

EQUALIZING X DISTORT

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LEFT TO RIGHT: Dave KW on vocals and Josh on guitar with folks watching on.

DIRTY BLACK SUMMER are a local band that have a 7" coming out on Slasher Records. Here they live in Studio 3

Guys introduce yourselves and tell us what you do in the band ?

Josh (J): I'm Josh and I play guitar.
Dave (D): I'm Dave and I'm the vocalist.
Laurie (L): I'm Laurie and I play guitar.
Chris (C): I'm Chris and I play bass.
Ivan (I): I'm Ivan and I play drums.

Okay and how did DIRTY BS form ?

I: I can field this one. Me and Josh started jamming and we were supposed to jam with another person who later started another band and me and Josh jammed for a while and then Chris e-mailed me and he wanted to start a band so we started jamming with Chris and then a few people were going to sing for us but eventually Dave showed up at practise and a few months ago we started jamming with Laurie.

Tell us about the name DIRTY BS. Where does the name come from ?

D: It came from a DANZIG song "Dirty Black Summer". That's all it is but DIRTY BS is just a short form so that we don't have to go by DBS because I think that has been taken.

It has. DEFIANCE BASTARD SYSTEM, I think.

D: No that's DSB. We're not the Japanese band. **Is there significance behind the DANZIG song. Is there any reason why you wanted to use the DANZIG song ?**

J: We love DANZIG.



D: We love DANZIG.

For real ?

D: Yeah.

Okay.

D: Yeah.

Alright.

D: I went to see him last week with Doyle. It was awesome.

Describe your sound to people. What do you guys sound like ? What do you think you sound like ? To someone who has never heard you before and they come up to you and so "What do you sound like ?" What do you sound like ?

J: Worst question ever.

Well what do you think you sound like or what do you hope to sound like ?

I: I don't know. BASTARD (laughter).

D: When we started we were going for a DEATHTREAT sort of thing. I think it is a good thing that we strayed from that. I am hoping we have our own thing but every band says that right. Everybody sounds like everybody else.

C: We don't want it to sound like anything.

I: We are kind of going for LED ZEPPELIN meets POISON IDEA.

D: well Josh is the main writing force behind the band and he mostly listens to LED ZEPPELIN.

I am going to ask you about this musical influence question. It's a question I ask everybody. If you had to limit your record collection to five records what would they be and I am only interested in the punk records. (laughter). Sorry Josh.

L: I only own four records.

D: Name them.

Give it to us.

L: SLAYER "Reign in Blood", SLAYER "Show No Mercy", and the first two METALLICA albums.

And now for the punk records.

D: That's all he owns. I will try and answer this a little more seriously just because I am a little more nerdy with the punk records. I'd say DRI the first self titled – the old "Dirty Rotten" LP, SUICIDAL TENDENCIES – if they had a compilation of the first five, even including the first metal album I would take that but instead if I had to pick one it would be the first one – self titled again. I would say BLACK FLAG anything with Keith Morris. What am I up to, three ?

You are up to three. What about Portland ?

Does Portland play a role in here ?

D: Current Portland bands ? I know we all like TRAGEDY and HIS HERO IS GONE.

J: FROM ASHES RISE.

D: ...but I wouldn't say it's my top five. I don't know about these other guys.

J: No. I would say that when I write a song I would say that the Portland scene is a big influence. A lot of my favourite bands came from there. And I heard them and I heard all the Portland bands before I heard all the old stuff so in a way they are a bigger influence on me then the older stuff.

Yeah, that's what I was thinking.

D: I know my last two.

Okay, go.

D: MISFITS "Earth A.D." and CIRCLE JERKS "Group Sex" because that was one of my first punk records.

Yeah it's a great one.

D: Yeah. I think we can stop the question unless Ivan wants to answer it. I don't think the other guys want to.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Chris on bass and Laurie on guitar.

I: Oh you know the first RAMONES, the first VICIOUS CIRCLE / ZERO BOYS, "Rum, Sodomy and the Lash" by the POGUES. I was listening to that today. Probably "Dealing With It" by DRI just to be against Dave.

The DRI debate begins. Dave do you write the lyrics for most of this stuff ?

D: Yeah.

Okay what are some of the things that you sing about ?

D: some of it's about...it's usually anarchist social commentary from a thirty year old who is a little past the punk rock thing. There is songs about political prisoners being ignored, but ...

I: Sexual experimentation ...

D: I don't want to sound too serious. It's not all full of rhetoric or anything it's more from a personal perspective. I think that is more important. And there is actually one about skate boarding. I tried to take that from a different approach too. I know you are going to ask my what my favourite song from a lyrical perspective is ?

Yeah.

D: It's that one because ...

Okay. What's the song called ?

D: It's called "Appropriation" and

Tell us about how it's different from a lot of the other skate boarding songs.

I: It's from the perspective of a trans gendered anarchist. (laughter)

D: I tried to write it in a way ... most skateboarding songs are happy or silly or I want to be dumb and thrash and wreck stuff and it still has elements of being dumb and wrecking stuff, but I tried to make it from the perspective of ... I had the visualization of Bay Street getting destroyed by people turning the stairs and the hand rails and the buildings

just crumbling and engineering them into something else. There is twice in there where I call skateboarding an art and I actually heard Ian MacKaye say this ... I didn't just come up with this ... but a skateboarder looks at things ... everything a lot differently. Somebody sees a sidewalk and a skateboarder sees a million different opportunities to do something with it and I was trying to go with that.

Yeah they talked about that in "Dogtown and Z Boys" where they said a skateboarder looks at the urban environment and they re-interpret the urban environment different so that it has something to do with skating as opposed to what it was initially intended for.

D: Yeah.

Anyway that's neat. And when I was down at Prank-fest a few years ago an observation I made was that when I was first getting into punk a lot of the crusty kids didn't skate. But Prank-fest was at a warehouse where they built a half pipe and most of the

EQUALIZING DISTORT

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EQUALIZING-X-DISTORT MONTHLY is an extension of the weekly radio show heard on CIUT 89.5 FM every Sunday nights from 10:00pm 'til midnight (Participants: Jonah Falco, Stew Ogilvie, Stephe Perry, and Mark Rodenhizer).

The show dedicates itself to the underground hardcore punk scene. There is a particular emphasis on international releases in the developing thrash, straight edge, retro punk, garage, Killed By Death, the crust and d-beat scenes, which means we play material like Army of Jesus, the First Step, Tristess, Baby Shakes, Petrolio, Desolation, and World Burns to Death.

There is a weekly demo feature (paying homage to the cassette format), weekly event listings, and a monthly top 10 retrospective look at new releases.

Equalizing-X-Distort

CIUT 89.5 FM

Sundays 10:00 pm - midnight

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CIUT 89.5 FM - "Equalizing Distort"

Top 10 Hardcore Releases for April 2006

Band	Title	Format	Label
1. DISCARGA / I SHOT CYRUS	split	LP	Peculio Discos
2. SECOND OPINION	"Youth Revolt"	ep	625 Productions
3. STRAIGHT TO HELL	"Commencing the Apocalypse"	LP	Gloom
4. MY OWN LIES / BETERCORE	"No more Imperialist War!"	ep	Peculio Discos
5. OUT WITH A BANG	"I'm Against It"	12"	Vida Loca
6. INSTANT ASSHOLE	"Straight Edge Failure"	CD	Tank Crimes
7. CRUCIAL ATTACK	"How we Roll"	ep	Third Party
8. DEAD STOCK CRUSHER	"40 Hours"	LP	Hit the Deck
9. FALLOUT	"What is Past is Prologue"	CD	Longshot Music
10. BEGINNING OF THE END	"Sci-Fi Monster Violence"	ep	Sick of Talk

Equalizing Distort can be heard every Sunday night on CIUT 89.5 FM at 10:00 pm. The top 10 countdown can be heard in its entirety, complete with previews of the picks and analysis on the previous month in hardcore, on the last Sunday of the month.

crusty kids were skateboarding. It was like a different era. To me it was like "Fuck yeah. Bring your skateboards and fuckin' wreck it". It does make sense to me that you would write a song about skateboarding from an anarchist perspective. Okay you have already answered this question from a lyrical standpoint as your favourite song. What about the other guys ? Do you guys have a favourite song from a lyrical standpoint and why would it be that one ?

C: I like "Appropriation" as well because it is so unique. I was very impressed with how Dave wrote the lyrics.

L: I like "Remains" the most. I just joined the band so I am just learning about what the lyrics are about. I have no idea what they are about...

What's your take on "Remains" ?

L: I just like the way it's written and the subtleties that he puts into it. I don't know. It's just well written. Good crescendos and ... (laughter) ... peaks and valleys

So you like it from a musical standpoint. What about lyrics ? Anybody else ? Josh ? Ivan ?

I: I actually don't know most of Dave's lyrics but I really like "Line of Fire" because I hate pigs as much as the next brother.

D: That was on the demo and a song that we didn't play tonight.

J: You can't get those anymore.

Josh ?

J: I don't know. I have no opinion.

Okay.

C: He just plays guitar.

Tell us about the 7" that you have coming out ?

D: it's awesome. It's going to be on *Slasher Records*, which would have been our first choice anyway if it wasn't Josh's brother's label.

How many songs are going to be on it ?

D: Five and an intro which you could interpret as separate from the first song.

Is it going to fit on a 7" ?



Ivan on drums.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Ivan, Josh, Chris, Laurie, and Dave KW.

D: Yeah. It all fits.

Okay. And when did you record it ?

I: March 13th to 16th at Audio Lab with Chris Hegge.

Oh wow. So not that long ago. A few months ago.

D: Was it March ?

I: I think so.

J: What ? It was June.

D: Yeah I think it was June.

I: Okay it was June. I don't know what I was thinking of. I got the other days right though.

Have you recorded anything else or is it just the 7" that you have coming out ?

J: Just the 7".

D: We recorded two other songs from the demo that we like and we have newer versions of them but we are not sure if we are going to do anything with them or not.

Do you do any other covers ? You did the BASTARD cover tonight.

J: We did one MISFITS one but we have never actually played it live.

Which song do you do ?

C: "Earth A.D.".

What are the plans for the future ? I heard Josh is taking a trip down to Mexico. How is this going to effect the band ?

J: It will probably ruin the band (laughter).

I: But on the bright side he'll come back and write even better songs. I am hoping that all the whiskey drinking and cigarette smoking and ... **Mariachi music...**

I: Yeah, yeah. It will be for the better.

D: And that's really soon. That's in three weeks that he is leaving. We are hoping that we have the record out before then but we have two more shows coming up and we are hoping that we have it for one of them.

I just keep thinking of the motorcycle diaries. That and the ... I don't know if you have ever read the Kurt Brecht book when he goes to Mexico. Kurt from DRI after one of their tours.

D: Yeah the "Thirty Day Diarrhea Plan".

Yeah totally and he is looking for peyote and stuff. I can just see Josh....

J: I'm on it right now (laughter)

D: You didn't talk about Whore Stories. That could be part of his trip too. The final chapter of the "Whore Stories" by Kurt Brecht of DRI of how he lived his dream of going down with a friend and getting as many hookers as they could afford all at once into a room. If you don't like to read I also have the audio CD of it too, if you want to hear it.

But seriously, what is going to happen to the band now that Josh is going away ? are you going to get back together afterwards ?

J: Yeah for sure. We are just taking a break.

D: Yeah we sort of have a BLACK FLAG practise schedule.

When he gets back ?

D: All the time.

Everyday ?

D: Almost.

At it for 8 hours. Like work.

I: Yeah I mean if someone listening wants to offer us an incredible show Laurie will more than be equivalent.

M: Yeah we'll just play with one guitar. If something really big comes up.

D: We probably wouldn't but I guess it's not out of the question.

L: We'll debate this later.

How can people get in touch with the band?

D: I would say the best way would be to go through *Slasher Records*. Matt Bickle, he likes to field the e-mail. He has a website. We don't have one anymore.

Yeah I remember there being one but now I was looking for it and it has vanished.

D: I didn't want to pay the bill again. So go to slasherrecords.com and find Matt. He lives with Josh our guitar player.

But don't write the Glenholme address. Write the Ossington address. Is that correct?

J: Yep.

D: Yes *Slasher Records* now on Ossington.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Clay, Matt, and Jimmy singing along.

KNUCKLEHEAD are from Calgary. They have eight releases which includes their latest "The New Black List". KUNCKLEHEAD were in town in March and have played Toronto quite a few times. We were finally able to get them into the studio on the afternoon before their show at the Cathedral. The interview took place on Sunday March 26th.

Introduce yourselves and tell us what you play in the band ?

Matt (M): I'm Matt and I play bass.

Jimmy (J): I'm Jimmy and I play guitar.

Kyle (K): I'm Kyle and I do the singing.

Eric (E): I'm Eric and I get picked on and play the drums.

Clay (C): I'm Clay and I also play guitar.

How long has KNUCKLEHEAD been around for ?

K: We have been together for ... we started out as a three piece about 11 years ago and so as a band we have been together for 11 years and as the current line up I think everybody has been in the band for at least three years. We have found the formula. This should last us for another ten years.

How did the band first form ?

K: Matt, Clay and myself all went to high school together. It was your typical high school punk band that never threw in the towel.

So this is the only band that you have ever been in. Were any of you in any previous bands ? It sounds like this is it.

K: This is it, yeah.

Where did the name KNUCKLEHEAD come from ?

K: It's been such a long time that none of us can remember anymore. We were actually thinking about making up something because obviously that question gets asked a lot. We always have a really disappointing answer for anyone who

asks. So I think we should put our heads together and come up with some interesting story. One of those stupid names you come up with ...

No it's a good name. I could see it in an environment of a street punk band. KNUCKLEHEAD would be tough sounding...you know for high school... I just wondered if there was a story behind it or if the name has come to take on any new significance ?

K: I don't think so.

C: I know it sounds kind of tough, but we never intended it for that. It was more silly.

M: No man, I'm tough. Big time tough. And it represents me.

C: Yeah Matt was such a bruiser in high school. He would beat up on kids all the time...

...and they would just call him knucklehead.

K: He got beat up all the time in high school.

C: That's why they called him knucklehead because of the imprints on his forehead (laughter).

Who are you influenced by ?

K: DARKNESS. I think Matt is influenced by the DARKNESS.

As he sports a CLASH patch on his shirt.

K: He wears the CLASH patches for shows but he lives on a steady diet of DARKNESS.

M: I do like the DARKNESS, but I wouldn't go so far as to say the DARKNESS influences my playing in KNUCKLEHEAD. I guess through the years one band that I was really into was the SWINGING UTTERS.

C: STIFF LITTLE FINGERS, BAD RELIGION, YOUTH BRIGADE.

K: Yeah my big ones are STIFF LITTLE FINGERS, BAD RELIGION, FUGAZI. You don't really hear that in the band but they are one of my favourite bands. PEGBOY. I would

say PEGBOY has been a big influence. COCK SPARRER. We were talking about this earlier. BILLY BRAGG. There is a lot of bands but those are some of them. SOCIAL DISTORTION definitely.

If you had to limit your music collection to five punk releases what would they be ?

C: So what...one record each I guess.

No you can each have five.

C: STIFF LITTLE FINGERS, the BBC sessions, SWINGING UTTERS "Streets of San Francisco", uh...I don't know. Five...that's tough. Throw in a YOUTH BRIGADE record. DESCENDENTS "Sowery", and probably "Sandanista" because it's such a long record that I could listen to it a lot.

J: I am a huge CLASH fan so the first one would have to be "London Calling" and then probably the first record. And then it would be kind of disappointing but I would pick CIRCLE JERKS "Group Sex". It's not long but it's a great record.

Worth every second.

J: I really like the first SOCIAL DISTORTION record. MINOR THREAT is a big one especially when I was young. And maybe a 7 SECONDS record.

K: For me it would be COCK SPARRER "Shock Troops", BILLY BRAGG "Back to Basics", SCREECHING WEASEL "Anthem for a New Tomorrow". That is such a good album. STIFF LITTLE FINGERS, either "Inflammable Material" or "Nobody's Heroes" depending on how I am feeling that day. I have one left don't I ? I don't know. I might throw in BAD RELIGION "Recipe for Hate". That was an awesome album.

M: That was going to be on my list.

K: It was eh. I stole your thunder. DARKNESS 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

M: I would...I just had so many going through my head. I would have to have AC DC "Back in Black". Throw in any old Johnny Cash record. You got to have one of those kickin' around. I was going to say "Recipe for Hate" but now that it has already been laid out I would have SWINGING UTTERS "Five Lessons Learned". And I'm sorry guys but it would have to be either one of the DARKNESS albums.

K: It has got to be the first one.

M: Yeah the first one is good but the second one is so good too. And I would say COCK SPARRER "Shock Troops" as well.

K: I think it is an unfair question because there is another twenty I want to put on my list. I just had all punk rock except for BILLY BRAGG.

I know but I find that by honing it down we get to the basics.

M: I need three days to think about this stuff. E: I would actually say that my five have been taken already, and that's in large part because I am ten years younger than everybody and these guys helped form my musical influences so they have pretty much all been covered.

K: We beat him with records until he says he likes them.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Kyle on vocals and Eric on drums.

I want to ask you about lyrics. What are some of the things that you sing about ?

K: Do you want to start with...do you want to focus on the songs that we did....

Do you want to focus on the new record ?

K: The new record, okay. "The New Black List" is the title track and that's basically our discussion on what we see as neo-McCarthyism in the States post 9/11. "Cosmetic Youth" is a comment on shallow superficial consumer culture. What else do we have on that one ? "Shelters" is that one which is an old song. That is our second time doing that song. It is written about homelessness in general but more specifically about the lack of affordable housing in Calgary for the working poor. That is something that gets me riled up. The fact that someone can work a full time job and not be able to put a roof over their head. It doesn't make any sense to me. What else is on that album ? "Prime Time Reality" is more of a discussion on sensationalism in TV, reality TV being hyper sensational. Unrealistic. And the news being more sensational as a result.

..being information junk food as opposed to information.

K: Absolutely. And particularly...I don't try to do this. Anti-American or anything like that. American media sucks. Over anything else it is American media that I don't like. I really enjoy watching CBC. Even the BBC I don't find to be as reasonable in approach as the CBC. And you look at CNN and FOX News and things like that are just garbage. It's crap. I can't watch it. You might as well watch e Talk Daily, you know. "Bill Jones Curse". It's not really a drinking song, which is what most people would think it is. It's a "Hey your liver is going to explode on you if you don't stop drinking because we know some people back home who could ... it is written about some people back home who could get their shit together and cut

that out.

Yeah. It sounds like it is personally driven.

I was going to ask you about that song.

K: "Jacob Burke" is actually a funny one. It's probably the most fictional story. Clay was the one who came up with the idea. He said this is what I want a song about. Put something together. Basically it is a synthesis of three different stories. One is an immigrant family coming over from a war. My uncle is a German. He actually was a street kid during the second World War. He was ten years old and kept his sister alive for two or three years after his parents had been killed. And then the third is this guy we met down in Gainesville, Florida on tour about six or seven years ago who was a Jewish kid and he shaved his head tattooed a swastika on his arm so that he could find the nazi kids in some town and kick the crap out of them. It's a crazy story. It is one of these things that you don't really know how to feel. The song "Jacob Burke" is a synthesis of these three stories that all kind of worked together and we came up with this fictional guy named "Jacob Burke". He moved to Canada his father was killed, and he went back home to pursue some kind of revenge.

What is your favourite song from a lyrical standpoint and why ?

K: I really like the lyrics for "Cosmetic Youth" and I think what I like about them is I rattle them out faster than most of our other songs and they become so second nature to me that they just roll right out. And I think they all work together really well. It's witty, I think, but I also think there is some insight to it. I try not to write obscure vagueries. I try to write lyrics that are intelligent and clear. You understand what I am getting at. There is room for interpretation but in general you get it.

It's less ethereal than emo would be.

K: You don't have to sit down for three or four

days and...

...search your emotions for a meaning.

K: Exactly.

What about the rest of you guys ? What would be your favourite KNUCKLEHEAD song from a lyrical standpoint and why ?

C: I agree with Kyle on "Cosmetic Youth". I just really like that song. I think he hit the nail on the head with it.

M: I kind of like the way "Bill Jones' Curse" came together. It kind of tells the tale. A lot of people can relate to that one. A lot of people have friends who are like that. Uncles or aunts, moms or dads or whatever. That is one that came out pretty good.

Music tends to stick with you especially if it tells a good story.

J: I would probably say "New Black List" just because I think it is an important topic, especially in our genre of music right now. There is not a lot of awareness in punk rock. It has kind of been left at the side so I think it is a pretty

I have to say I was really happy when I heard that song just from the idea that it brings up. You were the first band that I heard that talked about this.

E: I would probably say "Shelters" and you can tell when Kyle was talking about it we are obviously really passionate about that issue. And just the fact that we wanted to record it again because we knew we could do it better and I think on this new album it sounds great. **All these songs I wanted you to elaborate more on. I wanted to ask you about "The New Black List". It's the title track of the album. Tell us more about what the song is about ?**

K: Essentially it is neo McCarthyism.

Is it related to the "War on Terrorism" ?

K: It's the whole idea that the government and the dominant conservative media in the States no longer accepts dissenting opinions. For a few years following 9/11 it was unacceptable or at least that is the way it seems from an outsider's perspective. From my perspective watching the going's on in the south, I've got a brother who is living in the states, and friends and I have travelled to the states so I have had some direct contact with a number of Americans. It was amazing to see how muzzled everyone was. It wasn't okay to question why are we doing this ? Why are we adopting the Patriot Act.

And Canadians took a lot of heat for not going into Afghanistan right away.

K: But even more disconcerting to me was not how they reacted to us about that, but more that you see this massive powerful country, who one of their fundamental values is freedom of speech ...

...yeah it is the one they parade around.

K: Yeah. It is the one they totally parade around. Where did it go ? It was gone for years. Guys like Bill O'Reilly who is the most watched news anchor in the United States telling people that we're going to Iraq and the debate has been had



Clay on guitars.



Matt on bass.

and it's time for everybody to shut up. Those are exact words. He was telling people to shut up. No more discussion. Shut up. And that was alright because he was getting ratings, people were watching. Whether you agree with going to Iraq or not that's not the point of the song. The point of the song is how can anybody, no matter what your opinion is how can anyone agree with limiting your opinions that way. How can you agree with disallowing dissenting opinions in a free society?

The song "Shelters" was a song that was on "Hostage Radio" initially. How come you re-recorded the song?

E: Since that album was released we started playing it a lot live and people started really liking it and it improved a lot when we played it live. It changed a little bit and it evolved. And it was a good opportunity to re-do it. And we had the chance to re-do it and we were really lucky to re-do it. I think it sounds a lot better.

K: The production quality on "Hostage Radio" is the poorest we have ever done in terms of releases. Yeah the major failing of that release was the production quality and "Shelters" is one of these songs that seemed to be sticking around. People are playing it really frequently. It wasn't getting old for us, it wasn't getting old for the audience. We recorded it originally without Eric and without Jimmy. We had a different drummer and we were just a four piece at the time. Now we have two new guys and we are playing this song all the time. We know we can do it better and we know we can do it better with these two guys with us so we did. C: "Hostage Radio" is out of print now so you can't buy it and we couldn't really re-record "Hostage Radio" so we did this.

Is homelessness a big problem in Calgary or is there something else that inspired this song?

K: It's affordable housing in Calgary. We're in the midst of a five or six year housing boom or price boom. Real estate. I have lots of friends who don't own houses or condos or anything

like that. It's becoming out of reach for them. But those people are doing okay. It's the single moms working full time with two or three kids. Where are they staying? You have entire working families living in a shelter system. That's crazy. It doesn't make any sense. And if you have a single mom with three kids who are working full time we need to be able to subsidize somehow so they....

...can normalize their situation...

K: So they could have a normal life. Live in a house. Something. Their own place. They need their own place.

For sure.

K: But there is single guys who are doing the same thing. Living in homeless shelters and they have jobs. They get up and go to work everyday and go home and live in a homeless shelter, which is if that's your choice then fine but I think they would prefer to have their own place. That's it. It's a Calgary thing.

What are your thoughts on Ralph Klein stepping down?

K: I'm happy. He's ready to go.

Do you think Ralph Klein is related to this situation in particular?

K: Yeah I do. We had a brief discussion about this earlier. Ralph Klein did what he was elected to do in his first two terms which was control the deficit and get rid of the debt and it needed to be done. For the last two terms ...

But it sounds like there has been some casualties to this.

K: There has been a lot of casualties to this but most people accepted that. It wasn't just the poor that suffered, all of Alberta society suffered from cuts to education, health care, whatever. But now as a province we are in a position to re-invest into social programs, all sorts of things and we are not doing that. So that's an issue. A little more of an issue to me is that there doesn't seem to be any vision from the Conservative Party and Ralph Klein in particular. And aside from that he is just an unlikeable guy.

It explains why he got a pie in the face.

K: Yeah. You bet. Well he got pied in Calgary.

Oh did he?

K: Yeah.

C: He charged that kid with assault. He hits the page with a book and nothing happens to him.

K: He gets pied in the face in Calgary at a pancake breakfast, which for anybody outside of Alberta you probably have no idea what we are talking about. When Stampede comes around and if you come to Calgary during Stampede week you can get free pancakes and sausages every morning. Just walk around downtown and they have these pancake breakfasts. Anyway the politicians use them as handshakes right.

Yeah. As photo ops.

K: Exactly. Klein gets pied in the face, charges this kid with assault. That was a few years ago. And like Clay just said about a month ago he throws a book at a page working the legislature...

It was the liberal platform I understand.

K: Yeah it was the Liberal healthcare plan. He said it was crap and he threw it back at the page who gave it to her. It hit her. He has become so arrogant he no longer has to behave like a civilized human being. That's why he needs to step down. He has become so arrogant and so comfortable with his power that he can throw books at people in the legislature. He can walk into a shelter drunk and throw money at homeless people and tell them to get a job.

Yeah. That's right. I remember that story.

K: That's the main reason he needs to step down. He has been handed this so many times that he has become completely arrogant. It's scary.

Who is Bill Jones and tell us the story of the curse?

K: Bill Jones is the name of someone who is fictional based on two of our friends and the curse is just addiction. Alcohol, drugs, whatever. You've got a good guy, a good buddy who wants to stay alive, wants to live, but can't seem to do it.

Fighting his demons.

K: Can't seem to do it on a prolonged basis. Get clean for a month or two months and then right back down into the gutter. Six day benders. You don't see the guy for months and you find out he is in re-hab in the hospital. You are just waiting for something bad to happen.

E: I think that is a real interesting story just because, like I had one of my cousins say "Did you write that one?" and I was like "No Kyle wrote that one." "Oh I thought that was about so and so". And I've had that happen with another friend and everyone's got someone like that in their life and everyone can relate to that song. That story is so common.

Yeah it is. The band has released a bunch of things on Longshot Music, but the latest release is on Stumble Records. Why the change?

M: It was a number of things. We had a great run with Mike from Longshot and he's a great

guy and when he was out in Vancouver it was working out well and he re-released some of our older recordings. Then he re-located to Brooklyn and that kind of slowed down the label a little bit. He had to kind of establish himself there. And we were at the point where we had to take another step. And the stars aligned. We have known Steve from *Stumble* for years from touring and he was getting his label really going and got some better distribution and everything kind of lined up so we thought we would give it a shot and it is working out really well.

C: His enthusiasm towards the band is awesome. He loves the band. He works really hard at just pushing us and pushing us. That means more to us than anything else. More than money is someone really likes it.

K: And we will work with *Longshot* again in future projects.

C: Yeah I think Mike is just ...the last time I spoke with him he said he was just going to start doing a lot of 7" and stuff like that so he is not really too concerned with full lengths.

I want to ask you about the Calgary scene. What is the scene like in Calgary ?

J: It's a lot of We're kind of on the outskirts of things right now, whereas three or four years ago we would do really well at an all ages show or a bar show, but now with emo and hardcore, those two genres of music are just the hugest things right now and it just pushes us outside for a while. So it's a lot of hardcore bands. I think with punk rock especially it happens in waves and I think that stuff has peaked and it is starting to die out. And I think with a band like us we are still there when all the fads of music genres are up and down.

And all the dust has cleared.

J: Yeah and we'll still be there and kids will be interested again.

Is there any bands that you would recommend that we should pay attention to?

J: We are good buddies with a band called RUM RUNNER and they are going to be on *Stumble Records*, too with their next CD.

K: And the VON ZIPPERS.

J: Yeah the VON ZIPPERS are really great.

K: Just about a year ago we celebrated our tenth anniversary at the Night Gallery with the VON ZIPPERS and it was their ten years as well. So the two of us played a show together. To elaborate on Jimmy's comment I think from a scene perspective, definitely our audience is older. We definitely fill the bars and we are playing less all ages shows. We are not seeing these massive turnouts with the kids, but that being said it surprised me...we played an all ages show two months ago at the Underground and it was full of kids to see a punk rock band. That was encouraging. I guess there is kids who still want to check that out. But definitely I agree with what Jimmy is saying where emo and hardcore have become so popular. Like it's nuts in Calgary with the emo and hardcore bands.



Kyle on vocals.

I am going to ask you to be Calgary ambassadors for the hardcore scene and give us a bit of a scene report. What are good places that people would go see shows at in Calgary? Venue-wise. Where can someone happening through Calgary go see a show.

K: For all ages right now there is nothing consistent. Like it is typically halls and that sort of thing so you just have to check out albertapunk.com for show listings. For people who are 18 and over there is a lot of good venues. There is Broken City, which is a bar on 11th Avenue. There is the Castle Pub, which is a bar on 1st Street. There is the Underground which is a bar on 10th Avenue and those three all have shows. There is also the Ship and Anchor pub that still has the odd punk rock show on Wednesday night. Is the Hi Fi Club closed down or is it still open ?

C: They have shows sometimes.

K: The Hi Fi Club has shows Saturdays.

C: The Ship is Wednesdays. Weren't a GLOBAL THREAT playing there ?

M: Yeah with the HEROES.

K: Then there is a couple of others like there is the ...what is that one down in the south ? The Stetson. And that's in the south. It is sort of weird.

Is there a north-south divide or something?

K: It is like there is a central core, right downtown is where most of the shows happen, but South Calgary seems to have a bit of their own scene.

M: Yeah it's weird.

K: For the last ten years ...

C: Our city has gotten so huge but it seems to spread out and not up, so it could take you an hour and a half to drive across town depending on where you are going.

K: But kids from the north and the east and the west all come central and the kids from the south do too but it seems like the kids from the south Calgary

Well it might be a further trek for them to get central...



Jimmy on guitar.

K: Yeah.

What about record stores. Is there any good record stores in Calgary ?

K: *South Records* is the one you want to go to. It's on 4th Street and 15th Avenue South West. And *South Records* is definitely the best store in town.

How has the tour been going so far ? Any memorable stories you want to share with us ?

K: I can't remember too many stories.

C: It's been really good actually. We flew out this time instead of driving just to experiment and see if that would work as far as costs go and it seems to be working good. All the shows have been really good. Hamilton was Hamilton and Tuesday at the Bovine was too much Jagermeister but every other show has been really good. It is cool here because the liquor laws are different so you can have all ages shows and a bar show. In Alberta it is strictly all ages or strictly bar. I don't know if that has to do with smoking laws or what. It's cool here for that for the shows.

Yeah, you get more people out for shows.

C: For sure.

E: I was just trying to explain to Francoise from the RIPCORDERZ. Usually we are on the road for a few weeks and we party and we drink a lot and we pace it out. It's spaced out. This time it has been six days and it has been pretty intense. We're having a lot of fun.

M: But we're wore out.

K: You can hear it in my voice I think.

Some of the damage.

K: Yeah. This is the six performance in a row and I'm gonna go home and not talk for a week.

C: Yeah right.

K: These guys have to live with me twenty four seven and they know that's not going to work.

I just wanted to do a quick retrospective of the recordings that you have out so far. Can you list off what you have released to date ?

C: We did a cassette tape. We did a 7". Then we

did our first CD.

K: Do you want titles as well ?

Yeah titles would help.

M: The cassette was called "Keep your Hands off my Sister".

C: Kyle's sister was a hottie. Still is hot. Jodie if your listening, you still are hot. Then we did a 7" on *Sloth Records* the record store. It was a record store label. "When the Music Hits". We had a CD on *Melodia* called "Another Heroic Episode". Everything is pretty much out of print.

M: There was a 10" right before that called "Ode to the Old Reliables". That was right before that CD.

C: Yep.

And who put out the 10" ?

C: *Melodia Records*. The same people that did our CD.

And it's a Calgary label ?

C: Yeah it's a Calgary label. I'm not sure if they are doing anything now.

K: Yeah it's been a long time but it was cool that. There was a band called....actually if you're in Hamilton and you are listening to this go down to *Reigning Sound* and tell Jimmy that you want the INQUISITION 10" called "Red" and it's a 10" that came out on *Melodia Records*. It was kind of like the sister recording that came out right at the same time as we released our "Ode to the Old Reliables" 10" on the same label. And INQUISITION is from Calgary as well. The two of us played a lot together when we were younger. Anyway that 10" is an awesome awesome record. Somebody go down there and pick it up.

You saw it when you were there ?

K: Yeah I was flipping through records and we were hanging out drinking beers and I said you got to throw this on. It is so good. Anyways sorry for that.

C: It's all good. And then we hooked up with *Far Out Records* from Florida. We did another 7". Just "Knucklehead" was the title. We couldn't think of anything good. And then we did "Little Boots" on *Far Out*. And then we did "Voices Among Us" CD. Kyle actually released that himself and it was later re-released on *Longshot*. And then we did "Hostage Radio" on *Longshot* and then we did the "Cosmetic Youth" 7" on *Longshot* and then "The New Black List" on *Stumble*.

That's a lot of stuff.

K: Plenty.

Yes. What would be the favourite out of the bunch ?

C: The new one for me anyway, I think.

K: It sounds lame but honestly the new one.

It is almost a stupid question because you are sort of listening to that one the most right now.

K: It's not a stupid question though because it wasn't too long after we released "Hostage radio" that I thought you know what this should have been better. We should have taken it slower and spent more time on the production. So it's not a stupid question. Honestly "New Black



Eric on drums.

List" is my favourite. And before that it would have been "Little Boots" and "Voices Among Us".

C: I would have said "Little Boots" before this one, too.

K: A friend of ours Al from back home made the comment that he felt "The New Black List" had the music and sound quality of "Little Boots" with the writing of "Voices Among Us"

and he felt that this was the best mix and I can agree with him on that.

Do the rest of you agree ?

M: Yeah. I really like the way "New Black List" turned out. Pretty much everything that Kyle just said I would wholeheartedly agree with.

C: I only like the records I am on. (laughter)

Just because you are humble.

K: He is known for his humbleness. Is that a word ?

E: He's a humbologist.

How can people get in touch with the band?

C: They can go to our website at www.knucklehead.ca. We have a myspace

site and myspace.com/kh. You can get in touch with us through both of those.

K: You can get our e-mail addresses from there.

Are there any last comments ?

K: We'd like to thank you for having us.

This has been a few years in the making.

Thank you very much for making it happen.

This has been great.

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TOTAL CHAOS

TOTAL CHAOS formed in Ponom Valley in 1989. At the time there weren't many acts playing UK '82 inspired punk. TOTAL CHAOS consists of Rob Chaos- Vocals, Shawn Smash-Guitar, Foffle-Bass and Gearbox on Drums. This interview took place March 7th before their show with BROKEN BONES at Studio 7 in Seattle Washington. This was three days after the British Invasion festival that ended in a riot and made the news nation wide. Interview by Aaron Brown from CITR's "Generation Annihilation".

So the British Invasion festival just happened in San Bernardino California. What was your take on what happened and had you gotten to play?

Rob: We were on stage when the riot started to happen.

Shawn: It actually really started to get going during FINAL CONFLICT's set. It was kind of a mob situation with Nazi Skinhead's beating up punk kids.

Rob: But then the punk kids took down the Nazi's brutally beating them. One of them got stabbed.

What do you think caused the riot? Could anything have been done to stop it?

Rob: Well really the police caused the riot. Because after security resolved everything the cops just opened the doors and tear gassed the place and that's when the kids went rampant. The cops got there way too late and really they shouldn't have been there in the first place. They should have just let security handle it.

Shawn: The Security Guards couldn't of handled it. I watched the whole thing.

Rob: No. They could have.

Shawn: No. I think they were the ones who called 911.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Dee Dee, Foffle, Shawn Smash, Rob Chaos and Gearbox.

I remember seeing TOTAL CHAOS at the Gilman Street Warehouse right after the "Pledge Of Defiance" record came out. What year would that have been?

Rob: That would have been 1994.

And that was your second full length. Correct?

Rob: Yeah. We had a record called "We Are The Future" which came out in March of '93 "Pledge Of Defiance" came out in May of '94.

How many albums have TOTAL CHAOS released?

Rob: We're up to 7.

You released 3 of them on Epitaph Records. What happened with them?

Rob: At the of '97 Brett, the labels then manager went through drug rehab. He left the label and signed the label over to someone who cut us along with a whole bunch of other bands. When we were up for negotiations for a new contract

"The bay area has changed but not because of the governor. It's because rich people are taking over..."

Brett wasn't there to represent us. We didn't get cut because of record sales. The records were selling good. We got cut because the person who took over didn't like our style of punk.

Was Epitaph good to work with?

Rob: They were awesome when Brett was running the ship.

How does working with a smaller label like SOS compare to working with a label like Epitaph?

Rob: SOS is in development right now. It's been around for two years. I like it because I have direct contact with the label's development. I think by sometime this year SOS will be almost as big as the other big labels in punk.

They're getting bigger all right.

Rob: It's all about distribution. As of late SOS has been offered almost every major distribution deal you can possibly think of.

Your new album on SOS "Freedom Kills" has a theme based around the Bush administration and all what happened during his first term. I was wondering if TOTAL CHAOS voted in the last American presidential election?

Foffle: Yeah I voted for John Kerry.

Shawn: I didn't vote.

Rob: I did but not voluntarily because I don't like John Kerry either. My girl and me were originally going to vote for Nader but he didn't stand a chance of getting in.

Has California changed much since Arnold Schwarzenegger became the governor?

Rob: California hasn't really changed. It's got the same problems it's always had.

Foffle: The Bay Area's changed.

Rob: The bay area has changed but not because of the governor. It's because

rich people are taking over and are pushing everybody out.

Something known as gentrification.

Rob: That's what happens when rich people take over.



"Pledge of Defiance", 2nd record released on Epitaph, May 1994.



"Patriotic shock", 3rd record released on Epitaph, June 1995.



"Anthems from the Alleyway", 4th record released on Epitaph, July 1996.

So the lineup for TOTAL CHAOS has changed quite a bit throughout the years, it's my understanding that you've got Gearbox your original drummer back?

Rob: He's been back for about three and a half years now.

How many members have TOTAL CHAOS been through roughly?

Rob: Realistically we've been through three guitar players total. We had Gary Doom for the first three and a half years. Then there was Ronald McMurder for the next year and half. We now have Shawn Smash who has been with the band for eleven years. He joined in the beginning of '95.

Do you keep in touch with any of the past members?

Rob: Our original bass player Joe Bastard was at one of our show two days ago. He's a family man now. Touring wasn't an option for him anymore. Gary Doom comes to all our shows back home. He left because he wasn't a touring type.

Tonight you guys are on the bill with BROKEN BONES. I've also seen you share the stage and tour with many other older established acts. Who usually hooks you guys up with these acts?

Rob: The bands contact me and I route the tours for the most part. I routed most of this tour.

There are a lot of old acts still playing. We've got bands like GBH and THE EXPLOITED who never went away. We've got bands like BROKEN BONES who have gotten back together. Would you say BLITZ is a completely different story?

Rob: Well I don't know about them but BROKEN BONES is great and really good guys as well.

Shawn: Well we like Nidge from BLITZ. He's a great guy.

Foffle: I got along with all of them. It was weird seeing what we did see. Not to disrespect any of their new members.

It just wasn't BLITZ?

Shawn: It was BLITZ but an American incarnation with one original member. Personally I thought it sounded cool however



LIVE: Rob Chaos and Gearbox. Photo taken from their my space site

others might have expected something different. I don't seem to recall TOTAL CHAOS ever playing Vancouver BC.

Rob: We were supposed to play in '94 but Gearbox couldn't get across the border.

Shawn: We've done Toronto and Montreal.

Rob: We've done Montreal a few times however with Vancouver there always seems to be a problem.

Will we see TOTAL CHAOS in Canada again anytime soon?

Rob: Yeah I think for sure well go back this year. However it'll have to be without Gearbox. He's barred for life.

Shawn: It'll probably be the drummer who played on the "Punk Invasion" album.

www.totalchaospunx.com

www.sosrecords.us

TOTAL CHAOS with IB ARATO

July 8th @ le Trash, St-Hyacinthe, QC

July 9th @ l'Anti, Quebec City, QC

July 10th @ Cote Cont, Jonquire, QC

July 11th @ Salle Des Mooses, Roun, QC

July 12th @ Babylon, Ottawa, ON

July 13th @ The Cathedral, Toronto, ON

July 15th @ Spiderfest, Eagansville, ON

July 16th @ The Canadian Nightclub, Sault Ste Marie, ON

July 17th @ The Apollo, Thunder Bay, ON

July 18th @ Westend Cultural Center, Winnipeg, MB

July 19th @ The Manhattan, Regina, SK

July 20th @ The Vans Warped Tour, Calgary, AB

July 21st @ Verns, Calgary, AB

July 22nd @ The Cobalt, Vancouver, BC



"Punk Invasion", 6th record released on their own Label, May 2001.



"Freedom Kills", 7th record released on their own label SOS, February 2005.

Reviews

Reviewers are: Craig Caron (CC), Stephe Perry (SP), and Mark Rodenhizer (MR)

Alcoholic White Trash "Punk Rock Jihad" CD

This is A.W.T.'s third release. The band formed around 2000 with members of DRUNK TANK, the TED BUNDY PROJECT, and BONERDOGS. The band takes their name from an old JUMBO PRAWN song. All of this has more significance to folks from the Vancouver scene. Their sound is clean and fast with good production. They kind of remind me of the heaviness of the retro crossover sound that bands like HONG KONG BLONDE and DFA have really brought back to the fold. But the band also has the speed and melody and snottiness of someone like DIRTY BIRD. The song "Cavity Search County" reminds me a little of the COWBOY KILLERS. There are elements of GG ALLIN shock and drunk punk ambivalence in a lot of the song themes. A.W.T. is like listening to a self-destructive, end of the rope crossover band. (Crusty Records / P.O. Box 59 / 1895 Commercial Drive / Vancouver, BC / V5N 4A6 / Canada / www.alcoholicwhitetrash.com) - SP



...And the Saga Continues "Ferocious" ep

Montreal's ...AND THE SAGA CONTINUES keeps getting so much better. The title "Ferocious" pretty much describes this release. This is a stop 'n start fury of manic paced hardcore. Fastcore in pace, power violence in song quantity, youth crust in humour. They remind me of DUDMAN in terms of the kinetic energy and the distorted volume at which the production comes out at you. They remind me of BETERCORE in terms of the poignant lyrics and in terms of the craziness that is the overall sound. ...AND THE SAGA CONTINUES combines the best of Japanese fastcore with the mania and intelligence of neder thrash. And they are from Montreal. The lyrics are more on the negative harsher sides of reality with songs like "the New Underclass" to themes of revenge like "Roasting the Pig" or "Watching you Cry Like a Bitch Makes me Joyful and Excited" to a call to revolution with "The Propaganda War's over Now the Violence Begins". Their songs remind me of a NEGATIVE APPROACH lyrics sheet as written by CHARLES BRONSON. (Fuck the Bullshit Records / 2084 Decarie, Apt. #1 / Montreal, QC / H4A 3J3 / Canada) - SP

Darvocets, The "Authentic Music From Another Planet" 12"

So I seem to be on a real KBD kick lately and the DARVOCETS are a welcomed addition. Folks, before you finish reading this review run out and snag a copy of the LP as it is limited to 500 copies and is an essential piece of vinyl to own. While we are talking about the vinyl let it be known this is a 6 song one sided bile green LP with the B side silkscreened with some lovely crop circles. For you uber geeks (and I'm one of them) there is a limited amount on clear vinyl with a glow in the dark screen of a U.F.O. Well the music... goddamn it's a mix of KBD early punk, toss in some primary HC, new wave and top it off with the spazztacular vocal wobbles of Mr. Larry Darvocet, as he shares the pleasures of aliens, cattle mutilation and other truths that you have heard on the Strange But True Radio Show. Trying to pin this down is so fuckin' hard because I hear influences from GEZA X to the MENTALLY ILL to DEVO for fucksakes. Get it now before the impending alien takeover. (Painkiller Records / 8 Burney St #1 / Boston, MA / 02120 / USA) - CC

Dirty B.S. "Mercy Bullet" ep

Taking their name from a DANZIG song, this local 5-piece finally get down to releasing some music. Josh Bickle, brother to the guy who runs this label, is heavily influenced by the FROM ASHES RISE or TRAGEDY sound, as much as ZEPPELIN. Ivan Roberts-Davies, the drummer for TERMINAL STATE keeps the beat for this band. And Dave KW is the singer and could fill in for FUCKED UP in a pinch on vocals. DIRTY



BS sound like some fucked up straight edge version of FROM ASHES RISE. It's like FUCKED UP with more chug in their sound. But Dave is into more of the crossover skate sound of bands like SUICIDAL TENDENCIES, DRI and POISON IDEA and Josh is a metalhead who only listens to SLAYER and METALLICA records taking exception only for Portland area bands. The original intention of this band was to sound like DEATHREAT, which they do in a way, but with a heavier POISON IDEA meets FUCKED UP sound bleeding through. It's a great recording. (Slasher Records / 629 Ossington Avenue / Toronto, ON / M6G 3T6 / Canada / www.slasherrecords.com) - SP

Black Donnellys "Life's a Scream Again!" ep

Here is side two of that classic demo for this London area band originally released in 1987. Once again I am happy to hear these tracks remastered and pressed onto vinyl because I wore my tape out. Seriously, my tape sounds like ass now. But this record doesn't. There is a bit of a controversy over the band as of late. The band first reformed with the members that I would always see. Then the singer kicked them out and had members of his old band OCTOBER CRISIS rehearsing their material. Since then I have found a history of the DONNELLYS posted on their site that suggests the band has gone through many incarnations. That same line up history is found on the inside cover. That's good spin doctoring I guess because now I don't know what to believe. But I do remember seeing the DONNELLYS numerous times. I loved them everytime they played Toronto. And the current line up is not the line up that I ever saw. Anyway this gem of an ep is the second part of the demo and it is fuckin' golden. Scrappy SNFU sounding mid 80's hardcore. A political message to boot and harmonies. And Dan knows how to spit them out with a momentum that I have not heard from anyone since. The most memorable song off this collection is "Challenger" which has references to the shuttle that blew up with the teacher aboard. But "Take a Ride" is also great with a tale of a terrorist attack pre 9/11. I would always find myself screaming the chorus to "Good" when I listened to this tape. And over the years I found any excuse to play this tape. This is one of my favourite Canadian hardcore bands of all time. Right up there with YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH and DOA. I don't know what to tell you other than there is only 500 pressed. The counterpart to this is already sold out so you better act fast. Trust me on this one. (Audiofellatio Records / 251 West Avenue North / Hamilton, ON / L8L 5C8 / Canada / www.audiofellatio.com) - SP



Black Sheep Squadron "Foreign Object" CD

BLACK SHEEP SQUADRON are part GORDON SOLIE MOTHERFUCKERS, part LAST RITES. The singer sounds like Choke which accounts for the LAST RITES comparison. The cover is a chair shot in action which accounts for the GSMF comparison. But the band has that wreckless bent of that Clevo rust belt resurgence era hardcore. There is all kinds of hardcore melded into BLACK SHEEP SQUADRON's sound. The song "More Pain" starts out with the guitar parts of "California Uber Alles". "I Want Out" could be an out take from the early ANGELIC UPSTARTS. "Quick Fix" is like listening to OUT COLD. "Bonehead" could be something written by UNIFORM CHOICE and follows the song structure of "Straight and Alert". I don't mean to suggest that BLACKSHEEP SQUADRON are recycling classic hardcore influences. On the contrary. I think they are using their hardcore filters in the right way to bring in aspects of all eras of hardcore and make it their sound. It's a rough and tumble sound, that both flies off the handle and plods along to a circle pit mosh. They even employ hand claps in "Papers Please" and it is neat sounding as opposed to that PROMISE RING sort of way where it sounds all cutesy. (Reaper Records / P.O. Box 2935 / Liverpool, NY / 13089 / USA / www.reaperhardcore.com) - SP



Burial "Hungry Wolves" ep

Not like DURAN DURAN's "Hungry like the Wolf", Germany's BURIAL are the hungry wolves ready to chew the bits out of these new romantic icons. In some ways BURIAL are Deutschland's answer to Japacore. They draw on some burning spirits influences with their big burly biker sounding guitar. They kind of remind me of CHAINSAW. But BURIAL does so at the same time as it draws on the moodier Swedish D-beat of TRAGEDY's sound. What you end up with is one cut throat band that brings the heavy rock feeling into a refined Swedish d-beat. It is not as distinct as that. BURIAL do a great job of meshing the two sounds. It is moody burning spirits materials without the length to their songs. This is a four song ep, of the latest material recorded by the band. There is a fifth song to this recording that is going to an *MRR* comp. Watch for that too. (Heartfirst Recordings/ Landsberger Str. 146/ D-80339 München / Germany / www.heartfirst.net) - SP



Chron Gen "Chronic Generation" CD

This is CHRON GEN's debut LP that was originally released by *Secret Records*. The LP was a collection of some newly recorded versions of a couple of previously released songs along with some live stuff and the band's "Jet Boy, Jet Girl". This cover of the Plastic Bertrand rarity was inspired by a version that Captain Sensible did. Ironically, the song has a more hardcore feel to it, while the sexual innuendos that made the song are all written out. Were they trying to get radio airplay? Now the original vinyl pressing also included a free live 7" and it looks like some of that was included on here as part of the bonus tracks. Also included as bonus tracks is the band's contribution to the "Britannia Waives the Rules" comp, the "Puppets of War" ep, the "Reality" ep, and the "Outlaw" ep. Essentially this is a collected recorded output of CHRON GEN's first few years as a band. This is probably the stuff to have. The early recordings remind me of a mix between SIOUXIE AND THE BANSHEES and GANG OF FOUR, whereas the LP recording has more of a 999 meets ANTI-PASTI on acid feel to it. (Captain Oi! / P.O. Box 501, High Wycombe, Bucks / HP10 8QA / UK / www.captainoi.com) - SP



Clit 45 "2, 4, 6, 8 ... We're the Kids You love to Hate" CD

CLIT 45 are one of these more mainstream like return of the bristle-haired punks. Think of the hairstyles on the back of a FINAL CONFLICT or DISCHARGE LP set to the sounds of ANTI-FLAG. Think of the scene that has spawned the CASUALTIES and the LOWER CLASS BRATS and CLIT 45 is the west coast version of this scene. *BYO* has collected a bunch of previously released songs for this CD. There are two unreleased tracks, but for the most part this is the "Your Life" ep, "Tales from the Clit", and the "Straight Outta Long Beach" ep. (*BYO Records* / P.O. Box 67609 / Los Angeles, CA / 90067 / www.byorecords.com) - SP



Die Brucke s/t CD

These Haligonians rock the core like CUT THE SHIT or BONES BRIGADE did a few years back. They impress the hell out of me, both live and on this self-released disk. The band takes their name from an early expressionist group that was associated with a youthful aggressive painting style. It is a great metaphor for hardcore. The band is super active in their native Halifax. Mark used to be in a band called NOT ENOUGH BULLETS And he used to do a label. Lachey plays in HORSES. Mitch plays in another band called BORED OF OTHERS. And Greg plays in a band called SHARP LIKE KNIVES. But they also play in a load of non punk bands. Suffice it to say the band is fuckin' busy. Regardless DIE BRUCKE have really grasped that energetic style of hardcore that was coming out of Boston about two years ago. The

band also sites Vancouver's the ATTACK from a lyrical and musical side. Overall they have this energetic get up and go-core influenced by straight forward straight edge hardcore of the past and present. Mark's vocals remind me of the vocals from COMBATWOUNDEDVETERAN. A great pissed sounding pairing of styles. (diexbrucke@gmail.com) - SP

Disclose / World Burns to Death "Dis Nightmare Still Continues" ep

Japan's DISCHARGE return with two new tracks of galloping d-beat. The undisputed kings of the "Dis" bands dish out an anti-war anthem and a song about being down and out. It is as flawless in execution, speedy in terms of three chord ball busters, and would make DISCHARGE proud to have such devoted folks to their sound. They are no DISCHARGE, but they'll do in a pinch. WORLD BURNS TO DEATH deliver two new tracks as well. "Children Gone to Shadow" starts off like d-beat but bleeds kang and trag-core all at the same time. The false stop is a mind fuck and takes some time to figure out where one song stops and the other begins. "Blood and Dishonour" displays this same kind of crazy blend of hardcore that has a galloping drum beats along side some heavy fuckin' seamless transitioning guitar playing that is moody and crushing all at the same time. And Jack still has the POISON IDEA like vocals that would give Jerry A a run for his money. This record was originally released by *Overthrow Records* out of Japan in 2005, but has been made available again thanks to *YellowDog*. (Yellow Dog / P.O. Box 550208 / 10372 Berlin / Germany / www.yellowdog.de) - SP



Doom "Back and Gone" CD x 2

This is a double live CD with an extra video CD thrown in for good measure. The idea of this collection is to remember DOOM's last singer "Soz". DOOM had recently gotten back together and started rehearsing old material and writing new stuff. The idea of getting back together was to play some fuckin' heavy d-beat. And DOOM were one of the masters of that. It seems like the crusty patch was invented as a d-beat badge of honour. Anyway "Soz" had epilepsy and he did die due to complications from it. But the band got to play a show at the 1 in 12 that was really well recorded and featured 2 of the new songs on this recording. The second disk is from "Sozzfest", which was a tribute night put together by his friends to honour his memory by playing DOOM songs. This recording features the old singer John and the old guitarist Denis both doing vocal duties. Sozzfest sounds like a fantastic send off. A punk show beats a funeral anyway and what a great way to honour such a scene stalwart. (*MCR Company* / 157 Kamiagu Maizuru / Kyoto 624-0913 / Japan / www.dance.ne.jp/~mcr/) - SP

Drowning Nation "Mouthful of Shit" ep

Finland's answer to CUT THE SHIT. This is their second release. The band initially formed in 2002 with the intention of writing songs that were short, fast, and pissed off. Fuelled on early POISON IDEA the band keeps to this aim, but they don't sound at all like POISON IDEA. Straight up new school Boston hardcore that is biting an old school sound similar to bands like WASTED TIME or HERO DISHONEST. And like these bands DROWNING NATION kicks the tempo up a notch. This is the DS-13 of 2006 with a NEGATIVE FX influence thrown in. This ep is all go-core from start to finish. It packs one wallop of a punch. Snap it up while you can. (*Ratbite Records* / ratbiterecords@gmail.com) - SP

Endless Blockade, the ep

THE ENDLESS BLOCKADE are this incredible hardcore band from Toronto that pull influences from power violence, slow-core, fastcore, metal, and all the areas of hardcore that could be associated with brutality. They are like listening to an extreme hardcore stream of consciousness in all it's schizophrenic glory. And the lyrics pull no punches as the band



glides from a BLACK SABBATH stoner rock part to an INFEST like "Pliers" part. This is what NO COMMENT would sound like if they were still around today and continues to develop their influences. Matt Carroll, formerly of CAPITAL DEATH, does the principal squawking. He runs through songs that suggest many alternatives to the current "business-as-usual" methods of the sex trade, the war on drugs, and mental illness. The band also weighs in on the over-done-ness of a subject like the internet in hardcore or clubbing. If you take the time to read the lyrics there are a number of great insights. The Brian Livoti (WATCHMAKER) artwork does some crazy stuff with the lyrics which requires some work. Andy Nolan, formerly of SHANK, does double duty on this record with his signature bass pummelling and vocal trade offs. Ben Edgar, the former sound engineer for our live sessions on the radio show plays guitar and I had no idea that he could play this extremely complicated and scattered style of hardcore, but I should have known better because of the years Ben and I had discussed a myriad of hardcore styles from ORCHID to STRAIN. They all come out in this jam packed 7". This recording represents the last recording done with the old drummer Ryo before he moved back to Japan. There are 11 songs on here which is the polar opposite to the 20 plus minute one sided monstrosity of their split with WARZONE WOMYN. This recording represents an earlier period of the band. This is the best recorded material I have heard of the band from their original line up. (I Deal Records / 180 Rudgate Road / Colchester, VT / 05446 // Dada Drumming / P.O. Box 101445 / Fort Worth, TX / 76185 / USA / www.dadadrumming.org) - SP

Formaldehyde Junkies ep

This is the band's second release. It has already sold out of it's initial pressing. So what's the big deal ? The big deal is the band plays a stripped down brand of hardcore that folks have really taken to. The kind of hardcore brought back by the likes of CAREER SUICIDE and GOVERNMENT WARNING. It is early 80's American inspired hardcore. The kind of hardcore that is fuelled on adrenaline, that involves three chords played as fast as possible and is driven by a hatred for things around them. This recording in particular reminds me of "Legless Bull" era G.I. Fast and snotty sounding with minimal distortion and all kinds of wreckless abandon. The FORMALDEHYDE JUNKIES are from Minneapolis and feature ex members of ANY LAST WORDS and DAMAGE DEPOSIT, so this is a bit of a home town release. Don't miss this second press. (Fashionable Idiots / P.O. Box 580131 / Minneapolis, MN / 55458 / USA / www.fashionableidiots.com) - SP

Gilbert Switzer / the Hold "State of Nature" ep

GILBERT SWITZER are a three piece from Halifax that play more new wave like punk in the realm of the more experimental side of the tracks. The band sites influences like the GOSSIP, BIKINI KILL, the CRAMPS, the STOOGES, GUN CLUB and the like. I hear a minimal approach to their side similar to the way GANG OF FOUR wrote. And I certainly hear the primordial rock 'n roll roots of the STOOGES in their sound. And the percussion heavy side of the GUN CLUB and the CRAMPS is also evident. The vocals are sung through some distant sounding distortion for neat effect. I wish I had seen them when they were through town. The flip side has four new songs by the HOLD. This is a band that I absolutely love. They were so great to see play in the basement of CIUT. Their NEOS inspired thrash really comes through on this record. Playing as fast as they can and cramming in neat little BLACK FLAG like quirks the HOLD have this schizophrenic momentum to their sound. They may be herky jerky, but a HOLD song always seems to come back to their basic riff reinforcing the song like little prickles that pierce you unexpectedly in a field of weeds. Crystal's bass sounds a lot heavier than in past recordings emphasizing the BLACK FLAG sound. And Chik's vocals sound less like Jello Biafra on this recording. This is a great pairing for contemporary punk from these Halogonians, probably inspired by a place that they like to refer to as hell. (Divorce / 2687 Fuller Terrace /



Halifax, NS / B3K 3V9 / Canada / www.divorcerecords.ca) - SP

Infra Riot "The Best of ..." CD

Having INFARIOT scrawled on the back of your leather jackets was pretty common among the punks that I grew up with. The skull with a Mohawk was common place. And with good reason. INFARIOT wrote some of the most memorable oi songs of the time. It was them and ABRASIVE WHEELS. Not the EXPLOITED. Not DISCHARGE. INFARIOT. "The Winner" has got to be one of my favourite punk songs of all time. And the song "Power", which first appeared on the no nukes "Wargasm" comp is the ultimate rallying cry for revolution. The sing-a-long nature of "Riot Riot" is the band's anthem. The ringing guitar of "Emergency" from "Still Out of Order" is another song I remember listening to a lot. But I also think that songs like "the Drug Squad" and "Kids of the 80's" are as good as "Army Life" or "Punk's Not Dead". If your not sure what INFARIOT sounds like think YOUTH BRIGADE meets the ANGELIC UPSTARTS, but writing songs as good as ABRASIVE WHEELS. And Garry Fielding's liner notes take you through the band's history from their origins in 1980 as a support band for the UPSTARTS through to their embarrassing re-make as the INFAS in 1984. I never really knew the INFAS or their material, but some of the later material makes it on here. Fortunately not a lot. (Captain Oi! / P.O. Box 501, High Wycombe, Bucks / HP10 8QA / UK / www.captainoi.com) - SP



Instant Asshole "Straight Edge Failure" CD

This is John the Baker's band. John's on vocals and he reminds me so much of the dude from TH'INBRED and the band even has some of the quirky stop and start manicness that TH'INBRED used to pull together. But who the fuck remembers TH'INBRED ? A great hardcore band from West Virginia that had some of the best in scene criticism. Now INSTANT ASSHOLE pick bigger targets than in-scene bickering like Bush, christianity, landlords, and the like. And INSTANT ASSHOLE have a much heavier sound. One that draws on the speed of DEADFALL, the heaviness of BATTALION OF SAINTS, and the drive of MDC. However the band still has some similarities to bands like VICTIM'S FAMILY, PAGAN FAITH, the CRUCIFUCKS, the FEEDERZ, and other bands that stood up like nails needing to be hammered. Unfortunately, John is the proprietor of the Burnt Ramen and so he tries to be more conciliatory and representative of their scene. (Tank Crimes / P.O. Box 3495 / Oakland, CA / 94609 / USA / www.tankcrimes.com) - SP

I Object "Teaching Revenge" CD

I never thought I'd see the day that an I OBJECT release came out on a label other than *Punks Before Profit\$*. But why not. The band has remained fiercely independent. In the liner notes the band has made the effort to not have a UPC code on the release. And I OBJECT have gone to the extent of releasing loads of other great bands on their label so that these bands could be independent. Besides the last time I checked *Alternative Tentacles* was still independently run. But this release came about through a side label of AT's called *Blacknoise*. I'm pretty sure that is the same label that released the NAUSEA anthology. So I OBJECT are in pretty good company. It's just a mind fuck to see the bat on the back cover. Anyway, this is the best production I have heard on any I OBJECT recording. Barb's vocals are more distinct than before. The lyrics are poignant and there are descriptions about the songs to leave no room for error. I totally identify with the song "Picking and Picking". Biff's guitar sound chugs along like the BLACK DONNELLYS. Steve and Ryan crash the party with a wreckless rhythm section. Overall the band has a more measured pace. There are noticeably slower more mid tempo songs. The intro had me doing a double take to make sure I had in the right disk. And songs that have a faster pace like "Sick" wind up slowing down part way. But the fast parts don't come apart at the rails. It is difficult to



sound manic and master pace changes. I OBJECT are totally coming along. (Alternative Tentacles / P.O. Box 419092 / San Francisco, CA / 94141-9092 / USA / www.alternativetentacles.com) - SP

I Spoke "Autobiography" CD

I SPOKE were a band originally from Streetsville. Where the fuck is Streetsville? Well it is this village in northwest Mississauga. Mississauga is a city itself, but it is also a western suburb of the Greater Toronto Area. And when the English were carving up this country into their seigniorial system, Streetsville was one of the last places divided up. Anyway, I could go into the uniqueness of this place from an urban studies point, but who the fuck cares. I mean really the significance of this place from a punk rock standpoint is that it has its own scene. Mississauga is a pretty big place. And the transportation links aren't really the greatest to the city. It is a fuckin' chore to get to see a show in Toronto for most kids from this area. So they developed their own scene. There are scenes in Oakville, a scene in Burlington, a scene in Hamilton, a scene in Mississauga and there is a scene on Streetsville. Now the kids from I SPOKE grew out of this scene in Streetsville. They grew up going to shows at the Masonic temple and watching shows that included PEZ, the band that would become BILLY TALENT. The band transplanted to Toronto after going to University at U of T. Anyway, despite the band's pop punk upbringing, they really followed an emo-core path. Inspired by the likes of REVERSAL OF MAN, HONEYWELL, UNION OF URANUS, PORTRAITS OF THE PAST, TO DREAM OF AUTUMN and the ASSISTANT, the band wrote some emo-core that was meditative at times and jarring the next. The dual polemics within a song structure is what makes emo-core unique. The band was also very inspired by the politics of the "Revolution Summer" and let these various aspects of punk be their guide. They also spoke of a trip to Ithica and a scene there that inspired them. Anyway, this collection captures their experiences as a band. The song "Friends not Fans" was inspired by their trip to Ithica. "The Ideology of the Cancer Cell" and "Whose voice?" were inspired by Leah's activist work and educational background. The band was very passionate about their work in the punk scene and did loads to put on shows, support touring bands and try and build the alternative things from a distro to an artist run space. Some of these projects got off the ground and others didn't. But for all the bands plans, they did release two splits worth of material. These are both collected here. Three unreleased songs are on here as well. Quite a few emo inspired bands come out of the Mississauga area and I really think they feed off each other to develop some of this scene's best bands. I SPOKE were one of our scene's greatest contributors. Leah and Chris have talked about starting another band and so they will soldier on. Can't wait to here what they come up with next. (Tuned to You Records / 416 45th Street CT. W. / Palmetto, FL / 34221 / USA / www.tunedtoyou.com) - SP



Kill Decibel, The s/t ep

Tough guy splatter rok. Really these guys sing about the repair and being "12 Feet Deep". There is a kinship with the ACCUSED. And didn't ATTITUDEADJUSTMENT cover "Kicked in the Teeth". Okay it was a different song, but the coincidence is duly noted. THE KILL DECIBEL share a lot of common ground with the original crossover scene, however the comparisons don't stop there. Aside from the morbid themes, the KILL DECIBEL sound a lot like the ACCUSED. But the band comes from a straight edge tough guy scene. Still they have managed to pull together a killer crossover sound that borrows heavily from thrash metal. Don't let the "m" word scare you. This ep rips through 4 tracks like no other hardcore can. The best way I can think of this is if BROTHERHOOD grew up in today's scene and did ACCUSED covers they would be the KILL DECIBEL. (Specimen 32 / c/o Tim Drew / 6 Confederation Drive / St. Thomas, ON / N5P 3N9 / Canada / www.specimen32.com) - SP

Kung Fu Rick "Fragments of the Past Time" CD x 2

This is the collected effort of this Chicago area band. The band was made up of members from HE WHO CORRUPTS, SEVEN DAYS OF SAMSARA, and HIGH ON CRIME. The band played a style of grind that was laced with a flurry of blast beats. And the singer had a high pitched voice which drew comparisons to CHARLES BRONSON. But the band had a metal edge to them. They kind of reminded me of what the SWARM might sound like as a blast beat grind band. KUNG FU RICK put out many great releases which included a split with LAST IN LINE, a split with CURTAINRAIL, and a split with the ULTIMATE WARRIORS. Eleven releases in total. This discography collects them all and a few things that were unreleased. 73 songs in total of thrashing, crushing hardcore. (625 Productions / www.625thrash.com) - SP

Left for Dead LP

LEFT FOR DEAD were one of those bands that came along and breathed life into a scene that was well past flat-lined. The band featured Chris Colohon who would go on to form the SWARM and the CURSED. The other key component was Jeff Beckman, the ring leader behind the legendary CHOKEHOLD. At the time, the h-100s had just released their first ep and people were just starting to hear it, but LEFT FOR DEAD seemed to be happening simultaneously. A yearning for fun and wreckless abandoned inspired these bands. A look back at the basics of hardcore was the blueprint. Bands like LEFT FOR DEAD became life lines back into a hardcore movement. That's why when they did a reunion show folks were flying in from Australia to see them. At this little drinking hole outside Hamilton, the unsuspecting club owners agreed to host a one off show. I hear the stories of head gear laced with firecrackers. In the middle of "Who Do you Know" you hear a screamer going off. This was our version of the h-100s. Chris, Jeff, Christian, Phil, Joel and the other rotating members that would become HAYMAKER and the SWARM were the time's heroes. Here they are captured live at their reunion show. If you were there you will know what it was about and will need this. If you weren't but were a fan, this is a pretty good representation of the band's best stuff. (Deranged Records / www.derangedrecords.com) - SP

Menace "Punk Singles Collection" CD

Here we have an ep by ep breakdown of MENACE's career. It is essentially broken down into two time periods when the band was active. When they first started out, which spans a period from 1977 - their first ep was released on Stewart Copeland's brother's label *Illegal Records* (which I believe was the pre-cursor to *IRS*) through to 1980 with "the Young Ones" ep. There is a lot of great '77 sounding material here and the band sounds more like a punk band than their oi reputation leads on. "G.L.C." is by far the band's most inspired number, drawing on the anger of the time when the Greater London Council made it next to impossible to do shows in London. And songs like "Last Year's Youth" are no slouches. Songs like "I'm Civilised", "I Need Nothing", and "Electrocutioner" could easily have been lost SEX PISTOLS sessions. And then you get to the next era of MENACE which is coined the comeback era. In 1999 *Vinyl Japan Records* released "Society Still Insane" which featured the band with a new singer and had four songs re-done. Included on this was a re-make of "G.L.C.". This is where the band's oi roots really come through. All the songs have a lot more verve and the back ups sound like they have the local pub in on the action. The next ep has the great number called "Punk Rocker" which was an old MENACE song that never got released and the band gave the song a makeover so to speak. It's fuckin' great. And the re-make of "Last Year's Youth" is even better than the original. I am partial to the comeback version of this band and that's a rare thing for me. The cover of the lounge song "It's Not Unusual" is a riot. There are a bunch of bonus tracks tucked in on the end that comprise one off songs released on a variety of comps. One of the stand outs is a cover of the RUTS' "Babylon's Burning". There is a lot of great stuff on here for long time fans of the band. And for those not familiar,



this is an incredible introduction to the band. (Captain Oi! / P.O. Box 501, High Wycombe, Bucks / HP10 8QA / UK / www.captainoi.com) – SP

Metal Eddies, the “Time to Kill” CDep
THE METAL EDDIES remind me of SCREECHING WEASEL with SLOPPY SECONDS’ sense of humour. Musically they are melodic and fast. Probably a more basement version of SCREECHING WEASEL, but they sure do know how to write a tune. And the wit is crass but clever. “I Wanna be in an All Girl Band” is crude boys locker room humour, but it’s funny in a Gilligan’s Island sort of way. The same is true of “Ferris Bueller’s Laid Off” or “Rock ‘n Roll Cougar Party”. And “Jenny (Said She Ain’t a Goth)” is a traditional boy laments over girl scenario. It may have been done before, but the METAL EDDIES bring their hormonal sense of humour to the genre. I must also say that these guys put on some rad shows in Newmarket. Watch out for the DOA show with the SUDDEN IMPACT reunion. (No Vinyl Records / www.metaledadies.cjb.net) – SP



Pisschrist ep

I don’t know if this band took their name from the controversial photograph by Andres Serrano, but if it is then it makes for a good fit for a crusty d-beat band from Melbourne. This is the first official release by this Melbourne distortion unit. The band released a demo a few years back, but finally gets the honour of an official vinyl release. The fuzz is way up in this band’s sound kind of like CONFUSE or GLOOM in approach but with a BORN / DEAD sound. The artwork of this ep is done by the singer who is a student of animation and is pretty incredible. The artwork borrows the stark cut and paste feel of a WORLD BURNS TO DEATH artwork with the anti-religious tone of the satanarchy imagery of a LEGION666 release. Some of the songs are sung in Malay because the singer is from there. This recording captures the raw punk sound that the band is after. Crust, d-beat, and a back to basics manic hardcore sound. In the interview in this issue the band talks about this sound being unique to their scene in Melbourne at the moment, so you get the sense that they are trying to build something here. It’s a good sound for the building blocks of a new scene. (Putrid Filth Conspiracy / Box 7092 / 200 42 Malmo / Sweden / www.putridfilth.com) – SP



Pointed Sticks “Waiting for the Real Thing” CD

The POINTED STICKS were an amazing punk band from the early Vancouver scene that had this amazing song that opened up the “Vancouver Complication” comp. That song appears on this collection along with loads of other material that include the band’s first two eps, demo material, and a CBC session. This is the same band that *Sudden Death* released the “Perfect Youth” LP that was a studio album originally recorded for stiff records that got shelved due to the label going into hock. That’s the thing about POINTED STICKS, they were so good that they were the only band from Canada that I know that got signed to *Stiff Records*. *Stiff Records* was the same label that released IAN DURY AND THE BLOCKHEADS, ELVIS COSTELLO, the ADVERTS, the DAMNED, the GO GO’s and so many others. That was a pretty big deal in terms of recognition for Canadian punk. They were the first Canadian punk band that was going to make it. And the band had the chops as evidenced by this collection. The POINTED STICKS could write a song as good as ELVIS COSTELLO or SQUEEZE without losing their punk edge. A lot of the material on here sounds like early BOOMTOWN RATS. And this is the band that “Dimwit” would get recruited to. This is classic material for fans of early Canadian punk, new wave, and because of the poppiness of the material could even be enjoyed by mods in that JOE JACKSON meets the JAM sort of way. (Sudden Death Records / Cascades P.O.



Box 43001 / Burnaby, BC / V5G 3H0 / Canada / www.suddendeath.com) – SP

Project X s/t 7”

Goddamn it’s Spring 2006 and this release makes me want to go to the nearest A.A. meeting and start a Straight Edge band. Yup, I finally snagged a re-issue (thank you) of this classic 7” released in 1987 or 88 (in a limited edition of 500). Either these songs are fuckin’ classic or I’m pining for my youth. This 7” makes me want to knock the beer out of my right hand and finger point and scream along to “Straight Edge Revenge” while waving a broken bottleneck in the air. Fuckin’ brilliant and probably the first straight edge record I have bought since the early *Revelation 7”*s. Yes this is classic straight edge played by a super group of folks from JUDGE, Y.O.T., GORILLA BISCUITS and they are having a hell of a lot of fun in the studio, making some extreme statements and having a fuckin’ blast with it. The CD Re-issue has several live songs added to the original tracks. The 7” is limited to 500. Rumor has it GORILLA BISCUITS are touring and unlike this 7” re-release seems just wrong. (Bridge 9 / Box 990052 / Boston, MA / 02199 / USA) – CC

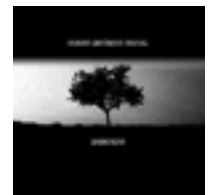
Raped “The Complete Raped Punk Collection” CD

The RAPED were a band that were around for two years. The band was a punk band heavily influenced by the glam scene of Iggy, Bowie, Bolan, and the NEW YORK DOLLS. One of the premises of the band was to act as a quasi gay answer to the macho punk posturing. And using the gender bending garb of the glam scene, the drummer often sported high heels, a mini skirt and tights. The singer was more of an Iggy knock off. And coming from 1977, the RAPED were masters of provocation. The stories in the liner notes of getting a punk zine editor to do an interview with them in an infamous S & M gay bar in London, while these leather clad bike boys with handlebar moustaches circled the ensemble was just one of many pranks. The band’s first ep was titled “Pretty Paedophiles” and was promptly yanked from the stores by their label upon it’s release. The band also conned a cinema to let them play before a Saturday morning children’s matinee which was quickly shut down. The press had a field day with the RAPED which just added to their notoriety. The band released a second ep titled “Cheap Night Out” which sold pretty well. Both records are on here. So are two out takes from the first ep. And there are some unreleased demo tracks as well as some unheard of live material which includes a punk version of the disco song “Knock on Wood”. It is barely recognizable, but well done. In 1978, the band moved more towards their glam ambitions and changed their name to CUDDLY TOYS. They released two LPs, but this release just sticks to the band’s punk roots. This totally reminds me of early punk a la the GERMS and the SEX PISTOLS. It’s fuckin’ brilliant stuff. (Cherry Red Records / Unit 3A / Long Island House / Warple Way / London / W3 0RG / www.cherryred.co.uk) – SP



Saigon Distress Signal “Darkness” LP

SDS are Toronto’s version of TRAG-core. They totally have a sound similar to TRAGEDY or FROM ASHES RISE. The band has lyrics that are political and personal at the same time. The album artwork is dark bleak image silk-screened on a black cover. I think it looks beautiful and I think all the folks involved in this did a great job. But it is that layered emo-crust sound written all over it. And that is not a bad way to sound considering TRAGEDY takes their influences from Swedish kang and early UK hardcore, be it DISCHARGE or NEWTOWN NEUROTICS. One of the songs that you can find on their my space site is “Soul of the Father”. The song is just one mindfuck after another. With an intro that promises to build into a raging hardcore number the song crescendos into a war march paced piece that eventually builds back up only to have a false stop near the end. SDS keep you guessing with their song writing structure. (Wounded Paw Records / 1 Atlantic Avenue, #105 / Toronto,



Skeezicks "There's A Charlie Brown in Everyone of Us" ep

The SKEEZICKS were part of a European scene that became obsessed with North American hardcore. It was probably the first wave of European bands trying to sound like American bands. The SPERMBIRDS, the STUPIDS, the HARD ONS, later period HERESY got wrapped up in listening to too many early American hardcore records. To good effect. The SKEEZICKS were one of the best hybrids of the sound. The band had a serious hard on for 7 SECONDS. There is a picture with the singer wearing a 7 SECONDS baseball hat. The band was decked out in the lumberjack shirts and bandanas that were the garb of the time. Stickers adorned every piece of band equipment. The cover had the same Brian Walsby like drawing of scene caricatures. And the music came bashing out at you like the "Committed For Life" era 7 SECONDS. The singer sounds a John Brannon clone. The shouting and the driving hardcore combined makes for an incredible derivation of early 80's inspired American hardcore. But the band was from Germany. The SKEEZICKS were pretty incredible unto themselves. This ep is the best thing they recorded and released. This re-issue includes a bonus track from an X-Mist comp. But Bolzkow does a great job of the re-issue. The SKEEZICKS were why there was a cross inspiration of international thrash that started up. And this ep stands the test of time. (Bolzkow / Lobuschstr 37-39 / D-22765 Hamburg / Germany / e-mail: bolzkow@lobusch.org) - SP

The Slowmotions s/t CD

Sometimes I ride the waves of retardedness. I noticed this as I caught myself singing along to the SLOWMOTIONS. I have no idea what they are saying and my gibberish English responses to their Japanese lyrics make as much sense as my understanding of quantum physics. But for the last half hour I have been lost in the land of make believe as I rock out to their great early punk sounds. In my state of retardedness I feel like one of the kids on the mini pops LP singing along to some old new wave song. So the proverbial cat's out of the bag...I'm fucked but I don't care because this CD is so fuckin' great. Great rocking, jangly new wave, early KBD punk. This disc compiles their single releases, which are near impossible to find in Japan let alone this sorry state of a music-less nation. Get the CD and join me in a SLOWMOTIONS world. Man, I really hate myself for missing most of their set last April...thanks a lot *Nat Records* it's all your fault for holding me vinyl hostage. Arghhh!! (HG Fact / 105 Nakano Shinbashi / M, 2-7-15 Yayoi-Cho / Nakano / Tokyo, 166-0013 / Japan) - CC

Teen Crud Combo LP

Now here is an important piece of Toronto's hardcore history. For folks from Toronto think back to 1999 when there was rarely a show that TEEN CRUD wasn't ripping the shit up, embarrassing headlining acts far and wide. This manic garage-core inspired by the likes of the NEW BOMB TURKS was magic. Unfortunately the band only had an ep out on *Black Lung* to this point. Fortunately the band recorded more than those four songs. I wish they had used artwork different from the ep because these folks were talented individuals. And I wish there was good liner notes to go with this release. The story of how this band was three folks from the SHUTTLECOCKS that had taken some time off. In there time off Jamie went to Pittsburgh to play for ANTI-FLAG and Mark and Alison listened to way to much ANGRY SAMOANS and MOTORHEAD at the same time. I would love to know the story of how they came to meet "High Kicks" Nick. And how simultaneously Alison and Jamie did a punk radio show called "Hell Yeah" that honed their love for garage rock. Nick's King Diamond fixation. There is so much more of a TEEN CRUD story that needs to be told. But the most important is the hardcore that they created. This LP has the NEW BOMB TURKS verve, the MOTORHEAD riffs, the ANGRY SAMOANS sense of humour. It has it all. This is what the "the Crud"



was about. I'll never forget their last show, the record release party at the El Mocambo. The room was packed and the night was one big rock out session revved up on high energy rock n roll. The night was incredible for that. But that night was also bitter sweet. That was the last night we would see the TEEN CRUD. Alison left for a job in San Francisco. A part of T.O. H.C. died that night. Long live 'the crud'. (Deranged Records / www.derangedrecords.com) - SP

Tranzmitors ep

This is an incredible new band from Van-City that pulls together the essence of the UNDERTONES, STIFF LITTLE FINGERS, the BUZZCOCKS, the JAM and the CLASH in their material. Featuring Jeffie of JEFFIE AND THE GENETICS and Fergus of the legendary STRIKE and more recently of the incredible EMERGENCY, this band pulls together some of the best punk I have heard in decades. The A-Side starts off with a CLASH riff that breaks into some UNDERTONES melody had the UNDERTONES had the balls of STIFF LITTLE FINGERS. And the pop sensibility of this can't help creeping through. It reminds me of some of the great new wave of "Look Sharp" era JOE JACKSON and "Singles Going Steady" era BUZZCOCKS. The song pokes fun at the silliness of the "keeping up with the Jones'" phenomenon and contains one of my favourite lines of all time...and I quote "If you wanna see the summer through the windows of a hummer, climb a ladder through the hole of the status quo." There are all kinds of potshots about drinking lattes and whatnot. This song is dripping with class wannabe criticism. I fuckin' love it. The B-side is probably my most favourite of the lot. The TRANZMITORS recording six songs out of this session, which will make up three separate eps. The second one is already out on *Cat Call*. But the B-Side of this record has my favourite song out of the lot. It is pure BUZZCOCKS worship. And in typical BUZZCOCKS fashion the song is sage advice about girls, which in this case is about hipster chicks. Who needs 'em. (Deranged Records / www.derangedrecords.com) - SP



Tranzmitors "Bigger Houses, Broken Homes" ep

Debut single from these Vancouver punk poppers featuring members of NEW TOWNANIMALS, SMUGGLERS, and the guy from that old Scottish oi band THE STRIKE. TRANZMITORS are easily far more impressive than any of their old bands. "Bigger Houses..." is their most aggressive song and that's probably why they chose it for this single released on the typically hardcore *Deranged* label. The B-side "Glamour Girls" is likely a better indication of their style: melodic, anthemic punk, heavy on pop hooks with handclaps and whoa oh's to spare. (Deranged Records / 1166 Chaster Road / Gibsons, BC / V0N 1V4 / Canada / www.derangedrecords.com) - MR

Tranzmitors "Look What You're Doing" ep

Oh golly! Oh gee! Upon first listen this single is almost too sugary sweet. It hurts my teeth. But man this thing ticks in your head "Come on! Come on! Yeah!" haunts me in my sleep. "Teenage Filmstar" on the flip is too long and too slow, but the A-side smokes. Limited pressing and it's the last release for *Ugly Pop* and the first for Simon's new *Cat Call* imprint. Nepotism aside, I recommend you track down a copy and buy. (Cat Call Records / www.myspace.com/catcall) - MR

Vanilla Muffins "The Greatest Sugar Oi! Swindle" CD

What the fuck do I know about this Swiss group? They re-work songs into power pop ditties with pub like oi back ups. The disk opens with a re-make of MEN WITHOUT HATS' "Pop Goes the World" with references to David Beckham, METALLICA, Robin Williams, and Nancy Reagan in the new lyrics. They kind of remind me of GUITAR GANGSTARS or the LURKERS with that poppy catchy song writing ability. But the band doesn't soften up for the choruses.



They could be traditional oi songs and could have the lads from the BUSINESS or COCKNEY REJECTS doing the back ups. Now these guys don't look like any Johnny-come-latelys as they have contributed to 20 releases. Upon further inspection the band has been around since 1993. The band has a strong affinity for football as is evidenced by "FCB". And they do sound a little like the UNDERTONES on "You Come back to Switzerland". They also remind me a little of the PROFESSIONALS, but the VANILLA MUFFINS songs are way more driving and the production isn't as cheesy. They cover the ROLLING STONES and some others that I can't quite figure out, but they do great versions of them when they haven't completely remade the track. I am hooked on this band. I have to track down their older releases. (Zurich Chainsaw Massacre / Am Kesselhaus 9 / 79576 Weil am Rhein / Germany / www.zcmrecords.com) - SP

Vice Squad "The Very Best of...." CD

In the same spirit of the *Captain Oi!* re-issues, *Anagram* gives VICE SQUAD the retrospective spotlight. But instead of re-issuing material with bonus tracks, *Anagram* lets the band cut out the shit and pair down their history to some choice cuts. There is loads of highlights on this disk and the drummer Shane Baldwin informs us of the significance of it all. I first heard of VICE SQUAD through the "UK DK" film with their scorcher "Stand Strong Stand Proud". I have played that song to death. But I didn't really know much beyond that. This disk ends with "Nothing" their first ever recorded song that appeared on the "Avon Calling" compilation. This collection starts with the band's first ep "Last Rockers" which was self-released and to the band's amazement sold 22,000. This was *Riot City's* first release, which was the band's label, and was followed by the "Resurrection" ep, which is also on here. The B-Side "Young Blood" is an understated gem. The band was signed to *EMI* and recorded an LP titled "No Cause for Concern" which was considered crap by the band and as a result blanks on this comp. But the material for "Out of Reach" makes the cut. "Stand Strong, Stand Proud" is on here in its entirety, but various versions of the other eps tracks have been sifted through. In 1983 with the release of "State of the Nation" Beki quit the band. VICE SQUAD added a new singer and a second guitarist and recorded a few eps and the "Shot Away" LP. In this mix the band covered BOB DYLAN's "The Times They are a-Changin'" and SWEET's "Teenage Rampage". But Lia didn't quite cut the mustard the way Beki did. Fortunately not a lot of those songs made this collection. The first 15 tracks are pretty choice as is the "Avon Calling" number tucked away at the end. And Shane tells VICE SQUAD's story very well. (*Anagram Records* / Unit 17, 1st floor / Elysium Gate West / 126-128 New King's Road / London / SW6 4LZ / UK / www.cherryred.co.uk) - SP

demo reviews

Margaret Trasher – featured on March 19th program

Isn't this the same address as SUBMISSION HOLD's. This locale has become the Vancouver strong hold for punk. Ever since the ATTACK became the next official wave of punk, bands have been churning out of Van-City and this "Distorted riffs" address in particular. MARGARET THRASHER goes for the more mid paced punk sound that bands like FUCKED UP and REGULATIONS and others have really started to mine. The vocals are screamed way beyond hoarse-ness. And the lyrics are well thought out "fuck you". And it comes with a wee lyric book that fits inside the cassette case. It's great to see the scenes



throughout Canada being so active. (P.O. Box 21530 / 1424 Commercial Drive / Vancouver, BC / V5L 5G2 / Canada / e-mail: skidgetron66@hotmail.com) - SP

Sotatila "eka" demo – featured on March 26th program

SOTATILA are a band from Austria with some severe Finnish hardcore worship. The singer is actually Finnish, with another member from Poland and two members from Austria. The band takes their influences from RIISTETYT, APPENDIX, TERVEET KADET, and some burning spirits style hardcore. The band comes from the same scene that spawned bands like KURWA APARAT and RUIDOSA INMUNDICIA, bands that we have heard on the show. The demo was recorded in 2004 and is now sold out but can be downloaded through the band's website. (e-mail: sotatila@gmx.net / www.sotatila.cjb.net / www.myspace.com/sotatila) - SP

Listen Up demo – featured on April 2nd program

Nic Baker of DAMAGE DEPOSIT and NO DICE has a new band called LISTEN UP. Another sxe influenced hardcore band out of Minneapolis. This band has more of an edge influence with a running theme around baseball. It's lost on me. (www.myspace.com/listenuptwincities / e-mail: listenup.tc@gmail.com) - SP

Trioxin 245 demo – featured on April 23rd program

TRIOXIN 245 are a 3-piece from Ottawa influenced by everything from AMEBIX through to kang and beyond. Here is a demo of theirs recorded two years ago. They think it's shitty. I think it's pretty good. The band has a live demo recorded along with a cover for a BESTHOVEN tribute comp, and a fl length to be called "the Experiment" which is to be released on CounterAct out of France. (Jo / 454 Gladstone Avenue / Ottawa, ON / K1R 5N8 / Canada) - SP



Nitad – featured on April 30th program

NITAD are a 4-piece from Stockholm Sweden made up of members from DMS REBELLION, BAD NEWS, and NINE. The band aspires to sound like some cross of MIA meets the ZERO BOYS meets ASTA KASK meets KSMB meets EBBA GRON, (Soderlund / Tunvagen 25 / 170 68 Solna / Sweden / www.myspace.com/nitadstockholm / e-mail: nitad.satan@gmail.com) - SP



ICBM / Germ Attak split demo – featured on May 7th program

GERM ATTAK's demo is available for download this demo at www.geocities.com/theamebix/home.html as well as their noisy demo. The band is influenced by SPECIAL DUTIES, VARUKERS, and CHAOS UK. ICBM is a five piece from Ottawa that play a Swedish inspired crust sound. (ICBM / c/o Natalie / 454 Gladstone Avenue / Ottawa, ON / K1R 5N8 / Canada // Germ Attak / c/o Jo / 92 Riel / Gatineau, QC / J8Y 5Y2 / Canada) - SP

Permanent Trip demo – featured on May 14th program

Nate Wilson, of DEVOID OF FAITH / OATH fame, is in a new band and PERMANENT TRIP would be that band. Loads of raw charging hardcore that evokes a thundering style and a fast pace. The vocals have a INFEST meets SSD feel to them. Very angry. Whereas the music draws from CUT THE SHIT to MONSTER X to YOUTH OF TODAY to TURBONEGRO. (858 Warren Street, Apartment 1 / Albany, NY / 12208 / USA / 946jkrak@gmail.com) - SP



Tank demo – featured on May 14th program
TANK are a new hardcore band from Buffalo. Following in the same path as RUNNING FOR COVER, TANK use the guitar sound of INFEST to create some awesome speedy sounding hardcore. However the band also uses some d-beat and sloppy fastcore to pull together a sound. (www.myspace.com/tank1one / e-mail: lmpistough@yahoo.com) - SP



Boulevard Trash demo – featured on May 28th program
Some contemporary inspired street punk meets garage punk in a retro amalgamation of influences. I hear elements of the KNUCKLEHEAD combining elements of MARILYN's VITAMINS or the EXPLODING HEARTS meets the CLASH. It's heartfelt rock n roll a la the 101ers with the song writing ability of early GENERATION X. (46 Dunstall Cres., / Scarborough, ON / M1E 3M4 / Canada / www.myspace.com/boulevardtrashpunk) – SP



Death with a Dagger CD demo – featured on June 11th program
This is a new band from Finland featuring folks who were in PHEONIX FOUNDATION, THE HEARTBURNS, and DROWNING NATION. The music combines elements of crust, sxe, and arena rock to make a heavy sounding style of hardcore that is crushing at times and fast at other times, and powerful all the time. (Aleksi Nurminen / Pajjamkentie / 4 F66 / 00500 HK1 / Finland / e-mail: aleksi.nurminen@gmail.com / www.myspace.com/deathwithadagger)



Black Spokes “mini CD” demo – featured on June 18th program
Their my space describes them as fast, loud and dirty. I don't know about the dirty part but they sure are fast and loud. BLACK SPOKES are a new 4-piece from Toronto and the band features Matteo of CONCRETE TANK. I know he loves all things kang and motorcharged, but this band sounds like early New York hardcore meets DROP DEAD. Take the singer from DISKONTO and have him singing in band made up of members of ANTIDOTE and DROP DEAD with lyrics that are more sarcastic. They are fuckin' great. (www.myspace.com/notonyourteam)

rumourmill

Jeff Beckman, of HAYMAKER fame, is a father for the second time * SECOND OPINION from California have a CD coming out on 625 Productions that will have the ep a demo and some live stuff on it * Fans of Bad Productions is doing a call for submission of another Canadian comp...check www.myspace.com/fansofbadproductions * THE SUBHUMANS (Vancouver) are scheduled to release a new album by early fall on *Alternative Tentacles Records*. It will also be released domestically on *G7 Welcoming Committee* out of Winnipeg. The album will be entitled *New Dark Age Parade* and will contain 14 politically charged tracks. * THE TRANZMITORS just released their third single on *La-Ti-Da Records*. A fourth is set to come out on *Deranged*. The group is now a four piece, adding a keyboard player. A new bass player has also replaced Fergus Macleod who has moved to London, Ontario to pursue work. * FUCK ME DEAD have a new recording. * MARGARET THRASHER have a new recording that is set to be pressed on to a 7" and be released on *Clarence Thomas Records*. * *Longshot Music* is set to release a split 7" picture disc with MARCHING ORDERS from Australia and ALTERNATE ACTION from Vancouver. * The Astoria (Vancouver's Punk and Metal bar) has faced pressure from police and city hall and has been forced to close for the present time. All the scheduled shows will be moved to The Cobalt which is where promoter/bar manager Wendy begun doing shows six years ago. The Cobalt will be the main venue until

the heat cools down. * The Monkey Pit is a new underground D.I.Y. Venue in Vancouver that has hosted a bunch of local shows along with touring acts such as BORN/DEAD and I OBJECT. * Vancouver's second annual Smash The Sausage festival is set to take place July 14th at The Cobalt and July 15th at the Ukrainian Cultural Center. Unlike last years festival this one focuses less on crust but is still a female oriented event. * MAXIMUM RNR are going on hiatus for a couple of months while their singer Louie gets surgery for his nose and throat *The all girl roller derby league is getting going and you can check out things about the Hamilton Harlots team at www.hammercacityrollergirls.com *

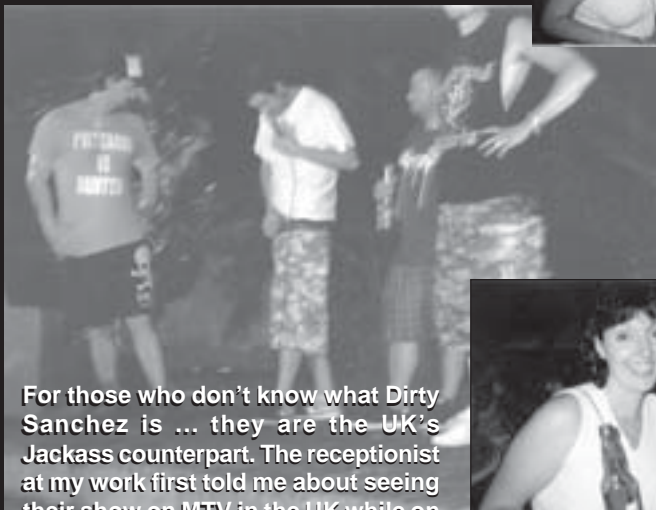


show listings

SUNDAY JULY 9th @ Mohawk Place (Buffalo) - MUNICIPAL WASTE, ANNIHILATION TIME, CAUSTIC CHRIST
THURSDAY JULY 13th @ the Katheral - TOTAL CHAOS, AB IRATO, BFG, DIRTY BIRD
FRIDAY JULY 14th @ Underground (Hamilton) - LEEWAY, DEATH THREAT, URBAN BLIGHT, RAD AFFAIR, MACHETE
FRIDAY JULY 14th – 16th @ Spiderland Acres (4264 Foymont Road, Eganville) - AB IRATO, RANDOM KILLING, BFGs, PUNCHDRUNK, POLIDICKS, UNCIVILIZED, KANKER FACE, BOUNCING BETTIES, BENDECOS, GRAND MARAIS, OVERDOES, WASTED AND DRUNK, THE DEFAMED, FOURSTROKE, S.O.S., SLEDGEHAMMER, TIMOTHY STREET, SUBSISTENCE, TOTAL CHAOS, HANDS OF DEATH, EXCARNATION, MESRINE, VICTIMS OF CORRUPTION, DISGUST, KNIFEHAMMER, GET WRECKED, THE RIPTIDES, SAIGON DISTRESS SIGNAL, BARRICADE MENTALE, THE ROOKIES, THE SURVIVORS WILL BE SHOT AGAIN, DEVoured, les BAVEUX, IMMORTAL CHAMPIONS,
SATURDAY JULY 22nd @ Corktown (Hamilton)
THE SCREWED - The Screwed is a Toronto based band playing Vintage Punk and Garage Rock covers from the late 60s to the late 70s. The Band features original punks Cleave Anderson (Battered Wives, Tyranna), Steve Koch (Viletones, Demics), Steve Saint (The Sinisters) and John Borra (A Neon Rome, Groovy Religion). This is the after party for the inaugural Hammer City Roller Girls about at Central Arena in Burlington earlier that evening.
SUNDAY JULY 23rd @ Studio 3, 10:30pm - SAIGON DISTRESS SIGNAL
SUNDAY JULY 23rd @ Underground (Hamilton) - COLD WORLD, JUSTICE, KEEP IT UP, GUNNAR HANSEN, ABOUT TO SNAP
MONDAY JULY 24th @ Rancho Relaxo - MARKED MEN, RADICAL ATTACK, VICIOUS CYCLE, URBAN BLIGHT
FRIDAY JULY 25th @ Sneaky Dee's - G-MEN, PSYCHOPATHOS, RANDOM KILLING, 4 STROKE, SNOT ROCKETS, IF MAN IS FIVE, KNIFEHAMMER
FRIDAY JULY 28th @ Cathedral - CLASSASSASSINS (last show), SINKIN' SHIPS, THE FALLOUT
SATURDAY JULY 29th @ Cathedral - 3 TARDS, HOSTAGE LIFE, THE ANTICS, HELL YEAH FUCK YEAH, TEAR IT DOWN, MAPLE STREET IMPRESSIONS
SATURDAY JULY 29th @ Reigning Sound (Hamilton) - ANS (from Texas), GUNNAR HANSEN
SATURDAY JULY 29th @ 15 Lower Sherbourne - ANS (from Texas), TERMINAL STATE, ...AND THE SAGA CONTINUES, BRAIN DEATH
SUNDAY JULY 30th @ Planet Kensington - SELF RULE

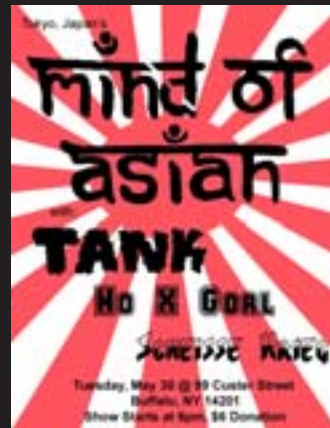
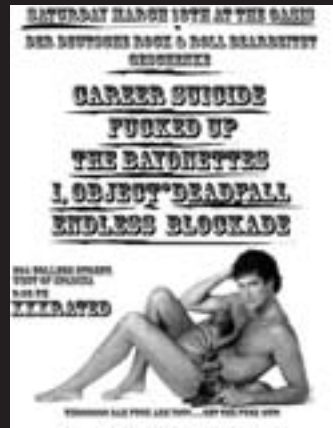
If there is a show that you know about that isn't on this list, please forward it onto us at equalizingxdistort@ciut.fm

DIRTY SANCHEZ



For those who don't know what Dirty Sanchez is ... they are the UK's Jackass counterpart. The receptionist at my work first told me about seeing their show on MTV in the UK while on holiday in Ireland. Well guess who she ran into while on holiday in the Dominican. That's right, Pritchard, Daiton, Pancho, and the warped southerner, Joicey. Here are some photos mid skit as they hook each other in their privates with fish hooks.





POST
NO
BILLS

