

PUNK, HARDCORE AND METAL - THE SCUM ALSO RISES

Vol. 4 - #3 Issue 21 - April / May 2008

Absolutely FREE

U ABSOLUTE UNDERGROUND

SXSW MONSTER ISSUE

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GG ELVIS

HIGH ON FIRE

NAPALM DEATH

MUNICIPAL WASTE

THE CUTE LEPERS

BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA

TEENAGE BOTTLE ROCKET

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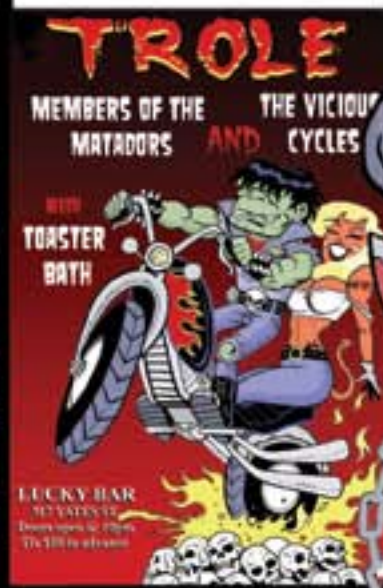
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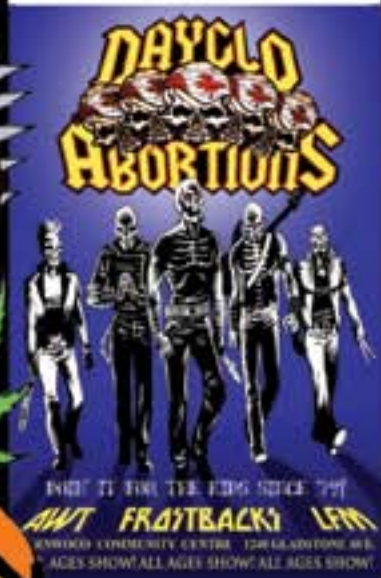
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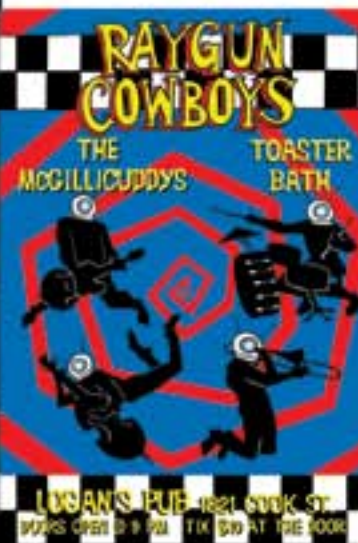
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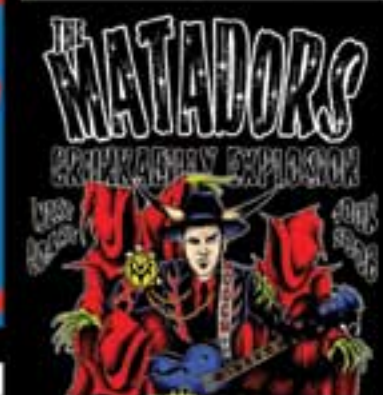
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Extra special thanks to all the people who helped transcribe the ungodly amount of SXSW interviews, close to 30, this issue. I really do appreciate it beyond words. Thanks so much, I owe you all bigtimes!

Co-Published by Ira Hunter and Willy Jak

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ABSOLUTE UNDERGROUND

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**NEXT ISSUE ... THE CROWD, SWINGIN' UTTERS,
RUINER, DEATH ANGEL
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Tearing shit up on a regular basis is what these cats are all about. The performance these dudes put on is nothing short of mind blowing. From start to finish its like lighting the fuse of a bomb

LOCALS ONLY

and seeing if you can finish your set before it hits the gunpowder and you're blown to smithereens. This type of assault on the ears is certainly not for everyone, but for anyone looking for something a little different, these gents are certainly trailblazing. They have just released their first Self Titled Demo EP, 8 tracks & 2 samples, clocking in around 12 minutes. Get your hands on it - The intensity is cranked and everyone is dialed in, so buckle up - things are about to get a little hectic.

AU: So Hierophant, lots of modern day references in video games & movies, but in general, is usually said to mean "an interpreter of sacred mysteries and arcane principles" where did you get the name from?

Nick: Colin picked the name because I think it sounds kinda mysterious and deadly-like.

Colin: I liked it because its open to interpretation.

AU: Describe your music for those not lucky enough to have seen you guys perform yet.

Nick: It's like if Converge was hanging out with Discordance Axis and they both started doing keg stands at some party.

Colin: Lovemaking music. Sensual.

AU: Is this more of a concept band, I know you are

involved in another band, Mitochondrion, who are releasing a CD of Black/Death/Doom Metal & this is a bit more on the Grindcore/Crust level, what interests you in this type of lunacy?

Nick: I've always been into heavy music in general. I have just as many grindcore CDs as I do death metal or black metal (possibly more). Heavy can be associated with different styles, I don't believe it flows in one specific direction. Mitochondrion has evolved into a very esoterically approached animal, just ask Nick Yanchuck or Shawn about that. Hierophant, while

a serious band, allows a lot more legroom. Also a large difference is my role in the band. Instead of bass I'm a front man. I had always wanted to be able to say my own piece but the message wouldn't have fit within the confines of the black/death genre. It was perfect when Jason, Colin and Leo asked me to be in this band because all my lyrical ideas would have gone to waste. Plus screaming is a lot of fun.

Colin: When I first got into listening to harsh shit, this is the kind of band I always wanted to get started.

AU: I was hoping a lyrics sheet would be included in the Demo, I was wrong. Tell me a little about the songs, where they're coming from, what they're about...

Nick: All of the songs have lyrics on the myspace. We just forgot to include a lot of them in the demos which were printed very last minute. Basically the lyrics deal with the social body. Various topics include: the post 9/11 world, artists with zero substance, societal guilt, free will, the struggle of immigrants to a new culture, and the assurance of oppressors falling beneath the waves of the ocean.

AU: So your dreaming, it's a packed [insert venue here], Hierophant is opening a show featuring...

Nick: Any venue where we aren't playing on some confining stage, just on the floor. Converge would be playing. Along with a somehow re-united Creation is Crucifixion, maybe our pals in Graf Orlock too...

Colin: A packed Tokyo stadium with Beyonce and M.I.A. I think it would go over pretty well hahaha.

AU: How exactly do you maintain your voice, to the extent that you can actually perform a live set, it seems like an anomaly to me, like it shouldn't be possible.

Nick: Originally my voice was a lot deeper for the band. The guys pushed me higher and higher on the vocal scale. I found it much more suiting. I'm not exactly sure how I emit this crazy stuff coming out of my throat. I try to drink lots of liquids and make sure I get plenty of rest before I'm about to tear the old chords out.

AU: Best & worst things about being in Victoria?

Nick: A pretty good scene, no one has really really serious beef with each other. There are minor spats but nothing like I've heard about elsewhere. The worst has to be the fact that it's an island and a lot of other touring bands are scared to travel over. Sucks.

Colin: Yeah, Victoria exists in its own little bubble. Its cool in some ways but we don't get a lot of sweet action like the bigger cities do.

AU: Anything to say to the douchebags who come out and start fights and problems at shows?

Nick: Just stop and think. Think about the integrity of the local music scene. It thrives when we all get along and don't mess each other up. If you want to see some mind-blowing music develop in your backyard, just take it easy and leave the over-aggression at home.

Leo: Hang yourselves :)

AU: What types of Literature are you occupying your time with at the moment?

Nick: Derrick Jensen - Endgame Vol. 1 & 2

Colin: William L. Rowe - God and the Problem of Evil

AU: How long have you been a band? What do you guys all do aside from being in the band?

Nick: We started last year sometime. Right now I'm between jobs. Employers: hire me because I'm nice.

Colin: GHOSTS... living vicariously through Michaud's European questing.

Leo: Sailor's Blood! and a pop punk band.

AU: Last words for the kiddies?

Nick: We're playing April 26th in Victoria at Camas books with some other neat bands. Be there!

www.myspace.com/hierophant666

"Sounds like someone is in labor"

**Interview with Nick Gibas-Vocals
- Colin Stewart-Bass - Leo-Guitars**
by Pauly Hardcore

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by Emily Kendy

Since no one felt it worth their while to show up for the interview other than James, who looks a little like a backwoods version of Philip Seymour Hoffman, it's only fair to forewarn that the singer/guitarist's opinions are not necessarily the views of the whole band. But it's understandable that only one member was able to fit the interview into his hectic schedule. What with having a manager and being featured in the Georgia Straight it's obvious they are huge rock stars now and are accordingly pressed for time. I'm sure – besides James – the rest of the members of Bison don't get out of bed for anything less than a supermodel's wage. Or at least rent.

He arrives at a little Main Street watering hole on a particular chilly night, an easily recognizable member of the metal band with his scraggly beard and truckers cap. After ordering a beer the musician sits at the outside table, pulling out a pack of smokes with a happy-go-lucky look on his face. James obviously does not remember the interview we did together many years ago during S.T.R.E.E.T.S. heyday, which led to road sodas, debauchery at the Cobalt and his following me home at the end of the night and passing out in my bed because "he needed a place to crash." When I remind him of this he looks appropriately chagrined and says, "That's an embarrassing start to the interview."

We talk Bison to break the ice. For example, did he know that there are over 200,000 Bison in Canada? "Yes, actually I heard the numbers were doing well," he replies. Asked if this massive amount of competition makes him nervous, he only laughs – albeit nervously. Did he also know that the FDA recently approved cloned meat as acceptable for consumers? "I haven't," he says. "That terrifies me." Is he relieved to know that the National Bison Association has refused to clone Bison meat? "Yeah, really? That's good. I heard that if you meet yourself you're supposed to explode." Has the band ever considered playing the NBA's annual conferences? "Is this what this interview is going to be like?" he asks, suddenly sounding very tired,

as if he got out of bed this morning for less than his usual quota. "I could be playing with my dog right now."

Bison is the darling of Vancouver's sputtering metal scene. With big giant riffs, indulgent shredding and the occasional mention of Lord of the Rings type shit their music has been labelled everything from bendy thunder ("It would elude to the bending of the sound of thunder," suggests James) to fist-to-nuts ferocity ("When I see a band that I really like, I just start pounding myself in the nuts because it may be too much to handle?" he offers, looking vaguely confused). For the guitarist the one metaphor that has truly stumped him was the headline on their Straight article.

"See that's strange you bring that up," he says. "When I read 'bygone metal' I didn't really know what that

meant. To me the term means metal that has come and gone. I would like to think our music is new and refreshing. God, I hope so. I mean thank-you to the Georgia Straight but maybe they don't know what the term means? Or else they just secretly hate us."

Nah, the newspaper loves to hop on board everything popular and these days it seems everyone's partying on Bison's chuck wagon. They were recently the opening act for the Circle Jerks at Vancouver's Commodore Ballroom. No small gig-feat for any local act, even if they weren't the first choice.

"That show was a very last minute vibe," says James, shrugging off the opinion that the show was uninspired. "We were on our way to band practice and we went to the Commodore instead, it was that last minute."

Because the original opening act was unable to get over the border, from an audience stand point Bison's fill showcased an awkward night of music that went from droning metal to snoring punk. "I still think of Bison as a punk band," James insists, though he admits that the type of music they're playing is more open with fewer limits. "It's loud and heavy and there are a lot of metal influences for sure. There's a certain energy that's different than punk."

This energy, he explains, comes from maturity. Bison is overall more thoughtful than James' previous bands. While he says the writing isn't necessarily more complicated Bison has been putting more stock into technical proficiency. These days they care about the

MAINLAND MAYHEM

songs being tight and the individual parts being as near to perfect as possible.

"It's not as much about getting drunk, playing and knocking shit over," he says. "It's about delivering a performance that sounds like the songs are supposed to sound like."

But despite the clever song writing that comes with Bison, punk rock is very much still a part of James' outlook, as it was ultimately the music that drew him in when he first started to discover bands as a kid. "The cheesy angst – it seemed very honest and energetic, which is a huge part of the music I've chosen to play."

There are three other members of the band. Brad MacKinnon plays drums and is James' roommate that, up until recently, had never seen a Rambo movie – much to James' horror who has since forced Brad to watch First Blood and First Blood II. "They're so fucking deep," he says. Masa Anzia is the bassist and an accomplished jazz musician and Saxophone player. Dan And is also the guitarist and apparently a big fan of BBQ sauce. "He puts it on everything," says James. "I don't get it."

They are currently working on a follow-up to their debut album, Earthbound, which was recorded at The Hive with Jesse Gander and will be once again for the sophomore effort.

"We're feeling very passionate," says James, in response to whether he gets tired of trying to be heard. "It's not trying; it's doing something that comes very naturally. It's trying to make music that we enjoy and if other people happen to enjoy it that's awesome. I don't understand a musician who makes music ultimately for other people to enjoy."

Despite the self-interested attitude he willingly admits that he still wants to make a living off of being in a band, he just wants to make sure it's for all the right reasons. "I believe there's an ethical way to make a living off of your art. You make the right decisions and surround yourself with the right people. The idea is that you get enough people to help you out so that at the end of it, all I have to do is write tunes because that's really all I can do."

(Bison will be playing April 7th with Three Inches of Blood and Toxic Holocaust at Vancouver's Richards on Richards, and Victoria's Sugar on April 18th, with TIOB and Himsa. For more information on the band go to www.myspace.com/bisoneastvan)



420 Issue!!!

MARC EMERY

THE PRINCE OF POTLITICS: PART 1

- The Seedling

by Iree-I

In celebration of 420 this year, I headed down to the newly renovated Cannabis Culture and BC Marijuana Party activity centre with my Mom to say high to controversial Chronic Crusader, Marc Emery.

During the lengthy interview and in between several spliffs, bongs, and gaggers, Emery eloquently and casually states when I mention turning my comic book, Hemp Island into a movie, "I'll be one of your participates. As long as I'm not on my own Hemp Island... like Rikers Island!"

We all hope so too Marc. Keep fighting the good fight. We'll keep the home fires burning.

Hemp Hero, Marijuana Martyr, Ganja Guardian, entrepreneur, hedonist, political activist, he is all these things and more, but most importantly Marc Emery is still here!

AU: When did you smoke your first joint?

Marc Emery: I first got high December 21, 1980. I may have tried it earlier and didn't get off. I remember sitting around in 1973 at Mike Niederman's place at Waverly Place and we were all listening to Abbey Road. I remember starting to giggle and I must have picked up a contact high from everybody else passing these joints. I realized about six years later I must have been high; I just wasn't cognizant of it. I would have been 15 or 16 then. I was 22 when I was purposely high.

AU: Really? Kids today seem to be smoking earlier than that...

Marc: Yeah, well that's because they're exposed to it – but I actually didn't have anyone in my social circle that smoked it much, so it didn't come up. I did love all the stoner humour of the time, though. I bought Cheech and Chong's Big Bambu album, with the 12 inch square rolling paper, in 1972. I was only 14 then. I loved the Freak Brothers comics and collected all of them, so I loved drug humour. Drugs looked like fun, but I was already having a lot of fun so it didn't occur to me that I needed drugs to have more fun. I discovered comics at 11 so that was good for about seven years of fun. Then I discovered sex, which was

definitely good for a few years of fun. I had more mortal concerns like making money, getting laid, my business. When I discovered pot later that was a total bonus.

AU: What was your first business?

Marc: From 1971 to 1975 I had a vintage comic business. I had about 35,000 comic books in stock when I sold it.

AU: And you were just a kid?

Marc: Yeah, but that's a good time to do it – it turns something you love into a business process, so I became good at that and made a lot money. In fact by the time 1973 rolls around I was making more money than my dad, at \$400 a week. He was making that at the factory. So he started charging me room and board when I'm 14 'cause he figures I ought to kick in if I'm making what he's making. So that was an interesting lesson in discovering what overhead was.

AU: So you've always been an entrepreneur?

Marc: Oh yeah. Nobody in my family actually handled money. I come from a British working class family where everybody works in factories and always has worked in factories.

AU: You didn't want to do that too, I'm guessing?

Marc: It never occurred to me to do that 'cause my dad said I was not going to live like he did. He turned out to be the greatest guy I ever knew.

AU: When did you first get involved as an activist?

Marc: I first ran for the Libertarian party in 1980, for the federal government. I got 198 votes in London, Ontario's East Riding. I had been working with the NDP in the 1979 election and that's when I saw these Libertarian candidates and listened to them. Later read Ayn Rand in my back yard and went through a major conversion.

AU: What was the book called?

Marc: Capitalism and the Unknown Ideal. After that I read Atlas Shrugged and The Fountainhead and that kind of sealed the deal. In fact, I thought Atlas Shrugged and The Fountainhead were so cool I began to want to model my life on those characters, which I've kind of been doing ever since. So I'm the Howard Roark of the post-comic book, post-Industrial political era here.

AU: What did you think when you first read Jack Herer's book The Emperor Wears No Clothes?

Marc: Well, that was great, I read that. I brought Jello Biafra to London, Ontario in 1990 for a spoken word concert. Part of the three hour show is this segment called 'Grow More Pot.' He goes on about how he doesn't

smoke pot but that we need to grow more pot and basically talking about Jack Herer's book The Emperor Wears No Clothes. So when he mentions it I checked around and found out the book was unavailable in Canada. That's when I discovered all the books about cannabis were banned in Canada. There's none of them, no High Times, nothing. And I'm a bookseller, right? So I did some research and found that two years earlier they'd passed a law banning them all. I'm shocked, so I go and buy those books. I first buy a big ad selling my copy of The Emperor Wears No Clothes, you know? Like, come and charge me!

AU: Did they?

Marc: Well, we get these books and sell lots of them and don't get charged and I'm thinking okay and we start bringing in shipments of grow guides and High Times and we're getting pretty obvious. I've got a whole section of my store dedicated to growing marijuana. I figure they're coming to get me now but they don't. I do a variety of things; give them away in front of City Hall and the police department. I have huge rallies and they still don't charge us.

AU: But they did charge you, eventually?

Marc: What happened was that, in 1992 in East York of Toronto, a bunch of cops go and arrest these kids as dealers who are selling joints. Well, we're really annoyed at this so we go out and give pamphlets to the kids as their walking into school and it's a classic pamphlet that is a list of ten facts every parent, teacher and kid should know about marijuana, which undoes the myths. The cops charge us for giving out illicit drug literature. It was what I hoped would happen. The judge is like, 'aw there's a law against literature being given out to students about something they're getting arrested for? That's a bit extreme.' The judge said it was too illegal and at that point it all became legal. But we didn't get that court decision until mid-1995 by Judge J. Allen McDonald in Ontario Superior Court. Since that time that's been the law, because you can't ban just out and out information.

AU: So you just pushed the buttons until they...

Marc: Yeah, until we got that one changed. I thought the cannabis regulations would fall in five years too but it's taking a lot longer.

AU: You're still fighting the fight?

Marc: You always have to fight the fight, it's eternal. You better love the struggle. You can't get into this realm if you don't like the struggle. You have to have a very workman-like, positive attitude about it as well, like you're in the Army and it's a lifetime recruitment and you've been drafted

permanently so this is what you do. It's not a matter of wining or losing the war, it's about winning a losing battle. Because as soon as they make pot legal there's going to be some crazy person like a prohibitionist who's going to want to make it illegal again. Like you can't smoke and drive, or have kids and smoke. You know, those subversive ways they try to put you in jail without saying they're trying to punish you for your lifestyle. That's how they justify taking away all your rights; it's not you we're trying to protect but your neighbour. All of that sounds like a reasonably good idea on the surface but the cool thing about being alive is making your own fuck-ups.

AU: What about the one in the States where they're going to use Nanobots to test your toilet waste coming from your house for drugs?

Marc: Really? I'm not surprised, that's a spectacularly forward thinking degree of Fascism. Well hello Brave New World...

AU: Is it true that you never cough when you smoke weed?

Marc: Oh God, no. Maybe if the weed is bad or I've developed a cold.

In my well-known bit I did with the Trailer Park Boys, Ricky comes in and says, 'Oh, I can't believe we're gonna have a bong hit with the Prince of Pot, Marc Emery. How'd you get to be the President of the BC Marijuana Party?' and I say, 'They give a call out to every man in BC once a year and whoever takes the biggest bong hit without coughing gets to be the president for a year. I've been president for three years.' Then I get this big Canucks bong that's got the Canucks logo and it's playing on the Jumbotron at BC Place, right? I hit the bong and out comes a massive cloud. Then the director got me to do it nine times, filmed differently. So the actual bong hit lasts like 45 seconds. It's really clever how he did it but afterwards, I had to go lie down.

To be continued next issue... Jah Love!

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"CARNIVAL of SKIN"

Tattooing has staggered out of the back alley shops into the sobering light of day to gain respectability and in turn, massive popularity. Body modification is a powerful tool used for self expression. It changes lives and creates individuality.



AU: What is "Carnival of Skin"?

An unconventional-convention designed to bring body mod enthusiasts together to celebrate the hottest art on the planet. Enthusiasts travel far and wide to get more ink from their tattooist. We are offering a place for people to meet and appreciate the variety of different artists and styles that represent a new approach to this sacred art form. This is a place to meet lots of other Tattoo collectors, learn something important about the health issues associated with body mods and to be a part of a new wave of underground events coming to the Island. This is a show created for the "alternative lifestyle" people hosted by "alternative lifestyle" people.

AU: Where and when is it taking place?

Beban Park, 2300 Bowen road. In the main auditorium of the Nanaimo exhibition grounds.

Sunday May 11th 10am-10pm.

AU: How much will it cost?

Advance tickets are only \$10 with a chance to win a tattoo. It's gonna be \$20 at the door.

We are keeping the cost low so people can afford to party with us.

AU: Tell us about the company We Are Canadian Productions? What is their main goal?

WACP is a group of volunteers who have come together to create a fund raising forum for entertainment, education and community support. Our goal is to bring Canadian alternative artists to the forefront in the media and the marketplace.

AU: Who is managing this project?

Our manager is a trained event planner with 10 years of experience in the field of fund-raising. Krissi-Steele is the name that was given to her by the Piercer that she apprenticed under many years ago. She pierced for a few years in Quebec and realized her greatest strength was throwing good parties to promote others.

AU: How long has your group wanted to put on a tattoo convention on Vancouver Island?

This new school show has been under development for many years. This past year has seen the crew putting things together to host its first show on the Island. Having been a part of numerous other events in Vancouver and Quebec, we have gained

enough experience to have the confidence to create something for the mid Island. We offer the Island a place to come for small town, big thrills!

AU: What about the recent explosion in the popularity of tattooing, which used to be an underground or alternative lifestyle thing.

It is a wonderful art form to bring into the limelight because there are so many talented artists out there who deserve our respect and admiration.

AU: What sort of things are planned for this event?

Lots of fun stuff! On-site tattooing, piercing, henna, flash-art contest, dance contest, custom chopper, Bod mod & 50's pin up style photography, goth clothing, jewelry, custom leather, face painting and stuff for the kids.

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AU: Are there going to be bands playing?

We have local groups; SubWay, The Dastardlies, The White Board Project and Cottonmouth Jones playing during the event.

AU: Any other cool booths or vendors?

The charismatic piercer for the event is Russ Foxx, founder of "Modern Body Suspension".

Also Vancouver Custom Choppers, Van Ink, Flaming Angels, and way more!

AU: Is this going to be an annual event?

You bet!

AU: Final words?

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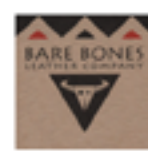
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BEYOND POSSESSION

CALGARY CARNAGE

Former Beyond Possession Bassist talks bout the old days his new band, Buffalo Super Charger

Jamie Kenney, kick ass bassist from the legendary Calgary band, BEYOND POSSESSION has seen it all. From breaking down the long standing animosity between headbangers and skateboarders in the bands former incarnation of WHITE NOISE to being ultimately destroyed by false hopes from a major label who didn't come through with promises to put the band on the scale they deserved, Jamie blazed the path that numerous bands such as CORROSION OF CONFORMITY, DRI and AGNOSTIC FRONT were able to cash in on for years down the road. With his blazing, percussive machine gun bass style Jamie laid down the most solid rhythms ever heard in what combined the speed and ferocity of punk rock and the technique and heaviness of metal in a brand new style of music called crossover.

AU: You are James Kenney, formerly of WHITE NOISE and BEYOND POSSESSION, two of the most influential bands to come out of Calgary. What was it about WHITE NOISE that was a uniting force between the skaters and bangers of the early '80s?

JK: I guess it was the music. We had well written, well structured songs for the time. Ron Hadley sang in the band Riot 303 and had a good following coming into White Noise, and despite listening to a lot of punk rock I played more rock style Bass.

AU: From a young kids perspective at the time not only did you guys shred but you were always so approachable and open to your local fanbase. Soon the band would evolve to its next incarnation. When did you adopt the name BEYOND POSSESSION and what were the membership changes?

JK: Brent Beatty the drummer at the time left the band for a girl. We replaced him with Phil Pobran. Shortly after that one of the 2 guitar players we had, Jon Heibert, left the band over musical differences. When the 4 of us remained we changed our name to Beyond Possession. Phil Pobran came up with the name and concept and I came up with the skull and swords logo so popular today.

AU: The new name and the graphics scared the shit out of everyone and made us proud to be from Calgary. When the BEYOND POSSESSION 7 inch "Tell Tale Heart" came out in summer '85 what kind of attention did the band get from Thrasher magazine and when did the touring to the west coast start?

JK: Mofo, who was the photog from Thrasher and the singer from DRUNK INJUNZ did the cover art for the forthcoming Metal Blade 12". We recorded some songs for Skate Rock Volume 3, "Wild Riders of Boards" and they also took 500 of the Tell Tale Heart EP's and gave them to the first 500 new subscription to Thrasher Magazine so there was huge promotion right there. The also had us play the annual Skate Rock concert with Christ on Parade, Septic Death, Accused, Slam, COC and Gang Green. about 5000 people showed up to a show at this place called The Farm and it was insane.

AU: Supporting the '86 release of the 12" Metal Blade release "Beyond Possession IS Beyond Possession" the band toured through San Francisco and ended up staying there much longer than originally planned. What kept the band in SF for so long and what kind of people were showing up for the BP gigs?

JK: It was kinda funny but not really. After playing Bakersfield with our bro's THE MELVINS our van broke down on the road and we called up Bomber, the drummer from RKL, to rescue us and our gear. He came and got us and all our gear took us to the show, and after loaded us up and dropped it off at the DRI rehearsal space where I thought we would never see it again. It was a sketchy scene but we had to stay and wait for the van to get fixed and it all worked out cool. As for the fans, we had long hairs, punk rockers, hippies, metal heads, skin heads, and skaters all showing up to the shows. Our music was crossover before the likes of DRI and others. We broke a lot of barriers down between the 2 crowds that really liked the same type of music but just hadn't realized it before then.

AU: Poor Bomber and Jason, RIP. So BP continued the tour through the mid-west states and one of the final dates was in Minneapolis where you opened for Twin Tone Records big shots SOUL ASYLUM. What kind of reaction did you guys get from the crowd, SOUL ASYLUM and the A&R guys in attendance?

JK: Soul Asylum were pissed!. They saw us play and freaked out. They were playing their home town, they wanted to booze it up, and party down and then their label brings these Canadian assholes that win over the crowd and totally raise the bar for their upcoming set which for ~some reason~ they didn't appreciate!

AU: After concluding the tour, BP set up a big show at the



Photo by Cheryl Mucha

Victoria Park Community Center in Calgary where the label reps from Twin Tone were to be in attendance for what was supposed to a finalization for a record deal. What transpired at this show and what was the outcome for BP'S label hopes and the overall future of the band?

JK: After the Twin Tone A&R guys saw our set in Minny, those guys were pumped. To give them a taste of our local fan following, we set up a big show up at the Victoria Park Community Hall Centre to show case the band. It went nuts. What started as a means to demonstrate how dedicated BP's local following were to them ended up in a full fledged riot which scared the shit out of them. "Sorry guys", they said. They weren't half as sorry as we were. Subsequent attempts to return to Minny were met with more strict border policies which denied us our due rights.

AU: BP recorded a demo in '87 that was never released, why?

JK: It was a three song demo that we did at the Columbia School for Recording. We did it as a project for a sound guy we knew in trade for getting a demo out of it for free. Those were songs that were written just after the album was recorded. Those songs were killer. House next door, Taxi Driver and Reappearing Images.

AU: BP, after a 2 year hiatus, reformed with some new members and released a demo in '89 that showcased a different vocal style and a progression towards a more riff-rock inspired song list that stepped away from the more familiar blistering-paced crossover style that originally garnered the band so much attention. What were some of the more memorable shows and how long did BP continue to perform?

JK: After April '89 when our guitarist James Yauk and drummer Phil Pobran split, we recruited Calgary lokes Chocky and Chris to take over the vacancies. It was a good fit.

We weren't going to stop trying to keep the band going despite the untimely disappearance of our drummer prior to that. I had written enough new material to have a second full length almost right way. As I continued to write and develop my style Ron's voice just kind of naturally progressed into the music. But eventually the combined disappointment of missing out on the Twin Tone deal and the daily grind of us all working in order to fund our musical ventures resulted in a mutual agreement that we'd have to move on. We reformed in 96 and 97 for 8 reunion show I think. All fantastic. Melodyia records re-released Tell tale heart, The 12" and that 4 song Demo all on CD. Repossessed. That is another conversation though. We had an opportunity to start the whole band again and said that was enough. No more getting ripped off.

AU: So enough of the past. Currently you have the brand new, rock solid 4 piece, SUPER CHARGER BUFFALO. I was at your recent 1st gig at The Underground with DOG FACED MODELS and EPI-DEMIC and got to check out the results of what obviously took you guys a lot of time and effort to nail down. Who are the guys in the new band and what did they each bring to the table as far as shaping the over all direction you see yourselves going?

JK: I am back with Bruce Welsh on drums whom I played with in the Thatchers. We have been playing together for almost 2 years. We found this great singer John Statton who answered a FFWD ad for singer. He joined the band before he even heard us. We were doing a project called Snapperhead that recently ended when the

guitar player left for musical differences. We hired in Rev on guitar. An old friend of Bruce's and an old school scene guy. We have been busting our asses rehearsing, writing and developing this sound. Bruce brings an awesome articulate out look to music. Him and I work really well together with all the little intricacies and dynamic that I bring to the Bass. John has this great vocal range. His power and sustain add a layer to the music as an instrument of it's own. And Rev, that guy has a natural ability to listen, learn and play. He is a well rounded experienced guitar player. All of the guys bring a certain maturity and originality that makes this band what it is. I am happy to have found all of them. As for the direction I don't think we can be compared to any other band and I like that. We have a sound and a style that has developed through my desire to continue writing and playing original music. We have the best guys around to collaborate with and keep the philosophy true. I think that we can reach a wide range of musical tastes that may allow us to play various venues with various bands. The reward for us is seeing the fans come out and enjoy the sound. We are honest about what we are doing and I think that comes through in the presentation. We want to start doing more shows this spring and just go with the flow. None of us are packing our bags looking to hit the road but we are certainly pumped up about getting this music out there. We are currently working with some promoters right now who are interested in seeing this band on stage.

AU: When can we get our hands on some new tunes and how about some contact info and upcoming shows?

JK: We haven't done any formal recording with this line up so far. I have a rehearsal studio in my home that we have done some digital recording but that it. We really want to get some shows under our belt so we can bring the live feel and energy to the mix. Until then, whenever we play you will get the real deal so when you hear the recording you know that's us. We have a show booked April 18th at the Stetson in Calgary but in the meantime we are gonna keep rehearsing until more opportunity arises.

AU: Thanks Jamie, great to see you back in there.

JK: Thanks I appreciate the opportunity to speak to the past, present and future. Hopefully I have answered some questions that people may have wondered about. I'm also very re-energized with this new band and hope to bring more great music to the people in the future. Cheers

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You Are What You Think

By Kristin

I must admit when I sat down with The Duped, that I had some ideas about them that were completely off.

I thought that they were a little didactic because they have something solid to say which is true and definitely not a bad thing but they have no intention of pushing their opinions. If it speaks to you and it makes sense then you're on the same page, if not, that's your own prerogative. I must get across that there's no message here. They all write what comes out of them and I think that's the kind of integrity we should all seek out in music. No recipe or guidelines to adhere to, just heart.

They came together circa 2005 via a FFWD classified commissioned by two members who are no longer a part of the band. Dineke (Dink) pronounced dee-ni-ka and Ryan who had just moved to Calgary, answered the call. Dink hadn't any past experience with singing but always had a fondness for it while Ryan had been



playing guitar for years, came together with two seasoned musicians. As time went by, the other two would become disinterested save for Dink and Ryan who held fast. The bassist and drummer position were difficult to fill but at this point they feel like it's the strongest they've ever been. Mark was drawn to the band by Dink, his partner in crime. He stepped in after a second bassist hit the dirt; he has since become an integral part of the band. Bart from Anti-social Club, a veteran Calgary band, had his sights set on The Duped and when their last drummer took a walk he was there to claim his throne. As luck & turnaround will have it they have found a good mix of people with the same values.

The first show they ever played they weren't The Duped, they had been pre-named by one of the former members as Radio Babylon which didn't sit well with Dineke or Ryan. When the father of the name left the band, they improved it making them Suiciety which better suited them but unfortunately ended up being taken by another band. I think it might even be taken by more than



one band not surprisingly as it does have a nice ring to it. Disappointed and despaired at the loss of the name they finally came to The Duped simply because that's the way they felt and lucky for them, no one had laid claim to it.

As for the future The Duped hope to tour the West, being on the road is crucial for them. Some of their best memories spawn from a tour out West where they notably played Pub 340. This watering hole stuck out for them, the crowd was a good size and participatory which for a new band touring was encouraging. To top it all off

Chi Pig drew a portrait of Dink as they sat at the bar together. I'm told it's kicking around somewhere; she gave it to a friend / SNFU fan. In April the Duped go in to record their full length album with Greg Perrott who recorded the demo that they released last year. They expect to have everything wrapped up and ready to go by early summer; they'll have CDs and vinyl.

For now you can hear some of their tunes on myspace or you can pick-up a CBC compilation (www.calgarybeercore.com) and turn that fucker to number 9.

www.myspace.com/theduped

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"Getting the Dose from Personality Crisis"

Interview w: Norman Simm [vocalist & founding member]

Interview by: Pauly Hardcore

Photo by: Zombie Jesus

A band that lasted 5 good years from 1980-85 have re-formed. Norm Simm is back & ready to throw down like it was 25 years ago only this time the lineup is a little different; joining Norm are Lance "I only need one leg to kick your ass" McKenzie-All guitars, Ted "Hardcore champ" Simm - Drums & Pam-demonium McKenzie- Goddess of Thunder on the Bass . This summer these hardcore punk rockers are taking their act on the road and nothing, they mean NOTHING is going to stop them from hitting BC this time, a First in their career. Catching up on Old times is always a blast and sets the tone for the future.

AU: So forming in the 80's must have been a fun time for punk rock and Hardcore hey?

Norm: When we started this shit in 1980 there was nothin' like this in the 'Peg. We dug the punk attitude but didn't relate to the English scene. The "West Coast" scene with bands like

DOA , Black Flag , Circle Jerks we're talkin' to us and they fuckin' rocked. Being punk was being an individual not a fashion statement. We felt like pioneers , part of a huge family of disgruntled kids pulling together from all over North America. My biggest regret in life is the day I left the band in 1985. Here's to second chances.

AU: Craziest story you can remember from the road?

N: Traveling with DOA back in 1985 from Olympia to Kansas. From the riot in Seattle when our show was shut down and the riot squad had to save the cops and fire dept cause the kids started flipping their vehicles over and throwing molotovs. To driving through the mountains to Denver and having bottlerocket/wet toilet paper battles on the highway. (I hope it was wet toilet paper) To walkin' off stage in Denver to protest the skins who wrecked the show and the punks got so charged up they turned and chased the skins out of the show. But the funniest moment for me was riding in DOA's van, Dave's driving

and ridin' shotgun , Joey starts having nightmares and talkin' in his sleep. He starts yellin' about wolves chasing him , so Dave and I broke into our best howling wolf imitations. We laughed for days. Sorry Joey had to say it. Crazy, maybe not, but it's burned into my memory forever.



AU: What spawned the reunion & reformation in 2006?

N: As I said it was over in 1985 but as I approached my 44th birthday in 2006 I was hanging with Lance McKenzie (guitars) enjoying a beer. We were chatting old times and I blurted that for birthday I wanted one more Unwanted set. Next thing you know the snowball became an avalanche , we recruited the best in the Peg ,

WRETCHED WINNIPEG

Ted Simm drums , Tbor on bass and Dug joined on guitars. The five of us hit the basement with tapes in hand . The media got interested. A killuh party/show to a soldout crowd and we said why stop lets keep it going. Some changes have transpired. Dug and Tbor split and we recruited Pam McKenzie on bass. But now we're writing new tunes, doing shows, a little touring, and hopefully a new release this year.

AU: Favorite story about Personality Crisis

N: Okay this takes place over several years , my girl at the time , no names please, was visiting Calgary and hanging with PC. When she returned I contracted the green drip. She swore she didn't and I being young and naive excepted that. A few years later I was rooming with Jon Card and Dwayne was over. We were talkin' funny bands stories when Jon starts talkin' about the time Richard was banging my ex-girlfriend on the coffee table at the manor in Calgary while they all watched through the window. So my favorite PC story is I got Richard's dose via my cheating girlfriend. That's Winnipeg, can't keep in your pants, keep it in your buddy's girlfriend.

AU: When can we expect a new album? I am also aware of your impending visit to Victoria this summer, been here before? excited?

N: We plan an EP at the least. A full release may not be possible this year. My time will be taxed as I am expecting my first child in Sept... Funny thing

about the Unwanted and BC shows... Of the five or so we booked over the years they all fell through on the road. Yes we have never played in BC , and nothing is gonna stop me this time . I don't care if I gotta set-up at a busker corner, I am gonna kick some serious ass like BC hasn't seen in a long time. But the plan is July 1st at the Cobalt , July 2nd Nanaimo and July 3rd through Clove & Anchor in Victoria. After that we will play anywhere in BC so step up folks!!

AU: What's the easiest way to get a hold of your music?

N: Come to the show , we will have our own bootleg with a selection of over 35 old school recordings and maybe a new EP. We are still old school independent DIY. No labels please.

AU: Awesome! What new bands have you heard recently that interested you?

N: Dog Faced Models, and Dry Fisted in Calgary are kickin' ass, check 'em out.

AU: Last words for the kiddies?

N: Just be yourself , don't follow , don't hate , do unto others as you would have them do to you. This planet is in trouble and change starts with you , peace love and understanding are a good place to start. These are not just words to me , I truly believe that the alternative community will be the ones to get the world back on track. POSITIVE!!

www.myspace.com/theunwanted2006



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SKSW 11

By Uncle Anus

The Rotten from Kitchener-Waterloo, have been rocking the Ontario scene for almost 10 years now without due recognition. Always professional, they never complain about being the small town band with the opening time slot at the big city shows. "It would be nice to play for a larger crowd at one of the later timeslots, but the kids who do come see us seem to like us," stated singer/guitarist Jan. Clearly an understatement, the kids seem to love it.

How many recordings do The Rotten have now?

Jan: Three, the first one was a 4 song cassette that is totally unavailable now, and then there were two full length recordings called Destroy This Wretched County and Circus of the Demented. We are just finishing up our new CD now called KWDP.

What are the new songs about?

Jan: Social issues, whether they are personal or global. I like to put a spin on the lyrics and play around with words to get people thinking.

What's the Kitchener scene like these days?

Jan: It's finally cool again. There was a few years back that all you could find was emo bands. That's all changing as promoters and clubs are re-opening their doors to the old school punk bands. No doubt it's all due to the one thing the emo bands can't help the bar do...sell LOTS of beer!

What is the bands poison of choice?

Jan, Ang (drums), and Sooley (Bass) in unison: Beer!

Brando (guitar): Heeeeeeey! Wait a minute! Bourbon!

Sooley: Ah Fuck! Bourbon is my absolutely least favorite drink! We played a show in Sudbury and I did a shot of Knob Creek and puked all over the bar!

The rest of the band laughing: That was a fun time!

Sooley: Yeah, right.



I've heard about The Rotten playing many shows for beer.

Sooley: Fuuuuck, that show we played at the Circus Room (Kitchener) were we were all so drunk we...

Jan: ...we couldn't even remember more than 5 songs in the set.

Ang: Doesn't that happen all the time?

The rest of the band: No!...well...

Tell us a crazy story.

Jan: Like what? How bout when we burned the dead goat? ...Then again, maybe not!

Are you kidding me?! AU readers have come to expect nothing less than the best! Tell us the dead goat story!

Jan: Ok, ok, ...We live on a farm in the country, and we HAD three goats named Blondie, Billy Idol, and Fetal. Billy was not doing so well and one morning we woke up to find him dead and frozen solid.

So what do you do with a frozen dead goat?

Jan: Well obviously you put it on the hood of your car and try to shock the locals. The rumors that were going around about the death of Billy Idol were fun too. Anyways, the next time we looked at Billy, another animal (or someone!) had taken his head. We found the jaw bone in the front yard the next day. So we stuffed the goat into a 50 gallon oil drum and lit it on fire. I have all the pictures with poor little Billy on fire with his frozen hoofs standing straight out of the steel drum.

Sooley: My favorite part of that story is, both you guys are vegetarians, and it just does not seem to be the vegetarian thing to do!

Jan: Well, we didn't eat it!

Ang: You have to understand, it had to be done. Wolves probably took Billy's head, and if we did not dispose of the carcass, they might return. We don't need wolves harassing the dogs or chickens!

Sooley: That reminds me of the chickens that ate that ducks ass! Now that was some fucked up shit, man!

C'est WHAT?!?!

Jan: So we had this duck, named Chuck, I know

that's retarded but whatever. We kept him in the bathtub when he was just a little guy, but as he grew we needed to find somewhere more suitable for him. So we put him in his cage, in the chicken coop, hoping that we could slowly integrate them together.

Integrate chickens and ducks?! Just what kind of Dr. Moreau Farm are you running?!

Ang: Not like that! So they could live together. After a few days, they were eating together, and seemed to get along fine. We decided to let Chuck out of his cage for a little while and...

Jan: ...and I was upstairs farting around when Ang started screaming 'JAN! JAN! THE CHICKENS ATE CHUCK!'

NO!

Ang (with a tear in her eye): Yes!

Jan: They had basically eaten him a new asshole. What are the chances the chickens are the goat head culprits?

Sooley: Next they will come for us in our sleep! Well if they gave the ducks ass a good pecker, I'd beware!

Jan: It just got worse. Since the duck was still barely alive, we killed it, and were about to go bury it when the dogs got a hold of it and made a bloody mess of themselves. At that precise moment, the telephone company guy came to the farm. I can only imagine what was going through this guy's head when he walked in on four miniature dogs drenched in blood and a cleaver in my hand!

TORONTO TRASH



So what would The Rotten like to promote during this interview?

Sooley: The new CD would probably be a good fucking idea.

Jan: That's right. We are just about to release 13 new tracks that are better than anything else you currently listen to!

What makes it better?

Sooley: The fact that we promote under age drinking!

Ang: We do not!

Jan: Suuure weee doooo!

Brando: I like to think we promote just about any form of drinking!

Sooley: It's kind of like a band philosophy when you think about it.

Anything else you would like to add?

Jan: Just that... I'm so drunk all the time dude, it's like honestly, I don't know if I'm destroying brain cells or if I'm just too fucking drunk to remember anything. Like what the hell is this interview for anyways?

Absolute Underground magazine.

Jan: Oh yeah. Good shit! Everyone should read it... drunk.

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Interview w/ Stu Ross - guitar
 Interview by Pauly Hardcore
 With the band in the studio recording their upcoming release. If their latest effort is anything like 2006's "Mirrors" it is safe to say that we are in store for one of the heaviest offerings in years!

AU: So tell us a little about the band.

Stu: Well, Misery Signals is a five member metal/hardcore band based out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with members of both American and Canadian citizenship. We have currently in Vancouver recording our third full length album.

AU: After Jesse Zaskara left the band, you put up an instrumental on Myspace and challenged people to put vocals to it, Karl answered the call, which resulted in 06's "Mirrors", can you tell us a little about that process?

Stu: The process seemed a little silly at the time, but it really worked in regards to saving us time auditioning vocalists. Karl was probably the strongest audition we received, it was obvious to us that he could fill the position.

AU: Your currently recording your '08 release in Vancouver, yes? What is that like in Van-hatten, how do you guys like BC?

Stu: Vancouver is an amazing city filled with a lot of great people. Misery Signals as a band loves being here. The weather, the scenery, the people, it's all good.



AU: What do you do when your not recording? I noticed you guys just went and played Whistler.

Stu: The band has been pretty good at managing our off time. Ryan and Branden are both involved in martial arts, Karl spends a lot of time Skateboarding, Kyle has a booking agency and I am pretty much all over the place. We played Whistler, with Opera Strike and the Grave Life.

AU: Are you guys working with Devin Townsend again on this record?

Stu: We are currently working with Devin on the new album. He is a great producer and has been putting in endless amounts of blood and sweat into this production.

AU: Keeping us all updated via MySpace has been great, seeing the pre-production, as well as individual recordings. Hopefully more bands take that initiative to let us all in on what really goes into making a record happen.

Stu: Thanks. It was definitely something we wanted to do to keep everyone aware of what we were doing and how the record is coming along.

AU: What is it like having members from 2 different countries? Do you still live in Edmonton?

Stu: It actually works out pretty well. I grew up in Edmonton, but I am now living in Milwaukee with Ryan and Kyle. Karl is still living in Regina on the off time.

AU: Looking forward to seeing you guys in the springtime accompanied by the new record, any last words for the kids?

Stu: Keep your eyes & ears open for the new Album! We will be on tour through your town soon, hope to see you there! Catch Misery signals April 29th in Vancouver and through May 16th across Canada
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It's time once again for our yearly Austin update from local drummer and extremely nice guy Felix Griffin. For those who don't know, Felix played drums on, and toured one of the best punk albums of all time D.R.I.'s - Dealing With It!

He's currently drumming for Blunt Force Trauma and was just about to head over to Europe to tour with MDC. But I'll let Felix tell you all about it...

AU: So this is our yearly Felix Griffin update part two. What's been going on since last year?

Felix: Well since last year I've parted ways with Rogers Porn Collection, but were still close. I've been going through some personal issues, thank goodness they got Pat Doyle which is The Offenders drummer... which was one of my major influences. Him and Al from MDC. Right now I got up a band called Blunt Force Trauma, it's similar to Municipal Waste type of music. A lot of energy, great bunch of guys. Can't ask for a better band, the people in it are really cool. Also about 5 months ago I was asked by MDC about possibly goin' to Europe and I said "Hell Yeah!".

AU: Who is MDC for the people who don't know?

Felix: Millions of Dead Cops. People who don't know of this album, their very first album is a classic, and if you listen to it, you can hear of all these other bands that were influenced by this band, including D.R.I. I saw D.R.I. open up for MDC their third show.

AU: You opened for them?

Felix: I wasn't with them yet, it was D.R.I.'s first

show with The Offenders, and MDC in 1982.

AU: This is comin' up soon?

Felix: Yah, I leave next week! It's a Mickey Donaldson memorial tour. And for people who don't know who Mickey Donaldson is, he was a bass player for The Offenders, he was a person who played on 'Dealing With It' with us, on D.R.I.'s album, and then he joined MCD and was in Sister Double Happiness with Gary Floyd from The Dicks. He passed away in Spain just last year, so this tour is a memorial for him. I think we're gonna have a slide show of him. We head out next week playin' The Rebellion Festival with the UK Subs, The Dwarves, and The Subhumans, And then I think we're playin' some shows with Agnostic Front. I think it's gonna be a pretty

intense thing, I haven't done in 20 years.

AU: What did you think about this year's SXSW?

Felix: I had a blast. Normally I boycotted it because I think it's really superficial. But this year I was grateful that my band got in, and not just that, all the bands that came here and the other shows that had nothing to do with SXSW were awesome. Motorhead played, Municipal Waste played a bunch of small shows, and NOFX. It was really cool, and next year, I'm gonna take off work so I can just hang out. But for everybody out there who reads this magazine, get to Austin for SXSW, it is awesome! It is like the super-festival. If you think about it, it's like clubs and so many bands all the time, its just constant. It's just cool, it really is. You'll never just walk around the corner and see Motorhead and 5 minutes later walk down the street and see Helmet's on stage and then Municipal Waste is on stage around the corner an hour later. You can catch all your major bands in a day. That's what I like about it.

AU: So how did you get hooked up with Blunt Force Trauma and where do you plan to go with it?

Felix: Well they were a band in early 2000 they recorded, a close friend of mine who played drums with them, he left the band and they never got another drummer, and I guess they had an audition and couldn't find anybody and kinda called it quits and I saw them at a show and they asked me if I'd be interested. First they asked if they could pay me and I was like "Hell no, you don't have to pay me. We'll just jam and split

everything equally".

AU: Same with the MDC tour, you said you'd do it for free.

Felix: Yeah, it's totally about going over there and kickin' ass. I haven't played in public, except in Austin, in a long time and it's for a close friend that passed away, so I saved up a lot of money so that my family has money when I'm gone. And basically I am doing it for free, for the cause.

AU: So Blunt Force Trauma approached you and you agreed to help out and be their drummer?

Felix: Yeah. So where its goin' is, they'll be writing some new songs when I get back from MDC. We're gonna start writing a lot more. I don't know about many tours. Municipal Waste said we could open up for them.

AU: How is Spike doing?

Felix: He called me yesterday. He's doing fine, working a lot. Every time I talk to him, I pester him about re-grouping and doing a Dealing With It tour. But it's the situations with the bands' finances through the former managers and everything that crippled the band.

AU: You guys got ripped off on the album?

Felix: Yeah, all of them. When we got signed on Dealing With It with the manager it all went downhill. I got on royalties maybe a thousand dollars the whole time. Until Spike took everything over, I never got anything. We gotta start from the ground one, twenty years later. Spike invested the record company and got all those bands for Rotten Records.

AU: Who else was on the label back then?

Felix: Acid Bath, Holy Terror, Excel... Spike produced a lot of albums and found out that the other guy he started the record company with was pocketing all this other money, and he said fuck this. We were all mislead and taken advantage of. Back in the 80's, I was talking to Municipal Waste about this, and hats off to those guys, they split up everything, they are fair. Back then, that was unheard of, that's why I think so many bands broke up, because of publishing. During the punk rock metal scene in the 80's when these bands were starting to show profit, the white collar cock-suckers would get involved and start isolating members. Like Slayer, look what happened to Dave Lombardo. Nofx, I have so much respect for them because Nofx and D.R.I. were right there together and I remember seeing them in '83 and they never signed anything away, they kept it within themselves and that's why they're very successful. The only thing with D.R.I. is we could get back together and do a Dealing With It tour.

AU: I think you'd be surprised how successful that Dealing With It tour would be.

Felix: Every time I talk to Spike, it's like dude, let's

were a Mace, a Sword & a Flame Sword

AU: Isn't that the guy that threw the shield and it came back to him?

S: Nah, you're talking bout Rigar...who is also awesome

AU: What are your songs all about?

S: Mainly Boobies and Video Games we like.

AU: Ghost Fucker, what's that song trying to say?

S: That came to me in a dream

AU: Elaborate? Guy or girl ghost?

S: I dreamt I fucked a ghost... and with a ghost it's hard to tell, it was definitely a Girl-ish presence... but I mean, it's hard to say.

AU: As long as it wasn't Patrick Swayze we're ok. So what do you think of SXSW? Been here before?

S: Mother fuckin' Douche dickheads, all around, it's a Sea of douche dickheads BUT, it's also got a lot of really good people around, so, I dunno. And nah it's our first time.

AU: What's the name of the band that played after Colossus? You touring with them?

S: Thunderlip, man. They're our boys! This one time we docked our vans, we parked so one van was facing this way, one facing that way, opened up the doors so they were facing each other and made a fort. Man, we hung out all day like that.

AU: Was there any hot-boxing going on?

S: Nah, nah. Our van was for playing Nintendo

just get together. 'Cause their coming out with a double set DVD of some past shows that we did. We got footage from the Olympic Auditorium in '85, which is a massive show, and a bunch of un-cut stuff we're gonna put together. Hopefully when that comes out we can go on tour and promote it. I was telling Rob from MDC today, I was like dude we should play for SXSW, like let's get D.R.I. to come down here.

AU: If your guys just start here and get a hype show everybody will hear about it and just be waiting for it to come to their town.

Felix: It is a no-brainer but look at the logistics of doing it. 'Cause Spike does have this company going with his family and you can't just take off. We thought maybe in the winter when he finally gets a break, and I told him I'm ready whenever. So hopefully if enough people pester him.

AU: What's his email?

Felix: Haha.

AU: Getting back to Municipal Waste for a second, there have been a lot of comparisons drawn between them and D.R.I.

Felix: Everyone compares Municipal Waste to D.R.I., there is a lot of influences there but then there's a lot of other stuff too. And that's what's so good about that band. They're badass, there's no doubt about it. I have a lot of respect for them and I hope they hang in there.

AU: What inspired D.R.I.?

Felix: I think MDC inspired D.R.I. to tell you the truth. D.R.I. has kicked it up a notch. And then when your listening to Municipal Waste, your like man, it sounds like D.R.I., but they kick it up a notch.

AU: I'd say it's D.R.I. on speed.

Felix: They kick it up a notch, there's no bullshit about it, they kick ass.

AU: Back then maybe you were the fastest but now maybe they are..

Felix: Yeah..

AU: Give me some parting words.

Felix: I'd like to thank all the people who supported D.R.I. throughout the years. I never knew, till I bought a computer, how many people really liked D.R.I., and especially the Dealing With It album. It's pretty impressive. All these people all this time who listened to it. People grew up on that album. Before MTV. Certain songs remind you of certain time of your life. And that does it for a lot of people, it brings back memories. So hopefully someday, we'll be able to get together and tour

AU: Fuckin' waiting for it bro!

www.myspace.com/mdc

www.dirtyrottenimbeciles.com

www.myspace.com/thebluntforcetrauma

games & their van was for watching Beetlejuice

AU: How would you describe this band?

S: Well we're a lot like, Iron Maiden or Judas Priest or something like that, that's what we go for anyway. We just have fun with it; we don't like it when people get too serious about metal. It's just really stupid to be serious about playing music about Orcs & Dragons & shit ya know... kind of silly. Our one album is called The Rift of the Pan-Dimensional Underdogs, if that helps explain anything.

AU: Yeah, are you a fan of Dungeons & Dragons?

S: I'm probably going to get ostracized, but yes, I'm a complete fan of D&D, I fucking love that shit!

AU: My mom used to beat me and my brother with a wooden spoon and say "Out Satan out!!!" for playing D&D. What kind of character were you?

S: I was always a chaotic elf every god-damn time, my favorite part was the little box on the old D&D sheet they gave you where you could draw a picture or a banner, and I would always draw a weird looking elf when I was 7. It looked terrible but I was like "Oh my God!!!"

AU: Final words?

S: Check out Colossus! Pretty soon we'll have our shit online.

AU: What would Rigar say?

S: UUUuuUUUUUaaaaAAAAArgh! Kill ALL Enemies!

www.myspace.com/thecolossuswillcrushyou



COLOSSUS

Heroes from the Realm of Rock

by Ira "Shinobi" Hunter

AU: Tell us who you are.

Sean: I'm Sean Buchanan, lead singer of Raleigh North Carolina's Colossus! We've been together for two and a half years and touring mostly through the East.

AU: We're from Canada, tell us "stupid" Canadians what you are all about?

S: Oh! We hate everyone from "America's Hat"

[Laughter]

S: You've never heard that term? Canada: America's Hat...

AU: Ha! So what is Mexico? The underwear? The toilet?

[More laughter]

S: Actually I'm kidding, but I'm completely jealous of everyone in Canada, you guys know what the fuck is going on. I'm so sad everyday when I wake up and live in America. Anyway, cut that out of the interview.

[Even MORE laughter]

S: Mexico is where we go to gamble, and buy cheap prescription drugs!

AU: So who is Conan fighting on your T-shirt here?

S: ACTUALLY, that's Rastan he's uh, another Barbarian, not many people know about him unless they've played the stand-up Arcade game from the 80's called RASTAN, his only weapons



SXSW – Flatstock 16 Poster Convention – Artist Profile

Greg “STAINBOY” Reinel



Known simply as “Stainboy”, Greg Reinel has always cringed when he’s referred to as an artist. Stainboy’s career really began in the mid 1980’s, he began producing posters, album covers, and merchandise designs out of necessity for his own touring bands - namely a high-volume rock duo, Nutrajet. Trading on his ability to kick out insane amounts of cool, hand-illustrated posters fast, it wasn’t long before his posters, flyers and illustrative style began attracting the attention of Orlando, Florida area

rock promoters, managers, and bands. Stainboy’s dossier has since grown to include a amazingly diverse body of work. His rock n’ roll posters run the gamut, featuring bands such as Cheap Trick, Nashville Pussy, Motorhead, Queens of the Stone Age, Pennywise, Turbonegro, and Electric Frankenstein. Stainboy’s love of pop culture trash, hot femme fatales, and 70s cinema exploitation saturates his work. Unschooled, undisciplined and unstoppable, Stainboy Rocks!!!

AU: How did the Stainboy get started?

SB: Oh shit, you mean doing this? I just started out doing flyers for my own punk bands and then my friends.

AU: What bands were you in?

SB: Neutrojet – a power duo. I was in a band called The Nicotines, which was a power pop

trio. I was in a band called the Screaming Iguanas Love, which was a rockabilly ‘quad’ I guess is the word.

AU: So you were always DIY?

SB: My friends started asking me to do stuff for their bands and then the venues would see these posters; the black and white prints I would do. They started asking me to do stuff for bands coming through town and it just sort of snowballed and accidentally became my job.

AU: Where are you based out of?

SB: Orlando, Florida. Beautiful, sunny Orlando, Florida.

AU: What’s your favourite band you’ve worked with so far?

SB: Favourite band? I love all the bands I do because I pick ‘em. But some standouts include Nashville Pussy, Flogging Molly, Sevendust – really nice people. I haven’t worked with any band who’ve been unhappy with my stuff. It’s been very pleasurable.

AU: Who would you like to work with that you haven’t with yet?

SB: The Sex Pistols. Very easy, The Sex Pistols. I’ve done New York Dolls so the Sex Pistols would be very good.

AU: What about the reunion they did? Did you get a chance?

SB: No, no. That was before I was doing this.

AU: You kinda look like Jonny Rotten.

SB: That’s ok. (laughs)

AU: If he dies then you could just take over.



SB: Yeah, definitely the Sex Pistols or The Stooges. I haven’t done The Stooges yet.

AU: Where did you originally get all your inspiration from?

SB: Early on it was Gary Grimshaw. I really like his balanced style. Then it was Kozik, I started seeing Kozik, Lindsey Coon, Uncle Charlie – we’re talking late 80s, early 90s. Allen Forbes – really like Allen Forbes – and Coop, of course.

AU: How many times have you been down to Flatstock or SXSW?

SB: This would probably be the 15th time. I go to Austin and Seattle, do both of those every year, I try to usually.

Austin and Seattle, do both of those every year, I try to usually.

AU: Is that the only places Flatstock goes?

SB: They do one in Chicago. I’ve did Chicago once but I also do a lot of shows around Flatstock too so I’m always on the road. I pretty much treat what I do like a band. I tour it every year, you know?

AU: Final words of wisdom?

SB: Don’t quit your day job.

Be sure to check out the book Stainboy just published called Vicious Intent available from Dark Horse Books.

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(Transcribed by Michael Motorcycle)



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CUSTOM TATTOOS by Mark Jansen



TKO/Hellcat Records Showcase

Kiss Kiss Kill Kill

Denmark-bred and Los Angeles based... Hellcat Record's HorrorPops have grown from niche favorites to cross genre superstars. After three hugely successful albums, the band's blend of ska, psychobilly, pop and new wave has made them one of the defining bands on the Hellcat roster. With blazing guitar work, a hypnotizing backbeat and go-go dancers aplenty; one might have trouble with sensory overload. Vocalist/upright bassist Patricia Day and guitarist Nekroman take charge of the howling pack with a wink and a sneer; the ringleaders of a stage show so raucous, so theatrical and so full of fun that it practically taunts the crowd, "You came to party... we ARE the party!"

AU: What sort of work did you guys do before your music career?

Patricia: For me there was nothing before my music career. That's all I've ever done. Ever.

Nekroman: I was in the Danish Navy for eight years, in the submariners. After that I started playing music.

Niedermeier: Recording studios, marines, I was a crack whore.

Patricia: He was a crack whore in the Marines.

AU: Horror is a big part of the image of the Horrorpops and the Nekromantics...

Patricia: No not true. Horror is a big part of Nekro's thing but with us it's just because we're horrible at playing pop music.

Nekroman: The horror element in the Nekromantics is in the lyrics. HorrorPops is like a B movie. We're the soundtrack to a B movie.

Patricia: We're just the Hello Kitty version of it.

AU: But you guys like blood and skulls too right?

Patricia: Yes, but that doesn't have anything to do with our lyrics.

AU: What are your favorite horror movies?

Niedermeier: The first Alien.

Patricia: Anything Disney. The original The Hills Have Eyes.

Nekroman: Evil Dead, both one and two. Re-Animator. I love old types of horror movies, especially the old silent ones that are so fucking gothic. I like the long, slow ass ones from the 70s where you almost fall asleep. I love Dario Argento. All that stuff is fucking awesome. Turns me on.

Patricia: It really does. It really seriously turns him on. Forget about porn movies.

AU: Any psychotic fan stories?

Patricia: The guy that was masturbating on our front lawn was pretty weird.

Niedermeier: The ones that keep talking and won't go away. Can you sign this? Can I have your shoes? Can I you're your shirt? They're creepy.

AU: Ever thought of doing a split album with Nekromantics and Horrorpops?

Patricia: Hell no. Why would we do that?

Niedermeier: How about a split Iron Maiden and Horrorpops?

Nekroman: Or even better, Poison and Horrorpops.

AU: Do you guys have any tips for young musicians?



Niedermeier: Tits?
Patricia: Tits [laughs].
Yeah, every young musician needs tits.
Definitely.

Nekroman: Don't play covers of other bands, be original and do your own shit. If you don't think it sounds good no one else will ever appreciate it. That's my tip. And get a real fucking job.

AU: What's it like to be touring as a married couple?

Patricia: We're not married, they're married.

Nekroman: It's awesome when he misses me I'll just turn around and he'll be right there.

Niedermeier: You asked us if we like blood? Yeah, we like it bloody.

Nekroman: That's disgusting.

Patricia: You don't know how tired I am of hearing him scream like a pig.

AU: How long have you been in town for?

Nekroman: Today. We're on tour right now.

Patricia: This is just another city for us. We're just passing through.

AU: So your most recent album just came out, what can you tell me about it?

Patricia: The critics say its good. For someone who's never heard Horrorpops it's a mix of 80s new wave, rock and roll, a lot of humour.

Nekroman: We started this band because we didn't want to be categorized. they played in punk bands and I played in a psychobilly band. We like everything from Dolly Parton to Motörhead. If we feel like playing a Ska inspired song that's what we'll do, Horrorpop style.

Patricia: We mix a lot of genres.

Niedermeier: One big cacophony of all the styles that we like.

AU: Nekroman, what's it like doing two different sounds, with Horrorpops and with Nekromantics?

Nekroman: It's different but it's not that hard. When we started the band Patricia was the guitarist and I was the upright bass player. We swapped instruments to get a different approach to song writing. That totally did it, right? When I'm in Horrorpops I'm in guitar mode, and when I'm in Nekromantics I'm the front dude and in bass mode.

AU: Which one do you like better?

Nekroman: After two months with Horrorpops I miss the Nekromantics and vise versa. I get fed up. I like to switch. I like them both 110 per cent. It's just like having kids, you can't say you like Bobby more than Johnny.

AU: What are the things you love and hate about touring?

Patricia: Both the Horrorpops and Nekromantics are bands that love to tour. Doing records and interviews and press pictures and all that bullshit is just to get us on the road. That's what we live to do.

AU: Are some days harder than others?

Patricia: No. Some day's socks are worse than others.

Nekroman: If you have mechanical problems with your tour bus, that's fucked up.

Patricia: But we still have fun.

Niedermeier: You start a band to get pussy. Where do you get the pussy? On the road.

Nekroman: The Road to Pussy.

www.horrorpops.com

www.myspace.com/thehorrorpops



Party Bus from the Dimension of Debauchery

by Ira Hunter

After Fucked Up played an amazing live show in the middle of a pedestrian bridge, it was like 4 am and I was just about to leave when I heard more music and I came to the realization that the show wasn't over yet. Down a spiraling walkway under the bridge on a circular lawn, one of the most unusual bands I saw all week was going mental.

The singer was weaving in and out of the terrified crowd, his slightly bearded face covered in white and red make-up, he looked to me like a cross dressing Japanese geisha tranny. The band was running their gear off a generator and the singer was going totally insane, he burnt his underwear on the lawn and the crowd gathered around for warmth. Oh did I mention Mr. Free was pretty much naked? All he had on was some sort of strange sock covering his genital general and a ripped to shit fishnet stocking barely covering one cheek of his ass. Warning! Don't sit crotch level and try to enjoy this show, you might get more that you bargained for.

AU: Who are you?

Mr. Free: Mr. Free, from the Satellite Freakout! We're from Tucson, AZ. We travel and do shows on our bus.

AU: What would you call what you're wearing on your penis?

Mr. Free: I call it a cod piece. It's actually for children, as you can see there's a little duck right here. You lather it up and wash children with it.

AU: What are your songs about?

Mr. Free: Well you know, every song tells a different story. Most of them are very sexual in some way. I'm a very sexual person. I try to be.

AU: Describe what just happened here.

Mr. Free: We kind of got tacked onto this show. There were rumours of cops coming but we're doing it here anyway. We've set up, we might as well.

AU: Where did you get the power?

Mr. Free: We have a generator. We travel with the bus and have a stage in there. You know what I need? More socks. I have wet socks.

AU: This was a crazy show – you were pretty much naked.

Mr. Free: Well, you know what? This is everyday business. The craziest thing or what we're most notorious for... in Tucson it's got us banned from every place, is that I'll do a raffle. Everyone will draw a pack of cigarettes with a number on it. At

the end of the night I'll lay an egg out of my ass, with a number on it. Whoever has the lucky number gets a shirt, a CD and the egg.

AU: So you have the egg in your ass the whole show?

Mr. Free: Yeah absolutely. I haven't done that in a while tho.

AU: Is it hard boiled?

Mr. Free: Yeah, hard boiled and peeled.

AU: Peeled? How do you get it in peeled?

Mr. Free: What? How do you get it in unpeeled?

AU: Doesn't the number get smudged off?

Mr. Free: Actually, I kind of pick the number at random. It's either 7 or 13.

AU: What's the craziest thing you've ever seen this guy do?

Mr. Free: My balls hurt.

Billy Balls: One time we were working and this thing of sour cream fell on the floor and spilled everywhere. We were real fucking slammed as shit and he was screaming at everyone not to touch it, then he sat down cross legged with a bag of corn chips and ate it all up off the floor.

Sizzle Chest: I have a memory, I think I was five years old, and we were looking at our first porno mag, it was a picture of Latoya Jackson. I remember he was kind of humping the page.

Mr. Free: When I look back on that I feel like I was scarring myself.

AU: Like paper cuts?

Mr. Free: Yeah, literally.

AU: How does the crowd react to you?

Mr. Free: Last night we almost got hit with a bar stool. People either love me or hate me.

AU: I think you should be called Fucked Up, because that guy is big and fat and bleeds from the head, but you're more like performance art on crack.

Mr. Free: I need all the blood I can get. I'm trying to keep it, but everyone's bloodthirsty and trying to get it out of

me.

AU: Can you bring your show to Canada?

Mr. Free: Yeah, absolutely. I'd love to – I hear the women are beautiful in Canada.

AU: Who is #9,602 of the most photogenic maple syrup collecting bee keepers in all of Oslo, Norway?

Mr. Free: Is it... Absolute Underground?

AU: What's up with your Mr. Pac Man tattoos?

Mr. Free: I don't want to talk about it; it's none of your Goddamn business.

AU: Have you ever stripped professionally?

Mr. Free: What do you think I'm doing tonight?

AU: I mean like Chippendales...

Mr. Free: I'm dying to, I've got the moves but I don't have the physique.

AU: Do you shave your ass?

Mr. Free: No, it shaves naturally.

AU: Final words for the children at home?

Mr. Free: Don't bathe, just wash your ass in public drinking fountains like I do.

www.myspace.com/satellitefreakout

www.satellitefreakout.net

The Distillery

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Twenty Centuries of Stony Sleep
Fri 4 - ROCK FOR TITS AND ASS
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X-Ray Cat, Deadman's Hand & On Shift
Sat 5 - KNUCKLEHEAD w/ Rumrunner,
Tartan Hearts & Press Gang
Thurs 10 - STRANGER AT THE GATE
w/ Sally Hardesty
Fri 11 - SCORCHED BANDITOS
w/Bastard Sons of a Rock n Roll Devil
Sat 12 - ROCK FOR TITS & ASS
feat. JOHNNY INCOGNITO, The Grones,
Seven Deadly Grins & more...
Fri 18 - ROCK FOR TITS & ASS
feat. BLACKED OUT, Mr. Plow, Grime,
The Rigormorticians & Epi-Demic
Sat 19 - A CELEBRATION OF 420
with HYPNOPILOT (of course...), Jezibelle
& MX Missile
Thurs 24 - TABITHA CD Release Party
Fri 25 - SKULLKRUSHER w/ BDFM
& The Great Orbar
Sat 26 - SKULLKRUSHER w/ The Turrettes
& The Great Orbar

MAY

Thurs 1 - The Savants w/ guests
Fri 2 - PERSEPOLIS w/ A Fistful of Nice
& Starve the Artist
Sat 3 - REBORN PARIAS w/Wolvengard
& From Another Time
Fri 9 - CALGARY BEER CORE
Line-up TBA
Sat 10 - SUB-CITY DWELLERS w/ guests
Fri 16 - PRIVATE EYE PISTOL w/ guests
Sat 17 - MARK OF CAIN w/ Systatic & guests
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TOTALLY RADD!!

Heroic Intimacy Soundtrack

by Ira "Sega Genesis" Hunter



I was stoked on the look of these guys right away. They were all wearing golden Tron armour and helmets with laser lights installed. As we waited patiently for them to set up all their synthesizers and computers, the crowd grew restless as one of the keyboardists lost a file for one of the songs and was flailing bigtime. The audience started to jeer these fresh faced clones from some distant society of futuristic freaks. I screamed out. "Totally Radd?? More like Totally Sucks!!" The gang of cyborgs hardly computed the half-hearted insult before deciding to "Scrap that stupid song" and started to play what I guess passes for music in L.A. these days. It was a hilarious show with fist pumping stupid songs with a digital twist of processed velveeta. This was hair-raising NintendoCore with Sylvester Stallone Viking anthems mixed in. They also have a few sexy and seductive songs, but honestly these guys are such alpha nerds they may never get laid in their entire lifetimes. Unless you count the blow-up Princess Leia in slave outfit they all pooled the band money for. This is the perfect music to get a feathered haircut and go jogging in a pair of ball huggers with a red headband and a Herbie Hancock t-shirt on. Check out their album Shark Attack Day Camp if you can find it.

When I went backstage after the show to try and get an interview only one of the dudes, guitarist Rob Banks, was there. I asked him "So where's everybody else in Totally Radd!!?" to which he quickly replied "Totally Drunk!! with two Ks and two exclamation marks."

I bumped into the rest of the guys later and did this interview while Rob Banks was stuck working the merch booth like a little bitch.

AU: Who are you?

I'm Neil Schuh.

I'm Tyler Thacker.

I'm Adam Villacin.

I'm Michael Benjamin Fucking Gold.

AU: I said when you guys were fucking the dog getting ready to go, I said you Totally Suck but I take that back 'cause you were Totally Radd!!

TR!/: Joke's on you asshole.

AU: Have you seen the movie Tron?

TR!/: Who hasn't seen that shit? We went to art school man, we're fuckin' educated. You gotta give me more than Tron.

AU: Are you more of a Cylon from Battlestar Galactica?

TR!/: I actually lived in the house of the producer of Battlestar Galactica.

AU: When I went to Universal Studios as a kid, they had the Cylons.



TR!/: You should actually be upset with the new series, it doesn't have the same sort of feel. I'm not into the new series, I don't think it does justice. It's like a soap opera.

AU: You just like that chick, what's her name?

TR!/: Nah, she's a fuckin' boy. Happy McTits I think.

AU: I'm from Canada, we don't know nothin' about your band. Tell us what you're all about.

TR!/: We're about heroism. Friendship. Babes! Booze! Comeback. Inspiration. Fighting for the things that you want. And this cute blonde girl right there.

AU: How do you describe your sound?

TR!/: Heroic Intimacy Soundtrack.

AU: So your making sweet love with a damsel in distress after slaying a dragon, and this is it?

TR!/: Absolutely what our music is about, you got it.

AU: Tell me more about the band.

TR!/: We're from Los Angeles, California. We met at art school



and Our mission is to make danceable, fun, synth-driven rock 'n roll for people to enjoy. Keyboards, computer shit, guitars, drums, drum pads.

AU: Where did the costume idea come up? It's kinda like a Road Warrior meets Gladiator meets the future of laser-tag.

TR!/: We just like to present a visual companionship to the live show while we slaughter your ears with our dicks.

AU: Did you do a bunch of drugs

in art school?

TR!/: (sarcastic) No I've never done any drugs. The Radds don't believe in breaking the law, I'm insulted by that question. Actually it's each man for himself.

AU: So you're at SXSW, how did this come about?

TR!/: Out of our own personal wealth. We manned up.

AU: Does everyone think you're Totally Radd!!!?

TR!/: It's one of the most common complements we get. It's actually something we try to shy away from in our vocabulary 'cause we hear it all the time.

AU: Final words?

TR!/: Hella bitches give hella blow jobs. Booya!!

I went to let Rob Banks know we got the interview done without him and he abso-fuckin'-lutely lost his mind at his band's betrayal. He just started ranting and beating the shit out of one of his laughing bandmates, I mean really

seriously beating the shit out of him. They scrapped for like ten minutes, wrestling around on the ground and punching each other in the chest and head, but mainly focusing on the groin area.

AU: Are you pissed off or what dude?

Rob Banks: I'm gonna fuckin' head-butt his nose dude, I'm gonna fuckin' break his skull! And take a shit in it! And then I'm gonna fuckin' shove it up his ass so he gets shit right up his sternum. I'm gonna fill his esophagus with my cum and shit so he learns how to behave, that fuckin' bitch!

AU: I was like, "Guys, I wanna do an interview with the guy I first talked to, shouldn't we find him?" and they were all like "Fuck that shit! Rob's being merch slut right now. Don't worry about him."

RB: I know! Motherfuckin' cock suckin' bitches! That's all I gotta say. I'm gonna slam their fuckin' faces in the cement, break everyone's noses so we all gotta go to the ER and figure that fuckin' shit out at the hospital, 'cause if we don't, it's gonna be fuckin' figured out on the streets. And if that happens it's gonna be asshole to motherfuckin' teeth. And that's how it goes.

AU: Is that why you all wear armour 'cause you fight so much?

RB: Exactly! We fight like fuckin' devils from the ancient centuries. We're devils from the future and we're gonna fuckin' rip shit up till we die! Game over bitch!!

www.totallyradd.com

www.myspace.com/totallyradd

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STAND DOWN



STAND DOWN – STANDING UP FOR WHAT'S RIGHT!

This is gearing up to be a busy year for the Vancouver metal outfit known as STAND DOWN. May 9th marks their record release at the Penthouse Gentlemen's Club for their first full-length release. Fresh out of the studio and ready to conquer the world, I caught up with Ken Goode at their jam space to ask them a few questions, including what's up with the marching skeletons?

AU – Cool Jam spot Ken, how long you guys been sweating it out here?

Ken Goode- We've been writing here for just over two years now and it's working out fine. It's a place we can call our own and escape to, experiment and write our music.

Our gear is ready when we show up and we get to do the thing we love most, write music 24 hours a day, any day.

AU- So tell me a little bit about how STAND DOWN came to be and who makes up the band, I've noticed you've had a few different bass players... what's up there?

KG- Stand Down started back in Feb. of 1997, that is when Sean and I first started writing music together, also Justin who I started writing music with in Sept. of 2002. At the time there was four of us, Sean Jmaeff (drums) Justin Lacey (guitar) Brian Flint (bass) and my self as font man, We all grew up in the same town and have been friends for years, it seemed as if we would be writing music together for the rest of our lives, however Brain left the band in the winter of 2006. After much trial and error, we have recently regained the backbone of our band through Chris Painer on bass guitar.

AU- Stand Down worked with Tim Newhouse on this CD, who has been getting a bit of name for cranking out some quality

sounding metal...how was that process for you?

KG- Working with Tim on this album was the only way we were going to do it.

We knew that the only way we would be able to get our music to sound and feel the way it does, was to have someone who knows us personally and knows the music and the passion driven behind it all.

AU- Tell me about the CD title ... I understand there's a sentimental message behind "Villains Parade"...can you elaborate?

KG- A very good friend of mine, who I met here in Vancouver, had ended his life. Most people new him as 6ix the owner of Twin Villain Tattoos; down in Gas Town. So the name Villains Parade came to me at his funeral as I watched all of the friends and family parade into his passing. I guess you could say that the album was name after him.

AU- The CD is really dynamic and I find as a listener I'm pushed into different avenues of thought beyond just flat out aggression. Can you talk about your approach to song writing and what you're trying to accomplish when writing?

KG- I tend to think that my approach to writing music can be very surgical in mind at times. I'm constantly dissecting new ideas and trying to find, possibly a different view of things or another way of looking at my topics. Some times I'll wait to finalize what I want to say until I'm in the studio; I really try to make the music I write strong and true.

AU- What is the connection behind STAND DOWN's association with the Militia and Military symbolism...is there a political message behind this?

KG- I guess you can call it somewhat of a political message, but there's more to it than just political views. We used skeletons so that we could identify ourselves as equals all made up of the same parts marching into victory and the militia we consider to be our fans.

AU- Do you feel it's important for a band to represent a political view or a message or is it just booze, drugs, good times, and lets all head bang in unison?

KG- Ya, I do think that it is important for a band to represent a political view on life these days. Music has a gift for changing the way people see things, in positive ways and negative ones. If we don't set a stage of example of what the right things to do are, then we will keep repeating the same routine and we will keep seeing the same results.

AU - How would the members of STAND DOWN define success?

KG- I think we would define it as accomplished. We set out as four individuals who believed they could make a difference in their lives though music and I believe we have.

AU- So what's the plan for STAND DOWN in the next while?

KG- We are working on a tour that should take us across the country, and put us on the map. We are also getting ready to shoot our video for our single Villains Parade. The release should be some time this summer. This release party will be just the start of things to come for our fans, we want to make sure that when you come to our show... you leave knowing you got what you paid for... the fucking show of your life!

www.myspace.com/standdownmilitia





Apocalyptic Bangover

by Ira "Hazardous Waste" Hunter

I ran into Tony "Guardrail" Foresta, lead singer of the New Wave of American Crossover Thrash Metal band, Municipal Waste, while drinking beer in the sun at Stubb's Bar-B-Que. I saw Municipal Waste open for GWAR in Vancouver before they exploded and literally re-shaped the landscapes of Thrash Metal with their brash, chaotic, party assault. Think D.R.I. on coke, speed and weed.

Tony was just chillin' waiting for Napalm Death and

Motorhead to play so I squeezed in a few words with this disciple of Beer Bongs, Weed Wizards, and Garbage Can Mosh Pits!!!

AU: So how many shows are Municipal Waste playing at SXSW?

Tony: Uhm, four I think, or maybe five. Yeah we have four left and we did one on Tuesday.

AU: Is this your first time playing here?

T: Nah, we played it two years ago, it was pretty cool.

AU: You guys have really blown up, you guys taking over the world or what?

T: Trying to man! Haha one show at a time you know, touring our ass off, so hopefully our work is paying off.

AU: Is there gonna be a new album or are you still riding "The Art of Partying" wave?

T: Oh yeah, we're already writing it. We're about four songs deep but we're gonna take our time on this one, not try and crap out a record you know?

AU: Looking to forward to any shows down here?

T: Yeah! This one! Hahah, we were in Dallas last night and got up super early to come here. Oh and Annihilation Time, they fucking destroy! I cant even think right now there's just so much stuff goin' on here

AU: You gonna vote?

T: Yeah I think I'm gonna vote for Obama.

AU: Debauchery stories from the road?

T: Right now? Not much we're all pretty chill. Oh wait, no, my friend a few days ago got so drunk he puked all over himself and wound up passed out in somebody's yard our first night in Austin.

AU: Who have you guys been touring with recently?

T: We're on tour right now with Iron Lung from Seattle, they're fucking awesome man and check us out this summer supporting At The Gates and Darkest Hour! It's gonna be intense and we'll also be in Canada later on in the year!

A couple days later I was cruising around backstage at this huge Vice show at Waterloo Park and I ended up smoking a fat joint with Philip "Landphil" Hall (bass & vocals) as we discussed all things Municipal Waste and his highly intriguing side project called Cannibus Corpse.

AU: How's the weed situation treating you in Texas?

Land Phil: I don't carry weed on tour with me you know? Just cuz people smoke me out so much. It's never really an issue, I know if I wanna get stoned I can just walk over to some people and you know... smoke weed.

AU: Yeah you're just like "I'm in Cannibus Corpse, smoke me up fucker"

LP: YEAH! And they're like "Oh your in Cannibus Corpse?" and they get down on their knees and start worshipping me... haha

AU: You're also in Municipal Waste, did you guys play a show last night?



LP: Yeah, yeah we did. It was a weird outdoor one, like, in the back yard of this Bar and it was a really sketchy situation you know? Sketchy area of town, it was like fenced in , but it was outside and just insane. We played with Iron Lung and Annihilation Time. It was next to this bar, the 40 Club, but 40 was spelled wrong and there was a sign on the door; a piece of paper with magic marker that said no one under 40 was allowed into that bar. [group laughter] And I thought WOW, thats just insane!

AU: Is the "Wall of Death" something new you've added into the routine?

LP: Nah, we've been doing it for a long time now, since the GWAR tour, it's somewhat of a staple in the Municipal Waste set.

AU: Who started it, who did the very first "Wall Of Death" do you think? Lamb of God?

LP: Man, Lamb Of God definitely did NOT start the Wall of Death. There's been bands around for years who have been doing it - we didn't start it, we take no credit, it's just something fun to do you know? I'm not talking shit about LOG, but people always say that, I guess because LOG kind of brought it to the mainstream - I guess everyone's seen that Hellfest video of them doing that giant Wall of Death; that was pretty cool.

AU: What's the name of the new Cannibus Corpse album?

LP: The new CC album is entitled "Tube of the Resonated" and it comes out on 4-20, pick that shit up.

AU: What are some of the names of the songs?

LP: Oh man, we got gems like "Mummified in Bong Water", "Fuck With Northern Lights", "Sentenced To Burn One" there's also "Addicted to Hash in a Tin" just the most ridiculous song titles we could come up with. But all the lyrics like tell

stories that go along with the titles & it gets pretty fuckin funny.

AU: The bong gets more and more clogged?

LP: Yeah it gets... haha yeah exactly.

AU: Who's doing the Cannibus Corpse album art?

LP: Oh man, we're getting Andrei Bouzikov, an excellent painter who lives in Oakland CA, he did the newest Municipal Waste album as well. He drew a giant bong filled with body parts, surrounded by this bunch of monks and

it's generating a giant portal. Hahaha... its just the most ridiculous thing I could think of.

AU: What's the craziest shit you've seen in Texas? Last night with the trash can?

LP: Yeah that was pretty crazy, our friend who plays in Annihilation Time, he was just fuckin Ragin' and he went off the huge PA in a garbage can, dumping trash all over the crowd, way High Up! I thought

he was gonna break his fuckin' neck.

AU: What about this show today? You're playing outside on a crazy bill with Fucked Up, NOFX, Dead To Me, and The Breeders. There's also a bunch of huge comedians on a third stage. What's going on here exactly?

LP: Yeah this is a great time, man. Crazy show, it kind of reminds me of the Reading Festival out in the UK, it's just great weather & atmosphere - just a bunch of bands, it's pretty cool. I love doin' these shows.

AU: Should we smoke a joint or what?

LP: I can't get too stoned before I play you know? I hate playing super fast Baked out of my mind. Hahaha I do smoke before I play though. & man I can just smell that Ganja.....

AU: Alright, then we'll only smoke half a joint.

LP: Yeah! That's a good idea man.

AU: Final words to the Canadians and to the children.

LP: Smoke weed everyday

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Karaoke Apocalypse

Unleash Your Inner RockStar

In a nutshell it's Punk Metal New Wave Karaoke with a Live Band!

1 - Dave Tynner (Drums)

2 - The Unknown DJ.

AU: Tell me the concept behind Karaoke Apocalypse.

1: The concept is that we hate regular karaoke and pre-recorded cheesy beats, like Madonna and Frank Sinatra and the theme from Grease. We like that; we just don't want to play it.

2: This is a return to glory!

1: We've been doing this for about three and a half years. It's live band karaoke. Punk rock, heavy metal, classics from the 70s and 80s. We got a little new wave just to broaden things.



AU: I thought Poison was in the 90s?

1: Poison was about '85. I can show you pictures of myself.

AU: With Poison?

1: No, but I looked like Poison.

95 songs?

1: Just the hard ones. Ramones are easy.

2: Hey.

1: Well they are.



2: I can verify that.

AU: You have to be ready to play how many songs at any given moment?

1: Right now we have 95 and we never know what's coming up so we got to know them.

AU: When you guys have a practice, do you have to practice

2: But they're goooooood...

AU: Where's Chepo your guitar player? I met him last year when he sang for the Misfits cover band Children In Heat.

1: Chepo has gone home.

AU: Well then, tell Chepo he's an asshole.

1: Oh, he knows that.

AU: Who else is in the band?

1: The bass player is Peter Elliot, accomplished musician in himself. Guitar player is Lisa Wickware, she

shreds, she does all the heavy metal solos, finger tapping. She nails it; she's our ace in the hole.

AU: So, if no one wants to do Karaoke, you're basically fucked?

1: Exactly, and we've had shows where we have to sing. If no one signs up we don't get to play. So then Chepo and Malicious - our lovely Texas roller girl hostess - will have to sing until people get drunk enough. That's what everyone says in the beginning, 'Oh, give me two more beers,' but until they sing we just stand there like douche bags.

AU: Last year the Misfits played and tonight that BeeGees thing, Tragedy...

1: The heavy metal tribute to the BeeGees...

AU: Would you say they were heavy metal though?

1: They were cock rock all the way. They were like Poison. There was no Motörhead in that; it was all Warrant and Poison.

AU: You play Motörhead, Judas Priest, Poison...

1: We played Black Flag, we

played Divo.

2: What about Naked Timothy?

1: We did not play them assface. Thank-you for remembering my horrible 1990s back room band.

AU: Back room, as in gay?

1: No, that would be back door. Back room, as in east Riverside. But yeah, this band is a lot of fun. We're not doing it to get signed.

2: It's a supergroup. It's an Austin supergroup.

1: It could be, yeah.

2: Not could, it is.

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SXSW MUSIC

MARCH 12-16, 2008 • AUSTIN TX

Back In The Saddle Again!!!

- Ira "Never Sleeps" Hunter

Wednesday, March 12th

Flying solo this year, I caught the Red Eye into Austin landing at 8am Texas time. I was thrilled to be back again for the **South By Southwest Film and Music Festival** a.k.a. **SXSW**.

When you hit the Lone Star State, you sure know it. Animal skulls, cowboy hats, and an over abundance of Texas and American Flags bombard you at every turn. 9am finds me diving straight into the action on the first day of this International Music Festival. First things first... press credentials, schwag bag, then free food and drinks. One meal a day, let's go. You gotta keep up!

Unlike last year, where the hotel was way too far out of town, this time I found my room at **La Quinta Capitol** centrally located. It was one block from the State Capitol building and a mere 5 blocks from the action of 6th Street and Red River Road where most of the best bars and shows are.

I lugged two full suitcases (100 lbs) of Absolute Undergrounds, mostly last year's SXSW issue, down to the convention centre to disperse our Canadian content to the masses music scene with the rest of the world.

The **Film Fest** portion had already been running since the 7th so I knew I'd missed a tonne of killer flix. To make up for lost time so I caught an early showing of a film called **We Dream America**. It was about British bands who perform Americana country music. It was an interesting movie and the bands were actually pretty cool.

I stopped by my home away from home, the **Canadian Blast BBQ**, where you can always count on scoring a free meal. Today was

sweet spread of BBQ Chicken with all the fixings. Throw in free beer and you got yourself a party, Canadian Style!

Over 100 Canadian bands were represented and performing over the duration of SXSW. Bands like **Pride Tiger**, **Cancer Bats**, **Fucked Up**, **Flatliners**, **Weakerthans**, **Black Mountain**, **Carolyn Mark**, **Born Ruffians**, **Vancouver**, **Destroyer**, and **Holy Fuck** (I just like their name). **Dragonette** played as I stuffed my face but I left as quickly as possible for fear of growing breasts.

Cruising down Austin's famous 6th Street, there's just bar after bar, each one providing a stage or three to the festival every night.



All the emanating sounds from the countless different clubs meld into one rhythmic pulse. You never know what type of musical genre you may come across at any given moment. Every night there are over 60 or 70 official SXSW venues rocking 8-12 bands a night for 5 nights in a row. You do the math, my brain still hurts. Beware, one can easily experience musical overload because there's also hundreds of free parties and record label showcases during the days. Then when the weekend, South By Southwest, and Spring Break collide... watch out! It's like Mardi Gras on the streets of Austin.

On the main drag I happened upon the **Museum of the Weird** and discovered the Prophecies of Zultan, Texas Jackalopes, Necronomicon Cowboy Hats, Two-Headed Chickens... you get the picture.

Billed as freakshow psychobilly the **Pickled Punks** from Austin played a gritty club called Jackalope. I remember a stand-up bass and crazy people in the crowd wearing handkerchiefs over their faces.

Back at the Convention Hall, I ran into **John Hicklenton** (aka John Deadstock). He's a British comic artist best known for his brutal, visceral work on characters like Judge Dredd and Nemesis the Warlock. From his wheelchair Johnny was drawing a Zombie George Bush picture and his art just blew me away.

We talked about the film, Here's Johnny, documenting his professional art career and his ongoing battle with Multiple sclerosis.

Eventually, I excused myself and rushed to see a documentary called **Wesley Willis's Joy Rides**. It was a Rock You Mentary about the self-proclaimed Daddy of all Rock N' Roll. It's hard to argue with such gems as "Rock N Roll McDonalds", "I'm Sorry That I Got Fat", "I Whipped Spiderman's Ass", "My Mother Smokes Crack Rocks", "Cut The Mullet", and "Termites Ate My House Up". Upon further Wiki research I learned that one of Wesley's most popular songs is probably "Suck My Dog's Dick." The reason for this is because on file sharing networks there is a file that is titled "Rare Metallica cover by Nirvana" and it is actually the song "Suck My Dog's Dick".

Later on there was deadly **Texas Hardcore - TXHC** show at the RED 7 club. **Career Criminal**, **Blunt Force Trauma**, **Iron Age**, **The Jonbenet**, **Bitter End**, **Will To Live**, **At All Costs**.

Stand outs included **Bitter End** from San Antonio, and a local bands Iron Age and a band Felix from D.R.I. is drumming for now called **Blunt Force Trauma**. It was definitely a sick hardcore show with enough metal mixed in to keep any Heshes happy.

The Bad Rackets another Austin Punk band played a another bar called BeerLand. I remember the singer was in hospital pyjamas and was singing from a wheelchair.

Half a block down the street, at one of the more dangerous looking clubs called HeadHunters, I caught sight of the elusive **All-American Werewolves**.

Back at Red 7, this time on the outside stage, a very entertaining and energetic band called **Colossus** played it hard at one of the craziest shows of the day. Every band member was fun to watch as they did their best rock faces. Think sideburns and dragon shirts, barbarians and laser-tag video games. Really just a band who gives it harder than most and it shows live.

Snuck down the back alley to Spiro's Amphitheater for **Teenage Bottle Rocket**, who were rad and reminded me of a young Ramones meets Teen Idols via Screaming Weasel. Fun to watch and the songs are all real catchy toe tappers. The crowd was alive and feeling the good vibrations emanating from



the bass lines and rockabilly-esque guitar sound. **Dirty Sweet** played next but they kinda stunk it up so I left.

Thunder Lip was killing it bigtime back at Red 7. Holy fuck! These guys were definitely crazy, you could tell right away when the guy came out in a long red silk cape and a blazing light fixture attached to his crotch! It was plugged into a very lengthy extension cord and held on with a bungee cord! Mayhem ensued and the heavy metal licks mixed with a slight southern twang. I can't really describe their sound except to say it's like listening to a guy with a giant lamp for a penis scream songs at you, while metalheads rage and headbang their guitars in the background. In other words Thunder Lip ruled!

Toronto's **Cancer Bats** threw down a very intense set. The singer was all over the place, pacing like a tiger, and jumping around like a methed-out marsupial. There was sweat flying everywhere as he joined the crowd for an epic rock-out session.

Blackholicus - pronounced Black-Hole-Licious, another great metal/stoned thrash rock band from the Austin scene.

HeadHunters was now sporting another tight bill featuring **Sore Losers**, **Whiskey Dicks**, and **Pink Swords**. Other bands, performed on the outside Tiki Lounge stage.

Set Aflame. Not the best band of the evening and I wouldn't have cried if someone threw gas on them and set the whole band aflame. That would have been much more entertaining.

Strolled to **R.E.M.** At Stubbs BBQ joint, what was I thinking?! He's a very boring, very bald man. A total waste of 2 minutes of my life. The worst ever! That experience sums up why I never ever listen to the radio.

Down a darker path **Witch** held a séance at Bourbon Rocks and many followers were converted to their heavy stoner coven groove. Outside on the patio stage **The Black Angels** tried to get it rocking up I just wasn't feelin' it.

At the Flamingo Cantina I covered my eyes and saw **The Dicks**, an old school Austin punk band started in like '81. They have with an extremely flaming cross-dressing burly man singer. Tonight he was wearing a nice blue dress and a birthday hat. Picture an old grizzled gay man in a frilly dress singing about little boy's feet. Kinda creepy. Still gotta say the songs were solid and the old time fans were givin' er good.

I ended the night by seeing **Naked Raygun** from Chicago, IL. These guys were influential punkers in the 80's and early 90's. But either they're losing their steam,

or else I was, because on this occasion they were a bit tame and put me down for the count.

Thursday, March 13

At around eleven o'clock I watched a very informative but very depressing documentary on **Joy Division**. For a band who only released two albums "Unknown Pleasures" and "Closer" before their singer, Ian Curtis, committed suicide on the eve of the band's first American tour, they are more popular today than ever.

Searching out sustenance I hooked up my daily dose of free food. at an Australian band showcase. It was a pretty sweet spread featuring Veggie Burgers and Smokies. The music was horrible but the grub was good.



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NO SWEAT

I joined up with the Chaos Pirate Radio crew in a massive line that stretched around the block and down towards the highway for a killer afternoon Vice showcase featuring **Enslaved**, **High On Fire**, **Napalm Death** and the mighty **Motörhead**! **Enslaved**, Viking Metal from Norway, played like 3 songs tops. By the time I got my camera out they were walking off the stage.



Thinking about it, this was the first time I had seen Lemmy's famous mole in the light of day. They played "Killers", "Necropolis", "Going To Brazil", "Killed By Death", and of course "Ace of Spades".



After wandering around for half an hour looking for where my friend Schooly parked his truck (did I mention we got stoned at Motörhead?) we headed to a Mexican restaurant called Jovita's to check out **Th' Legendary Shack Shakers** at the annual TwangFest. These southern madmen loosed a much better performance than when I recently saw them in Las Vegas. It helped that this time around they had a giant stage instead of playing on the floor. Singer Col. J.D. Wilkes was in rare form unleashing a

torrent of Butt Pickin', Pube Pullin', Nose Pickin', Booger Flickin', Loogy Spitting, Crowd Fingerin' combined with magical confetti pockets it mad for an extra sinister show. A mischievous smile spreads across his freckled face and his beady weasel eyes piercing your very soul. Drum solos, big bass bompin', soul wailin' harmonica, raw sweet blues, and devil wakin guitar tones. The venue was really cool with people eating Mexican food at tables while the band ripped it up.

Next I ran into local sultry southern singer Robin Wiley and her Batmobile next. Since her name is Robin her brother to build her a customized Batmobile from a converted golf cart. We parked it right on the sidewalk in front of



another Mexican restaurant and the waitress brought us menus drive-in style. Later, feeling lree I headed out to see one of my favorite artists **Shepard Fairey** of **Obey Giant** infamy. He was doing a set as his alter ego DJ Diabetic. He was playing "Pass the Dutchie pon the left hand side", when I got there, he must have known I'd be showing up. After setting up an interview for a future issue I made a break for the **Texas Burlesque**

Fest Revue. The first act featured a very special blow-up doll and a very lively sex puppet. This was a quality production and I got a kick out of when they raised the curtains covering the windows and gave the thronging masses outside a real eye full. The next performance was a L.A. Glam themed cabaret act. I remember extra dazzle with a splash of silver g-strings. The last one I drenched in before jetting was an extra naughty version of Little Red Riding Hood – the lesbian edition.

tore my pants away form the naked girly show and went down to the Red 7 club again just in time to witness a band everyone had been hyping since I'd gotten to town, **Annihilation Time!** Screaming out of their Oakland, California International Heshquarters, this is the type of band who has a faithful following of scum bags and thrash addicts who converge on every show.

Moments before they played I cornered the singer in the bathroom for an impromptu interview. I guess he must thought I was trying to solicit prostitution because the first words out of his mouth we're "I'm a cop you idiot." When asked to tell me about Annihilation Time, he spits back "We'll fuck you." and I quickly shoot back a "And Your Mom?" to which he mercilessly retorts. "No way, we'll be sweet to your Mom, so your Mom doesn't know when we rape the shit out of you. She'll be like 'Noooo... they

were nice boys." I inquired what most of Annihilation Time's songs were about and received the following gem of truth "Tits!", someone else yelled "Ready?" and that was it, he jumped on stage and proceeded to shred the faces off everyone there. Looking back, that was a pretty sick 33 second interview. The band had spray painted Annihilate! over one of the venue's SXSW banners. It was a chaotic show and I'm sure they gained as many fans as they lost to severe injury. We're talking savage songs like "Too High To Die", FastForward To The Gore; and "Yuppie Killer". Crazy mosh, flying objects, and thrasher hippies being ugly.

Still at Red 7, **The Flatliners** from Ontario were up next and turned out to be a damn nice treat I gotta say. This is true Skunk Rawk at it's best! Sounding like a mix of Hot Water Music, The Sainte Catherine, and Against Me! Their new album, The Great Awake, they hooked me up with in Texas has really grown on me to become one of my fave discoveries from the trip, along with the Frantic, and ADHD discs I scored.

On the streets I bumped into **Keith Morris** from the **Circle Jerks** outside Emo's Annex as Colossus layed it down thick and heavy in the background. We hung out with Kevin Lyman, the founder of the Warped Tour. I think one of the problems with Warped is that he was wearing a Hanson shirt. Hopefully it was just a joke.

Took in a visceral assault from **Genghis Tron** – Extreme NerdCore with trippy lights and one too many keyboards. An aural assault of mathmatic rhythms but with the shredding metal guitar guy added. Visually cool but I didn't feel bad walking away from the music.

As Red 7 neared capacity I was warned by the door staff not to leave if I wanted to get back in to see NOFX later. I braved it and was in store for one of the best shows of the entire festival.

It was time for the Thrashin' of the Christ. Legends of Scumville, **Municipal Waste**.

Beer Bongs, Terror Sharks, Weed Wizards who rolled 420 sided dice, Garbage Can Speaker Dives, Circle Pits of Doom, and of course the Wall of Death!

But I'm getting too excited and ahead of myself. So a wizard dressed up in a cloak covered in pot leaves comes out at the start of the show to preach about smoking beer and banishing dragons. He blasts a fireball of booze into the crowd, the guitars snarled, then the chaos really commenced. I remember early on they dedicated the song "Black Ice" to the memory of Metallica's Cliff Burton. One guy, I think the singer from Annihilation Time, rolled off the giant speaker stack in a garbage filled trash can into the crowd. He toppled like 15 or 20 feet into the frenzied pit, it was a miracle he lived! The garbage can was flying through the crowd like a beach ball and eventually ended up on stage. Municipal Waste then organized a giant Wall of Death where the crowd splits into two sides and clashes in the middle like a scene out of Braveheart.

Stage diving, crowd surfing, front flips, backflips, pile-ons, circle pits, cartwheels, this show had it all. The crowd all got on stage at the end and went out with a huge chant of "Municipal Waste Is Gonna Fuck You Up!!! Smoke Beer! Smoke Beer!" The Waste definitely left me with a severe 'Bangover'!

As I was one of the last people let back into the venue for NOFX, I took a bow to the door people as the bouncers started to yell "It's sold out! We're at capacity!"

Before the headliners took over **Teenage BottleRocket** played another great set of inspired, anthemic, straight-ahead punk rawk.

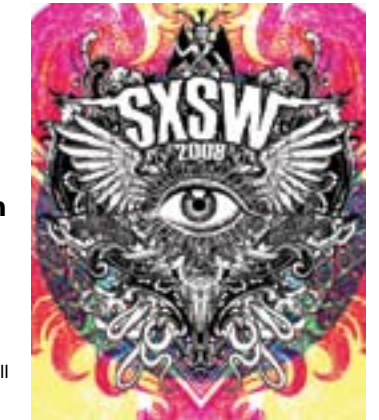
Tonight was going to be special we were informed by **NOFX** frontman, **Fat Mike**. We were treated to what Fat Mike was calling **Half FX**. "The good thing is we're gonna play 50 or 60 songs tonight but the bad thing is we're only gonna play half the song, like only the first verse. Another bad thing is that I have a broken wrist so this is really gonna suck!". Early in the set they realized the error of their drug induced ways "Maybe this wasn't such a good idea." but they kept on going anyways.



the stage. "Who do you think we are, Guns and Roses?"

After the show I went through the proper channels and talked to NOFX's manger Kent about possibly getting a quick interview with the band sometime over the weekend. He told me in the most brutally honest way possible "It's not gonna happen!". I later found the business card I had given him in the gutter outside the venue, it lay there amongst the gum stains and cigarette butts. Well thank you very much Mr. Manager Douche Bag. As they say in my country 'Suck It Trebek!'

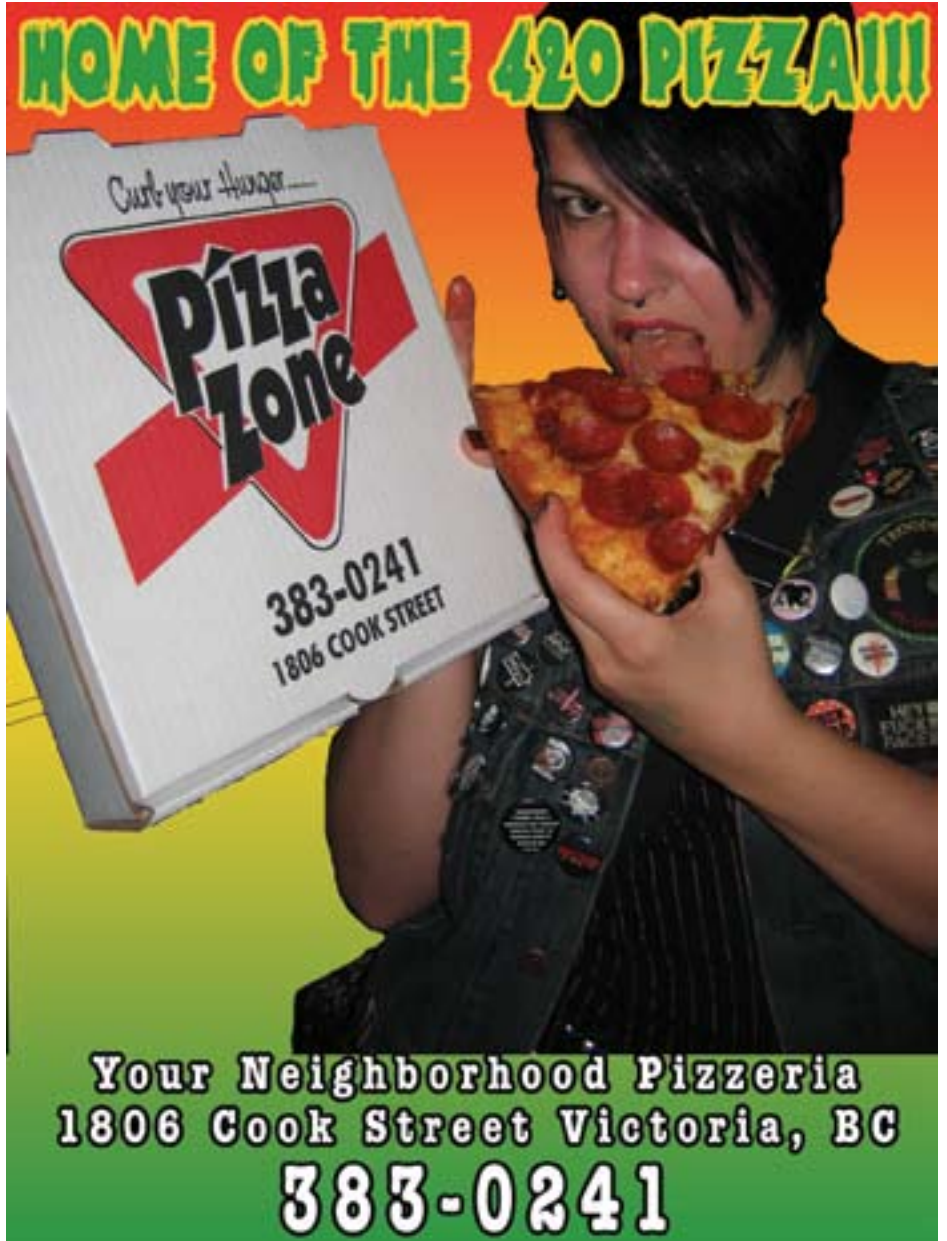
After the show I enjoyed a slice of Hoeke's Heavy Metal Pizza as I enjoyed the metal sounds emanating from within, it's most Slayer blazing 24/7. As I spilled out onto the streets I overheard a couple guys say they had just seen Bushwick Bill of the Geto boys plastered drunk up the street. Last year I met Willie D so I looked high and low for the four foot assassin. Just as I was about to give up I spotted the little guy hanging with some hoochies. He was way too sloshed to hold a conversation so I got a quick photo with him and peaced out before he popped a cap in my ass.



Friday, March 14th

I was stoked this morning because it was the first day of Flatstock 16, a traveling poster convention. Artists and collectors from all around the world are all there to enjoy some of the coolest Rock 'n' Roll screenprints, gig posters, and everything else in between.

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BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA

Interview by Ira
“Hospitalized” Hunter

AU: So who are you? You guys from Austin TX?
Bobby: I’m Bobby Fuentes, singer of Blunt Force



ADHD - Let That Hot Ticket Burn

by Ira “They Stole My Girl” Hunter

Mikey B. - Vocals

Mike Shock - Guitar

Johnny Beverage - Guitar

Rick Randow - Drums

Eli - Bass Guitar

I had a blast interviewing ADHD last year at SXSW so I made sure I showed up early to their Sunday afternoon show at Jackalope. These L.A. sleaze rockers are a tightly wound bunch of heavy boozin’, cocaine abusin’, fire-breathin’, lady slayers. Their first album “Til Your Ears Bleed” is almost out of print and their second release “Hot Ticket” is a near perfect album with cuts like “Crucify Me”, “Turn The Light Off”, and “Bite The Bear”. So needless to say I can’t wait for their newest release called “Let It Burn” to drop. The band got fifty drink tokens and all the free pizza they could eat for playing the show so I pretended to be their roadie and reaped the rewards as well. Damn, they sure know how to pour a stiff drink in Texas!

Absolute Underground: So what happened last night?

Rick Randow: Fuck, last night I broke away from the band and I went off and saw an awesome show at Red Seven. It was the TKO/Hellcat records showcase and I had a blast. Eventually I ended up at a hotel, and when I take off I usually do a lot of coke and stay up all night.



This time I didn’t, I promised the band I wouldn’t. It was



pushed in my face at five in the morning and I still didn’t do it. I had a bag in my pocket but I gave it to Eli. I don’t know how he does it sober, I’ve got to be drunk before I get loaded. But as far as that goes, I can’t say anything incriminating as far an interview goes.

AU: That was already the most incriminating interview ever!

RR: Hahaha! We only say these things so we can get press. We don’t do drugs or have sex... I just say we try to have a good time.

AU: Hey, where were you guys last night? You guys get laid too?

Mickey B: Nobody gets laid in this band. It sucks.

Johnny Beverage: Hell yeah we get laid, not naming any names.

AU: Hey Mickey, last time you had that Barbarian with you, that chick with the fuzzy boots? Remember, you were too busy with the Wooly

Trauma & yeah all through the suburbs of Austin.

AU: There’s usually not too much Metal and Hardcore @ SXSW is there?

B: Well RED 7 just opened up again and the guys that run it are real into the shit. One of the managers is in a band, Career Criminal, on our label, Shattered World Records. They fucking do it to it. Metal, Hardcore, fuckin GrindCore, you name it.

AU: Have you played SXSW before?

B: Yeah a long ass time ago, my punk band called the Contradicts in 1995, I played drums in that band. Usually I’m just hangin’ out, outside, fuckin’ cursing all the out of town people cuz I didn’t get invited. But this year... we fuckin’ got invited.

AU: How did you get hooked up with Felix Griffin, the old drummer for D.R.I.?

B: That’s fuckin insane man, I’m an old DRI fan. I’ve got their tattoo which is about 20 years old. I

Mammoth hunter to do the interview?

Mickey B: Oh Yeah! She was super hot but she was missing a couple fingers. It was in an accident, you know? Doing carpentry or something. Which was really weird, it was some kind of a gnarly trade you wouldn’t expect a skinny little hot chick to be doing. Anyway, the guys in the band gave me hard time for it.

AU: Did you get an HJ?

MB: It was cool. It worked.

AU: A double digiter?

MB: It was an experience.

AU: You have a new album coming out?

RR: Releasing a new album, April 1.

AU: What’s it called?

Mike Shock: Let It Burn.

AU: Are there going to be more than 5 songs on this one?

Eli: It’s a 12 songer.

AU: Those legs were on the cover of your last album Hot Ticket? I masturbated a lot to those legs.

RR: I have an opinion on whose legs those may be but I think we used someone popular enough that we can’t say or we’ll get sued.

MB: There may not have been permission.

RR: If she found out, wow, she’d be pissed.

AU: What’s on the cover of the new one?

RR: It’s a simple black background and

heard he was playing in Roger’s Porn Collection here in Austin & my other band I was doing at the time called Suicidal Failure, a Suicidal Tendencies tribute band. We played with them last Cinco de Mayo at Emos, I knew I was gonna see him there and I knew I wanted to resurrect BFT so I brought a copy of our latest CD and he checked it out. I emailed him a few weeks later, let him know the score and asked if he wanted to drum for us, he gave me his phone number and told me to give him a call. I’m fuckin freaked out, I got Felix’s fucking phone number and shit. We fucking called him, practiced and now we’re fuckin’ doing it.

AU: He’s not a tapper, definitely a heavy hitter.

B: Oh fuck yeah man, fucking thunderous. I love it!

AU: What are some other metal bands from Austin?

B: Condemned Unit are fucking kick ass, thrash metal, balls to the wall just fucking insane.

an ignited Zippo lighter.

AU: No subliminal women hidden in the flames? Is there maybe a black woman hidden in the black background?

RR: I love black women. Black chicks are hot. I look like a white racist but I’m not.

AU: You’re all about equal opportunity, you’ll have sex with anyone.

RR: Just my sweet friend back home.

AU: You’re sweet girlfriend back home?

RR: You said girlfriend, not me.

AU: Is this what we’re calling it these days? Sweet friend?

RR: No, it’s somebody else’s quote. I don’t have a girlfriend but I do have somebody who would be really upset if she heard that.

AU: Don’t let her go to Canada and pick one of these magazines up then I guess.

RR: Oh shit, there’s no distro here in the States?

AU: No, you’re golden.

RR: Oh dude. Ok so last night I fuckin’ rammed this chic ifrom behind in the hotel and they got those shower holders and I fucking just slammed her ass. I didn’t want to get coke dick so I stopped doing coke but I still stayed hard the whole time.

AU: Is that the real reason you stopped doing coke last night? You didn’t want to get coke dick?

RR: I’d rather do coke than fuck a chick

AU: What are you looking forward too this weekend?

B: The guys in the band were cool enough give me the one badge that we get and I’m using it to check out the panels since I have my record label. I told the kiddies to go play, Daddy’s gonna talk with the grown-ups.!

AU: How would you describe the band’s sound?

B: Thrash punk metal, like really it’s Crossover, we really take our cues from well D.R.I. of course, Bad Brains & the Cro Mags

AU: Final words of Doom and Reckoning.

B: Stop living off the Government Tit. This world is going to hell in a hand basket, fend for yourself, don’t believe what they tell you, go buy a BFT cd cuz we do have a fuckin’ message and we like to shred.

www.myspace.com/thebluntforcetrauma

www.shatteredworldrecords.org

sometimes. No, that’s wrong. Usually you get buzzed and the minute you do coke talking about a guitar tone is way more important than a pussy.

AU: So what are your plans for the coming year?

MB: We’ve got a new album coming out and we’re gonna tour like crazy. That’s about it.

AU: Who did you play with lately that you were stoked on?

JB: I really like playing with Electric Frankenstein, I love those guys.

MS: Backyard Babies.

Eli: The Heart Attacks. They are really cool guys. Music is awesome too.

AU: Aren’t they like 12 or something?

Eli: No they’re 13. The drummer’s from Canada.

RR: Yeah, he’s doing a good job. I don’t know if he shops at Baby Gap but he’s a skinny fuck.

AU: Give us some final words of wisdom for small children masturbating at home.

JB: Sit on your hand until it gets numb and then it feels like someone else is beating you off.

RR: I have some morals I’ll kick down real quick. Raw dog comes standard with no worries but also comes with worries and no standards. You know? If you don’t do it someone else will. You owe it to yourself. So you do the math. Put the pros and cons together and see where you’re at. That’s my advice.

www.myspace.com/adhdhotticket

A Total Disastour

by Eye-Raw Hunter

It was the supposed world premiere of the first two episodes of the first two episodes of the travel documentary about an odyssey of drug and alcohol abuse starring San Francisco’s oldest punk band still making money, NOFX. The Directors and everybody’s favorite fucked-up idiots themselves, NOFX, the band that never give interviews, talked about their upcoming World Tour Reality TV Show. I’d yell sell-outs!, but the show was pretty entertaining and mega radder than Ozzy, Gene Simmons, and Corey Haim combined. Expect insane youth running wild in the streets of third-world countries, Riot Squads beating those same children, Chest Scabs, Broken Guitars, Prescription Drug Abuse, The Quest for the Source of the the Purest Cocaine on the Planet, and El Hefe riding a camel in Egypt thrown in for good measure. One of the funniest guys on the show is Kent, their older, sorta fat, short, baldish, tour manger, who is a totally hilarious falling down drunken asshole! This sneak peek of what is to be 12 episodes definitely left a hunger for more Punk Rock road insanity, and who does it better than NOFX?

AU: I didn’t see any cocaine get snorted at all in those first two episodes.

Fat Mike: Yeah, not yet, no drugs not in the first episodes, they cut it out, my wife said no.

Kent - He was kind of chicken.

AU: Are the Dallas Christian protesters gonna be on the show?



FM - No, we stopped filming in Africa. There were Christians protesting us in Dallas, makes no sense. Jews protested us in El Paso.

AU: After this will you do another world tour?

FM - We’ll see about it. It got really rough; all the flights in all the weird countries and, as you’ll see later in the season, we pretty much got burned in most of the places we went so we lost a lot of money. But India, maybe, next year? Thailand maybe?

AU: How does it feel having emotional personal moments on TV where everybody can see them?

FM - I think it’s kinda neat but you should see me cry in the interviews; that’s really weird. It’s weird letting people into your lives; that’s why we wanted to make it personal. But today we just cut the scene where I piss my pants on stage so that’s good. America won’t be seeing that.

AU: Were you banned from any country?

FM - Probably now after the show airs, but not yet. We went to some dangerous places like South America, Israel, South Africa. We got to play some Muslim countries too which was super weird. We are planning on going to Dubai too which we didn’t on this last tour.

AU: Did that Yolanda (sketchy promoter in Peru) bitch just steal all the money from that show with the riot squad in Peru?

FM - I actually think a lot of these promoters who had the shows didn’t actually want us to show up because then they’d make all the money and wouldn’t have to pay us anything. We don’t know what happened with that Yolanda bitch. She had all the money and we didn’t get paid anything.

FM - And the guy from Colombia did not get

killed but he did get his ass kicked.

El Hefe - And all those people did get all the ticket sales money, basically Yolanda got to fuck all of us - the whole band

FM - In Colombia there was actually two shows and the guy got all the money for both the shows and the clubs didn’t know the shows were happening. Oh yeah, Yolanda invited us back and we are gonna go back. We have to make it to Colombia, we have to get the pure shit.

AU:Question for Smelly (sober drummer): How do you do it? When everybody’s getting fucked up what do you do?

Smelly - It’s a good reminder why I don’t get fucked up anymore.

AU: Is this gonna be on DVD?

FM: Yes it will. With the Too Hot for TV footage.

AU: Whose wife or significant other was most worried or gave the hardest time about going on this tour?

FM - Ken’s wife is pretty bummed and her family is gonna see her husband mad drunk. That’s only episode 1, it gets worse. And my wife cut out a lot of scenes too that I wouldn’t want to go near but fair enough.

AU: Planning on still touring the US with any regularity?

FM – We played Austin like two weeks ago, where were you? Yeah we play the US a little bit, but you know, it’s not as much fun or as dangerous, ‘cause doing this was so fun...and weird.

AU: Who had access to the final cut? Who had control of that?

Director: It’s their lives that are being put on TV so whenever it was possible if there was something they wanted to go with, or something they were



uncomfortable with, we’d give that a lot of weight because these guys gotta live with it. To the other side of things; they also wanted to show their warts. They take pride in the fact that they go on stage all fucked up most every night, so we wanted to be true to that as well.

FM – How did you know I have venereal warts?

AU: What’s your favorite souvenir from this tour?

Kent - Nose Bleed

FM - Ass Scar.

Eric Melvin - The lemons!

FM - The surfboard!! We got a surfboard in Israel. It looked like the “So Long and Thanks for all the Shoes” record but it said “So Long and Thanks from all the Jews”.

www.fuse.tv/tv/nofx-backstage-passport

(Transcribed by Michael Motorcycle)



**Interview with
Ray Carlisle –
guitar and vocals**

by Ira Hunter and Chuck Wurley

Four guys in leather jackets and ripped blue jeans. Sounds like the Ramones in the early 1970s playing in NYC. This however is 2008 and these guys are from Laramie, Wyoming. Seeing Teenage Bottlerocket definitely reminds you of the Ramones, they bang through the tunes at rapid speed, as the drummer counts off 1,2,3,4! With Kody from the Lillingtons now thrown in on guitar and vocals, the band is just getting better and better. Teenage Bottlerocket shows that songs about love, played with only a few chords are still alive, well, and living in Wyoming, or rather touring the world!

Absolute Underground: Who

are you?

Ray Carlisle: I am Ray, I sing and play guitar in Teenage Bottlerocket.

AU: Teenage Bottlerocket, is this similar to Screeching Weasel, and that similar vein of music?

RC: Yes, yes it is.



AU: Are you on one of those record labels?

RC: We are on Red Scare Records. It is out of Chicago, originally it was out of San Francisco. They release a variety of different punk rock, but there are a certain number of pop punk bands/ Ramones style.

AU: Is this your first time at SXSW?

RC: Yes, yes it is. We are really excited. We get to play with NOFX

tomorrow night.

AU: That's pretty cool, eh?

RC: Fuckin' A! Big check mark off "what we want to do before we die" list.

AU: Where are you guys from?

RC: We are from Wyoming.

AU: Wyoming, interesting.

RC: It is very cold. Freezing.

AU: So you like Texas then?

RC: Love it, love it, love Texas! Love Austin!

AU: Who are some other cool bands you have played with?

RC: Hanson Brothers, Mr. T Experience, Chixdiggitt.

AU: A couple of those are Canadian bands!

RC: And we played with the Riptides, and the Spinoffs. This time around we are going to show Toronto and Vancouver some love.

AU: How would you describe your music?

RC: I would say Ramones, because that is the type of band everyone can immediately recognize.

AU: A lot of 1,2,3,4's by the drummer.

RC: Yeah, he counts them off.

AU: What are most of your songs about?

RC: Most of them are about love. Love songs.

AU: What is a Teenage Bottlerocket?

RC: Teenage Bottlerocket is... our first guitar player's dad, he owned a '54 Ford Coupe, and him and his buddies nicknamed it The Teenage Bottlerocket. And that is where we got our name. It is kind of like someone naming their car the Pussy Magnet or something.

AU: Haha.

RC: It was just our guitar player's dad's car.

AU: So if his car had been called the Pussy Magnet, the name of the band would have been the Pussy Magnets?

RC: We just thought that Teenage Bottlerocket had a cool feel. Kind of like, what's your name? Teenage Bottlerocket!!

AU: Where else are you guys playing after this?

RC: Everywhere in the United

States! 37 more shows, no 39 more shows in 37 days.

AU: You don't ever want to go back to Wyoming that's why!

RC: Well, my wife is there and my son, Milo. So it will be nice to get back to them.

AU: How long has the band been together?

RC: Our first release came out in 2002.

AU: Final words for the little children who couldn't make it to the show tonight?

RC: Maybe we will see you next time, we are definitely coming back. And hello Canadians, give me a tweekie!

AU: Hahaha. Sweet, thanks bro!

RC: You bet!

www.teenagebottlerocket.com,

www.myspace.com/teenagebottlerocket.

**Interview with
Liam Cormier
- Vox**

AU: Cancer Bats! Are you following me or am I following you?

Liam: Yeah I dunno, just saw you in LA on the Gallows tour.

AU: And now here you are in Texas, how'd you get on SXSW?

L: I don't even KNOW! We got asked to by the Festival, which is weird because we don't even have an American Label so uh, yeah.

AU: New album coming out soon?

L: Yeah, Hail Destroyer is due out April 22nd in Canada & hopefully sometime in June in the US. We're super psyched for it!

AU: What do you think of SXSW so far?

L: It's pretty rad, I really wanted to check out Japanther like 2 seconds



ago but they fuckin' canceled.

AU: What are they called? Tha Panther?

L: No JA-panther, you know, like Japan, but with panthers, they're pretty rad like goofy indie rock stuff. So as far as seeing bands, I've seen none, so that's kind of sucked but as far as kickin ass, well the vibe is awesome!

AU: Are you sticking around for a few days for other shows?

L: Nah, we have to leave & meet up with Comeback Kid in San Antonio tomorrow.

AU: Ah that's too bad, lots of good shows, fuckin' Motorhead, Municipal Waste.

L: Yeah we actually played with Municipal Waste last night here, it was fucking awesome the place was just rammed.

AU: Holy fuck, where was I?

L: I don't know dude, the show was free, it was fucking awesome!

AU: Holy shit, I don't think I was here yet.

[band starts to play]

AU: Final words?

L: FUCK YEAH!

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THE HEART ATTACKS

Too Sweet, Goddamnit!!!

Pissed drunken interview with Tuk – Lead Guitar

by Ira Hunter

Was it the band's brazen attempts at shaking things up by setting up a rogue bar in the parking lot of The Warped Tour, selling cheap booze to bands and concert attendees alike... or was it the equal abandon and recklessness of the bands demo that REALLY caught the attention of Hellcat honcho (and Rancid frontman) Tim Armstrong? Does it really matter when the outcome was "Hellbound and Heartless" one of the loudest and dirtiest "fuck you!" rock debuts in recent memory? These Atlanta-bred rock'n'roll provocateurs cull their sound from a wide variety of rock, punk and glam's best. From Bo Diddley to The Dead Boys, Ramones to Motley Crue, CCR to D-Generation... it's all here.

AU: What's your name dude?

Tuk: Tuk! And I'm here to suck and fuck!

AU: What's the story behind the reason you guys can't come back to Canada?

Yeah we ran for the border, something happened, with somebody that looked like Eminem. Some shit happened and someone got a puncture wound with a beer bottle, so we ran for the border and got out clean.



AU: I heard that someone got stabbed with a beer bottle in Montreal, tell me more.

I can't really give you the details but somebody got fucked up!

AU: Did he die?

No but he was on probation so he couldn't push charges.

AU: Are the Heart Attacks anything like Motley Crue or did you just raid their wardrobes?

No not really, but you know what? Fuck it, too sweet goddamnit! We're not Motley Crew anything. We are the one and only, our own genre goddamnit. Live it, love it or leave it. Look good, feel good, and fuck good!

AU: Are you guys like all 14?

I'm 23 years old. We just exfoliate our faces and drink a lot of water

and eat Subway on tour. And that's the hand of the too sweet goddamnit! Wendy's Baconator!

AU: I thought you guys were all prodigy young guys?

No everyone's 21 to 23 and we're livin' this shit.

AU: How was the show tonight?

The show was good. A lot of little kids had the Slaughter and the Dogs haircuts. They had their '70s shirts. Let's get down too sweet goddamnit!

AU: How would you describe the Heart Attacks to the people of Canada?

Our drummers from Toronto so I know how to speak the canuck shit. Picture if you took Rose Tattoo, Radio Birdman, Slaughter and the Dogs, but

then added a whole 'nother fuckin' dimension of reptilian race of aliens through the motherfuckin' Stargate that built the pyramids. That's the motherfuckin' Heart Attacks goddamnit! Too sweet!!

AU: How many people had heart attacks watching the Heart Attacks?

Well only a couple drug addict friends from Atlanta. They be about 104 lbs, takin' a Baconator and then doin' a lot of cocaine. Then they get a heart attack from eatin' mushrooms.

AU: What's the Baconator? A vaporizer?

No, it's our version of the Wendy's Baconizer. It's called the vaporizer. You have no idea, you gotta see it to believe it goddamnit. I can't explain it, you gotta see it. You gotta be there goddamnit. Too sweet!

AU: You've been riding that old album for awhile, what's comin' up with the new shit?

The new album is gonna be the most killer, rock 'n roll slash punk rock album in the last 20 years. Don't forget it goddamnit.

AU: If your not Motley Crue, then who are you?

We're our own genre. But I'll tell ya, we're not '80s rock. We're keepin' it real. The hardest rock 'n roll, the hardest punk rock that you can find goddamnit.

AU: So goddamnit, what label signed you freaks?

Well Hellcat Records, but we're not psychobilly and we don't sound like Rancid. So fuck it.

AU: And they just loved you because?

They said were like The Warriors and sound like The Deadboys.

AU: I love The Warriors and The Deadboys!

Yeah, that's what happens, me too. Too sweet!

AU: Final words for the children.

Listen. There is four steps to drinkin' beer. #1 Gotta be cold. #2 You gotta have throat action. Straight down the gullet #3 Its got to be cold. #4 Always wait ten minutes after you eat to drink a beer. Too sweet goddamnit! Too sweet!

AU: How many beers you have this weekend?

There's no tellin'. I've been up for days. All the cocaine, all the liquor, all the fuckin' pussy. It's a fuckin' whirlwind. It's a different dimension goddamnit.

AU: So you've had like 8 times more pussy than regular?

Let me tell you somethin'. I live in a world with no dildos, where motherfuckers roam free with their dicks out. And their hair fuckin' wild goddamnit! I'll fuck pork rinds with God goddamnit! No rules! You cannot make a dildo bleed. Cut a dildo motherfucker, it won't bleed. Fuck a big pussy! My sweet sweet serenity!!

www.myspace.com/theheartattacks

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Larry da Leopard

I saw this tattooed cougar dude last year when the Melvins played a show. I think I snuck a quick picture last time around but on this occasion I manned up the balls to approach the tiger's cage.



AU: Who are you?

LL: Um... Leopard Larry.

AU: Do you go by any other names?

LL: Uh... Larry Leopard.

AU: Not, the Cat Man or anything? I've interviewed The Lizard Man before, are you friends with him?

LL: Yeah we wrestled before but we're friends now. We had a big wrestling match, I kicked his ass.

AU: Was there a dispute you were fighting over or was this just for fun?

LL: It's the Manimal Wrestling Championship.

AU: Who else wrestled?

LL: We were the only ones who were Manimal enough to step up. We tried to get Enigma, and the other Leopard Man, but he's like 70 somethin' and he don't wanna do it. So it was just me and him. I choked him with my speedo.

AU: So you pick him up over your head and slam him down or some shit?

LL: I was kinda too drunk for that. We had a ring and he hit me with a chair and I had one of my friends throw darts at him. Oh, it was actually a sock stuffed in my speedo that I choked him with, I'm sorry I was wrong. Haha... and that's how I got the pin.

AU: What did you win?

LL: Groupies, a bunch of chicks who wanted to do me afterwards.

AU: Animal style?

LL: Haha yeah, exactly.

AU: When did you decide to do all this Manimal tattoo work to yourself?

LL: I can't remember. A spirit animal came into a dream and told me to be a leopard. But we had a tattoo shop over on the east side called Telepathic Tattoo.

AU: Do you work there?

LL: Yeah I own it. Check this out.. This is a picture of me tattooing a 70 year old Vietnamese man his mustache on him.

AU: He wanted a permanent mustache?

LL: Yeah 'cause he couldn't grow facial hair.

AU: You tattoo yourself then?

LL: Some. I've been tattooed by hundreds of people to get my whole body done.

AU: How many years have you been coming to SXSW?



LL: I guess all of them, I live here.

AU: What was the best show you ever saw?

LL: I saw The Melvins here last year, same event. That was pretty badass.

AU: What have you seen change over the years?

LL: It keeps getting bigger.

AU: Final words for the small children at home?

LL: Quit school. Do drugs. Uh... Motorhead!

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Trusty Chords

Interview with Chuck Ragan – guitar & vocals

by Ira Hunter

AU: Is this a reunion of sorts? Wasn't Hot Water Music on a recent hiatus?



Chuck Ragan: We basically just took a last minute hiatus, and it has been a few years. We went strong from '94 and a few years ago took a hiatus and now we are coming back together. Just having some good times with friends and enjoying music.

AU: Is this SXSW gig the first show of the reunion?

CR: No, we have done a couple other shows already.

AU: How many albums did you guys have out before the hiatus? Like ten or something?

CR: No, I don't think ten. Maybe like seven or eight, something like that.

AU: Now what? A new one coming?

CR: Well we did another release on No Idea Records called, "Till The Wheels Fall Off". It is basically just a compilation of comp songs and some 7" songs. Just something we threw together with No Idea. So that is a big part of these shows we are doing here.

AU: This event today is for "Shirts for a Cure". Know anything about this cause?

CR: Yeah, Mark Beamer, he started this some years back and it is a very valid cause that we support. And that we have always supported and always will, and he is doing a good thing for cancer patients, cancer survivors and it is a solid cause. We have much respect for it, so we will always be here for him.

AU: Have you been to SXSW before?

CR: We have, yeah.

AU: Have you played here before?

CR: Yes, yes we have.

AU: What have you seen change over time?

CR: More and more people, it is constantly getting crazier and more crowded. More rules. It is a beautiful thing, cause you have people from all over the world coming together in a short period of time to enjoy music. And not only that, but coming to enjoy all different types of music, all different walks of life

are here. It is an extremely positive thing. It is something else.

AU: What are you looking forward to the most?

CR: I would love to see our good friends Lucero, I think they are actually playing right now. But I think they play later, at midnight, so we will go see them. Billy Bragg apparently played a couple times yesterday, we missed that. It is all timing, we have so many good friends playing kind of all over the place, if we are able to make it and able to get there, it is a good thing.

AU: Who are you voting for?

CR: Mr. Obama.

AU: What is some of the SXSW debauchery? We want the dirt

CR: You are standing on it my friend.

AU: I guess just some final words of wisdom for the small children.

CR: I appreciate everything that is coming to us. We have definitely worked hard, and

made a massive amount of sacrifices over the years to get to where we are. And I guess if you want to know any advice, to kids who want to make a living doing music, just be wary and be aware of what is going on around you. Because it is an extremely tough world and it is a tough way to make a living. A lot of people have the wrong idea and they glorify it in a lot of ways and it is not everything that everyone thinks it is. It is a really tough way to make ends meet.

AU: What about your solo stuff? What is that all about? Is it acoustic?

CR: Yeah, it is just solo acoustic stuff. I signed to SideOneDummy, a couple years back, been putting out records, and I don't plan on stopping any time soon.

AU: Do you do Hot Water Music songs?

CR: A couple here and there. It is a lot of fun, nothing fancy, just simple porch songs, but I have had some great opportunities to work with some great people. Ted Hutt, great producer, Brian Maul, a great engineer.

Just made a couple records. Going to be making another one in January. Aside from that, recording a bluegrass record with a good friend of mine, Austin Lucas also with John Gaunt, Austin's father, Bob Lucas, and another guy, Digger

Barnes, kind of stripped down bluegrass, folk, gospel record. My wife and I actually started a record label, 10-4 Records, and we are putting that out ourselves.

AU: Cool! Thank you very much.

CR: My pleasure.

www.hotwatermusic.com

www.myspace.com/hotwatermusic

www.myspace.com/chuckragan

www.sideonedummy.com

TRAGEDY – A Metal Tribute to the Bee Gees

AU: Who are you?

Mo'Royce Peterson:
I'm Mo'Royce Peterson
From Tragedy.



Angelpussy: I'm
Angelpussy from
Tragedy.

AU: If you're Angelpussy is there a Devilpussy in the band too?

Angelpussy: A lot of the brothers act as the Devil Pussy.

AU: What is this Tragedy?

Mo'Royce: We're the number one heavy metal tribute to the Bee Gees in the Tri-State area.

Angelpussy: That's the Tri-State of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. That's the technical Tri-State area however we are looking to dominate and decimate every Tri-State area in the country.

AU: Where are you from?

Mo'Royce: New York City.

AU: Are you big there?

Mo'Royce: We're big everywhere.

AU: Are you on or off Broadway?

Mo'Royce: Ha! That's a good one.

Angelpussy: We're suspended above Broadway. We float over Broadway.

We're having our record release on Broadway next weekend. BB Kings, on 44th Street.

AU: Is this really metal or just a Bee Gees cover band?

Mo'Royce: Oh it's metal. It's like cold steel.

Angelpussy: Metallic sheen.

AU: In between the songs you were talking about orcs and wizards, is that the metal part?

Mo'Royce: We were talking about the Pagans and how the Pagan race inherited the earth. It's a fantasy really.

AU: Is it like a space opera?

Mo'Royce: More like an Earth opera.



Angelpussy: But there's touches of Heaven.

AU: Describe your show to stupid Canadians.

Mo'Royce: I don't know any stupid Canadians but I'll describe the show. It's mayhem. We take Bee Gees songs and look at them in a totally new way. We metalize the music and kind of merge disco and metal in our performance and our performance aesthetic.

AU: I was blinded by the shine...

Mo'Royce: We wear a lot of glitter. It's Heaven and Hell coming together here on Earth.

AU: You guys have an album?

Angelpussy: Yes, it's called We Rock Sweet Balls and Can Do No Wrong.

AU: How many Bee Gees are still alive?

Mo'Royce: Two.

AU: Two to go, that's the joke right?

Mo'Royce: That's the joke with the Beatles.

AU: Do the Bee Gees know about you guys?

Mo'Royce: I don't know. One day soon, if they don't already.

AU: Final words?

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Smear Campaign

Interview with bassist Shane Embury

by Ira "Suffer The Children" Hunter & Erik "Necessary Evil" Lindholm



Starting the grindcore movement back in 1981, England's chief political bastards Napalm Death are still trucking. It's been thirteen albums and they've still got hate to spread. Months before they venture back into the studio for the recording of political missive number fourteen, Shane Embury, bassist extraordinaire, sets the record straight about future tours and bands to look out for.

AU: Here we go, starting now! Who are you?

ND: I'm Shane (Embury) from Napalm Death.

AU: And you guys are from across the ocean?

ND: Some of us, yeah. There are two Americans in the band now, but originally,

we're all from Birmingham England. That's where I am from.

AU: Interesting.

ND: It was all English, then it got to a point where the only guitarists we could find were American and now they're probably more English than I am. So there you go.

AU: What other big metal bands are from your area of town?

ND: Well, Ozzy, Sabbath, Judas Priest and all those bands. We used to rehearse with Black Sabbath. A bit of a strong history I guess.

AU: Can you tell us a little about your newest album?

ND: It came out in 2006 actually, we haven't stopped touring it yet. We're just trying to be, not as extreme, but as identifiable as you can possibly be for Napalm Death. We still get a kick out of playing fast and heavy. We try to work in slower elements and I like to think it's just as relevant now as it was twenty years ago. The Smear Campaign album is another one in the great line that goes on and on.

AU: I saw you in '94 at the Starlight room in Vancouver.



ND: I can't remember it... haha... but I was there.

AU: How many times have you been to SXSW?

ND: This is the first time actually. We're on tour with DevilDriver actually, so we were in New Orleans yesterday, so they flew us in for this show, and now we've got to leave in fifteen minutes to fly to Florida and hook back up with the tour.

AU: So you won't get to see anything else? Are you stoked to be playing with Motörhead?

ND: Yeah I'm stoked. We were playing with them a few years ago. It was cool.

AU: What sort of debauchorous stuff happens on the road?

ND: It depends. Lately, not that much. The worst of it is me staying up till seven in the morning getting right pissed.

AU: Who would win in a fight, you or Cannibal Corpse?

ND: I dunno, probably Cannibal Corpse. Maybe. We're not that violent actually. I'd probably lay out some traditional English tarts and they'd get so grossed out by that they'd go "Fuck this, I'm not getting into fighting with these guys."

AU: Have you guys seen Metalocalypse, the cartoon?

ND: Yeah, it's quite good we saw it a few months ago in LA.

AU: You need your own cartoon!



AU: There is all this metal here this year, what do you guys like?

ND: Ahhh fuck. What do I like, then? I like a bunch of stuff. Lately, a band out of Austin Texas I believe, called Insect Warfare. I really like them. Also, a bit of Converge. I like a bunch of stuff.

AU: You know how there like, "This is Death Metal, this is Gore Metal, this is Thrash Metal." What is Napalm Death?

ND: I'm not into labels. But it's Grindcore, it is. Our drummer coined the phrase. We started it.

AU: Who do you figure will win the US Presidency?

ND: I don't even know who is running, that is how much I give a shit.

AU: A black guy, a woman, and some old

guys.

ND: The black guy, fuck it.

AU: Final words, last rites?

ND: Enjoy the festival. I've got to leave in ten minutes and face the ridiculous American customs interrogation.

www.napalmdeath.org

www.myspace.com/napalmdeath



Locked Out & Loaded

Drunken interview with bassist Jeff Matz

AU: Why are you so angry, guy from High on Fire?

Jeff: Ha, my name's Jeff. I play bass in High on Fire. I'm doing pretty shitty.

AU: I guess you have to name drop yourself better to get

into the club next time.

Jeff: Yeah, I'm a very important person. This asshole in this club just completely shut me off for absolutely no reason and shoved me out the door. Don't you know who you think I am? No. It's completely rude and lame to me.

AU: How many times have you been to SXSW?

Jeff: Six or seven now.

AU: And you played with Motörhead earlier today right?

Jeff: Yeah, I've played with Motörhead for six weeks before.



They're very nice gentleman. Lemmy and Phil Campbell and Mikkey Dee.

AU: I heard a rumor they do a lot of speed and drink a lot of whiskey?

Jeff: I drink a lot of Jagermeister. I did drink a lot of whiskey with Motörhead. They made me drink whiskey and snort speed and it was really fucking stupid. I fucking had some of the worst and best times of my life with those guys. Lemmy goes "I've got this gallon zip-lock bag full of speed. Why don't you sit down with me and sniff half of it?".

AU: Final words for the children?

Jeff: Spinal Tap. Eat Shit. Go die. I hate you all. You guys are a bunch of fucking assholes.



I talked to Stainboy Reinel and bought an insane TurboNegro print off him. Another of my favorite designers is Jared Conner who represents Texas with Mexican Chocolate Design.

After filling up on the all-you-can-eat-buffet-bbq at the park again, I stopped in at the Cedar Street Courtyard to see Winnipeg's Prairie Punk Poets, **The Weakerthans**. The place was jammed to the rafters and it was muggy as hell while they played their signature style of slow song, slow song, then slap you awake with a faster one. It was cool to see a band who started in the middle of bumfuck Winnipeg getting recognition at an International Music Festival. Oh yeah, and there was all the free Southern Comfort you could drink.



Walking around aimlessly I just happened to glance at a small piece of paper taped to the window of a bar I was passing and noticed that Toronto's infamous shock group **Fucked Up** was playing at... Right Now! I ran up the stairs to the outdoor patio overlooking Sixth Street, I of course grabbed my free drink voucher from the pretty girls as I passed. **Fucked Up** was everything the hype had built them up to be minus the blood. The singer is super fat, and super bald, and super half naked, and his forehead is just a patchwork of scars and cuts, some healing and some fresh. This is where he gouges himself open like a Saturday afternoon wrestler and the blood comes pouring down his face. From the photos I've seen it's pretty fucking intense looking! He explained that it was early and they had to play another 3 or 4 shows more that day so he wasn't going to make himself bleed this early in the day.

It was a relatively tame set and I actually got to enjoy the strange indescribable music this band puts out. For the last couple songs the singer, Pink Eyes, climbed behind a SXSW banner and over the guardrail of the patio. So there I went again running back down the stairs and out into the street to watch this giant albino hang from the rail out over the street like King Kong on crack. For his grand finale he turned around, dropped his shorts, and mooned the horrified crowd gathered below. It was quite the spectacle.



The poster said it started at High Noon but I arrived around 4 o'clock just in time for headliners **Hot Water Music**. The sign hanging from the door reads "This Is Not A SXSW Show. Your Badge Don't Mean Shit!"

This was a reunion of sorts for Hot Water Music, who came out hard and fast and played my three favorite songs straight away. It was a cohesive unit with the crowd singing along to every word of "Remedy", "Trusty Chords", and "Wayfarer", all from their best album Caution.

I could have died happy so about half way through Hot Water's set I snuck away to the **Alamo Theatre** to see the world premiere of the NOFX TV Show from Fuse TV called **NOFX Backstage Passport – A Total Diastour**. They showed the first 2 half hour episodes of the tour/travel documentary about NOFX's romps around all the most dangerous countries in South America including Peru, Columbia, and Medellin where according to Fat Mike "The pure shit comes from." There's a serious riot at the show in Peru and the whole stage crew had to be snuck out of the venue past riot police. Their asshole of a manage Ken is a fucking hilarious drunk and he really steals the show sometimes. There wasn't that much drug use in the first couple episodes but Fat Mike promises "There's a scene later on where I'm juggling eight balls of cocaine."



After the movie I walked a few blocks past the highway to the **VICE Saves Texas Party**.

Insane metal heads from the four corners of the globe gathered to drink beer in the sun, eat giant turkey legs, and to mosh like barbarians!

This afternoon show was part of the **Scandinavian Metal Invasion**.



Enslaved was already playing their progressive form of black metal with viking influences when I got there and their hellion brothers **1349** were to follow. These bands are the real deal and don't joke around about metal as I found out later during some rather scary interviews, especially 1349 who are just so fucking intense in person all decked out in their corpse paint. Enslaved and 1349 are both wicked live and do there Norse ancestors proud with their undying vow to Metal, be it Blazen, or be it Black.

Back downtown I tried to get in to see **Helmet** real quick but this Gary Oldman with a mullet look-a-like Viper Room fuck-face doorman shut me down. What a dick! I had a problem with this High-collared prick last year at Valient Thorr until the band snuck us in the back alley. Hasn't this idjit heard of Freedom of the Press? Key word Free, as in let me in loser! Well anyway, I listened to Helmet from outside the venue for five or ten minutes before heading back to the strip. I didn't even really care about Helmet anyway so fuck em'!

MXPX were doing their thing at the Habana Outdoor Annex for the Ernie Ball – Ball's Are Best Fest. MXPX were one of the only returning bands from last year that I noticed in the schedule, proving that every year of SXSW is gonna be different and you never know what you'll come across.

I had a quick beer and a shot with my friend **Craig** from the **Bulemics**, who manages a killer punk bar called **Room 710. A Thousand Knives of Fire, Shame Club, Dixie Witch, Puny Human, and Sasquatch** were playing there tonight but I I bolted two bars down to **HeadHunters for Flatfoot 56, The Frantic**, and **Dead Town Revival**. The Frantic were already onstage and had the place in a frenzied state. I totally wish I had seen their whole set because I love the CD they gave me later. Happy go lucky punk, sorta Bouncing Souls meets River Boat Gamblers. The crowd and band shared a bonded energy that untied the small club with songs about Summer, Fast Girls, Fat Girls, and being a Rock & Roll Renegade. Dead Town Revival and Flatfoot 56 were also both pleasant surprises, roughly translated they were kick-ass!

A highlight of the day for sure was this showcase at **EMO's Annex** featuring **Red Fang, Black Earth, The Meatmen, Lions, Blue Cheer, and Supersuckers**. I was most stoked on the triumphant resurrection of Detroit, Michigan's The Meatmen. Caught the train to Rockville with **Black Earth**. Songs like "Down 'Til Dead", "Hell Yeah", and "Fuck All Y'All", kinda give you a sense of where these guys are coming from. smoldering guitar riffs, deep bass grooves, and thunder and lightning drum beats. Their promo pictures show them doing unspeakable things to a bunch of chickens, if that helps categorize this music at all.



Red Fang and **Black Earth** it's kinda weird that there's also a band from Victoria called **Red Earth**. I noticed something about a "Guitar Slide Throw", in a drunken scribble. A Guitar Slide Throw!? Whatever that was, it sounded awesome!



Finally, it was time for the main event. Fronted by Tesco Vee, the founding father of Hate Rock was back, and someone should have definitely called the Hate Police on this night as the obscenities and insults flowed like putrid wine from this very bitter man. Here are a just a few of the examples I can recall... "Henry Rollins is a piece of shit. I make a porcelain sculpture of him every morning on the crapper." "We're gonna play the Sucks Trilogy. Crippled Children Suck, French People Suck, and Camel Jockeys Suck!"



"Punk bars and gay bars are one in the same." Tesco came out sporting a white Leopard skin suit with matching disco boots, fuzzy jacket, and a pimp hat. Throughout the set there were numerous costume changes



and multiple mask swaps like Ernest, and Morrissey, and signs like "God Is An Asshole", and "All Christians Hate Tesco Vee". All the bases were covered as far as the set list was concerned with fan faves like "Lesbian Death Dirge", "Rock 'N' Roll Juggernaut", "Pope On A Rope", and "We're the Meatmen... and You Suck!". After many confetti canons exploded all over the crowd, Tesco Vee has a fake guitar he brings out that's shaped like a giant penis, called the Wiener Bulger. The hilarity never stopped and this show was a blast from sickening start to disgusting finish. Near the end the Men of Meat ripped a gnarly Gang Green cover of the classic cut "Alcohol", as well as a GG Allin tune. This was undeniably the return of Hate Rock in it's purest form.

Blue Cheer, who some claim to be the very first Heavy Metal band, and none can deny are Godfathers of Stoner Rock. They started in 1967 and all if not most of the original members were there to perform their mega hit **Summertime Blues**. Willy was missing out! He loves that old stuff.

As I was walking down the sidewalk I noticed a band called **Full Service** had set up an impromptu show in an abandoned lot. This is what this festival is all about, getting your music out there by any means necessary, come hell or high water!

Hanging out with my buddy Ben from Portland who I always seem to bump into at weird festivals like SXSW and Punk Rock Bowling. We got invited to an art show called **Graffiti on Girls**, where they spray paint naked women, nothing would have made me happier but I had to decline the offer and we headed back to **Red 7** for the indoor night showing of the Norwegian Metal show called "**It's Grim Up North – A Night of Darkness and Scandinavian Metal**". We'll how could I resist a "Night of Darkness"? The line-up of **Sabaton, Goat The Head, Avatar, Enslaved**, and **1349** looked intense and I'll probably burn in Hell for missing a few of the openers. I did catch **Avatar** from Gothenburg, Sweden. They were half decent but they really did look like young little European girly men with an extra dose of Pert Plus. Nice tight clothing, nice shiny hair, the kind of European fruit loops that are so pretty they don't need make-up to look like girls.



This time **Enslaved** headlined and **1349** did support. The indoor show was even more threatening and ambient with an doom driven light show. 1349 is definitely my favorite band in the whole world to take live pictures of except maybe Slayer.

Dilema Time! My options for the last hour of bar time were **SuperSuckers**, who I've seen a million times, **Legendary Shack Shakers** who I've seen twice, **The English Beat**, who I'm guessing are English, or **Unsane** from New York who I have for sure never seen.

I realized half an hour later as I crossed through desolate wastelands, gang turf, and derelict industrial hellholes that I may have made the wrong decision. It suddenly all came back to me from last year when we were trying to track down **Turbonegro** at the same place. It's so fuckin' far away, never any cabs anywhere. I remember why we stole shopping carts last year and rode them like skateboards. Just my luck there's not a bum to roll anywhere in sight. At least there was cool graffiti along the way. Crips Represent!

It was a showcase at the **Scoot Inn** promoting a new Sailor Jerry tattoo documentary. I missed Icy Demons, World/ Inferno Friendship Society, Fucked Up, High On Fire and Paint It Black. By the time my blistered feet finally made it there **Unsane** were in the middle of the final set of the night, this had better be worth it! I'll give **Unsane** this they were very loud, very raw, and very angry at the world, and that's all one can really ask of a band so these bastards are OK in my books.

Negative on any cabs for the return journey back to civilization, where I find myself neck deep in a thrall of action on the now cordoned off 6th Street. Crazyness abounds, flashing police lights, bestest bum buddies on spring break wrestling in the streets, Boom Boxes blazing, wasted people everywhere, it was seriously going off tonight!

I had been hearing rumblings and rumors of some "**Secret Bridge Show**" that was starting at like 3 in the morning. All I knew was that **Fucked Up** was supposed to play so I consulted my GPS, (Get Pretty Stoned) just kidding, and started to make what would become yet another epic journey, this time in the opposite direction of the stupid Scoot Inn. Seriously bringing a skateboard next year.



Walked to bridge show with a bunch of people from Montreal who were just as lost as me but together with the help of Mary Jane, just kidding, we found our way to our destination. It was a pedestrian bridge that crosses the lake/river that borders Austin's downtown core. This "**Gathering of the People**" was just far enough out of the way of all the SXSW shenanigans that I didn't see one cop there all night. Let's set the stage, or lack there of.. Now were talking like 500 people or more rocking it out so hard I swear the bridge was gonna collapse or something. Have you seen the singer for Fucked Up? He's a big guy! Anyway when I got there another band, I'm not sure who, was playing



but for the life of me I couldn't see a goddamn thing, even when I stood up on a planter, there was just too many people jammed hard and the band set up on the ground with a massive circle of people enclosing them like Indians at a wagon burning.

Almost pitch black except for a few lights on the bridge, most of the frantic action was witnessed in the blaze of camera's flash, creating a epileptic strobe effect.

Then the fastest changeover ever in history occurred, the first band just handed the instruments over and 2 seconds later **Fucked Up** was up and running and let me assure you it was full speed ahead on the chaos and shit-kickin' train. He still didn't bleed from the head once and I saw them 3 times. He must be mellowing with age.

The great white whale of a man shouted into the mic "The cool thing is there's no cops here tonight. If anyone dies tonight don't tell the cops. No body. No Crime." then he dove in and disappeared among the thrashing sea of people, only ever briefly surfacing for air. The guitar player in an attempt to escape being crushed jumped up on his stack to rise above the crowd and unleashes his guitar fury at head height. The drum kit was surrounded by mounds of moshing people into it and around it. Might have been the best show I ever experienced just because it was so spur of the moment and the vibe was super tight. Only cool people knew about the show so only cool people showed up and the police were unrequired and unrepresented.

They came they killed, they conquered, then they were done and Fucked Up performed another lighting fast guitar baton exchange and the show kept right straight on rockin' it when **No Age** took up the reigns next. A noise pop two piece made up of two hot shots from the LA skate/punk/art underworld. This show was DIY and so were these guys. No Age ended up being absolutely great and rocked until dawn. I'd loved every moment since destiny had drawn me to this magical bridge, the atmosphere was just primmed for anything tonight. I gotta say this was one of the coolest shows I've ever been apart off. No one got hurt, but I did see a few people passed out in the cactus bushes from excessive liquid funtimes.

It was like 4:30 in the morning and as I was leaving I discovered another very naked band still playing on this weird lawn called **Mr Free & The Satellite Freakout!** He ended the, as I mentioned before, very naked set by burning his underwear and washing his bum in a public drinking fountain. That

people, is why I am a germaphobe. Later on a bunch of wasted people who decided to sleep on the weird lawn were huddled up to his still smoldering gaunch. I just hope no one woke up in the middle of the night and went to the fountain for a nice sip of refreshing ass juice. I smoked up the boys in the band, just kidding, they were from Tucson, totally dry and desperate for a puff. It ended up saving me another walk of foot pain death when we all piled into their ginormous painted tour bus they dropped me like a block from my hotel. Thank Jebus I didn't have to walk or I would have had to get both my legs amputated. The band parked at Waterloo Park where the stage was all set up for the Vice Mess with Texas showcase with Municipal Waste and Nofx the next day. Sitting on the edge of the big rock star stage the boys told me their plan to play a show inside their bus and invite people onboard to rock out with them while the big show was going on in the park. By this time it was after 6 in the morning so I told them I'd definitely be there for that and headed for the hills.

Saturday, March 15th

Back to **Flatstock** bright and early for my daily dose of Rock poster art, then to my favourite park for a Free Mexican Fiesta Feast. A band called **Back Door Slide** played a dismal set, they as well as their name were very homoerotic. My suspicions were confirmed when they started to play Billy Jean by Wacko Jacko. It was a show in support of soldiers overseas and recruiter types were milling about. All signs were pointing to scarf down the food and get the hell out of there.

When I met up with my bro Schooly again, he made it quite clear that he's a big fan of comedy, almost as big as the massive hard-on he has for comedian Janeane Garofalo, and that he didn't want to be late for the free show at **Waterloo Park**. It was the annual **Vice: Mess With Texas** rockstravaganza!



MR. FREE TAKES HIS WEEKLY BATH



COMEDIAN BRIAN POSEHN TAKES A NAP BACKSTAGE

Here's a partial list of the acts performing this 3 stage show **The Breeders, NOFX, Black Mountain, Lucero, Fucked Up, Jay Reatard, Pissed Jeans, White Denim, Municipal Waste, Dead To Me, Grand Ole Party, Panther, and Annihilation Time.**

Don't forget about the comedy stage jammed to the rafters with some of the best gut-busters around, featuring amongst others, **Brian Posehn, Reggie Watts, Paul F. Tompkins, Hard N' Phirm, Jon Glaser, Human Giant, Janeane Garofalo, and Todd Barry.**

Now parked on the street right outside the main entrance **Mr. Free and the Satellite Freakout** boys were setting up their gear to rock a show inside the bus as we rolled up. Later through destiny and charmatic alignment another band couldn't make it and Mr. Free got the big call up to the Second Stage. Let the half-naked guy painted like a geisha do his thing, oh yeah, that's a good idea.

In passing I noticed the Press/V.I.P. table and got us hooked up with wristbands for backstage access. You know what that means... Free Beer here we come!

Did a quick interview with comedian **Todd Barry**, but I was way funnier than him so I didn't use it. Later I interviewed **Janeane Garofalo** but once again she wasn't a very funny interview either so I turfed it, but she's apparently a fan of the Trailer Park Boys though so she's a friend of mine. Brian Posehn, my dome-headed, pot-smoking, Metal brethren, had lost his voice so his act was whispered into another comedians ear who then delivered the joke. Hilarity ensued.

Jay Reatard was spastic, I wouldn't say retarded but definitely spastic.

Fucked Up had been advertising a special guest performing with them and it ended up being none other than one of the most cynical minds in punk Circle Jerks frontman, **Keith Morris**.

They blasted through a quick three or four songs together including "Beverly Hills", "I Just Want Some Skank", and of course "Nervous Breakdown". This match-up had a great Laurel and Hardy thing going on with the large fat man, and the small skinny guy, except with dreads down to the ground.

Municipal Waste was even crazier this time around. We're talking way bigger circle pits and a way bigger Wall of Death. There was no weed wizard but still much beer bong and mayhem. Currently the Best Live Band on Earth!!!



KEITH MORRIS - IRA - PINK EYES



MORE WASTE FOR YOUR FACE!

Dead To Me was up next. I had already missed this Fat band from SF play like five times since getting to Texas, and now when I finally did get the chance, I realized they were mega rad live. It was Spread-Leg Punk Rock, stripped down for efficiency and maximum velocity. The singer, **Chicken**, has short hair with a funny rat tail at the back. When NOFX and Fat Mike took the main stage he said Chicken looked like a "Squeegee Kid", then asked, "How does he get laid with that hair?"

NOFX, decided to make up for their shitty show a few nights earlier by playing their classic release **Punk In Drublic** from start to finish.

The Breeders were playing at the exact same time on the other stage, I don't know that much about the band except what Fat Mike said, "They're twin sisters and they are probably lesbians. They're probably doing 69's right now on the other stage".

Guitarist **El Hefe** asked for any kind of drugs or ecstasy to be thrown onstage. "Especially Ecstasy, I can't find any!" Fat Mike throws in a snotty "Don't throw Tums and don't throw Pot." Later in the set, the singer from Fucked Up came onstage to sing "The Brews", and fucked up, literally. Fat Mike was like "All day

long Pink Eyes has been bugging me. "Can I sing the Brews with you? Can I sing the Brews with you?" Then he comes up here and fucks it up right away and just ends up showing the audience his ass instead.. Now that's talent". From my backstage vantage point, hanging like a bat from the rafters, I took in the big punk rock show from the other side. I remember tons of huge stage dives and people climbing higher and higher up the scaffolding to soar with the eagles, before landing atop thousands and thousands of people in a swelling sea of mosh!

I left after Nofx started to play a few bonus songs and I knew it was time for a change of scenery when Fat Mike said, "We're gonna play only slow songs now".

Having learned my lesson I jumped in a peddy cab and saved my feet the dreaded agony.



Nekromantix were still on stage when I arrived. I was bummed I missed The Heart Attacks, Krum Bums, and Complete Control, but what can ya do sometimes?

Nekromantix were everything you would expect. Take one oversized stand-up coffin bass, add in a ridiculous flat-top haircut, stir in equal parts evil neck tattoos and giant voodoo crosses, and you get this creepy concoction that combines to make Nekromantix so deadly!

The Cute Lepers were tight and fun. Would you expect anything less from members of Seattle's The Briefs. They've also added sexy back-up singers so you really can't go wrong with these retro-rockers.

Hung out sending smoke signals in the sandbox with my photographer friend Chris Gomez during **Roger Miret and the Disasters**, which wasn't very Straight-Edge of us. Miret blasted through a blazing set of blue collar, working man's music. The Disasters played all their best like "Loud and Proud", "Riot, Riot, Riot", and "1984". They finished their time up with several Agnostic Front songs like "Crucified", "Police State", and "Gotta Go", these hardened street classics were belted out with raw intensity, and at an unrelenting pace that only the iron lungs of Roger Miret can endure.

I poached a back alley interview in progress with the members of the **Horrorpops**. After getting the low down on recent happenings with this Danish trio I took in their very stimulating performance that came loaded with dancing girls wearing boxing gloves chanting choruses like "My Fist In The Middle Of Your Face!" sung to the tune of "Our House" by Madness. Stupid but still fun.



NEKROMANTIX



continued on page 36

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Channel 3 was kickin' it old school with their early brand of hardcore mixed with vintage So-Cal punk roots style. They were old but they sure weren't looking their age onstage. The smiles on their faces were contagious and you'd swear these smooth surf punks were back cruisin' the halls for high school girls again.

Next, Clockwork Orange Droogs with heavy handed axes stalked the stage looking for rummies to roll while **Lower Class Brats** gave the hometown crowd what they wanted, a syringe full of street bile in the face, and a blast of Punk Rock buckshot to the body!



Then suddenly, back from the dead, it was **GG Elvis!** Featuring members of **NoFX**, **Aggression**, **ILL Repute**, and **Bad Samaritans**.

GG Elvis performed a shameless set wearing woman's underwear with his nut sack popping out. Then people started shoving bills into his panties, which only made the bill flapping problem worse. The CD they gave me at the end of the

night was a limited edition Scratch-n'-Sniff Edition... you don't wanna know. Half a block away in Emo's main room **X** was treating their fans to a special 31st anniversary tour with all original members present and accounted for. **X** was one of Slash Record's first punk bands in LA.

With the party train still solidly on the tracks, I rocked until the closing bells at the Flamingo Cantina to **The Aggrofites** reggae ska vibe. The dance floor was alive and the chant along at the end with the amped up version of the Beatles song "Don't Let Me Down" is always memorable. Shut the place down then scored some late night street fajitas. I was later shocked to discover that beer sales actually ended at a certain time, it was a very sobering realization.

Sunday, March 16th

Started off my day exploring Austin's Capitol Building. Within a very short time I had encountered a heavily brainwashed Preacher, and the world famous Redheaded Austin Yodeler.

Inside the granite structure I got creeped out by the portrait of George W. Bush from when he was governor of Texas. I swear he looks like the Snake Alien Anti-Christ.

Smoking the last of my goods on the Capitol's lawn, I started tripping out as the smoke wafted down towards the preacher man and what I began to realize was a parked police car. Time to go!

Sixth Street has gone from the party of the century to practically a deserted ghost town. Just another Everytown U.S.A. The junkies and beggars were back in force and you half expected to see a tumbleweed blow down the middle of the street.

I discovered many arcane puzzles and unlocked the hidden Masonic symbols all around Austin. Around the churches, on the Capitol grounds, the ever present Square and Compass stares down at you. There's also a very strange looking building overlooking the downtown core that's been designed to look like an owl, a known freemason symbol. Freemason conspiracy theories are always fun.

I shook my tail and stayed focused on my mission for a Sunday afternoon of Punk Chaos at Jackalope with **The BottomFeeders**, **Death Hell Battle Tank**, **ADHD**, **Rogers Porn Collection**, and another dose of **Blunt Force Trauma**.

I met a guy named James who runs a club in Dallas and he clued me into a band called **Red Screams**. He later booked me up with the singer **Andrea Le Spew** to do yet another back alley interview. He also told me about a movie a friend of his was making called **Pot Zombies 2 - More Pot, Less Plot**. I have to see this movie!

My ears perked up when I heard the female singer for **The BottomFeeders** shout into the mic "If any of you like smoking Dope this song is for you. The 'Smoke Weed! Smoke Pot!' song was sweet ass for sure. It was like the soundtrack to my life.



ADHD - RICK RANDOW



ADHD - MIKEYB



Hung out with LA punk street stars **ADHD** as they got their photos taken with underage tourist girls. Parents are warned to lock up their daughters. The band got unlimited free pizza and 50 drink tokens! Let the free boozin' commence!



Felix from **D.R.I.** wasn't drumming for **Rogers Porn Collection** anymore but their sound was still hella tight. Wes Texas and crew drop another classic weed song that went something like this "Let's get High! Let's get Drunk!" and I did. "Drink Loud! Drink Proud!" and I did.

Blunt Force Trauma was a straight up savage attack! Felix Griffin pounded away like a man possessed to do serious damage.



Watching Felix's determined face as he smashed the drums, I was reminded of my departed friend, Jay Brown. In Felix's eyes I can see where Jason was inspired with his straight ahead drumming style. The last thing Felix says to me before taking off is "Try to remember I'm not, and never was, Straight Edge." Jay would have said the same.

Caught a glimpse of the devil when **Cloven Hoof** played their heavy duty brand of satanic stoner sludge at Room 710.

Tragedy: A Metal Tribute to the Bee Gees at Emo's sucked Cartman's salty balls. It just wasn't anywhere near as Metal as I was hoping for. I gotta say the Bee Gees lick wet tea bags and anyone who tries to cover them is therefore a loser too. Disco is not Metal and Metal is not Disco. One down and Two to go. Set your scopes.

Totally Radd!!! were one of the stupidest and raddest bands I saw the entire week with songs like "Vomit Missile", "Mike Tyson's Punch-Out", and "Shark Attack Day Camp". It's honestly too crazy and out of control to do verbal justice.

This was it, the last act of the entire SXSW 2008 Music Festival, and they went out on a bang with **Karaoke Apocalypse**. They have to be ready to play upwards of a hundred songs at any given moment as the audience member becomes the frontman or woman of their own personal rock band. This is way better than the video game! With a deep and diverse song list, you can expect anything from Black Flag's "Rise Above", to Metallica's "For Whom The Bell Tolls", to Cheap Trick's "Surrender".

Later that night I realized I was being drunk driven home by my homeboy Schooly as "Blind In Texas" by W.A.S.P. blasted from the stereo. With one hand on the wheel and the other pulling a blunt, he casually informs me, "Don't worry everybody drinks and drives in Texas."

These are the best times I ever forgot.

Partial list of missed bands and events .

Fuck X Fuck Y All 3, Fuck X Fuck You 10, High Times Doobie Awards, Ice Cube, Dolly Parton, Airbourne, Diamond Head, Black Tusk, Werdeater, Tommy Guerrero, The Donnas, Evil Bebos, Camp X-Ray, Mick Jones, Authority Zero, Swastikittens, GZA, Scrambled Eggs, The Sword.



Films I missed but really wanted to see:

Battle In Seattle, Nerdcore Rising, Hori Smoku Sailor Jerry, Super High Me, Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay, Heavy Metal In Baghdad.

Maybe next year I'll be able to man up and cram even more stuff into 5 days, but I highly doubt that's possible.

Thanks for taking the ride. Catch you on the flipside.

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The Cute Lepers

Can't Stand Modern Music

Interview with Stevie Kicks, Bass/Vox

by Ira Hunter, Dustin Jak, and Chuck

Wurley

It's 2008. If you don't know Seattle's The Briefs by now... well then you just haven't been paying attention. And if you do know The Briefs then you know Steve E Nix, and Stevie Kicks. Now with The Cute Lepers in tow, they are pounding out an amped up blend of punk mod pop. With an ever-revolving and ever-evolving lineup of cheerleaders, dancers, hand-clappers, tambourine shakers, backup singers and guest musicians... you never know exactly just what you're going to get with a Cute Lepers show. Like this night in Austin at the TKO/ Hellcat Records showcase, where who do we find filling in on drums? None other than Chris Brief himself. Three outta four ain't bad.

We said screw interviewing Steve E Nix (he was too busy loading gear and keeping the groupies entertained), and I'm scared of Chris Brief, (he kinda looks like a serial killer may be lurking under the surface), so I delved into the depths of what was passing for a backstage area and cornered Canadian hometown hero Stevie Kicks!

AU: Are the Cute Lepers the same style as the Briefs, but with cheerleaders?

Stevie Kicks: No, actually, the Cute Lepers are way different than the Briefs. I know a lot of people are, "It sounds just like the Briefs", of course it is going to sound like the Briefs, because it is Steve's and Steve is one of the main songwriters in the Briefs, but there are a lot of walking bass lines and lots of backup vocals. It is totally different.

How did the idea come about to get some chicks in the band?



I think Steve, when we went to Japan, he didn't get through customs, so the Briefs were a three piece in Japan.

And he told me that he went home, and he wrote a bunch of songs. I think these songs are what he had, and he pretty much did a solo album. That is the Cute

Lepers!

Lepers? I don't know, I just associate you with lesbians now, after seeing the band.

Really? Lesbians?

The Cute Lesbians, just call it that. They are all hot!

I love lesbians.

But why don't lesbians love you?

Actually I usually get along with lesbians. I have a lot of lesbian friends. They let me into their world.

You get any mother, daughter combos?

No mother, daughter combos. I had two step sisters once. That was fun.

What about a manwich?

No, that has never happened. No strap on. Analisa Leper (Vox, Tambo, The Clap), our backup singer, is totally into the strap on, she likes to watch, but that is a whole different thing.

Why is there so much killer new wave coming from the Northwest?

Is there killer new wave? Really?

I don't know, I didn't write this question.

I don't know if it is "new" there is nothing "new".

Maybe some kind of old, new spice thing?



All I got to say is "Nuoo" and you want me to play that? Nuoo!

How do you spell that?

N-U-O-O. Maybe with an extra O in there. Five O's, six O's.

Do you guys have a record for the Cute Lepers?

Yeah, we just got signed to Blackheart Records. Joan Jett's label. The record is coming out June 1st.

If you had the chance, would you bang Joan Jett?

Joan Jett is a fuckin' cougar man. Joan Jett rules man. She is so hot.

Favorite porn actress of the 80s? Other than Traci Lords?

Let me think... Jenna Jameson, but she is too uptight. She needs to chill out a bit.

She got all skinny.

I watched a bio on her, she is hot as shit. I wouldn't hang out with her, but I would definitely do her.

New Town Animals reunion?!

Maybe one day, yeah.

It's a possible possibility?

Yeah, I know Nick, last time I talked to him was trying to get the New Town Animals back together. But Jeffery and Bryce are doing the Tranzmitors and they are doing fuckin' awesome right now.

Do you like pills?

Pills? Yeah, if they are around. Vicodins, they relax me, they are always fun to do. But everything in moderation.

Isn't that what Eminem does? Vicodin?

Um, I am not too sure. When I first moved to Abbotsford, I shaved my head and dyed it blonde, and people used to call me Eminem. They called me the Real Slim Shady. I was a Real Slim Shady.

What would you say the difference between the Briefs and the Cute Lepers is?

The difference? It is just two different bands. The music, walking bass lines, which Steve wrote, he wrote awesome fuckin' bass lines! I have to concentrate more. Two different shows, two different bands.

Final words for the Canadians?

"I am proud to be a Canadian. Pass me another beer".

"Pass me another Eskimo, hold my seat, while I fuck her up the..."

"Asshole"

"Pass me another welfare cheque. Hold my seat while I go and..."

Uh, sorry I am a little slow right now.

"Cash it!"

"Our prime minister sucks dog shit through his nose, his ex wife gets brown showers by Mick Jagger, the only reason we live in igloos, is cause our government makes a living lickin shitholes!" I love Canada man, I am a proud Canadian.

You still say "eh"?

I have never said "eh". I say "man" a lot though.

www.myspace.com/thecutelepers



THUNDERLIP

The Prophecy of Rock has been fulfilled!

AU: Impromptu interview starting...NOW! Who are you?

TL – James, Johnny, Chuck Krueger.

AU – What band are you in?

TL – Thunderlip.

AU- Tell me about the Lightsaber crotch?

TL – I came up with it right before we went on tour to see if people liked it, and they liked it, so I went with it.

AU – Does it get hot?

TL – It actually does. I burned my chin a couple of times on that bad boy.

AU – Your chin touched your crotch?

TL – Yeah, that's how long it is. I got a couple of my lower robs removed so I could make it touch.

AU – You and Marilyn Manson must have had the same operation?

TL – I hate that dude. Oh yeah, we had the same operation.

AU – How would you describe Thunderlip do the "Lame man" at home?

TL – They'd gain a lot of cool points if they listen to it. Did you say layman or Lame man?

AU – It's the same thing. How would you describe this band to people from Canada that have no idea about you guys?

TL – Beer. Lots of beer. Beer meets UFO meets Thin Lizzy.

AU – Have you guys ever been to Canada?

TL – Never but we really wanted to go that way. We like a lot of bands from Canada.

AU – Like?

TL – Like Pride Tiger and Priestess. A lot of good rock coming out of that totem.

AU – Where you guys from?

TL – Wilmington, NC

AU – Is this your first time at SXSW?

TL – Absolutely. It's been pretty fun so far.

AU – What else do you guys have planned for the



weekend?

TL – We're sticking around tomorrow for the Night Marchers and hopefully Motorhead and NOFX. Then we're going to Houston then we head back home.

AU – When you wear the red cape, did you feel like King Diamond?

TL – Not like King Diamond, more like King Crimson.

AU – You had a big booger hanging from your nose when you were playing, then you found it and ate it onstage. Is this normal for a Thunderlip show?

TL – Yeah I do that all the time. I didn't think anybody saw it but obviously you saw my eating habits.

AU – Were you hungry?

TL – I'm as hungry for boogers as I'm hungry for cock.

AU – Did you just break up with your girlfriend 'cause you ate a booger?

TL – Nah man, she likes when I do that stuff.

AU – Oh snap! She just picked

her nose and HE ate it!

TL – That's why we get along

AU – What does the name mean?

TL – We got it from Rocky 3, Hulk Hogan's character in Rocky 3.

AU – Hulk Hogan was in Rocky 3?

TL – With Mr. T, his name was "Thunderlips" but we went with "Thunderlip" instead for trademark purposes. So that's where we got it.

AU – Kind of like Alabama Thunderpussy?

TL – Nah, more like Hulk Hogan, coke Hogan. Cocaine and Hulk Hogan.

AU – Final words for the small children?

TL – Suck my lord, kids

AU – Suck my lord?

TL – If you need last words, that's what my epitaph is.

AU – "Suck My Lord" is going on your Epitaph?

TL – Absofuckinlutely.

www.myspace.com/thunderlip

(Transcribed by Michael Nussbacher)

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Roger Miret & The Disasters

Riot Starter

by Ira Hunter and Dustin Jak

While The Disasters may have once seemed like a side project for Roger Miret, frontman for New York Hardcore legends, Agnostic Front... they've put those thoughts to rest in recent years, becoming a full-blown punk rock powerhouse. Standing on their own terms, the Disasters belie comparisons, expectations and pretention. Culling influence from all the greats that Roger grew up on- Sham 69, The Business, Stiff Little Fingers, Blitz etc..., The Disasters have filtered those classic sounds through the street grates of New York City and no-holds-barred tales from Roger's own storied life. Only three albums in and The Disasters are already one of this generation's seminal punk bands.



Absolute Underground: How are you sir?

Roger Miret: Good, good.

How are you liking SXSW?

Interesting, interesting, I would rather play a regular club show, but it is pretty cool.

It's too bad Billy Milano is not here. He just works up the street.

I know, he is on tour himself with M.O.D..

You have three albums out. Did you think that would happen when you started the Disasters?

You know, I didn't know what to think. It was originally going to be a little side project. Then we wrote a second record, then we wrote a third record, you never know.

Was it just that you had been in Agnostic Front so long, that you wanted to do something different?

No, it was songs that I was not playing with Agnostic Front, but I did not want to throw away. That is how it started.

What bands do you like these days?

I still listen to the same old shit, the Clash, Thin Lizzy

What is going on in New York right now?

New York unfortunately doesn't have anymore underground types of clubs. I think people are starting to go out more towards the outskirts, like in Brooklyn there are some clubs opening up there.

Did Giuliani just goon squad it or what?

Pretty much, he destroyed it.

That leads into CBGB's closing too.

It's a shame, it is sad that such a great club that has been open for so many years has just disappeared.

Were you part of the whole final salute?

Of course we were, Agnostic Front played the last hardcore matinee. Agnostic Front, Madball, Sick of it All, it was great.

Favorite New York metal band?

Nuclear Assault. "I never knew that in the end you would be my backstabbing friend..." I used to love that song.

Was it the New York governor that had sex with the prostitutes?

Recently, yeah. He retired, resigned.

Who does most of your tattoos?

Vinnie Stigma

AU: Oh yeah, Vinnie is a tattoo artist, eh?

Yeah, he does em

AU: When I saw Agnostic Front in Vancouver, Stigma was getting propped up, he was a bit wasted.

Yup.

AU: It was deadly that you played a lot of Agnostic Front songs tonight. Parting Words?

Yeah, we ended it that way. Thanks for the interview, appreciate it

www.thedisasters.com

www.myspace.com/disasters



ENSLAVED

It's Grim Up North

by Ira "Son of Odin" Hunter and Erik "Metal Maniac" Lindholm

From distant and frigid northern lands came the legendary ice-cool mystic-metallers Enslaved to add some angry Norwegian pressure to this far too summery and enjoyable festival. Starting the band when he was just 17 years old in 1991, vocalist/bassist Grutle Kjellson played right through the legendary church burnin'/suicidin'/Christian killin' phase of Norwegian black metal and came out with a more mystical outlook for it. 2006's release "Ruun" blew up the charts in Europe with it's new explorations of ancient mythology and reinterpretation of traditional black metal sounds. Read on as the man describes his metal roots, the joys of skiing and his personal drinking horn. Skål!

AU: What is your name sir?

Grutle Kjellson of Enslaved. We are from Norway.

How is it coming from Norway to Texas?

It is much hotter of course. Insanely hot. We came from 4 centigrades to like, 35 centigrades.

Was it pretty cool opening for Motorhead the other day?

Oh yeah. Still a good band, one of my favorites of all time.

Have you ever been to SXSW before?

Never, it is first time.

Have you ever heard any Texas metal?

Yeah, lots of bands. We toured with ABSU many years ago, from Dallas. Divine Eve, Rape Pillage and Burn, that's about it I guess.

Of course, Pantera is from Texas.

Ahhhh hah. (seems unamused at this fact)

What's the difference between American and European metal?

Well, the death metal scene is much bigger is Europe. Historically, at least.

Have you guys changed from the start, going from black metal into some evolution with the keyboards?

I never considered ourselves black metal because we never had any satanic lyrics which is essential for being in a black metal band. Of course we have changed, we are in constant change.

What do you think, coming from Norway, of the whole Satanic metal scene? Do you believe in it?

Satanism?

Yeah, Satanism and Church burnings.

I'm not a Satanist, so no. I'm not a Christian either. It's the same thing.

You pray to Odin!

Well, I wouldn't consider myself religious if that is what you mean, no.

What are most of your songs about?

Our concept, is everything is based around Norse mythology. Our own interpretations of the myths.

Do you have a drinking horn?

I do have. Yes. Haha! It is at home.



How many horns can you drink?

30 or 40. It all depends on the beer.

Is there good marijuana in Norway?

Marijuana. I don't smoke it.

Is it the same as in Amsterdam, for example?

EN: Well, not really. It's mostly homegrown, and not that good.

Grown outside?

No, it's much to cold for that.

There are a lot of ski mountains in Norway. Do you do that?

Yes, there are. Sometimes I do it, not much anymore. I used to do it when I was younger.

What bands got you into metal?

Well, obviously I started with some old bands. With KISS, moved on to Iron Maiden and Accept. Then to thrash metal like Anthrax and Metallica, then early black metal bands like Venom and Mercyful Fate.

Are you doing any big European festivals this year like Wacken?

We did Wacken last year, so this year we will do Rock Hard festival, we are going to do Gods of Metal in Italy and one in Portugal.

Do you have some final words?

I'm going to die from this heat. It's too fucking hot here. I don't understand how people can live here. I've been in Texas in July month, it's like hell.

www.enslaved.no

www.myspace.com/enslaved



Cover Artist Profile

Ryan "HumanBurger" Jones

Wretched Renderings

Who are you, and what are you best known for?

I'm Ryan "HumanBurger" Jones. I'm best known for my full issue Horror Comic that I am currently working on. I've also done a few commissions here and there for various metal bands and whatnot

What is a HumanBurger?

In early 2001, a year or so out of high school, I had all this artwork I'd accumulated from drawing all day in class, so I ventured forth into the internet and bought a web name, which was humanburger.com. People seem to love the name and it stuck.

What originally got you into drawing demented imagery?

I think it was back in Grade One. They had all these kickass nature books on sharks. The idea of creatures with soulless black eyes and rows of razor sharp existing, coupled with 80's horror movie lore, got me fascinated with creatures. I would always find myself in the horror movie section at the rental store but way too young and chicken shit to rent any. All that eerie artwork was just the coolest thing at that age. Drawing it all just kind of came in afterwards.



Did you listen to a lot of Slayer growing up?

SLAYER is classic stuff. I love most of the 80's/90's crossover thrash metal. I'll listen to anything really from Birdflesh to Frank Zappa. I love it all! I'm stoked I just landed tickets to the Iron Maiden show, speaking of favourite bands.

How did you start drawing album covers and what bands have you worked with so far?

I went to high school with most of the crew of the band MassGrave. I started doing covers for them and also got a gig with Macabre doing up two shirts for them. I guess those couple projects were enough to get my ball rolling in the right direction. I've worked with GUT, Poser Disposer, Splatterhouse, and Menacer. Some upcoming stuff for Impetigo and Otto Von Schirach. I'd love one day to do one of those classic double fold out LP covers, that would be pretty badass!

Your artwork is quite detailed, how long does it usually take you to finish say an album cover or say the cover of this issue?

I usually work at least a full week or two on a picture. The cover for this issue took me a lot longer as it was the biggest

picture I've drawn, the original is at 16.5" x 23.5" inches. It was a challenging piece to work on. I both loved and hated it. I think I penciled it on and off for 2 weeks then a good week and



you get your sick and twisted ideas? Do Drugs have anything to do with your artistic process?

I dunno, I don't ask really. I guess I just don't want to punch the gift horse in the mouth or something, haha! As for drugs... I'll stick with the doobies.

Your artwork is quite unique, who were your artistic influences?

Well, for me its a balance between the classic character design of cartoon masters like Chuck Jones and Doug Tennapel, but I just LOVE the intensity of heavy metal artists like Simon Bisley or Horror/Gore artists like you find in old EC comics.

Tell us about your current comic book project you are working on.

My current self published project is Titled "WRETCHED", its a B-Movie style Thrash Metal Horror comic that I'm still working on. It should be over 30 pages

when I'm done. Basically its a bunch of short story horror tales all told by a pissed off undead metal head host.

What are you doing to promote your work?

Everything and anything I can. I'm leaving tomorrow morning for Cleveland, Ohio for Cinema Wasteland. Later in April I'm in New York for the NYC Comic-Con and in late 08' I'm off to Europe with MassGrave to sell



a half inking it. Thanks for pushing that deadline by the way, haha.

Where do

merch and promo my comic for 6 weeks. Right now I have a preview ashcan comic I hand out for free to get the word out.

Last Will and Testament?

Well, I spent every waking hour last night finishing that cover, so honestly, just give me a few hours sleep before I leave for Cleveland tomorrow at 6am and I'll be very happy.

www.humanburger.com

www.myspace.com/humanburger

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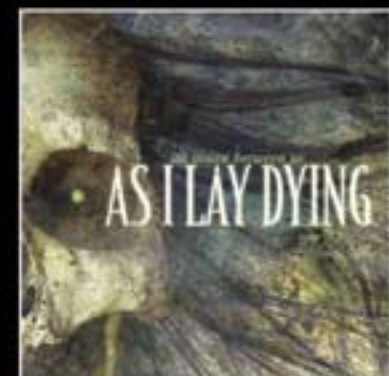
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TKO/Hellcat Records Showcase
Interview with Mike Magrann
(guitar & vocals) and Alf Silva (drums)
 by Ira Hunter, Dustin Jak, & Chuck Wurley

Early 80s, Cali-punk mainstays CH 3 are back on the scene. After keeping a decidedly low profile in the 90s, the band has been steadily gigging over the last few years and released their first album of new material in almost 20 years with 2002's "Channel 3" on Dr. Strange Records. CH3 is also the subject of the brand new feature length documentary "One More For All My True Friends" (out this Spring on TKO Records). All framed around a triumphant reunion set at Alex's Bar in Long Beach, CA. The film chronicles the history of the band from their rawest garage beginnings to the parties to their cannonball dive into the heart of the early 80s So-Cal punk/hardcore scene. This would all make a fitting tribute to a long dead band, but with CH3 back and stronger than ever-consider "One More For All My True Friends" their reintroduction to modern punk rock world. This interview took place in one of the dankest, seediest, alleys in all of Austin, Texas.

Absolute Underground:
Commencing ignition! What Channel are we on?

Channel 3: We are on Channel 3 baby! This is **Mike Magrann**, and **Alf Silva**. Alf on drums.

AU: Where did the name come from? Were you watching too much TV?

C3: It was total boredom, it reflects our suburban life, sitting around the house trying to decide what we are going to name the band. Back then, before cable, there was no channel on channel 3, it was a blank channel, just noise, so we decided to be Channel 3.

AU: That is the French channel in Canada.

C3: Is it? You know, I Googled Channel 3, and all this weird shit comes up.

AU: Ok, so close to 30 years, what is the secret of your endurance?

C3: No, its not 30 years. Is it? Our first record wasn't really released until 1980 or '81. So you were probably 4 years old. Whoever

says 30 years is fudging it a bit.

AU: Sorry for making you look older than you are. What was it like back then? The climate?

C3: Well, you know, kids ask about that a lot. In some ways it was a lot of fun, because there was no internet, no cell phones. Plus punk culture was so small and noticeable, that you really became a tribe, against the population. You would get arrested and get in fights just for looking like a punk rocker

AU: Where were you guys rockin' when you started?

C3: In the garage. You mean what city? We came from Cerritos, a suburb, me and Kimm grew up together since 2nd Grade. We started playing in the garage, started going out there and playing a few clubs, here and there, backyard parties. Then we started touring in 1981, went through different record labels, different incarnations of the band. Kind of petered out in 1985 and we just kept a low profile. Luckily we found these two guys, picked up Alf in 1992, Anthony came along a little while after that. We all said that the most important thing in a band is not how you play, cause these guys are shitty players, haha, but how you get along. So we have been lucky enough to do it ever since.

AU: Did you know that they played Channel 3 on a Canadian TV show called 21 Jump Street? The episode was about skinheads.

C3: I know about it, I was getting the royalty checks until a little while ago. They actually took the songs out of it when they pressed it to DVD, so they didn't have to pay us anymore.

AU: And who was the star of that show?

C3: Johnny Depp baby!

AU: So you pretended to be skinheads for this Canadian TV show, starring Johnny Depp?

C3: We weren't in the show. Just the music. I think we were just playing in the background when the fat guy was

getting his head shaved.

AU: New album? Any chance of this happening?

C3: Nah. We got a ton of songs in the can, but you know, what are we going to do? The music business is dead, so...

AU: What about on TKO Records?

C3: Well, we are probably going to press something on vinyl and also have it available free for download, coming up. But we do have a DVD coming out next month, "One More for All My True Friends", a documentary of the band and the history, and also about us coming up in the 1980s, a Southern California hardcore thing.

AU: Do you still keep in touch with bands like TSOL, Adolescents, Youth Brigade, and D.O.A.?

C3: All the time, all the time. Almost everyone is out there playing again. It is funny, we get together, and we are all 40 year old men now, with concerns of old guys, but we are still friends and playing.

AU: Back catalogue? Posh Boy Records?

C3: Posh Boy Records!! He is still around, he still has his finger on the pulse. You try to use one of his songs without telling him and he will be right there jumping on you.

AU: You got a story from Punkland Punkfest in Oregon '93?

C3: Yeah, that was the first time out, back together. Luckily enough we played on the first day of the festival. We actually did get paid, I heard the next day, nobody got paid. It took Joey Shithead going over there and standing on the guy's car for the rest of the bands to get paid.

AU: Oh yeah, everyone else got ripped off, but you did get paid?

C3: We did get paid. We were lucky enough to play first day, and we were like, you pay us right now fucker.

AU: Do you know about a Personality Crisis re-release?

C3: No, but I remember those guys from back in the day. We were good friends with Stretch Marks, over there in Winnipeg, introduced us to a lot of the Canadian bands. We spend our summers driving back and forth across that fuckin' country. A lot of moose! www.tkorecords.com
www.chthree.com
www.myspace.com/channelthree



A Punk Elvis Tribute

by Ira "Love Me Tenderloin" Hunter

I met Eric Lara from the Bad Samaritans at Punk Rock Bowling in Vegas the first year I went. We did an alley encounter interview and I put him and his band in the mag. The next time I saw him he informed me he was now involved in producing Punk Rock inspired Porno. Eric also apparently teaches anger management classes for court referred offenders, and he is also a certified hypnotherapist. And so who do you think showed up at SXSW dressed like motherlovin' Elvis??? You guessed it!

AU: Where did this come from, why are you dressed like Elvis?

G.G. Elvis: It came from a very bad idea gone awry.

AU: A Rye like the whiskey?

G.G. Elvis: Rye like the whiskey.

AU: Who are you supposed to be?

G.G. Elvis: I'm G.G. Elvis

Elvis 56: I'm Elvis 56.

AU: Who are the other Elvis'? Or is it Elvi?

G.G. Elvis: We have Elvis Vicious, Elvis of Nazareth, those are our guitar players. Then we have Has-Been Elvis on drums, and Elvis 56 here on bass.

AU: And the woman?

G.G. Elvis: That's our newest member, Mallory. We're calling her Little Sister.

AU: You've played Vegas, now SXSW. Something must be going right?

G.G. Elvis: Yeah, something is. Moving up. We're really happy to be a part of this show. We got lucky. We're having a great time.

AU: SXSW likes the cover bands. Last year the Misfits, this year G.G. Elvis. What's the craziest stuff that happens at your show? I saw bare asses but no poo.

G.G. Elvis: You know what? I'm not a sociopath like G.G. Allin was. I'll take his finer points and I'll use them but I'm not going to defile the audience like that. I have nothing against these people.

Elvis 56: No poop.

AU: But you like the balls.

G.G. Elvis: Welcome to Ball City, baby!

AU: So that wasn't an accident that your nuts flew out?

G.G. Elvis: No, no. It never is.

AU: Tell me some of your song titles.

G.G. Elvis: 'Viva Las Vegas'. They're all Elvis titles.

Elvis 56: We put the punk in the music.

G.G. Elvis: They'll be a little Black Flag, Sex Pistols, Ramones...

AU: I was so impressed to see so many Elvis' on stage at one time. You should hand out peanut butter sandwiches.

G.G. Elvis: Yeah, but I'd eat them on the way here.

Elvis 56: He has to fit into his costume somehow.

This guy is in the Bad Samaritans, this guy is making punk rock porn, and this guy is G.G. Elvis! Was there one of the Elvis guys that was an original NOFX member?

G.G. Elvis: Yes, that's Elvis Vicious. He was also in Stalag 13 and Aggression.



LISTINGS FOR APRIL AND MAY

April 4 - The Scorched Banditos with Seven Shots From Sober , The Rigormorticians and The Haymakers

April 5 -- Studded For Pleasure with Ost Est Ima and Inner Surge

April 6 -- ScissorTooth with Inter Twyne

April 8 -- Mother Dies Today with Archon Legion and Persopolis

April 9 - Piko Panda and The Paper Machete

April 10 - The Billionaires Club hosts Open Stage

April 11 - Jezibelle with Radio Logic , Molotov Smile

April 12 - Dave McCaan and The Ten Toed Frogs

April 16 - Primal Scream

April 17 - Chad Junker hosts Open Stage

April 18 - TreeBurning with Lothian, Plaid Tounge Devils Radio Logic , Matt Blais, Bound by None Aids Fund Raiser,

April 19 - Ost Est Ima with Mark of Cain , The Press Gang and Vaughn Kane

April 20 - The Duped and Bound By None

April 22 - The Dreadnaughts With Three Good Men

April 25 - Within the Ashes with Bloated Pig , Mark of Cain , We Found the Body and Razor Wing

April 26 - Mike Lynch

April 26 - Seven Story Redhead with Fist Full of Nice and Smith on a Sunday

May 1 - TreeBurning Calgary,

May 2 - Nusquam Esse with Nosis , Amanuesis with The Fall Of Sacred

May 3 - The Grow Show with Fifteen Famous Minutes

May 10 - Darwin Days with Adam Smith and The Lions

May 14 - Juanita Brandt with Erin Ross

May 15 - Ganger with What the Shit, DCOI and Reaction

May 16 - Deluge with Morty Snowboots , Felix , Death By Numbers

May 23 - Twenty Centuries of Stony Sleep with Abreaction Key and Matt Blais Connection

May 24 - Kilyakai with Monstrous in Animo , Mark of Cain and Razor Wing

May 28 - Cowboy and the Prizefighter with A Trophy Life

May 30 - FreeFlow with Gone Baby

May 31 - Sotraum with Hope and Horror Sudbury ,



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AU: What do you have to say about SXSW?

G.G. Elvis: This is an awesome show tonight, the Horrorpops, Heart Attacks, Complete Control, we're just happy to be a part of this bill. It's fucking awesome!

Elvis 56: I have one thing to say, more

drink tickets!

Final words for the wannabe Elvis' of the world?

G.G. Elvis: Keep eating.

Elvis 56: Don't try it.

G.G. Elvis: There can only be one!

www.ggelvis.com

www.myspace.com/ggelvis

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HANK ANGEL & HIS ISLAND DEVILS-10\$

SAT. APRIL 12TH
D'UBERVILLES, VINCAT, RUGGED UNCLE-8\$

FRI. APRIL 25TH
TYRANTS OF BLOOD, MITOCHONDRION,
COMPOUND TERROR-10\$

SAT. APRIL 26TH
BOB DYLAN TRIBUTE-8\$

WED. APRIL 30TH
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Days of Plague

By Ira "Frozen Corpse" Hunter
These evil Norwegians wear corpse paint and breath fire, so obviously they take their Metal very seriously, and preferably Black. Praise Satan... Worship the Goat!
Please read the following with a thick Satanic accent.

AU - What are your names?
1349 – Ravn (Vocals), Archaon (Guitar), Seidemann,(Bass)
AU - Where does 1349 hail from?
Archaon - Norway and we're based in Oslo at the moment.
AU - Are you friends with Turbonegro?
Ravn – No.
AU - So is this 1349's first time in Texas?
Ravn – Yes.
AU - What's the meaning behind the name 1349?

Ravn - It's about the black plague, Norway was hit with the black plague in the year 1349 and killed two thirds of the population, it was the country that was the hardest struck by the black plague.

AU - So some of your ancestors would've been affected?
Ravn - Well it killed the Royal bloodline which ended the Norwegian Heritage in a way.
Archaon - A line of Norwegian Viking Kings perished in the black plague and we were under foreign rule for 500 years.
AU - Under foreign rule?
Archaon - Foreign rule...the danish people came and conquered what was left of Norway and ruled for 400 years and then another 100 years under Swedish rule so basically 1349 ended the golden age of Norway for good.

AU - So now what is it?
Ravn- We've taken back the throne and black metal in general.
AU - He he he...
Ravn - this is nothing to a laugh about.
AU - Sorry, I'm Canadian so I'm stoned all the time, so where do you draw your inspiration from?
Ravn - We don't want to copy anyone we just want to make our own music and that's the main thing.

Archaon - We're inspired by whole lot of different things, not just so narrow minded, its easy to say one category, one thing, one subject, it's a lot of different things.
AU - New album coming out?
Ravn - No, not at the moment. We're in-between two stages, Frost (drummer for 1349 & Satyricon) is touring the new Satyricon album and we're kind of figuring out a new concept for the new album.
AU - How did you end up being at SXSW? Usually there's not much metal here?

Archaon - It was a competition in Norway where the people voted for the bands and somehow we came out as one of the three bands to be represented from Norway. We would be sent here with Enslaved and Goat the Head.
AU - Goat the Head? What are they like?
Archaon - Primal cavemen death metal thing. It's a different concept but a lot of humor.



AU - You guys doing any big festivals in Europe this summer like Wacken?
Ravn - We played Wacken last year, this year we're doing Inferno Festival.
AU - Who were the big bands last year at Wacken?
Ravn - There was Immortal... that's all that mattered.
AU - What are some upcoming bands to look out for...
Ravn - Nah, nobody...
AU - They all suck?
Ravn - They all suck mostly, its really hard to pick out someone when there's so many bands out there. The integrity of the bands is what's lacking these days due to the internet. The integrity washes out since its so easy to get your name out there these days you don't have to work for it at all.

AU - Was there supposed to fire breathing tonight?
Ravn - Of course always... but we couldn't do it because the warmongers here in Texas are scared of fire.
AU - I think it's that band Great White's fault.

Archaon - We tried before when we toured the US and Canada. I blew fire once at the opera house in Toronto and the guy went absolutely ape over it. They don't like it here but it's apart of our show
Ravn - People in Europe know what its all about but in the US I don't know what the fuck is up.

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Absolute Live Reviews

EXODUS, GOATWHORE, WARBRINGER
Feb. 20, 2008 @ The Warehouse, Calgary, AB

I marched into the Warehouse late, just missing Warbringer's opening slot. Judging via the LCD monitors in the hallway, waiting to get in, they seemed like an energetic thrash resurgence who warmed up the crowd nicely. I immediately went to the Goatwhore merch table and bought a sticker which proclaimed "Stay Fuck!" I'm still trying to wrap my head around that one. Unfortunately, Arsis couldn't get across the border so up next would be the trusty horned prostitute.

Sammy was decked from head to toe in Road Warrior-esque spikes, so much to make Kerry King blush. Goatwhore ripped through a 40-plus minute set which made up for third billings and opening acts on their previous tenures here. Needless to say, the Calgary crowd became unglued, as at the end of their set had the Warehouse perform a wall of death inspired move called the "four corners of the apocalypse". People spread the crowd open and crammed as far as they could into each corner, then collided together trying to break a wormhole in the space-time continuum.

Veterans Exodus held us in the palm of their hands, working us with potato mashing riffs from their entire discography. They were swooned by the amount of tattooed, big titted chicks in the place, immediately taking notice to my friends. They seemed more than satisfied with the boiling, infectious response from the energetic crowd. Even the singer, who I'd heard was somewhat of a hot head, only berated the crowd when asking who had downloaded the new Exodus album, as opposed to those who actually bought it. I was humbled by the experience, it was a great night for metal, a mutual appreciation from fan to musician and back again.

- Ryan Dyer

Exit Exit Strategy CD release w/Order Of Chaos, Kilyakai, Fri, Feb. 29, 2008, Stetson Inn, Calgary, AB

I remember being at Thorazine's last show some five years ago. I wasn't around while they were a prominent band in the metal scene and seeing them on their last legs was somewhat of a great privilege for my young mind. Exit Strategy formed soon afterwards and I was left thinking what impact this new band would make and if it would match Thorazine's notoriety as one of the best death metal acts to come out of Alberta. So here we are, at the CD release of The United State of Amnesia, and judging by the amount of devotee's to the socially conscious cause of anti-indoctrination in a point blank firing range of grind, there is no reason to believe Exit Strategy won't be the next band to break through the rodeo gates to start sending their message to those directly in their cross hairs, that is the entire collective of comatose civilization locating their stepping-on-eggshell news from government approved networks.

The opening act was the Montreal hockey game, which only a few old timers, there from 2pm onward to get away from their batty wives, watched with any interest. After the game finally ended, Kilyakai and Order Of Chaos gave sets worthy of a headlining act to warm up the stage for Exit Strategy.

In trying to sum up an experience of Exit Strategy live, I've concluded that it's like seeing Skinless if they watched a box-full of Disinformation DVDs. You'll be crushed by a bookcase of blast beats containing a library of samples, then tossed into the front lines with heat seeking missile riffs hitting you from all sides. And I forgot my peace sign helmet! The duality of man comes up in the lyrics, which fits their theology perfectly. This is insane music with a liberating message, it disproves the notion, if it even existed that all, that metal is one dimensional and pro-war. Support the troops and not the war, support humanity helping humanity and not desensitization and mindless slaughter under a motivation that is certainly a euphemism. It all ends with the blood gates creaking open, and "Raining Blood" bathing us in a last heroic and defeated stance.

- Ryan Dyer

Zimmers Hole - Republik , March 13th, Calgary AB

First of all I have to say that the Republik II is one of the best bars there is now in Calgary for smaller gigs. I was amazed... you could see no matter where you stood, they gave us cheap booze, and let us do our thing.

The only thing I'm going to bitch about was the same thing I always bitch about, putting Hardcore bands with Metal bands. PLEASE PLEASE fucking PLEASE stop doing this. Its not the same music, so just STOP.

We all stood around and drank while 3 ninjas did some kicks, punches and cartwheels (yes folks, it was a full on grade school cartwheel executed by a 80lb young man in the tightest white jeans I've ever seen right in the middle of the pit) to Savannah and that was that.

Zims dead hooker corpses and vaginal canals came out of the wood works and we were all ready to go. Everyone formed on the stage... the hulking Byron Stroud of Fear Factory and strapping fame, the larger than life legend Gene Hoglan (nuff said), and Jed wasn't able to make it, and they had a fill in, I forget who they said it was but he knew

What he was doing and that was good enough for me. Chris Valagao AKA The Heathen stormed the stage ass

out and all, it was rad and red, he was certifiable. The madness ensued.

They fired off some Fista Corpse, threw some McPoison around and the crowd just had a blast. They even threw out some cheese slices with various personalized messages on them, including some that had free CD give aways, that was pretty cool, but maybe not as cool as fisting a dead hooker corpse or The Heathen while dressed as a vag. All in all it was a fucking good show. Come again, but don't bring your HXC with you.

The 3rd Annual Femme Fatal Carnival
March 7th - Tantra

Calgary's sexiest fundraiser returned yet again this year raising funds for Eve Ensler's The Vagina Monologues and helping put an end to violence against women and girls. Master Sarah Moanies was one of the best hosts I've ever seen at any variety type show, her costume changes were faster than the eye could see and amazingly beautiful every time.

Not to mention a real performer, she really held the crowd in the palm of her hand. There were a few jems of the night that really stuck out such as the Fyre Sylk Spinners and Studio Sublime Belly Dancers WHO I have to mention did a number to Iron Maiden - Yes thats right. Camo & bullet covered belly dancers, pure brilliance. The silent auction went really well and hopefully raised the roof on what they needed.

It was a full house, but a house most of us could have done without. After talking with tons of people that night, pretty much the only two things that weren't positive that I kept hearing were "I cant see" and complaints about allowing the regular Tantra crowd in around 10:30pm.

Tantra just isn't a good bar to hold big events like this at because of just that, there is a very limited viewing area, and there regular crowd is THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE of who we are.

But that aside, it was a sucessful, fun, sexy, enjoyable evening and congrats to Marsha for putting on yet another stellar event! We look forward to the next one!

- Demonika

Ministry, March 26, 2008 @ The Whiskey, Calgary, AB

I arrived at the Whiskey around 9pm to see a sea of black that stretched about 5 blocks long, thinking there was no way in hell I was standing in that, I went elsewhere for a few drinks. A half hour later I came back to the same line. Seemed like no one had moved, and it was understandable why. Allowing 4 people in at a time to a small corralled in space no wider than 10 feet could have been why... Not having the entire bar open could have been why... Over selling the show could have been why... If a band sells out Mac Hall why the sweet fuck would they pick a smaller venue? It should go the other way - Larger venue. More people. 2 shows. Anything! Alot of people walked away with a \$50 burning hole in there pocket and a temper to match once they waited in line for 2 hours only to find out that Meshuggha (who most of us there were for), and Hemlock, didnt make it. How about a large visible poster and a door man telling everyone down the line. That would have worked. Dont forget the people who paid the \$100 VIP tickets who didn't get jack shit either. Im amazed there wasn't an all out riot. So we waited like cattle headed to slaughter in a tiny enclosed space drinking our \$6 beer for the rest of the bar to allow us in. Around 11 pm they finally did and like a title wave we engulfed the bar and had a bit a breathing room. This would last for all of 5 minutes. The rest of the line began to pour in and the bar became a sardine can yet again. The whiskey could have a good show with about 400-500 people, but not as many as what were there that night.

There was no air left to breathe, no room to see, no viewing areas, nothing. It was brutal. Unless you severely trampled a few people down and stealthed your way to the front there was no way you were seeing what was going on. Ministry were great, themselves as always, playing a wide variety of fan favorites and putting on a great visual show. Tons of people singing along and forgetting how horrible of a mess the show was. Honestly the planning and venue ruined this show. If Ministry hadn't been so good, it would have been war.

- Demonika

An Occasional Man - Magazine Launch
April 3/08, Lucky Bar, Victoria, B.C.

On a random Thursday evening, my friend and I decided to check out a magazine launch at Lucky Bar. Enticed by the name of the 'zine, An Occasional Man, we found ourselves nestled in the dark confines of the bar. It began with a sensuous show of two fine burlesque dancers, Victoria's Bettina May followed by Hawaii's Meghan Mayhem. Both ladies put on a show that was tastefully exotic with just the right amount of flesh. Next up was the comic book duo of Hank Pine and Lily Fawn. Always a treat for the senses their mix of strong drum beats, robotic samurai dancing and provoking lyrics made for a great performance. It was at this point in the night that the announcement was made that the next occasional man was to be picked right in front of our eyes! To our delight Bettina May and Meghan Mayhem forced men

at spear point, from the audience, to be nominees. This truly was the highlight of the evening as the men were made to model-walk down a short runway, act out a performance as their favourite animal and complete a strip tease. Finally, after rigorous competition and great effort from the participants, the next occasional man was chosen. The 'zine itself is full of great advice and interesting interviews with fine folks. And of course, not to be forgotten is the centerfold pin-up of the Occasional Man. Stay tuned for the next issue!

- Lethal

Final Verdict, Vile Style, Foul Play Soccer Club, Mutiny, Mayday Monday March 31, James Bay Community Centre, Victoria, B.C.

This was a farewell show for Brian Clement, who has been putting on all-ages hardcore shows for sometime now and also directs sweet zombie/horror films. He will be sorely missed by so many. Mutiny opened the show.... Holy fuck they dominated! This was the best I have seen them play yet. Next was Mayday Mayday (there's a fucking polar bear on the mic!) Well no bass this night, as they were asked to play spur of the moment. Watch out for this band! Good old hardcore played with feeling and heart. Plus they sing songs about Tony Galuza! Then Foul Play!!! Giant soccer balls and huge foam pizza slices and blow up bats and guitars with the shred turned all the way up! Fucking fun !!! They played a couple Negative Approach songs and a Minor Threat song. During this fun set, mayhem went on in the back of the room. Brian got a sucker punch from a dirty fucker who in turn was removed rather forcibly by several friends. Dumb ass fucker bringing a dog into the show... It was the only thing that marred an otherwise sweet night. To end Final Verdict played there last show... Sad but true. Austin got semi naked. Lyds was in top form. The band played the best show they ever did and had the kids moving the whole time. Goodbye Brian. You are a man among men and you will be missed on the island but you won't be forgotten.

-Bubba

Zimmers Hole, Savannah
March 11/07, Lucky Bar, Victoria, B.C.

Edmonton's Savannah joined forces with Vancouver's over the top Zimmers Hole for what was to be a night of debauchery and carnage for all. First up were metal/hardcore upstarts Savannah, with a new album under their belt, produced by the notorious Devin Townsend (Strapping Young Lad, Punky Bruster) they seem primed to take on the world. They certainly delivered a poignant mix of old school break downs, double kick blast beats and some serious guitar shredding. The intensity level for their set was through the roof and it almost felt like the walls of Lucky Bar were going the way of Sodom and Gomorrah, crumbling the fuck down. Next up, Zimmers fucking Hole. Their lead vocalist, The Heathen Chris Valagao entered in fine style as the room filled with smoke. He emerged wielding a ginormous sword, wearing red makeup, devil horns and a leather butcher's bib, which concealed a massive prosthetic shlong that would get its time to shine later in the night. Wailing their way through a set filled with old classics like "1000 Miles of Cock", "White Trash Momma", "Gender of the Beast" and "Fista Corps", in which two dummies complete with fisting holes were dolled out to the crowd who took the challenge and fisted those corpses harder than I had ever thought possible. One of them must be damn sore because 'ole Heathen had his merry way with it on stage, complete with cum shot. We were also treated to new tunes off of the brand new album, When You Were Shouting at the Devil...We Were in League With Satan. During the longer than average set he gave out 20 slices of Heavy Metal Cheese, 15 heavy metal cheeseburgers, an eight pack of Dude beer. He even hooked up his prosthetic shlong to a bladder full of Stoli vodka and dished out COCKtails to the frenzied crowd until all was spent. Closing the show with one of my favorites, "The Death of the Resurrection of the Death of Metal", I have to say that this was one of my favorite shows of this year so far.

-Pauly Hardcore

Henry Rollins, March 20/08, McPherson Playhouse, Victoria, B.C.

After three hours on stage the grey haired, fading tattooed, 47-year-old Henry Rollins bowed out to a roaring standing ovation. Why? Why were people paying good money to listen to him? Isn't he a washed-up old punk rocker rehashing Black Flag glory stories some twenty-odd years later? Hell no. He's been busy and is more punk than ever before. He spoke briefly on how cold it was in Canada during the Black Flag touring days – but that was just a transition into his recent experiences on the Trans-Siberian Railway, in Russia. Add to the mix his AIDS visits in South Africa, USO support tours in Iraq, vacationing in Syria and (most amazingly) being caught up in the riots of Benazir Bhutto's assassination in downtown Islamabad, Pakistan – and you've got some stories worth listening to. In typical Rollins style he brought potentially sensitive issues like apartheid, American politics, ardent nationalism and the downtrodden working class into his cross hairs and made them accessible with excitable energy, vivid body

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language and dark, dark, dark humour. His message? Educate yourself, fuck complacency and down with the man. "When the going gets tough, the average get conservative" was his take on the Bush administration and their re-election by a fearful American populace. He urged Canadian tolerance and expressed hope for the future of the U.S. and the next presidency. And at the risk of it getting too political for the crowd, he closed with the tale of how he came to sing for the Ruts reunion last year – and got the Subhumans and UK Subs to open for them. If that ain't punk, what is? Professor Rollins just taught Punk Rock Lifestyle 101, y'all got schooled.

-Erik "Hard Volume" Lindholm

Marilyn Manson, Ours
Feb. 17/08, Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Vancouver, B.C.

Fans of Marilyn Manson finally got a chance to congregate en mass last night as the Sin City Lite crowd invaded the Queen Elizabeth Theatre for some much anticipated Manson. Accompanied by New York band Ours and hailing the return of Twiggy Ramirez, this was a night where spectacle took a back seat to musicianship. Ours opened the show (after what seemed like hours) and played a sort of U2 stadium flavoured rock that was interesting, but not outstanding. They had a definite prog-rock approach to song writing, huge build-ups to... well... huge outros, but not very much in between. Lead singer Jimmy Gnecco's repeated apologies and pleas for our country to influence his country to be less macho were well meaning at first, but after a while they became a bit cloying. The crowd responded politely to their set, nobody tore any seats out or anything. Once they finished the curtain dropped and the true anticipation began. Part of the entertainment value found at your average Marilyn Manson concert comes from the concert goers themselves. Anxious moms trying to look cool as they chain smoked outside waiting for their kids, alongside 40-year-old guys with eyeliner and enough fishnet stockings to supply the entire Canadian fishing industry. Finally the lights drop and a silhouette of none other illuminates the curtain. The crowd goes ballistic, the accumulated applause caught in the walls of the QE is suddenly released and directed at one man, Marilyn Manson. With a single red stripe of make-up across his eyes (à la Annie Lennox), black leather pants, black shirt, platform boots and wielding only a knife, Marilyn launched into the set with rather subdued antics. There was an expectation of something on a bit of a grander scale but this was a stripped down Marilyn that was more about the music. At one point, a mini-skirted waitress pushed a wheeled tray of drinks onto the stage and Marilyn, after flinging the drink into the crowd, proceeded to unceremoniously remove the woman's head with surprisingly gore-free results. Playing tracks from across their discography, songs like, "Heart Shaped Glasses", "mOBSCENE", "The Dope Show" and "Sweet Dreams (Are Made of These)" sounded as good as the QE would let them, with some especially tasty playing from lead guitarist Rob Holliday. He, like Ours before him, also apologized for his countrymen's behaviour and coming from someone with his reputation I got the impression he really meant it. It's strange to think of Marilyn Manson as an ambassador of U.S. good-will, but certainly after this night there was a lot less ill will to go around.

-Grimm Culhane

Dirty Bird, Broadzilla, Punch Drunk, End Program
March 14/08, the Cathedral, Toronto, Ont.

Fresh out of the shower, I stared into the mirror wondering, "How early I should show up to the show tonight?" I knew I would see Dirty Bird since it was their CD release party, but which openers did I plan on seeing tonight? Considering the show would end at 12 am sharp, 'cuz it was an all ages event, I decided to make a fashionable entrance of 10:30 pm. I was excited to see the street full of punks in front of Toronto's most famous Punk Rock venue, the Cathedral. I paid at the door and was excited to finally have a new Dirty Bird CD in my hand, its been far too long. The thunderous sounds inside were thanks to Broadzilla on stage rocking hard and the crowd was thick with people out to have a good time. The Chics Ahoy skate team handed out Dirty Bird skateboards and t-shirts. The historic Dirty Bird backdrop unfolded and the line-up assumed their positions quickly. Gotta love how fast punk bands can turn around a stage. Metal bands could learn a thing or two from veterans like DB... haha... I was yapping with Le Tard then BAM! An intense freight train hit the stage. Toronto punk rock was in full flight. Two guitar now... wow!! They were as tight, if not tighter, than I had ever seen 'em and Anus proved once again why he will always be one of my favorite frontmen ever. The boys looked like they were having a blast too. Song after song, they kept the pit moving and I noticed a film crew working hard to capture all the mayhem, so knowing DB some videos are on the way soon. They played all their classics, including an encore that included the now infamous Turkey Song... haha... I can't count how many times I've seen Anus subject the front row to that nastiness. They played around an hour and the crowd boomed when the event was officially over. I always laugh when a Toronto punk rock show comes to an end. Queen Street becomes one of the most wild and entertaining streets on earth.

-John Tard

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Absolute Album Reviews

A.D.H.D – ‘Til Your Ears Bleed

Ares Records

This is full-on SoCal beach punk at its finest! As featured in the Skinned Alive DVD a few years back, these guys gotta style somewhere between Smogtown, Smut Peddlers, Broken Bottles and Guttermouth or Bad Samaritans. They are true Hostage Records goods and were on the Tower 13 comp a few years back. With a serious skate/surfer vibes and various references to drugs and alcohol this is good shit to listen to while breaking the law. These guys are more straight ahead new wave British heavy metal, even sounding from 1984 and obviously bow down to Euro-sleaze like Accept, Helloween, Heavy Load, Picture or the glorious Oz. This is a good album to sew a patch on to your denim vest to, speed sew and beer! You can probably huff that shit too!

-DustinJaK, Gordon Head '08

Arsis – We are the Nightmare

Nuclear Blast Records

There are so many good songs on this album like, “A Feast for the Liar’s Tongue”, “Failures Conquest”, “Servants to the Night”, “Shattering the Spell” and the list goes on... they are technical, they are tight, they are melodic and brutal. Jim Malone’s vocals paired with the memorable riffs that tear through-out this entire album are unforgettable. Not to mention the constant blasting in all the right places. Arsis has always reminded me of a dog feverishly digging a hole to some tantric beat from inside and they still sound like that. This album is noteworthy my friends. I see nothing but bright things ahead for this band now being on a sound label. P.S. If you haven’t heard A Celebration of Guilt for fuck sakes go get it.

-Demonika

Archon Legion – March of the Inquisitors

Independent

The long awaited release from these four harbingers of doom has arrived. It is a heaping helping of in-your-face, unapologetic metal madness. Upon first glance at the demonic artwork depicting demons slaying and beheading humans, provided by Robin Thompson of Champions of Hell infamy, you know you are in for a delight. The intro gets you primed for what is to come – songs about ancient battles, mass bloodshed and rotting corpses are few and far between these days and these shredtacular dudes deliver! Snarling vocal stylings are dual layered and at times sound like Cannibal Corpse and at others, Ronnie James Dio. This is a record you can throw on, raise the devil horns and muck about like you were on the warpath or preparing for some epic battle. These fellas from Victoria have their sights set on global domination, one felled dragon at a time.

–Pauly Hardcore

(So good we’re reviewing it twice!)

Archon Legion – March of the Inquisitors

Independent

After hearing this new recording I had to borrow some cream off of my neighbor for my seriously scorched balls! This is metal up your ass and out your mouth! A serious nod to the old school, with enough new shit going on to keep everyone stoked. These guys remind me of everything from Riot, Overkill, Priest, Mercyful Fate, Accept, Coroner to newer shit like Wolf and October 31st, with blast beats one minute into Obituary style gallops the next! More Solos than a 1988 Dayglo’s gig with some like Dave Murray, some like Ace Frehley, some Randy Rhoads and some like Michael Schenker. I could compare these guys to 200 bands yet they sound like none of them. This shit actually makes me want to go out and throw rocks at cars! If you don’t like metal don’t buy this, and go fuckin’ die!

- DustJak GH'08

Black Halos – We Are Not Alone

Sub Pop Records

The fourth release from this now legendary band is without a doubt their strongest to date! The cheezoids left the band after the Sub Pop years (for Amen and Blood Meridian) and shit has only gotten better. We’re gonna miss good ol’ Jay Millette, who is rocking a few projects as we speak! The new guy has a different style that fits as well, without making Jay’s shit sound too different. Think Jimmy Zero compared to Cheetah Chrome or K.K. Downing compared to Glenn Tipton. What remains throughout, though, is that trademark drum sound of

theirs that, to me, has always helped them to be mentioned in the same sentence as bands like Electric Frankenstein, Backyard Babies, Glucifer, the Toilet Boys and the like. The back-ups are also top notch and these guys seem to have a great recording relationship going with Jack Endino! Good for you assholes!

-WitchGrinder General '08

Blunt Force Trauma – Good Morning America

Shattered World Records

Ripping speed-metal thrash-punk. Sort of like Wreckage in Flesh era Dr. Know, or War All the Time era Poison Idea. Rumour has it that Felix Griffin from D.R.I. now handles the drumming duty for these hard hitting Texas maniacs. Such a good day and age for an aging thrash fan to be alive! Thrash Fuckers! Thrash!

-WitchGrinder General '08

Calgary Beer Core Compilation Vol.1

Calgary Beer Core

I’ve seen a lot of this lately: well meaning crews getting together to promote a bunch of locals. Usually you get a few great classic bands and a fuckload of filler, absolutely not so in this case. If this compilation accurately represents what is happening in Calgary right now then I’m gonna have to visit more often. There’s something on here for everyone into punk and hardcore from the thrashy, Hateful Aggression and Identity Crisis to the Raunchy Hardcore of BDFM and the classic skate rock sound of Ground Up, there are many very well represented genres here (I wish I could rant on them all). It’s pretty rare that you get handed a compilation and actually end up liking everything on it, but there’s a reason it’s still playing in my car. Pick it up!!!

-Rich Bastard

Dead to Fall – Are You Serious?

Victory Records

Starting off with a brief, almost hypnotizing narration the album leads to what is essentially an all out assault on the ears. Sick breakdowns, guttural vocals mixed with some fancy guitar fretwork gives it an all around solid effort. Utilizing a theremin, which is a Russian instrument from the early 1900s, the sound produced is an eerie one indeed. Their bag of tricks seems to be full and they are certainly going all out for this one, balancing timed-aggression with an unrelenting pace, which proves to be a recipe for one Hell of an album. Full of mostly personal songs, it is still apparent the band has a sense of humour, with one track entitled, “Doombox” about the bassist’s ex-girlfriend’s vagina and “Major Rager” about exactly that. Throw this one on and have a major rager of your own – in your mind, man.

- Pauly Hardcore

Dirty Bird – Seeks

Independent

This veteran street-core bludgeoning unit brings us a pummeling sonic journey through from the gutters of Toronto’s Kensington Market. This is the Birds sixth release and the first one in over nine years. Lead squawker Uncle Anus sings/screams about beer, alienation, weirdos, killing one’s bossman, drinking, partying, girls, alcohol, the Cobalt, fans (the flock), booze, suburbia, and, lastly, beer. The music is unleashed at breakneck speed with very few pit stops along the trip. The music is blistering, exceptionally tight, brutal and uncompromising; guaranteed to piss off your so-called cool neighbours who think punk rock is something you buy at the mall. The Birds have a sense of humour as well, with song samplings that include a long, rambling series of anonymous responders to a joke ad the band placed in Toronto’s Now magazine, in search of musicians. If you think punk is about taking yourself too seriously and screaming at the top of your lungs, “How could she?” I suggest you go someplace else. Like Utah, or Uranus.

-Ronaldo Dinkbague

Exit Strategy – United States of Amnesia

Independent

Exit Strategy hails from Calgary and they are very pissed at a shitload of global current events. Their new nine songer takes on nice topics such as global warming and the lack of weapons of mass destruction that our so-called friendly neighbours south of the border failed to find in Iraq. Exit Strategy vent their disapproval with lots of blast beats, monstrous vocals and a wall of detuned crunchy guitar. Furiously heavy and

tight, these guys prove that they have the upper hand on their craft. The long political sound bites between each song get tiresome after a couple of times. That said, it’s an all around good effort but they need to lighten up a bit on the politics and be stoked that Dubya is gonna be gone for good in a... few... months.

-Mark Morr

The Flatliners – The Great Awake

Fat Wreck Chords

If you have ever heard Toronto’s Flatliners before, the first thing you will notice when you first put this CD on is the lack of ska. The last Flatliners release was really punchy ska punk. In the Operation Ivy vein of sound, but punchier and poppier at the same time. The lyrics have gotten much deeper and in my opinion better, as well the band’s sound seems to have really matured. However, one might criticize the Flatliners for being all over the map and trying too many things. They really have way too much talent at their age for me to criticize them, no matter whether I like this record or not, haha!

- Chuck Wurley

Flatfoot 56 – Jungle of the Midwest Sea

Flicker Records

I had never heard of this CD before it landed in my hands to review. I was told, by several people, that I would probably like it. They were not wrong. The band sounds a lot like the Dropkick Murphys, the singer’s voice even reminds me of the original Dropkick singer, Mike McColgan, who now sings for the Street Dogs. It is not just the band’s general sound and the similar singer that remind me of the Murphys, but also the heavy use of bagpipes. Don’t get me wrong, the bagpipes are a nice touch and they use them well. My favorite song is probably, “City on a Hill”. So if you like the Dropkick Murphys, Far From Finished, or bands like Flogging Molly, check this CD out. They may not be doing anything new or original but Flatfoot 56 does a nice job of this style!

- Chuck

G.G. Elvis and the Taking Care of Punk Band – Back from the Dead

Mental Records

Straight up, these are Elvis covers being done in G.G. Allin style vocals (E.M.F./ You Give Love/Freaks era) with fast old school nardcore-style music backing it, which makes perfect sense seeing as Tony from Ill Repute is one of the axe slingers as well as back-up from Bad Samaritans and NOFX. This is excellent BBQ music and pretty much requires the listener to drink and gobble back boatloads of drugs while listening. Fucking hilarious shit!!! Comes with a Troma-style talk show DVD including our boys guesting on the Dave Dilldini show. Elvis doesn’t talk; he just burps, farts and chomps pills the whole time! Go fuckin’ buy this.

-SSDust

Hate Eternal – Fury & Flames

Metal Blade Records

I’ve never stood in front of a firing squad before but I imagine it sounds something like this. The four year wait between this and I, Monarch has been a long one. The band has gone through a complete line-up change with only Erik Ruta left and the album reflects the emotions, pain, grief, fury and everything else that went with the passing of former band member Jared Anderson in '06. It’s technical, it’s a wall of unrelenting devastation and it has a brutal sense of loss and frustration with the intense blasting battering that just doesn’t let up until the outro, “Coronach”. I found no

weak points and no faltering, just pure heartfelt, raw emotion.

-Demonika

Hierophant – ST Demo

Independent

The much anticipated release from these Victoria local grindcore/crust upstarts doesn’t cease to amaze me. In the hilarious words of my girlfriend – upon listening to most of it for the first time: “It sounds like I just listened to 12 minutes of child labour.” The musicianship that these comrades exude is quite staggering and the sheer weight of this record is a good indication of how determined they are to rape your eardrums. After an intro sample the cut, “Varathane Up Your Fists” launches into a barrage of unmelodic, uncompromising and unadulterated madness! No testing has been done but I’m fairly certain that this could cause seizures and complete mental collapses in those deemed unstable. If you’re looking for melody and harmony... fuck off. They left about an hour ago after being skull-fucked to this record.

-Pauly Hardcore

Mitochondrion – Archaeaeon

Independent

Another long awaited disc has finally come to fruition. Victoria’s black/death metal purveyors of sin have unleashed these 11 tracks of doom onto the general public. A structured offering of death metal in the vein of the classic European acts opens with a brief intro and them pummels your psyche with “... Into the Pit of Babel” and you actually feel like the city is burning around you. The musicianship on this record is simply stunning and so tight it’s ludicrous. I’m finding myself at a loss for words – only “intense” seems to come to mind and “must-have” for any fan of the genre. To go along with it, you get some nifty album artwork and the strange feeling that in some way you have just contributed to a church burning.

-Pauly Hardcore

Teenage Bottle Rockets – Warning Device
Red Scare Records

Send Us your Album Reviews by Email
info@absoluteunderground.ca
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This is a change! Full-on speedy pop punk in the Badtown Boys and Naked Raygun tradition. Clean production courtesy of the Blasting Room (All, Descendents, Wretch Like Me), even coming across like a mix of Sloppy Seconds and the Queers at times. Cool they’re on the same label as River Boat Gamblers, what a bill that would be, fuckers!

- DustJak

Thunderlip – The Prophecy

Lucid Records

This old school stoner rock trip seems to rage on, but some of these bands are really starting to mix shit up! It seems every guy who had a hardcore band in '94 is now growing a beard and telling dicks at magazines they really love Thin Lizzy or Black Oak Arkansas. It’s nice to see some of these bands bow down to the new wave of British heavy metal. Don’t get me wrong, these guys sound identical to Lizzy on “Rock Lady”, with down-pat duels and harmonies. It’s the nods to Angel Witch and early Iron Maiden that really moves this fuckin’ locomotive along! You’ll hear UFO, Judas Priest, Saxon, Tygers of Pan Tang, Witchfinder General, Diamond Head and Holocaust as well as new influences like Fu Manchu, Turbonegro, Wolfmother, Corrosion of Conformity and Hellacopters. Two listens to this and I was hooked. I am now a Thunderjunky.

-DustinJaK, Gordon Head '08

Totally Radd – Shark Attack at Day Camp

Independent

The cover art on this might lead one to think this is a band similar to Toxic Holocaust or Municipal

Waste. Not so, dudes. This is straight-up Devo meets Ween meets Slayer, if you can try to grasp that! Organs, whistles, bontempis, moogs, there’s all sorts of electronic madness that still gives one the desire to thrash. If you were a fan of Le Shok a few years back then you’ll dig this. Where the fuck is Beaver Head? We gotta start a syntho thrash unit now too!

-DustinJaK, Gordon Head '08

Feature Book Review

Interview by N.M.:

What first inspired you to write and take artistic pictures?

Dan - Frustration, anger, beauty.

N.M. - Where do you draw your inspiration from?

Dan - I moved here from Toronto several years ago. I spent pretty much three months each summer growing up in a place in northern Quebec in the forest.

No electricity, T.V etc. Just wilderness, I was completely immersed in that. Watching the sun go down each night then lighting a few candles. You kind of end up living very much in tune with your surroundings. That place is the hub of the oldest mountains in the world, beautiful lakes, dark forests. Things that would

eat you if you wandered off at night... That isolation, living in your own thoughts, fantasies... I think that is where the nature side of my inspiration comes from.

N.M. - Are there any people who inspire your creativity?

Dan – For sure! I’ve always liked how Danzig articulates his ideas; his rebellion. I like people who are creative; music, art or movies. Taking ideas and then beating people with them, or enlightening...

N.M – Is there anyone you would like to work with in regards to your art? What



FOREST

Darkthrone said ‘For all the evil in man...’; I say ‘I am for all the anger and lust in man’.

Forest is now released.

It has been one year in coming, completed now my 240 pg book entitled ‘Snowfall’. It is a collection of poetry, photography and art. Put on some doom, punk, death or black metal and descend into Forest... The Ancient Ones writhe, their tongues ensnare your feeble shadow; hear their laughter as they swallow you...

Not being a musician, I’ve had to create something that reflected that same kind of emotion and diversity in music but in a different medium. Incorporating lyrical type poetry, imagery akin to black metal landscapes, the sentiments of doom a brooding sweep of endless cold and longing. ‘Snowfall’ is a razor mark tracing its way around your body, across your chest and ending at your throat. With Lust.



kind of response have you been having here in Victoria?

Dan – Well, mostly I’m a shadow about town. If I’m lucky to meet someone with similar tastes and they fit into an image or have something to contribute, then it just kinda comes together. Bloody Betty has been awesome to photograph, her brood of dark women ‘the Deadly Sins’, fucking rule. Mad princesses of lust and gore! The response I’ve been getting is good. I saw this guy last week walking around downtown holding the book. I asked him what he thought, he said it was ‘epic’ and that his friends wanted one too.

N.M – How are you distributing your books right now?

Dan – I’m completely indie, I do everything myself. Chapters won’t carry me, they said that I’m too ‘alternative’. Aces ‘n’ Spades have been very supportive, they sell my book and shirt, Darkhorse Books as well. I have a great printer who has more patience than anyone I know. But for distributing it’s mostly me going to stores and hoping people will check it out.

N.M. – What are some of the poem titles in Forest?

Dan - There are two short stories, the rest are poems and photographs. Some of the titles are: Madness of Dark Mother, Sulphur Snowfall, Tremble Handed Scalpel Work, Splatterotica, Succumb To Plague, Into Vampire, Eater of Flames, Final Angel...

If you would like to get a copy of the book \$15 plus shipping, email toronto1ca@yahoo.com

Hatchet

Have you been itching for more movies like the Friday The 13th sequels from the 80s, or ones like The Burning, Maniac, or the Prowler? This is the closest you're going to get to any of those. As the tagline says, it's not a remake, not a sequel, and not based on a Japanese movie..as far as extreme horror goes while using the stalk and slash routine - this is the real deal. At

New Orleans during Mardi Gras, one tourist sees the adventure in taking an old fashioned haunted swamp tour. After being denied by the tours last host, Tony Todd in a funny hat and ridiculous white makeup over one of his eyes, they take the second best host for the job, an Asian acting like he's been breeding gators for half his life, but who has really only done two tours into the haunted swamp. As the characters get off the

bus into the motor boat, they are warned by a Crazy Ralph character, as he takes a swig of his own urine, not to go in there or they would all die. If you've seen a Jason movie, you know crazy fucks are basically prophets and if they be preachin death, they be preachin truth! The legend round these parts is of Victor Crowley, the deformed son of a fisherman who was said to have been burned alive due to a prank done up by

the local kiddies. Crowley takes apart the tourists one by one in a vicious and unhinged manner, and leaves no one alive to tell the tale. Cameos galore amongst the gore with that one guy who played Freddy, and that other dude who played the guy who likes hockey. Hell, if you're into horror you've already seen this and don't need my review. Be warned, it doesn't take itself seriously, but if a video nasties existed today, I'd want it on there.

By Ryan D

RAMBO

1982, 1985, 1988, 2008: Hallmarks in cinematic glory via the roid raging life-ender, John Rambo. The final film of this emotional and sensitive quadrilogy literally blows the heads off its post 9/11 action counterparts, with an estimated three murdered people a minute. Picture this: A group of arrogant Christian doctor/missionaries just HAS to

get into the corpse fields of Burma, certain they will "change the world." What better nihilistic, post-traumatic guide than this snake-catching, stomach-opening expatriot. Although initially reluctant to help these clinically brain-dead stains from the United States of Poor Life Choices, he eventually gives in, presumably knowing he is in for a raucous corpse pile of recently juiced soldiers. All I know is that Stallone painted the town red with this one, leaving

more than a few Burmese families without sons, who mere months after their 15th birthdays ventured into a promising career in the state army. This is quite possibly the most violent movie I have seen in years, if ever, thanks to the opportune use of a 50 caliber machine gun and a homemade machete. I give this film 5 out of 5
Blood-Covered Steadicams
-guitar commando Jason Schmidt - GRAF ORLOCK

Darkly Dreaming Dexter by Jeff Lindsay

If you've already watched the first season of *Dexter* on television, or bought the DVD set, consider this book a short recap of the series events leading up to the finale of the first season. Dexter Morgan is a serial killer with a conscience. By day he observes blood spatter at crime scenes. He has trained himself perfectly to mask any

type of human emotion needed to get him through the day. He has no need for the small pleasures of human existence, he doesn't need sex or a girlfriend but has been taught by his stepfather Harry to just fake it, just fit in. One day, clean cut limbs decorate a crime scene, which fascinate the icy one. Who could be so perfect in their methods?

Don't dismiss this book if you have

seen the show, because many things are created in the series that aren't in the book to flesh out the twelve episodes. Just call it a BETA version of the series. It reads like it would have been fine as an hour and a half film rather than a series, which makes you appreciate the writers making everything flow together so nicely and above all make sense when it could have been a page by page remake. The big thing I noticed was

that Dexter's sister Deborah never has a relationship with the ice truck killer before he tries to take her life, which increases the tension and decision of Dexter, knowing that the killer is making a sacrifice in killing her as Dexter would too. The ice truck killer also doesn't leave the one stumpy victim alive to be questioned by the police, setting up that love angle. And no Lara Croft!

I'll refrain from ruining anything else.

Camp Burlesque - DVD

I was totally stoked to get this DVD but after watching, it was the hugest let down ever. I was so bored and wanted to do something else while I was watching it. Its supposed to be the story of the famous (how famous, I don't know) Tokyo temptress, Erochica Bamboo who runs this camp that has "30 of today's top women of burlesque" like Miss Bamboo, Kitten DeVille, Mimi LeMeaux, Jessika Von Fuhr, Eliza Bane,

Cherry Capri featured in it. Though I use the term featured loosely.

Not one of these ladies even speaks though out the entire film, but instead its neatly clipped bits and pieces of them hanging out and looking cute with a 50s style voice over that is more than annoying.

So I was thinking okay, well maybe they will show some sets, and they do... only two. Both of which are so brutal you would think it was the 1st

rehearsal or something. Not exciting, not funny, not fun, not cute, not anything except boring. This would be okay to play at the background at a party with your own tunes going over top. Total miss.

- Demonika

UNEARTH-Alive from the Apocalypse

Anyone who saw the show stealing set from this Boston metal outfit on Metal Blade's 25th Anniversary DVD, should know what to expect on this. Three

longhairs and two

shorthairs crank out a cement mixer chock full of Warzone, Cro-Mags, Judge, Slayer and Pantera. These guys are also responsible for some of the heaviest breakdowns in metal. If you don't know what a breakdown is you can always go to breakdown school by quickly listening to the first Bad Brains LP, Agnostic Front's "Victim in Pain", Cro-Mags "Age of Quarrel", Youth of Today "Break Down The Walls", Warzone

but if you liked the show, you'll enjoy the book. Lindsay's writing style fits the theme, but I found his use of adjectives to be infantile at times. This can be written off because the book is hilarious, a quick read, and the nearest thing I'm going to get to American Psycho after years of withdrawals.

By Ryan D

"Open Your Eyes", Visual Discrimination
"In Vain", or Judge "The Storm". These
were all albums I dug outta my closet
after watching these Uneath fuckers
tear it up. The second disc features
a sort of early days documentary on
the band with a shitload of guest
interviews. I am not sure of the price on
this baby, but it would be worth 25 bucks
to me just for the live footage alone.
These guys rule!

-DustjAk gordo o8

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HOROSCOPES

April. & May 2008

ARIES

Happy Birthday. This is a challenging year for your career. Some will find opportunities in which to succeed, or others will totally change their career. But either avenue will require a big effort. And this starts now. An irritant of the past couple months is becoming unnerving and emotionally stressful. All becomes more manageable after the Sun enters Taurus April 19th. The two Full Moons in Scorpio April 20th and May 19th give you two opportunities to get your finances together. It is nose to the grindstone the last week of May



TAURUS

Keep out of arguments and try to keep an open mind through the first couple weeks of April. Yet, this doesn't mean be a sucker. Your beliefs and assumptions about people are challenged. Change can be trying for you Taurus. From April 19th, when the Sun enters your sign, you have much more control over your life. This fun and strong period lasts for a month. The two Full Moons in your opposite sign, Scorpio, give you an extra opportunity to develop and enhance close relationships. It is a second chance on Love, or just making things better and better again.



GEMINI

Life has supposed to have evened out this year. The stress of April is transitory, and is probably about money. You may need to call in favours or tap personal resources. The third week of April brings contacts and ideas that can enhance your stability and security. The next couple weeks are busy and satisfying. Just too bad you are upsetting people who figured they knew you. The two Full Moons in Scorpio put a huge emphasis on self improvement. Work and/or health matters require the application of some will and action. For your birthday count your blessings, while you get used to limitations.



CANCER

You have tensions developing in your close relationships and career. You have recently had to assert your self and others are a bit taken aback. Try to mellow out. Trim down the ole ego. People are beginning to see your point and it is on the top of your head. From April 19th, when the Sun enters Taurus, the focus will be on gaining consensus, rather than getting your way. The two Full Moons in Scorpio Apr 20th and May 19th give you an extra opportunity to express your feelings with sincerity



LEO

Money is tight. Relationships are confusing. Energy is lacking. Focus is scattered. Through the first three weeks of April just try to keep up at work and maintain your health. Honesty is easy, when your behaviour is honourable. After Apr 19th the challenges remain, but the path towards success becomes clearer. Get busy with advancing your career and money situation. You will be fortunate to make slow progress with these, but the baby-steps are solid and stable. The two Full Moons in Scorpio this year give you an extra chance to mould your domestic environment.



VIRGO

You are building your world. Developing significant relationships and stabilizing a more secure material and social environment. Money and business dealings could taint a friendship, so try not to mix the two. The last week of April into early May you can go with the flow and trust in good karma to improve relationships. However, you still have to mind your p's and q's at work. The double Full Moons in Scorpio provide you with an extra opportunity to find your voice. Join Toastmasters. Bring some focus to your career through the last week of May.



LIBRA

You are coming to some decisions about your close relationships and how you are relating. This doesn't take a big effort, just sincerity. Go with the flow and see who you are attracting. When you are really right for them, all ya have to do is bat your lashes and say yes. It is career and domestic developments, which are demanding your attention. From April 19th you are able to enhance your personal security and secure your power in social groups and business. The rare two Full Moons in Scorpio this year help you to get your financial house in order



SCORPIO

The first three weeks of April require a judicious application of effort to work or your health. This is about fixing things. No gerrymandering will do. Keep in mind that these influences also encourage hidden facts coming to light. Therefore, keep your efforts ethical. From the 19th, when the Sun enters Taurus, you should take notes about the responses that you are eliciting in your personal relationships. With the rare two Full Moons in Scorpio, you have an opportunity to redefine, rearrange, and recreate your closest relationships. There is some new news in this mix, too. By May 20th skim the cream of this year's associations to develop further.



SAGITTARIUS

You are supposed to be busy now and have a lot going on. Develop your communication skills and you enhance your career and income. From the Lunar Eclipse February 20th make some time for yourself. You are gaining confidence by being more at ease with yourself. Call it integration. Into March you might even try some feng shui. If you feel as though you have been stalled in making bigger changes, hang in there until August into the Autumn when you get another chance. Apply some patience to your career situation. Don't be so manic.



CAPRICORN

Ahh, the intensity of life. Relationships have been requiring an expansive awareness. Confidence expresses itself with assertiveness, while desperation resorts to aggression. Continue to expect good stuff and you command respect. And now, with the Spring, family matters demanding your attention come to the fore. Attend to obligations as they arise. The two Full Moons in Scorpio illuminate an expanding social network and some new opportunities to play. You are in need of some fun. Take advantage, because with May 20th it is back to work, and effort towards self improvement.



AQUARIUS

It is so important for you to express yourself these days. You want to clarify personal boundaries, and express, if not your needs, at least your basic requirements. Keep this in mind because the Sun in Taurus, Apr 19th to May 20th, suggests that you are creating the secured environment that you will inhabit for than next while. I hope it is comfortable. The two Full Moons in Scorpio, Apr 20th and May 19th, illuminate avenues for the expression of your will and power. Carpe diem, because that which you have worked to establish by May 20th is where you are at for awhile.



PISCES

Are you making some money these days? Early April is supposed to be an opportunity to establish channels of productivity. And it looks like you are on your own. This is no time for gambles. Risky deals fall through in business and romance. Better luck comes through when the Sun is in Taurus, Apr 19th to May 20th. Then you can make more sincere connections. The two Full Moons in Scorpio, Apr 20th and May 19th, shine on times when sincere agreements are to be entered. Don't be desperate. Later May you may regret allowing negativity into the safety of your personal environment.



David Zunker is an Astrologer, Tarot Card Reader, and occult guy in Victoria, who does readings and classes.
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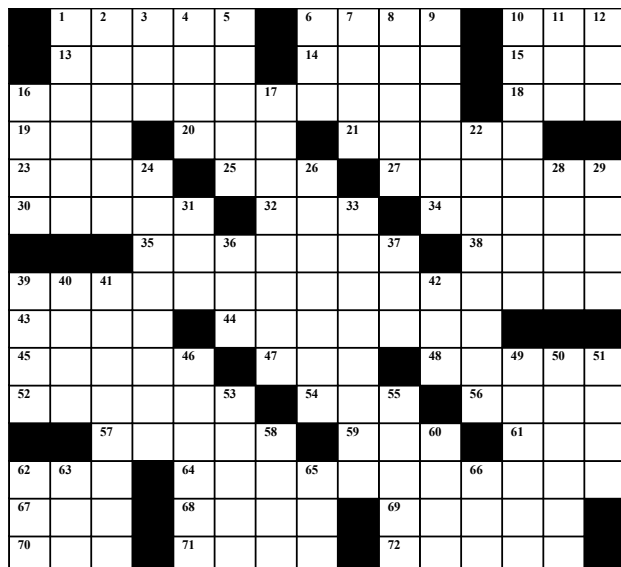
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CROSSWORD & COMIX

Across

1. Repulsive one
6. Northern Scandinavian
10. Sensation felt when the skin's "cold" and "pressure" sensors are activated
13. Debut Gwar LP
14. Mr. Christie Cookie
15. Streetsign abrv.
16. The Clampetts or The Gomers
18. Tribute collected by a state or chiefdom's central beauraucracy
19. Movie file ext.
20. Phelps of The Flying Hellfish
21. Playground sight
23. Gold Seal or Red Leb
25. The Superstation
27. Alpine or Kenwood
30. Butt's droppings
32. Aux. power on a Viking ship
34. Inter-course?
35. Job-hunter's profiles
38. Portion(measured)
39. Clattenburg hit on Showcase
43. Ass or a place to put one
44. Mat word
45. Daytime TV staple and home of Dr. Phil
47. Retired
48. Details
52. Hunkered down
54. Poorly lit
56. At that time
57. Original "Black Metal" band
59. Solid wood
61. APO
62. Music style of Sublime and Reel Big Fish
64. Movie feat. Bob and Doug Mackenzie(Hosers)
67. It's %76 Nitrogen
68. Henry's TOOLE of an accomplice
69. Ego self
70. Asian beast of burden
71. New York Stock Exchange
72. Arrives

-By Dan Scum



Down

1. Regal Scotch Whiskey
2. Hot Dog garnish
3. Building addition
4. Jessica of "Newlyweds"
5. Band that "pushed" their way Up the charts with "Silver"
6. Laugh Out Loud
7. Onassis and others
8. Removes the rind
9. Positions for
10. Kitchener's twin city (my grandpa was the region's First mayor)
11. Gabor or Peron
12. Senior Ritter
16. Nelson Muntz' rejoinder
17. Grunt worker
22. Disgraceful Dad
24. Racist BC group
26. Tasted a small amt.
28. Like Sunday AM
29. Poetic tributes
31. French salt
33. Action's opposite
36. Use a Pfaff
37. Standing Room Only
39. Code Blue band
40. Take back briefly
41. Anteater
42. DM is a Drug Against War
46. Muppet man Jim
49. Attack command
50. Wigwags
51. Flakey precipitation
53. Spotty
55. Ervin Johnson
58. 3-D Xrays
60. Cretin's Rotty X
62. Speak
63. Korean Auto
65. Freeb

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