

NOCTURNE

Magazine



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TERMINATOR

JULY 3rd
WIN A HARLEY DAVIDSON
W/ JETBOY WANTED,
POISON WHISKEY.

JULY 10th
FETISH PARTY
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PIERCING.TATTOOS.,
BANDS T.B. A.

JULY 17th
LOLLAPALOOZA
PRE-PARTY.
W/LIFE.SEX AND DEATH
SURPRISE GUESTS

JULY 24th
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WONDERLAND.
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T-RIDE

by Samantha De Young

Two words... T-Ride and T-alent. Juicy guitars, hypnotic harmonies, and pulse-raising percussion is what this trio is all about. T-Ride's self-titled debut album has hit the streets with astounding success. Dan Arlie, Eric Valentine and Jeff Tyson (local boys from Palo Alto), have nurtured this back alley band into a project worthy of everyone's attention. Signed to Hollywood Records, T-Ride has taken off in a big way. I recently contacted Jeff Tyson and asked him to shed some light on the band's persona.

Q: How long has T-Ride been together?

J: About six years. Actually we've all been friends and playing music together for six years but we didn't actually consider it to be a real band till about two years ago when we were talking to the Bill Graham people and they said "well you know, you guys have to have a band!"

Q: So you've played the Bay Area quite a bit?

J: We play the SF Bay Area but just recently are doing more of California but the record's only been out for a little while so it's not like everybody knows who we are.

Q: What sets T-Ride apart from the rest?

J: It's hard to explain. We don't have the typical rhythm section. It's all very syncopated, very percussive heavy metal music... lots and lots of changes in our songs. We're always trying to keep ourselves interested when we're writing music.

Q: How did your record deal come about?

J: We signed up with the Bill Graham guys after a friend of ours brought them our tapes. The BG guys got such a buzz going in the industry about this new band that's been looking for a label that we actually had four companies bidding for us against each other. Our drummer actually produced and engineered the whole demo and record and that was one of our main considerations. Hollywood Records was the only label that considered doing that. I don't feel the record would have been as good had we let someone else produce it.

Q: What has the feedback been like for the album?

J: It's been extraordinary actually. We've been

(cont. on p. 12)

FLAME

by Jean Picache

I was watching Headbangers' Ball one night and Rikki Rachtman was introducing a new video from a band from Niles, CA. He goes on to ask, "where the hell is Niles?" Well, this interview takes place at historic Niles Station where Babylon A.D. hails from, as well as the topic of this interview and Rikki's query, FLAME!!! I suppose everyone around here knows where Niles is and everyone has heard of the band FLAME but did you know that they just released an album and they shot their video for the song "Rain" in Niles Canyon? Well, here are more revealing facts straight from Phil Sullivan (vocals) and Steve Vegas (bass):

Flame has been together since 1986 and during that time they have cultivated a very strong following enabling them to play often at different clubs in the Bay Area and even releasing their own self-distributed album "Blaze" that sold a couple of thousands of copies. These six years, though, haven't been easy for the members of Flame. In the Summer of 1988 they moved down to Venice Beach and stayed there for about a year and gave up because as Phil says, the "became pretty frustrated with the way the scene was down there... we were being really decadent and having a good time and not taking care of music business... plus we were doing what a lot of other people wanted us to do and not what we wanted to do musically." Needless to say, Flame has been up to the challenge. They returned to the Bay Area and eventually landed a record deal with GIANT RECORDS on their own. The album has been out for a month and doing great on AOR radio and on MTV as well. When I asked about the video, Phil reveals that they had "one camera, no makeup, no hair people... we just rolled the tape and started doing it." The video is strikingly and refreshingly simple with the band members splashing around in an old swimming hole.

Thus, when asked about their image, Phil exclaims, "what image?! Our image is our personalities and our songs." Speaking of personalities, Steve thinks that "we have a very good balance." "They're the light and we're the dark side," adds Phil referring to Billy (Harvey-guitars) and Denis (Bostok-drums) who are more soft-spoken compared to Phil and Steve who are more

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EDITORIAL

"Music, Time, Society, Congratulations, Opinions and Predictions..."

Time sure flies fast! This issue marks our first year anniversary and looking back, so many momentous events have taken place and so many changes have taken effect. Not only with regards to Nocturne Magazine but with the bands we have covered and also with the larger sphere of society. We are very pleased to note that several Bay Area bands have been in the national and even international spotlight of late, proving that the Bay Area continues to be a source of musical pioneers and pacesetters. Several of these bands we have covered in the past year, some even before their rise to fame.

We would like to congratulate Mr. Big who we featured in our premier issue and who have since then become certified hitmakers. We also featured Babyion A.D. in July of 1991 and this time they are back with a strong follow up called "Nothing Sacred." Watch out for their first single/video "Bad Blood" which they filmed at the OMNI in Oakland. By now everyone knows about Ugly Kid Joe. I knew they were a great band when I saw them play 9 months ago but was I surprised (albeit pleasantly) that they skyrocketed to platinum success the way they did! They rocked the Cow Palace when they opened for Ozzy Osbourne last June. The Storm also had a great homecoming show at the Cow Palace, opening up for Bryan Adams last May. Tesla is finally getting more recognition for their fourth album "Psychotic Supper" and they'll finally be around on tour this summer. Their first headlining tour, I can't wait!

Finally, looking forward into the future... here are my best bets for the rest of the year. Flame... yeah, they've been around forever and I guess everyone around here doesn't think much of them anymore but I have seen the reaction of people from outside the Bay Area and I have since then looked upon them with a new perspective. For the full scoop, read my interview with singer Phil Sullivan. T-Ride... this band is just so spectacularly unique and bizarre that I think they will develop a strong cult following and maybe even commercial success. Testament... this is thrash moving with the times, breaking old barriers and creating new ground. More sophisticated, artistic and very classy.

On a more serious note, with all that's been going on in society, we couldn't turn a deaf ear to issues, economic and political, that have been affecting us all. Thus, we have again welcomed the additional dimension offered by our now resident satirist Pat Gilles of the Flesh Weapons and a short call for action by one of our new staffers Samantha De Young in our new section entitled "Open Forum." Please feel free to write to us with your views and even complaints on matters serious or whimsical. We want to hear from you!

One last note... have a great Summer!!!

Flame (cont. from p. 3)

extroverted. Denis is "a thoughtful kind of person," says Phil. While Steve is "very spontaneous... he's my partying buddy." Billy, on the other hand, is "a thinker," discloses Steve. "He's really quiet but he's a very intense person. He says it all in his playing." Steve remarks that Phil is "the wild man. He's got a great personality to talk to anybody." Which partly explains why Flame has such a dedicated following. "We're friends with a lot of people," Phil corroborates. "I go out and talk to people every night... people that I might not know that I might see new at our shows. Coz when it comes to people and faces, I have a really good memory." I can attest to that fact since I was at the Cactus Club two years ago and someone sitting beside me said "hello" and even remembered my name and I was clueless as to who he was until he reintroduced himself. It was Phil!

One can't just help liking these guys. One can't help liking their music as well. As for their music, Phil asserts that "it's got trimmed down and beefed up a lot... it's simpler and more powerful instead of intricate and well-textured. We're just trying so that people can enjoy it in a live environment." Their album includes a couple of old crowd favorites such as "Ball and Chain" and "Don't Look Down", touching ballads like "Shelter You" and a handful of power rockers. The most notable song in the album is "Blood For Blood" which explores social issues amidst some catchy riffs and harmonies.

The near future will see Flame touring and gaining more exposure outside of California. Their management and record company are planning a pretty intensive promotional agenda for them so catch them while you still can!

TESTAMENT

Performing the Rites
by Walter J. Morgan

After a year off and almost two years since "Souls of Black" was released, the boys in Testament are back. Their fifth album, entitled "The Ritual", is boxed up and ready to take off, and this album definitely will. Unlike "Souls", which was written in five and a half weeks (much of it on the road, on a tour bus) and recorded in six weeks (so they could go out on the Clash of the Titan's Tour). "The Ritual" was not rushed or under any deadline date. Testament took a well deserved six month rest after touring, and then got together and wrote "The Ritual". This album reflects the bands growing musical maturity and talent, and shows everyone why they are one of the biggest metal acts out there!

Alex Skolnick's guitar leads reflect his classical influence, and are untouchable. Eric Peterson's guitar rhythms are the backbone of the whole album, with clear riffs that grab you and hold you song after song. Louie Clemente's drums are solid and steady as ever, like Greg Christian's bass lines. In a time when most bass players are seen but not heard, Greg's bass work can be picked out and enjoyed. The production work on this record lacks nothing. Chuck Billy's vocals and lyrics are powerful. He demonstrates that he can really sing, not just scream and shout. If you like quality with your metal, you won't be disappointed.

Now for the songs on "The Ritual", I've had the opportunity to hear this album before it's May release date. I can say that this record definitely

(cont. on p. 12)



CONTEMPT

by Michelle Bohannon

If you never got a chance to check out Contempt, I've got to tell you what you've been missing. Contempt is a hard-hitting in-your-face band straight out of Oakland. They've been together for three years now and in that time they have worked their way to one of the top-drawing local unsigned bands in the Bay Area. And who is Contempt, you ask? Well, currently, Contempt is Eddie Colmenares (drums), Ron Schipes (guitar), Daniel Dupret (guitar), Jim Lapin (bass) and Denton Sudweeks (vocals).

I recently went to go check out a Contempt show and I noticed a most maturing change in the band. I asked Eddie about this change. "We're not thrashing so hard anymore. Our songs are a lot more structured. We've put a lot of thought into them." This change certainly suits them very well. Their latest demo, "Contempt 92" displays their musical ability beautifully. My favorite song would have to be "Nothing More To Say". I think the reason I like this song so much is because of the lyrics. They are simple and they flow but at the same time I think most people can relate. Other songs worth mentioning are "Time Can Stand Still" and "Heart Black" which is a very heavy tune.

(cont. on p. 12)

DEFIANCE

"Beyond Recognition"
by Walter J. Morgan

The Bay Area's Defiance re-surfaces with their new album entitled "Beyond Recognition". It was released on May 12th by RoadRacer Records and is doing very well. This is the band's third record, and second with singer Steve Esquivel. This new record is definitely a big step forward in the band's steadily growing career. It was produced, engineered, and mixed by Rob Beaton. The production work on this record gives them a professional sound that highlights their musical talent.

(cont. on p. 12)

LIVE WIRE

GWAR

May 31, 1992

The Omni, Oakland

This has got to be the most disgusting band I've ever seen! From the moment they hit the stage and the lights went on, it was blood, violence, and more blood and violence. It was a total blood bath and I LOVED IT!

This is definitely a band that makes any Stephen King movie look like Disneyland. Heads, arms and legs flying through the air while gallons of blood gush out of neck, arm and leg sockets. Blood poured out up to 30 ft. right into an innocent victims face! The costumes were brilliant. It looked like a Mardi Gras from Hell! Death is their specialty. Not many of their victims died fast, most of it was way too painful and disgusting for me to get into. You've got to be one sick, twisted individual to appreciate this.

I do remember seeing Gwar about 2-3 years ago and the show wasn't even packed. They've gone from an underground nightmare to a mainstream monstrosity, but that's okay because the more Gwar they spread the better.

Back to the show. They crushed out 1 1/2 hours of the heaviest punk/thrash I've heard in a long time. It's good the band is paying more attention to the music and not just the visual! This is also definitely a band with a message but what that message is, well... I really couldn't tell you.

by Michele Bohannon

NONE OF THE ABOVE

May 24, 1992

The Omni, Oakland

Are they hard rock, modern rock or heavy metal? The answer is *None of the Above!* This band with their unique name and original style is definitely one to watch out for as we roll into the summer. On May 24th, I had the opportunity to see an exceptional performance as None of the Above rocked the Omni. I was truly impressed by their incredible sound with songs such as "regrets" - which each member agreed was their favorite. The guys (Don Johnson, lead vocals; Bill Laughlin, drums; Rob Sherman, guitar; and Dan Jasper, bass) have been together for roughly 2 years and Don was a new addition in October of last year. With the excellent reaction they received from the audience at the Omni, I asked them what they thought was the most important way of getting audience participation. The general response I got was "to put forth the emotion of the song." They describe their music as "old rock with a twist in addition to punk and jazz." Some influences include the Eagles, Pink Floyd, Eric Clapton and Jeff Campitelli. Campitelli has helped the band from day one and even helped produce their demo entitled "None of the Above." What's their main goal? "To get signed, of course!"

by Denise K. Walsh

EXODUS

May 2, 1992

One Step Beyond, Santa Clara

This show was this band's first appearance in the Bay Area in the past year and a half. They started with "Piranha" and the Exodus Attack is back! I look and see two guitar players running back and forth, it's Gary Holt and Rick Hunolt, the E-Team's guitars are blazing fire. Center stage is Steve "Zetro" Souza glaring at his audience with an evil smile, and lyrics come running out of his mouth. I look at the drum kit, it's shaking and pulsating as if it were alive, and I know it's John Tempesta who's beating and pounding these drums into submission. Something's different, there's a wild looking bass player with a guitar slung so low it almost touches the stage. This is their new band member Mike Butler with a high energy and a personality that fits Exodus like a glove. This new Exodus has definitely been rejuvenated and is a lot tighter. They continued motoring through a long set that included their hits "The Toxic Waltz" and "Braindead" which stirred the crowd into a frenzy. Also thrown in between were new songs including "Force of Habit" (the title of their new album). The last song of the evening was a rare surprise. They played "Bonded by Blood," which hasn't been played live since Europe in 1988. It was a perfect ending to a crazy evening.

by Walter J. Morgan

IRON MAIDEN

by Jesse James

With nine studio albums, four lineup changes, over thirty million worldwide in album sales, and many world tours, Iron Maiden can still crank out great hard rock music. Recently I spoke with the newest member of Iron Maiden, guitar player Janick Gers, about the new album, being in the band, touring, and the future of Iron Maiden. With the release of their latest album "Fear Of The Dark". Iron Maiden has certainly assured fans and critics of their music that they will be around for years to come, with the release of their latest album "Fear of the Dark".

Q: Some songs off "Fear of the Dark" have a different feel compared to the albums of the past. Was this your influence on the band?

A: When I started to bring things in Steve (Harris, bassist and founding member) told me to bring different ideas into the band and not to write for the band, even if they don't seem like they would fit the band.

Q: Steve Harris and Bruce Dickinson (lead singer) write all the lyrics. Many songs on the new album are about current problems and events in the world. Was this a conscious effort on their part?

A: Not at all. It was only afterwards that we realized it. I think it is quite reflective of what we've seen and what has happened around us. On tour last year we saw many problems and I think the social awareness on this album is great, but there is still the supernatural element to it, like on the title track and "The Apparition".

Q: What was it like for you to join Iron Maiden?

A: It was amazing but I've known the band for quite a while. I met Bruce when he was in Samson and I was in a band called White Spirit. I met the rest of Maiden when I was in Ian Gillen's band. I worked on Bruce's solo album and then Adrian (Smith) decided to leave the band so they asked me down and it worked out great.

Q: When the band is picking out their set list for the tour how do you chose from all your songs?

A: What you do is try to find the set that works. You put odd numbers in and out but if you find a set that works then its best to keep to the set because you have your highs and your lows in the set and if you play for three hours there is still going to be somebody who comes up to you and says that you didn't play my favorite song. You have to pick a set with some diamond songs from the past and diamond songs from now.

Q: Steve Harris and Dave Murray, guitar player, have been doing Maiden since 1976. What would indicate to them and the band it is time to quit?

A: I don't know, as long as we feel there is a vibe and we are happy that we're playing and people still come out and see us, then we are happy to play. I personally think this is one of Maiden's best albums.

Well Steve, Bruce, Dave, Nicko McBrain and Janick, I hope you continue giving us great music for years to come.



BAY AREA NEWSMAKERS

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COWBOYS AND ANGELS

by Kristin Brodie

The North Bay has a band calling themselves Cowboys & Angels. If you know these guys personally, you might wonder about that name. "Angels" is not the first word I think of to describe them. Actually, the name came from a song off a (get this) George Michael album. It sounds good, so why not?

Cowboys & Angels was formed by Stephan Sommers (rhythm guitar) and Scott Blaze (bass) in fall of '90. Later, Mike Quick (drums), Jared Litwin (lead guitar) and Toddy Strouss (vocals) were brought in to complete Cowboys & Angels.

You may have seen these guys play sometime in the last year up in the North Bay. (They set out to dominate the North Bay, now moving on to the entire San Francisco bay area and eventually the world, so they say.)

Since I haven't heard their music yet, I

asked them to describe it to me. Mike says they are a "hard rock band with commercial appeal, and they're trying to develop their own sound."

Cowboys & Angels won't be found playing much in July, as they are trying to complete their second demo. Once completed, they will be found all over the Bay Area, including San José.

When you do experience a Cowboys & Angels show, you can expect a great time and great music because as their flyers attest, they're "Wanted... For Rockin' The West!"



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RAZORSHARP

by Michele Bohannon

Razorsharp is not an average mainstream rock band. This is definitely a band that is not getting the credit they deserve. Razorsharp is made up by Ray Painter and Ron Taylor both on guitar. Andrew Alva on drums, Jim Rios on bass and Harvey Durocher is lead vocals.



Razorsharp is a band influenced by such greats as Kiss, Led Zeppelin and Aerosmith as well as Mr. Bungle and Ice Cube. Their diverse influences come across in their music. One of my favorite songs is "Fire", because it brings together their different styles and that makes it sound great. Jim's favorite song is "Unreal" because it is about stupid relationships.

At this moment, Razorsharp is in their pre-production stage. They will be heading into the studio to record their second demo in mid-July. The finished product should be out sometime in August. Razorsharp is a familiar name to the Radio. They've received airplay on L.A.'s KNAC as well as the Bay Area's 90.5 KVHS.

They've played with local acts as well as L.A. Guns, Junkyard and Jailhouse. They've made their way into clubs in L.A. as well as Sacramento, and they are regulars in the Bay Area scene. If you like high powered, hard hitting R & R, Razorsharp is the band for you!

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!



SWALLOW MY PRIDE

by Michele Bohannon

Swallow My Pride is an up and coming band from San Francisco and I do mean up and coming!!! They moved from Hawaii 2 years ago and have been going strong ever since. The band features Louie Senior on drums, Mike Silverman on bass and Brian McDaniels on lead vocals. They have gotten a good response in such a short time that you know they're definitely hot!

When asked how they describe their music, Louie replied with "head bobbin', feet stomping, psycho-groove". This band is more than that. This band has definitely crossed boundaries. "We get lumped into this funk/thrash thing. I can think of 10 other bands that are funk/thrash and we are definitely not one of them!!"

Their music touches the surface of many different subjects. Everything from selfishness and mass conditioning to individuality, which is apparent in their song "Mind All Mind". This is Louie's

personal favorite because it's about thinking for yourself.

Swallow My Pride has won the respect to play with many national acts like 247 Spyz, Pauly Shore, Dread Zeppelin and Fungo Mungo. Recently they had the opportunity to perform in front of 100,000 people at the Bay to Breakers.

If you haven't had a chance to check them out you're going to have to wait until summer's end. If you liked what you've heard, you haven't heard nothing yet! They have got the music that makes you move in more ways than one.



DISORDERLY CONDUCT

by Samantha de Young

Summer's here and it's time for fun in the sun, wild pool parties and a little DISORDERLY CONDUCT. Appropriately dubbed, this five man Metal/Funk band is definitely making a name for themselves. Not only are they catching the eye of the casual clubgoer, these guys have attracted the



attention of the likes of Ice-T, Mordred and the Organization and have supported these bands in recent shows with further support dates this summer.

D.C.'s music speaks louder than the few chosen words for this excerpt. They're a mixture of Hip-Hop groove on the Metal edge of Rap. They've been known to play anything from Jazz to Thrash and any other currently unexplored realm of music in between.

Disorderly Conduct consists of lead guitars, Leo; rhythm guitars, Dan; bassist, Mon-T; drummer, Don-E and vocals by Stikmon. These guys work off each other to kick out such tunes as "Bootie Bandits", "Tortillas Gone Bad" and "Kick the Ballistics". Their music is conceived by ideas stemming from real life experiences and what they derive from society and our communities. Their ambition is a result of the pursuit for individuality, the need for public awareness on issues and their libidos.

For all you Bay Area band supporters, be sure and check these guys out!

OPEN FORUM

Don't Hate Me Cuz I'm Beautiful

by Patrik Gilles

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I was walking back from a friend's house when, suddenly I was overcome by a great urge to drag this trucker out of his cab and beat the fuck out of him. Then I thought to myself: "I'm poor and shit but I'm not starving or anything and at least my neighbors seem to have a lot of cool shit." Secondly, I'm kind of a pussy. Not like moist or anything, but I only weigh about 140 pounds and most truckers could knock my shit out with a dirty look. And lastly, I'm Caucasian, and there really isn't anybody out there suppressing me because, well you know, bein' white is really bitchin' and there is a special white fairy that flies around at night and drops off lots of money to everyone who's lily white skin matches hers.

Surely you realize that I'm jesting. I personally believe that it wasn't white men who put those people in L.A., and thousands others like them, in a perpetual state of abject poverty, but instead, it was a bunch of *rich* men, many of whom happen to be varying shades of white, tan and black.

What is going on here is that people are sliding back into the most obvious form of identifying each other - by the color of our outermost layer. I much prefer the new and improved way of delineating the hate capacity of someone by approaching them and asking them questions before I, in turn, begin to hate their guts. I ask them: "Do you hate Japanese people and if your life depended on it, could you tell the difference between a Korean, a Japanese, or someone from China because God knows they sure can?" This is important, because our eyes can be fooled. Just ask that dingbat David Copperfield who makes elephants fly through the Great Wall of China. That's why you owe it to yourself to really know why you hate someone, that someone who may someday save your life if those rich people in Washington D.C. decide to wage another war so the gasoline guzzlin' Indianapolis 500 can go on as scheduled. I'm not bitchin' or anything, but wanton hate and the violence that usually follows will only get people hurt and oft-times, the idiot who started it. Don't get me wrong, I have lots of hate. For instance, I hate every cop that ever pulled me over. I hate the fact that I didn't have the balls to ask him

what the rest of Village People went on to do with their lives. I hate women who hate men because they're men and vice versa. I hate all kinds of shit. I might even hate you if we met and didn't hit it off. You might hate me. We simply have to use our hate to educate ourselves and others or just piss it away 'till another day.

Chances are, I wouldn't hate you and I sure hope you wouldn't hate me because, like I said, I'd hate to have to scratch your eyes out and pull your hair. This ain't no Peace lovin', 1960's acid droppin', Mister Rodger's hand puppet wavin', baby Harp seal savin' plea to make the world a better place. I just don't wanna get my ass kicked by one of you Tobacco chewin', Monster truck maneuverin', canine beatin', girlfriend cheatin' sons-a-bitches who like to hate cause it makes your dick hard. If you want a woody, subscribe to Victoria's Secret and stay the fuck out of my shit. WOW, that felt great!!!

Don't Rape My Wallet

by Scooter

.....

Are you sick and tired of getting reamed when you buy tickets to see big name acts? What about spending anywhere from \$5 - \$10 to park in an unsecured parking lot? And where do these people get off charging \$30 for a concert-T? Yeah right, we've all got money burning a hole in our pockets or so these people think!

I don't know about you, but right now times are a little tough financially and when your main means of escaping reality for a few hours begins to cost half a month's rent what's a rocker to do? I'll tell you what you do. This is an open invitation to write us with your gripes and moans about being overcharged for entertainment. Now, don't get me wrong. I'll be the first to admit we all have to make a buck. But you can't tell me that with the income from prices of concessions, ad space sales, and other miscellaneous monies that they need to rape our wallets to just break even! We need some answers and I invite you to correct me if I'm wrong but I don't know that we're quite getting our money's worth! Let's hear what you have to say. If there's gonna be a change it's got to start with us, the voting, free-speaking public.

REEL REVIEWS

by Claudia Swanson

••••• Suicide Saloon •••••

This band is on the same label as The Flesh Weapons. It's too bad they are not of the same caliber of music. For some reason, I picture this band looking like the Black Crowes. You know, a gothic kind of look. I really don't know why. They don't really sound like that. They sound more like everyone else seems to these days. That Nirvana-like "grunge" sound. Except for the vocals. The vocals on this tape are a bit flat. Also, some of the high notes probably shouldn't be attempted. As for the songs themselves, there are seven songs on this and only two caught my ear. The first song, "Mother Welfare." Very cool. The second song, "No Scissors" only struck me because of the music. The lyrics are pretty banal. "Let it grow, let your hair grow." Please! The music is very good though. This band needs some vocal training and some better lyrics and they would be a lot better.

Skitzo. Doesn't the name say it all. This is one of the worst things I have ever listened to. I have no respect for a band who's claim to fame is a singer who vomits green goop all over the place. This album is just what I expected. Actually, I hoped it would be different. It started out with no vocals and it sounded pretty good. Then it began. The noise, the screeching. The complete lack of anything slightly resembling talent. I saw this band several years ago and they have not improved even a hair. I understand they have a very big following over in Germany. I can't see why. Maybe for the same reasons why people like Gwar. Nobody really listens to them because they sound terrible. But they are gross and disgusting and so people like them. At least Gwar is funny and entertaining. I have a hard time imagining being entertained by Skitzo.

••••• Majesty •••••

Majesty is the new band consisting of former Angel Heart members Mikl Andrews, Bud Noyes and John Guerra. Also present are former Boys Town vocalist Chris Michaels and former Wild Child drummer Tony Providence. This musical offering has three songs on it. The first song "Second Time Around" is very catch. It has very good harmonies. Next comes the mandatory ballad "Here's To You." This is your typical love ballad. I'm sure girls will love it. The third song is "Runaway." This is also very typical. This whole tape smacks of your stereotypical Bon Jovi-type band. This reminds me somewhat of a band I reviewed last issue, Attitude. The main difference here is the vocals. Chris Michaels sounds pretty good when he's not trying to hit those high notes. Some of those notes are physically painful to listen to. Basically, this is your standard average commercial rock tape. Nothing more, nothing less.

••••• Skitzo •••••

Testament (cont. from p. 5)

grows on you. The album opens up with "Electric Crown" (the first single), it's a great song with a good hook to it. Next is "So Many Lies" an excellent tune with a Led Zeppelin feel to it. This is followed by another strong piece entitled "Let go of My World". The title track of the album ("The Ritual") is a ballad, and slows the pace down a little. The song "Return to Serenity" is Testament at its best and will be a single and video in the near future. Another first for Testament is that Chuck used a professional song writer, Dell James, to help co-write 8 of the 10 songs on the album. Dell has also written for Guns 'N Roses and he gives Testament a fresh new style, that goes along well with the new music. "The Ritual" is dedicated to the memory of Adam Sierra who was a devoted fan of the band. Through an organization named "Make a Wish Foundation Inc.", his wish was to meet Testament. They then flew him out and played a benefit concert for him in Petaluma.

So there you have it, after patiently waiting for the new record, it was worth the wait! Be sure to look for Testament on tour beginning in June, they plan on performing the Rites in your area very soon.

Contempt (cont. from p. 5)

I think this is a band most people can appreciate. They bring their music together in a way which people can understand. Contempt is a band that has yet to expose itself to the rest of the country. But, when they do, I promise they will leave an impression on everyone. "We are headed towards something bigger than what we've been doing." And that's a promise.

Defiance (cont. from p. 5)

Steve's vocals on this album are excellent. He has a powerful voice that everyone has come to respect, and you can actually understand what he is singing about. His lyrics are different and intelligent and that's a plus. Doug Harrington and Jim Adams are the guitarists and have never played better. Their rhythms are tight and have perfect tones. Their leads complement one another and are tasty, you can tell they have been playing together for years. Mike Kaufmann plays bass guitar and turns in a solid effort. Matt Vanderende is the drummer, he is a big reason why this album will do extremely well. His timing, drum fills, and double bass kicks are the foundation, and I was really impressed.

The music on this record is strong song after song. "Beyond Recognition" kicks off with "The Killing Floor" and right from the start you know that good things are to come. Then "Step Back" follows with a great groove, with classic Defiance guitar rhythms that crunch. Next is "Perfect Nothing" which is one of my personal favorites. This song showcases Steve's versatile singing style, and is very moody. "Inside Looking Out" is arranged brilliantly while staying heavy. Other tunes worth mentioning are "Dead Silence" and "The Chosen".

All in all, I must say this record is a must for your Metal Collection. So in a time when everyone's watching their pocket books, buy it, I know you won't be disappointed. I am expecting great accomplishments from this band in the future.

T-Ride (cont. from p. 3)

doing a lot of radio interviews and people have been saying they've fought and fought because they had to talk to us. One guy came up to me all bloodshot and said "dude, I've listened to your record 40 times in a row and I just think you guys are incredible!". To me that was extraordinary 'cause we play the music we like!

Q: Tell me about your video.

J: The video premiered May 30th on MTV's Headbangers' Ball. We recorded it with the director who did the Nirvana video and also an Ozzy video.

Q: What about tour dates?

J: We'll be doing a lot of California club tours for a long time... maybe the midwest through November and by that time Joe Satriani has offered us an opening spot on his tour to Australia and Europe.

Q: Give me a quick rundown on your musical backgrounds.

J: I don't know how long Dan's been playing the bass... he does what he does really well. Eric has been playing the drums since he was 9 and also been recording for himself since he was a little kid. It's always been a passion for him. I've been playing the guitar since 14. I started lessons with Joe Satriani at 14 for two and a half years. Prior to that I played classical piano since I was about 4.

Q: Describe your most memorable show.

J: I played a show with Joe Satriani at the Cow Palace. I was filling in 'cause he had all his equipment stolen so I doubled on rhythm guitar for him. Also our show we played for our record company. Our gigs have been pretty uneventful for the most part.

Well, uneventful or not, T-Ride's music is definitely something to be reckoned with. lend them your ears... you'll be amazed!

On the Cutting Edge

BOOTY PRINT

by Robert Daku Warren

A very serious project by three well-respected Bay Area thrashers has just recently emerged with the name "Booty Print." Based out of Oakland, we have John Menor on the funk-ed-up rockin' bass, Sean Sutton on the screaming guitar and Rob (Rachet) Rampy on the mean drums. These guys have just released a four-song demo called "Ass Gasket 92". Their style of playing covers a wide range from Stevie Ray Vaughn to Primus to Motorhead. They got that killer rock-n-roll Trash Metal Funk Groove goin' which is always nice to start the pit going!

How in the world did these guys form? Well, I did some digging with Mr. Menor, who plays bass from D.R.I., and he reveals that D.R.I. have not broken up. John wanted to start a different new project while the boys are on vacation. All he did was spread the word and people came flocking. But no one was serious enough to do what he was into. That's when Mr. Rampy came into the picture. He's been jamming with John for the past two years in D.R.I. Rachet Rampy's dream came true for him when he got to join D.R.I. Ever since he was a kid, it was his goal to play with D.R.I. John could not find a guitarist whose head wasn't on straight enough. Then he ran into his good friend Mr. Sutton who's from Attitude Adjustment who just recently released a 13-song LP called "Out of Hand." A.A. is on a little vacation also. So, Sean added that extra flavor to the bands trip. These boys are full of surprises. They are adding a fourth player. His name is M.C. Gerbo and he does look like baby food. Gerbo is in the Hip Hop scene playing with a band called Missing Link which is coming out on Mouse Records. The Rap Artist will be helping out on their vocals, I tell ya.

What a cool but goofy way to come up with their name. Two nights before their first gig, B.P. and friends were stressing and thinking of a name. They went through tons of them, then all of a sudden, Chris Skontos of Attitude Adjustment got off the hood of a car and there was this steaming booty print on the car so everybody laughed and all agreed on B.P. Thanks Chris!

LOUDER THAN GOD

by Jean Picache

I've known about this exceptional band for a while now and I don't know why it's taken me this long to do a write-up on them. Specially, if you consider that I liked and heard their demo tape around 8 months ago, I saw them open for the Organization last December and thought they sounded great, and they actually live directly across the street from where I work! Well, here I am rectifying the situation and I was glad to find out that within that time, this band has progressed in several different directions. I'm sure you'll see and hear more from Louder Than God in the future.

As for the present, the band has a new bass player, Billy Lee, who used to be in the thrash band Morticious. Billy recounts how he hooked up with singer/guitarist Steve Pickering and drummer Ernie Hawkins: "We practiced in the same place. Which was really cool coz when I quit that band all I had to do was show up on a different day." LTG was Steve's brainchild. He took the name from an old album by an obscure band called Blue Cheer. He maintains that he's "not trying to be sacrilegious or anything. It just caught my eye."

I can't compare LTG's sound with another band. Their music explores new dimensions, meshing both alternative and heavy metal influences, and coming up with something entirely fresh and innovative. Their songs are hypnotic and leave a lasting impression. Steve expresses that they're a "heavy band with a kind of a crunch. Everything we play has kind of a groove you can almost dance to." "But it's not funky. We're not into the funk thing," Ernie qualifies.

They have a second demo ready for release and Ernie asserts that their first was "a little bit faster and a little bit more metal" while the new one is "a lot more alternative." They also have a video in the works. This came about after BAM printed a favorable review on their first demo and the video production class of Foothill College approached them with the intent of making a music video.

With their upcoming demo and their video in hand, they plan on intensive promoting with the hopes of getting an independent, and maybe an even bigger, label interest in their band. With this band, I'm sure it's only a matter of time.

LITTLE CAESAR

(cont. from p. 15)

decided when we go out to support our record, we wanted to be really focused and a big family and totally committed."

If you haven't got a chance to check out the album, It's full of R&B and Motown, like a Ray Charles meets Aerosmith. Two of Ron's favorite songs are "Pray for Me" and "The Ballad of Johnny". "Pray for Me is about people who judge others by the way they look or judge them because they don't understand them. The Ballad of Johnny is about a guy going through a really fxxxed life and getting detached from himself and others around him, thinking of killing himself and at the end realizing it isn't that bad. It's never bad." L.C. is more than just an average rock band. They have a clue. "We try to preach non-conformity and rebellion but on the same hand being intelligent and responsible. It's like understanding why you're being rebellious but don't just be rebellious for rebelliousness sake.

This time around the guys got a chance to be more involved with the production of their album. They had the opportunity to express their style. "We got to make sure the record was the record we wanted. We had an active hand in developing our sound and how it was gonna come across."

As for videos, L.C. has already got one planned. "The first will be for Stand Up. We're gonna be filming a bunch of shows and we're gonna edit them together. We're gonna try and take a real street level approach. None of this, let's make this band platinum in three hours."

Now that you've got an inside look you can see these boyz have got it together. On one last note, I asked Ron what he considers success and he replied with "Being able to do what you love to support yourself - basically being happy and enjoy life. If you could do that, your successful. It's simple."

WHITE ZOMBIE

(cont. from p. 15)

Q: Speaking of Satanism, I heard you had a run in with the 700 Club. What's that all about?

A: We were in Washington, D.C. and these people came up with all these video cameras and said they were from some local rock video show and wanted

to film us. So we said, "Ok, film it." Well, they filmed and interviewed all of these kids in this club but, of course, they picked out the drunkest kids to interview. I mean kids drunk out of their mind. Well, one day, we were checking out some TV and somebody told us to flip to 700 Club and there we were. We were on along with all the footage they had filmed. We were part of this week's long special about Satanic music destroying America. I was like "oh my God!" It was totally funny how they pieced it together.

Q: Not many people know you have a female bass player in your band. What's it like touring with her?

A: She's a pain in the ass. She always makes us late. She's never ready (laughing). Nah, just kidding. It's all right.

Q: Do you have any plans for any videos?

A: Yah, well, we got one out "Thunderkiss 65" and we're gonna be doing one for "Black Sunshine."

Q: So, who are you going to be touring with?

A: Pantera. We'll be with them for awhile and then maybe on the road with Danzig or someone else. We'll see what happens.

Q: After that?

A: I'm gonna hop on that Go Go's Reunion tour. (Laughs)

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BEYOND THE BAY

LITTLE CAESAR

"Pizza Pizza Not!"
by Michele Bohannon

This has got to be the most underrated and unacknowledged band ever! This band is happening people! I recently got a chance to talk to Ron Young (vocals) and now I'm sharing with you what I found out about the people behind the music.

Five years ago when Little Caesar was forming, they were looking for a name. "When we picked the name, there was no pizza chain in California named "Little Caesar's" so we had no idea that it was all over the rest of the country. I just started going through old film books and motorcycle books and I came across this gangster film from the 30's with Edward G. Robbins and we thought it was really cool. So as the records were being pressed and printed we were flipping through the TV and all of a sudden we saw this commercial, "Get two pizzas for the price of one at Little Caesar's". We were all sitting going nooooooo!!!"

Recently L.C. has gone through a couple lineup changes. First, Apache: "He couldn't deal with the b.s. Just his whole approach on what he'd do and wouldn't do to support the record." He was then replaced by a long-time buddy Earl Slick. Second, Tom Morris: "He basically did his tracks on the album and left. He got more and more disconnected and involved in his personal life." He was replaced with Marc Danzeison. "We just

(cont. on p. 14)



WHITE ZOMBIE

by Michele Bohannon

Who is White Zombie? At first glance, you could mistake him for a derange psycho man. I mean between his dread-locked mane and his tattooed body you never know what to expect. But, when it comes right down to it, Rob Zombie, lead vocalist of White Zombie, is just as or probably more sane than the rest of us.

Q: Your sound is so unique. Who are some of your influences?

A: The Cramps and Black Sabbath. We just took the two bands we liked the most and put them together.

Q: I know you write all of the lyrics. Tell me how you write?

A: Well, I make a ton of coffee and sit in front of the T.V. and write stuff as I watch.

Q: So, how long did it take to record all of this?

A: We recorded for six weeks in a studio that went bankrupt. Andy Wallace produced it.

Q: Did any of you have an input on the production?

A: Yeah! We sat through the whole thing and yelled at each other. You could say we sort of co-produced it. We just didn't take any credit for it.

Q: How would you describe this album?

A: A pinball machine from hell.

Q: What's your favorite song off the album?

A: Black Sunshine. Because it was a good excuse to meet Iggy Pop.

Q: Your new album titled, "La Sexorcisto Devil Music Vol. I" kind of leads people to believe you're Satanic. Are you?

A: I never know how to answer that. It's one-half serious and one-half not. It's serious because it's what we're all into. What we're all about.

(cont. on p. 14)

