

NOCTURNE

Magazine

VOL. II, ISSUE 2

SPRING 1992



SLAUGHTER

PANTERA



inside:

- Exclusive Interviews
- Local Band Profiles
- Demo & Show Reviews
- National Acts & New Bands

**NOCTURNE MAGAZINE
VOL. II, ISSUE 2
SPRING 1992**

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A Personal Note From The Publisher...

This 4th issue marks one year from the days of the inception of NOCTURNE MAGAZINE. This past year has been a turbulent one but it has also been a tremendous learning experience for me, not so much in relation to the technical/production aspect of this magazine (since I have 10 years of journalistic experience), but more in dealing and coordinating with people. Related to this, two particular issues have been plaguing me during this time in varying degrees. The first is professionalism. Several people told me that to be taken seriously in the music business you have to be professional. Working with friends on this project, it has been difficult to know exactly where to draw the line. I can only say that I have tried to be very patient and very fair with everyone (considering I was always stressed out trying to rely on people to get things done on time). Also, I am a flamboyant person and I like to have fun. In this regard, though, I know exactly when to be social and when to be objective. I take what I do seriously. I think people should be more concerned about actually getting results than with appearing professional. A few individuals have actually questioned my motivation for doing this magazine. I do not do this to meet bands (I still have not been backstage at a big show to date and I can certainly meet bands if I really wanted to regardless) and to get in shows free (I spend an enormous amount of money getting the magazine together compared to what I would pay to go watch concerts). I have been reiterating from the very start that I would like to promote the Bay Area music scene and to this I have kept my word with each issue.

Secondly, I have been getting diametrically opposing opinions, praises and criticisms about the magazine. Last issue we turned to newsprint (which enabled us to increase our circulation and also happens to be more environmentally responsible) and I have been getting contrary feedback about that and various other things. My answer to this is that I have done the best I could given the constraints I am under (time, energy and money). I cannot follow everyone's suggestions. I can only listen and decide from there following my better judgment. But I personally believe that I and the NOCTURNE MAGAZINE staff have done a damn good job so far (I would like to thank each and every person who has lent a helping hand this past year) and we hope to continue to blaze through the future of the Bay Area music scene with as much aplomb as we have in the past.

**THE BERKELEY SQUARE
1333 University Ave.
Berkeley*(510)841-6555**

APRIL

- 4/3 Psychefunkapus, Love on Ice, Groove Shop
- 4/7 Firehose, Mr. T Experience
- 4/8 The Royal Nonesuch, Vanilla Butt Shake
- 4/18 Smoking Rhythm Prawns, Overwhelming Colorfast
- 4/30 Furious George, Groove Shop

MAY

- 5/1 The Bonedaddys
- 5/2 World Entertainment War
- 5/16 Fungo Mungo

**NEW GEORGE'S
812 4th St. San Rafael
(415) 457-1515**

APRIL

- 4/11 The Mo'professionals
- 4/13 Cats:Choir
- 4/16 White Trash, Debutant's
- 4/17 Kidd Blue
- 4/20 Cats:Choir
- 4/23 Roxanne
- 4/24 Pride & Joy
- 4/27 Cats:Choir

**THE REAL ROCK
9829 San Leandro St. at
98th. Ave. Oakland
(510)568-5483**

APRIL

- 4/10 Void, Kaos, Inhalent 5th Anniv. metal show
- 4/16 New Power Soul
- 4/17 Jester, Jet Red, Runaway
- 4/23 Rock Show
- 4/24 Mystic Rage, Mutantspeed
- 4/30 TBA

SLAUGHTER

by Michele Bohannon
and Jean Picache

SLAUGHTER is finally back with the follow-up to their multi-platinum debut album "Stick It To Ya". Their new effort, entitled "The Wild Life", is scheduled to be released on April 21st. As promised, "The Wild Life" is heavier and less mainstream but still unmistakably bears the trademark Slaughter sound. They have the usual fare of anthemic scorching rockers and emotional heart-rending ballads but their songwriting is a little more mature... a little more profound. I must confess... I like Slaughter. I always have. Too bad I didn't get to do the interview (due to some scheduling problems) but was able to hook up with drummer Blas Elias on the phone to get an inside scoop about their latest project.

Q: How would you describe your new album?

A: I would describe it as dynamic, aggressive, emotional and diverse. We've gone in a lot of different directions. We've taken it to every extreme we can think of and every style we've tried. You can listen to the album and not get bored. Dana (Strum on bass) produced the album and he's really great to work with. He knows how to bring out the best in people.

Q: How different is your new album from the last one?

A: The new record is a lot more aggressive than the last record. The original idea was that it was going to be a real aggressive band. When we first came out, it was a lot more commercial because we basically had to make our name. With the new record it's a lot more aggressive and it's a lot more of what we want to do and musically it's a lot more expressive.

Q: What's going to be released as singles and videos off the album?

A: We shot the video for "Days Gone By" a long time ago. That's not the first video that's going to be out but we shot it because we knew we were going to have to do it eventually. We already had

(continued on page 4)

PRIMUS

by Scott Miller
and Jean Picache

The Bay Area has always been a bountiful source of new, unusual and avante garde musical (and even social and political) trends. This decade, the Bay Area's endows the world with the zany and discordant melodies that is PRIMUS. Make no mistake about it, as their name implies, they are the first of whatever you want to label their music as. I am at a loss for words to describe them. The only thing I am sure of is that they have taken the music scene around and beyond the Bay Area by storm as they toured the country with RUSH. Scott spoke to guitarist Larry Lalonde to find out what PRIMUS has been up to recently.

Q: How does it feel to be famous?

A: I don't know what it's like to be famous. Maybe I should run over and ask these RUSH guys. My first concert was RUSH when I was 12. We sent them a tape and according to Geddy (Lee), they had all these tapes of bands that wanted to go on tour with them and they listened to them all. RUSH is an influence but we go in phases all the time just listening to crazy music. Right now, we are into the Residents and Devo.

Q: How did you guys get started?

A: We didn't have any money. Nobody wanted to sign us. At first we were going to do a demo but then decided to make it into a record. It was pretty fun promoting ourselves because we knew everything that was going on. We drove around the Bay Area delivering records so we learned a lot about records that way.

Q: How has the RUSH tour been for you guys?

A: The response to the RUSH tour has been great. We get to play for an older crowd. It's kinda funny because when we are opening for a band, most of the people don't know who we are, so it's kinda fun to freak people out.

PRIMUS is coming out with a 5-song EP with "total mutations and horrible versions of great songs" by Peter Gabriel, Pink Floyd etc. Talk about interesting! PRIMUS is definitely in a class by themselves.

Pantera

(continued from page 5)

Q: So how long are you going to be on tour?

A: We will be touring until the end of the year. We will be with Skid Row until the end of April, early May. Then to Europe with maybe SEPULTURA which would be really awesome. Then we'll come back and headline the States. Then do some shows with SUICIDAL TENDENCIES, it that's possible and then it's back to Europe and then we're supposed to go to Japan and Australia and by that time we'll probably be back home for Christmas.

Q: What direction do you think your next album's gonna go?

A: We don't know exactly but it's going to be us. We're not going to make another "Vulgar Display of Power" just as we didn't make another "Cowboys From Hell". I'm sure between now and next year whenever we decide to do a new album that we are going the direction we feel most comfortable. Just like when we did this record we didn't sit down and consciously say we're going to make the heaviest album ever made. This is just the direction it progressed.

Q: Any goals?

A: Yeah, to be as successful as possible without compromising what we're all about.

Corrosion of Conformity

(continued from page 5)

C.O.C. have recently put out a couple of new videos. The first was "Dance of the Dead" and the second was "Vote With A Bullet". When I first heard "Vote With A Bullet", I thought to myself, "wow, this guy sounds different on this song... I wonder what he did?" Well, once I said that out loud someone heard and looked at me like I was crazy and said "that's because it's the guitar player Pepper Keenan singing on that one!" I felt about oh... 2 feet tall. This is not a thing most bands can pull off but this particular song worked really well with C.O.C. Their third video will be for "Break the Circle" so keep an eye out for it on **Headbangers' Ball!**

Sin City

(continued from page 9)

will open the door to new ones and are confident that new changes will bring about new possibilities.

Vocalist Johnny Q. describes their sound as "mood music." I think it definitely has a hard edge with just a taste of a Native American flavor. This makes for an interesting live performance. But however you want classify it, all I can say is you gotta check 'em out... I did.

Slaughter

(continued from page 3)

an idea of what we wanted to do with it which was to have clips of what we've been doing during the period when we put the band together till now and we also put in clips of artists who may have passed away who were our favorites like John Lennon, Freddie Mercury and different historical events like the shooting of John F. Kennedy are in there. We just shot another one for "Wild Life" which is the first single and video and we threw ideas at these video directors. They came back at us with their scripts. This guy came up with this really cool one which is basically about this girl who's watching TV and she's taken away by some force. All these bizarre things happen to her. Basically, you'd have to see it.

Q: What's your favorite cut among the new songs?

A: "Times They Change" is my favorite and the band's favorite song and we hope to do a video for that eventually 'cause it's just such a weird mind trip. There are so many different changes in it. The idea for the song was how the times started to change for us and how life changes and how you have to be strong and keep on living for your goals, dreams or whatever.

Yes, times do change but I can safely assert that time hasn't eroded Slaughter's penchant for making hits. Watch out for another Slaughter attack this April!

THE TERMINATOR

836 Mission St. at Fourth
San Francisco * 474-6305

APRIL

- 4/3 On Beyond, The Changing
- 4/10 A Na Na party, Prizes, Fantasy 7, Steve Jones,
- 4/17 Shine (ex members of VAIN) Fleshooks
- 4/24 The Organization (Formerly Death Angel) Booty Print (Featuring members of D.R.I.)
- 4/30 Grand opening of the TERMINATOR in San Jose. Call 474-6305

MAY

- 5/8 Mordred, Wrecking Ball

PANTERA

by Michele Bohannon

I've been sitting here for days trying to find the right words to describe PANTERA but hey, I give up! When I think of PANTERA the only words that come to mind are honesty, anger, mosh and god. I don't know how they all connect but when you hear their new album "Vulgar Display of Power" or see them live, you will understand how it all comes together. I recently got the chance to interview Vinnie Paul (drummer) about what Pantera is all about according to the band themselves.

Q: What is Pantera?

A: It's just a name that some guy told us to use and since we couldn't find a good name, we decided to use it. - People know us as Pantera, the power group, so there's no deep dark significant secret or hidden meaning to it.

Q: So who are some of Pantera's influences?

A: VAN HALEN's first 4 albums are god to us! JUDAS PRIEST, KISS and a little of LED ZEPPELIN, BLACK SABBATH.

Q: How many albums has Pantera put out?

A: 2 on ATCO and 2 independent.

Q: So tell me about the recording of "Vulgar Display of Power".

A: After we got off tour with WRATHCHILD AMERICA, we took a couple of weeks off which was like the first couple of weeks we've had off in a year. Then we went right into the rehearsal studio writing the new material for "Vulgar". We went into the recording studio in August and got half-way done with the record and then we got called by the label and they wanted us to go to Russia and play on the MONSTERS OF ROCK bill with bands such as METALLICA and AC/DC. So we stopped everything we were doing to go do that. So we did then come back and finished the record. The day after it was completed, we already had a tour confirmed (with SKID ROW). We only had 4 days off after being in the studio, then we got back on the road and have been on tour ever since.

(continued on page 4)

CORROSION OF CONFORMITY

by Michele Bohannon (with Beth Risner)

CORROSION OF CONFORMITY is NOT a new band! Now that I have that out of the way... it seems like everywhere I go lately someone somewhere is talking about this new band C.O.C. Come on, get a clue! C.O.C. have been around for years. But most recently they spent a couple of days in the Bay Area showing us what they have to offer. I made it to the show at the COTATI CABARET and had the pleasure of speaking with Karl Agell (vocals).

It all started in the early '80's with Reed Mullin (drums) and Woody Weathermen (guitar) in Raleigh, N.C. C.O.C. have gone through many changes since then but most obvious has got to be the change in their music. If you are one of the many C.O.C. fans out there you know what I'm saying. C.O.C. started out as one of the first successful underground hardcore band around. Not only were they a band known for their heavy style, they were also known for their message within the music. After spending some time with Karl, I realized this is not your average everyday kill, death, destroy band. This band is politically and environmentally aware of their surroundings.

Their latest recording "Blind", is one of their hottest records to date. It not only offers that well known and expected C.O.C. message, it offers an entirely different style for C.O.C. It's still heavy and raw but without so much of the massive punk hardcore sound that they're known for. The sound has changed but in a way to keep their old fans satisfied while at the same time win over new ones.

(continued on page 4)



LIVE WIRE

DEAN DEL RAY's 4th ANNUAL BIRTHDAY BASH, Feb. 15, The Stone, SF

This show, of course, featured Dean Del Ray's band **GHOST TOWN**. Newly signed **FLAME** (**GIANT RECORDS**) was also one of the performers that night. The highlight of the night (and already a Bay Area tradition) was the **AC/DC** jam featuring a lot of surprise guests.

It had been ages since I had seen or heard anything about Flame but a majority of their set was very familiar to me. "Automatic" opened the set which lead to "Never Say Die" and then a few unfamiliar tunes. Flame kept their fans going through the entire set and they sounded pretty good too.

Ghost Town sounded a lot better than the last time I saw them. They also played some of their followers' favorites such as "Don't Be Shy", "Hate" and "Arkansas". I missed the names of the newer material, but I did enjoy it. The set went fast and Dean brought out the surprise guests. These surprises included short performances from the **ORGANIZATION**, and **MISTER HYDE**. Former members of **VAIN**, **JEFF WATSON**, **JIMMY A R C E N E A U X** (**WONDERLAND**), among others also graced the stage with their talents.

by Kristin Brodie

DEATH, Jan. 18, The Omni, Oakland and THE SECOND ANNUAL THRASH AWARDS, Feb. 15, The Real Rock, Oakland

A couple issues back I did a review of The New Titans On The Block tour featuring **SEPULTURA**, **NAPALM DEATH**, **SACRED REICH** and **SICK OF IT ALL** and I said it was one of the craziest shows I had ever seen. Well here I am two issues later eating my words. I'm not saying it wasn't a ripping show, but on January 18th I witnessed... **DEATH!!!**

After all the rumors I've heard about this band (mostly bad), I was very curious to check them out live. Well, let me tell you something. Everything I heard was wrong. These guys put on one of the most brutal shows I have ever seen. My eyes were glued to their every move from the moment they hit the stage, until their second encore. When I looked around, the crowd was completely out of hand, the entire floor looked like hundreds of bodies being whirled around and twirled in the middle of a tornado. It is not that they did anything unusual on stage but the communication between the band and the crowd was definitely there. It's always nice to see a band and their fans work together to bring a show to such a climatic ending!

On the same note, on February 15th the Second Annual Thrash Awards were held, at the **REAL ROCK** in

Oakland. Besides all the normal discomforts and confusion of a big show, I'd have to say all in all it went well.

There were so many good bands and so little time. In my opinion, **THE ORGANIZATION** didn't play long enough. Just when they started playing, they had to pack up and get out the door to another show they were committed to do. **KAOS** put on a good show, as usual, but recently they've added something new to their set. Two female rappers! That's right, rappers! I'm not too sure about this yet, but let's just say it was ahhh... entertaining?

W R E K K I N G MACHINE was just as happening as ever. I really like these guys, they never let me down.

Next, **MORDRED** busted out. Scott Holderby has got to be one of the best frontmen in the Bay Area. He knows how to get down with his bad self, and he gets the crowd into it at the same time. They also teased their fans with a song off their up-coming album.

D.R.I. put on a shredding set. I'm telling you, these guys always give 150% of themselves and it truly shows. They stole the show!!!

Let's see, did I **FORGET ANYONE?** Oh yeah, **EPIDEMIC**. You know I never remember these guys sounding this good, so whatever you've been doing, keep it up, because you sounded great!

Last but not least,

(continued on page 14)

Jeff Watson

Jeff Watson, former guitarist of NIGHT RANGER, is back on the scene with a new solo album on SHRAPNEL RECORDS.

JEFF WATSON - The Lone Ranger Interview by Patrik Gilles

Q: The list of musicians on this project reads like a who's who in popular music. How difficult was it to gather such an illustrious group of players?

A: Well, conveniently most of them were pretty good friends of mine. Sammy (Hagar) and I have known each other for about seventeen years. He lives up the street. (Alan) Holdsworth, I just had to fly him up and promise him some great beer and he stayed in town for a few days. That was a lot of fun. Steve Morse was living in Placerville, which made it really easy for me. He just drove down and did his parts. Carmine Appice and I were putting a band together at the time so he was in town to do some tracks with me for that project. So I just added him to the album for the "Lone Ranger"

thing. Brad Gillis just drove over. David Sikes lives in Benicia so I had him drive over.

Q: Why doesn't Sammy Hagar actually pronounce any discernable words on the tune Cement Shoes?

A: 'Cuz his name would never have gotten on my album. It was pretty contractual. I was so lucky to get a release from Warner Brothers in the first place. Sammy signed a release first and sent it off to Geffen and Warner and they went, "Oh well, Sammy signed it. I guess as long as they don't put his name bigger than anybody else's and he didn't say any words." 'Da dit dit dot da da', and he just scatted, ya know.

Q: You didn't rely so much on licks and tricks so often found on instrumental projects. The songs play as if they were actually arranged for a vocalist. Were they?

A: About three of them were like that. Cement Shoes sort of was. Actually, I set it up for

(continued on page 12)

The Storm

by Jean Picache

Like an unpredictable meteorological phenomenon, THE STORM appeared on the Bay Area music horizon and brewed up a hit in the song 'Show Me The Way'. Composed of former JOURNEY men Gregg Rolie, Ross Valory and Steve Smith, former Elan and Le Mans guitarist Josh Ramos and former 747 vocalist Kevin Chalfant, this team of veterans has brewed up an eponymous album for INTERSCOPE RECORDS that was released late last Winter. I spoke to Josh over the phone right before he and the rest of the band left to go on tour with BRYAN ADAMS and he said that their album "is doing really good. This tour and video we have coming out is going to help a lot. We have a video coming out on MTV really soon for the song 'Show Me The Way'. We should be back at the San Francisco Cow Palace May 16th." I asked him if the band has already performed anywhere live yet and he reveals that "no, we haven't played live yet. It's exciting because there's

no telling what's going to happen."

I also asked Josh the question I'm sure they have been asked and will continue to be asked... that of being compared to JOURNEY. He answered the question quite nonchalantly, "Kevin gets labeled with the old Journey and he just blows it off. He didn't mean to sound like that but he was singing that way before he even heard of STEVE PERRY. We will get labeled with it. We have Gregg, Ross and when Steve was in the band, that was Journey. We have Ron Wikso, Cher's drummer who is going on tour with us but Steve played on the album."

Being familiar with Josh's background as well as Journey I asked him if the change in style was a natural progression for him and if he misses the heavier music he used to play. Josh responds with "this style of music is great and that's why The Storm is the way it is because of my playing. I lend that rock side to it that I grew up with."

A tempest of the old and the new, you don't have to catch The Storm. They will engulf you with their music and you will fall under their spell.

BAY AREA NEWSMAKERS



Rotten Deal

by Sona Yazejian

From the North Bay comes a band known to us as **ROTTEN DEAL**. This "four-pack" consists of frontman Mike "Ninja" Grey, Joey Alva on bass, Rob Russell on drums and last but not the least "the man with the green guitar", Sean Canale. If these names seem familiar to you, you're right. The members of this band are respected veterans of the Bay Area music scene and have been in other well-known bands such as the San Francisco X-Men, Spoiled Rotten, Ghost Town, to name a few. This current lineup of Rotten Deal has been together for 2 years and have already made a name for themselves.

Their influences lie from the wonderful wide-range vocals of **JOURNEY**, to the hard-drivin' rhythm of **TESLA** and **SKID ROW**. Their aggressiveness seems to be what attracts "hordes of

fans" and believe me, these guys can pack a show like I've never seen before. If you haven't seen them yet, you're definitely missing something.

You can catch them live as well as on tape soon for they have plans to release their second demo around May or June and will have a show this April to break in their new tunes. Better see and hear them or you'll get the rotten end of this deal!



Cypress

by Denise K. Walsh

What does it really take to be a success? Teamwork... and Cypress has plenty of it! Each member of Cypress: Phil Yanez, bass; Bobby Townsend, drums; Brodie Stewart, lead vocals; Pat Rezac and Jim Teech, both on guitar are all contributors to the incredible response they have been receiving from their fans. These guys are truly turning some heads at local clubs like **THE REAL**



ROCK, where they recently sold 29 demo tapes, titled "Hardball" in 2 Minutes. "It was a complete rush! We were literally being mobbed by people trying to get a tape," according to Pat. An additional demo is in pre-production and will be released soon.

Cypress has been together for roughly four years. Jimmy and Phil were the originators and have really kept the band going but it's no doubt that each member of Cypress is a major player within the group. Their musical mix of hard rock, R&B, Jazz, Blues and as Pat put it "anything that sounds good and is truly unique," gives this band their variety. Their music holds a significant twist of Y&T with the ultimate fun of Van Halen.

Cypress has long-term goals for the upcoming year. Not only can you catch them rocking at Bay Area clubs like the Stone, but you may discover them spreading their tunes to cities such as Sacramento, Santa Cruz and Los Angeles. So whichever town you plan to party in, don't leave without hearing the exhilarating sound of Cypress!

In keeping with NOCTURNE Magazine's vision of supporting and enhancing the Bay Area's music scene, here is a special section featuring the hottest and most promising local bands from all four major parts of the Bay Area. Watch out for these bands for they are the future of Bay Area Rock and Roll!



Tramontane

by Kristin Brodie

TRAMONTANE is a band that is not following the latest trend of the Heavy Metal scene but instead are more concerned with starting their own trend. The band was formed in 1986 by guitarists Michael Morris and John Antonioli and bassist Kurt Tholken. Vocalist Wolf completed the band in 1988 and Brian Hutchison joined in as their fifth and final drummer in 1991. Brian feels their music is "heavy and that's the way it should be." John adds that their style is more "speed melody", not Thrash, Death Metal or Hard Rock. They are "classic Heavy Metal but a little more progressive" and they "try to be real dramatic with what they do", according to Kurt. In fact, their music and

lyrics are fantasy influenced. They have been receiving a lot of great response from overseas from people who have been asking them not to change their style because they are so unique. When you go see Tramontane perform, you can expect a combination of heavy, melodic songs and an intense stage performance!



Sin City

by L.B.



Trying to get an interview with this band proved to be next to impossible. But by a stroke of luck we managed to connect. It was lucky for me because there's a lot to be said about these boys. But first the stats. This band consists of Steve Torrez, bass; Johnny Q., vocals; Brian Glau, drums; Larry Howard, guitar; Karl Larson, guitar.

Sin City is a 2 1/2 year old band out of San Jose and are managed by Chris Coyle, who also manages Jellyfish. They have two demos to their credit as well as two unreleased demos. They recently showcased at the Coconut Teaser in Los Angeles, as well as played numerous gigs around the Bay Area.

Sin City is currently undergoing major musical changes within their format. Along with these changes they also want to change the name of the band due to the over-abundance of Sin City's in the U.S. They feel these changes are necessary to avoid stagnation and improve their musical credibility in spite of the fans that they might lose due to these changes. They feel strongly that this

Pass It On

So the word's out, Joey Belladonna, got the big "steel tip" boot out of Anthrax. Any interested vocalist who thinks they've got what it takes should send a tape, bio, picture and video (if available) to Anthrax c/o Crazy Management, 210 Bridge Plaza Drive, Manalapan, New Jersey 07726.

Bay Area lead/rhythm guitarist Robb Flynn has parted ways with VIO-LENCE.

On a better note, there is good news for all you TESTAMENT fans out there who have been patiently waiting for their new album to come out. It will be hitting the stores May 12th, and from what I've heard it sounds great!

DEFIANCE's long awaited album titled "Inside looking Out" will be out by May 1st (finally), and it blows the last one away by a long shot. Definitely one to go pick up.

EXODUS has a new one expected out around August, but if you can't wait until then, go pick up "Good Friendly Violent Fun". This record was definitely overlooked by the majority of the record groupies out there, and it's great! It was recorded live at the Fillmore, on the Fabulous Disaster tour. Check It Out!

BABYLON A.D. has a new album coming out soon and they will be doing a free show on April 24 at the Omni.

As for FAITH NO MORE, their album is in L.A. being mixed as you read this. They have also scheduled some European dates with GUNS N' ROSES. They also participated in a Dead Kennedy Compilation along with SEPULTURA, NAPALM DEATH, MOJO NIXON, and L-7. The album, which is titled "Virus 100" should be at a local store near you.

SADUS is back in the studio recording their third album, which should be out in May.

LAUGHING DEAD has finally found a singer. Their drummer, Ken Mooney, has dropped his sticks and picked up a microphone. They are currently auditioning drummers. They should have a demo out by summer.

And what is a BOOTY PRINT you ask? BOOTY PRINT is a serious side project band with JOHN MENOR (bass) and ROB RAMPY (drums) from D.R.I. and SEAN SUTTON (guitar) from ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT. They're a little bit on the funky side and a lot of fun too!!! Check them out!!!

Speaking of D.R.I., their new album should

be out by the end of the year on ROTTEN RECORDS.

CIRCLE OF VENGEANCE have finally landed themselves a permanent lead singer. They've gone through quite a few since they moved out here in the middle of '91.

The TERMINATOR has built up quite a reputation for the Friday night hang out. Probably because this club offers a little bit of something for everyone. This is the only club in the Bay Area that mixes a live D.J. and dance floor upstairs while rock and thrash bands are playing downstairs. So if you don't like one room, you can always cruise to another. The TERMINATOR will also be starting on Thursday nights in San Jose as of April 30th. Check it out! If you need any additional information, you can call (415) 474-6305.

And if you missed ASK ALICE when they were at the REAL ROCK last month, you will probably be hearing from them real soon because they are in the VIRGIN RECORDS studio recording a 3-song demo with GREG EDWARDS (ASPHALT BALLET).

Point Of View

FASHION... Turn to the Left
by Patrik Gilles

Due to the recent poor showing of fashion acumen evident in most of the local hangouts in the Bay Area, I feel compelled to cry out to the masses in hopes that they will return to some sort of proper bon ton that still shocks the parents while retaining a bit of elegance. For instance, the Bammies looked like any one of a thousand prom nights going on somewhere in suburbia USA. The sequined draped ladies of that night, more resembled a school of tropical fish than the testosterone boiling femmes we hommes so often act the fool for. The men, on the other hand, took more risks, but ultimately ended up looking just as cheesy as your annual Swiss Day parade. This alarms me and it should alarm you too. Now to the clubs. Cowboy boots (chains optional) are about as functional as a pair of rollerblades in a gravel parking lot. As a matter of fact, they're not

(continued on page 12)

REEL REVIEWS

by Claudia Swanson

THE FLESH WEAPONS

Spit It Out

What's in a name? In this case, a whole lot! The Fabulous Flesh Weapons are just that, fabulous. This three-piece band will blow your mind with this 11-song offering. They have a sound greatly similar to Cheap Trick (not surprising since they cover "Surrender" at their live shows). However, it is impossible to stick this band into only one category. Each song is a little different from the others. There are several music types represented on "Spit It Out". For example, "Million Dollar Car" and "Runnin' Away" have a sound similar to the Stray Cats. While "Holiday" and "Oh! Yeah" are more AOR type songs, there is "You Get Nothin'" which has a slightly harder sound. Two songs, "Sadie" and "Ms. Nowhere" sound familiar but I can't quite place either. But, by far the most sterling track, and one of the best songs I've ever heard, is the brilliant "Fuck Off and Die". The first time I heard this, I almost laughed myself to death. I still can't help but smile every time I hear it. It is a veritable masterpiece. Basically, this is a band that defies description. So buy "Spit It Out" and judge for yourself.

ATTITUDE

Up from the ashes of Cheshire Cat arises Attitude. For those of you who ever saw Cheshire Cat, Attitude is very different. They have a new look and three new members. This tape was recorded by keyboardist Brent de Leo and vocalist Johnny Lima. If I do say so myself, it is much better than I expected. Mr. Lima has one of the clearest, strongest voices I have ever heard... major potential. The overall sound of the tape is good and clear. Everything can be heard and understood. The tape begins with the catchy "Sexual Generation." The next three songs, "Sweet Little Tease", "Paradise" and "Heaven Tonight" all deal in the same subject matter, girls. I listen to this and I'm reminded of Bon Jovi. Attitude has the same AOR potential. A notable exception is the final track "Fly Angel." This song is very sad. Perhaps it's all the more sad because it's a true story. The lyrics are very touching. I expect good things from this band in the future. If they get some good backing, they would be unstoppable.

THE SHATTERED

The Shattered is back! And better than ever you say? I'm afraid not. They have a

new voice but the same old sound. For those of you who are unfamiliar with them, The Shattered is of the "black" genre of music, ala Mister Hyde and Sister Strange. Unfortunately, The Shattered is not as good as either of those bands. I have two problems with this. First is the sound. It's bad. The bass is almost non-existent. The sound is tinny. The second problem has to do with the songs and the performance of them. They're boring. I listen to this and I can picture them all sitting around a big empty warehouse looking bored. There is very little in the way of emotion on this. It's really too bad because the first song "When I'm gone" has a lot of potential. It would be real good if it wasn't so dull. The other two songs are "Tell Me" and "You Lose". Both are predictably drab. I feel bad for them. Maybe they're just at the mercy of poor production. I hope so.

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Jeff Watson
(continued from page 7)

instrumental. Everything else was instrumental. But I like to hum the melodies in my head first before I try to learn them on guitar, so it doesn't sound like it's just licks for licks sake. But in some of the songs I had to throw in some speed-lick shit, ya know, to just keep Mike (Varney) happy and keep the audience happy and do that eight-finger thing in "Mt. Cathedral".

Q: Do you have any plans to tour this material?

A: I'll probably do some of it if I go out with Carmine and Bob Daisley. We have a new singer now named Kelly Hansen from the band "Hurricane". We're going to be putting a band together and go out and probably do Japan, Europe and some of the United States.

Q: You thanked your fellow Night Ranger alumni in the credits as well as featuring Brad Gillis on the track "Cement Shoes". Do all you guys still work together much?

A: Brad and I do sometimes. Actually I went up to Jack's (Blades) house the other day and hung out with him and Ted Nugent and Tommy Shaw and played some of the tracks for them and they played

me some new Yankee's (DAMNED YANKEES) stuff which is real good. And I went over to Brad's. I'm gonna do a track on Brad's solo album at some point. Yeah, Brad and I stay in touch more than anybody else in Night Ranger.

Q: What do you want people to come away with after listening to this, your first solo effort?

A: I want them to be able to put it in their car and listen to it, beginning to end and not get bored with anything. Like, I've been given and sent a ton of instrumental tapes, and I listen to them at home and I can only get like three cuts deep and I go, "Okay, I've heard everything." I wanted to put together an album that you can listen to and just drive along the road and not have it bore you. And so if they come away going, "Ah, I really enjoyed it. It was over too soon"... that's what I'd like to hear.

(continued from page 10)

really boots at all. Combat boots are really boots and, without a doubt, the proper substratum for that occasional sashay through the pit. So as for women, well, let's just say that there's nothin' like a gal in combat boots to make my Willie Wonka. For the guys, jeans are in. Cut them, paint them, soak them in gasoline and light them on fire. Jeans are always going to be the coolest. Legwear is a far more complex area with the gals. Tip 1: show the gams at all costs. Babydoll dresses are another accessory likely to trigger that chemically induced fit of sexual angst I mentioned earlier. Leather biker jackets are hip but tassels are so weak, Webster could kick their ass. Surprisingly enough, sweaters are making a big comeback this season, but only when accompanied by a Local band T-shirt and ripped blue jeans. Animal fur sucks always, but purple, blue or green faux fur is workable only for those zaniest of events. You probably could never wear this sort of thing outside the San Francisco city limits and be taken pseudo-seriously. Makeup for dudes is probably the greatest fashion faux pas of the century. This is not homophobia, but rather, it shows a lack of confidence in the perpetrator's ability to grow facial hair. Women should use makeup sparingly, only cuz a little eyeliner and lashaid never hurt anybody. Ultimately, the most comfortable outfit is the original birthday suit. This getup never falls victim to the faddish cruelties of time and will always get you the most compliments. So if you can't find anything to wear tonite, stay home and read a book. Oh yeah, always remember: If you're gonna read, wear a condom!

ON THE CUTTING EDGE

mo' Professionals

by Michele Bohannon

A lot of bands come and go but I'm here to tell you that the MO'FESSIONALS are here to stay. For a band that hasn't even been around for a year, their name has quite an impact on the scene as we know it today. They are definitely not your average everyday 4-piece band. They are a full-force 11-piece funk, jazz, blues, rap, rock, soul machine! I talked to 3 members of this band: John Wilson (bass), Les Harris (saxophone) and last but definitely not the least Zoe Ellis (vocals) to find about a little bit more about the band.

Q: So who else are in the band?
J.W.: Loring Jones (drums), Nick Wolfe (guitar), Erik Smyth (guitar), Ural Dixon (vocals), Caitlin Cornwell (vocals), Chris Burger (vocals/rapper), Tony George (trumpet) and Josh Jones (percussionist).

Q: So I hear you guys are working on a new demo. Are you going to be writing any new material for it?

L.H.: No we're not because we have a lot of stuff that hasn't been put on tape yet and there's no shortage of material.

Q: Where's your favorite place to play?

(continued on page 14)



Savatage

by Jean Picache

The mighty SAVATAGE is back with a vengeance. Their latest-release 'Streets: A Rock Opera' (ATLANTIC RECORDS) is a gut-wrenching masterpiece and their most ambitious effort yet. We see them going into a more realistic and worldly direction without losing their penchant for grandiose imagery and larger than life perspective. Still evident is their trademark heavy keyboard orchestration that sets them apart from bands of their genre. Live, they explode on stage with an intense energy. Off the stage, though, they were surprisingly mellow as we had a leisurely chat in their tour bus about the past, present and future of Savatage.

"We've been together 11 years", reveals singer Jon Oliva. "We were the first heavy band to get signed from Florida." When I asked how their music has progressed from that time he said that "you change as you get older and the more you write the more you try to do different things so it doesn't get boring." As for the idea for 'Streets', Jon continues to say that their producer "Paul (O'Neill) had an original idea

and we just sort of Savataged it. A lot of the stuff we did was taken from life experiences that we had. When you're in New York recording, you see things everyday that is, I don't know if I'd call it inspirational, but definitely leaves thoughts in your mind. The story is basically about what people deal with and see everyday on the streets. We used to write more fictional stuff. Around 'Mountain King' and 'Gutter Ballet' we made the turn towards reality."

Their new album, the story of a rock star named D.T. Jesus, also has very spiritual and even religious overtones. "The messages that we are saying are pretty positive really in a way that it might help people. I think it's important to put something in the songs nowadays." I won't reveal how 'Streets' ends. Jon, his brother Criss Oliva on guitar, Johnny Lee Middleton on bass and Steve 'Doc' Wacholz on drums have created a gut-wrenching masterpiece that you have to listen to and experience yourself. Not only on record (or tape or CD or whatever technology comes up next with) but live as well.

(continued from page 6)

VIOLENCE!!! Let's see what could I tell you about this band that you don't already know? Yes, Rob Flynn, lead guitarist, has parted with the band. I hope this wasn't their last show, but it's looking that way. Good luck to all of you, and I hope it comes together soon.

I know I left a couple of bands out, but I did miss some of the show. Sorry!!

As for who won what... who knows? Who cares? The most important thing was to have fun and that's just what I did. Congratulations to the winners and losers. **GREAT JOB!** See ya next year at the 3rd Annual Thrash Awards!!!

by Michele Bohannon

**ARMORED SAINT, Mar. 14,
One Step Beyond, Santa Clara**

Finally... a genuine "heavy metal" band invades the Bay Area. In the past few years, "heavy metal" has taken on a very ambiguous nature and has been sadly slapped on any band that had a few ripping guitar chords. **ARMORED SAINT** is heavy metal in the truest sense of the appellation with their soaring vocals and guitar riffs that have a classical baroque edge and gothic overtones. As with any band, though, they have had to evolve with the times and the vagaries of the music listening public. You can easily distinguish the difference between their older tunes that have a rawer and heavier edge and their more modern, sophisticated and progressive leanings from their latest album. I personally

prefer their newer songs. "Reign of Fire" and "Last Train Home" are brilliant manifestations of their songcrafting abilities. It's strange for me to say then that although I like the music and the band they couldn't hold my attention for long. Maybe it's just me being blase about seeing so many bands in the past two years. I rarely find the magic chemistry that sparks up on stage and impresses me. Still, it was a good show and worth seeing but nothing for the record books.

by Jean Picache

**SWEET F.A./CHERRI
BAY/STILLETTO/
GROOVEYARD, Mar. 12,
The Stone, SF**

I missed **GROOVEYARD** which is too bad because I was told that they were really good. I'll be sure to catch them next time.

STILLETTO was able to keep the excuse for a crowd's attention (there wasn't that much of a turnout). They sounded alright and seem to have the potential to get better.

CHERRI BAY is a band that does a lot of promoting. After seeing the band for the third time, I can honestly say that I don't like anything about them. They seem to carry themselves like they have too much of an attitude onstage.

SWEET F.A. (**CHARISMA RECORDS**) is new to me. They put on a great show. Their songs are strong and they get into what they are playing. The singer (Steve De

Long) is especially acrobatic. I enjoyed their set and I hope next time Sweet F.A. comes to the Bay Area people will be more supportive.

by Kristin Brodie

Mo'Fessionals

(continued from page 13)

L.H.: I'd have to say **SLIM'S**. They have a big sound system there and the staff is really cool. And the **NIGHTBREAK**. We'd like to play the **I-BEAM** soon also.

Q: Who are some of your influences?

Z.E.: I'd have to say anything from the **BULGARIAN CHOIR** to **STEVIE WONDER** who is my biggest most enormous influence in the world.

L.H.: **TOWER OF POWER**. Ya know, music that has a lot of layers and features horn players prominently.

Q: How would you describe your music to someone who's never heard it?

J.W.: A blend of all different kinds of music that comes to you throughout growing up. It's feeling music.

Q: Did you ever think the **MO'S** would go this far?

Z.E.: I never thought anything would happen. Definitely not this snowball that has happened. I really appreciate it. We are really lucky.

In conclusion, John said, "some bands are professional but we're **MO'FESSIONALS**. We're hella fun but we take care of business too!"

BEYOND THE BAY

WHITE TRASH

by Sona Yazejian

Originally from Queens, NY, comes a band called WHITE TRASH - but they are far from being trash! White Trash has a different tune to their success story... they've got a wonderful horn section that is just kicking with soul and funk. This 4-piece, or I should say 7-piece band consists of Dave Alvin, vocals; Ethan Collins, guitar; his brother Aaron, bass; and Mike Caldarella, drums. But wait, I'm not done! There's Chris Arbisi on alto sax, Terry Thomas on tenor sax and Brendan Stiles on the trumpet. I spoke to Ethan recently about the history of White Trash.

Q: How long has White Trash been together?

A: About 5 1/2 years total and 3 years with the horn section.

Q: What made you decide to add a horn section?

A: Well, it really wasn't anything we had anticipated, but one day the guys came down and

jammed with us a couple of times. Right there we knew it clicked and we just went with the flow.

Q: How many copies of the album have been sold?

A: About 150,000 but it's been slowing down. So tell your friends to go buy the album!

Q: I heard you guys had some pretty inventive ways of getting people to notice you. Care to tell me about it?

A: (Laughs) Sure, why not. We used to throw things out at our crowds like money, cigarettes, beer, pizza or White Castle hamburgers. We just wanted people to remember us. Hopefully, they will like us anyway.

Well, I'm certain people will remember White Trash. These guys are just one wild, fun and funky band. So if you haven't already bought the album... what are you waiting for? I promise you won't regret it for you'll be dancing even if you've never danced before!

Saigon Kick

by Jean Picache

It is a sad fact that the music industry has been largely in stasis as it persists to cater to the mainstream with formulaic offerings that at best leave me yawning. Every once in a rare while, though, a band breaks new ground and reinvigorates the music scene and gives us a glimpse of hope that there is still fresh blood pumping through musicians somewhere on this planet. From Miami comes SAIGON KICK and they crashed through our sonic consciousness with their self-titled debut effort in 1991. Come June, they are releasing their second album entitled 'Lizard' (ATLANTIC RECORDS). Drummer Phil Varone reveals that there is no special significance to the title and that 'Lizard' is just one of the songs on the album and that "the attitude and mood of the song represented the record." As for their name, Phil explains that during the time that they were looking for a name for their band there were so many Vietnam movies being made and they

just thought that "Hollywood's on some Saigon kick." They quickly made an impression in their local scene with their category-defying music. As a feeble attempt, I can best describe it as psych-grunge-thrash rock. They definitely have that raw and heavy Seattle sound that is all the rage nowadays but they temper it with BEATLESQUE harmonies and JANE'S ADDICTION-like vocals. Phil says that they "are all Beatles fanatics", that the Beatles had "a huge influence specially Jason (guitarist/vocalist Jason Bieler)" and that they "respect them so much" that they take it as a compliment to be compared to them.

Their second album is an outstanding achievement and manifests the band's (also including Matt Kramer on lead vocals and Tom DeFile on bass) growth and maturity as songwriters. SAIGON KICK will be doing a tour of 20 or so major cities and they should be around to kick some life into the Bay Area around June. You know where I will be then!

