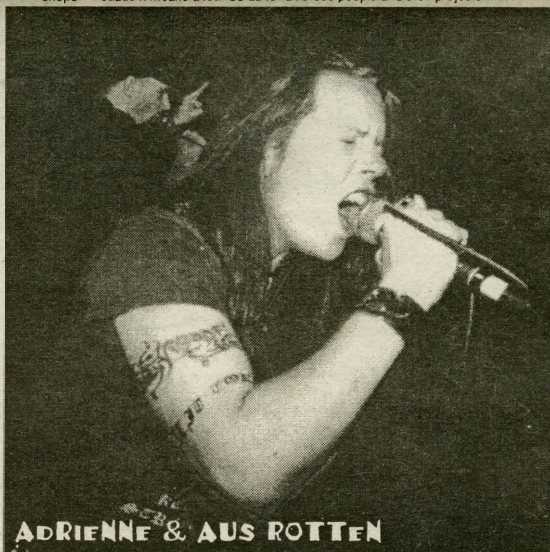
## SOME THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR

I've been in this pissy funky mood for what seems like months now. I just can't quite seem to shake the winter moodiness blues. Apparently I have a pattern of this funk and then coming around to a revelation in the spring time — like coming out of a cloud and saying "gee, have I been completely not myself for the past 4 months". And what makes it even more confusing is that in a lot of ways spring has already started to arrive. We've had these bouts of wonderful weather — in fact just a week ago it was 80+ degrees for a whole week. I've spent much of March digging in the yard and expanding my garden. I've got an elaborate plan for when to plant what and I've been cleaning up the remains of dead limbs and weeds and the like; poking around under leaves for the early spring growth. Finding the tulips popping their heads up out of the ground, and all the other plants that I fear are dead poking out new shoots — always comes as such a surprise. Every day as I poke around I find some new buds, and yet — that glorious rebirth feeling hasn't quite hit me yet. Of course those great days do wonders for me — and they remind me of what I've been missing and put me back on track for the coming months to look forward to. But sadly, as this is the spring issue — I feel as though I should be jubilantly jumping for joy and singing with the birds about how everything is magical now and life is all inspiration and joy. But I don't feel that way. I feel stressed out, burnt out, and bummed out beyond words. And I hate to write in a negative or complaining manner — so I try to find the things that make me glow — and of course there are a lot of them. But overall I feel off track a bit. It seems like it's been ages since the last issue (and that much should have happened since then) — the time flies by so quickly — so quickly in fact that in many ways not much has happened.

In January I went on vacation. A real, take a week off and fly across the country to California, vacation. I haven't had a "real vacation" of that sort for nearly 10 years (since the last time I flew to California). Fortunately though a lot has changed in ten years and this time I was returning to a friendly place to visit my very best friend in the whole world and get reunited with a whole bunch of familiar friends in a place that I never quite get to spend enough time in. One week in San Francisco. I fell madly in love with the trees, as always. Trekking down to Point Lobos to the cliffs — to seek out the Cypress trees which have lingered in my dreams. In that area in particular they grow on the mountainside cliffs as though they are fighting vertigo not to fall into the sea. The contour of the trees matches the shape on the cliffs and they hold on with all their sinewy tendons. The Cypress and the mighty Redwoods, as with all those special western trees are filled with so much magic. I found a grove of redwoods and the trees literally soothed me and held me captive in the very best way. I felt as though I could spend the whole day surrounded by those magnificent trees and not even notice the passage of time. And that is a pretty incredible thing considering how prevalent time has become in my life. I'm frustrated with myself of late to have become so much of what I have spoken out against. By that I mean that once again I have become a slave to time. A cog in the machine. A slave to my own self-propelled regimented schedule. I try to do too many things and then get stressed out, overwhelmed and frustrated that I can't "conquer the world". Figuratively speaking of course. It's more like "conquer the desk". The hardest part of it all is that I can't shake the feeling that I can't get it together, can't get on top of things, can't do all that I want to do. So I prioritize and organize and make lists and goals and still watch as days fly by and then months while I still have stacks of photos unsorted or letters unanswered — which each and everyday I have thought about. It's as if it's time for me to move again — simply to get a clean slate. But the fact is I don't want to move again. I'm quite happy in my little home here where I've put down roots — many roots in fact, in the garden. I had a dream one night about moving and leaving my garden, and being in a place with no garden, and I woke with the most anguished feeling — as though the worst separation had been forced on me. It kinda made me realize just how much that garden means to me. So on a practical level — I don't want to uproot. But I could definitely do with uncluttering my life. And it's such a predictable and boring thing to complain about — everyone is lacking time and money and wanting something they don't have and I hate to fill space with more wasted words. But it consumes me in a way that I hate. Take this week for example — I've been working overtime — and it's the week that I have to get S&L sent to the printer. So I'm coming home at 4 or 5 am and turning on the computer with the goal of getting through the allotted portion of work for that night. I sleep — get up — back to the computer — then back to work. All the while I'm saying "what the fuck am I doing?" This is ridiculous! I'm killing myself. This is no way to life, what fun is this? And this is where I get frustrated with myself — cause I push myself further and further and know that I give

in, even an inch or a minute, whatever it is just won't get done. Cause if I wait till tomorrow — I might as well just never do it — cause tomorrow might as well be next month. Never an idle moment.

While I was in San Francisco — I got really motivated. All winter I'd been feeling kinda alone on my own island, away from "my people" so to speak. From those people who inspire me and that I can easily relate to — get excited about things in the same way and feel that motivational inspiration kind of energy. So as soon as I was in SF — I was inundated with that energy. Suddenly I was surrounded by my people — whether they were my good old friends or just people who were doing things I could relate to. Spent the day in the compound where my friends were building their space to live in and in the front half the building was a record distribution and in the back half a printing press; with a vast array of living spaces and a constant traffic of people. I felt so at home. It always strikes me as funny that I would want to go on vacation and open mail, answer letters, stuff envelopes or fold record sleeves — but the fact is that is what I know best and where I feel most useful. And I'm happiest when I feel useful. And it feels good being around people who obsessively do those things all their waking lives. And of course, knowing what it's like to live that obsession — I also can appreciate sharing that with someone. I can much more easily sit around folding record sleeves and socializing, than I can sitting in a bar these days. So I joked about being put to work — and loved it. The thing that inspired me the most was being around so many people who are living their life — doing their thing — utterly and completely. Whether it be the printing press, record distribution, magazine, book distribution, book or record store (to name only a few) — I felt like at every turn the people I encountered were doing their thing and making it work. And we spent a lot of time in bookstores. It was so exciting to have a rad bookstore or two, on nearly every block. It hit me over the head really hard how quickly I've gotten used to having little choice other than corporate america — especially in the book world. And being that I'm so completely obsessed with the book world — this is a shocking thing to lose sight of. After spending some time around AK Press and talking books — I found out that a really scary amount of independent bookstores across the states have closed in the past year or two. The funny thing is that I got all excited about the world of books — all those books made me want to open my own bookstore and I've got the inspiration and motivation to do it. The sad thing is that I'm also all too aware of the fact that a bookstore is a desperately dying viable thing these days. Which is all the more reason to put complete support into those cool shops that do remain open. To me it's an obvious thing — but I've also become aware of the fact that a lot of people don't even really think about how much that support means or what it means to support something you care about or believe in. I had a good talk with someone once about books and bookstores and we agreed on the evils of the corporate chains — both admitted to going to these places. I like to go to the chain bookstores and look, take notes, write down the titles I'm interested in and then if I really need to have something — order it from a cool independent store on the other side of town; the person I was talking to had never even thought of doing such a thing — and admitted to being too lazy. Ah — lazy and convenience the two most evil words. I spend so much time thinking about where my hard earned cash goes and who's business I support by where I spend my money — so that sometimes it's shocking how little most people think of it. So if you like your books and you like your music — support your local independent shops — cause it means a lot. So as for all those people and their projects that I



ADRIENNE & AUS ROTTEN

was so inspired by — I'm sure that they all have those days like mine where they are overworked, stressed out and just plain exhausted. But somehow when you're in a new place surrounded by activity and action — it's easy to get caught up in the ideas and not get bogged down by the daily shit. I got all focused on working on my photo book — set a goal to come home and plow through negatives with the hope of having that part done by the time spring came around. Well spring came early and then it was time to live and breathe reviews for this issue (of which I think we all did a pretty good job!) and the book got put on the back burner once again — and all the frustration surfaces. It got all cold again which seems to have thrown me right back into a mid-winter funk. I know that the relief is just around the corner and probably

by the time anyone reads these words the sun will be shining the tulips blooming and the earth will be alive and I will be frolicking on it. I sure hope so. I've gotten to this point where I feel beaten down. The cynical side of me is poking some holes in my skin. I can't shake this attitude cause while I put so much energy towards "doing the right thing" and having the utmost faith in what comes around goes around and all those sorts of things — the fact is that fate can still bite you in the ass. And so I've got this battle in my life that is eating away at me and it's really starting to mess with my head.

Sometimes I'm amazed how utterly careless people can be. I've always been outraged that people throw cigarette butts or trash out of their car windows; or just throw trash down as they walk along the street. This is just the sort of thing that I would never think about. I mean how hard it is to take your trash to the receptacle? It seems common sense to me and my rad mom embedded common sense into me real deep, real young. My line of thinking is so much along the lines of not creating trash in the first place — that the utter thoughtlessness of consumption and waste and then throwing trash on the ground, just boggles my mind. It reminds me of one time in NYC when I was talking my dog and I found a plastic bag wrapped around the only growing thing on the street — a lone daffodil. So I took the plastic bag away from the flower and threw it in the trash, only to have a police car stop and start to yell at me for using that person's trash can. He thought I was throwing dog poop in their can, and once I explained that I was removing a piece of trash from the street — I think he was in such utter disbelief that he had nothing to say. Today I saw a guy walking along through one of the flower beds downtown — just shuffling along dragging his feet and crunching the daffodils. What the fuck is wrong with people that they are so completely unaware of their surroundings? I mean I admit that I'm one of the wingnuts that would carry a plastic trash bag on a walk through the woods and collect the trash that I find. And while I admit that isn't exactly the state of mind of most people — utter disregard for plants and growing things makes me realize just how far we have to go to educate people of issues of preservation and conservation. It also makes you realize how resilient nature can be sometimes.

On the final battle with the forces that conspire against me, I have had one hell of a technologi-kill and electronic war this past season. I've had a long standing joke that I will destroy anything electrical that gets near me — not by destruction on my part — but by malfunction on the part of the item. It's been a curse my whole life. My dad is one of those take it apart just to see how it works — build something that goes boom just cause he can. He does sound and electronics — and is a fix it, jerry rig it, build from scratch kinda guy. I don't know if some of my ineptness comes from early reliance on his making things right, or if it's really as ingrown as I believe it to be — but I am technically inept and my father and I just don't speak the same language when it comes to this sort of technical ineptness. Some people like gadgets — but I think the less shit that will go wrong the better. And I know full well when things don't work right — but I'll be damned if I can fix things — or if I'll read a manual to figure out how to turn something on. I'm all about the hands-on learning approach to things — as well as the make it and fix it yourself approach. Yet as minimal as my electrical gadgets are — they all seem to give me constant trouble. Last summer my turntable gets the unbelievable whammy that even the repair technician can't figure out (I didn't bother to tell him that I had whammy'd it). It seems like I've had this non stop war with gadgets and I've been beaten down at my wits-end over it. My good old little car died on me. So I had to deal with the horrors of finding a new car that was reliable and cheap (yeah right who doesn't want that!). And spent nearly 2 months sorting through electrical contamination with the new one. (I didn't tell them that I had whammy'd it). All winter I've been fighting with my heat. With one problem after another — I've become completely obsessed with the heat, and whether it's working (cause half the time it wouldn't be). Now it's doing okay — but I can't afford the oil to run it any longer. I won't even get into the whole thing with the computer and the internet cause that is indeed a whole story unto itself which I've written about for my column in MRR. But that is a huge pain in my ass too. Yeah sure — the internet is easy if you have the sort of mind that can deal with technology. But if you are me — then it's not easy — and it certainly isn't cheap. Just about the time I thought I may need to use the email to send some files — all hell breaks loose in my computer world and I decided this is the final straw and I'm heading for the hills to live in a tree. And no, don't ask me for an email address.

I've been feeling really cantankerous and very much not myself. I've got pockets of inspiration here and there. But all told there hasn't been much happening these past few months. There has been almost no shows — and I guess whatever there has been I have either not known about or I've missed. I haven't been on any regional road-trips. Catharsis have been overseas for half a year — so I haven't had any jaunts to shows in North Carolina (and I managed to miss them when they're in VA). I went to DC for the Varukers and Aus Rotten show — and I think it was the punkiest show I've ever been to. I walked into this dingy dark smoky club that was filled wall to wall with spiky haired punks with full metal studded jackets, and just about everyone there was drunk. The funny thing is that normally I would have been stoked and felt right at home, but I think I've so quickly been Richmondized, and in not knowing anyone there — it was just weird to feel so out of place in an environment that I would expect to feel like home.

True to my luck these days I broke a shock on my car and had to fuss around with more repairs. In my next life I'll be an auto-mechanic, electrician, plumber — (and whammy the whole lot.)

It's a funny thing — there's a lot on my mind, but when it all comes together those thoughts are scattered to the wind and I'm just so anxious for that spring sun to shine so I can get outside and frolic in the garden and talk to the plants and sing with the birds. And gee, it's already 6am — the sun is coming up and what a magical time of day it is, all the more so cause I so rarely see dawn. Where did the time go? What I want to know, is how do the birds know that the sun is coming up before it starts to get light?

—Chris(ine) \* 300

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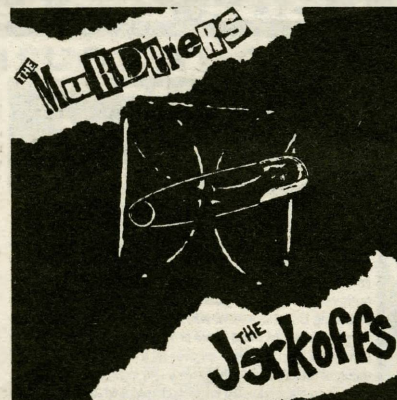
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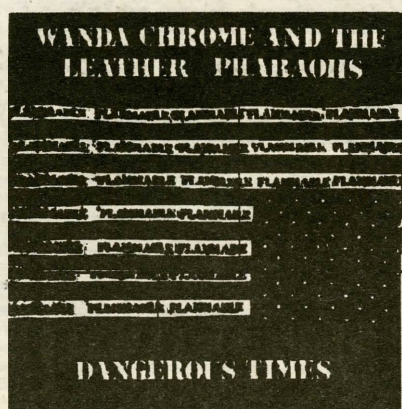
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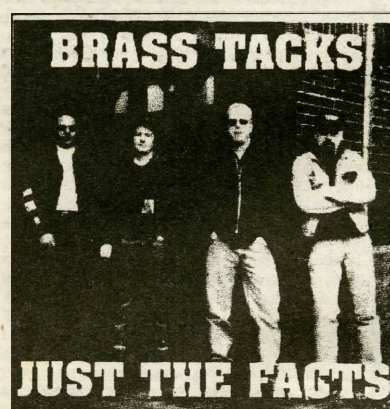
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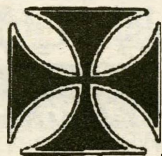
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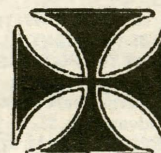
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# ZERO CONTENT



CHAPTER 14...THE ESPERANZA EPISODE...THE LAST TIME WE SAW STEW PITT WAS AT THAT PIRATE RADIO DEMO FCKN MONTHS AGO WHERE HE MET & FELL INSTANTLY IN LOVE WITH COOL AS FUCK PUNK ROCK SQUATTER GIRL SPIT WHEN SHE SPIT ON HIM...SHE TOOK OFF & LEFT HIM WITH MARTY SPANTZ WHO IS MORE PUBLICLY FCKN CRECKT THAN YOU...STEW IS DESPERATELY TRYING TO GET AWAY FROM MARTY SPANTZ & FIND HIS CRUSTY COMPANION FORTY THE DOG...OR BEER...OR BOTH...WALKING DOWN E 7TH ST. BETWN AVE. B & C STEW NOTICES SOME PUNKS GOING INTO A COMMUNITY GARDEN...THEY HAVE BEER SO OF COURSE HE FOLLOWS...

ONCE AGAIN THE REAL WORLD IMITATES ZERO CONTENT...ON FEB. 15 2K THIRTY ONE PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED DEFENDING COMMUNITY GARDEN - JARDIN DE LA ESPERANZA - AGAINST A POLICE RAID ORDERED BY MAYOR GIULIANI... NYSTATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ELIOT SPITZER HAD BEEN FIGHTING FOR WEEKS TO SAVE THE GARDENS BUILT ON CITY OWNED LOTS, INCLUDING 22 YEAR OLD ESPERANZA...GARDEN DEFENDERS LOCKED DOWN FORCING THE POLICE TO USE CHAIN SAWS & JACKHAMMERS TO DIG THEM OUT...THE LAST DEMONSTRATOR WAS NOT EVEN OUT OF THE GARDEN AS A DEMOLITION CREW TORE IT APART WITH A BACKHOE & BULLDOZER BEFORE SPITZER'S OFFICE WAS ABLE TO GET A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER...A STATE SUPREME COURT DECISION HAS NOW PLACED A TRO AGAINST THE CITY FROM MOVING ON 630 OTHER GARDENS ON CITY-OWNED LOTS EXCLUDING ESPERANZA...THE GARDENERS ARE APPEALING THIS DECISION & HAVE VOWED TO FIGHT TO GET ESPERANZA BACK & REPLANT!...& IF THATS NOT ENOUGH FUN THEN YOU CAN JOIN THE DIRECT ACTION NETWORK & THOUSANDS OF THEIR PALS AS THEY SHUT DOWN THE IMF/WORLD BANK - (SEATTLE PART 2) CONVERGENCE APRIL 8-17 2K IN WASHINGTON DC - WWW.A16.ORG - WWW.SPANKTHEBANK.ORG - D.A.N. NYC (212) 358 3960



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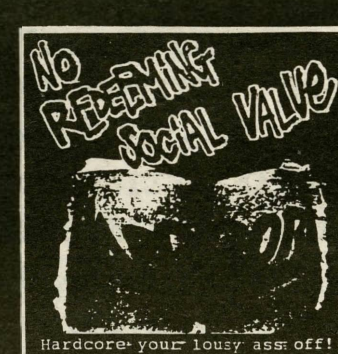
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# C O L U M N S

## ECOPUNK

some thoughts on human culture.

Last fall I was kicking it outside of a small ejido in Baja Norte, México with three of my lady friends, surfing, eating beans and generally having a swell time. We were listening to the radio when one of the women, Skull, put on a reggae tape. Now, I'm usually down for reggae provided it doesn't start trying to resurrect ancient Hebrew law and all its nasty isms, but the first song on this tape was called "Sodom and Gomorra" and in a manner a hundred times more scary than any Earth Crisis song, went on to metaphorically advocate burning all gays and women who lived outside their Biblical roles. I got pissed and yanked the tape out. I mean, for fucksakes, I am under no obligation to sit there listening to something that is condemning me to death and talking about dismantling all the "progress" we have made in dismantling Judeo-Christian laws of oppression. Especially in my own van. Now I am certainly not one for finesse when I am pissed, so as I handed Skull her tape back, I told her in not so many words how rasta culture is essentially an evil akin to Nazi-ism or the fundamentalist Christian Right and how I would have no part in glorifying it in my van. I might as well have strapped myself with dynamite and ran screaming into a Federal Building. Her face turned red and a continuous vein stretched across her face. "That is bullshit!! All bullshit!! I know lots of people who have become empowered through rasta and you have no right to talk down on it!!!"

Being a fucking prick when I'm politically pissed (as you might have noticed by now), I responded, "Yeah, well what if their empowerment was based on the degradation of others... Like women. Doesn't it bother you as a woman that bands like that are calling for the return of women to objects of property? Doesn't it bother you that they were singing about burning queers? Ever had your life threatened by some big hoods with dreads because they saw you kissing a boy? Well I have and don't owe that culture of patronizing oppression shit. Fuck rasta and fuck rastas. The whole lot of 'em oughta go to Hell wrapped in their 2000 year old papyrus blanket of bullshit."

She walked off cursing my name. Although I regret the manner in which I delivered the argument and the fact that Skull and I have been enemies ever since, the conversation got me thinking. What do we as anarchists owe marginal cultures that contradict our politics? Does the race or political history of a group have any bearing on that debt?

Let's go back to the rasta example. Politically, the rastas are more fucked than Pat Robertson and Pat Buchanan put together with a crew of Baptist skinheads behind them. They openly call for cultural genocide on everything that disagrees with their strict interpretation of ancient Hebrew Law circa Deuteronomy and Leviticus. They are the most homophobic, sexist people I have ever met in all my years and a large part of their politics, as developed in Jamaica by Leonard Howell, calls for the destruction of the white race. Now although I can't necessarily disagree completely with the last part, the first two parts are completely contrary to everything I believe. Do I owe rastafarianism credit for empowering people if it is empowering future generations of gay bashing, woman beating assholes? Is political empowerment always a good thing?

Then I started thinking of other groups that have pretty similar politics. The Aryan Nation for example. Minus the fact that they are calling for the destruction of different races, the two's political agendas are similar. No, wait a second, the bald shiteheads in brown shirts over in Hayden Lake are less sexist and way less homophobic than the rastas. And I know from talking with ex-Nazis that the racist scene gave them quite a bit of empowerment. So why aren't activists hanging around racist metal shows and smiling for the empowerment that's happening before their eyes. It's simple, because everyone knows that Nazis suck. So this opens the question, if Nazis are so bad, why do we tolerate groups like the rastas, that are debateably worse. Because they are minorities? Because they don't have the intimidating political power of their honkey equivalents? Because reggae is way more fun to listen to than RAHOWA and dreds are way cooler than dumb golf shirts or silly mustaches?

So no, unless I want to be fair and start respecting Nazis for their "community building" and empowerment capabilities, then I don't owe rasta shit for respect. Oppression, sexism, and homophobia are ALWAYS wrong, no matter the color, gender or religion of the perpetrator. And considering I hate the aforementioned, it is only just that I hate those who attempt to actualize their oppressive politics.

So then taking this a step further and another few feet off the punk balance beam of political correctness, what about indigenous people that may have sexism and homophobia written into their culture? Do we, as the descendants of the people that nearly wiped their culture off the face of the Earth owe them support or even respect?

Take the Maya cultures of Chiapas for example. We activists here in the North love the photos of short Indians with ski masks and rifles. We are inspired by the manifestos of Marcos and all look forward to going down there and participating in their struggle. But do we really support the whole culture? The native cultures I experienced in Chiapas were horribly sexist, to the point that there were essentially two societies, one for men and one for women. Like an India friend of mine from Oaxaca said, "In Chiapas, they treat women slightly worse than dogs." Women share none of the political or social power of men and except for either the very rich or the very poor, most are confined

to "traditional" duties of child rearing, cooking, cleaning, washing, farming, and collecting firewood. (The very poor do all of the above and spend much of the day begging change or trying to hawk mass produced Marcos dolls to white tourist revolutionaries.) Domestic violence affects upwards of 50% of women and most have no educational opportunities beyond grade school. Not exactly a shining beacon for the success of the global feminist revolution.

And then there is the homophobia. Playos and Maricones are not exactly living it large in the indigenous cultures behind our favorite revolutionaries in skimasks. The native cultures in Southern Mexico are rigorously homophobic, at times to the point of violence. A friend of mine I met in a gay club in DF sent me some newspaper clippings that reported people being tied up in their homes and set on fire. These were always gays, lesbians or people accused of being witches. I wrote back and asked him if things like this were common. He wrote back and said events like this are a fundamental reason there are no "out" queers in small pueblos anywhere in México, but especially in Chiapas, Guerrero, Quintana Roo and Oaxaca. Apparently actions of this kind are not uncommon in the least.

So this begs the question, should we as Northern Activists, with plenty to occupy our minds in our own backyards, worry about the future of cultures that demean women and repress gays to the point of invisibility? Do we owe cultures such as those in Southern Mexico support even though they live almost 180° contrary to our beliefs? Should we buy the apologist line and admit that the equality of women and right of gays to exist at all are Euro-centric principles for the privileged North?

I honestly don't know. In my own mind, I have retreated to the bunkers of cultural relativism. My politics rest secure on the "fact" that homophobia and sexism in the maya cultures are not so much an active hatred as an inherited set of cultural conditions that couldn't be removed without disrupting, perhaps fatally, the already endangered cultures. Perhaps there are issues more important than how more than half the population is degraded and another 10% forced underground. Although I am rather uncertain of the inherent worth of something that grows from such an unjust foundation, it is possible. And besides, it doesn't really matter what I think. Period. Aside from the fact that I am hardly going to go change their minds with a few pamphlets and catchy slogans, there are other things at play here. The Zapatistas were designed as the poster children for the anti-neoliberalism movement. They are something of a mascot for the millions of people like myself who are working against the global economy and the proliferation of militarism. So as much as I disagree with them socially, they are something of an ally politically.

In the end, I don't know for sure what I think about these cases. I know that rastas and Nazis and Christian theocrats would all make rich compost to grow a shiitake of Tofu from, but in cases of indigenous culture, the issues become substantially more confounded. It is sketchy for us in the Northern Culture of TV Guide and root beer to attempt to judge another culture that is living in a different reality (although I hate how woo that sounds, I think it is very true) with different concerns. It is even sketchier for us to attempt to apply our cultural standards to cultures that have yet to experience the same transitions and turning points as Northern Culture. So yeah, fuck rastas and Nazis and religious bigots. They are part of Northern Culture and should be killed with it. But as a member of an entirely different culture, it would be fundamentally unjust for me to pass qualitative judgment on those who live outside the mass consumerist Leviathan we call Northern Society.

However, I will draw in the sand. Whenever there arises a conflict between Nature and human culture, I shall always throw myself behind the former.

Human culture is ephemeral by nature. Cultures evolve and devolve from pressures both external and internal. Political strife, war, environmental effects (defects) and a whole infinitude of other factors can catalyze change in human cultures. Human culture is always dynamic and always in a state of flux to

compensate for the needs of the biological entities under the egos. And humans, being mobile beings, can move to compensate for changes.

Ecosystems on the other hand, cannot move. Ecosystems take millions of years to evolve and centuries to adapt to the slightest change in climate or other environmental pressure. For example, in the Pacific Northwest, the forest that I live in has been evolving for roughly 400 million years. Like the famed tree philosopher Joseph Snieder noted, "There is a hell of a lot of wisdom accumulated over 400 million years." And without question, he is correct. It took generation after generation of Douglas Firs, each generation surviving 500+ years to create the genetically enriched version that stands outside my window as I write these words. Thousands and thousands of years were spent, slowly altering defense mechanisms and growth patterns and water requirements before a subspecies of the Pseudotsuga Mensei could be created that was perfectly suited for life at 4,500 ft in the rain shadow created by the confluence of the Cascade, Klamath and Siskiyou ranges. Human generations pass every 60 years at the most liberal estimates, about five times faster than a forest ever could. They are born quicker, they die quicker and they evolve quicker. And if time expended is any indication of value, human culture is far more expendable than Earth culture.

And I have no fear or resignation in saying that when human cultures are clashing with Natural cultures, it is the humans that should perish. Just like it being easier to pass harsh judgment on the bastard subcultures within the culture that dominates my life, I can likewise condemn my own culture, as it is almost always Northern industrial culture that collides head on with ecosystems. The Tzotzil and Tzeltil peoples in Chiapas and Guatemala know how to live within the generous limits of natural culture (at least until their populations got out of hand). As do the nearly extinct indigenous people within the continental United States. As do the indigenous people of Scandinavia. They have been living, and living fruitfully, for thousands of years in accordance with the laws and guidelines of nature. Generally the only time they come into conflict with Nature is when they are forced into the situation by the flails of industrial society.

And an entirely different story with Northern industrial culture. Northern industrial culture, arrogant and intoxicated by its mechanical developments, has not taken the time or care to learn sustainable living. Rather, it attempts to assert its culture on the rest of the Earth's beings and as a result, is at perpetual odds with the laws of nature and the presence of intact ecosystems. For example, industrial forestry has only been practiced in the North-

west for about 140 years and in that time, has managed to demolish almost 98% of the ecosystems it has encountered. It has killed not only the ecosystems from which their timber grows, but also the ecosystems in the streams and rivers, in the valleys and the entire wildlife profile of the region. And one of the greatest arguments for handing what few forest ecosystems remain over to the bloody hands of the timber industry is "What about our culture? What about our children and the lifestyle we inherited from our fathers and our forefathers? What about the cultural icon of the barrel chested logger?"

I'll tell it straight up from the heart, both my heart and the heart of the wild. You and your culture can go find something else to do, whereas the trees cannot. There is a reason the timber industry has taken a nosedive in the past 50 years, a reason why not Federal welfare subsidies 95% of the timber industry would perish. The answer? Because your culture is unsustainable, impermanent and destined for extinction unless major changes are enacted. The latter won't happen because it goes against the grain of the industrial mindset. 500 years from now, regardless of if the trees remain or not, there will not be barrel chested loggers with thick red suspenders. Oh sure, maybe 1% of their grandchildren will be needed to drive the feller-bunchers or run the computers at the automated mills, but in any case, there will be no logger culture. Furthermore, where in the Constitution or even Bible does it say "Amendment 666- you have a right to a job based on an ecocidal industry that cannot stay afloat without welfare from the government" or "Jed 4:17- Ye shall run to the nice places in the world and clearcut them so you can afford a new satellite dish and \$45,000 Ford F-350 with a 4.9 liter powerstroke diesel and KC lights. And God shall support you forever

more."

Human culture is by nature ephemeral and ever changing. It is regenerating and relatively quick to evolve. On the other hand, although natural ecosystems are indeed hardly static, they are not regenerating and very slow to evolve. When you clearcut a stand of native trees, the trees do not grow back unassisted. When a culture of humans is destroyed through attrition or assimilation, their void will inevitably be filled with other human, with other cultures.

In the end, like any good financier knows, it is always in the best interest of all investors to place your money and your support with the long term, certain return investment, rather than go with the sketchy short term. I personally will fight to invest in the preservation of the Wild and all its varied ecosystems. human culture can go to hell.

Ø- By the way, if anyone is interested in creating a land project in Oregon, there are several different plots of land for sale on the very same mountain which is home to the Fiescar Ranch compound and two other anarchist owned land trusts. Lot's of trees, lots of wildlife, water, out of the way, yet a mere 20 minutes from a nice liberal town with punk shows, health food stores and free food. Let's take over this whole area!! Write me for info...

Ø- Several other like-minded companions from across the continent and myself have decided to produce a publication dedicated to the ecopunk fringe and issues of self-sufficiency, gardening/farming, alternative power and medicine, autonomist politics and the like. This is intended to be a skills/fact based resource for those living or looking to live on land or with an interest in wilderness defense, self-sufficiency, food production and other such issues. **Your contributions are needed ASAP.** Please send photos, articles, a brief history and description of your project, poetry, photos, stories, event listings, and anything else that might be useful for networking or skill-sharing to: Paper Tigers PO Box 2945 Tulsa, OK 74101 And we need a name!! Please send suggestions and donations.

—mike antipathy · pob 11703 · eugene, or 97440 <tae@efn.org>

## PICK THE FRUIT BUT DON'T GET SNARED

This was inspired by Mike Antipathy and the anonymous contributor in Slug & Lettuce #61. Though Bert and I mostly agree with them, a few things bothered us.

Mike seems to be closely following in the footsteps of the back-to-the-land hippies of 30 years ago. That sure beats getting drunk and whining about how awful the world is. But, after a few years of hard-work and hassles, most of those hippies grew disillusioned, and either moved back to cities, or gradually became indistinguishable from other outer-suburbanites who consume even MORE resources and produce even MORE pollution than do city folks, because they must commute further to Jobs - to pay for their land and houses, and for the vehicles they need to commute 1 Why did the hippies' dream die? In most cases, their biggest mistake may have been: BUYING LAND.

In present-day USA if you "own" property (and want to keep it), you must not only pay thousands of dollars in property taxes, but must obey thousands of rules promulgated by dozens of government agencies. Furthermore, YOU are responsible for the conduct of everyone who comes onto "your" land, whether or not invited. If (eg) some trespasser plants marijuana and you fail to discover and destroy it before a police informer does, under asset-forfeiture laws "your" land will be seized. So, in essence, you must become an unpaid volunteer deputy cop!

Buying property may not ALWAYS be a mistake. (Mike seems to know ways to avoid some of the booby traps.) But DO gather much information and THINK VERY CAREFULLY before making ANY big purchase. Ask yourself: What can I really do with it? Will it be useful enough to justify, not only the initial cost, but the upkeep? Is that the best way to accomplish what I want? Be realistic. And, remember, IT AIN'T 1830- You'll be dealing, not with a few "wild Indians" and maybe a fur-trading monopoly stretched thin, but with a government/corporate mega-bureaucracy that's running amok.

Bert and I, and others like us, also moved to the boonies. But we did NOT buy land. And, though we've not found a Utopia, we did develop a comfortable, low-cost, earth-friendly lifestyle. We have fewer problems than does any land-owner we know, partly because our total expenses (about \$500 a year per person) are less than a land-owner pays in property taxes alone!

Mike made a strong pitch for learning self-sufficiency skills. Fine. But you can't learn and do everything. Nor can a few thousand. Even the Amerinds traded extensively: some items came through intermediaries, from hundreds of miles away.

Furthermore, what does "self sufficiency" really mean? The Amerinds largely depended on materials taken from or CAST OFF by other creatures or by the earth: wood, bark, bone, sinews hide, shells, stones, etc. I could braid a short rope from my own hair. But I can't grow wood. If I need a pole, I must get it from a tree.

Bert and I use poles and other natural materials. But we also use stuff taken from or CAST OFF by the Industrial System: plastic tarps and other useful items found in dumpsters. (No doubt, most S&L readers know the amazing wealth, free for salvaging, that would otherwise go to land-fills.)



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# COLUMNS

## ABOLISH THE URBAN PUNK

It's an unacknowledged problem in punk rock today: the zines don't write about it, the bands don't sing about it, and the email lists don't mention it. But there it is, preventing punk from making a serious contribution toward the struggle for ecology and anarchism in this country: the urban punk. As long as the urban punk exists, punk will forever be stuck in a countercultural ghetto that screams about the ghetto and then refuses to leave because the squat is real close to the liquor store. What all cool punks must do, then, is abolish the urban punk.

### Definition of an urban punk

What is an urban punk? A punk rocker who lives in the city, of course. But why would anyone want to live in a city? There's too many people, too much noise, too much ugliness, too many cops, too many laws, not enough housing and not enough work. It's concentrated inhumanity. How did it come to be this way? To make a long story short, cities are the consequence and exemplar of those twin enemies of anarchism, private property and government.

As humanity made the transition from hunting and gathering to agriculture, what should have been an equitable distribution of nature's bounty foundered on human greed and patriarchy. From the time the first fence appeared, human freedom was doomed. The practices of free-hold tenure and primogeniture created a new class of full owners with rights of inheritance and sale, while millions of people with traditional rights of access and use lost everything. Feudalism finished the process, creating a landless population in perpetual bondage.

The power of the landed gentry was finally broken by the rise of the central government, which for ordinary people meant the difference between the frying pan and the fire. Without land reform, the poor were displaced from country to town, which soon swelled to city, forming a surplus population exploited as necessary during industrialization. And the central government, situated in the cities, while perhaps less arbitrary than the nobility, was more pervasive in its control.

Cities allow the machinery of the state to function. Cities are the home of standing armies, of police, of bureaucrats. From here, the state tries to extend its power, to wage war on the unruliness of the countryside. Fueled by the commerce of the urban centers, colonialism advances on the open land of native populations, bringing them to heel, and subduing nature to its economic desires.

Cities mean the end of self-sufficiency. The yeoman farmer is reduced to mere wage-slavery. Labor specialization proceeds apace, as we become caught in massive webs of complexity and our alienation grows. We become increasingly reliant on technologies that shape our behavior and limit our freedom. No wonder outlaws from Robin Hood to Che Guevara have always sought refuge in the countryside. Only in the illegible wilderness of the frontier are we safe from the reach of the central state.

Cities are the hubs that keep the wheel of American capitalism turning. By surrendering to this centralization, the urban population guarantees the continued accumulation of wealth for the capitalists and the smooth functioning of the state. The urban population participates in its own coercion and in the perpetuation of this unjust society. It also receives some lovely parting gifts in the form of easily available consumer goods, which keep it coming back for more punishment and blind it to the larger picture.

The urban punk, then, is a person who a) listens to loud fast music and participates in a unique youth subculture and b) accepts the privileges and perks of being a member of the urban population. The urban punk lives a contradictory existence. He or she identifies with the rebellious spirit of punk rock and wants to rebel against the system. But at the same time, he/she does not rebel against the urban structure which keeps the whole rotten system together. Challenging urbanism means rejecting the privileges the urban punk has come to expect.

The urban punk's embrace of urban hegemony is usually not conscious. In fact, he/she often rails against the worst aspects of cities -- slums, pollution, consumerism, development, car culture. But the urban punk fails to follow the logic of the critique to the ultimate conclusion: the city must be destroyed.

This reluctance is understandable. The urban punk has accommodated himself to the system to such an extent that he has become a parasite that needs its host, rather than the independent organism of the anarchist ideal. It's a lot easier to occupy a vacant building than to squat a North Dakota cornfield in January. It's easier to dumpster dive than to grow one's own food in an ecological manner. Shoplifting is easier than home-made crafts. It's reassuring to be a punk in a metropolitan area with hundreds of other punks, less so to be the only one in your county with a green mohawk and a Grass T-shirt. Living as an urban punk means continued dependence on the industrial-technological capitalism which wrings excess goods from the labor of the proletariat, goods you seize in the name of a revolution that would leave you starving and naked if it ever arrived.

### Proof of the urban punk

Don't believe the urban punk exists? Then answer this simple question: where are the rural punks? Oh, I know there are a few here and there. There's the Old Barn Punk Fest in Wisconsin, and some similar gatherings from time to time in state and national parks. But are there any rural punk scenes? We've got

queer punk, grrrl punk, Christian punk, straight-edge, and even Mexican punk scenes. Why are there no rural punk scenes? Why was Future Farmers of Anarchy practically the only all-rural hardcore punk band? Where are the rural punks? Is it because country folk hate the music? Do bondage pants get in the way of chores? Or is it because they are not made to feel welcome in the urban punk scene?

How could country folk not feel comfortable in the punk scene, you might ask. Well, try this simple test. Go through your record collection and count how many songs are about rednecks, or rag on country music and people in cowboy hats. There's oftentimes a "Deliverance" theme in punk music that treats anyone outside the city as some kind of subhuman threat to progressive culture. To see and hear such stereotypical images in punk products is insulting to many folks. "Redneck" is a class-based pejorative first applied to those who do manual labor (out in the sun, hence the red neck) by those who don't need to (i.e., the rich). There's also an insistence, quite contrary to the spirit of punk, that you must look like a punk to be a punk. But cowboy boots, hat, and kerchief are functional articles of clothing for the rural working class, and should not be disparaged by those who have the luxury to dress for personal expression rather than life's demands. Now, can you see how punk's reliance on this elitist imagery might turn rural people off from punk?

Another example of the urbanity of punk is its (mis)understanding of hippies. The best hippies fuse a countercultural lifestyle with radical politics in much the same way the best punks do. So why is there so much animosity between the two groups? Hippies are criticized by punks for their flakiness, drug use, and pacifism, for a certain laid-back tendency seen as mere apathy. This view of hippies is myopic at best. I've seen drunk punks whose craziness exceeds that of any acidhead. And I've seen lots of mindless punk aggression that could only benefit from an infusion of hippie peace and love.

Rather than slag them off, punks should be learning from hippies. After the failure of urban insurrection in the 1960s, hippies left for the countryside in a widespread "Back to the Land" movement reminiscent of the revolutionary Russian narodniki. Hundreds of small communes were formed, run on egalitarian principles. People built their own homes, grew their own food, played music, learned useful crafts, explored alternative energy sources. This is D.I.Y. on a much more meaningful scale than touring with your band. This is the oppositional infrastructure needed to survive the destruction of the present society. Without these hippies, there would be no environmental movement, no sustainable agriculture, no organic food. The next time you buy your vegan food at the inner-city co-op, thank the hippies in the countryside who make your continued existence possible.

### Three tasks

We know that the urban punk exists and that he must be destroyed. The next question is how to do it. I believe there are three primary tasks for abolishing the urban punk.

1) Learn about rural history. If punk is committed to destroying society so that we can be free, then we have to learn from those who have the most experience fighting state supremacy: the peasantry. From earliest times to the present day, peasant rebellions have offered heroic examples of resistance to the powers that be. Slave revolts in our own country should be seen as part of this continuum. And if anarchism is our ideal, then we must remember that Anarchism's strongest base has always been in the rural areas, whether it's England's Diggers, Andalusian Spain, Zapata's Mexico, or Makhno's Ukraine.

Urban punks know about famous revolutionaries like Emma Goldman, Alexander Berkman, and Joe Hill, but how many of us have taken the time to learn about agrarian radicalism in this country? How many of us know that when the banks and the railroads pushed Hispanics off common land in the mid-1800s, that they fought back through social banditry? How many know of the contributions of migrant farm workers to the IWW?

Punks who are serious about social revolution in America need to read up on rural people's struggles against state and capital. For starters, there's the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794. The War of Independence had hardly ended when the new government began to mimic the tyranny of the British, with a tax on liquor. Pennsylvania farmers rose up in revolt, their defeat revealing government "of, by and for the people" to be merely the latest oxymoron used to justify oppression.

There's the Farmers' Alliance, which in the 1880s demanded fair prices for crops, forged alliances with Blacks, promoted socialist economic cooperation, and had wide participation by women. There's Mary Elizabeth Lease, who said "raise less corn and more hell!" From there move on to the Green Corn Rebellion of 1917, which pitted Oklahoma farmers against the Selective Service system. Another inspiring example is the Cooperative Central Exchange of Duluth/Superior in the 1920s, which ran dozens of its own stores and schools in a productive socialist enterprise. This history will make you taste oppression in

your teeth. But you'll also find hope, and lessons on how to struggle, lessons that apply much more directly to the American situation than Kibbutzim or even Subcommandante Marcos and the peasants of Chiapas.

2) Learn about rural culture, specifically country music. Too few punks have taken the time to do this. There are several reasons why punks resist the country music scene, most of them have to do with urban punk's rejectionist aesthetics than country's actual flaws.

Generally we hear two criticisms of country from urban punks. First, they say country is bland and contains no message; if politics are broached at all, they are culturally conservative, of the mom-flag-apple pie variety, white, sexist, and mainstream.

This is true of what passes for today's country on your mass-market radio stations. But what passes for punk is oftentimes an equally shallow version of the real thing we know and love, selling vague apolitical rebellion alongside every other commodity in the marketplace, neither threatening nor serious, punctuated by the wailing guitars and macho posturing formerly reserved for Van Halen aficionados. Let us be clear - there is an authentic country behind what the media presents.

Country is rural working-class music, with one foot in folk and one foot in the blues. Country emerged in the early part of the century as a commercial

a 13-song blast of twanging working-class rage. It's title track resurrected the Carter Family's homage to the Dustbowl of the 30s, its last tune sang the praises of social bandit John Hardy. Later albums had songs against nuclear power, against capitalism, and calls for union organizing.

Other alt-country bands with social themes include the Bottle Rockets, who have songs against the Confederate flag and right-wing talk radio, and Slobberbone, with its cautionary tale about homophobia ("Billy Prichard"). Blue Mountain sings a sentiment all punks can identify with: "shopping malls and prison walls all look the same to me", and Billy Bragg joined up with Wilco to put out a whole album last year of righteous Woody Guthrie songs. Perhaps the best example is the Waco Brothers, led by Mekon Jon Langford. Their explicitly revolutionary "insurgent country" on the Bloodshot label is made for the mosh pit and should thrill the hearts of political punks everywhere.

On the more traditional side, country-folk singer Nanci Griffith sings about racism, the farm crisis, immigration laws, and other social issues. Long-time outlaw Willie Nelson organizes the Farm Aid benefit each year to help the family farmers being driven out of business by factory farms and industrial agriculture. His emphasis on organic food and minority farming stands as a shining example of rural musical activism. And let's not forget Steve Earle, who has done songs against the death penalty ("Ellis Unit One"), the drug war

("Copperhead Road"), and even managed to connect with anarchism on "Christmas in Washington," his recent call to arms: "So come back Emma Goldman/Rise up old Joe Hill/The barricades are going up/They cannot break our will/Come back to us Malcolm X/And Martin Luther King/We're marching into Selma as the bells of freedom ring." Even Johnny Cash has gotten into the act, taking out a full-page ad in the leading industry magazine, giving Nashville the middle finger for failing to support real culture.

We must learn from this, build on this, take advantage of this rather than turning away from this. Our task is to make country as punk as possible. We have to transform punk from an urban thing to a rural thing. But before we can do that, we have to learn to respect rural culture.

3) Make the struggle against the city central to punk's political activism. As the Unabomber has so clearly explained, real human freedom is incompatible with the industrial complexity and productive efficiency of modern society. This snare of technological control finds its fullest expression in the city, a vast cancer on the landscape organized around the needs of the economic and political hierarchy and the rape of the environment. We must be clear-headed about that which supports real liberation, and that which only supports the urban punk ghetto. Things like Critical Mass are only useful if you assume that cities are useful. When you're 50 miles from the nearest town, believe me, you're going to want a pick-up truck. Subhumans sang

"The city won't stop till attitudes change." And that's true. The city won't stop until we move far away and refuse to have any more to do with it.

Anarcho-syndicalists have long supported the idea of "One Big Union," of factories run by and for the worker. But industrialized urban areas necessarily require regimentation for efficient production and distribution. We are controlled by technology as much as we control it, whether the tools are in our hands or our bosses'. The syndicalists cannot see that the single major force pushing society toward the brink are the very machines they hope to run, housed in the very cities they hope to live. This failure to see the city as an enemy of freedom hgs blinded the American left for at least a hundred years after the Civil War. Will it blind the punks, too?

### The Choice

The punk scene needs to make a choice. It can go on as before, nurturing and coddling the urban punk. If it does, the scene will remain safe and put out lots of kick ass music, but it will continue to be a subcultural ghetto that the bosses of this society only snicker at. Or punks can throw down with rural people against oppression and for justice, and fight as if their struggles were the punks' struggles as well. Because after all, they are.

We don't need another zine, another record label, another band, another political organization. We need countercultural structures capable of supplying the necessities of life. We don't need more punk consumer goods which can only be purchased by wages earned working at straight jobs. We need punk cooperatives producing items of real value, not fashion accessories. Outside the cities, we need punks with life skills and a work ethic. We need punks who can grow food. We need punks who can brew beer. We need punks who can build houses. We need punks who can use firearms. We need punks who can build solar cells and windmills and wood stoves. We need punks who can dig wells. We need punk farmers, punk doctors, punk engineers, punk home-schoolers. We need to escape from the prying eyes of government, from the tentacles of capitalism. We need land and liberty. In the words of Neil Young, the godfather of country punk: "Are you ready for the country? Because it's time to go!"

—Jon George/Impulse/1457 Wildcat Court #305/River Falls WI 54022  
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expression of this "people's music." Jimmie Rodgers, the father of country music, is a good example of the type. He sang about love, about home, about working hard, and about run-ins with the law. He played the blues and toured with some of the finest early blues musicians. This emphasis on the basics of life, from a working-class perspective, are apparent in all country artists since, whether it's Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, or Willie Nelson. While not outright revolutionary, they tend to be informed by a basic populism that the urban punk blithely ignores in his derision. They are for the underdog, pro-working class, pro-social outlaw, pro-union. Johnny Cash, for instance, has sung about drug use ("Cocaine Blues"), Native American pride ("Ballad of Ira Hayes"), and has done albums and tours in sympathy with that most oppressed of Americans, the prisoner ("Folsom Prison," "San Quentin").

And at least country is willing to honestly examine relationships between men and women -- something punk absolutely refuses to do. Tons of country songs touch on relations between men and women: sex, infidelity, equality, infidelity, responsibility, infidelity, love, infidelity, commitment, lack of commitment, etc. (And by the way, for every "Stand By Your Man," there's a half-dozen male songwriters lamenting and pleading for love and faithfulness. Indeed, a survey of male country music might lead you to believe it's the women who run things out there in the sticks.) Despite the overwhelming sentimentality of some of these songs, it's still clear that punk has as much to learn from country about gender relations and sexuality as it does to teach. Swedish hardcore ain't romantic, George Jones is.

The second criticism of country I often hear from urban punks is that it's too commercial. Now, there is definitely truth to this, but there's also cause for hope. There is a burgeoning alternative-country scene which has emerged in opposition to the slick sounds of the Nashville record-moguls. Alternative country is the sound at the center of rural punk culture. It combines punk-rock energy and the DIY ethic with folk's progressive consciousness and country's down-home flavor. It has its own zines, its own labels, its own network, just like urban punk does.

Although the roots can be traced back to the early 1970s hippie-influenced country-rock of Gram Parsons, Neil Young, and the Grateful Dead, modern alternative country truly burst on the scene with Uncle Tupelo's "No Depression."

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# ZINE REVIEWS

Reviews by Chris & Aprille as noted. Thanx to Aprille for the last minute re-write on the reviews that got lost in the mail!

**#16 #11** (2 stamps/Michelle/PO Box 479081/Chicago IL 60647) Back from the land of long-lost zines is a new issue from Michelle. In the past I've called this emo and personal and she gets mad. Yet the writing style of venting and purging and cleansing old relationships, heartbreak and frustrations is much the same — and I still think of it as emo and personal — with no negative connotations. Michelle writes about how she handles falling in love with a girl at 16 and the effect that has had on her. She writes about Chicago and how the city has tantalized her and changed from a place to run to and a place to call home. There's also a bunch of poetry.

**A READERS GUIDE TO THE UNDERGROUND PRESS #12** (\$3/PMB #2386/537 Jones St/SF CA 94102) This review focused zine was formerly known as Zine World. It's an excellent resource not only for the many through zine reviews, but for the classifieds, columns, news updates, and contacts. The columns discuss the Waco (Branch Davidians) cover-up, spreading the word of zines by reviewing them, the start up of a readers guide website and an amazingly compelling call for and praise to excellent zines. The review section gives short but sincere opinions for each zine. Some reviews have second opinions and they all list the time spent reading the zine. There's tons of news clippings from all over, mostly focusing around censorship cases and other lost rights. All in all an indispensable zine. (-Aprille)

**AN EPIC STRUGGLE TO REMEMBER WE'RE ALIVE** by Phil Knowles (#2/12780 E. 2200th St/Atkinson IL 61235) This is a very different zine cause it's copied on only one side of the 1/2 sized paper and it's not stapled or attached in anyway. I hate to see paper wasted - but I still kind enjoyed the flow of this. It's like one long poetic narrative full of Phil's artwork which is basically a very cynical outlook on life. Much about depression and finding your place. It's angry but that's okay. But the last outro part about how he was walking and scowling and a woman told him to smile and that pissed him off and he thought she was rude — well that left the impression of just bitter and angry this whole thing was. But I guess I just look at things a bit differently. Still some good spiny punk artwork and expression.

**ASKA #1** (\$2/cb Ferdinand N Lindayen/1219 Antipolo St/Sampaloc/Manila Philippines 1008) An all comic zine with artwork that is right out of Japanese style anime. Lots of scantily clad female characters. There's only one in this story. It focuses on two members of a ska band and the girls' choice of boyfriend. And I think the choice is between the ska singer and her brother (?) Pretty short, the draw-ins are good but he stories kind of weak. (-Aprille)

**BESIDES THE ANIMALS** (free/camps/Mark Osmond/8364 Washburn/Goodrich MI 48438) This contains quite a condensed amount of info covering the effects of a meat based diet on the environment, your health, and world hunger. With quite a number of footnotes and a ton of statistics (even a few graphs). The editor writes that he put these essays together to focus on some of the reasons people become vegetarian/vegan. There's definitely a sense of passion throughout this. Brief but packed. (-Aprille) (Besides the Animals was printed as a column in S&L last year. The version printed here is updated and elaborated a bit — Chris)

**BRUIISERS** (\$2.50/PO Box 750592/New Orleans LA 70175) "A zine about women and skateboarding; a zine for women skateboarders". This is a thick zine with a very spirited and spunky energy that is dedicated to getting equal representation for women in the skate scene. There's feedback and letters; critiques of ads and news clippings — pointing out all the rampant sexism and tropism of women. Heidi is a bad ass and takes no shit - which is rad. There's lots of photos. Tips on good places to skate in the South (AR, MS, LA, TX), run-ins with police harassment, skate content comments. Lengthy chat with skater kids in Philly as well as Philadelphia Experiment Skateshop. And even a section on women's health with book recommendations. This is full-on women-power and mandatory for any women skaters; but it should not be exclusive to women - and should be equally checked out by skater guys too. Cause in the end if you're dedicated and passionate about skating - what difference does gender make?

**CARRY NO BANNERS #1** (\$2ppd or trade/Karl Backman/Perjansvagen 1/903 55 Umea/Sweden) I was really drawn to this zine cause I love the graphic layout that is created with typewriter font. It's enlarged and combined with graphics and the pages look awesome. The writing is top notch as well and I really like the way Karl writes about social and political issues with an informed knowledge but in his own words. There are three main topics covered. The first is censorship and a group in Sweden that has infiltrated Swedish anarchist circles with a ban on all pornography. Karl writes about the ways in which this mentality is connected to the right and the divide and conquer techniques of the state. There is a big piece on Cuba and the current tourist industry. He writes about the iconography of Che Guevara and tells how an Italian businessman bought the rights to the famous photograph and has made millions off it while the photographer hasn't seen a dime. The last main piece is on the European Union and it talks about open borders, but of the strong police force that has the right to investigate and search anyone at any time. This is an excellent issue and I can't wait to see more follow!!!

**CATS WEAR MITTENS #4** (\$1/cb Quirk/5465 North Bend Rd. Box #141/Cincinnati OH 45247) I'm not quite sure what to write about this zine. The layout resembles a term paper - not too exciting. And the chance for the writing to swoop in and be so engaging that the layout doesn't matter - never happened. There just didn't seem to be any passion in it. Tale of a roadtrip to see the Aquabats play, short zine reviews, an interview with Archtype Theory,

memory of losing of his temper at school, and a painfully dull account of filling out applications for jobs. The whole issue felt kind of flat. (-Aprille)

**CHUMPIRE #124, 125** (stamp/PO Box 680/Conneaut Lake PA 16316-0680) A one pager filled with whatever the editor feels the need to write about. Each thought is put in divided paragraphs so its easy to get thru. #124 has info on shows, reviews of records, zines and books. Along with writing about Cafe Tacuba (Mexican pop band), living above a sports shop during hunting season, dollar stores, complaints about band - Sidecar, election guesses and more. #124 talks of helpful debate tips to get your point across, Pokemon, a school dance (the editor is a teacher), malls and more. Sure can pack a lot onto one sheet. (-Aprille)

**CLAMOR #1** (Feb. '00) (\$4ppd or \$20 for 6 issue sub/PO Box 1225/Bowling Green OH 43402) The subtitle reads "A loud and continued uproar of many human voices." This is a brand new zine in magazine format brought to us by Jen Angel (Fucktooth) and Jason Kucsma (Praxis). The idea behind this is bringing together some of the best writers in the underground zine scene and independent press together in a magazine that is ultimately a voice for "us" which will reach slightly beyond the confines of a copied fanzine and challenge the mainstream mass media culture. I had high hopes and expectations for this publication from its inception, which were all met and then some. The most incredible thing about this is the diversity of contributions and yet how well it represents what I agree to be some of the best of the zine world. I was so excited to find page after page with some amazing story by someone I knew. I knew that Matt Average (from Engine) had a photo essay on amateur boxing, and Alex Coughlin (from Dwgst) wrote about hiking the Appalachian trail, and then I found out that Jessica Mills (Yard Wide Yams) has her first 6 months of pregnancy story, and Mike (Antipathy) covers the WTO protests, and Mike - In Abandon - with a tour story (in his zine's artwork style), and Vique Martin writes about creativity and whether being creative brings happiness. Chris Jensen writes about bicycle commuting in NYC, Jane Graham (Shag Stamp) writes on pornography — and this is just the beginning! There is so much more included in here and the scope is wide — from computer technology and the internet to graffiti writers, to mass media, an interview with Howard Zinn and Scott from Fuel Cafe. And still there is more. I'm proud to have some of my photography in this issue as well. This is all printed on glossy paper (making it really look like a magazine) but the writers and writing are familiar to our zine world, and the topics covered are sure to get you thinking and expose some new ground in the process. Clamor has a lot of integrity, kinda like The Sun (one of my other favorites) and I'm absolutely excited about this new publication!!! It's so good that I'd highly recommend a subscription! Issue #2 should be out by the time you are reading this. (-Chris) \*\*\*\*\*

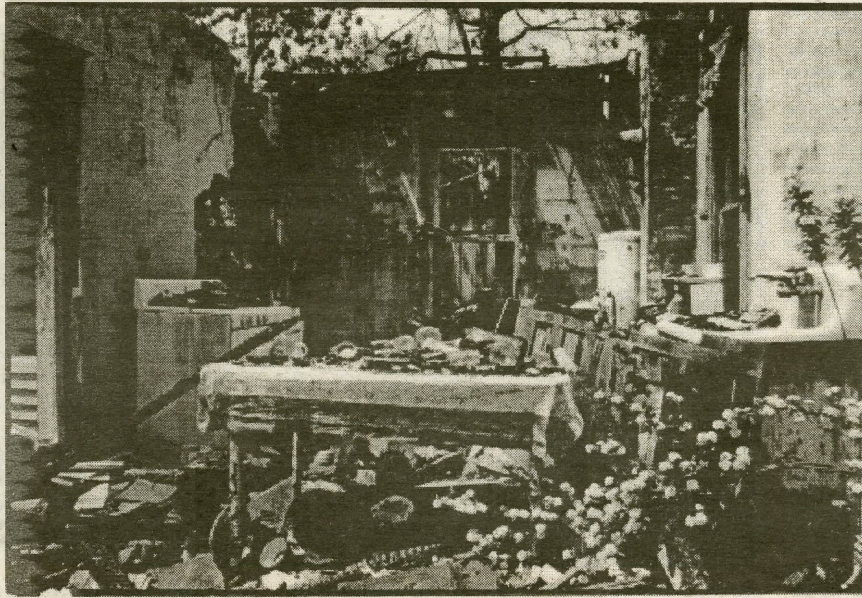
**COUNTER INFORMATION #53** (\$2/cb 17 W. Montgomery Place/Edinburg EH7 HA/Scotland) This amazing newsletter is such an important source of worldwide news. Info on political actions, protests and riots. Along with laws being passed and so on. With the dwindling amount of actual news that's presented in National newspapers, publications like this are a necessity. Even though - due to space - the accounts are brief. It tells where, why and how many people were involved, which can be very inspiring. This issue covers real facts about East Timor, Juen 18th Actions worldwide, some tactics and info on protesters fighting a dump that's to be built near their homes, busted squats, biotech resistance and so much more. Do yourself a favor and read this. (-Aprille)

**COUNTERCULTURE #4** (sum/fall '99) (Grasshole Collective/PO Box 6534/Baltimore MD 21209) This isn't the most recent issue, but it's the one I have here and I recommend writing to this group who are keeping the torch of anarcho-punk burning. This is a great networking and informational newspaper tabloid zine that covers news, events and happenings, with protest reports, squat reports and even straight up punk scene reports, there is information on worldwide anarchist solidarity struggles, anarchist black cross updates, and anarchist roots series (this issue has part 3 on Russian Anarchism history), there are contact listings of distros, bands and zines on a worldwide level and AOF (anarcho-punk-federation) listings worldwide. I really need to get more integrated with this great newspaper zine cause it's the sort of this that is essential to the life of the political punk scene!

**CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER #11** (\$1ppd/trade/Giovanni/PO Box 1781/Spokane WA 99210) I had the pleasure of reading this little 1/4 sized gem of a zine while this horrible rock band was playing. Quite ironic since this zine is out as DIY

spirited as one can get. I have long enjoyed this zine. The writing, feeling and layout and graphics of this are all good. Giovanni decided that it might be time to move and he traveled around the country to find that no where else was any better and usually was just worse. He includes city reviews of the places he visited. There is a story about getting an info shop started with hopes to rally the scene around it as a foundation — but alas, after months of work and frustrations - it didn't open. Sadly this story is all too typical of how things go in too many places. Great intentions beaten down by apathetic people who just plain don't give a shit and aren't willing to work together. Sybille writes about how Spokane is making her insane and how it's time to leave. With humble introduction to the reason there has not been any reviews in C.S. for awhile — there is a good section of zine reviews — and they are much more interesting to read than most reviews because there is so much attitude, opinion and spunk incorporated. I found that zines that I thought were the raddest, got completely torn apart by them. And regardless of agreement - the criticism and thoughts on the zines were interesting and I was inspired by the completely uncompromising dedication to the diy punk scene ethics.

**DATELINE-UNKNOWN #1, #2** (\$3/Rick Waldrup/PO Box 3265/Arlington TX 76007) A really professional looking half zine that is a bit different from a lot of the zines reviewed. It's not about punk rock or political views. Instead it's about roadtrips and collecting stories from anyone he meets. The editor is a bit older



than most zine editors - he's married with two kids. His job as a free-lance photographer takes him on the road quite a bit. And some of his photos are spread through out both issues. This is an overwhelming labor of love and it comes across. #1 recounts his travels from San Diego to Arlington. The people he meets contribute with stories, artwork and memories. Includes tales from a war veteran who buys him a beer, a 16 yr. old girl with a flat tire, a guy who works at a sandwich shop, a waitress at Denny's, plus more. #2 has him traveling back home from Miami. His van breaks down a few times - which helps him collect more stories. The owner of a tire shop, a mime, his wife, Kathy, an elderly pro-choice activist and his daughter contribute. There's also quite a bit about a KKK rally he encountered years back and some history of Selma, Alabama. Really interesting collection of stories. (-Aprille)

**DAY OF RECKONING #2** (55¢ or trade/220 Broadway/Asheville NC 28801) This first looked a bit thrown together, but after reading it - the kind of messy cut n' paste layout along with the personal, poetic writing, it all came together. This is definitely the kind of zine that is a strong extension of the editors life. He writes of hometown memories, having really bad vision, the excitement of reading books, a hitchhiking tale, details of someone's shadiness as they reach for change from the cashier and more. The writing is very descriptive but not too telling. There's always more to the story that leaves you wondering. I really enjoy this. A bit short though. (-Aprille)

**DWELLING PORTABLY NOV 99** (\$1/PO Box 190/Philomath OR 97370) This long running zine (since 1980) focuses on alternative living. So much info! It's filled with quick snippets of advice, updates, knowledge and inspiration. So amazing to hear from so many people living outside the system which should be a goal for most. Even if you just travel occasionally, there's tips worth knowing spread thru-out this. Also features a list of back issues as well as brief descriptions of other publications covering free living. Essential reading. (-Aprille)

**EMPATIA #1/TODOS ENFADADOS #5 - SPLIT ZINE** (Fidel Gutierrez Lorenzo/PO Box 407/33200 Xixon Spain) This is a nice looking split zine written in Spanish. Empatia has an interview with Slug & Lettuce which I originally did for Antipode/Love & Flowers (it's in English). There is a lengthy article about the Holocaust. Due to the language barrier I'm not sure exactly what it's about, and

just when I think I have the angle figured out I question myself again. It's a long in-depth article and looks interesting. The Todos side declares a special issue. There's a brief interview with Atom and His Package, and more punk music slanted coverage with band photos of E-150, His Hero is Gone, reviews and a lot more I can't exactly tell you about. It's all in Spanish - but it's a really good looking zine if you can read it - check it out.

**FIFTEEN DOLLER CHRISTMAS TREE #3** (\$2/cb Amy/190 Greycourt/Chester NY 10918) Um - not much to this. A lot of gore induced stories. Not short on bloodshed. Sorta looks like it was put together during class - lots of doodles and short spurts of writing. Tells of how to get out of an exam, kicking someone to death, hallucinations of attacking phiranas, split open foreheads, daytime tv and a comparison of someone's time broken down along with a bank statement broken down in the same manner. Didn't really hold my interest. (-Aprille)

**FISTCUFFS** Fall '99 (\$2/PO Box 151385/San Diego CA 92175) Wow - after repeatedly being hit with pro-god zines - it's nice to finally get a hold of one that cuts thru the dogma and presents logical views into the absurdity of religion. Clearly written essays with touches of humor thrown in here and there. The layouts a bit bland and computery, but packs a lot of text into this. So I can't really complain. There's an interview with Daniel Adams (fearsome theist ass-kick web page), Noam Chomsky's response to one state's decision to not teach natural selection in it's schools, one girls attempted indoctrination by a local baptist church, a rant relating liquor laws to Christians, a humorous tale of one man's debate with a born again con-man plus more. An excellent read. There's a fair amount of atheist related contact addresses thru-out. Wish I'd stumbled across this earlier. (-Aprille)

**FLYING LESSON #1** (\$2/cb Ali/PO Box 954/Bloomington IN 47402) A quite thick pocket zine size zine subtitled - "How I Spent My Summer Vacation" at first glance it seemed to hold promise of a good read. But after going 1/4 way thru I just couldn't go any further. The writing is a journal of Ali's summer staring out with family travels and then going on to tales of being the roadie for Operation Cliff Claven, but there isn't a drop of passion in the writing. It's sorta like reading a stack of daily agendas. Also there was a certain attitude in the wording that just didn't draw me in. (-Aprille)

**FRACTURE #10** Dec. 99 (\$3ppd/Sub. \$30 US/PO Box 623/Cardiff/CF3 4ZA/Wales UK) This is one of the most consistent and regular zines which I anxiously look forward to. Fracture arrived with a bang and has easily landed it's essential place in the zine world. My favorite part tends to be the reviews — which is a huge section - about half the zine — the coverage is just different enough from S&L that I find myself learning about bands and the reviewers have a good way with their words. Fracture is kinda like the UK's MRR — the format is similar (not as big and less adds). But we've got letters, columns interviews, reviews and a dose of politics and issues. Interviews with Scuttle, Shootin' Goon, the Cabinboy (all from the UK), a Brighton scene report, This Side Up's American tour report, and the articles cover East Timor, and a gang attack on a man in Sheffield and how the victim was jailed. They say that the copies of each issue go quickly - and this zine is so good and consistent that I would recommend forking over the cash for a subscription.

**FREAK TENSION #3** (77¢/2124 Orchard Pl/Eau Claire WI 54703) This bound newsprint zine doesn't really give off much of a personality. It covers music and fiction, but also throws in reviews and poetry. Three band interviews of varying length - the longest being with the Groovie Goules and two quick chats with Leatherface and Kevin Seconds. The show and record reviews are pretty well written. The stand-out item for me was the descriptive fiction tale of corporate control and hired killers. It reads like an episode of the Twilight Zone. So-so issue. (-Aprille)

**FRIUMP #2** (\$2/30-2 Maple Rd/West Milford NJ 07480) A full size zine filled with an assortment of Kate's opinions, thoughts and observations. She writes with honesty, not afraid to share her confusions and insecurities. There's not a feeling of image consciousness - so her bare personality comes thru. Subjects she writes about include -sexuality, being a photography fanatic, becoming a vegetarian, not wanting the label straightedge just because she doesn't drink or use drugs, starting at the local college, meeting the Lunachicks, plus a lot more. Also contains reviews, photos and some contributions. Good issue. (-Aprille)

**FSHUT STOMCA #6** (\$2/Rafat Grodzicki/Stoneczna 79/38 200 Jasto/Poland) It's too bad I can't read a word in Polish, the layout of this, with the clip n' paste and awesome artwork, is definitely intriguing. The note with it says it's about hardcore/punk music, ecology and poetry. And since it's really hard to pick words that look familiar, out of Polish (unlike Spanish, French, etc) I'll take the note's word for it. (-Aprille)

**FUCK THE SHIT UP! I'M FLY** (\$3ppd/Fly/PO Box 1318/Cooper Stn/NY NY 10276) Here it is, what you've all been waiting for — a compilation zine by Fly. You've seen her artwork here in S&L in Zero Content and here is a zine with it doesn't seem like it's all of the Zero Content episodes, but it's at least the first era of them. The other half of this is the K-9 comics - which are about a young girl and her psychotic mom and the trials and tribulations of the parental mind-fuck and the ill-health of ones body. Fly is rad. Her artwork is great as are her

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# ZINES

stories. Many people have written to me asking for Zero Content in mass, well here it is - plus some more.

**FUNKY SMUTS #4** (1 stamp/c/o Judd/N 4208 Whitehouse/Spokane WA 99205) A thin pocket-size zine that has a great cut n' paste look about it. With neat cartoon drawings spread throughout. So it was kind of a let down when the writing just didn't hold my interest. It just seemed whiny with a sorta "fuck this sucks" type of attitude. There's tales of traveling down to the Goleta Fest in CA, a couple show reviews, a run-down of Giovanni's work bosses, an open question as to what happened to good ol' boot taxin' and some other small bits. Disappointing issue. (-Aprille)

**FUTOTCH #4** (\$7/3515 Chase St/Wheat Ridge CO 80212) Even though this is bound newsprint, it still has a thrown together feel. A lot of interviews - the Allstonians, Strung-Out, Deal's Gone Bad, Telegraph, Checkerboard Kids (a public access show in NYC), Inspector 7, and the Redemptions. Also facts about halloween customs worldwide, a star wars quiz, a run-down of local scenesters, columns telling of falling for someone when you meet them, visiting grandparents, being young and more. If you're into any of the bands interviewed check it out. (-Aprille)

**GAME OF THE ARSEHOLES #2** (stamp/ Stuart Schrader/ 9 Fenwick Rd/ Whippany NJ 07981) I was so glad to see another issue of this 8 page newsletter style zine. I like this one cause Stuart is an enthusiastic lover of thrash and a good writer. But while he can talk politics till you are confused or his knowledgeable history on anarcho-peace punk, this zine drops the pretense and gets straight to the music, placing an importance on the History of Punk as essential in understanding and learning, in order to not repeat ourselves (or make the same mistakes). This issue has an interview with Tony from Gordon Solie Motherfuckers, a tribute to the old band Insults, recommendation type reviews of new bands, plus some reissues. One whole page is dedicated to 21 international bands that you need to know about - for those trying to figure out where to start in the global thrash-hardcore-punk zone. And lastly there is a history of punk section which looks at some of the great but obscure bands outta the NYC area and then moves international with a focus on female singers. Rad.

**GABAZ #11** (ul Siemiradzkiego 12/ 71-331 Szczecin/ Poland email: rudeboy@kki.net.pl) Poland has some really nice looking zines - and this is one of them. Full sized with the Ramones on the glossy cover. It's all in Polish. There are interviews with Reggae Rappers, Paco from Conflict, Battalion of Saints, Podworkowi Chuligani, Zycieci Smierci, Rejestracja, Cockney Rejects, Steve Ignorant, and the UK Subs. A definite interest in the old UK punk. Plus more than just music and band interviews. There are loads of reviews (with nice layouts and cover prints etc.). All around great looking zine with good coverage. Comes with a CD as well - with the likes of Alians, UK Subs, Oxymeron, Blanks 77, and loads of Polish punk.

**GONE AWAY #7** (\$1/Brian/43 S. Sherman/Denver CO 80209) This has a weird mix of writing and simple line drawings - it overall doesn't seem too packed together. The writing style is very graceful, but unfortunately reaches levels of being cynical and that was kind of off-putting. A bit too down. But not enough for it to not be somewhat enjoyable. He writes of an ex-friend's death in the family and getting in touch, being broke and removed from living due to focusing on basic survival, hardcore disillusionment and the inevitability of it. Tales of once working as a traveling salesman, computers not being an enemy along with praises of linux, holiday loneliness and more. (-Aprille)

**GRAY MATTER #3** (\$12/ c/o Branch/ 1621 W. Grace St/ Richmond VA 23220) I love this zine! I get so into this, so completely emersed and hooked that all else around me ceased to be while I was reading this - and that about the best feeling to have when delving into a good zine. I like the way Branch writes and the way he tells the stories of his life. So much of it I find hard to relate to - and yet that is probably just what lures me in. It's got this goofy and funny loving life side that is balanced out by strong teen angst and insecurities, which isn't goofy at all. Branch shares his life with us - from x-girlfriend relations, indulging in drinking after hating people for drinking, a short-lived stint of kleptomaniac that turned into a \$75 fine for not paying for 3 donuts in a grocery store while on tour, hippie neighbors, being harassed by a cop late at night (and the ensuing paranoia), even the recipes for cheap eatin' are good reads. And the movie reviews as well. After getting all down with Branch - I was totally thrown by the "fiction" section - cause it's written in a different tone and it's most definitely not Branch's life we're reading about. There are also a couple of contributions - one from Jeff about Epididymitis (something you boys definitely don't want to have to deal with) and I have admiration for the ability to share these kind of medical stories in zine format (and it's a good readin' story), and Duncan writes about the disaster done of their filthy home. I'm all for dirt myself, but rotting food and trash, mold, and unwashed dishes would drive me right into a move outta this place. I love these guys! \*\*\*\*

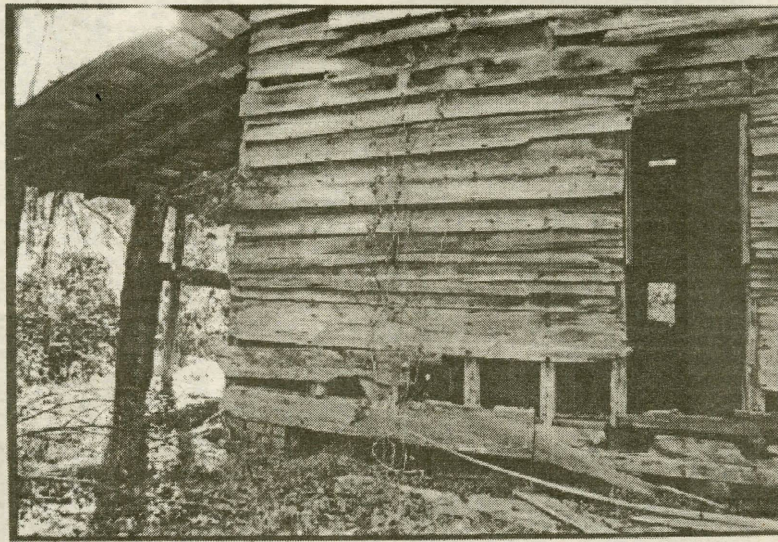
**GREEN ACRE NEWS** Nov. 99 (\$3 or \$20 for 1 yr. -12 issues/ 4222 Harmony Lane SE/Iowa City IA 52240-9385) This is a really good monthly newsletter that covers issues of misinformation and truth and the means of change. I really like the feeling of this. It's got an environment consciousness as well as an activism angle. This particular issue has news bits on current events - Mumia's stay of execution, bio-technology and Monsanto, NAFTA's effects on Canadian water, public land trusts, and an excellent in-depth book review of "Rich Media Poor Democracy" which delves into the media control over news and the censorship of networks (just to get started). There's a really good and mildly entertaining story about a guy's job as a supervisor and the

inter-personal management skills learned hands-on. As well as a really good advice list of tips for activists - things like not getting lost in rhetoric, remembering the individual, redefining activism and breaking down segregation. Several new issues have come to be since this one - and I look forward to getting this one on a regular basis!

**INDEPENDENT THOUGHT JOURNAL SEPT 99** (Free/ 106 E. Berke Ave #13/ Arlington WA 98223) This full size, stapled at the corner journal is filled with whatever is sent it - so the editor repeatedly encourages. It's a bunch of random praise god crapola. Poetry, affirmations and clip-art along with a pushy plea to copy and distribute.

**LEBEAT #3** (\$7/c/o Ferdinand N Lindayer/ 1219 Antipolo St/Sampaloc/Manila Philippines 1008) A Hare Krishna ska zine. It even has "Our Savoir" gracing the cover. There's an indoctrination - opps, I mean introduction to Krishna and other praises. Quick interview with MR330 (ska band from St. Louis), a run down of the Philippine ska scene, musiczine reviews and some ads. The Krishna and ska focus didn't perk my interest. (-Aprille)

**MAC PARIADKA #70-73** (c/o Redakcja/ PO Box 67/ 81 806 Sopot 6/ Poland <email: macp@pobox.com>) This long-running anarchist magazine outta Poland (and written all in Polish) celebrates 10 years. This is a consistently excellent publication which incorporates a great mix of politics with a segment on punk music coverage. It's so well done, so thorough and inspiring - I wish I could read it and that we had a publication of this sort here in the states (hint!). Issue #70 has an article from Noam Chomsky on the democratic influences in



the age of neoliberalism, an essay on the current Polish Anarchist movement, the Declaration of Human Rights, an article on a popular Polish comics author, a history of the Polish anarchist and autonomous organization preceding the Anarchist Federation, local info and Polish ABC news. The insert features the Polish HC band Cyronex X, His Hero is Gone, and lots of reviews. Issue #71 has Polish squat coverage, commentary on the bill of equal gender rights in Poland, Bukowski's thoughts on life, activity in the net, jokes on religion, independent press reviews, how the system effects your life, skeptic "regression", and the punk insert features Submission Hold and Ensign. Issue #72 has commentary on contemporary Polish life, history of Polish self-government, article about how the system takes away freedom while convincing you the opposite, right wing attitude towards drugs, commentary on the Pinochet affair, a horse sanctuary in N. Poland, punk insert with Brother Inferior, photos of Detestation, and the reviews. Issue #73 covers the war in Kosovo and Poland becoming a NATO member. A new section of the magazine deals with local ecological and anarchistic problems presented by the local collective, Polish squat activity, religion, Anarchist Black Cross info, hunt sabotaging, and the punk insert with Poland's Post Regiment and the UFA art crew from NYC. This is an incredible magazine recommended whether you can read it or not!! The coverage style alone should be an inspiration!

**MAKE YOUR OWN** (78/ c/o Gani & Adie/ 146A Dela Cruz St/ Tayabus 4327 Quezon/Philippines) A four paged run down of the Philippine punk rock scene. The type is small so there's a ton of info in this. Even a bit of history about their scene. They've included contact addresses for zines and bands which is helpful. Also a bit about what to expect if you visit, in terms of how things run in their DIY scene. Very interesting. Get in touch. (-Aprille)

**MANTRA #1** (\$7/ c/o Ferdinand N Lindayer/ 1219 Antipolo St/ Sampaloc/ Manila Philippines 1008) A think Hare Krishna ska newsletter put out by the editor of Le Beat. A very quick interview with Crowned King, info on Dr. Ring Ding and the Senior All-Stars along with some other ska bands. Seems like this could've been included in Le Beat instead of a separate zine. Not much to it. (-Aprille)

**MEDIA READER** (autumn 99) (\$1 = 1 issue/ \$5 = 30/ PO Box 994/ Chapel Hill NC 27514) This is an exciting new newspaper zine which focuses on media culture. First of all the layout and design are great. (Reading this format which is the same as S&L made me realize how hard it is to read tabloid newsprint - but it's well

worth it). The articles are well written, though at times a bit heavy with words and academic style. It's not hard to read, but it's a little bit more dense than how I'm used to speaking. The focus is on the culture of media, advertising and public relations and the way our lives are effected and integrated beyond our thought or realization. Such as the ways in which we are bought and sold and turned into commodities and the reasons why we think we need things and that we can buy everything (including happiness), and how this is what our dominant culture teaches us. Al Burton (famed Bum Collector zinester) writes a length article about commodification - from the counter culture down to people period. And there is a dialog between two professors of media culture studies arguing different view points about advertising. "Both argue that advertising works as a form of religion, that is has even supplanted religion as the key institution of our time. And yet they come to different conclusions about what all this means. Jahly says advertising is destroying society. Twitchell says it's holding it together." This is good stuff!!!! \*\*\*\*\*

**MIDGET BREAKDANCING DIGEST #14** (\$1/ PO Box 2337/ Boulder CO 80306) The final issue of this pretty consistent and straight-forward zine. It has all the basic ingredients - columns, interviews, articles, reviews, and lots of ads. Interviews feature - Acrobat Down, The Get-Up Kids, Joe Strummer, Garrison, online skate magazine 247 Skate and Jeff Matlow from Saul Goodman/Crank Records. A lot of the writing focuses on the ending of this zine, but there's also a MBD back issue bibliography, a complaint letter with a response (too bad they didn't reprint the parts of the article that sparked the complaint) and a descriptive

piece about chopping wood and the composure it brings. The one thing that really irked me with this was the annoying pull-out send away card inserted in it. Like those subscription cards in crap magazines like Newsweek (and it was an ad!) For Saul Goodman a computer company that is, as they say, "a sub-mainstream lifestyle resource company." What the fuck?! Nice "advertising play", all it made me do is put the zine in the ranks of Spin and Rolling Stone and other shitty big publications. (-Aprille)

**MOTION SICKNESS #8** (\$2 US/\$3 world/ PO Box 24277/ St. Louis MO 63130) A lot thrown in this, making it easy for you to find at least something of interest. Interviews with Digger and Discount. A journal of metalfestXIII, a history of Iron Maiden complete with stories behind every release. Tons of music, zine and book reviews. A straightforward look at protein in a vegetarian diet, a brutal view at animal research, a couple personal accounts of getting involved in punk and info on Centro Sociale (info shop). The columns were all pretty interesting - life in prison, brainwashing of TV, the flow of the city of Portland, getting things started in your own town, plus more. Solid issue. (-Aprille)

**MSRRY NEWSLETTER Vol. 12 #2** (Sum. 99) \$98 (\$15 subscription/ 4645 Columbus Ave. S/ Mpls MN 55407) It says "library alternatives" under the title. This pretty formal looking newsletter is put out by the Minnesota Library Association Social Responsibility Round Table. And I found it to be chocked full of interesting news and reviews, esp. if you are a library loving geek (like me). There's info on the resignation of a long time activist librarian, a maddening dialog between MSRRY and the Library of Congress on their lack of consciousness toward cataloging titles that deal with NAFTA, GATT and MAI. Also some reviews of books and zines - along with full contact addresses. A very necessary read if you're interested in what goes on in libraries. (-Aprille)

**MUTANT RENEGADE #12** (\$3/ PO Box 3445/ Dayton OH 45401) A glossy covered newsprint zine that is themed the drinking issue. It's from late last year so a newer one's probably out by now. There's tons of alcohol related stories, facts, survey results and perspectives covered. And they cover both the pro's and con's too - which I found to be a surprise. Actually some quite grisly con stories. The interviews cover - the Band XBRX!, local DJ Rev Cool, Maceo Parker (saxophonist for James Brown) and local pro-wrestling her Les Palmerville. Such diversity! It carries over to the music reviews too. Ranging from the Unseen Church. Also reviews zines, gigs, videos, and independent film. Articles touch on the WE Fest, drinking urine for health reasons, info on local artist Dawn Ki, how to play quarters, plus more. I especially enjoyed reading about all the local people and being able to find out a bit of life in Dayton. (-Aprille)

**MY VIEWS CHANGE OVER TIME #5** (stamp/ PO Box 2671/ Gainesville FL 32602-2671) This super thin pocket-size issue is subtitled - "Anarchy: the Way I see it". And that's exactly what it covers. A pretty right-on, quick summary of anarchism, that's laid down in simple clear terms. It's interesting to read individual points of view on political beliefs instead of just saying "I'm an anarchist" but rather write out how you see things as an anarchist. Even if this is just a brief run down or already known to you - it's still a good read. (-Aprille)

**MY VIEWS CHANGE OVER TIME #6** (\$1/ PO Box 2671/ Gainesville FL 32602-2671) This is a really down-to-earth personal type zine. Rob covers all kinds of life's confusions in his writing. It's very personable. Most of the subjects he covers are easy to relate to - traveling, hating work and setting out to live without it, family divorce, simple living, recognizing friends as teachers and some of the great things he's learned from some of his friends, plus more. Great issue! (-Aprille)

**NEO-BARRABIC #11** (\$1/trade/ PO Box 144/ Asheville PA 16613) This is a hard one for me to review. Tons of contacts and DIY ads as well as reviews and interviews. Quick chats with - the Assmen, the Holoskanks, Liege Lord, Ruhr Hunter, and Goat Thrower. The range of music covered runs from goth to punk, to noise to black metal. But is especially loaded with metal contacts. Since I'm not real familiar with that scene I'm not sure if it's useful or not. (-Aprille)

**NEW DIRECTION #3** (\$3??/ Johan Va Der Auwera/ Caputsteenstraat 3/ 2800 Mechelen/ Belgium) This is a really good full-sized copied hardcore zine that is full of compassion and care for the hardcore community. I like to see the traditional hardcore scene (that which often gets called "tough guy" hardcore) incorporating emotions, feelings and compassionate caring. Johan writes a lot of personal stuff - about things he's going through in his life, and emotional upheaval; as well as news and coverage of the hardcore scene. The interviews are really good. There's one with Adele from I Stand Alone fanzine (and he asks some of her questions back to her which was cool) and also really good ones with Exit 19 (really good Belgian hardcore), 400 Years, Broken Promises and a much shorter one with True Blue. There's also some reviews of zines (not really music reviews - just some mentions and news updates). This is a really good zine that totally brings the heart back into hardcore. And there are almost no ads in this zine and it's done on a typewriter in cut and paste style that is neat and orderly. It's awesome!!

**NO ONE NOTICED #3** end of 99 (2 stamps to Greg/ PO Box 5021/ Richmond VA 23230) This has been one of the most interesting and enthralling things I've read of late. This is a zine all about Richmond - yet written in a way in which the issues talked about can be understood and applied to anywhere. But like some other Richmond zines - this one really hit home cause it talks about the town in which I live and tells me about the city and going's on in a way that I don't already know or hear about. Greg has a real interest in gardening and he talks about trying to start a community garden in the neighborhood where he lives as well as about the garden that he tends (one that I have admired many many times!). Greg has worked in a thrift store and he writes a lot about that and about trying to get unwanted clothes to people who need them (and well as the difficulties of giving out free clothes). Greg writes about bikes - about critical mass and bike repair and fixing up bikes and giving them to people who need them. He writes about gentrification in the city and about the various face lifts Richmond has attempted in order to get more "white money" into the downtown; and at how the long standing black communities get walked all over and disrespected in the process - this is blatant here and I think about it often. He also covers a topic that I've been coming across a lot lately - the mandatory sentencing for drugs; and in this case local protests against this issue. What weaves this zine together really well is that while he's talking about urban politics and class struggles he also relates his own personal thoughts and ideas as well as some tidbits on his personal life and that is what rounds this zine out to be fantastic and had me totally riveted! \*\*\*\*\*

**OFF-LINE #9** (\$1/35 Barker Ave #46/ White Plains NY 10601) This was a bit of a mixed zine to review. It's definitely packed with writing, some I enjoyed while other parts left me with a bad feeling. The stand out article is a reprint of a lecture given by a Greenpeace guy who focuses on the subject of genetically altered crops. And he never throws in any Greenpeace plugs which is nice. Just concise, immediate info. There's an academic article where the author worked as a bartender in a strip club to study sexism for 2 years. The discussion of eliminating the words "Fuck" and "Bitch" due to their "violent meanings" (?) sent my censorship alarm blaring. But there's also a creepy Christianity undercurrent in this zine that left me leery. Other stuff - 33 top movies list, subversive Simpson quotes, zine/book reviews, mini-script of a video play they did, pranks at elementary school and more. (-Aprille)

**ONMINT #7** (50/ c/o Nicole Wright/ 1-416 University Park/ Carbondale IL 62901) A half-size cut n' paste zine that's definitely a personal focused one. There's a lot of poetry, zine/record reviews, and interview with Chris Vana of Jelune, and ode to her mom, some cartoons, thoughts on life, and a bit more. It just was a bit to sugary and low on substance to hold my interest. (-Aprille)

**OTANU #5** (\$2ppd/ 114 Canter Blvd/ Nepean Ontario K2G 2M7 Canada) I can easily say that in the past few issues I have read of this that it's become a fast favorite. Drawing similarly on the passionate style of older Cometus issues - this is a personal story-line zine that captures the spark and enthusiasm of a punk rock life. The nostalgia and excitement of what makes the spark ignite and the flame burn, and keeps t he memories in a sentimental place. One of the things that I really enjoy about Jeff's writing, besides the fact that it is captivating and totally easy to get hooked on, is the agelessness of it. Jeff holds onto a very youthful energy - that finds bliss in the simplest things - late night runs to the copy store, coffee shop conversations and basement shows - and yet in his writing you can feel the experience that comes with dedication to a lifestyle over time. This zine is done in a nice quarter size format (my absolute favorite for this kind of zine - because you can put it easily in your back pocket and read whenever you get the chance. And it reads with obsessive interest and it's near impossible to put down. If you've read and enjoyed issues of Cometus or I'm Johnny and I don't Give a Fuck - then you will want to read and I guarantee you will also

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enjoy Otaku. Fuck yeah it's one of my favorites!!!!

**OVERCOME RECORDS #4** (Overcome/PO Box 7548/35078 Rennes Cedex 3 France) While I normally don't review "catalogs", this one is an exception because it is so much more than just that. This incorporates the label and distro lists with band interviews that they feature — something which I think is an excellent way to provide even more info. The general basis is hardcore — from sXe to emo-metal and everything in between. There are interview spots with Children, Disrespect, Indecision, Like Peter At Home, Knut, Primal Age, Vitality, and a few more. If you're into hardcore — you should really check this out. They've got a good selection of stuff and a ton of t-shirts too. And if that isn't enough — there is also a CD with songs from the aforementioned bands as well as Fall Silent, Overcast, Shai Hulud, Judas Factor, Systral, Boy Sets Fire to name a few. 25 tracks in all. Quite a deal — but it's all in French. Not sure what the price is — I would write first, or check the website — [www.multimania.com/earplug](http://www.multimania.com/earplug) or [overcome.records@wanadoo.fr](http://overcome.records@wanadoo.fr)

**OXFANZINE** (\$5 surface/\$20 4 issue sub/c/b Joachim Hiller/PO Box 143445/D-45264 Essen/Germany) This is a long-running German fanzine-magazine that I've been overlooking of late cause it's all in German and the coverage has shifted a bit towards a more indie slant with less hardcore-punk coverage and I find myself less interested in looking at the mag which I can't read anyway. None the less, this comes out consistently and does a pretty well rounded job of covering the far corners of the underground scene. There are thousands of reviews it seems and this is a 150 page mag, with a full color glossy cover. Issue #37 features Shai Hulud, Jad Tree Records, Spermbirds, Snapcase, Get Up Kids, Hopeless Records, Hot Water Music, Avail, Good Riddance, Nebula, Fu Manchu, Donnas, Die Arzte, Die Kassierer, Fetish 69, Hopeless & SubCity Records, a big thing on porn, Johnny Thunders, and a whole lot more. As always, each issue comes with a compilation CD. Issue #36 features The Hard-Ons, Citizen Fish, Leaving Trains, the Stooges, Pennywise, Sons For Emma, The Strike, The Generators, Ramones clones — to name a few. Issue #35 features Electric Frankenstein, Sick of It All, Kill Holiday, The LA Donnas, US Bombs, Dropkick Murphys, Bombshell Rocks, Frank Kozik & Mans' Ruin. And issue #34 (which is a year old) has Agnostic Front, Nashville Pussy, Sick of It All, Randy, Dillinger 4, The Clash, Sick of it All, the usual load of reviews, columns, and reports, and the CD.

**PAST MIDNIGHT #3** (\$3ppd/Henke Liljegen/Hodors Vag 251254 Svenljunga Sweden) This is an awesome zine which I would consider essential for anyone into the worldwide anarcho-crust-punk scene. It's done so well! It's got really good lengthy interviews which make the bulk of the zine (and take a long time to get through). Interviews with Code 13, Doom, Fleas & Lice, Kontrovers and Scumbagade, as well as a classic reprint of the Amebix interview from MRR. There are articles on feminism, television, the EZLN, some reviews, words from Henke and this is all put together with excellent clean layouts with reduced type. This issue has been out for awhile not and it's taken me longer than it should have to get mentioned. Hopefully issue #4 is out or soon will be cause this is an excellent zine!!

**PHOENIX WAS A MISTAKE #2** (2 stamps/c/b Kurt Lane/300 W. 14th St/Lawrence KS 66044) I was immediately attracted to this one cause of it's artful design with red shapes clues together for a cover. It's eye-catching and craftily intended. The zine itself is pretty brief, and I only mention that cause I really liked what I read and would have liked a bit more. There's a story about attempted to train hop and getting busted as runaway kids. There's a brief rant about the IWW party. And the bulk of the zine is about working through the pain and tests to find out he suffers from Crohn's disease and the 25 pills a day that must be taken to beat this disease. This kind of painful struggles with illness are something that leave a long-lasting impression on me when they are well-written and told in zine form. I look forward to more of this zine.

**PLASTIC BOMB #28** (Sum '99) (80M/Plastic Bomb/Gustav-Freytag-Str. 18/47057 Duisburg/Germany) This is an impressive punk magazine — printed on glossy paper while retaining a 100% punk feel with the cut and past layout and coverage of real punk. This mag is all in German — so let me just tell you what the contents are: Interviews with Angelic Upstarts, Snap Her, OHL, ALL, The Misfits plus a live report, Anti-Fascist Action, Die Strafe, Scandinavian report, plus band news and info (gossip?), tons of reviews — music and zines, plus a bit of news and reports on happenings. I love the mix of coverage and it's thorough and really well done! And excellent zine. It also comes with a sampler CD — 27 tracks with lots of German punk. Plastic Bomb also does a huge distro and they have some of their listings available. If you're into streetpunk and chaos days then you will want to get to the forefront with this one (even if you can't read German!) **PLASTIC BOMB #29** This one covers the Subhumans, Oi Polloi, US Bombs, No Win Situation, Good Riddance, Menschliche Zeitbombe, Dropkick Murphys, Worterbuch Des Kriegs, Dodelhaie, Hepcat, Forgotten Rebels, Pankrti and more. I really like how the coverage is more than just band interviews. And there are so many music reviews (including tapes) it's nearly incredible! Also comes with a 30 song CD.

**PSYCHEOUT Spring '99** (\$2/c/b Silvano Pertone/Via Gallesi 2032/16163 San Quirico Genova Italy) A pretty formal looking Italian fanzine. It's devoted entirely to interviews and reviews. The computerish layout is strange but readable. Quick chats with Paul Harrison, Sniffing Glue, Rawmanic, 26,000 Fibres, and Daniele Brusachetto. The rest is reviews of demos and records and other zines. A project put together by a deep love of music. Oh it's in Italian. (-Aprille)

**PUNK OUT HARD #11, 12, 13** (\$5 gets you 12 different issues plus a one year subscription/c/b Bar/7 Emerald St/De-Va Village, Tambak/1636 Tagig M Mla/Philippines) Each issue is a one page newsletter. Issue #11 is all about how Aus Rotten canceled their Philippines tour (they point out very angrily over a toothache) and then Detestation cancel a month later. (I should add here that

it sadly looks like What Happens Next who had planned to go that way this spring will have to postpone their tour as well). The later issue are mostly about visiting friends from Germany with some info-print on the Kopi squat where they came from. These issues are pretty old at this point and newer issues should be out for a long time by now. Sorry for the delay.

**QIS FOR TREASON** (50¢ or stamp/c/b Anna/14 St. Georges Cr/Edmonton AB T5N 3M7 Canada) This comes in a pretty interesting package. A hand sewn reused envelope. It reads right to left and gives off a definite arty feel. But there's no pretentiousness in the writing at all. Very simple but poetic flow of words. A lot of the stories revolve around being 16 and getting into trouble. Being left home alone for a week — trashing the house, a hangout spot in the woods, finding an abandoned house, living off scammed fast food, falling for a boy at camp, sneaking out and getting caught and some other bits. The small amount of books reviewed rocked. She chose an excellent array of titles. Just the style of her writing kept me glued to the pages. Wish there was more — this is kind of short. Recommended. (-Aprille)

**QUEER #5** (\$1/PO Box 52812/New Orleans LA 70152-2812) This zine hasn't disappointed me ever since #1. It's overflowing with a great mix of info, rants, reviews, articles and attitude. Some zine editors need to take notes from this. The two interviews are superbly questioned and flow like friendly conversation. He talks to the band Penis Flytrap and a queer skinhead about sexuality and the scene. There's the usual page of the editors rants which range from off the wall to right on. Tons of reviews, covering music, zines and movies. S t here's numerous local ads from a lot of n. businesses, which is a cool show of support on both sides. Articles cover — info on serial killed Dean Corll, comparison of artist Tom of Finland vs. Japanese artist Sadao Hasegawa, an open letter to Marilyn Manson and an awesome summary as to the need for independent publishing. Excellent zine. (-Aprille)

**QUESTION EVERYTHING, CHALLENGE EVERYTHING #10** (\$2.50/406 Main St. #3C/ Collegeville PA 19426) This is one of those zines I'm glad I found out about. It's filled with anti-dotes pointing out the absurdities of a lot of everyday beliefs and common views. The humor just drives the point across even better. This issue contains some excellent contributions about conscientism's, the difference between terrorism and war being the ownership of a jet fighter plane, journal entries from a worker at the US embassy in Moscow and facts about Christopher Columbus. And as always, the awesome articles written by the editor — Larry. He sheds light on how to understand the mind of a moron with a moron simulator, failed rebellions against the flow of nature, a proud admittance to his corniness, near death experiences, and part of a new zine called Extreme Conformity. It's part stickmen heads part play — I didn't really get it — but despite that, the rest of this is beyond amazing. (-Aprille)

**RATS IN THE HALLWAY #13** (\$2/PO Box 7151/Boulder CO 80306) A new issue of this thick newspaper zine that usually has such a varied amount of stuff, you're bound to find something of interest. Lots of interviews, reviews, columns, and ads too. There's a huge summer tour diary — following Leatherface for awhile on their (Leatherface's) first tour. It covers drunken mishaps, crazy gigs, arrests and other fun tour fun. Lengthy interviews with Dillinger Four, Hot Water Music, Discount, Leatherface and Sean from Clear. Hefty amount of reviews (music & zine) and column-like articles (parenting woes, starting a new school in England, re-connecting with an old friend, high school complaints). An okay issue. (-Aprille)

**RESIST #38** (2 stamps/PO Box 582345/Mpls MN 55458) This is a postcard zine. It's 1/4 sized (postcard sized) and contains reproductions of postcards sent to Mat and Resist. Unfortunately a lot of them don't copy all that well on xerox and a lot of the handwriting is hard to read and really some of the messages aren't all that interesting — but I'm obsessed with postcards and so the idea alone — I love.

**REVOLT #10** (\$55¢/Anarchist Action Collective (AAC)/PO Box 11331/Eugene OR 97440) This issue is themed around sexuality and anarchists that use illegal activity as revolutionary practice. Whereas there's usually some articles of interest, this issue didn't really hold my attention. The sexuality essays seemed a bit flat and dry. The stand out article was about the sexual freeness of the Banoba Chimps, other subjects include anarchist views towards sexuality and nudity in primitive cultures. More attention was towards the illegal actions subject. The activities of Marius Jacob and his gang are highlighted, accounts of worldwide acts like bombings and bank robbing and info on some Italian anarchists being framed. There's a feel of a call to arms throughout a lot of this

— which you either agree with or not. So I couldn't embrace a lot of the attitude coming from some of the articles. There's also local Eugene news and more on the argument of syndicalism. (-Aprille)

**RIPPING THRASH #19/DRIPPING GASH #1** (\$4/c/b Steve/PO Box 152/Burton-On-Trent, Staffs, DE14 1XX England) Another fine issue of Ripping Thrash — which is consistently filled with solid interviews and huge amounts of reviews. Chats with Graham at Blind Destruction records, 4 Past Midnight, Annalise Schmidt and Power of Idea. Scene reports from Poland and Malaysia, response to a past article, along with the usual ton of music and zine reviews wrapped up the R.T. half. The debut of Dripping Gash. It's bounding with fresh energy, anger and silliness. Despite the way too long turd comic, this was fun to read. Stories about school suspensions and hair dye, reviews of music, gigs and books, tales of Manchester punx picnic gig, recipe for elderberry wine along with reasons why homebrewing rocks, brief results to one of the editors research paper focusing on female punks (which I'd love to read all of) plus tons of clip art and artwork spread thru-out. Good split. (-Aprille)

**RLYH RISING FANZINE #4** (PO Box 40113/Portland OR 97240-0113) This zine is awesome! It's a done in standard punk zine format — cut and paste; emphasis on band interviews — but with more. It's all typewriter font reversed — so the pages are all black and they look damn good. It kinda goes with the Lovecraft theme as well. Best of all and the reason why I think you should get this issue is to read the excellent Oi Polloi interview. Rarely are band interviews so incredible good — but this one is cause it not only talks about the band present

activities. And with the massive amount of people and tactics that happened — every story differs. The amount of energy and charged atmosphere that went on during those days is no easy task to transfer to words. There's also discussion of the property destruction and opinions that it was violence, along with other downfalls of working amongst lefty groups. The lengthy communiqué from the Acme collective points out the truth behind a lot of media fabricated myths surrounding the Black Bloc. Lots of photos from the streets too. Whether you were there, or not — this is worth reading. Highly recommended. (-Aprille)

**SMELL OF DEAD FISH #59 + 59 1/2** (\$1 + stamps/PO Box 484/Pensacola FL 32593) I look forward to getting a new issue of SODF to read. Every issue is different as to what it'll include. It's a strong extension of Skott's personality. #59 is full size and filled with a mix of contributions and his writing. He talks of traveling to Bloomington, soapbox derbies, swimming at a rock quarry, ode to a dog named Arie, a crazy bike trail experience and more. The contributors share stories of traveling, love and death. Also a letter to the Governor of Pennsylvania, reprint of WTO info flyer, record reviews, info on bikes for kids, plus lots more. Along with the cut n' paste artwork and snippets of poetry, it's a packed issue #59 1/2 is a short half-sized issue that is all writing from Skott. He writes of his move to SF and a lot of other various things going on in his life. It's kind of like a personal letter. Also some info on bees and driver ants and a helpful comic from Cindy (Doris zine) about wood ticks. (-Aprille)

**SOUTH CHICAGO ABC ZINE DISTRO CATALOG 2000** (\$7/PO Box 721/Homewood IL 60430) A well put together run down of available publications they distro. Divided into 5 section — anarchism, feminism, anti-racism, prisoner zines and assorted zines/artwork. It's easy to get thru and they give a more than generous discount. It's run by Anthony Rayson (Thoughtbombs zine) and he's chosen some brilliant titles. Check it out. (-Aprille)

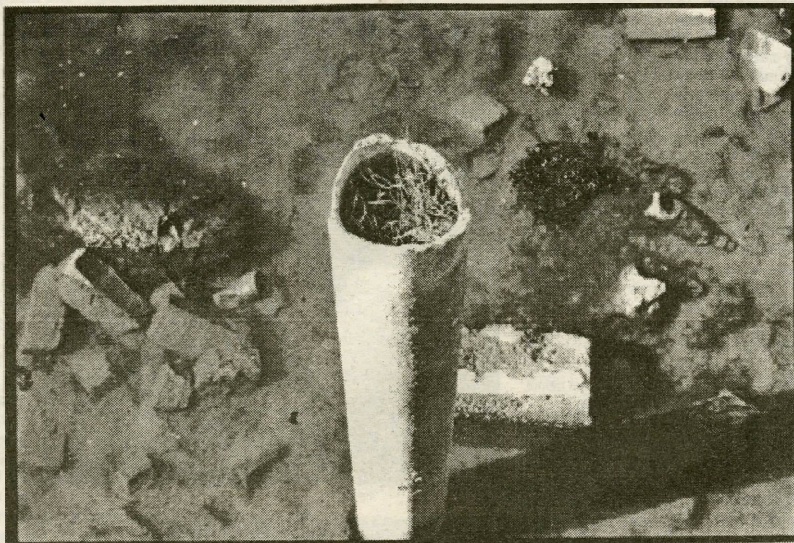
**SPAGHETTI DINNER AND DANCING #14** (\$1 or trade/Randy/PO Box 2536/Missoula MT 59806) I know that I've been raving about this zine for at least the last few issues — and at this point there is not use denying that this is one of my favorite's — one which I greatly look forward to reading. Randy writes about the wilds of Montana. He's a good writer and he's a punk and activist — so I can relate to where he is coming from when he writes about his treks out into the mountains. This time around he talks about a trip back to Yellowstone to spend a few days helping out the Buffalo Nation — a group who is trying to protect the endangered remaining buffalo in the region. There's also a brief report from a friend who was at the WTO protests. He also writes about his discovery of fanzines so many years ago and those that continue to inspire him (with both writing and some reviews). This ends up with some journal entries from the new land that Randy and some friends now call home — and I was really excited to hear about this score and look forward to the next issue by which point they should have settled in a bit. This zine is rad!

**SPUNK #1** (IRC?The Wolf's Lair/11 Cromwell Rd. WY10 8AA Wolverhampton England) This is a newsletter version of the Suffragette. It's got that British Tabloid sense of humor in abundance — with two pages of news and bits. Four pages of reviews and a centerfold spread write up on the 1999 Holiday in the Sun Festival. The text is small and the space is used well and in a good graphic manner. Worth checking out for anyone into the UK punk scene.

**STAY GOLD, JESSE, STAY GOLD #4** (\$2/300 W. 14th St/Lawrence KS 66044) This has easily become a new addition to my list of favorites. The writing has a certain down to earth personality that comes thru. Lots of observations and thoughts that have both humor and honesty. The focus of this issue is Jess's trip to Seattle for the week of WTO protests. He captures the event there well — which isn't an easy task. Capturing the energy and atmosphere so that it jumps off the page. There's also quite a few other stories included. Covering subjects like — an attempt to hop trains, a short-time co-worker, the gas-station he works at, going wheat-pasting with a group of novice IWW kids and a comic titled "kids vs. cops". An awesome, sincere zine. (-Aprille)

**SUBSIDIZED MESS #1** (Winter) (2 stamps or trade/Joe Hays/61 Hacklebarney Rd/Long Valley NJ 07853) This is the zine that used to be "Dunce of Doubt" but as he got to the 3rd issue he just decided to change the name. There are really good interviews with Scott Lieben from Bloodlink Records and Kill The Man Who Questions. For me those were the highlights. There's a bunch of punk/hc music reviews which have nice clean layouts. There's a reprint of an Infest interview from Hardware zine. And a few other bits including a trip to London where he can recommend records store locations and then writes about EBAY and how to search for records online.

**SUBURBAN VOICE #43** (\$4/PO Box 2746/Lynn MA 02903-2746) This long time heavy-weight of the scene has come out with perhaps the best issue ever! When this arrived I was absolutely amazed — each and every page had an interview with a great band. This zine really represents the punk-hardcore scene as I know it in the present. It's thick too — with probably over 150 pages (\*but I'm not gonna count them). As if that isn't enough, this one also comes with a CD which is equally on par with the representing the finest in punk rock today. We've got interviews with Aus Rotten, Boiling Man, Broken, Brother Inferior, Casualties, Kill Your Idols, 9 Shocks Terror, Out Cold, Oxymoron, Rat Bastards, Ben Seizmore (from Econochrist) and Toxic Narcotic. The CD has Anti-Flag, Zero Boys, Gordon Solie, Subhumans, Unseen, Pist, Boils, Murder-Suicide Pact, Out Cold, Econo, Infest, Boiling Man, React, Freeze, 9 Shocks and more. What a list!!! The interviews make up half of the zine while the reviews make up the other half. The music reviews are categorized into format and there are a ton of them!!! Also zines and books. There are a few letters, show reviews, and a section of regular columns. I wish I could say that I've read all of this but the fact is this is the kinda zine that takes you months to read as it moves around your house. I'm totally impressed and excited by this one



and past but also a whole bunch about Scotland and the history of the British Isles. Really good stuff. There are reviews and contact listings. Some cyber-fiction, HP Lovecraft and an interview with political thrash masters Mass Separation from Malaysia.

**SALATKA** (Marcin Dolegowski/Ul. Gorna 54/19500 Goldap Poland) This is a short slapped together zine that is all in Polish. It's got some stuff on marijuana and animal testing (I think) not necessarily related. This is only 10 pages and there's not much I can comment on since I can't read it and there are no headlines to interpret.

**SCHIZOID #26/27** (\$2/c/b Jeff Hartford/PO Box 166/East Hampton MA 01027-0166) This double issue is in standard full size cut n' paste format, which is always a surprise with this zine. Jeff's pretty creative with different styles and contents too. This issue has quite a few contributions. It's always had more of an arty feel over actual written articles but is still able to convey certain subjects. Collages, surreal word play, along with gig photos, odd news clippings, pen drawings, letters from friends, and more in this issue. There's never really any set list of contents. Always an excellent surprise. (-Aprille)

**SCRAWL SHOP #7** (\$4/47E Morning Star Dr./Sanville Subdivision Project 6/Quezon City/Philippines 1100) A quite thick, full size issue with really dark greyish photocopying and cut n' paste mayhem. It mostly focuses on metal — but I'm not sure if it does it well or not (I'm not a huge fan of metal). Interview with Necrophobic Cunt, Rage From Within, Core, Antagony, Integrity, Angel Corpse, Groinchurn, Ricardo "Lebzul" Brenes (Internal Nation Magazine) and Azazel. Most of the random personal writing revolves around freaky things he observes and getting stoned. Quite a few record reviews ranging from A&M releases to local demos. Also zine, film and websites are reviewed. The comic about some gang war crap or something was a bit annoying — as is some of the expressions used throughout this. Kind of like hanging out with stoner butt rockers in high school. Entertaining, but I can't take all the satanic overtones seriously. (-Aprille)

**SLINGSHOT - WTO SPECIAL EXTRA EDITION #67** (\$1/3124 Shattuck Ave/Berkeley CA 94705) This issue was put together quicker than usual and features nothing other than WTO-Seattle protest articles. And there's some awesome writing in this too. Many contributions with personal accounts of the week long

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## contributions...

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**ALLEGHENY WILDI BENEFIT COMP.** for the Allegheny National Forest (ADP) is in the works is looking for anarcho-acoustic, folk, punk with eco-conscience, anti-industrial back-drop.

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tori.10@osu.edu>

**UEER AND NOW!** An attempt to ate and provide a recorded oral y of the lesbian, transgender, xual, gay lifestyles we know. : goal of this publication is to vide an up to date oral history of lives as dyes, fags, sissies, enies and tomboys. I think this good place to start the project ause it's where we started. Ideas future topics are encouraged and uested. This is a collaborative rrt! Write your story in whatever n you'd like (poem, essay, mani- to, prose, comic, drawing, etc). sign you page, or pages the way i want others to see it. Send jinal or very clear photocopy with icific instructions on whether you nt it back or not. The size of this ublication is half legal (8 and 1/2" tall by 7" wide). I'll keep people updated as stories ulate. Size and frequency depends on those involved. Mary Muff/266 Olean St/ reester MA 01602 email: marymuff@hotmail.com

**ANDS WANTED FOR FOOD NOT BOMBS BENEFIT COMP.** Grind, crust, thrash, punk, etc. nd tape for consideration, especially International bands. Non-profit record label also king kind - send tapes. Thanks! Mike/693 Crestview Ave/Akron OH 44320-1955.

**HE MAGAZINE THAT I'M STARTING, TEENAGERS,** is in many ways a thank you to all of friends who have inspired me over the past few years. I'm looking for fiction, poetry, and nics that make your heart quake, that make you realize you are alive. I'm also looking for ll-written, compelling non-fiction essays and book and zine reviews. This is call for missions, advertising, info on cheap printers. Distributors get in touch! Kim/PO box 5664/ rhmond VA 23220

**TATIC CONTROL ZINE IS AT REST** (for awhile!) But keep on sending your contribution coz have put out a newsletter "Cheap Control" as substitute. We have new issue 6 out, 12 page h intv. w/ Final Exit plus other nice stuff! Also available "Save the Crippled Mankind" lippines bootleg comp. Not excellent quality, but definitely 200% DIY. 17 bands from 3rd rid country Philippines. DIY Distro/labels let's trade! Cheap Control/RO2 No 3 Gsis Vill/ ipapa Novall-Chex QC/Philippines.

## looking for...

**LOOKING FOR DECEPIT** "Tired of Licking Blood From a Spoon" LP. State of Fear "The lies will turn" LP, Pissed 477. A/Political "Planting the Seeds of Revolution" tape. I will de or pay. Write to Jon Hughes/PO Box 70/Wilmington VT 05363.

**LOOKING FOR ANY VIDEOS TAKEN AT OLD BARN FEST SUMMER '99.** Will pay cash or de. Mollie/3522 River Rd/Cincinnati OH 45204.

**WANTED: "ZEN PUNK" BY THE SMARTPILS.** A dubbed copy would be fine! Will pay cash work out a trade. Also seeking any live recordings of Christdriver. Cheers! Chris/PO box 007/SF CA 94147

**LOOKING FOR NON-LEATHER SPIKED BRACELETS, collars, etc.** Send me your lists, talogs. Jeremy/PO Box 192/Cecil WI 54111.

**LOOKING FOR A COPY OF THE SCREAMERS "DEMOS 1977-1978"** LP that was reviewed the Dec. issue of MRR. I've been looking for material by the Screammers for quite awhile and ould be willing to pay a good price for this album, which I haven't been able to track down. ou've got this album and would like to sell it (or tape it for me) contact Bill at PO Box 162/ liams OR 97544.

**APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF 5 PEOPLE LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SLEEP DURING THE Bay**

**Area Anarchist Book Fair in SF on April 15.** If anyone can provide shelter for a couple of days, or one day, please write me. We won't take up much room and we can provide some money if needed. Hope to hear from you! Fetus/11272 Wembley Rd/Los Alamitos CA 90720.

**-- ZAPATISTA/EZLN STUFF.** I'm looking for info, news, books, and esp. video (TV program, etc). Especially in English or Spanish. I will pay for cost or trade with punk stuffs. To Yukiteru Asai/103 Katoreya-Koupo/1-65-2/Yamato-Chou/ Nakano-Ku/ Tokyo 165-0034 Japan. email: peacepunk.yukiteru@nifty.ne.jp

**-- PRIMITIVE FORCE COLLECTIVE** is looking for contacts around the world to contribute reports of protests and political activities. Please write c/o Marc Wardle/PO Box 71144/Pittsburgh PA 15213

**-- LOOKING TO MEET KIDS IN LOUISVILLE KY.** Going to be in town for Krazy Fest and the Southern Girls Convention. Thinking about moving there after summer. I'm into literature, photography, veganism, DIY-ism, emo, indie rock, power-violence, punk, goth, etc. If not into writing, write once, and I'll call back. Doug/166 Indies Dr. S/ Marathon FL 33050

## distribu- tion...

**-- PSYCHEDELIC RECORDS & DISTRIBUTION** new catalogue available! Hundreds of new and used, rare goodies in punk, hc, ska area with reasonable prices. If you need help with distro, I'd be happy to help out. Samples with wholesale prices and any information are welcome. List for \$1US, 2 IRC or via email. Psychedelic Records/ PO Box 34/ 92101 Raabe Finland. e. psychedelica@hotmail.com

**-- ODDS & ENDS DISTRO.** New distro carrying crust/anarcho/grind titles. I try to carry more international bands, but also carry American bands. Always interested in trade. Some carried stuff: Abuso Sonoro, Regeneration, Cripple Bastards, etc. Write for free list. Eddie Lea/Rt 3, Box 49256/Alamo TX 78516.

**-- MAKE YOUR OWN DISTRO:** We are always looking for more stuff to be distributed in our country. Send your wholesale rates and sample copy if possible. Our priority is consignment and we are willing to send your our payment within a short period of time. We can also pay up front if your price is affordable. For 3rd world punks and hardcore. Write to: MYO Zine & Distro c/o Gani & Adie/

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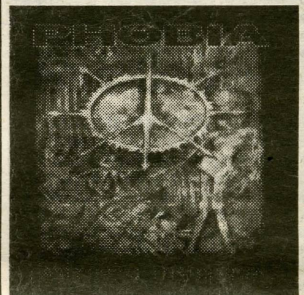
## lost people...

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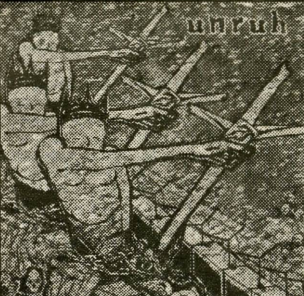
**-- JUSTIN AKA STAPLES.** Where are you? I have all your stuff and I haven't heard from you in a few months. I miss you. Last I heard you went to Florida with a girl name England or London. Get in touch. Lok/5260 Bounty St SE/ Prior Lake MN 55372.

**-- CLAYTON AND OR JEREMY FROM MPLS.** I've lost contact with both. Clayton aka UG, Purenoiz, Jackass Has head tattooed and noose tattooed around neck. Jeremy Classen aka Bikezero was in Florida fdr awhile, but may be back in Mpls. Please get a hold of me. Miss you guys much! Anna aka tatgr/523 1/2 South Mofey Joplin/ MO 64801 or reacts@hotmail.com

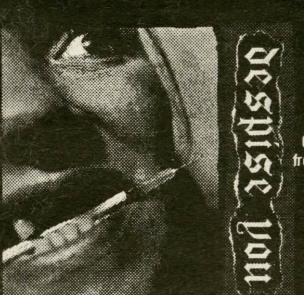
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# MUSIC REVIEWS

Reviews by Chris, Jay, Beth, Beau and NA - as indicated. Thanks to all their help - we're finally getting caught up on many long neglected reviews.

**SETHI - ANOREXIA B - CD** For those unfamiliar with Sethi - he plays angry political acoustic punk. I'm a long time fan of Sethi's songs and have always really appreciated what he does - taking anarchistic eco-warrior ideas fueled by anger and an acoustic guitar. This latest CD was originally conceived as a performance piece and though it incorporates many of what I would deem his classics, it is also mixed up with samples and soundbytes and a bit of techno-mix dub thrown in. I think it might work as a performance piece better. And while I still 100% appreciate the message, I don't get as riled up listening to this as I do with the straight forward songs. I find my attention wanders when it gets all sampled and dubbed. Mumia's voice is cool, but some of the techno just makes me loose concentration. If you are into Seth, you should check this out, but I think that you should start off with the 7" and regular full CD first otherwise. (SETHI/PO Box 3223/Running Springs CA 92381) (-C)

**2-PUMP LOUIE - REVENGE OF THE ALIEN BABY CD** I gotta admit that this one is a huge surprise cause I've got this (obviously wrong) association with the name as a bad pop-punk band, and the cover for this makes it look like some goth comic book joke thing. But slap this disc in and it's rockin' punk fronted by a rad female singer. I love her voice! The music is tight and super fast in a charged relentless driving energy pace. And Naomi's vocals are just as relentless as she rolls along with a rollicking pace, belting out powerful operatic anthemic verses, along with the energetic tempo. The dynamics of this duality come across like a pogo-whirlwind, with out being a throw-back to UK punk and disorderly. The music is played clean, her voice dominates and captivates, and fuck does it rock! They're from Canada and you can contact them at (1266 Queen St. West #4 Toronto Ontario M6K 1L3 Canada) \*\*\*

**59 TIMES THE PAIN - END OF THE MILLENNIUM CD** I guess there is kinda a hype going on about this. In Europe, being a European on EPITAPH/BURNING HEART must mean more over there than it does here, so I'm going into this one jaded of course "another damn epitaph band from Europe great!" But hey this isn't so bad. I mean it's kinda standard for the label but at least the band is competent on their instruments and have some good hooks. OK, I would go see them if they played down the street and probably like them, but I wouldn't travel out of town to see them. So what does that say about the band or me for that matter? (Burning Heart/Epitaph) (-Beau)

**7000 DYING RATS - FANNING THE FLAMES OF FIRE LP** Bizarre noisecore that reaches into the realms of the absurd. This absurdity gives it an edge over most predictable noise that's out today. I paid close attention to this, wondering just what the fuck would happen next. It made me think of being claustrophobic and stuck in a malfunctioning elevator. Simply put, it's fucked up music for fucked up moods. And if you need an idea of their influences, they have a song called "ANAL CUNT is gay". (Jay) (Up Jumps the Devil Records/PO Box 470650/Chicago IL 60647)

**9 SHOCKS TERROR - 577** While not as intense as GAUZE, (and who could expect them to be) 9 SHOCKS TERROR still pull off the high octave sound that any true thrash punk fan will be totally into. The only problem with this record is that the kick drum is mixed a little too high and it takes away from the speed a bit. But I don't think the little details matter to a band that is slowly gaining a reputation as one of the most energetic live bands around today. So if you can't go see them then pick this up for a taste of what you're missing. And if you've already seen em, then this will help you remember the chaos. (Jay) (Havoc Records/PO Box 8585/Minneapolis MN 55408)

**A.D.E.S. - PRONTO LO VEREIS CD** This follows really well in line after listening to United (from Japan). A.D.E.S. play a strong metal influenced hardcore from Spain. Their sound is very punchy with near funky hip hop metal beats. Even as I say that, I think it makes it sound horrible - but it's not. In fact it's quite good. The production is big, making this loud and clear and that is helpful to the musical style. It's powerful, full of crunchy guitars and a punchy beat. The vocals are gruff and deep and all in Spanish. Definitely very thrash-metal cross-over style. There's not anything included on the band to get an idea of what they're about - there's a fat booklet of lyrics, but they're in Spanish. (WC Records/Juan I Herrero/PO Box 41019/28080 Madrid/Spain)

**ADOLF & THE PIRATES - THIS IS YOUR LAW EP 7"** One of the best streetpunk bands around these days. They play the sort of UK inspired punk that I have always really liked. A punks and skins mix with enough of a heavy driving pace to give 'em power and yet a really catchy potential sing-a-long style. No "Oi Oi" but you it's got that punk and disorderly Oi-punk sound and feeling. The vocals are deep and gruff and almost sound English at points. The guitar lines have catchy hooks and melody and they play totally solid and tight. They really have a strong and catchy style - that rocks! (45 Revolutions/PO Box 2568/Decatur GA 30031)

**AEROBITCH - ARE YOU READY? 7" 45** Not bad. The back cover describes them as punk rock n' roll. I disagree. This is mostly faster well done hardcore than anything else. Unlike lots of hardcore this has lots of hooks and some guitar solos. Very well placed. 4 songs total. The last being a Zero Boys cover. Well done too. In fact the Zero Boys are definitely a influence for this band. To make things better this is female fronted. Has a nice color jacket and comes on red vinyl and is a split release between... (Intensive Scare/PO Box 640338/San Jose, CA 95164-0338 and Aerobitch/PO Box 60167/28080 Madrid SPAIN) (-NA)

**AGENDA 3" CD** Yes you read the title right. This is a 3" CD. This is 6 songs of Japanese hardcore. Rough fast and plenty of gruff. The lyrics are political and personal. Only thing is the music isn't to special. In fact all the songs sound the same. (Paank Le vkr 1-2-29 Asahikawa Yokote, Akita 013 JAPAN) (-NA)

**ANARCHOPHOBIA - NUONEL LP** Let me start by saying that I hate the cover of this and it is a deterrent from checking out the record (it looks like an illustration of scientific atoms) - but fortunately I got beyond that because this is one of my favorite things right now and I've had it on play non-stop for a long time. Their style isn't easy to pin point cause they work in a variety of influences - from old styled punk to energetic burst of adrenaline with crunchy chuggy tempos while mixing in some dub, reggae and almost ska type stuff. The female singer's voice is rad!! At times she sounds kinda like Polly Styrene from X-Ray Spex (and the overall band has a touch of that sound but a more hard driving edge overall). Her voice is powerful and it chills my spine. The band has a super catchy style and the variety of styles work

together to form something really original and totally addictive and I love it!!! They're from Austria and sing in their native language (which adds to the sound - where the vocals are really clear and awesome!) (Sacro K-Baalismo/Herbststr.40/17/A-1160 Wien Austria) \*\*\*\*

**ANTIBODIES - "ANTITHOLOGY" CASS** Snotty punk rock that reminds me of an early Crass demo. It's defiantly influenced by early Crass Records' bands and the 70s punk movement. There's even a little of the Sex Pistols sound in this. This is well done, with a thick booklet that lets you know where there coming from. There are lots of songs here, that span from 95-98. Punk-fucking-rock. (Jay) (\$5 ppd. to: Antibodies/74 Little Grove Field/Harrow Essex Cm19 4BX England) **ARTIMUS PYLE - CIVIL DEAD LP** Holy fucking shit! This is one hell of an assault of brutality in the form of axe-grinding and wielding guitars and a dropped heavy throbbering power that can only even be matched or compared to His Hero is Gone. True, if you're bummed that HHG called it quits - have no fear, cause Artimus Pyle will rock the same part of your world. I've had this on addictive play - non stop. It's relentless. Driving powerful and frenzied while being totally tight and not one bit of blast beat mayhem. It's got the full throttle speed and energy of old-school hardcore as the foundation while drawing from late 90s styled "new-school" hardcore for the heavy evil sound and sour heavy throbbering. The throbbering thrust will rattle you and it shakes the very center of your being and the sour notes are evil and dark brooding and prodding. This is full of complex layers of weaving power with adrenaline overdrive pummeling. Fuck! I LOVE THIS!!!! I liked the 7" - but this is the shit here - totally over the top - and I just keep playing it over and over and it only gets better. Another fuck yeah!!! (Prank/PO Box 410982/SF CA 94141-0892) \*\*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**ASSERT - LEFT OPPOSITION CD** This is good stuff. Solid hardcore with strong political sentiment. The music is sort of Snapcase meets Sheer Terror with Lemmy on vocals. Melodic with touches of chugga chugga. Full length release with nice layout. Nice to see hardcore with this sort of sound with political lyrics. (Beth) (\$12ppd word/ Household Name Records/PO Box 12286 London SW9 6FE England)

**ASSKRUSHER - DEMOLITION CASS** Very metal, with a little hardcore and some power-violence thrown in to make it an ass crushing listen. It's not really the wall of noise I was expecting from a band named Asskrusher. I find this leaning towards an almost melodic (not really, but it does keep a fairly steady tune) style of hardcore grind which some could call crust. It isn't bad, it's just not the most captivating listen. (Jay) (Kemp/211 E. Third St./Winston-Salem NC 27101)

**AXIOM - APATHY & PRIVILEGE LP** This is a record that I have greatly anticipated. I love Axiom cause they play brutal metallic grinding punk rock and do so with a strong revolutionary radical base of active politics. They've got an axe-grinding power, dual gravity and guttural vocals which trade off and an absolutely relentless explosion of brutal grinding crust-punk. Some wailing Swedish styled guitars and a fast absolutely pummeling blasting assault of brutality. This fucking rocks!!! In the middle of this record is a long spoken word piece by Mike Antipathy. I really like that this is included on the record. It's easy to include written manifestos with records (which this does in a huge booklet format) and while many people read the important words - all too many skip it and just rock out. By placing this call to awareness and action on the record itself they really get you to listen to the passionate message - and feel the dedication and importance of their ideas - and since that is so important to this band I think it's an effective technique! The combination of ideas, music and message; layout and artwork and recording are all put together with such care and I think it makes this one of the best records out now and I'm totally inspired!! (Tribal War Records/1951 W. Burnside #1936/Portland OR 97209) \*\*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**BEEFCAKE - REJECTED CD** This sounds a lot like the first AFI record with a little bit of pop punk sprinkled on top just what you would expect from Fearless. (Fearless Records/13772 Goldenwest St #545/Westminster CA 92683) (-Beau)

**BIGWIG - STAY ASLEEP CD** This is a lot better than their first record that's for sure. This band has grown up a lot and this release shows that for sure. I hate to say this but I thought they're first record was a little to goody and poppy for me, but this one has mellowed out just enough to still be fun you can still hear the RKL influence and that's a good thing but I think they're getting their own sound good job guys this is really good. (Kung Fu Records/PO Box 306/V Seal Beach CA 90740) (-Beau)

**BILLYBOY & LA SUA BANDA 7"** Cool. Some real Oi. Nice and fast. Good music. Nice vocals. Plenty of sing along parts (if you are fluent in Italian) and even a cover of The Misfits "Brain Eater" done all oi ed out. There is a clip of from Clockwork Orange (nice touch good movie). The lyric sheet is in Italian so I have no clue as to what they are saying. So if you like Oi definitely get this 7". It's a keeper! Has nice color jacket to. (\$5 ppd/\$6 ppd airmail Oi Strike/PO Box 15338/00143 Roma Laurentino ITALY/ http://Welcome.to.soarecords) (-NA)

**BREAD AND WATER - STRENGTH IN NUMBERS 7"** Fuck yeah! This band is amazing and totally regenerates my faith in the punk scene right now! They're an awesome punk-core band. Their style is pretty straight forward in a raging and galloping way. Urgent and driving. And the female vocals are rad! Her voice is cool and full of anger and only occasionally is it distinct feminine when she sings accapella. Kinda reminds me a bit

of Amy from Nausea. The lyrical message of this band is full on politics. A fuck the system attack on the political structure, wage slavery and war. With an organize and light back attitude. The lyrics are arranged in a great looking booklet and this all has a really nice graphic look to it. I really like this band and what they're doing. In the way that Kill the Man who Questions and Anti-Product are talking politics and anarcho-punk ideologies while not playing a boring repetitive style of predictable music - Bread and Water are charting into new territory with their own blend of straight forward in your face hardcore punk - and they fucking rule!!! (Chris Bland/Bread & Water/PO Box 595264/Dallas TX 75359-5264) \*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**BURNING KITCHEN - CONFRONTATION 7"** This Swedish band plays in a pretty straight forward rockin' style with a clean guitar sound. They're fronted by a female singer with the dual male vocals on the chorus. They've got a catchy style in a non-abrasive manner. Kinda reminds me of early 80s punk with a bouncing tempo and her voice kinda like Deno from Dirt. It lingers in my head after listening to it cause I really like it. (Communicaos Media/Box 825/101 36 Stockholm, Sweden) (-Chris)

**BY A THREAD - THE LAST OF DAYDREAMS CD** Just as I was praising Revelation for putting out WHERE FEAR AND WEAPONS MEET rev has to go and put this out. Let's see? - chugga chugga guitars and a lot of dink dink leads under a lot of lyrics that are kinda abstract but hey if you like the emo thing it's all yours. (Revelation Records/PO Box 5232/Huntington Beach CA 92615-5232) (-Beau)

**CARBURETOR DRIVING - THE ALLURE OF MANURE CASS** Catchy melodic punk rock from Malaysia. This has a very produced sound with their style almost bordering some of the corporate punk acts of today. However, they have their heart in what they're doing and seem to put thought into it. So, if you like the guitar leads and sing-a-longs of some of the bigger punk rock acts of today then you'll probably really get into this. It does have a little harder side to it, but that's to be expected from a band that seems to be a part of the diy community.

The tape label their on seems to be worth supporting too, with a note about how this should not be sold in corporate stores like Tower Records. (Jay) (Alternative Garage Entertainment/000901812-X) / 14A Bukit Ceylon Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia/CATARACT - WAR ANTHEMS - 7" From looking at this one, I was pretty sure I was gonna love it - the layout and design is awesome and it screams emo-metal-hardcore to my sensibilities. And this is heavy powerful melodic hardcore - that packs the crunching guitars like Slayer without emo at all. There is nothing spastic or crazy about this - it's straight forward metal driven hardcore that is heavy powerful and rocks full tilt. Cataract kinda fit into the profile of German metal-hardcore, except that I think they're from Switzerland. This rocks my world and I've loved it from the first listen and can listen to it on a fully repetitive basis. (Join the Team Player/ c/o Marco Walzel/ Alottingstr.6a/81873 Munchen/ Germany, distributed in the US by Schematics/ PO Box 14836/ Gainesville FL 32604) \*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**CHUPACABRA - TIRED OF TALKING TO SHADOWS 7"** Politically minded hardcore metal that incorporates a little of the elements commonly found in black metal. But to make it simple, it's a blend of styles that's often labeled as crust. They do stray from the crust sound by occasionally adding extremely high pitched female vocals and an almost gothic style of singing to their songs. But it's mostly the blasting sound with heavy guitars and gruff vocals that is commonplace here. And even though this is a good release, its lyrics are a little vague and the songs only occasionally completely grab your attention. But from looking at their layout, this band puts a lot of energy into what they do, and I would not be surprised if their next 7" is amazing. (Jay) (Andrew Wilkinson/6519-54 St. N.W./ Calgary Alberta T3A 1T5 Canada)

**CLIT 45 - STRAIGHT OUTTA LONG BEACH CD** More awesome amazing rocking Oi streetpunk from ADD records. It seems to me that anything on this label is a reliable release. I was won over on ADD when I heard the Poxy CD and this one is much the same. This is Cocksparrer, Last Resort, Casualties, Unseen solid fucking rocking Oi punk. Totally kicks ass. I love and adore this style when it's done right and Clit 45 does it full justice. The lyrics have a good political edge as well which is nice to see with the apathy that sometimes affects this scene. Bands like this and Poxy give me hope for the spike haired Oi punk of the future. (Beth) (ADD Records/ 270 Central St/ Hingham MA 02043)

**COLONNA INFAME SKINHEAD 7"** There is a little history about this 7". Apparently it was recorded in 96 as a demo tape. The band only made 300 tape copies and stopped at that. Apparently enough people were asking for it that Oi Strike felt it should remaster and released as a 7". We have 5 songs of pretty well done slower mid paced Oi. The band has a different lineup now and a full length is coming out soon (if not already). So we will see if it's as good as this 7" (\$5 ppd/\$6 for airmail Oi Strike/PO Box 15338/00143 Roma Laurentino ITALY/ http://welcome.to.soarecords) (-NA)

**D.I.T. - 1981-1991 CD-R** The sound quality on this is so bad it's almost unlistenable. But there are a couple songs that don't suffer too badly from the terrible recording and they are a lot easier to get into. However, I would think that the main reason anyone would want to get this would be for the historical relevance/hovelty of hearing an old school punk band from Bulgaria. Or maybe for the song "Fuck the Bulgarian communist party". Damn commies!!!! (Jay) (Aon -Aon 018/ Ivailo Tonchev/ Stara Zagora 6010/ Kvi Kazanski 16-G-115/Bulgaria)

**DAMAGEDIGITAL - "DELETE" CASS** Brutally spastic grindcore from Malaysia (or Japan - not quite sure). This is very good shit, it's tight (great production) and manic: on the verge of exploding. There are guttural vocals paired with a high pitch screaming that's done almost in a squealing style. The vocals fits the music perfectly and you can hear how heavily Discordance Axis influenced these guys' sound (and artwork). So if you like Discordance Axis, or just want to give something new and brutal a try, then this shit's for you. (Jay) (\$4 ppd. to: Alternative Garage Entertainment/901812-X/ 14A Bukit Ceylon /50200 Kuala Lumpur/ Malaysia/DAYBREAK - FROZEN WINTERED REALMS OF MY MOONLIT RECORD COLLECTION PIC DISC 7" This is a joke. And that's what they intended. The music is basically screaming hardcore with blast beats and the occasional guttural growl. I've never been able to get into hardcore or punk that is just one big joke, I guess it's just too personal to me, or perhaps I am just bitter. Anyway, some of the best titles on this (if you care) are: The dark lord disapproves, Originality is something we don't need and I love junkies because they sell me their records for drug money. Twenty songs in all. (Jay) (Reptilian Records/403 S. Broadway/Baltimore MD 21212)

**DEAD NATION - DEAD END CD** These guys are going back to their hardcore roots - playing in your face aggressive, tight and fast hardcore. A strong dose of adrenaline packed mid-80s hardcore of the skate-punk era full of aggression and anger and with a lot of heavy Black Flag influence. Relentless in the powerful delivery and no-bullshit style. Fucking awesome! (\$8ppd US/ \$10 world/ Dead Alive Records/PO Box 97/Caldwell NJ 07006) (-Chris)

**DEFACTO OPPRESSION - WE'RE DIGGING OUR OWN GRAVES 7"** This is awesome punk rock! They play fast and energetically upbeat with a catchy style and dual vocals that power it out at the same time. The lyrics are good covering socio-political issues like animal abuse, oppression, genocide, suburban sprawl, drug addiction and life. This is awesome and totally addictive. The sleeve is printed nicely - blue graphic ink on brown paper sleeve. A good solid aware band to embrace! (Defacto Oppression/1520 Tainter St/Menomonee WI 54751) (-Chris)

**DENILE - AUTUMN: SEASON OF DYING CD** Metal-hardcore from Pennsylvania. They've got that new-school hardcore feeling that draws on heavy power and thick sound that comes from the combination of metal and hardcore and rocks. But they've also got that old-school mosh feeling of NYHC that always had metal tendencies. I think a lot of that is in large part to the way the vocals roll and punch with that Roger AF style. I keep listening to this cause it's really good, but I'm not over the top about it either. It's solid metal-hardcore that is pretty straight up. (Double Down Records/PO Box 1117/Kulpsville PA 19443) (-Chris)

**DESTINATION-DAYBREAK - ONE BEAUTIFUL HOUR CD** This has nice artwork and utilizes the DIY attitude with the color xerox layout which looks awesome! I really like this band - they've got an awesome abrasive emo-hardcore style that has more rockin' melodies and catchy hooks than crazy spastic parts. But it's full of power and intense feeling and abrasion in that manner. Ranging from emo-half speak to scream-o angst while mixing up a grating crunch with a catchy melodic anthemic style that never loses power and drive. This band rocks! Contact: 165 Tracy Rd/Lake Mary FL 32746 \*\*\* (-Chris)

**DEZYNEKKA - "ZWYRDOONALY RANKING WARTOSCI" CASS** Fucking good political/peacepunk from Poland. Complete with visual aids (pictures) for the more slack jawed among us) and translations of all their lyrics. The lyrics mostly deal with subjects like greed, racism, animal rights and the general way humanity fucks this planet. It's aggressive, well played and constructed, showing that diy doesn't mean it has to sound or look like shit. It looks like they put a lot of effort into making this, wouldn't it be cool if some of us put effort forward and ordered it. (Jay) (Adam Gajewski/Zapolskiej 23/4A-400 Mysłowice Poland)

**DIE BRUT - "ANS HERZ GEWACHSEN" DEMO CASS** Decent power-violence from Germany. This is very fast and still allows the occasional breakdown for any headbangers out there. The recording quality is not that great, but it's listenable. There are 5 songs on this, all in German. Buy if you're interested. (Jay) (\$6 ppd to: Markus Egner/ Michaelstr 94/74523 Schwab Hall)

**DISCOUNT - CRASH DISCOSTIC CD** I've always had this strange love-hate relationship with Discount. Their style is so poppy that I really can't stand it. But Alison's voice is so rad that I can't help but like it. And on this newest release I'm totally drawn in and captivated. For me Discount is all about Alison. Not to discredit the guys in the band, but Alison has such an incredibly beautiful and strong voice - it's really striking commanding attention and putting the sinkers in, which makes it amazing! And while listening to this here at home, it's nearly had to picture her shy timid mannerisms behind this power-house of a voice. I think that I can easily say this is my favorite Discount CD (or else they're really started to grow on me). Alison is loud and dominating while the guys play these beautiful melodies and catchy harmonies - but they manage to work in some chuggs and power to their guitars too. Just when I've been converted - Discount have sadly broken up - which means no more crossed paths in the deep South for us and surprisingly that makes me really bummed. I have fond memories of Discount and the french toast eating contest at the Little House in MS. (New American Dreamy/PO Box 265/Balboa Island CA 92662) (-Chris)

**DISPLOITED - 577** I can't help but laugh. What an absurd twist on the whole dis punk style. And with a band name like this there's really no need for me to describe their music, so I'll leave it up to you. Do you want to hear a band that's a mix of DISCHARGE and the EXPLOITED? Fill in the fucking blank. (Jay) (Ronky Records c/o Partala/Karpatie 6/90530 oulu/Finland)

**DISSCORDERIA - IL MARCHIO DELLA VOSTRA INFAMIA 7"** Although influenced primarily by DISCHARGE, DISSCORDERIA put away from the typical "Dis sound" due to their Italian punk roots. So, if you've been wondering what DISCHARGE would have sounded like if they were from Italy, then pick this up. And as an added bonus, it comes with a fold out poster sleeve. (Jay) (Kollapsed Reality c/o Ennio Milano/via Quercione 59/81020 Brian (ce) Italy)

**DOWN BY LAW - FLY THE FLAG CD** This pretty much picks up where the last record left off I've never been a fan of DBL, but my friend who is doesn't think this is their best effort and I guess I'm going to have to agree. (Go Kar/PO Box 20/Prince St. Stn/NY NY 10012) (-Beau)

**DOWNPOUR - NO LIE CAN LIVE FOREVER CD** I love it! This is totally fucking awesome intelligent chugga chugga metal hardcore. It's intense, abrasive, powerful and explosive. Only 4 songs - which isn't enough to satisfy the craving that Downpour creates for wanting more of their triumphant fist in the air anthems. This

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totally rocks to the gills throughout, with all the things that I love about the metal hardcore genre. The lyrics are good and the spoken message adds much, as do the writings included by Justin from Indecision and Greg from Trial about passion, inspiration and living life your way and pushing the hardcore scene forward. Downpour are the sort of band that I can embrace with open arms. I would draw comparisons of Indecision, Catharsis, Ascension, a bit of Morning Again and even Trial — conveniently that names some of my favorites, though Downpour doesn't imitate any of these. This rages with heavy explosive power and fucking rocks my world!!! (Jawk Records/5145 North Bridges Dr./Alpharetta GA 30022) \*\*\*\* (-C)

**DRAGBODY - TRANSGRESS/NULLIFY 7"** Someone told me once that I would like this band, and I got the idea in my head that I would — and I was so right! Dragbody play heavy discordant spastic metal hardcore — with just the crunch and power that I love. It's full of punch and rocks hard, while having a driving force to the grating raw edge and scream-o vocals. I love it. These two songs are long but they still go by pretty fast. I find myself playing this over and over again. It's powerful, ass kicking, brutal and metal. I can't wait to get a hold of more stuff by this band! (Jawk/5145 North Bridges Dr./Alpharetta GA 30022) \*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**DUMSTRUCK - 577"** The latest from Blind Destruction hits like an exploding brick wall. With erupting speed and heavily distorted power, Dumstruck burst forth with and aggressive assault of hardcore-punk that has a Discharge-Scandinavian HC type structure underneath. The distortion gives this a thick sound while not lessening the sound quality at all. Reminds me of the Minneapolis crew. (Blind Destruction/Box 29/82 Colston St/Bristol BS1 5BB UK) (-Chris)

**DYNAMITE BOY - FINDERS KEEPERS CD** Hmmm? Well I'm going to go with a typical pop punk band. I mean they are good and all, so if pop punk is your thing this is a good band for you super catchy it a little bit over played. (Fearless Records/13772 Goldenwest St #545/Westminster CA 92683) (-Beau)

**EGG RAID - GO KISS THE BLIND CD** The sheet of paper that came along with this goes into the whole thing about "completely diy effort recorded here and there by friends in various houses and record shops" blah blah blah. Well they're trying and I think they have the right idea, but not enough time under there belt for this to come off right. I think maybe if they stick around to try a second record they will have figured out what not to do? (Fek Records/5 Church Fields Talgarth Brecon Powys LD3 OBD/UK) (-Beau)

**ENSLAVED CHAOS - 577"** Fast hardcore with some crossover of heavy fucking metal influences. All the lyrics are translated into English (there from Malaysia) and they explain the meaning behind each song. The vocals are relatively deep and the music is fairly heavy. This seems to be worthwhile if you can get into the "crossover" sound. (Jay) (\$5 pdd, plus one 50 cent stamp to: Dull Entertainment Programme/24A Jalan Ang Seng 4 50470 Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia) **ESPRESSO TU EMOCION - VALORES - TAPE** This is totally raging hardcore sung with emotive vocals - kinda emo-hardcore - but the music is played at full throttle speed and just blazes trails and leaves you behind. It gets kinda spastic at times, but sticking to a rockin' old tempo throughout. The vocals grate and crack a bit. It's really good hardcore, but probably not something I'll listen to regularly. (\$5pdd/AMP Discos/PO Box 3893/1000 Buenos Aires/Argentina) (-Chris)

**FETMULE - VAGRA LEVA PA KMA 7"** From screaming, to rough singing, to guitar riffs that almost dance around throughout their songs, FETMULE are not exactly what you would expect from ex-members of SVART SNO. They rely on strong baselines to help keep the forward momentum of this going strong, and it gives them more of an old-school punk sound. This may cause you to dance in a circle with your arms flailing, but then again maybe not. (Jay) (Communichaos Media/PO Box 825/101 36 Stockholm Sweden)

**FORCE - 577 CD** Grinding deathmetal from Japan featuring members of HELLCHILD. Although heavy, much of the force (had to) behind this band is lost when they start to display influence from the more mainstream side of metal. I'd say there around 60% deathmetal, 35% frenzied grind and 5% alterna-crap (anything that says yeah at least 10 times a song). There not bad, but there are a couple parts on this 19 minute CD that just leave a bad taste in my mouth. (Jay) (Howling Bull America/PO Box 40129 San Francisco CA 94140)

**FUN PEOPLE - LEAVE ME ALONE 3/ MIDDLE OF THE ROUNDS SINGLE CDs** Fun People are from Argentina. They came to the states a few years ago and they were awesome: a lot of fun to see and nice folks. Apparently they are really popular back home. I want to like their music more than I do, but I really don't. They play super pop songs. Very melodic and pretty. The guy has a great voice — it's like 50s style rock and roll voice with oh oh's in the back-up and pretty clean straight forward music. Oh, for sure they've got their feet rooted firmly in the punk world and they've got some driving pop-force in some of the songs - but I just can't get into it. These two CDs both have 3 songs on them. (Ugly Records/CC2975-CP 1000/Conco Central-Cap Fed/BSAS Argentina) (-Chris)

**GODSTOMPER - HEAVY METAL VOMIT PARTY LP** Only if METALLICA came out with an album called "We Still Rule", could there be a more inappropriately named album than GODSTOMPER'S "Heavy Metal Vomit Party". GODSTOMPER consist of two guys playing mediocre power violence. The music is sloppy, predictable and boring to listen to. But I'm willing to bet that people will take interest in this solely for the album title. (No lyric sheet is included) (Jay) (Dead Alive Records/PO Box 97/Caldwell NJ 07006)

**GRADE - UNDER THE RADAR CD** I have mixed feelings about this. At times I really like them — they play emo-pop-hardcore that has it's abrasive kickin' edge as well as a melodic sing-songy feeling. But at the same time, that is exactly what gets to me. Some times that sing-songy melody takes over so much that it loses it's edge and sounds like straight up high-produced pop music. I've listened to this a whole bunch over the months and I always come out of it hot and cold. There are a bunch of songs on here that I really like and thoroughly enjoy. But I always get to that point in the CD where I freak out and don't want to listen to it anymore. (Victory Records) (-Chris)

**GUYANA PUNCHLINE - MAXIMUM SMASHISM CD** This band is fronted by Chris from IN/Humanity and various people who played in both Antisichism and Initial State are also in this band. The result? Well, as you can guess this is defiantly a hybrid of all these bands, and it works very well. This has all the guitar stylings I always loved about Antisichism, where it goes quickly from being melodic and catchy to being a raging thrash attack. Chris' vocals are the same as they were in IN/Humanity and his biting sarcastic sense of humor is ever present. This CD is great and I wish

that I had been able to see these guys live when I tried, but alas I have had no such luck. Anyway if you are at all a fan of these boys and their previous bands GET THIS!!!! (Beth) (Prank/PO Box 410892/San Francisco CA 94141-0892 USA) \*\*\*

**HARUM-SCARUM - MENTAL HEALTH LP** How do I begin to encapsulate my favorite record in a brief review? Harum Scarum have made such a huge impact on my life in this past year — easily becoming one of my all time top favorite bands since I first heard them! This is an all female punk band and they rock my world to the ground! I have always loved women in punk bands; I've always sought them out and have always found my inspiration in these women. While I often hate to feel the need to point it out (all women that is) I'm also proud to do so because, sadly it's rare to come across a band of all women that play music that I love with incredible talent and put the force of all their emotions, ideals and challenge social issues with commentary. Harum Scarum do all of this and they absolutely rock! They all sing and each has such a different voice. From the deep guttural growl to sweet melodies to the chorus of the ultimate punk women they belt out their anger and passion in overlapping urgent unison. The music does a lot of the same layering and weaving as the voices — making their sound full and complex and explosive. At the heart of it they are tight and fast, they rage and totally rock with a galloping energy and bouncing tempo that is addictive and catchy. I've had the fortunate bonus of having had several months of listening to this recording on tape and it's easily my favorite. I feel goosebumps and passionate anger and love. To finally read along the words to the music was a really moving experience. First of all it's amazing that they've got so many words in there and to follow them on paper makes the vocal patterns even more incredible (so many words roll out at once) and the impact of these words are felt deep into the pit of my belly. I mean reading along and listening to this record - it has a life-changing kind of impact that one can only hope for. I can't even begin to tell you all the topics that they battle — women's empowerment, environmental issues, religion, sex and the abuse of power, prostitution and the sex industry, animal rights and mental health. Mark Bruback has a piece on here too. Everything about Harum Scarum is perfect in my eyes - I mean I'm inspired, motivated and feeling angry and empowered at the same time. They're music totally rocks in an absolutely raging and energized manner, they're punk as fuck, I love them!!! (Tribal War Records/1951 W. Burnside #1936/Portland OR 97209) \*\*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**HATE TO STATE - "HATE" DEMO CASS** Rough distorted punk with male/female vocals that carries a basic galloping punk tune. Anarchistic, spiteful and spiky with the occasional Oi, Oi thrown in. It's good (the second song is really good) considering the quality of most demo tapes. (Jay) (gor Konik/Budennogo str. 3-9/ Minsk 220070/Belarus C.I.S.) **HIMSA - GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY CD** This is the newer band made up of some x-Trial members. I find myself wanting to like this more than I actually do. It's got that "progression beyond hardcore" with huge production sound and vibe — which turns me off a bit. But I still tried to like them, and find myself missing it. Their sound is big — loud, heavy and powerful with crunchy guitars and an abrasion that has a really matty technique. Kinda reminds me of Kiss I Goodye. And there is this guitar sound which I can only compare to Voivod. They're definitely experimenting with some new territory — but it's way too technical for my tastes and overall it just doesn't grab me and hold me. (Revelation/PO Box 5232/Huntington Beach CA 92615-5232) (-Chris)

**HIPPIES IN FLAMES - PUNK ROCK FOR SALE 7"** This is fast as hell fun loving punk rock. Very 80's style west coast punk with a good sense of ironic humor. The lyrics make small points through a surprisingly good sense of wit. Anyhow this won't musically blow you away - I bet this band is fun live though, and if you love some amusing fun punk this 7" will do. (Beth) (Records Not Excuses/PO Box 806/Seattle WA 98111)

**HIPPIES IN FLAMES - PUNK ROCK FOR SALE 7"** This band is good but the recording isn't. It was recorded in 30 minutes (according to the info that came with this 7") and sounds really fuzzy and bad. To bad to cause like I said this band and songs are good. Now the songs are not PC songs for the most part. Don't freak out I'm sure they are only joking! The songs are fast and hardcore and really good. I definitely would like to hear this band live or if they do another release with a better sounding recording. This 7" would not recommend. (Records Not Excuses/P.O.B. 806/Seattle, Wa 98111) (-NA)

**HUMANBODYFLAWED - demo CD-R** As far as their music goes Humanbodyflawed is a fairly good representation of the whole blasting distorted hardcore emo style that seems to be all the rage. They state in the insert that the original point of their band was "to write the most intellectually challenging hardcore to date." But I guess they don't mean lyrical, because this release has no lyric sheet and they sure as hell didn't write the most complicated songs I've ever heard. So I don't know about the whole "intellectually challenging" idea, but I do think they've managed to create a more pretentious "musical vision". (Jay) (Cory Stevenson/Longwood College/PO Box 2592/Farmville VA 23099)

**IN THE SHIT - THE FALL OF THE DAMNED 7"** As far as I know this is the 2nd 7" (at least that I've heard) from this awesome UK hardcore band. In the Shit play raging hardcore-punk with a deep and gruff edge. The energy is galloping and tight and relentless. This is the kinda 7" that goes by pretty fast and gets playing time and time

again cause it's just straight-forwardly good. (Mass Prod/BP 287/35005 Rennes Cedex/Breizh/France) (-Chris)

**INDEX FOR POTENTIAL SUICIDE - THE NEWEST YOUTH REBELLION CD** This is scream-o to the extreme. I've realized that just like grindcore to the extreme gets out of control in the manic-ness; scream-o to the extreme gets out of control in the noisy abrasive grating qualities. This band has elements of the heavy hardcore that I like — but it leans more toward the wild side and I just can't get into it. The vocals are so screamed that they are high pitched and grate and it just hurts. There is also a fair amount of orchestrated industrial noise vibe (electronics & keyboard). It's held together by discordant power, but it's too much for my tastes. (Ohev/PO Box 77212/Coral Springs FL 33077) (-Chris)

**INITIAL DETONATION - 577"** I'm kicking myself over the fact that I've had this record for over a year now and that it's not even been listened to nor reviewed — and I don't know why! This is so good and this band plays the style of crusty punk that I so dearly love! How could I have overlooked, misplaced and neglected this awesome record!!!! They've got dual male and female vocals — screaming and gnarly! The music is heavy and powerful with a sound that is thick and throbbing. Good lyrics and a peace-punk attitude. Full throttle throbbing power with thick distortion and a guttural crust punk style. Fuck yeah!!! (Sensual Underground Ministries/PO Box 8545/Tulsa OK 74101 and Initial Detonation/PO Box 1285/Joplin MO 64802) \*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**INITIAL DETONATION - SO SELLETH THE SHEPHERD, SO BUYETH THE FLOCK 7"** This is the second 7" from this awesome band! And this one has been out for a long long time as well. In full making up for the delay though - this is one of the best bands I've heard in awhile and I can't rave enough about them!!! I love their heavy powerful sound tinged with metallic guitars, without losing any of the pure punkness. I really like how I can hear bits of familiar influences without being able to really pinpoint them, because the full sound that Initial Detonation creates is really very unique. Drawing on the apocalyptic UK metal-crust-punk genre, with a bit of Neurosis and Dmard, tribal



**RED ANGEL DRAGNET @ HOLE IN THE WALL**

style drumming and a throbbing power. All the while this rocks the whole way through with a catchy tempo and layered complexities that make my mouth drop in awe. They've got that extra umph that totally puts this on the top of the list. How could I have missed out on such a rock band? This is so good — and so much encompassing of the influences of punk that I love!!! (see above) \*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**INKLING - MINUTE CD** I love the metal hardcore and all, which is what this is with out a doubt. But this band kinda bugs me too. It's the vocals which remind me of some alterna-rock band in the way he sings all emo sing-songy. The music is power-packed crunch and punchy with start stops of more melodic. I wouldn't really call this emo-metal though cause I can't get past the fact that it feels like alterna-radio stuff. That feels mean, but I can't help it. Parts of this are quite good but overall I have to pass. (Double Down Records/PO Box 1117/Kulpsville PA 19443) (-Chris)

**INKWIZYCJA - SLOWO 7"** Completely mesmerizing and inspiring punk that draws from artistic roots. They were the first Polish hardcore punk band to release a disc record, with their LP in 91. Seven years later (this record was released around 97-98) they release this 5 song 7" as their swansong. Its completely moving, with many tonal variations and a singer that has a great heavy voice that complements this fairly midpaced but completely enveloping record. All the vocals are in Polish but translations are given so you can enjoy the meaning behind each song. At times they remind me of mid period RUDDIMENTARY PENI and the fact that the singer might be releasing some poetry and a fiction book can't help but draw comparisons. There are even similarities in the bands artwork. I can't help but be amazed at this. It's not your stereotypical heavy band yet the music is incredibly heavy hitting. Get this, and let it speak to and uplift you as it has me. (Jay) (Nikt Nic Nie Wie/PO Box 53/34-400 Nowy Targ/Poland)

**INTENSITY - VIRTUE OF PROGRESS 7"** Swedish hardcore with roots in the 80s style of playing straight-forward, tight, powerful and raging hardcore. Say a cross between old DRI and Devoid of Faith. This is really good! Awesome! In fact, for drawing on the old-school roots while creating a new sound of raging hardcore with enough melody and powerful full on rockin' relentlessness. Fuck yeah! (Six Weeks/225 Lincoln Ave/Cotati CA 94931) (-Chris)

**INTENTION - "POSITIVE" DEMO CASS** These guys scream and sing (yes, sing) there way thru some solid hardcore. The production is good and the you can tell they spend time on the songs. They have songs have a lot of variety to them, sometimes sounding like straight up hardcore and other times pulling ska (just a little) or a very melodic

influence (more than a little) into play. At times it's an odd mix of sounds, but I'm sure there will be people who will want this. (Jay) (Intention c/o Inane/PO Box 7804/Birmingham B13 8AS England) **IOWA HAWKEYES - 577"** I found myself to be pretty indifferent to this, but it started to grow on me. It's a short fast playing 7". Musically they're sound is played clean and pretty rockin' with raspy distorted screamy vocals. The B-side picks up the rock a bit more with a galloping tempo. The vocals remind me a bit of the Gernis playing to a really charged beat. It's grown on me. (Carbon Cycle/PO Box 11741/Portland OR 97211) (-Chris)

**JEALOUSYFACTION - "HOW TO HEAL" DEMO CASS** I don't know how to say this, (I do but I'm trying to be kind) how about...It sucked. It's bad POP punk with incredibly whiny and off key vocals. The guitar sound is tiny and thin, the drums sound like ass (actually, that might be interesting) and they do one of the worst sounding covers (of Take on me) by a-ha) ever. I don't know how people would ever consider this TV generation shit punk. The only redeeming thing about this was the acoustic songs thrown on at the end of both sides of the tape. If they stuck to that shit at least there would be one less pathetic pop band around. And who the hell cares about Cameron Frye? (Jay) (email: jealousyfaction@hotmail.com or phone 215-657-4767)

**JILTED - LAMIA REALTA 7"** Raging fast Italian hardcore played with intense speed and gnarly screaming vocals. The vocals are kinda raw and grating and the music is powerful, driving and rockingly triumphant with a catchy style with nearly melodic parts. Totally solid. (SOA/Via Odensia da Gubbio 67/69/00146 Roma Italy) (-Chris)

**JUD JUD - NO TOLERANCE FOR INSTRUMENTS 7"** This is absolutely incredible! Perhaps you've heard of them but not yet heard them? Well this is the second 7" of two Floridian hardcore scenesters doing their voice beat box thing mocking hardcore with voice sounds. It's phenomenal. The kind of thing that stops you in what you're doing, commands your attention, puts a smile on your face and you find yourself nodding your head and rocking out. And I'm wondering how in the world they can coordinate the juds with each other! They take the jud jud's a step further with additional sounds and some wanky sounds — and oh my god — it's ingenious!!! This one doesn't come with lyrics (which is too bad, cause that was just as amazing as hearing it on the last one) but this one is clear vinyl with a nice full color BOLD type rip-off cover with the dudes implanted into finger-pointing crowd shots. This is a must-hear at all costs!!! (Schematics/PO Box 14636/Gainesville FL 32604) \*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**JUGGLING JUGGLARS - SKELETONS IN THE CLOSET 7"** More Finnish punk this month. This is different from all of the other stuff I have reviewed. Juggling Juglars are not in the Terveet Kadet vein at all. They play fast, more American sounding hardcore. They play it with great energy and zeal. They have been around for about 10 years and it's all sounded like this it's been a fine ten years. No metal here. Good political, insightful songs. (Beth) (Halla PL 139 00131 Hk Finland # or Grey Day Records Janne Tamminen Koukaluoto 13 a 11 20100 UK)

**KAROOM - "BLACK MONDAY" CASS** Reminiscent of early to mid 80s screaming mad punk rock. They have many influences and moods that create a less stereotypical band. The music moves in a couple different directions, although it's mostly straight forward punk. It helps that they're not afraid to put in odd breaks or to slow down and fuck around. This shows some promise, but it's not something that makes me say "fuck yeah!" like Raw power or COC (some of their influences) could (Jay) (\$3 pdd to: Jared R219 Valley Rd/Princeton NJ 08540) **KERMIT'S FINGER - NEGATIVE MENTAL IMAGES 7"** Really well played melodic punk rock with a slight bit of an Oi sound. Complete with rock n' roll guitar solos, this is sure, to please anyone who is into bands like the UNSEEN or dare I say...RANCID. Although they seem to have much more integrity than the latter. Definitely worth supporting if you like their style (of punk-of course). (Jay) (Poorest Quality Records/PO Box 458/Boston MA 02129)

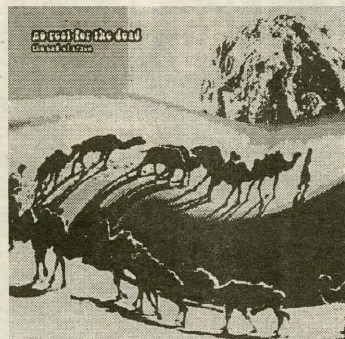
**KONTROVERS - SKENDEMOKRATI 7"** Fast paced and politically minded crust punk from the southern parts of Sweden. This recording made me want to be able to see this band live. Its got a good tight sound but the "recorded in a closet" drum sound takes a little away at times. Still, this completely rages, and if you've got any pent up frustrations with the world this will help you let them out. (Jay) (Putrid Filth Conspiracy c/o Rodrigo Alfaro/Sodra Parkgatan 35A/21422 Malmö Sweden)

**KRYZCZ - TRAUMA CD** Exactly how to describe this is a difficult matter because they cover a lot of territory with their changing musical styles and eight minute long songs. It's very technical - kinda matty. There are times in each song where they burst into totally abrasive hardcore that is noisy and discordant and with full-on scream-o vocals in the most painful manner. But they don't stay in that mode. There's some free-form jazz bits, some-post punk apocalyptic stuff, some mello parts and the painful eruptions. What is created as a whole is quite good and makes great "background" music that grabs my attention at the eruption parts. On several listens — I still feel that I can't pin point it. But I'm intrigued and enjoy it for over an hours worth. (Nikt Nic Nie Wie/PO Box 53/34-400 Nowy Targ/Poland) (-Chris)

**LAAFERRA - MILOSC CD** This is kinda like a Polish Neurosis. It's not that they sound so much like them — but the atmosphere and creation of an environment and mood is very similar. I like this band a lot. They say that this is the first recording to capture their sound live — and I can understand that — since this is epic and full of mood and emotion and feeling - which is usually best conveyed live. It also says they are deep ecological punk warriors — and though all the lyrics and writing are in Polish — the mood and style of the music would be very at home in one of those squat garden open air festivals that I've heard about and dreamed of attending. They play with a drop-tuned throbbing style with a repetitive droning that happens in the long 10 minute songs. But long and monotonous as it is - I love it and can keep it on over and over again. Like Neurosis - I am not necessarily rockin' out on every beat every minute of the record, yet all of it has continuity and rockin' out ability and I love the tribal punk vibe and this is that. (Nikt Nic Nie Wie/PO Box 53/34-400 Nowy Targ/Poland) (-Chris)

**LANA DAGALES - 577 CD** Those who love their bass-heavy music to throb, take note of this Bay Area band. These 6 songs are played in 6 minutes — though the music is on the slow throbbing and ultra sludgy heavy side. It will soon be on a 7". I saw this band at the one show I went to at Gilman while in the Bay Area and I liked what I heard, but found myself wanting something to give this the ultra hook (a little more rock under the throb?). It's just two guys — drums and bass on this recording which is pretty cool. Kinda reminds me a bit of some of the MITB stuff. The bass really throbs. My interest is piqued and I'm looking forward to more from this band.

## no rest for the dead the end of space

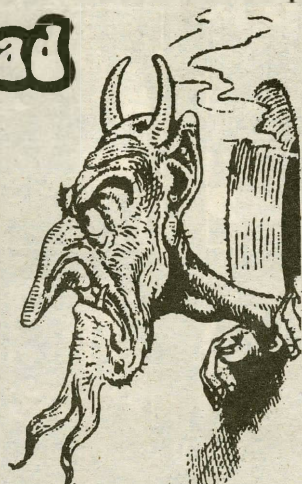


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# MUSIC

(write to Greg/Lana Dagales/877 41st St/Oakland CA 94608) (-Chris)

**LABIAT - DEMO TAPE** Fucking yeah! This is a short tape of awesome political metal-hardcore with a strong message. There is a big zine booklet that comes with this which is like a big wake the fuck up and look at our society manifesto. It's really well done—giving an overview, explanations to the lyrics and messages of the band as well as individual view points. The tape is only 5 songs long though and it's so good I wish it were longer. Their sound is big with a strong powerful production. The sound is chunky with a thick guitar sound that rocks and grates with throbbing power. The vocals are deep and growling. And there is an ever present crunch with this distinct guitar metal-industrial sound that I can't describe (though it reminds me of Pitchshifter, Godflesh and the like). The music is as hard hitting as the words and that is what I like to see! A molotov of hardcore fueled with criticism of consumer culture, government world politics and class structure. Well conceived and presented - now I want a longer tape! (PO Box 443/Round Lake NY 12151) (-Chris)

**LAST SECURITY - FUCK YOUR ATTITUDE 7"** Energetic, emotionally charged, noisy hardcore from Sweden. While most of the songs on this are about personal attitudes and relationships, they have an odd song about having a snowball war. While it could take away from the more serious topics, it also shows they can think and still have fun, something that doesn't happen to often. An above average first 7". (Jay) (Putrid Fifth Conspiracy/c/o Rodrigo Alfaro/Sodra Parkgatan 35A/21422 Malmö/Sweden)

**LD-50 - "RATHER POLITICAL THAN LISTENABLE" (97-98) DEMO CASS** This is definitely not listenable. It consists of two guys playing, one on bass and one on drums, both do vocals. The sound pretty much sucks and the vocals are too loud and incoherent. The only thing interesting about this is the lyrics. They seem to have a lot to say and I wish they had better music to go along with their lyrics. If you want to know, they're very angry rights oriented (there name has to do with the perils of vivisection) and they bring up many environmental topics. A bad messenger with a good message. (Jay) (Folklore Entertainment/c/o Herrie Pas/Bachlaan 279/8031 HH Zwolle/Holland)

**LIBERTAD - "DO GORY" CASS** Melodic punkrock with clean sounding tuneful guitars and a slow to mid-paced beat. This really does not have enough energy to do anything for me but it may be good if you want a laid back punk hum-a-long. The songs aren't too catchy though, so you'll probably have to play this one a couple times to get a good tune stuck in your head. And when you get bored with the music and start to read the lyrics you might notice the translations (from Polish to English) are a little off, with a song about Ian Stuart being dead that reads like they thought he was a "great patriot". Maybe it was a failed attempt to translate sarcasm. Whatever. (Jay) (Trujaca Fala/PO Box 13/81 806 Sopot/Poland)

**LOPODRIDO - "ODIA LO POODRIDA" DEMO CASS** Rock n' roll punk from Puerto Rico. All vocals are in their native language (Spanish) and no lyric sheet is given. However, they do include various newspaper clippings/articles about terrorist groups in Puerto Rico. I guess that's part of their "revolution rock" or "combat rock" image. It's a good tight recording and if you into this style (garage?think upbeat Iggy Pop/Pistols influence) then this is a good listen. (Jay) (Francisco Rosado/47 Orkney Crescent/Islington, Ont/M9A 2T4 Canada)

**LUDDGANG - COLLATERAL 180699 7"** Luddgang is a group of hardcore anarchists in the UK who are dedicated to agitation and fighting the capitalist state. This record has two pieces which are dub sound bites mixed with techno background music. It's strong in the political message - taken from UK news bites and linked with apocalyptic type techno music and industrial type drumming sessions. This style is very familiar to me—as it's been used as bits and fillers on many an anarcho-peace-punk record. But I don't think I've ever known a band that did only this sort of thing and that makes it both interesting and different. This comes with a fold-out poster as well as a booklet with the Luddgang's Communiqué and thoughts on the current state of the world under capitalism. (\$4ppd US/\$5ppd world/ Crasshole Records/PO Box 6534/Baltimore MD 21209) (-Chris)

**MACHINE GUN ETIQUETTE - SELF RESPECT 7"** With the Celtic knots and @ logo this is the kinda thing that appeals to me. Musically though it's not the classic anarcho-punk sound that I (and you) might expect. They play much more poppier melodic sing-songy punk with a very rockin' style. This isn't the corporate US style of pop-punk—this is very much UK-punk with strong accents and a driving edge played with a clean and rockin' style. I don't love it, but I appreciate it and I could definitely get hooked cause it's catchy. (Campary Records/Friedrichstrasse 110/40217 Dusseldorf/Germany) (-Chris)

**MANALIVE - CITY MILE 7"** These Colorado kids play an energetic style of hardcore with a slight dose of ska. They do it well, and not in the all to often annoying manner. They blast along with blazing energetic speed and then throw in these hip-twisting tempos that jam out a bit and then explode again into the high-paced hardcore. Quite good. (Reminiscent Records/2525 Lewis Ct/Lakewood CO 80215) (-Chris)

**MAN IN THE SHADOW - PAX AMERICANA 7"** M.I.T.S. plays heartfelt emotional hardcore that is upbeat and almost poppy, with the occasional scream. But, as they state (and I totally agree), there's much more to a band than just music. This revelation forces the listener to absorb their emotional lyrics and their viewpoints about life in general. Plus they provide a very informative booklet that comes complete with translations (there from Slovenia) that help guide you through all their ideas. Overall, this is not the type of music I really get into, but I can get into the sincerity of the message. (Jay) (Miran Rusjan/Pot Na Breg 8/5250 Solkan/Slovenija)

**MARILYN'S VITAMINS - MEANWHILE DURING THE CLASSWAR 7"** This release is Op Ivy style melodic punk. Not really my thing, but well done. Songs of fun and protest. However the one that caught my eye was about this guy named Ernst Zundel, who lives in Canada and is trying to prove the Jewish holocaust under Hitler never happened. The song describes how this guy basically is a moron and so are his beliefs. However the band believes in free speech and would defend this moron's right to say what he wants. (Ugly Pup Vinyl/2 bloor St. West/Suite 100, Box 477/Toronto, Ontario/M4W 3E2 CANADA/bastard@interlog.com) (-NA)

**MEANWHILE - LAWLESS SOLIDARITY CD** This is authentic Swedish hardcore with the wailing upbeat leads and heavy plodding power drive. Reminds me quite a bit of the UK bands that draw on the Swedish hardcore style—like Doom. In general this is more classic "punk" than the Sound Pollution releases I'm used to,

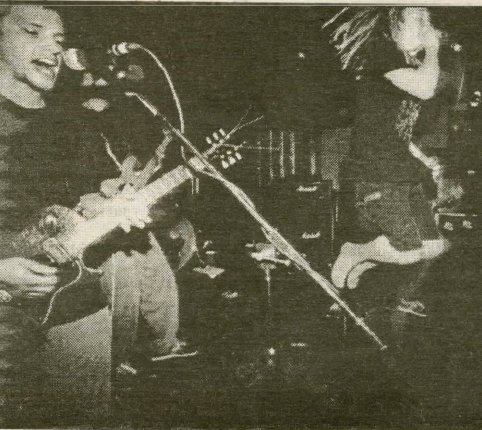
but not in a surprising manner. It's got that strong Dis style—but it's good - kinda more like Anti-Cimex. It's heavy and yet cleaner than the later crusty counterparts. This was recorded in '97 and originally released as a 10" by Ignition Records in Holland. It's awesome Swedish hardcore punk played straight up and raging in the old school style. (Sound Pollution/PO Box 17742/Covington KY 41017) \*\*\* (-Chris)

**MELTDOWN - 97 7"** This is another solid Italian release from the folks at S.O.A records. Mid-Tempo decent not too metallic hardcore. These guys are from Rome Italy, but they sing in English and have a total American hardcore sound to them. The lyrics are pretty run of the mill for this kind of stuff, but decent. This is not a standout release but it's solid. If you wanna check out some modern Italian straight edge hardcore this is the way you might wanna go. (Beth) (S.O.A. Records/Via Oderisi da Gubbio 67/69, 00146 Roma Italy or soa.records@iol.it)

**MENSTRUAL TRAMPS - TOXIC SHOCK 7"** I'm always attracted to all women bands and while this one looked like it might be kinda bad, I kinda like it. I like the raunchy rockin' quality to this. The vocals are kinda snotty but with a snarl. Musically this is pretty raw with a mediocre recording. Kinda reminds me more of an early L7 type band than a UK pogo punk style but they're totally punk and not rock at all. I'm not sure about the cheerleader theme in the photos though. I think I've had this one awhile, and maybe they're got some new stuff - which I would love to hear. (1929 3rd Ave S. Apt #303/ Mpls MN 55404) (-Chris)

**MIND - NEW HOMES FOR THE RICH 5"** This is really tight shit. It reminds me of Nauseum in a couple ways: there's only two members, and they have a deep powerful vocal style, with a tight blast-beat ridden drum style and ferocious guitars. Plus it's a slick looking 5", with a black and white cover photo and a color band photo. It's something to definitely keep an eye out for. (Jay) (\$4.50 ppd. world to: Resuscitate Records/PO Box 324/7900 AH Hoogeveen/Holland)

**MISFITS - FAMOUS MONSTERS CD** I find it amazing first of all that this band is still going and there is something about the Misfits in 99' that just seems wrong. But with that in mind, they've kept the same basic sound and style and have written some really good solid material. My Misfits fandom is far from fanatical, but I've had my moments. This latest offering covers a range of styles—from moments of pop punk to some Elvis type rock ballads to a more powerful goth rockin' traditional sound you expect from the Misfits. Most of this CD is really good. Almost surprisingly so. (Roadrunner Records) (-Chris)



**MOFA - "DETRAS DE MIL COLORES" CASS** Standard emo-rock from Argentina that's not dissimilar to Braid. The vocals are very sing-songy and almost sound like a soft whine. The music's fairly well played in a slow to mid-paced way and it's very melodic. This is not something I can get into. (Jay) (Sadness/C.C. N 12 sc. 33/C.P. 1433/ Buenos Aires/Argentina)

**MUTINY - RUM REBELLION CD** This is another favorite of mine which has been re-released in the states now. Mutiny is from Australia. They play anarcho-punk with a mean violin. Like a cross-between the Poughs, Levellers and anarcho-punk. One of my favorite bands of the past couple years and they were here this summer and I missed them with great disappointment!! Since I've reviewed this same release in it's original tape and CD format—and since this is just the same CD but made available domestically—I'll leave it at saying that this is an amazing band which I highly recommend to anyone who likes their punk rock w/a touch of Celtic violin acoustic guitar styled rhythm powered by a high-proportion of women. (Hells Ditch/ 2817 Newport Boulevard/Newport Beach CA 92661) \*\*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**NAKED AGGRESSION - MARCH MARCH ALONG & MARCH MARCH ALIVE - CDs** Two more on the re-issue front that I have previously reviewed and will just now mention that they are available on CD from Broken Rekids. Listening to them again reminds me just how much of a favorite Naked Aggression has been—a band that gave me inspiration in the daily grind in NYC. Kirsten's vocals are rad - she can really sing! Their straight forward in your face style, their to the point lyrics and their galloping energy are punk rock at it's finest and purest. I'm glad I got to see them several times "back in the day"!! (\$10ppd each in the US/Broken Rekids/PO Box 460402/SF CA 94146-0402) (-Chris)

**NEW YEAR - TYCHO 7"** Someone brought me the wrong cup of tea. Sorry I hate this style of music. However I'm not everyone, so here is a description. Slower sludgy music with distorted guitars and lots of repeated riffs. Along with yelling like vocals. Noisecore. I thought this stuff was pretty "dead". Guess I'm wrong. Lyric wise meaningful stuff of a more personal issue. If this is your slice of pie go for it. Personally I will avoid it like the plague. (Moo Cow/P.O.B. 616/Madison, WI 53701) (-NA)

**NKO - SYNCHRONISED 7"** This is a now defunct band made up of Berlin Squatters from the Kopl who are mostly originally from Poland. The fold-out sleeve is full of photos of mohawks and dreadlocks and animal experimentation, direct eco-action, police in riot gear. Musically they play anarcho-crust punk with dual male and female vocals. Her voice pinches in a scream and reminds me a bit of Amy from Nausea. The

recording is raw and kinda thin - but this band is good. I like the style, the message and what the struggles which they stand against. (Nikt Nic Nie Wie/PO Box 53/34-400 Nowy Targ/Poland) (-Chris)

**OL POLLOI - THE 7"** I don't know if Ol Polloi can do any wrong. I mean - everything I hear, I absolutely love. THC isn't my favorite song they've ever done—but none the less, they've got their own breed of dedicated anarcho-punk driven by a nice metallic guitar, which I have always loved. They're serious and humorous at the same time as THC exemplifies. Four new songs on this one, of raging anarcho Ol punk with a heavy powered crunch. (Campary Records/ Friedrichstrasse 110/ 40217 Dusseldorf/Germany) (-Chris)

**ONCE... NEVER AGAIN - OTHERS CAME ALONG AND KILLED MY DREAMS CD** Wow this is awesome! Belgian metal-hardcore that is heavy on the metal. It's got strong Swedish death metal roots which lean towards At the Gates. But the blend is distinctly new-school hardcore. The vocals are extreme—a screaming style that twists gutturally and pierces with rasping anguish. The scream-o half speak voice is mixed in and quite young sounding, along with a few youth-crew type choruses, both of which



hold the hardcore territory down. The music is powerful with strong metallic overtones. It's brutal with crunchy guitars and a punchy beat that is quite evil with the traveling guitars. They are described as full of emotion, expression and dedication and as "going crazy, floor kissing and guitar hugging" while playing live. Lyrically they explain their emotive compassion and support of the sXe and vegan lifestyle (without being too over the top). I love it!! (Funtime Records/Johan Quinten/Dutsehoek 12/ B 3200 Holsbeek/Belgium) \*\*\* (-Chris)

**OTOPHOBIA - SOURCE OF CONFUSION 7"** This Atlanta band play some thrashing grindcore that is fast, heavy and powered by a deep tonality. The vocals are an evil growl. But much as I use thrash and grind—this is straight forward fast hardcore—11 songs (include a Void cover) on this vinyl. The manic quality is mostly in the vocals. Not really my thing though. (Burnto Records/PO Box 3204/Brandon FL 33509-3204) (-Chris)

**OUT GOLD - LIVE IN AMSTERDAM CD** I wish I was familiar with this band prior to hearing this recording. It's hard to review a live CD when you have never heard the band before. The recording quality is pretty bad - not terrible, I have heard far worse, and the band warns you on this on the CD so you can't really blame them. I can tell this band has a lot of energy and put on a good show from this. I can also tell that I would probably really dig this band's studio material, it's raw fast aggressive hardcore punk, very bare bones. OK - let's just say this, from hearing this live recording I want to seek out studio material. This must be a good live CD. (Beth) (Kangaroo Records/Middenweg 13/ 1098 AA Amsterdam The Netherlands)

**PART OF THE PROBLEM - 5/7 7"** Well done and played hardcore/punk. This band is solid and has it together. Lyrics are good to... range from topics of anti conformity, the evils of ritual, plaques of youth, the lies of corporate radio and how jocks suck. I give this 7" a big thumbs up! (\$3 ppd to... Mark Mastropietro/925 Cameron Ave./Lancaster, Pa 17601/http://www.rweb.net/potpb) (-NA)

**PIG NATION - "SOCIOPATHY" DEMO CASS** Fucking brutal crust that has a heavy as shit dirgeing sound. Don't get me wrong, this is not a slowcore dirge band, they just

have a heavy backbone (2 bass players) that keeps your attention after the blast beat is gone. The vocals are low with the occasional high pitch manic screams that fit the mood of the music perfectly. This is a good demo, but it's only two songs and there are no lyrics. I recommend writing them and seeing if they have a new record out yet. (Jay) (666 Productions/PO Box 42/95 201 Pabianice 3/Poland)

**PILLAGE PEOPLE - ATTACK OF THE BLOODSUCKING RETARDS CD** This band has been around for awhile. This CD has 15 songs that are for the most part pretty silly and funny. Pretty rude and lewd stuff. The music is mid paced to faster hardcore. No breaking ground here, but a enjoyable listen and a definite party record. BEWARE OF THE BLO! AAAHHGG! (Oink/P.O.B. 27813/Washington, DC 20038-7813) (-NA)

**PINHEAD GUNPOWDER - SHOOT THE MOON CD** Well if you don't know who this band is I guess your stuck under the grindcore rock huh? Well this is Billie Joe from GREEN DAY and Aaron from Cometbus' side project thing. It sounds a lot like Green Day mixed with a little Crimpshrine—gee that makes sense doesn't it? Well it's what Green Day sounded like about 8 years and very reminiscent of early LOOKOUT! releases but this is on Billie Joe's label if that means anything to you? (Adeline Records/5337 College Ave #318/Oakland CA 94618) (-Beau)

**POINT OF VIEW - BENEATH THE SURFACE 7"** Abrasive explosive hardcore from the Netherlands. Dual vocals—the main voice being a mid-to high end screamer style with occasional emo half speak and another voice that counters in a guttural growl. This almost has tendencies towards grindcore—but instead leans more toward the abrasive emo-hardcore slant. Galloping with an urgent manner and blasting away with a bit of youth-crew bouncing hardcore. Manic at times but mostly pretty fucking rockin'. And being on Coalition—this has one of the best designed layouts you could ever want to see. A really great mix of styles - this gets the thumbs up! (Coalition/Hugo De Grootstraat 25/2518 EB Den Haag/The Netherlands) (-Chris)

**PONTIUS PILATE - BAPTIZE THIS 7"** Blasting grindcore crust from Minneapolis MN. They walk the dark line in-between metal and punk with graven imagery and pissed at being doomed lyrics. This is good shit, even though it sounds more like it should have been a demo tape than a 7". (Jay) (Pagan Punk Records/2441 Lyndale Ave S/ Minneapolis MN 55405)

**PROGRAMM C - LUCIFER TURNS UP THE VOLUME 7"** Intense grind that borders on hardcore with a very strong sense of the term "heavy metal". This is impressive, with an excellent screaming vocal sound and great lyrical subject matter. They talk about the nazi problem in the black metal scene. They also play with the term "the truth is out there" in a sarcastic display of wit that criticizes the "intellectuals" who watch TV shows like the X-files for consuming the lie that is fed to them (at least that's the general idea I get from it). The lyrics are in English and German but only one song is in both languages. If you ever find a copy of this it may seem odd because it looks like a techno industrial or noise experiment record (complete with blurred letters) but this is hardcore metal done right. (Jay) (Invertebrate/Brigitteplatz 22 210/1200 Wien Austria)

**PSYCHONEUROSIS - "ASYLUM FOR..." DEMO CASS** Crust/grind from Poland that has a highlow vocal trade off style similar to Extreme Noise Terror. The songs are fast and possess a tight guitar sound that really help make this an interesting listen. I find it strange that this has an English album title (and song titles) yet all the lyrics are sung in Polish (I think), but it's really hard to make out any words. Despite any confusion, it's still a good demo. (Jay) (Adam Gajewski/Zapolskie 23/41-400 Myslowice/Poland)

**R.A.P. - FOLLOW THE SUN CD** This is full-on Jamaican style reggae from Poland. I love reggae - and this is roots reggae and so I find this delightful - so much in fact that I've listened to it repetitively as I cook for my friends wedding. This is a collection of misc. recordings compiled together from R.A.P.'s late 80s time period. Though their style doesn't venture into punk territory (or the raggamuffin dub either), apparently they were a huge influence on the Polish punk explosion at the time. I find bits of Burning Spear and Steel Pulse and man he sounds Jamaican. Awesome stuff - highly recommended if you love reggae. (Nikt Nic Nie Wie/PO Box 53/34-400 Nowy Targ/Poland) (-Chris)

**RABIES CASTE - FOR THE VOMITING TRACTOR DRIVERS CD** Their promo sheet immediately turned me off, consisting of "key selling points" and an overview of the band that compared them to FUDGE TUNNEL, UNSANE and KYUSS. I wouldn't think that Slug & Lettuce would be in their "marketing profile", but I guess they need some extra help selling this crap. Anyway, the music is really experimental, noisy and I guess you could loosely call it "hardcore". If you are really into any of the bands mentioned above you might like this, otherwise I would suggest not buying this. (Jay) (Infernal Racket Records/PO Box 4641/Bethlehem PA 18018)

**RAJOTIS - "OOTSJA VAL MIS KUOLEMAAN" CASS** This tape is filled with raging hardcore in the Finnish tradition, even though these guys are from Sweden. There are 79 tracks on this, with lots of unreleased and hard as shit to find recordings. So if you don't know Ragouts yet this would be a great way to become an expert on 'em and if you do know some of there music then I bet there are a lot of songs on this that you going to want to hear. Raw rules, get this and scream along with the Kaos cover... if you can. (Jay) El Kitts tapes/22 Burns Villas East Lane/Stainforth Doncaster S. Yorks DN7 5DP/England)

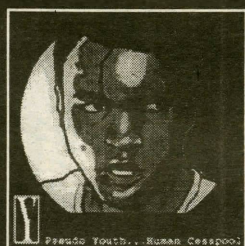
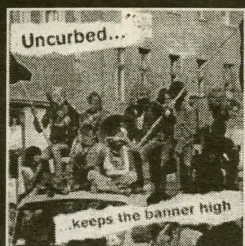
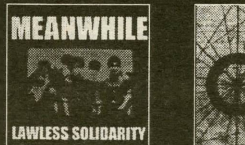
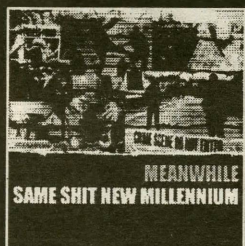
**RANDY - YOU CANT KEEP A GOOD BAND DOWN CD** A political band with a message. Wow, what a novel idea. No it's not, but a band like that, that can play good music - now that's novel. They switch from sounding like a crazy 80's band like squeeze to an orange county CA band without losing any skills in playing their instruments, which is a hard thing to do. I think this is a good record not exactly my ally but good all the same. I found myself bobbing my head and singing along to this while writing this review that's got to count for something? Doesn't it? (G-7 Welcoming Committee/Box 3-905 Corydon Ave./Winnipeg MB Canada) (-Beau)

**RINGWORM - LAST CALL IN THE FREE WORLD CD** This is super rockin'! Played in a straight-forward hard rock style. Not too distorted nor too clean. Full on steady in the delivery of energetic rockin' tunes. Vocals are mid-range with gruffer accents. High-energy, with a deep throbbing undertone and super rockin' pace. How many times can I say how rockin' it is? That really sums up the foundation of describing them. They're good - not necessarily what I'd listen to a lot - but totally solid, tight and unique enough to hold their territory down. I can't get the picture outta my head of them playing with ATP, which would be a great match and make for a great show! (\$9ppd/Rat Town Records/PO Box 50803/Jax Beach FL 32240) (-Chris)

**ROT - SOCIOPATHIC BEHAVIOR CD** This is 10 times better than anything else I've heard by this band. Usually their complete noise that sounds like it was recorded

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in a toilet bowl. But this CD is not that bad. It almost keeps a tune under all the spastic blasting drums and hoarse vocals. I can actually hear the individual instruments on this. They have greatly improved on this album. I never thought this would be anything to actually get into. But it's almost (dare I say) good. But don't worry to much Rot fans (if you exist), they still play the vomitcore you are accustomed to, they just do it better now. (Jay) (Rhetoric Records/PO Box 82/ Madison WI 53701) **BOTARY BEGINNERS - FIRST EP 7"** Mid paced hardcore from Japan. More melodic than most hardcore, but not done in a pop punk way, thank goodness. Although the lyrics are in Japanese the note that came along with the 7" says the songs are about "contradiction", "rise to complications" and "war". Plus some other things as well. This is Rotary Beginners first release. Thought its nothing mind shattering its a good first effort. (Record Shop Answer/Hase Bid No. 2 B1, 5-43/OSU 3 naka-KuNaGoya City Aichi 460 JAPAN) (-NA)

**RUBBISH HEAP - 8" CD** This kinda leaves me speechless. This is heavy and abrasive with powerful layered weaving complexities. It's brutal and discordant with weaving melodies. The vocals are rasping and raw while the guitars grate and prod and rock. This has a strong tribal element and an industrial nightmare landscape. There are elements of emo-metal, metal-hardcore, power-violence, grind and crust yet this stands on its own. There are no easy comparisons to draw - though the overall sound and feel is very familiar. The end result is unique triumphant and epic. They rock while pushing the boundaries. The songs are complex with driving urgency and metallic twinges to the raw discordance. Fuck yeah!! (Conspiracy Records/PO Box 269/2000 Antwerpen 1 Belgium) \*\*\* (-Chris)

**RUIDO - 8" 7"** Pretty straight-forward hardcore with a punchy fast driving tempo. The vocals are dominant and punchy in a raw rasping way. The second side has with dual vocals which are less punchy. I'm not sure where they're from - they're Spanish speaking - but there is no address listed. This is tight raging hardcore - driving and intense, but not really banging me over the head with anything new either. (Six Weeks/225 Lincoln Ave/Cotati CA 94931) (-Chris)

**SCAPEGOATS - 81-85 7"** An older German band, with this recording dating back to '85. They sound a lot like some of the other more recognized DISCHARGE style hardcore of their time (most notably early ANTI CIMEK). This even includes a cover of "Discharges" "Protest and Survive", which you can't recognize at first glance because all of the vocals are in German and all of the lyrics have been translated into Japanese. And with this being released in Japan, and maybe Germany, it may not be that easily accessible. So if you want it (it's good...you know you can't live without it...) then write to the address that follows. But be warned, this was released in 97 and may be out of print. (Jay) (Peace Punk Records/103 Katoreya - Koupo/1-65-2 Yamato-Chou/Nakano-KU Tokyo 165 Japan)

**SELFISH - THE JOY OF HITE INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY 7"** This band lands in the domain of full-on metal meets Discharge influenced Scandinavian hardcore. They blast away with full-throttle power and speed that could nearly knock you out. They're tight, powerful and blazing. Underlying the tempo and speed are these wanky metal guitar leads and solos, and it totally works. I'm usually not big on the guitar solos - but done in this manner (they are totally underneath the blazing throtted power) it just adds a layer of complexities to the power. And there is no denying that this rocks full tilt. (Genet Records/PO Box 447/9000 Gent 1/Belgium) (-Chris)

**SEVERED HEAD OF STATE - 8" LP** This is a new band made up of some members from the more popular crust-punk bands out there. This band is what you get when you take Jack from Mind Control, Todd from His Hero is Gone, Kelly from Detestation/Masskontroll and Chris from Scorched Earth Policy/Masskontroll and put them all in the same place. Sometimes I think it's really lame to rely on who's in the band or the x-members of phenomena, but in this case I think it is important

because it's got much to do with the creation of this band (esp. since they don't even all live in the same place). When they come together they create an abrasive grinding powered hardcore with old-school and Scandinavian roots. The vocals are extremely distorted and guttural. The lyrics are meaningful and very good with explanations included on the fold-out sleeve. The tempo is galloping and pummeling. Nearly manic at times - but always held together by a strong driving tempo that is layered, heavy and powerful. If you're familiar with any of the aforementioned bands or if you know any of these guys then the new sounds they are creating are very much in line with what you would expect. I'm not sure I like this better than past material (from the other bands) but it's damn fine crusty-grinding hardcore and it can't get any more up my alley. The four edition of this record was on white vinyl (only 300 pressed). The rest are on black. This is a one-sided 33rpm LP. (Lengua Armada/2340 W. 24th St/Chicago IL 60608) \*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**SHITLIST - A COLD SLAP OF REALITY 7"** Where punk rock meets death metal - Shitlist bring us a long playing 6 song 7" of rockin' brutality. They're powerful and solid with death metal leanings - in the full metallic driven style with crunchy power beats and wailing guitars, deep guttural vocals and epic masterpiece feel. They remind you of their punk and hardcore roots here and there with the mid-range vocals and urgent driving force and a layering of influences revealing themselves. Yes, this Seattle band sounds awesome and with a totally thick sound and quality recording nothing is lacking in the delivery. (Fired Up! Records/PO Box 8985/Mpls MN 55408) (-Chris)

**SKIT SYSTEM - GRAVARLO SVARTA TANKAR CD** Fuck YES!!! This rocks my world totally and completely!!! I love it!! I have been a fan of this band since their 7" debut a few years ago. I was a total nut about the 7" but not quite as crazy about the follow up 10". I mean it's good, but it's not the 7". This however feels much more like the 7". This is fast thrash crust core done the way it should be. The drums and bass on this recording are amazing and according to the liner notes this is a new drummer so I am glad to see that he worked and that this band didn't lose anything musically with the change of line up. Anyway this is fucking raging crazy great thrash core that I recommend to anyone into metallic punk or hardcore. (Beth) (Distortion Records/PO Box 129/401 22 GBG Sweden) \*\*\*

**SLEAZY JOKE - SANS CONCESSION 7"** I like this one. Some good punk from France. The songs are fast and punk and pack a punch. Not quite fast enough to be

hardcore, but not slower 77 style by any means. All 4 songs have lyrics, but are all in French. Zoot alor! Makes sense cause this 7" is from France. So I have no idea of what they are saying. Seems political to me from the little of what I understood. Nice release. (Mass Production/B.P. 287/35005 Rennes Cedex FRANCE) (-NA)

**SNAPCASE - DESIGNS FOR AUTOMOTION CD** This new one follows right along from their last full length maintaining their trademark punchy hardcore style while growing into a slightly more polished sound. They're sound only becomes more powerful and even more catchy - without losing any of what we have come to expect from Snapcase and their style. I have been completely hooked - listening to this on a regular non-stop basis in a way which has not yet tired me out. The guitars have a crushing punchy power with a metallic edge which maintains a really bouncing beat to the punch and the vocals are as distinct as the punchy off-beat tempo. I've become a fan. (Victory Records) (-Chris)

**SONGS FOR EMMA - 11.12.98 CD** I've listened to this a whole bunch of times over the months I've had this CD and each time I find myself at a loss for words. Each time I go back and forth from not quite liking it, to not being able to take it off and finding all of these reasons to describe interest, and above all something innovative and new. The bottom line is that Songs For Emma are doing something very different. The music is melodic and mello - but not acoustic and not poppy. It's not quite folksy either. The vocals are distinct - with a gravel like dirty sound which is what makes this band nitzy and gritty and intriguing. Kinda like Leatherface - with more melodic mello-er music. With a bit of Tom Waits and maybe Billy Bragg. The band is named after Emma Goldman and the lyrics and message are inspired by her writings and work. This is precisely what makes this so interesting. There is much to be learned and absorbed and thought about while listening - the lyrics are explained and give you much to chew on. There's even recommended resources and reading materials and that is exciting. I hear that they are amazing live. Yikes - this is already a year old! Where did the time go? (Broken Records/PO Box 460402/SF CA 94146-0402/distributed by Mordam) (-Chris)

**SPAZM 151-POWER SONGS FOR THE KIDZ 7"** Awesome old school fast hardcore. A typical Havoc records release. Less metal than some Havoc recs releases and I am not complaining. Think in the vein of Brother Inferior and Terminal Disgust. This is some fine Texas punk here for your listening pleasure. (Beth) (Havoc Records/PO Box 8585/Minneapolis MN 55408)

**SPLIT ACTIVE MINDS/AN-ATTA - split 7"** This is a benefit to raise awareness about the problem of female genital mutilation. The Active Minds side starts out with a long melodic song, then goes into there straight-up style of political punk. It's a little different from what they usually sound like, but it's still a good listen. An-Atta's style of punk is a little more diversified. It's based mainly in hardcore punk, but it pulls you in with a mixture of moods and styles that even include the use of a cello. It's very interesting and I find myself getting more and more into it with each listen. When and if you find this record, pick it up, because it's not going to be repressed. (Jay) (Existence Distribution/PBX 159/1150 Vienna/Austria)

**SPLIT ACURSED/VICTIMS - split 7"** Whoa. I almost thought I was listening to a new SKITSYSTEM/WOLFPACK split 7". So there's no need for me to tell you how fucking good this was. And these bands are by no means note for note rip-offs. It's just that they give off the energy and attitude that would justify the comparison. So if you like SKITSYSTEM then you'll probably like ACURSED and if you like WOLFPACK or any other attitude laden, tough as nails, Swedish (dis) crust, then you'll probably like VICTIMS. But then again, you probably already fucking figured that out right? Then get yourself a copy. (Jay) (Putrid Filth Conspiracy/c/o Rodrigo Altaro/Sodra Parkgatan 35A/21422 Malmö/Sweden)

**SPLIT AMEN 81/BURNED OUT - split LP** The AMEN 81 side of this record is live and because of this it's a little hard to get into. They play basic raw punk and they seem to



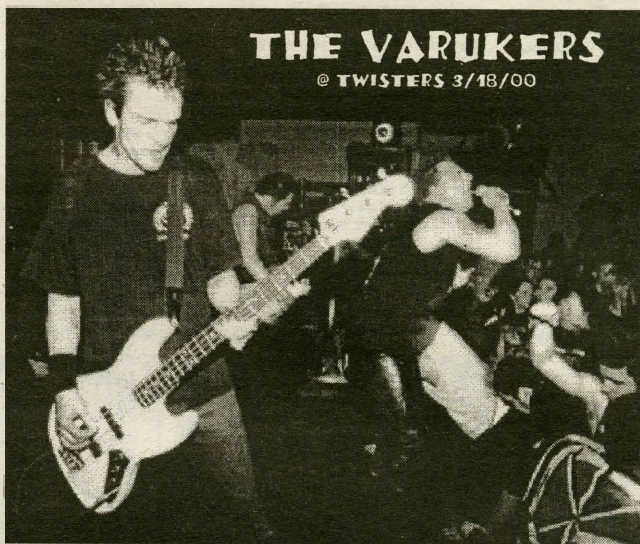
play it well, but due to the unintelligibility of the live recording, the music sounds to blurred and weak. The BURNED OUT side of this LP is a little better. They have a fast punk sound that borders on thrash. But it doesn't have enough intensity to grab my attention. Overall, I wouldn't say this record is bad, I just wouldn't say it's good. (Jay) (Funai Records/c/o Wagenplatz/Buchenholerstr.63/42329 Wuppertal)

**SPLIT ANIMAL BONDAGE/FIERCE - LP** Animal Bondage are the definite standouts here. Their mix of politically aware hardcore thrash and harsh discernible female vocals really make this stand out. The music retains a high level of energy that is complimented by a studio quality recording. Fierce however, did not have the luxury of a studio recording. This poorly produced recording definitely takes away some of the power that their music (which is good on its own merits) possesses. Overall, there music is very similar to Animal Bondage, even down to the high pitch screams. Both even share animal rights themes in their lyrics. "See the little" rabbits, they are dying for your commercial shit. What else needs to be said? Recommended. (Jay) (Suspiria Records/Krokusweg 37/76799 Karlsruhe/Germany)

**SPLIT BAD ACID TRIP/KUNGFU RICK - split 7"** First up is BAD ACID TRIP. They are an appropriately named punk band with a powerviolence feel, although not confined

by any limitations. This is a very interesting listen and I would defiantly recommend seeing them live. Although beware, they might freak you out. KUNGFU RICK is also a little on the odd side of the powerviolence genre. Their songs are fairly typical but the higher pitch vocals bring this screaming over the top. It's good to hear shit that's not afraid to be a little different, and this record is worth it for that fact alone. (Jay) (War on Wankers Records/c/o Ben/PO Box 10222/Rochester NY 14610)

**SPLIT BEST OF MESSUP SPLIT 7" FLEXI** Very LO-FI. When side B (Messed UP) ends before the actual song is over you know they just don't give a fuck. Maybe they did it



on purpose to go with their name, but I doubt it. Throughout the whole song the only lyrics I could make out were "give me money", the title of the song. I wonder if they're sarcastic? It all adds up to good noisy punk with a distinctly Japanese feel. But they do not overshadow Best Of with their antics. Best Of play very solid distorted punk that sounds almost like it is coming from a basement show in your hometown (or at least should be). The vocals are gruff; I'm not sure if that's how they sing or if the recording is really that bad. I am however, sure that I like it. Its got an energy rare among the many bands that think just because they've got a good recording means their songs are good. In case you were wondering, both bands are from Japan. (Jay) (HG-Fact401 Hongo-M/2-36-2/Yayoi-cho/Nakano/Tokyo/164-0013/Japan)

**SPLIT CAVE IN/CHILDREN - SPLIT 7"** First off - lets just get this straight, I would buy this 7" if it was bad 70's guitar rock just because it looks that good. Wow - I wish every band devoted this much into their layout and packaging because trust me the hardcore punk scene would just be a better place. Full color collage with cool silver shiny stuff pressed on for the Cave in and Children lettering. The photography on the inside rocks and it's on white vinyl. Both bands play a unique blend of many different musical stylings. I don't quite know how to describe it. Basically if you dig Neurosis and Converge this will be your cup of tea. Cave In uses more electronic stuff on the side than I really dig, although it still thoroughly kicks, but the Children side just blew me away. They rock my world!!! They have that Converge feel that I am so obsessed with. I will be on the lookout for this bands stuff in the future. They are from France however so I guess seeing them live probably won't happen anytime soon. (Beth) Just band contacts given. (Cave In/49 Appaloosa Drive/Methuen MA 01844 USA/Children Guillaume/De Marian Caixon 65500 Vic-Bigorre France) \*\*\*\*

**SPLIT DECONTROL/FINAL MASSAKRE - SPLIT 7"** Yet another of the Dis-clone bands and it's a split to boot. Though I've always loved the Discharge-esq punk, at this point it's got to either be something innovative new and different or else an immaculate clone to really get my attention. Decontrol and Final Massakre are sadly both just average. And this feels re-hashed to death. The recordings are mediocre (leaving lots of thin high ended reverb. The 7" labels aren't even marked to distinguish which band is which. I just can't take this seriously. It's limited to 500. (\$3ppd/Massakre Records/PO Box40113/Portland OR 97240-0113) (-Chris)

**SPLIT DIPSO MANIA/STEROIDS - SPLIT 7"** This is a really good split of two French punk bands. I've heard and liked Steroids before but Dipsomanie are new (to me) and I think I actually like them better. Steroids have a more melodic style, but with a powerful kick. The vocals are gruff and deep and in French. Dipsomanie are more charged, playing straight up punk rock that is energized and catchy. They've got a galloping energy pace that is full of driving punchy drums and melodic guitar lines. Both bands have really catchy styles, but on this, I really LOVE Dipsomanie. The cover is full color printed with photos of everyone on the front and illustrations of the band on the back - and the illustrations are awesome. (Kanivo Prod/13, Rue de Vignier/25000 Besancon France) \*\*\* (-Chris)

**SPLIT EMBALMED ALIVE/DAIRY QUEENS - SPLIT 7"** Two California punk bands with very different styles alternating songs on a split 7" format. Embalmed Love have a metallic grindcore style with guttural vocals and pretty tinny sound that has a bit of epic power in it and thrashy manic speed. They're pretty good, but this is unfortunately the kind of sound that suffers from a not-so-good recording. The Dairy Queens have a more straight forward punk style with some wonderfully familiar (yet not able to pinpoint) influences. They've got dual male and female vocals on alternating songs. Her voice is rad and powerful and his is gnarly and gravely and rad for different reasons. Two of their songs are rockin' and catchy and I love them. The third is much more manic and grating. I would love to hear more from both bands. (c/o The Dairy Queens/533 Madison/Fairfield CA 94533) (-Chris)

**SPLIT EXECRADORES/SIN DIOS - A Luta CD** A solid release from these two Brazilian Anarchopunk bands. Both bands play energetic songs with all the vocals sung in their native language. Included with this CD is a huge booklet that contains enough information to be a zine. All lyrics are in Spanish and it's refreshing to see punk that's not focused on selling in the USA. However, the pictures will give you a good clue of their ideas and you could always translate it yourself, lazy bastard. This is definitely worth looking out for. (Jay) (Esperanza/PO Box 22542/Sao Paulo/04744-970 Brazil)

**SPLIT HEADUP/COOKYPUSS - SPLIT 7"** This is a record that suffers from being a split - it's hard to tell (the Cookypuss cover side sucks) and they don't have any info enclosed. I love Headup. They play dual-vocaled powerful hardcore which dances across the boundaries of genres. At times they remind me of ABC Diablo with a very abrasive metal tinged craziness and other times they're more straight forward in their punchy style. All around an awesome blend of styles that cross over punk and hardcore and lean more toward the crust-punk world of my tastes. Fucking excellent stuff!!! Cookypuss are full on ska. They're good ska - full energy uplift and horns UK style (less US style dumb pop-punk stuff). Like I said - they're real good. But I like Headup much better and I really don't understand the mix of these bands on this split. (Contact Error/Box 578/2200 BDH N/Denmark) (-Chris)

**SPLIT JUDE/DYSMORFOFOBIA - split 10"** Noise industrial meets industrial punk. Interesting (if nothing else) record that can lull you into a trance. As background noise its enveloping, with many moods and tonal diversions, but its not something that I can listen to very loud or really get into. One band has vocals the other is only noise, I'm not sure which is which. If this sounds interesting to you then track down a copy, because I don't think this is the kind of record that will end up in your local record store. (Jay) (Self Industry Records/c/o Marek Sarba/UL Plalnowa 10 M.35/00-808 Warsaw Poland)

**SPLIT KILL YOUR IDOLS/FULL SPEED AHEAD - SPLIT CD** This is a cool split from two New York area bands who blend the distinctions between hardcore and punk.

Kill Your Idols fucking rock!!! They are absolutely explosive with super punchy energy which creates a really catchy style. Their songs are super fast and totally raging. It's way too fast for a popo, but with a fun enough edge to make jumping and flailing around with a smile on your face more like it. I love the new territory that they manage to chart. They've got a Snapshot cover here. Full Speed Ahead have a similar and yet quite different sound. Their song structures remind me of the Dis world but they seem to draw heavily from mid-80s hardcore in a way which I can't quite put my finger on. It's so familiar, yet I can't draw the comparisons. They've got a Big Boys cover and two originals. I have to say I like KYI a bit better, but both of these bands are totally solid and fucking good and that makes this short CD really good!! (Hell Bent Records/PO Box 1529/Pt Pleasant Beach NJ 08742) \*\*\* (-Chris)

**SPLIT KNUCKLEDRAGS VS. RED ANGEL DRAGNET - SPLIT CD** Great release here. You know what I love? When you get a split CD and you love both the bands on it. Red Angel Dragnet are a local RVA fave of mine and I knew they rocked, but I had no knowledge of the Knuckledrags and well, they RULE! They are well matched bands for a split. Red Angel Dragnet plays old fashioned hardcore Oi influenced punk. You can here old DC Discord influence here as well as Brit. punk influence like the UK Subs. Knuckledrags play excellent slightly more new school hardcore. I don't mean Earth Crisis when I say that. Just think of bands like Kill Your Idols - the perfect blend of punk and hardcore. They have a strong driving sound. I really enjoyed their side much more than I had anticipated. Trust me this is worth mailing away your hard earned \$ for. (Beth) (Pin Records/1517 Floyd Ave #1/Richmond VA 23220)

**SPLIT MAJORITY RULE/TURBINE SPLIT 4 SONG 7"** Majority Rule start things off with some emohardcore. Ok emo might not be quiet the right word here. I guess it sounds more hardcore with some breaks and tempo changes. The songs deal with lack of individuality and serving ones own interest. Turbine plays two fast melodic style songs. Not to bad. Songs-deal with people being to stupid to start a revolution and with people who like to preach for their own self gain. Ok release but nothing to get to excited about. (\$3 ppd from Submit Records/Tyke Wunez/803 Thayer Ave/Silver Spring, MD 20910/http://www.angelfire.com/biz/submitrecords) (-NA)

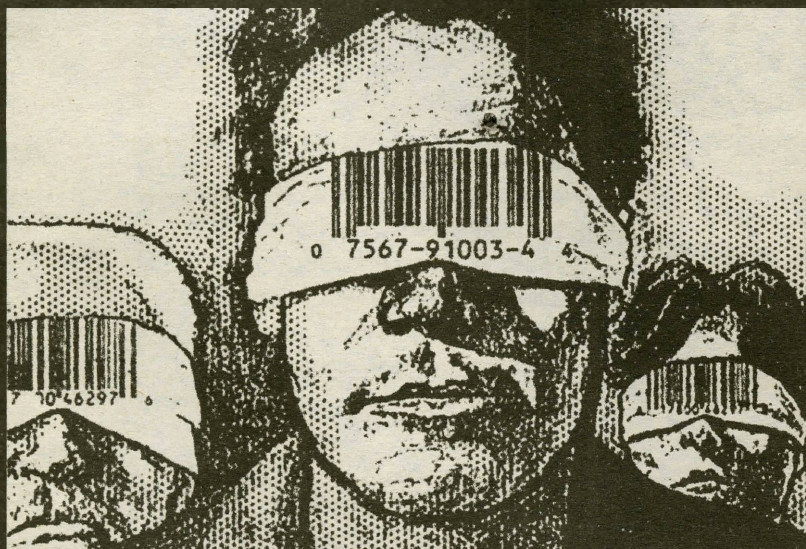
**SPLIT NOISOME FAUGH/ELIGHT BOB SPLIT 7" 45** Some very good fast crust core with political lyrics on this split. The Noisome side deals with women killing their kids to hook up with a guy, a long hate due to a relationship and the human loss as a result of democracy. Flip this over to the Flight 800 side for some raspy thrashing crust/power violence. The lyrics were to small to read, but I managed to read a sentence from the first song. "My boot on a Nazi's head, I press till the skull shatters" I think that gives you a good idea of were they are coming from. Both bands are good and I would like to hear more. The recording is a little low quality but not enough to pass this 7" up. A better recording would definitely give both bands more justice. (Records Not Excuses/P.O.B. 806/Seattle, WA 08111-0806) (-NA)

**SPLIT O.B.N.I./YACOPSAE - AGAINST THE OPPRESSION" SPLIT CASS O.B.N.I.** (from Spain) play angrv crust influence hardcore punk. Their female fronted and they have a great "in your face" style to 'em. It's good, and on the flipside, Yacopsae (from Germany) put out one of the better live sets I've heard, at least on the tape format. There style is faster, blasting there way thru some solid hardcore. They kind of reminded me of the Electro Hippies because there vocal style switches in a similar way. This is a good tape, worthy of anyone's attention. (Jay) (Bad Society Prod. c/o Roberto Garcia Aguilar/PO Box 6213/41008 Sevilla/Spain)

**SPLIT PHOBIA/CORRUPTED - split 7"** Oh gosh I am not sure why when Chris said "Do you want to review this?" I said "Yes". The reason that I am saying this is because this record is a pot plant picture disc and man if there is one thing I hate

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# MUSIC

in this world it's pot. I do actually know why I wanted to review this though. Despite never really digging Phobia's artwork I have always enjoyed their style of grindcore. I really do like them and this 7" is good despite my hatred for all things pot related. I did not enjoy the Corrupted side nearly as much. To slow and chunky for me. I just can't dig it. They are a love em or hate em band though and I know their fans will like this release just as much as previous ones. (Beth) (Rhetoric Records/PO Box 82/ Madison WI 53701 www.rhetoricrecords.com / and Deaf American Recordings c/o R Hoak # 3/ Bethel Church Rd/ Dillsburg PA 17019 Rich666@voicenet.com)

**SPLIT: PRUPRIENT/A SONIC DETERRENT - TAPE** I was intrigued because of the ensemble that this tape arrived in. It's "packaged" in this artistic creation of recycled plastic and paper (including a melted plastic bottle). Anti-everything is described as a DIY experimental "noise" label. I tried to listen to this tape and it was just noise. I couldn't deal. But I still love the care put into the whole thing. If you're into experimental noise projects, artistic endeavors or just have a real open mind - check it out. (Gary AE Noise/22 Mallory #1/Hampton VA 23663) (-Chris)

**SPLIT: SCROTUM/INTOXICATED BUGS - SPLIT 7"** Everything about this release seems fucked. From the WAIT TYLER style cover graphics to the band names and the seemingly opposite lyrical viewpoints of these two bands. INTOXICATED BUGS lash out at "dumb poser punks" while still coming off as being punk themselves with lyrics about typically punk rooted topics, such as corruption & war. While SCROTUM seem to lash out at the whole punk scene in general, sarcastically criticizing and belittling feminists, the "fuck the system" mentality and "the scene". Both bands play fairly basic sounding punk with SCROTUM adding pick mutes for a more "hardcore" feel. By the way, this record was tested on animals. (?) (Jay) (Error Distro/PO Box 578/2200 KBH IV Denmark)

**SPLIT: SEEN RED/MK ULTRA - SPLIT LP** Seen Red play the same amazing political punk that they always have, they just keep on getting better and better. This LP is the best thing I think that I have heard by them yet. I don't really know what to say because I think most people reading this publication are familiar with this band already so I don't want to waste words ineptly describing this wonderful band. MK Ultra are in the same league here. They have been around for years and are well known and well liked. They play their usual spastic breed of power violence inspired punk. What can I say - this record rocks and you should get it. That's it. (Beth) (Gloom Records/PO Box 14253/Albany NY 12212)

**SPLIT: SMOGTOWN/TEENAGE KNOCKOUTS SPLIT CD** This CD combines a few releases each band did. First off you get 7 tracks of SMOGTOWN. 6 off their "Beach City Butchers 10" and 1 off of the Viva La Vinyl #3 comp. SMOGTOWN has a unique sound mixing punk and beachcore. Hard to describe, but it's good. Next up you have 8 tracks by Teenage Knockouts off their "Japanese, Murderscycles, Guitars and guns 10". This Cleveland outfit kicks out some killer 70's punk! Both bands get a thumbs up! (Dead Beat Records/P.O.B. 283/LA, CA 90078/Deadbeat@aol.com) (-NA)

**STIFLED CRIES - S/T 7"** This comes in a beautifully designed cover that folds open to the lyrics and the vinyl in a paper bag. I love the artful care that goes into some of these creations! This explodes in a frenzy of discordant and grating emotive power. It has an epic feeling - in that it is long playing and travels through a variety of moods and tempos without being repetitive. Some of it is more spastic and manic than I am drawn to - but in it's entirety - I like the feeling of the whole thing and the flow of it. It lands with in the world of noisy, scream-o-hardcore that I am compelled to love. (Conspiracy Records/PO Box 269/2000 Antwerpen V/Belgium) (-Chris)

**STRIKE ANYWHERE - S/T CD-R** This has been my favorite band since I first heard them. I'm fond of saying that Strike Anywhere are just the dose of compassionate energetic hardcore-punk that Richmond has been lacking since I've been here and they are exactly what will put the local scene back on track and even "back on the map". The thing that is so amazing about this band is that they cross all boundaries of genre and bring together everyone in a way which is rarely seen. I mean they play a house show at a moments notice and everyone I've ever known in this town is there jumping up and down, smiling and having the time of their life. They truly have, and create magic. So what do they sound like already? High energy and adrenaline, super catchy anthemic hardcore that is very punk, melodic and catchy with a power driving edge. Last time I saw them they reminded me of Iggye and I always think of Kid Dynamite. Lyrically and attitude-wise they remind me of 2.5 Children. Fans of Inquisition will want to take note - as this is one of the new incarnations. I missed out on the Inquisition days but can understand what it was all about. Thomas has an incredible voice and moves mountains with his glow. The whole band radiates unbridled energy and they fucking rock!! I guarantee that you don't want to miss out on this band - they are gonna make a lot of kids happy! Just four songs here - they're recording more new stuff this month. This CD comes in nice hand-made DIY cardboard sleeve. (\$6ppd/\$21 W. 21st St/Richmond VA 23225) \*\*\*\*\* (-Chris)

**SUBMIT-SYSTEMSUCK 7"** This record is very political. It covers many topics. The evils of NAFTA, animal rights, capitalist bullshit, the evils of prozac and the destruction of The American Indians culture. The music is very simple. Just guitar, drums and vocals. Male and female vocals. I think the point is to emphasize the lyrics. Cause that's where the message lies. While this 7" is very simple music wise, I like it and find it a good change of pace. Well done and thought out music and lyric content combo. Not typical punk but unique and punk in its own way. (\$3 ppd/ Systemsuck/P.O.B. 950/Bowling Green, OH 43402) (-NA)

**SUICIDE NATION - A REQUIEM. FOR ALL THAT EVER MATTERED CD** This is abrasive metal hardcore that is super power-driven with a really strong Swedish-death metal influence. They do it awesome. With gravel tainted screaming growling vocals and an urgent, grating and hard hitting angst - this is powerful and it rocks. The distinctly Swedish-death-metal guitar leads walk along throughout the whole thing on one layer, while the rockin' tempo and tight power are also another. The way the vocal patterns and the weaving guitars work together - they stay pretty constant throughout which makes it feel a bit repetitive, but I still dig it. Six studio recorded songs and a live set are on this hour long CD. (King of the Monsters/8431 E. San Salvador/Scottsdale AZ 85258) (-Chris)

**TAMU - CHUGALUG CD** This band is the Japanese underground version of Limp Bizkit or Korn. If your looking for something with a lot of mosh power to play in your

Jeep or land cruiser, pick up this really hardcore CD. And while your at it VANILLA ICE has a new album out that you might like. (Jay) (Howling Bull America/PO Box 40129/San Francisco CA 94140)

**THE ABORTED - PRODUCT OF AN INDUSTRIALIZED NATION CD** A straight forward punk rock band from Southern California. They draw their influence from 80s UK punk that mixes with US hardcore punk. They're tight and totally rockin'. The main singer has a really deep voice and the second one is much crazier in a manic screaming way that kinda reminds me of Fifth. The powerful and galloping drum rolls are awesome. This is blazing powered high-energy gritty punk. They've got an Angelic Upstarts cover which is awesome. (Aborted/PO Box 3435/Fullerton CA 92831) (-Chris)

**THE ANTI-HEROS - UNDERNEATH THE UNDERGROUND CD** What can I say that hasn't been said about this band by a million different reviewers...THE ANTI HEROS are the best Oi band in America, if not the world! Now don't get my wrong, I love all their records but this one should have come right after that's right! This is so much better than their last couple of records by leaps and bounds with the classic style of music and lyrics that are classically the anti heroes alone. No one sounds like this band and no one should ever try to emulate this band who would never come close Mark Noah's vocals are so great on this record not too overproduced and the vocal lines are great too. I could spend all day singing the praises of this band but I won't go much further if you even just liked an Anti Heroes song on a comp put this down and walk, no wait, run to the nearest record store and go buy this. I LOVE IT! The anti heroes are back and taking no prisoners!!! (GMM/PO Box 15234/Atlanta GA 30333) (-Beau)

**THE AUGUST SPIES 94-97 CD** This is a partial discography of this band featuring 3 of their releases. Food Chain in your living room, "Face", and "We cant do anything By ourselves". Plus some unreleased material as well. You get to hear how they go from their more 77 style punk to mixing things up with some hardcore as well. Track #23



even has some sax 'X-Ray Spex' style! Hell yeah.. This is a good release cause obviously the music is good and you get 3 previously out of print releases all on 1 CD. I would especially recommend this if you are a 'August Spies' fan or if you are unfamiliar with them this is a good CD to start out with. (\$6 ppd from./Rodent Popsicle Records/P.O.B. 335/Newton CIR, MA 02459) (-NA)

**THE AUGUST SPIES - S/T CD** This band plays a mix of straight up hardcore songs and snotty pogo punk songs. There is also a tad of Oi influence in there to. The songs contain some hilarious lyrics as well. Titles like 'You Suck' & 'Lemmy & the rancid steak' give you a good idea of what I'm talking about. This is some good east coast stuff. I like it. (\$8 ppd from./SPC Records/P.O.B. 63/Alston, MA 02134/espocore@hotmail.com/www.espocore.com) (-NA)

**THE AUTHORITY! - ON GLORY'S SIDE CD** Your basic streetpunk/Oi from California. I mean it's good but nothing to write home about. If you're a fan of this kinda of music and like a lot of GMM records stuff you'll like this too. (Outsider/PO Box 92708/Long Beach CA 90809) (-Beau)

**THE CLAP - SONGS FOR THE SOPHISTICATED 7"** Things like this 7" are what punk is about. The Clap bring us 5 songs of pogo punk/English style punk. Fast and rally energetic, the songs range from being political to downright funny. The music and lyrics are basic and good. This 7" was even recorded in their basement. Sounds good too. A little more on the treble side of things, but still well recorded. Total DIY self released and I can tell these guys are having a blast. I like it. (\$3 ppd from/Shawn/142 Fountain Ave/Selton, NY 11784) (-NA)

**THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN - Calculation Infinity CD** Simply put, it's discordant emotional hardcore. Yet that's where the simplicities end. Their song structures are tight and complicated, along with their musicianship. Making their mood changes and speed/style mixtures work better than most comparable bands. And of course this is the polished recording you would expect from a label like Relapse, who bring you other hardcore bands similar to the Dillinger Escape Plan. (Jay) (Relapse Records/PO Box 251/Millersville PA 17551)

**THE FIXTURES - ONE CRISIS SHORT OF CHAOS CD** Damn this caught me off guard for sure. Any band that is called a thinking man's band automatically makes me think of a bad crumb/grind band where you can't understand what the hell they're saying. But this sounds a lot like the DEAD KENNEDYS. While I'm not a big fan of DK, I can understand them at least and I think this is in the same genre. I might not like them that much, but I could see how a lot of people would. (Know Records/PO Box 90579/

Long Beach CA 90809) (-Beau)

**THE FLATLINERS - THE CHAOS YOUTH EP 7"** We have another winner! San Antonio's Flatliners are a good punk band. They do an excellent job of combining punk, hardcore and English style punk. This 7" contains 6 songs and the lyrics are basically about being punk and not wanting to be part of society, posers and other everyday problems. Good Job. (ADD Records/270 Central St/Hingham, MA 02043) (-NA)

**THE GRANDPRIX - 33MPH 7"** 4 songs of fast poppy style songs. Not quite pop punk. To fast. Not hardcore. To happy for that. Just real fast like they put much sugar in their cereal that morning. The 4 songs are about the typical pop punk topics. Girls, being upset and girls. Good for this type of music, but not for me. You like...you buy. (\$3ppd/The GrandPrix/2 Gold St/Westfield, MA 01085/xwwwxx@aol.com) (-NA)

**THE JACKIE PAPERS - UCKFAY DOYAY CD** I've been looking forward to this, since I know Chris formerly of the PINK LINCOLNS. So here is the rundown: Chris and three girls playing pretty standard 77 type punk. But wait, Chris was around then, so it's ok. It's not some snotty 15 year old kid singing about "good ole 77" it's the real deal this sounds like it should have been on a MRR comp 15 years ago. I like it, but I'm biased. I like Chris and what can I say - 77 punk rock and roll isn't my thing but I like this all the same so check it out. (Still Pole Rec/PO Box 20721/St. Pete FL 33742) (-Beau)

**THE JAZZ JUNE - BREAKDANCE SUBURBIA CD** I can see why people that like the whole kinda noisy emo singing off key thing really like this. I mean I think its at the top of the heap granted not my thing but I can see why people like it. If it was on in the background of a party I wouldn't freak out and turn it off, but I wouldn't want it turned up either. Initial Records/PO Box 1713/Louisville KY 40217) (-Beau)

**THE JOCKS - S/T CD** This CD got smashed in the mail. Oooch! The promo sheet says The Jocks are a sloppy 4 piece punk band from SF. Ca. that would make FYP question their purpose on this planet. Someone check this out and let us know. (New Disorder/445 145th St/SF, CA 94103) (-NA)

**THE LOSERS - COMPLETE LOSERS CD** This is a post-humous release by an English punk band. They were around in the early to mid 90's. They seemed to have played the more political punk circuit, however their style of music is not crust or crass oriented at all. It has more of a rock edge to it - like more classic punk. It's pretty good really. Gruff vocals over sometimes sloppy sometimes tighter raging old school Brit. punk. Long CD too with nice packaging and a little bit on the band. (Beth) (Epitaphy Recording Company/PO Box 312/30003 Hannover Westsdeutschland/Germany)

**THE NEIGHBORS - THE MORE MONEY ONE HAS THE MORE IMPORTANT IS ONE'S LIFE 7"** Fast as hell catchy Pist style punk rock. Good stuff. Not metal at all. Fast and lacking in the guitar solo department. It really reminds me of the Pist. 14 songs on one 7". That should tell you how damn fast these guys play. Quite a nice 7" here. (Beth) (Kangaroo Records/ Middenweg 13/ 1098 aa Amsterdam the Netherlands)

**THE PUBLIC - "CAGED CONSCIENCE" CASS EP** Blistering crusty hardcore from Slovakia. The vocals on this are mixed a little low, but when you turn up the volume that no longer matters. I guess it's made to be listened to LOUD. No problems here, this shit is really good. It's manic and they still pull off odd musical breakdowns. Some interesting thought went into this. Their message (if you mix all the ideas together) is to take action against pathetic patriotic humans, because love is dead. OK. (Jay) (Taste of Blood Records/Patrik Durisin/ Paricovska 92/075 01 Trebisov /Slovakia)

**THE SERVICE - WHO'S CRIMINAL? CD** I'm a fan of almost everything that GMM puts out and so this one hits me kinda low. The first song - god what a downer - but it picks up after that thank god. I didn't want to have to give anything on GMM a bad review but I think this is on the bottom of the GMM catalog. Every thing you've come to expect from this label good street punk/Oi but a little lacking in power or sing a long lyrics. Nice try but try again guys. (GMM/PO Box 15234/Atlanta GA 30333) (-Beau)

**THE SPIRITRES - SLICK BLACK CAT 7"** 45 This group of 4 young men come to us from the BC area. They play some solid punk/rock songs. They can be easily compared with bands of the early 70's NY scene. Hard driving and rockin with just a little bit extra that puts them over the rock N roll category. This is on Junk records and fits well into what that label puts out. Plus some nice shiny red vinyl to boot. (\$4 ppd from./Mail Bomb/P.O.B.1474/Cyprus, CA 90630) (-NA)

**THE ULTIMATES - THE VICIOUS AND THE GLAMOROUS CD** You know those bands that are ok but not that good that try to piss everyone off? Well this is one of them pretty basic punk rock with the whoaahoa's and fuck this and fuck that you know? I have to admit that I thought the title track was funny. I mean what's not to like about a song called "fuck California?" (Wormhole Music/1230 Market Street #135/SF CA 94102) (-Beau)

**THE UNDISPUTED HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONS CD** So I look inside of the record and think oh no not another ZEKE sounding band but I give it a shot anyway and to my surprise it does remind me of ZEKE but with some A.F. sounding vocals and a little bit more on the punk side than Zeke without all the damn car references I hate. Granted I'm a little wary of anything on beer city, but this is good. I would definitely put a song or two on a "driving in my car late at night comp tape". It's got energy and power without sounding rushed or some snotty vocals. A thumbs up to Beer City for finally

putting out something like. Like they care what I like? hahaha. (Beer City/PO Box 26035/Milwaukee WI 53226-0035) (-Beau)

**THE X-CRETAS - "FASCIST PIGS" CASS** Rough anarcho-punk in a similar style to Crass and early Mortarhate bands. Some of the songs are good (a couple are just fucking good - I think there the songs off their second demo) and some are not so good, with the recording quality varying a lot since the songs come from different demos, comps and a live set. There's a lot of information about the band (who date back to 1980) in here, but there are no lyrics included. If you are interested in early anarcho-punk recordings and the history behind some of the forgotten ones, then you should definitely get this. (Jay) (BBP Records & Tapes/3 Read St/ Swindon Wiltshire Sn1 5HU/U.K.)

**THING - "BUDDER" CASS** Slow and spaced emotional hardcore from Poland. There are lots of ringing guitar sounds that stop and start constantly, making this an odd listen. The vocals are mostly clean but there are the occasional screams just when the guitars really start to jump around. This is a style I can't get into. It's to off-beat to be a good listen. (Jay) (Nikt Nic Nie Wie/PO Box 53/34-400 Nowy Targ/Poland) TIME X - END IT UP 7"

This 7" would fall under the garage rock vein. Kinda punk, but I believe the emphasis is on rocking out. No lyrics were included so I feel the main point is the music. \$ songs that are done well. 2 by a male vocalist 2 by a female vocalist. Thought none of these songs stand out to me as being spectacular. I guess I'm the type that needs more PUNK in my ROCK. This isn't bad just not to exciting. (Panx/ BP 5058 31033/Toulouse Cedex 5/France) (-NA)

**TOMORROW - NOVO PUNTO DI PARTENZA CD** See if you can follow me here. This is 18 tracks of Japanese guys doing hardcore and singing in Italian! Ok that is different. You get 18 tracks of what I can best describe as early 80's US hardcore. Lyrics deal with more of a personal aspect. This stuff is fast and powerful. Now this comes in a 7" size glossy 9 page booklet. All lyrics are translated in Japanese, Italian and English. Good stuff and defiantly something different. (Record Shop Answer/Hase Bld. No.2 B1 59,OSUJ,Naka-ku/Nagoya-City, Aichi 460 JAPAN) (-NA)

**TREADWELL - BOMB DIFFUSION 7"** Abrasive raw and crazy hardcore with a manic edge crossed with emo. They're from California but the way the guys sing - in a vomitus kinda way with distorted effects kinda makes it sound like non-English European and the music fits that style too. It's a 45 so it's good by pretty quick. This is my kinda thing for sure - cause I like the way it's discordant and abrasive while still having a groovin' tempo. I dig it. (Status Recordings/PO Box 1500/Thousand Oaks CA 91358) (-Chris)

**UNITED - DISTORTED VISION CD** When I read that this was a Japanese equivalent to the 80s Slayer-Metallica hybrid I was intrigued. Apparently United have quite the history and reputation in Japanese underground metal. Well I fucking love it and this has been stuck in the CD player since it arrived. They're got the wanky guitar solos, and some other strictly metal styles; and there is no denying the metal; but the play with the power-packed crunch and punch that I love. And whether they've got their roots as a Judas Priest cover band or have more recently been influenced by hardcore (both of which are true), I'm unfamiliar with this bands older material - but I love this one. Pure thrash. With guttural vocals and a super punch and crunch to the music. And fuck does it rock. Makes me think of NYC at all - everything from playing CBGB's with Disassociate to late 80s hardcore that turned metal. Damn good stuff!! (Howling Bull/PO Box 40129/SF CA 94140-0219) (-Chris)

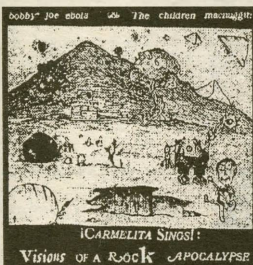
**VA - "ANSWER RECORD COMP" LP** This is an excellent tour LP Japanese compilation. I have one complaint however and it may be unique to my copy, my LPs have no labels, so seeing as how I was totally unfamiliar with every band on here I could not figure out who was who, which was really disappointing because I really enjoyed some of these bands. Maybe after a few more listens and checking out the lyric sheet I will get it figured out. Anyway, what I like about this compilation so much are the varieties of bands presented here. They are all in the punk/hardcore spectrum, but there is everything from melodic poppy hardcore, thrash-core, pop-punk, garage punk, crust punk, punky-punk, well you get the idea, it's all represented here and all the bands are pretty good at what they play and have been recorded well. The insert to this is well put together and gives you good info on all of the bands. This record is 15\$ post paid and if you are at all into Japanese punk totally worth the \$! (Beth) (Record Shop Answer Hase BLD No. 2 B1, 5-49 OSUJNAKA-KU NAGOYA-CITY, AICHI 460 JAPAN Phone/fax 052-241-0667) \*\*\*

**VA BEFORE YOU WERE PUNK 2 CD** Yep, "another punk cd tribute to 80s new wave" it says on the front, and I groaned at yet another shitty pop-punk compilation. However, I am a sucker for thaj 80s new wave so I dove right in and quite enjoyed it. Aside from the Bouncing Souls and maybe NOFX, I don't think I'd ever voluntarily listen to any of these bands - and somehow doing these 80s covers almost makes those whiney pop punk voices tolerable (and ironic all the same). Like I said I'm a sucker for the 80s stuff - so this was fun. It's worth it for the Bouncing Souls version of Don't You Forget About Me. Now if the Bouncing Souls did a concept record of 80s cover - that would be the hot ticket. Some of the covers that are done here should have been left in the 80s, but some of them are pretty good. Bouncing Souls, Suicide Machines, NOFX, NO Motiv, MXPX, The Get Up Kids, Rocket from the Crypt, Gotohells, Lagwagon, Strung Out, All and the Hippos are the bands included. "Our Lips Are Sealed" is a good one to cover. (Vagrant Records/ PMB #361/2118 Wiltshire Blvd./Santa Monica CA 90403) (-Chris)

**VA BLACK SABBATH - VOLUME D (DETROIT) CASS** This is a well done tribute album but I get the feeling that I wouldn't be into most of these bands original songs. Most bands on this (9 in all) stay fairly close to the original Black Sabbath sound and their vocals are mainly clean sounding (not distorted, shouted or screamed). It's good to listen to once, but after that I would rather just listen to Black Sabbath. Plus it was disappointing that the band who covered "electric funeral" (in my opinion, one of Sabbath's best songs) did it in such a weak way. (Jay) (Cass Records/PO Box 1910/Royal Oak MI 48068-1910) VA BOYCOTT RADICAL RECORDS CD

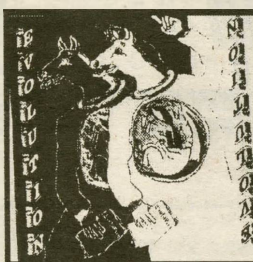
Cheap sampler featuring 25 tracks from every Radical band's release. Bands featured are Blanks 77, Road Rage, Inspector 7, The Booked, the Agents, ICU, Sturgeon General, The Cuffs, Social Scare. 3 tracks from each band. All punk rock/Oi stuff. (Radical Records/77 Bleeker St. # C-2-21/NYC, NY 10012/www.radicalrecords.com) (-NA)

**VA CAN'T STOP THIS TRAIN - COMP. CD** This is a beyond incredible compilation of some of the finest in the abrasive, noisy, discordant, heavy and powerful hardcore set. Since the day it arrived - this has received regular play. There are 18



**BOBBY JOE EBOLA AND THE CHILDREN MACNOGGITS**  
"Carmelita Sings! Visions of a Rock Apocalypse"  
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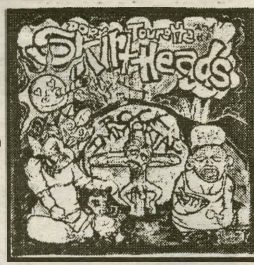


**VARIOUS ARTISTS**  
"Evolution", Spoken Word  
Compilation pug-016 CD \$8

S.P.A.M.'s first foray into spoken word, with submissions ranging from Wendy O Matic to Jerme Spew, including rants from Mark Bruback, Jamie Kennedy, Stephanie Culhane, Heather P. Corbett Redford, Robert Eggplant, and more... If you say poetry sucks then fuck you. This doesn't.

**DORY TOURETTE AND THE SKURTHEADS**  
"Rock Immortal"  
pug-011 CD \$8

Their CD is a full-throttle Buddy Holly/Eddie Cochran joyride fueled by meth, St. Ides, and little girls. Recorded by Matty Luv of Hickey. Please unfasten your belt.



**BOBBY JOE EBOLA/YOUR MOTHER, "Advice For Young Lovers" 7", pug-007 \$3** Got a romantic problem? Great! Love Doctors BJ Ebola and Your Mother have your medicine, all you have to do is drink it up. Includes YM's "Jealousy-Bad" and BJE's "Bungee Birth".

**HARBINGER, "Ear Training For Corporates" tape, pug-013 \$3** Robert Eggplant, Aaron Cometbus, and John Geek are all neurotic writers. This is their band. Quite caffeinated, indeed.

**THE PILGRIMS, "Songs About The Letter W" CD, pug-008 \$5** The mellifluous keyboard mastery of Ben Morris (Cake, Hope Bombs) leads this CD EP with pop hooks that'll tear your lips off. Includes "Have I Told You That You Rock Later?"

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- ONE DAY CLOSER SONGS OF SILENCE CD
- [STILL] PALATKA I ASSHOLEPARADE SPLIT 12" SEEN'RED DISCOGRAPHY CD 1 97A ABANDONED FUTURE 12"/MCD LÄRM DISCOGRAPHY CD
- [NEXT] DEVOID OF FAITH LOW MOTION ENSLAVEMENT 7" [repress]
- SPAZZ I ÖPSTAND SPLIT 7" [repress] POINT OF FEW NEW 7"

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tracks with songs form the likes of Assuck, Refused, Mine, My Hero Died Today, Boy Sets Fire, Seel Red, Reversal of Man, Separation, Cataract, Waifle, Burning Inside, Frndus, Encyclopedia of American Traitors, Jettison, Sabbath, Enfold, and Man vs. Humanity. If you are at all familiar with any of these bands then you'll have an idea of what you're getting into. As with all comps - the exact styles do vary - but the common theme is heavy and powerful while being politically minded. This is such a great comp. cause it takes the music a step further and provides a fantastic designed layout booklet which delves into "giving some insight in the politics of some of the active groups around the world that fight against the current status quo and for a world free of exploitation, oppression and war." The underlying theme is that in order to really create cultural change - we have to work open ourselves up out of our punk ghetto, get organized, work together with other youth cultures and left subcultures as well as organized groups. By doing this and staying active, committed and unified we can hope to actually be able to "take on" the more organized right (and in this case fascist/az/right). Much of the writing in the booklet is specific to Germany (where this was compiled) - but the message is universal. The bands included have a strong representation of Europe (with some US bands as well). This booklet is really well done - the information provided is not the same old re-hashed shit and presents some new ideas with the potential to make you think cultural struggles. As always I'm super stoked to see such a good compilation that brings together a bunch of great bands for more than just the rock. And the quality and presentation of the entire thing is top notch! Most highly recommended!!! (Join the Team Player/c/o Marco Waife/Altoingstr. 6a/81673 Munchen Germany/Distributed in the US by Schematics Records/PO Box 14636 Gainesville FL 32604) \*\*\*\*\* (Chris)

**VA CITY ROCKERS - A TRIBUTE TO THE CLASH CD** I'm starting to really not understand these cover thumbed CDs. I mean does anyone care or actually buy these things? I love the Clash a ton and it's kinda cool to have their songs interpreted by so many bands - and as usual there are some excellent renditions and some really crappy ones too, which is par for the course. Hot Water Music, Dave Smalley, Murphy's Law, Kid Dynamite, Drop Kick Murphy's, Demonspeed, One King Down, Stigmata, the Mob, Fang to name a few have their contributions here. Like I said, I love the Clash and I was definitely interested in this - but I don't know - I probably wouldn't shell out 10 bucks for it either. (Chord/PO Box 15793/Philly PA 19147) (Chris)

**VA COUNTERFEIT COMPILATION VOLUME 1 CD** Another comp. Ok that's good I like most comps. This one has 23 tracks. Each band (except 1) does 2 songs each. Some good punk and hardcore is. There also is some alternative stuff on here too. Bands featured are - Driven Out, Speed Queen, Four Letter Words, Sanity Assassins, Chuckleheads, Left Alone, 88th mark, Nikadimas, Andy, Post Toasties, Heronies and Lost Identity. Not exactly the strongest comp but not without merit either. (Counterfeit Entertainment/P.O.B. 287/Torrance, CA 90501) (NA)

**VA FLAT EARTH RECORDS: THE FIRST TEN YEARS - TAPE** For a long time now, Flat Earth has been a consistent favorite label and this tape is a good reminder of that. One side of the tape is like a best of mix tape that I would make - including Sedition, One By One, Disaffect, Hiatus, Doom, Pink Turds In Space and then some reminders of other near forgotten good ones - Generic and Electro Hippies. Side two has a bit more of the experimentation - Recusant, Whirling Pig Dervish, VR, Headache and Witchknot; and also brings out more of the favorites with Health Hazard, Drop Dead, Scatha, Ebola, Oi Polloi Suffer and Los Crudos. An excellent celebration of 10 years of some of the best diy political oriented punk and hardcore outta the UK. (Nikt Nic Nie Wle/PO Box 53/34-400 Nowy Targ Poland) (Chris)

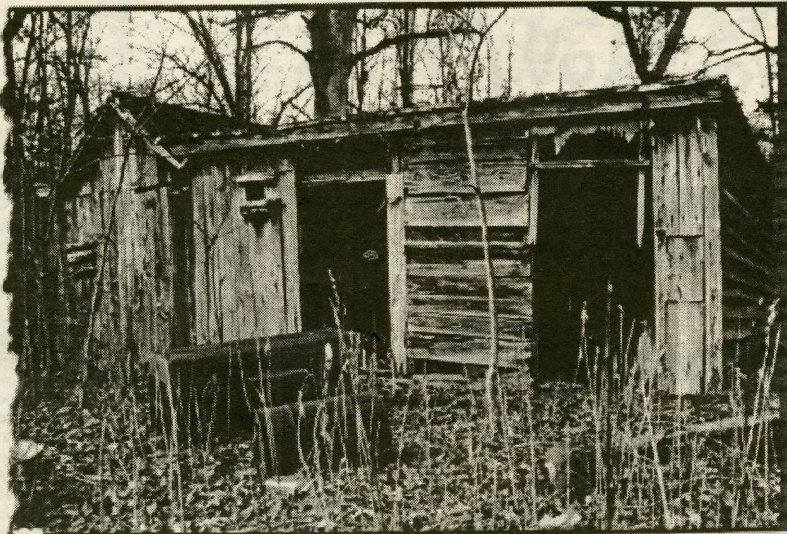
**VA GREGG HOLTSCLAW'S SONGS OF THE DEAD 7"** If you're into horror movies and emo hardcore with a splash of gnd then this record was made for you. It consists of six (six six) bands attempting to recreate the fear and madness that is a mainstay of horror movies. All the bands seem to do a respectable job at this, even though The Ultimate Warriors have lyrics that don't have anything to do with horror movies. Still, if this record sounds interesting to you then you will probably be able to get into it, after all the layout is good and each band gets its own fold on a page for lyrics/pics (The Infinity Dive use Evil Dead pics). (Jay) (Ape Records/PO Box 1584/Bloomington IN 47402)

**VA LET THEM EAT BUTTERFLIES 7"** This is a 9 band 9 country compilation. I was kinda surprised by how good this was. I knew that I would enjoy two tracks on this by Homomilitia and the Driller Killer tracks but I was surprised by how much I enjoyed the other bands. The Homomilitia track fully delivered with some amazing female vocals and raging thrashing hardcore. Names of the other bands are: Psychoterror, Ordinary Bastard Swordlich, Invazija, Well Done Beat, Na Krawedzi Deportacji, Married to a Murderer, and Annukka. All of these bands are on the thrashy side of punk. They all compliment each other quite well. Recording quality varies but not too bad and each bands gets its own little layout. (Beth) (Simon Butcher AK 73 Valmiera LV4200 Latvia)

**VA NO HESITATION TO RESIST - comp 10"** This is an all Japanese DIY compilation of 12 bands on 10 inches of vinyl. Complete with contact addresses for all the bands. Every band on this fucking rages but some of the more known are BATTLE OF DISARM, DISCLOSE, INSTINCT and BEYOND DESCRIPTION. Absolutely essential, absolutely punk; track this down and buy it! (Jay) (Forest Records/c/o Hideyuki Okahara/Ceramica 2 #301/2-1-37Minami/Kokubunji/Tokyo/185-0021/Japan)

**VA NOT SO QUITE ON THE WESTERN FRONT CD** A classic reissue of one of the best punk comps ever put out. This is the comp that dragged me kicking and screaming into punk rock with bands like DK, 7 SECONDS, MDC, FANG, CRUCIFIX AND FLIPPER if your a history of punk kinda person and have never heard this, you're missin' out. (Alternative Tentacles/PO Box 419092/SF CA 94141-9092) (-

Beau)  
**VA PUNK ATLANTA - WE RODE THE SHORT BUS TO CD** Mostly ska and pop punk. The Bloody Sods and Stool Sample were on here, (both those bands are very good. I would recommend getting their releases) but that is about it for the punk bands. Not a comp for me. (Downside Up Records/ P.O.B. 5883/ Atlanta, GA 31107/ DownsideUp@hotmail.com) (NA)  
**VA SCAPEGOAT OMNIBUS 7"** YIKES!! Another compilation for me to review!! It seems these days as if the scene is over run by 7" compilations. This is a 5 band Finnish compilation and it's good stuff even if the bands are not the most amazing or original. They play their classic Finnish crustcore very well. Just so you know the bands featured here are, Positive/Negative, Sharpeville, Selfish, and Force Macabra. (Beth) (Scapegoat Records/Kuitankatu 49/b32 20700 Turku Finland)  
**VA SICK & TWISTED COMP CD** Comps are a flying. This is a comp CD with 28 tracks on it. Most of the bands are of a punk rock nature or hardcore. There is some alternative



stuff to but not much. This is a great comp. Full of good stuff. Check it out. (\$7 ppd/STR/3900 Park, ST Huber/Quebec, Canada J3Y 4Z2/sickboy77@sympatico.ca) (-NA)

**VA THE MONSTERS IN MY HEAD 7"** Oh I wish I liked noisecore and powerviolence stuff... I really want to enjoy this genre and I just can't. This is a really good compilation for this genre though. Its got Suppression, Agoraphobic Nosebleed, Murder Suicide, Beast, Lin Of Fire, Pisspoor, Deadobieseverywhere, Benumb, Society of Friends, and Misanthropists. Just the number of bands on this one little 7" should give you an impression of what this comp sounds like. Benumb was my personal highlight. (Beth) (Big City Bastards/1712 E Riverside Dr #67/Austin TX 78741)

**VA THE SPIRIT LIVES ON - A TRIBUTE TO RAYBEEZ AND WARZONE CD** If you don't like this basically your an asshole. How can you not like Warzone a little and not love Raybeez? I mean I know there are a lot of people jumping on the Ray was a great guy bandwagon, but c'mon the man was a legend. A ton of great bands and not so great bands doing covers of one of the best bands ever to come out of New York. I knew the guy and he was genuinely one of the nicest people I have ever met in hc, li hope this gets the recognition that it deserves. Hate Core Records/c/o Just in Cook/PMB 287/1075 Broad Ripple Ave./Indpls IN 46220) (-Beau)

**VA VIOLENT CORE ATTACK 2.7"** You can tell from the name that this is not going to be pretty. Ten noisy bands play ten short songs in an attempt to get in your head and thrash out your brains. And out of all the bands Urban Trash, Existench, Global Holocaust and Disagree stood out the most, although there were no bad bands. This is a very solid comp. that will surely be welcomed by those who get into the music that Axcton and Slap A Ham deal with. (Jay) (Tobacco Shit Records/c/o Simon Pare/827 Goldbourn/ Greenfield Park/ QC J4V 3H4 Canada)

**VA VOICES - DOUBLE 7"** I can't say as how this moved me in anyway. This is not a bad release. It's a good compilation, the bands compliment each other and are good at their genre. Bands featured are, Disbeer, Summer Day in June, Sickness, and Viral Youth. It's the genre I am over. I am tired of dis-core. I am tired of crust core. It has to be really amazing stuff these days to move me in this genre. I will give you that this is far more enjoyable than most 7"s I hear of this genre. It's better recorded and since it's four bands there is some variety. It's funny, the band I enjoyed the most, Sickness, uses that Discharge font that I am so over. (Beth) (Panx/ BP 5058-31033/Toulouse Cedex 5/France)

**VA WORLD DENISE - VA comp CD** Most of the tracks on this are live or have the poor sound quality of most live recordings. But this has some well known (for good reason) bands like Agathocles, Dystopia, Capitalist Casualties, and Avulsion. And with this tracking in at just under an hour with 18 different bands and a below average CD price, I'm sure there will be many people who pick this up. Last note, it comes in a small manila envelope, not a regular CD case. (Jay) (Looney Bin/9505 Wandering Oak/Bakersfield CA 93311)  
**VA YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN CD** Punk? Noise? Noisecore? No, this is not elevator muzak nor is this the type of punk music you would normally expect from a label such as Flat Earth (or any other for that matter). What this seems to be is nineteen different individuals (some collaborations?) attempting to bring you into the world as seen through their eyes, no matter how clouded that vision may be. Perhaps it's a release of stress for all involved. It's a good concept, but it's hard to imagine how anyone could sit down and actually get into this. It's mostly machine ridden noise with samples and oddities abound. However, it is a

compilation and with all comps the mood changes along with the quality. At times I found myself starting to get into it only to be thrown off by the next song/outburst on the comp. To me nothing stands alone as "the best song and/or band" because by the time you're done listening to one song you were just getting over the one before it. (Jay) (Flat Earth Records/PO Box 169/Bradford/BD1 2UJ/UK)  
**VA NEW DISORDER RECORDS CD** I am so down with this compilation. It's such a good mix of all the kind of music that I rarely review. No crazy thrash core or crust here. No spiky haired Brit. punk. What we have here are 14 bands ranging from straightforward old school punk like Jack Acid or The Pist, to emo-melodic core stuff with TheGodsHateKansas and the dds. The other bands featured are Enemies, The Jocks, Hers Never Existed, The Cost, The Criminals, Soda Pop Fuck You, American Steel, Rumor 39, Half Empty and The Kansas All Stars. Quite the delightful sampler. (Beth) (New Disorder Records/ 445 14th St/ San Francisco CA 94103 or http://www.newdisorder.com)

**VAE VICTIS - ST LP** It's not all that often that I buy records these days - but there are certain bands that I like a lot and file away in my head to keep an eye open for. Not too long ago I was thinking of Vae Victis and a split 7" I loved to much and figured that it might be about time for something new from them. While in SF I found this LP and I was stoked. I mean I grabbed this baby and jumped up and down, paraded around, glowing and beaming (like a school-girl as Robert said) proud to have this new record. Ever since I got home I've been playing it. Their sound is heavy, dark and brooding with layered complexities and deep throb with sour notes. Think in the hybrid vein of His Hero is Gone and Artimus Pyle. The vocals are extra distorted, gravely and raspy. Now I could have sworn that on the 7" they had a female singer (who was evil as can be) and I'm not sure that this is the same singer but I can't for the life of me find the 7" to check. But anyway, the whole sound is fucking rockingly awesome. It's got a driving power that is coupled with weaving guitar melodies and pummeling power in all the right places. The whole thing rocks my world and I've listened to this so many times it's become an old favorite already. As a side note, they're got a new recording already - so keep your eyes open for more from this rad band! (Satan's Pimp/PO Box 13141/Reno NV 89507 and Black Mot/PO Box 2771/Reno NV 89505) \*\*\*\*\* (Chris)

**VALSE TRISTE - TURHA RUOKKIA RUUMIITA CD** Blasting, crazy, traditional Finnish hardcore, much along the lines Terveet Kadet. Fast, brutal pummeling guitars, drums and bass with intense growling vocals. There are 21 songs on this disc and my only complaint with stuff like this kind of thrash core is that it just gets so damn repetitive. But I did enjoy this CD and I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys some fine Finnish or Swedish hardcore. (Beth) (Solardisk/Box 50/90251 Oulu Finland)

**VIETNAM SYNDROME - KILL THE BLANKS 7"** The first song on this 7" is a mix of a slow punk song then goes into a faster mid paced hardcore song about the government keeping us down and divided through class issues. The second song is an acoustic song about a woman being beaten by her husband and then him leaving her to raise their kid on her own (Lets be fair to the men thought. I feel its very important to not forget many women leave their husbands and their kids behind to) Its sung from the child's point of view. The third and final song reminds me of a Black Flag 'Rollins' era song. This song is called white lies and deals with the issue that America is set up for wealthy European people and they are the ones treated well. That any other culture gets screwed if they aren't white and European. henceforth the title White Lies. Meaning this is not truly the land of the free and home of the brave. Pretty well done 7" both musically and lyrical content. Plus mixing the different styles was refreshing to. (Ding Dong Ditch/ P.O.B. 2409/Kalamazoo, MI 49003-2409) (-NA)

**VIOLENT HEADACHE - BOMBS OF CRUST/FALSE TERMINAL CD** This Spanish band ranges from power violence to crust and remains consistently powerful. There are deep male vocals complimented by great high pitch female vocals, but that's only for the first part of the recording. As the CD goes on (it's +70 min, 71 songs) the high pitched female vocals are replaced with a male screamer. It's good but not as good as the beginning of the CD. This is good shit, if you can handle it. (Jay) (Six Weeks/

225 Lincoln Ave/Cotati CA 94931)  
**VOORHEES - FIREPROOF 7"** They play power tough hardcore - inspired by the likes of mid-80s Boston and NYHC. With a heavy metallic guitar sound and super gruff deep vocals. It's got that power-packed moshcore feeling. While so many of the elements that I like are here, and they are good - I think I just expected to be more into this. Too much-metal maybe or maybe I'm turned off by the "more violence in hardcore" title. They've got a Negative Approach cover and 3 new songs. (Chainsaw Safety/PO Box 260318/Bellerose NY 11426-0318) (-Chris)  
**VULGAR PIGEONS - ST 7"** Frantic grindcore with occasional guttural vocal undertones to accentuate the vocalists' screams. This is well written, played and recorded, but there a BENUMB side project so you have to assume they know what there doing. So if your into tight grindcore you'll probably want to pick this up, because the only disappointing about this was the exclusion of a lyric sheet. (Jay) (Nonsense/PO Box 381143/Clinton twp. MI 48038-0077)

**WAIFLE - AND THE BLOOD WILL COME DOWN LIKE A CURTAIN CD** Waifle is a band that I've been really into this past year - listening to and enjoying their music, compassion and DIY attitude a whole lot. This is the latest recording and though it's only 4 songs - but they're awesome! Their emo hardcore style takes the heavy layered complex style further with this new stuff with much less of the mello emo parts but still a really great blend. This starts off reminding me of His Hero is Gone a bit (though not in a clone way) but in the way that this throbs with dense power and layering. It has a very triumphant euphoric overtone that feels very victorious. The vocals are deep, gruff and guttural and blend with the music really well adding depth and an overall fullness. They've got an abrasive discordant edge that rocks and is held together by wonderful guitar melodies. Waifle fucking rock my world! This comes in a nice package too - a thin jewelcase with a really nicely printed graphic booklet which then fits into a cardboard cut cover (which is then in a little plastic baggie!) Thumbs up on the design and a huge hooray for such a great band from Virginia!!! (Magic Bullet Record Co/2005 Monitor Drive/Stafford VA 22554) It should also be noted that their last full length (which I reviewed on CD) is also available on LP and it comes with a huge booklet of inspired writing. The record itself is assembled in a thick cardboard sleeve with a translucent over wrap - once again Waifle get high praise for their design efforts. And I'm so excited by a band like this who creates wonderful music - blending urgent heavy hardcore with feelings, emotion and compassion. The booklet is an awesome collection of ideas and dedication and so very much worth the time and support!!! Waifle are inspiring and give me hope! (The LP is available from Magister Ludi Records/PO Box 470112/Tulsa OK 47174) \*\*\*\*\* (Chris)

**WALTER - "NEED WE SAY MORE" CASS** Canada's answer to Operation Ivy. Need I say more? No. (Jay) (En Guard Productions/ 19, Des Rotelets/ St. Basile (Quebec) J3N 1S4 Canada)

**WHERE FEAR AND WEAPONS MEET - THE WEAPONS CD** Chris said this was right up my alley and man was she right! This brings me back to the good old days when you tried to figure out the lyrics so the next time you listen to it you can sing aloud to it, which I don't really do, but this record gave me goose bumps! This is one of the best records I've heard this year! Finally Rev has put out something I like and will listen to over and over again! Drums and bass intros? What the hell I thought this died years ago man am I glad this is coming back into style or that people are just remembering when music could have a good message and be fun to listen to and dance to at the same time and to top it off they're from the south hell yeah!!! (Revelation Records/PO Box 5232/Huntington Beach CA 92615-5232) (-Beau)

**YANKEEWISS - It Is A Dark Time For Rebellion 7"** Their name says it all. It fits them perfectly and their style of politically sarcastic punk. Clean intro, with vocals ranging from screams to off key singing in an almost cracking voice. This brings to mind bands like 15 or CRIMPSPHINE, but it has a little of a harder edge to it. Not really my thing, but it may be yours. (Jay) (Yankeewuss/3639 NE 78th Portland OR 97213)

**YODA - DA GORAR - TAPE** In all of the Argentinean zines I get - I see a lot about this band Yoda. So finally I got to hear them and I love them! They play awesome high energy, upbeat hardcore with youth-crew type chorus and a very distinct lead vocals that are kinda high-pitched and very youthful sounding. The music rages with energetic, punchy power, deep back up vocals and this is relentless in punchy, chugga, non-stop driving energy the whole way through. Awesome stuff! (\$5ppd/ AMP Discos/PO Box 3893/1000 Buenos Aires/ Argentina) \*\*\* (Chris)

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Beer City is a non corporate skater owned D.I.Y. company.

# GREG LUTZKA

HE LIVES IN MILWAUKEE

HE'S 14 YEARS OLD

HE'S OUR NEWEST  
TEAM RIDER

# HE RIPS

BEER CITY SKATEBOARDS & RECORDS  
P.O. BOX 26035 MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN 53226-0035  
(414) 257-1511 / FAX (414) 257-1517  
<http://www.beercity.com>

Skaters if your local shop is trying to sell you a generic shop deck or some lame inferior imitation brand and wont carry Beer City you can buy direct from us! WE ACCEPT VISA/MASTERCARD!! JUST CALL STORES want to start carrying Beer City in your store give us a call.

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Photo's by:  
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Asbestos "Anti-capital" LP \$7.50

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Crossed Out "Discography" CD \$12

Crucifix "Dehumanization" CD \$12 (official reprod)

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Crucifix "Exhibit A" LP \$8.50

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Damned "Rise and Fall" LP \$8.50

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Malignant Tumor/Dead Infection 7" \$5

Malignant Tumor/Dead Infection 7" \$5

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