

**PUNK, HARDCORE AND METAL - THE SCUM ALSO RISES**

Vol. 3 - #1 Issue 13 - December/January 2006-07 Absolutely FREE

# ABSOLUTE UNDERGROUND

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**AN A NEW BAND!**

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**WHYTE HOTT**

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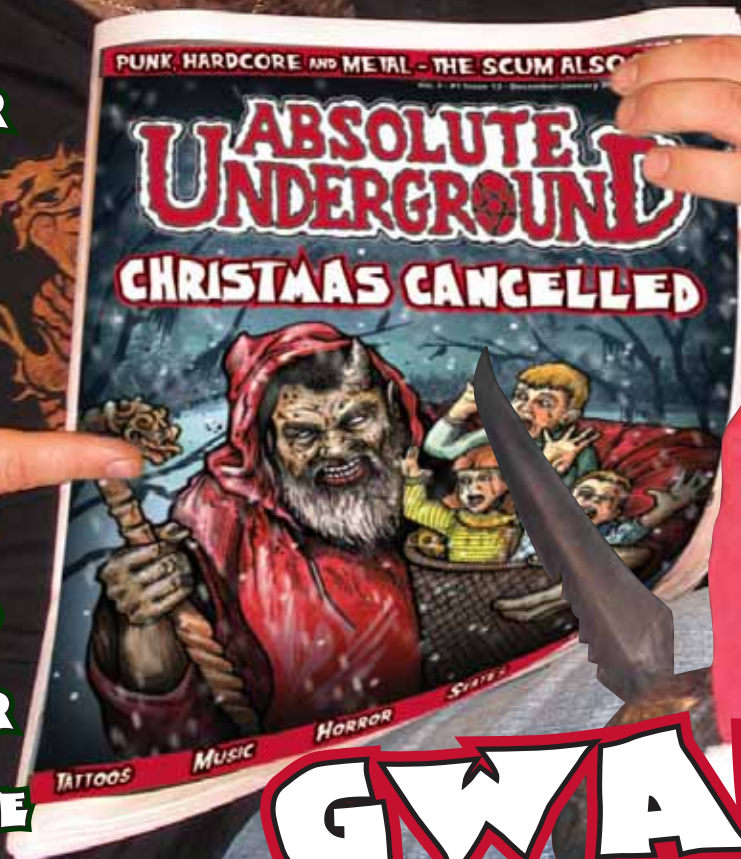
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**SCORCHED BANDITOS**

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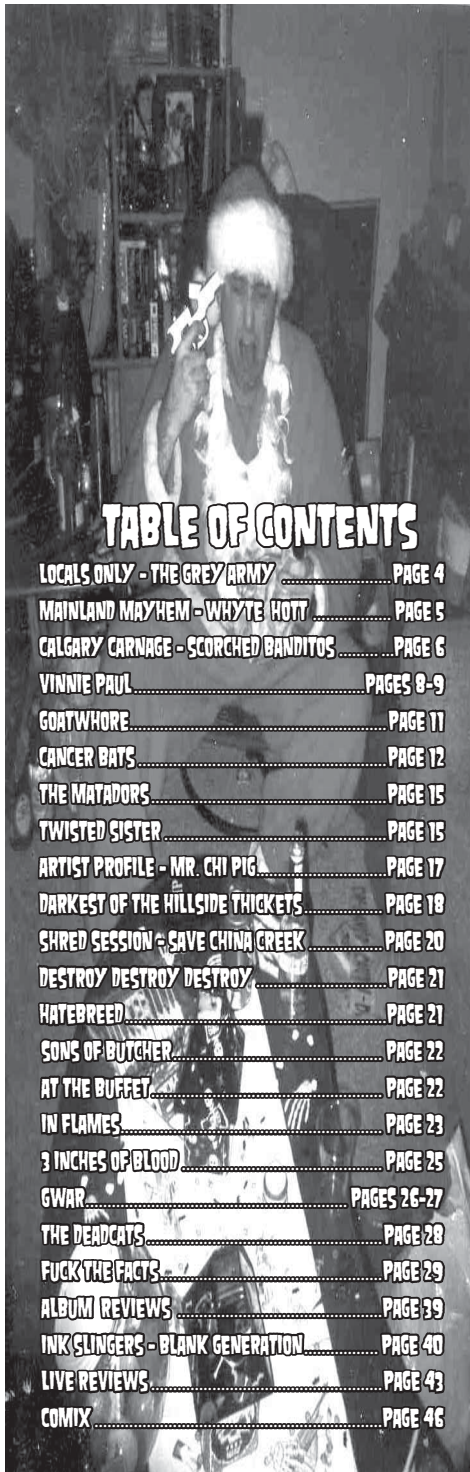
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# THE GREY ARMY

# LOCALS ONLY



## Screaming 'Til They're Red In The Face or Drinking 'Til They Fall On Their Face

by Ira "Unknown Soldier" Hunter

From the first time The Grey Army took the stage, you could tell they weren't trying to copy anybody else's style, and they sure as fuck didn't care what anybody else thought about them. They literally blew me away with their tightness and sheer vocal brutality.

One day waiting for the bus to a Rebel Spell show in Vancouver I did an impromptu mini-interview with Dan their lead singer. He described The Grey Army as "A bunch of dudes playing punk rock and doing things that we love." Dan was lugging a shit-load of beer with him on the ferry. I asked him how many beers he'd had already (it was about 5pm) he quickly answered "Sixteen! The goal for today is to get drunk, rowdy, and fuck shit up." I noticed he still had another fifteen pack

of Wildcat left so I inquired if thirty beers was his legal limit, Dan spat back "Legal Limit? What are you a fucking cop?"

When asked if his lyrics were important to him, Dan suddenly became passionate "It totally matters about the words. I spend so much fucking time over-analyzing my words and thoughts. We deal with a lot of social and political issues and a lot of injustice and vengeance. Stuff that pisses you off and you write because you're frustrated, bored, and angry." When I mentioned the idea of overthrowing the government and starting some sort of coup on the Parliament Building in Victoria, Dan had to think for a second before responding "It depends, it would have to be a little bit more strategic than that or maybe not. Maybe we should. That was your idea. Fuck, this guy is a cop! Quit putting ideas in my head, motherfucker!"

Yeah Dan, I'm totally a member of CSIS.

The following interview was done with some of the more sober members of the band at a later date...

**AU: How long has the Grey Army been killing it in Victoria?**

**Grey Army:** Since 2003

**AU: How did the band get started?**

**Grey Army:** Originally, Austin, Will, and Dan all worked at the Red Lion Cold Beer and Wine store back before it was fire bombed by the triads. Toshi came to Victoria with North Korea's Commonwealth Games Team in '94 and managed to obtain refugee status (until he was recently deported back to the motherland). Anyway those four jammed for a while pending the arrival of Bruce (who is from a small fishing village somewhere in New Brunswick) in 2002. That is when everything really started to come together. Dave (ex-tripwire/shortfall) picked up the drums after that whole incident with Toshi getting deported.

**AU: What's the meaning behind the band's name?**

**Grey Army:** What the fuck is this? Are you a fucking Narc? Australia's post retirement workforce.

**AU: Would you say you are a political band?**

**Grey Army:** Definitely. Dan has a real passion for politics and hopes one day to be mayor of Saanich.

**AU: What are some of the most memorable shows you've played?**

**Grey Army:** Opening for the Subhumans and D.O.A. Any show with the Keg Killers is always thrashtastic. Playing to an empty Asfalt on a Monday night with Blood Nasty and getting paid \$5.

**AU: Where did you record your last album? Any other recordings in the works?**

**Grey Army:** At Breakwater Studios with Neil Cook Dahlin. Totally awesome experience... totally awesome dude. We are going to attempt a self-recorded EP in December.

**AU: Influences?**

**Grey Army:** Roger Whitaker and anything that Bob Rock has been involved with.

**AU: Your singer Dan is quite an amazing character, he can drink 30 beers and then still tear the heads off an unsuspecting crowd. How does he do it?**

**Grey Army:** Lots of practice. Some nights he easily consumes more beer than the rest of the band put together. But that is not to say that Dan doesn't have a sensitive side too... he always saves the dregs for his girlfriend.

**AU: What are most of your songs about?**

**Grey Army:** Gay rights, portaging, Amazonian drug rituals, octogenarians, cob ovens, and feline reanimation.

**AU: What's the bands ultimate goal?**

**Grey Army:** To raise awareness of the issues surrounding the senior citizens community of Victoria. Like getting the sidewalks widened for their scooters and maybe getting some more hanging flower baskets put up around town. Opening for nomeansno would also be awesome.

**AU: Who are some of the local bands that you guys are stoked on?**

**Grey Army:** AK47, Blood Nasty, the Keg Killers, One Drop, Leper, The Pricks, Goatboy, Render Useless, nomeansno, Scanners, Black Kronsdat and maybe Jonas.

**AU: Plans for the Future?**

**Grey Army:** Are plans are pretty open...

**AU: Parting words?**

**Grey Army:** Burn sheep and fuck goats. check out some tunes at [www.myspace.com/thegreyarmy](http://www.myspace.com/thegreyarmy)

## UPCOMING SHOWS

WED DEC. 6 ROCK ROCK ROCK N ROLL MARKET DJ CALIGARI, THE REMANES, THE SWITCHBLADE VALENTINES

THU DEC. 7 GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS

FRI DEC. 8 SELF RIGHTEOUS RECORDS RECORDING ARTISTS THE LONESOME VALLEY SINGERS W/ THE VACANT LOT (FEAT. MEMBERS OF ONE LESS FELON & THE GRUFF) THE LONESOME VALLEY SINGERS, CLAY GEORGE, THE VACANT LOT

SAT DEC. 9 YOKO CASIONOS, ELIAS

SAT DEC. 16 THE DEADCATS, THE MAGS, HANK ANGEL AND HIS ISLAND DEVILS

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# MAINLAND MAYHEM



## whyte hott



by Emily Kendy

The first time I saw Whyte Hott was at the Cobalt, where I was expecting Onslaught. Apparently three of the four members of Onslaught are now in Whyte Hott. I was hammered and despite this – or because of it – I thought they killed. Fire breathing! Flaming drum sticks! Fuck-You guitar solos!

I met three of the five band members on a Saturday at Pub 340. Russia, drums, was the first to arrive and we had an awkward conversation that had to do with me saying something along the lines of, “Oh, HAHHAHA, I thought you said high school...haha...oh...ahem.” Then Johnny Overdose arrived (two of the three members of Onslaught who are in the band), followed by singer Myke Hott and his girlfriend, Roberta, who brought with her a story about a bush.

### Sex Metal 101

**Myke:** Can I ask you a question? How did you find us?

**AU:** I saw you at the Cobalt. It was a good show but we got a little nervous when you started hanging off the pipes...

**Myke:** Well what were they gonna fall apart and spray water everywhere?

**AU:** Or something.

**Johnny Overdose:** It's the Cobalt! [Laughter] Spraying shit everywhere...

### Introduce the person on your right.

**Johnny Overdose** (about Russia): He's a motherfucker. Literally. His preference is late 30s. Yeah, and actually if you get the new Whyte Hott single called “Whyte Russia With Love” it's a little tune that goes [everyone joins in]: “Whyte Russia with love on a daughter's chest, Whyte Russia with love on a momma's breast!” Yeah it happened. A mother and a daughter.

**Russia:** It happened. They're both from Surrey too.

**Johnny Overdose:** He's also a fantastic drummer for his age. And for other ages... he blows a lot of guys out of the water who've been playing for nine or ten years. He likes to rock. And he likes to rock the moms.

**Russia:** The mom's actually coming to our next show...

**Myke:** How long until the daughter can come to a show?

**Russia:** Oh, she can come to a show, we can get her an ID...

**Okay, Russia you can...erm...introduce...uh, Roberta?**

**Russia:** Uh...Roberta...I've met you a few times. All I know is that Roberta likes to do Myke. That's all I know.

**Okay, er, Roberta, want to tell us about Myke?**

**Roberta:** I've got to talk about Myke?

**Johnny Overdose:** It better be sleazy.

**Roberta:** That's how I know Myke. Today I surprised him and we went into a bush...

**I don't really know him musically...**

**Johnny Overdose:** Talk about his hair.

**Roberta:** I love his hair...

**Johnny Overdose:** What about his soul patch?

**Roberta:** It's sexy...

**Okay alright, that's good. Myke, your thoughts on Johnny Overdose?**

**Myke:** My first impression of this guy was after Onslaught and I was like, “Fuck we saw this wicked band Onslaught and they're like high school kids, man. And this guitarist (Johnny Overdose) was making these angry baby faces during his guitar

solos. You don't expect some baby-faced dude to play mean music.

What about Foxx (bass) and Conan the Barbarian (guitar)?

**Myke:** I knew Foxx from before and I knew she was a wicked, wicked bass player so we got her on there...

**Johnny Overdose:** Conan is Whyte Hott.

**Myke:** Conan the Barbarian is out of this world.

**Was your plan from the start to make a crazy crusty-glam metal rock band?**

**Johnny Overdose:** The first time I saw Whyte Hott I thought holy shit. These guys have shredding guitar solos, fucking fire breathing, fucking piggy back shoulder rides and everything in a half hour set.

**Myke:** It was always about combining the audio and visual. Everybody wants to make good music that's what everybody is after. A lot of people don't even realize how fucking important the stage show is, right? I mean, that's your main audience and not everyone in the audience is a musician. It's 50 per cent visual and 50 per cent audio. That's the double pleasure -

**Johnny Overdose:** We want to give double pleasure.

**Have you ever had a fire mishap on stage?**

**Myke:** Oh shit yeah. Yeah. So I ran out of Kerosene which is the fire breathing standard because that's the safest thing. It doesn't really get into your blood stream or anything like that but I was out one night and we went to a bunch of gas stations and Safeway but they were out of Kerosene, so the only thing we could find was Zip Fire starter fluid and this has like petroleum in it, the next day I looked it up, but at the time I tested it outside and the flame was huge and I was like, “Wow, fuck I'm using this!” but all night I was feeling sort of dizzy and shit, how you feel after Kerosene but it goes away. When I woke up I looked it up and found out it goes into your blood stream, can cause chemical burns and be fatal. I went to the hospital a couple days later and I had burns. They said if it was more than that I could have died.

**Crazy.**

**Myke:** We tried one thing too with these rocks that were supposed to make blue and green colored flames. Those didn't really work out so well but the rocks were still glued on there (drumsticks) and I did the same kerosene thing and the rocks were flying in his face.

**Russia:** They went in my mouth and I was sick for two days.

**Myke:** Yeah, I learned from this Brazilian circus trainer and she taught me how to breathe fire but she's never heard of colored flame so I don't think it's meant to be...

**Roberta:** You need to make friends with a Chemist.

**If your music was a vehicle...**

**Johnny Overdose:** '81 Trans Am.

**Russia:** With a nice gold bird on the front.

**Myke:** [Laughs and something something about Bon Jovi]. Okay. You've obviously thought about this...

**Johnny Overdose:** I've thought about this since I heard, fucking the first Skid Row album...

**What's your idea of bad music?**

**Johnny Overdose:** Music, is music. You're going to learn something from it, even if it's learn not to do that or learn to do that you're gonna learn something. So I'm not going to go out and say “oh

yeah fuck this music.”

**Russia:** Even with us, I mean we've got long hair and everything -

**Johnny Overdose:** You should see how many people hate shit like this...they're like, “It's not 1986 anymore!”

**Russia:** Like, “Where's your fucking lipstick, drag queen, why don't you go to Celebrities?”

**Myke:** Yeah, but the funniest thing about Celebrities or somewhere like that, they're way more like Metrosexual crew cut dudes. We just look like chics, and I'd way rather look like a chic than a Metrosexual dude.

**Heroes?**

**Johnny Overdose:** Ian Kilpatrick and Sebastian Bach.

**Russia:** Nick Manning the pornstar and Tommy Lee.

**Myke:** Fuckin' Freddie Mercury! The unspoken hero though man, Jim Gillette (Nitro) the highest voice you will ever hear...

Darkness.

**Myke:** I love The Darkness. They're just straight ahead rock and roll. It's a real pity that Justin Hawkins left.

**Johnny Overdose:** I found a Darkness shirt at Value Village the other day. And a Kiss shirt.

**Russia:** And you stole both of them.

**Johnny Overdose:** Well I did, but only because I had to buy the headband, and I only had enough for one thing.

**Give me another lyric to finish off the interview.**

**Russia:** The new one, Bangkok Girl.

**Myke:** Oooooooh yeah, yeah...uh...wait how does it go again?

**Johnny Overdose:** Suck the cash through the money straw, direct deposit in the savings between your jaw.

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# CALGARY CARNAGE



## SCORCHED BANDITOS

**Are the worms on the bottom of everyone's bottle**

By Ryan Dyer

Remember that mexican band in From Dusk Till Dawn who play while naked vampire chicks are getting blasted by Tom Savini's metallic cock gun - bloody vampiric carnage all around the bar, playing human torsos as instruments! This band, (without the human torsos

- yet) is the Scorched Banditos from Calgary. They are a mexican fiesta spiked with a whole bottle of REDRUM, with that worm thing on the bottom of the bottle simply sponged with the dirty drink.

For I'm not sure how many years, Calgary has suffered from bands not really caring about their visual and thematic impact on both fans and newcomers of their music alike. The Scorched Banditos, it is safe to say, take great pride in their conceptual presentation. You get the maracca testicle shaking groove of Hache Bandito crooning like banshee version of Glenn Danzig, with his undead duo of Felix and Hector giving the (hunched) back bone to the songs, and you

may also get stiltwalkers, corpse torsos with sombreros on, and dead nurses giving oral examinations while you drink.

The Banditos have been making waves recently, playing the Tattoo Convention, our own Absolute Underground benefit show, and the biggest fashion/fetish party of the winter season, Demonika's XXXMAS Spectacular. The only way to go now for these cadavers is bottoms up! Check out a few of their tracks at [www.myspace.com/scorchedbanditos](http://www.myspace.com/scorchedbanditos) and make sure to catch them live, but a warning - do not wear too much hairspray, you never know who may be breathing a whiskey doused flame your way.



## We're Here To Stay

By Kristin Semchuk

**The Cal-ga-ry Beer Core**  
[kal-guh-ree beer kohr]  
n, A tight knit group of music loving, booze swilling, anti-elitist, unbiased humans.

The Calgary Beer Core (The CBC) is a vehicle for bands to play to an eager crowd, a crowd

that is truly appreciative of music and is just as much a part of it as the bands. The CBC is not one person but a group of people fixated on making the best of what we have got. Our scene was drowning, calling out for help; this is essentially how it all started. My band BDFM had our first show at this dive on 17th avenue. The promoter didn't show along with one of the bands leaving us to figure out this massive sound board with zero knowledge. Needless to say it sounded terrible and being green to boot just created a catastrophe. A negative string of events followed including being banned from many bars in the city due to misunderstandings and finally enough was enough. With limited venues on our side we embarked on a mission. A journey to ensure that non-stop misfortune would be eradicated in the Calgary music scene. It has grown to include support from all walks of creativity and we all live for this music. We have embarked on such projects as:

### Punk vs. Metal -

An ongoing bout between archenemies with the purpose of reducing prescribed animosity.

### Rock for Tits -

A breast cancer benefit dedicated to the memory of Joanne O'Brian that runs for the entire month of April. This coming year we will expand our efforts to include colorectal cancer donations (for my late grandmother) bringing the title to Rock for Tits and Ass



### Rock for Tots -

The entire month of November benefitting less fortunate children on Christmas.

### Rock for Vets -

As close to Remembrance Day as possible honoring and assisting the casualties of war, be they those who died, were injured or those who lost loved ones

### Calgary Beer Core Compilation -

An unveiling of the magnificent talent found in Calgary, should be available for purchase in February 2007

We are always happy to accommodate musicians worldwide who want to play in our fine city. All inquiries should be emailed to [bdm\\_band@hotmail.com](mailto:bdm_band@hotmail.com) to the attention of Mark or Kristin.

### The Calgary Beer Core bands (most can be found on my space):

Abortion Grenade  
BDFM  
Black Wednesdays  
Blind Assassins  
Broken Soldiers  
Conniving Cadavers  
Deadman's Hand  
Deadneck Fury  
Dog Faced Models  
Dry Fisted

Epi-Demic  
Ground Up  
Hail Damage  
Hateful Aggression  
Team Tard  
Identity Crisis  
Inventing the Wheel  
Johnny Incognito  
Nightmare Proportions  
OCS  
Seven Deadly Grins  
Slither in Exile

Gudenpist  
Tartan Hearts  
The Dabblers  
The Dueling Neef Kings  
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A promotional advertisement for Baggins shoes. The background features a woman wearing a Santa hat and holding a green Christmas ornament with 'Merry Christmas' written on it. To her right is a black Converse sneaker with a red skull pattern and the text 'CONVERSE ALL STAR'. The text is overlaid on a green and blue background.

# VINNIE PAUL DOES IT ALL

**PANTERA'S VINNIE PAUL IS BACK WITH HIS OWN LABEL,  
DIMEBAG'S HOME MOVIES, AND A NEW BAND!**

By Chad Persley

Photos Compliments Of Chad Lee

During the early 90's, rising up from the grunge and gangster rap, came a band that "topped the charts", re-wrote sales records and brought RESPECT back to the heavy metal genre. The band was Pantera. Ten years of kicking ass, a burned out lead singer and a new side project from the founding members one couldn't help but think Pantera would be back... someday. But two years ago in what stands out as Rock n' Roll's most horrific senseless murder brought those thoughts came to an mournful close.

At the outset of a six city Western Canada signing tour to pimp his Pearl signature snare, Absolute Underground was lucky enough to speak with Vincent Paul Abbott - brother and best friend of the late "Dimebag" Darryl Abbott and founding member of Pantera and Damageplan. We spent time with him at his Hotel Lobby, a Box Suite at a Calgary Hitmen hockey game, and at the Casino where he let us in on what he is up to with his record label, Big Vin Records, his new projects (Dimevision DVD & Rebel Meets Rebel, a release of recordings of himself, Dime, Pantera bassist Rex Brown and the outlaw of country music himself - David Allen Coe) and his new band HELL YEAH featuring members of Mudvayne and Nothingface.

**AU: So what's up? What's a day in the life of Vinnie Paul like these days?**

Vinnie Paul: Man it's been busy, busy, busy, it's been the best thing in the world for me and it's helped keep me sane to this point. I got to believe that I need to keep moving forward and I need to keep doing everything me and Dime always dreamed of doing, cause nobody would be as disappointed in me than Dime if I just fucking folded up shop and quit... and I felt like that for a long time... about eight months of miserable darkness.

Then it came to me that we had that record done (Rebel Meets Rebel), we were thrilled with it, we planned on putting it out soon as Damageplan was established, we just didn't want to confuse the fans anymore by just jumping the gun and throwing it out there. It was a record that Dime was really proud of, both of us were proud of, David was proud of it. It has some of Dime's very best guitar playing on there, and at about the same time that I decided to put that out, Rita - Dime's longtime girlfriend said we should do a Dimevision DVD, a tribute, something the fans would enjoy... and I thought it would be difficult at first, but when we started going through the footage it made me smile, it made me laugh, it just made me happy like he was still around. It was the first time I felt excited again and wanted to move forward. Then instead of dealing with a major label, going through Atlantic or some other label I have dealt with in the past, I said "fuck it" I am going to put it on my own fucking label, see what it's like on the other side of the fence and give it the personal touch that these things deserve. If I give it up to some other label and they don't give a fuck about it, it's just gonna end up in the trash and I didn't feel like these things were anything to be wasted. So that's why I started my own label and put em out, Dimevision is Gold in Canada and the United States, Rebel Meets Rebel is nearing 100,000 units which was my goal on that, so I am very happy about that right now.

**AU: Has Big Vin Records signed any bands yet? Someone established or up n' comers?**

Vinnie Paul: I have about five or six thousand demo tapes at my office... and I haven't heard what I am looking for. I am looking for something that sticks out like a sore thumb. I don't care if it is metal, rock or what it is, but it has got to be different. Sounds different,

looks different, smells different, IS different and that's what I am looking for.

**AU: So is this a call-out for the next big thing? People should send in their demos?**

Vinnie Paul: Oh yeah, fuck yeah man! All you got to do is go to my website [www.bigvinrecords.com](http://www.bigvinrecords.com) and there is an address to send them to or [www.myspace.com/bigvinrecords](http://www.myspace.com/bigvinrecords) and leave your music on there and I have people who listen to the stuff all the time.

I am doing more than just music... the first thing I am putting out is a comedian named The Chinaman and this guy is fucking gonna tear the world a new ass when people fucking see him, he is fucking hilarious. That ninja is crazy and that is all there is to it, that's all I am gonna tell you about him - he's good.

I am also doing a Christmas music release with my dad which is something I really

Rebel Meets Rebel are The Cowboys from Hell, Dimebag, Vinnie Paul and Rex Brown, formerly of Pantera as well as the Outlaw of Country Fucker! Music David Allen Coe



wanted to do for a long time, was work with my dad again. He just produced a Christmas record with this chick named Lisa Lane and it is a phenomenal Christmas record, but no one gives a fuck about Christmas records but I thought I would do him a favour and put it out on my label.

So those are my first three or four products on the label and hopefully I will find some band that just kicks fucking ass and I will be able to give them all the knowledge and stuff I learned along the way and try to get them where they want to get.

**AU: I watched the Dimevision DVD last night... was the footage all stuff you had seen before, like he showed it to you after he recorded it or was it all brand new to you?**

Vinnie Paul: A lot of it was all brand new to me. Dude, you know... I knew my brother well, I thought I knew him inside and out... but I didn't know about the firecrackers in the house dude. I would of kicked his ass if I would of known that shit - crack me the fuck up. But that was Dime, that's the thing that makes what happened to him so ironic and really that much more horrible to me is that he couldn't do anything to hurt himself while he was here. The fireworks, he never lost a finger, never put an eye out, he never got in a car wreck... the dude was fucking out of his mind half the time, he loved to fucking drink, play his guitar and do all that... it just doesn't make any sense.

(Drinks are here... thanks to Ruth Dorey, Vinnie's PR. Coordinator of West Coast Tour and "Krusher", Vinnie's traveling head of security

- crown / coke for me and vodka/soda for Vince.)

**AU: Is David Allen Coe playing the Rebel Meets Rebel stuff on his own?**

Vinnie Paul: He does... but in his own way, really country-fied. He's a fucking great dude, an obvious match when we met. Dime met him first, they had a great conversation and Dime gave him a Pantera DVD and later that night he was driving around on his bus and he threw the DVD in and it floored him. He said it was like discovering the Beatles to him, he had never even heard of Pantera and it blew him away and he called up Dime at like 3 in the morning and said (In Vinnie's best DAC impersonation) "Man, you dudes are the fucking outlaws of fucking heavy metal and I am the outlaw of country god damned music", so they had a great talk and before you

knew it they were talking about writing songs. So the next time he was in town he brought his bus over to Dime's house, we got drunk, got all nice and comfortable then we went into the basement and started jamming. This went on for like a 4 year period we would hook up when we had time, write a few songs then go back and tour hook up again then we had a full record. Other people have dabbled into this type of shit, like Metallica and Garth Brooks but we did the full meal deal, we made a record that was full of character, life, integrity, honesty, there was no record company, producers involved, no expectations, it was just four of us from totally different genre's in music and time periods in life getting in a room together and jamming. The result was really magical and it really comes through in the music.

**AU: So are you itching to get back on the Road?**

Vinnie Paul: Yup, I wish I could tell you exactly when. I have recorded a record with some guys, there are some rumors on the internet, it is a kick ass record, it will hit the street in March, it will be big, strong and I am looking forward to getting back on the road and kicking some ass.

**AU: Well the Rebel Meets Rebel would fit perfect for Stampede.**

Vinnie Paul: We are definitely looking at something like that. That would be a kick in the ass, you know they have more here than in Texas. I have learned this over

cowboys the years.

**But they are Wal-Mart cowboys.**

There are a lot of cowboys on this road.

**AU: What about the 2nd Damageplan album that was recorded but not released any plans for that?**

Vinnie Paul: Yeah, it's still there. It's the kind of material that would put us back on the map of where we wanted to go. The first Damageplan record we felt like we had to create another sound outside what we were known for with Pantera. We wanted to expand and not be pigeonholed into being balls out all the time. Dime changed his guitar sound, I changed the drum sound, we didn't want people to see it as Pantera with two other guys - that wasn't the point. The point was the other guys didn't want to do Pantera anymore, in particular Phillip and we had no other choice, here's me and Dime, two of the most revolutionary metal musicians out there - sitting at home doing nothing. We want to fucking jam, so that's why we put a new band together and our goal was a different band, different sound and keep kicking ass. After we toured with the first record we knew the fans really liked the aggressive stuff - that's what they are into, so the second record that's what we focused on. We wanted to make our "Vulgar Display of Power". For any band,

their second record is usually their best record, that's when the magic happens. So we got a lot of it recorded, but when the time is right I will dig it up and put it out but for right now I am happy those that are out (RMR & Dimevision), and I need to keep moving forward instead of moving backwards. There will be a time when it is right to put Damageplan out.

**AU: On the Dimevision, in early '84 where Pantera was a 3 piece, were you in cover band mode at that point?**

Vinnie Paul: Fuck yeah, that's where we started. We have always been honest, we were a cover band, the best cover band in the world. Three sets a night, we played the south-west circuit, sometimes 4 sets a night, we made a living, we paid for our sound and lights, our road crew, we all made \$125 a week and we played all our favourite songs. Black Sabbath, Judas Priest, Iron Maiden, Kiss, you name it.

**AU: But you would squeeze in a few of your own?**

Vinnie Paul: One day my dad, who is a musician and also owns a recording studio said "You guys are great, but will never go anywhere unless you write your own songs." But back then you couldn't play bars unless you did play covers. So we were the first band that was able to work in our own. We would play all the popular covers, the middle set would be our set, and the third set we would play all the really popular metal songs and bring

I am really close with Ludz, and me and Dime wrote a song for them that helped Dallas win the Stanley Cup. It was the day before the playoffs started and we were golfing, me Ludz, Brett Hull and Mike Modano. Ludz said they wanted a song to help get them pumped up before the game. I said man the game starts in 24 hours do you think I can do it? So I went home woke Dime up at like 5 in the afternoon banged out this song in a few hours, the next day I dropped it off in his mailbox at his house and didn't hear back, I called him all day but didn't hear anything back. Then I went to the game... and as soon as I went through the doors I heard my drums I was like fuck yeah and it was the biggest charge of my life.

When they won the cup, in Buffalo, Ludz gave me a call from the plane at like 3am and said we are bringing the cup to YOUR house. I called my buddy who manages the strip club in town told him to bring the girls and we had the official fucking Stanley Cup party at my house.

The last time Pantera played Edmonton we opened the show with the Dallas Stars song in the Oilers arena I was sure they were



Dimevision, a collection of Dimebag Darrell's personal home videos went Gold in Canada, he is missed by many



the house down. We would sell our shirts and records and we eventually went from playing three sets to one set of just our songs. That stuff was the real deal and people that know Pantera today never knew about our past but with Dimevision it gives them the chance to see it.

**AU: So there are more in the works?**

Vinnie Paul: At least threeeee (Dime's favourite number). Rita and Bobby Tongs just started working on #2, should be ready in the summer or fall of next year. The thing was with my brother, one of the most important things was to get things on film and capture the moment. His rule was to get things on film for a) he would get off on it and b) he knew other people would enjoy it, and it would make him happy. That was his thing, he loved to entertain the people.

**AU: Well you are in Canada and Hockey is the lifeblood of the nation. I heard you are a huge hockey fan, how did you get into it being from Texas of all places?**

Vinnie Paul: My first experience with hockey was as a little kid, 14 or 15 and we used to have the Dallas Blackhawks and the Fort Worth Red Wings. Minor league hockey, my dad took us to those games, like three bucks a ticket, we enjoyed it, but then they left.

Then the Stars came to Dallas. I never went or anything but heard a lot of hoopla about it. So one night I was in a brand new fuckin strip club - of course, go figure - Craig Ludwig and Richard Matvichuk were in there. I met them, I was with Jerry Cantrell too and Ludz was the coolest fucking guy I ever met in my life. Athletes usually have these attitudes especially football and baseball players but hockey players in general are the coolest people alive. I don't know if its cause they are Canadian or just humble - I have only met one or two hockey players who were rotten - its just like me and you sitting here talking. So they invited me to one of their games and I was all over it and I haven't paid for a ticket in Dallas since then.

gonna boo us with the Dallas/Edmonton rivalry so intense but they cheered us, it was cool.

**AU: So what do you like about coming to Canada?**

Vinnie Paul: The people really fucking friendly, really genuine. This time of year I like the weather but there is no snow. I get here today and it is the same temperature as Dallas.

Another thing I like about Canada is that they were the first place to really embrace Damageplan. We did Ok in the States but once we got up here for all our shows, the fans were kick fucking ass, they were into it, they understood what me and Dime were doing what we had to do - we would of done Pantera for fucking ever, that was our goal, our dream, our baby, but Phil just lost the course and that was all there was to it.

**AU: I was at two of the last Pantera shows, in Vancouver with Slayer and Static X, the I flew back to Calgary and caught you guys again ... the best part was that huge metal Pantera logo with the fire coming out of it.**

Vinnie Paul: That was a very expensive item to haul around, we didn't make a penny on that tour, but it was awesome and that was all that mattered. We still have that thing, it's in a warehouse somewhere in Los Angeles, haha.

**AU: Phil was saying on stage that those shows were being filmed for another Pantera video. Are those still coming down the pipe?**

Vinnie Paul: There may be another video from Pantera, there is plenty of footage there. I know I have interest from Atlantic to put one out, I know the fans would be into it so we'll see. But like I said I am glad that these others are out and I am glad I can start living again and move forward.

www.bigvinrecords.com      www.rebelmeetsrebel.com

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Calgary, AB, Mothers Music



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# GOATWHORE

Cursed Existence An interview with Vocalist Ben Falgoust



By Ira "Hellborn" Hunter

Intro by Erik Lindholm

New Orleans, Louisiana's Goatwhore is nasty, old school black/thrash metal with an impressive pedigree. Formed by ex Acid Bath/Crowbar guitarist Sammy Duet and Zak Nolan in 1996, Goatwhore was a jamming experiment at black metal that took off with a vengeance. When Acid Bath disbanded in 1997 they put full energy into establishing Goatwhore as a venue-wrecking Satanic presence.

Channelling Bathory, Celtic Frost and Venom, the Goatwhore sound is a throwback to more furious times. With angry interplay between vocalist Louis Benjamin Falgoust II (also of Soilent Green) and guitarist Sammy Duet, the Goatwhore live experience creates serious fury.

Signed to Metal Blade records in 2004 and now releasing their fourth album "A Haunting Curse" the band is primed to ignite. The wreckage doled out on New Orleans by Katrina has provided a creative catalyst for the band and the South rises once again.

Absolute Underground writer Ira "Hellborn" Hunter speaks with Ben Falgoust, one of Goatwhore's vocalists, about the new album, the upcoming tour with Celtic Frost and the strange turns their lives have taken post-Katrina. Ave Satanical!

AU: So I guess we'll start with the basics, tell me who you are and what you do in the band.

Ben: My name is Ben, I'm one of the vocalists.

AU: Right on. Where are you guys from?

Ben: Pretty much the New Orleans area. Actually outside of it, like the suburbs.

AU: Where were you at the time of the hurricane?

Ben: I was touring with another band I'm in, Soilent Green. The rest of the guys were here, working on material. They evacuated before the storm hit. Right after, there wasn't too much contact with anybody. Everybody was scattered everywhere. Sammy went up to Chicago. Soilent was still on the road doing shows until we could come back into the area. It was a crazy fuckin' thing, a huge disaster. A lot of it ended up being positive for Goatwhore. It put us in a position to go ahead and finish writing "Haunting Curse". We took the whole negative angle of it and used it to keep things rolling.

AU: Being from New Orleans, do you believe in voodoo?

Ben: I don't know. I feel like I'm forever cursed, by whatever means I have no idea. (laughs) But, you know, I've been through a hell of a lot of shit.

AU: Yeah, I read that you were in a big accident.

Ben: Yeah, Goatwhore was actually in four accidents, like, four months apart from each other. We were out in late 2001 with a Morbid Angel / Deicide tour. We hit black ice and whole van and trailer went sideways and we flipped off the interstate in the snow four or five times. In that first accident Brian, the guitar player, and Scott, the bass player at the time, both hurt their shoulders, collarbones. Four months later everything was fine. We got on tour with Gwar. There was an eighteen wheeler stopped in the interstate and we smashed into the back of it. I was behind the wheel. We hit the semi, and the whole front end smashed in on my leg. It broke both my legs and ankles. On one foot, I'd torn my heel off and had to go through re-constructive surgery. I had to spend a year in a wheelchair and went in for multiple spine surgeries as well. There was a lot of people saying things like, "Why did this record take so long?" Well, those things kinda put a halt to everything.

AU: Were you still able to sing?

Ben: Yeah, I was, but I was in and out of the hospital a bunch, I didn't really get to jam with them. They were writing stuff and

kinda questioning where I was going to be after the whole situation. Then we confront the Katrina thing; disaster after disaster. Sometimes it's frustrating because you see all these bands that you pretty much evolved with like Lamb of God and Mastodon going ahead and you're locked in a position where you can't improve the band because you're stuck at home.

AU: So that's where the name for the new album on Metal Blade, "A Haunting Curse," comes from?

Ben: It's the evolution of a lot of things like that. It kind of represents a haunting idea. From the beginning of time, man's idea of evil has been conjured up because he wanted to name everything he felt. When he did something wrong it had to be labeled so. In a sense, it's our own version of that. It's like something that's constantly following us.

AU: How did the band get together in the beginning?

Ben: Sammy was still in Acidbath with Zak Nolan, on drums. They started with necro, crust elements like old Napalm Death, Doom,

of hand. There was a girl in pigtails with a really long goat-face. She really just looked odd. She was really drunk and making her way around to all the tables, asking for money or whatever. He stood up and was like, "Get outta my face you Goatwhore!" and that kinda stuck.

AU: I hear heavy influences of Celtic Frost. Are you looking forward to opening for them on your upcoming U.S. dates?

Ben: Very much. Celtic Frost is probably our biggest influence; a major impact on our structuring. Even before it was Celtic Frost, in the Hellhammer days. There're other bands, like Venom and Bathory, that played a big role in us. We just toured with Venom and are going out in a couple days with Celtic Frost. It's amazing to be opening for such influential bands. Bands that you would never think would even exist today, that you would look back and go, "These are fuckin' classic records! I never thought they'd go anywhere!" It's awesome to actually open for them. It's an honour.

AU: What kind of crazy shit is Venom pulling off these days?

Ben: Nothing really crazy. They played the classics and some new stuff. They're really polite, nice guys. Kronos told us a bunch of stories of when he was a kid, and when he formed Venom. It was really cool to be with these people and know that as a kid, you listened to 'em. They're definitely big influences in the whole music scene. You can talk to a band anywhere and they'll go back to that as being part of what started a certain style. Venom trademarked the term, "Black metal." They originated that.

AU: You also toured with Gwar, do you have any stories about those guys?

Ben: They're fuckin' amazing! What's crazy is how a lot of people think, "Gwar: crazy show, shootin' blood everywhere," but those dudes are all really fuckin' good musicians. Really good. They get overlooked for that 'cause of the stage show. They have some crazy shit that goes on every night. Crazy antics before, during, and after they play.

AU: Have you heard of Blasphemy and the Ross Bay metal scene?

Ben: Oh yes, Blasphemy was big. Me and Sammy talked about covering a Blasphemy song. That band was fuckin' amazing!

AU: Some of their album pictures were taken locally at Ross Bay Cemetery which has a lot of arcane history.

Ben: Yeah, I heard about that cemetery. I went online and was readin' up on it. There's a lot of history, big time.

AU: Do you plan to tour Canada?

Ben: We did one show in London, Ontario, with Strapping Young Lad and plan on doing more. Canada's difficult to get into sometimes. Especially for a band. Sometimes they turn bands away for no apparent reason, or because one member has an arrest in the States and they don't want him in the country. That show we did was a kinda test. Seeing if we could get in or not. Everything went fine.

We're gonna come in and tour for two to three weeks. It's a market that we would very much like to build on.

AU: Any final words?

Ben: No, the only thing I have to say is, I know a lot people that read interviews never give bands a full chance. At least listen before you determine whether you wanna talk shit about them. I don't care if you want to talk shit about us, just make sure you heard us. Not only that, but, bands get labelled, and we don't want to be pigeon-holed as black-metal because of that one element. We have a more traditional style with other elements as well; grind, thrash, death-metal elements. I don't want people to be shunned just because some guy says, "Oh they're black-metal." Sometimes you have to actually listen to a band and see what they're like. Maybe we have something different to offer.



and Discharge. They added a singer, Jared, a bass player, Pat Bruders, and another guitarist. That became the first Goatwhore. As the band progressed, Jared left and Sammy took on full vocals. One night there was a big bar fight at Baton Rouge. A big brawl broke out. Sammy got his jaw broken. I noticed they had some shows planned ahead so I called him up and offered my help. I filled in for the shows, then he got his jaw unjured. Everybody felt comfortable about the situation, so we left it. That evolved into us doing a demo, then the first album, "The Eclipse of the Ages Into Black", then, "Funeral Dirge For The Rotting Sun."

AU: Who came up with the name Goatwhore?

Ben: One reason is Allister Crowley's five mistresses would have sexual intercourse with goats. Hence, the name Goatwhore. Another reason actually comes from a drunken night out at a strip club. One of Sammy's friends was really fucked up and getting out



## ONE GIANT PARTY!

### INTERVIEW WITH GUITARIST SCOTT MIDDLETON

By Becky Benham

Taking their North American tour by the balls, the CANCER BATS fly from party to party spreading the word of the BAT. This Toronto based band has released their infectious sound among the masses of Canada and most recently the US with their first full length album "Birthing the Giant".

In a recent interview with guitarist Scott Middleton, he brings us deep into the bat cave of their experiences, success and views on the scene.

#### BRING ON THE BATS!

AU: How did Liam Cormier and yourself meet up with Mike Peters and Andrew McCracken to form the band?

SM: Liam and I met at a Swedish hardcore show in Toronto 6 years ago, and Liam met Andrew moshing to Dillinger Escape Plan around the same time. We met Mike because his friend Bailey was Andrew's Roommate and Liam and I showed up and Mike was drinking beer on the couch, and we hung out with him and both thought he was a really rad guy, and when it came time to looking for a new drummer Mike was our first choice.

AU: Awesome!! It looks like 2 years of hard work and is paying off! How do you feel now that "Birthing the Giant" has been released into the airwaves of Canada and now the US and to have your music video "French Immersion" on MTV and Much Music?

SM: Well, we still sleep on floors and eat garbage every day but at least we've been able to do some amazing things. It's especially amazing that we've been able to do these things considering that wasn't our intention when starting this band. We just wanted to start a band where we had a ton of fun and played music we loved. Everything else is just icing on the cake. The fact our band is able to tour most of the year and make records is basically the best thing that I could ever dream of happening.

AU: Loving the music you play is so important. These days there are so many different genres of sound. How would you describe your music and what does it mean to you?

SM: I try not to necessarily pigeonhole anything we do. We're metal, hardcore, punk and rock n' roll. Some people think we sound southern or like ston-

er rock. There's really elements of all of that in our band, because we all like different kinds of music. Basically we're not going to play anything we don't like and usually when we're writing a song we know immediately whether or not its going to work with Cancer Bats or not. But we're never really worried about what anyone is going to think other than ourselves.

AU: What are your feelings about the general hardcore scene? Is there anything that you would change?

SM: The general hardcore scene is something that means something different to everyone. I'd like to say I don't listen to very much new music that's what I would consider hardcore. Most bands don't excite me or make me wanna pick up a record. It's probably because so many of them are carbon copies of one another. This isn't to say that I'm against hardcore or these bands, I'm just not interested in a lot of bands that are playing hardcore right now. I think the organization that hardcore has is unlike any other scene you'll find with any kind of music. There's actually a tight community and it's that aspect I've always loved about it. At least where I'm from hardcore is viewed as something that rests in the 80's hardcore punk influence mostly. And then there's a whole separate scene of kids who are into mosh metal or metalcore. I don't like the segregation of those scenes so much, because when I grew up you'd see a mixture of these bands playing the same shows, and it ruled, cuz not every band on the bill would sound the same and it made things interesting. But I guess since hardcore itself is trying to be more obscure and underground and metalcore and mosh music is trying to be the next "metal", the gap between them just keeps widening.

AU: Well now that you're currently touring with Alexisonfire and Moneen, amongst many other kick-ass bands, must be a fuckin' blast! I've heard that you guys love to party and your goal is to party harder than anyone and have as much fun as possible. I've also read that 3 of you are straightedge. If this is true; how do the Cancer Bats party so hard?

SM: Touring with these bands is certainly a blast for us. We're fans of the bands and we're good friends with them. Being straightedge isn't something you have to worry about. There's never peer pressure to do anything other than be yourself on the road. I'm straightedge cuz I don't need anything else to have fun. We'll still go to bars and hang out with

our bros that do drink, none of that really matters as long as everyone's havin' an awesome time.

AU: You must have some sort of an epic tale from the road to tell us. What's the greatest thing that has happened to the band while on tour?

SM: We're never really anywhere long enough for anything epic to happen. But one time we were super nervous cuz we didn't have official papers and it was kind of sketchy. But when we got to the customs officer, he asked which band we played in, we told him and he's like "CANCER BATS! I love you guys! I remember when you crashed at my place last summer! You're good friends with my roommate! When's your next show around here? I love your record!"

We all burst out laughing cuz we had been so damn nervous crossing the border and he just waved us through. That ruled!

AU: And the craziest thing?

SM: Well last week in Grande Prairie, Alberta after the show I saw this wild goth girl walking around outside the venue with a 4 foot long sword with dragon faces carved into it...well maybe I did have a sort of epic tale...Ha!Ha!Ha!

AU: It looks like it's a long tour for you guys. What's the chemistry like between all of you when you're on the road together for long periods of time?

SM: Well, we don't have a bus, we just have our old van and trailer and its fine. We're friends outside of being in this band, and we all like one another so it's always a lot of fun hanging around each other. Everyone has their days where they didn't get enough sleep and end up a bit cranky. But no one's ever been in a fight with another member or anything. This is the longest tour we've ever done but, we're all excited about it, not dreading it. We're all stuck in our van because we want to be. I think that's how bands tend to deteriorate, they have members that don't want to be on tour. Thankfully we don't have that problem.



AU: I'm glad to hear that you guys keep it together well. Are we going to be hearing anything new from the Cancer Bats anytime soon? Working on any new material?

SM: Yes, in fact a few days from now we'll be recording two songs for a split seven inch with our friends in the Long Island NY hardcore band, This is Hell. We're each covering one of each other's songs and recording an original. It should be a lot of fun. It's a vinyl only release that Future Tense Records is going to be releasing in January I believe. So keep an eye out for that.

AU: Definitely! So now what do you have planned for promoting the new album?

SM: All we can do is tour our asses off, it's up to our labels to really promote it. That being said most of our notoriety I'm proud to say has come from winning fans over from them seeing us play live.

AU: There's nothing like a killer concert!! Is there anything that you'd like to add to tell your fans?

SM: Pick up our full length "Birthing the Giant", learn the songs and come rock out with us on tour!



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# I Adore The Matadors!!!

by Anita Fixx

So it took awhile to get this done but here it is! My very first interview and it's with Hooch of The Matadors! Yay!

They played a show in Vancouver at Pat's Pub recently, right amongst the crackhead zombies of East Hastings. That's for all you lame asses who weren't there. It was a great show! I chatted with the drummer Neil first who I didn't believe was the drummer because they keep changing. Then I talked to Jeff, he's cool but he didn't want to do the "official" interview. We chatted about how their van caught on fire before entering Vancouver. But it's all good, the instruments were safe. And about how his stand up bass is the greatest and he can play it really well. We all know what "stand up bass" I'm talking about right? So I didn't end up talking to Hooch right there cause honestly I was drunk and he's scary. But we did it over e-mail eventually.

On a different note, I moved to a house near Crack Central and a bunch of my CDs were stolen including both of my Matadors albums. To the dipshit that did this, if I find you I will make you eat your balls and slit your throat.

Alrighty! Enjoy this lovely interview!

**Anita Fixx: What was it like growing up in the circus?**

**Hooch:** I didn't actually grow up IN the circus... my parents retired from show biz just before they had me... that's been a little unclear in some of my bios but that's how it went...

**AF: Can you tell us anything about Jeff's childhood?**

**Hooch:** All I know is: he was found in a cardboard box out behind a mental hospital... he's pretty tight lipped about growing up. I know he went to military school for a while... that's it. Sorry.

**AF: How did you guys meet Johnny Boner? Does he actually like you?**

**Hooch:** Johnny likes Jeff and Bob... he HATES me... I don't know why. We argue like an old married couple... we always have... it's how we get on. We met him through the Luciferian Brotherhood... They just brought him over one day and said "this man will be travelling with you for a while... put him to work" so we did. That was 4 years ago... 4 LONG years.

**AF: If you were locked in a dungeon in Hell for all of eternity and you could only have 6 records, which ones would they be and why?**

**Hooch:** Any Howlin Wolf, The Fendermen (mule skinner blues), Screamin Jay, Chuck Berry, and Django Rhienhardt... Why? cuz THAT is the good shit... go get it.

**AF: What are your influences?**

**Hooch:** See above... my background is mostly early country and folk,



blues, my formal training is in jazz on the most part and when I'm "home" (wherever that is) that's what I play.

**AF: There are so many shitty ass bands out there both in the mainstream and underground scenes, do you think that can change?**

**Hooch:** No... bands are getting shittier and shittier... the trend is that they will get even MORE shitty.

**AF: Why is every single song on your record so fuckin' good?**

**Hooch:** Because I am a fucking genius... and I'm a masterful guitar player... ALSO... have you heard my friend Jeff play the upright bass? He IS the greatest there has EVER been. You can't really fail with these things on your side. It's just a fact. Plus: we traded our souls to Lucifer to be this great.

**AF: Is the "Dog House" song autobiographical?**

**Hooch:** Maybe... it's an amalgamation of a bunch of stories. Jen "Hellcat" Blackwood and I wrote that over the phone. We had fun. It's funny. The phone messages are NOT real. Anyway that's a CREEP-SHOW song. Let's talk about ME and MY band.

**AF: What do prefer 13 shots of? Example, bourbon, whiskey, rum?**

**Hooch:** Bourbon... Jim Beam dark.

**AF: Why is it called the Luciferian "Brotherhood" of Baphomet? Are you guys sexist? Where all the sisters?**

**Hooch:** Some of the brothers ARE sisters... see it's just called that in name. Like the brotherhood of man, or peace on Earth goodwill toward man... Get it? That's all.

**AF: What's hotter, zombie girls or devil girls?**

**Hooch:** Devil girls are... zombies smell awful.

**AF: I heard you guys were protested by Christian groups in Ontario? What's that all about?**

**Hooch:** Yeah they have a beef with the LB0B... and we are its musical outreach program so they protest us since they can't find them. It's ok... we've learned to accept it.

**AF: You've gone through a lot of drummers, why is that?**

**Hooch:** I have high expectations... punctuality, no drug use, absolute dedication to the service of Lucifer... people have problems with that... so they get fired.

**AF: Will Neil be your permanent drummer?**

**Hooch:** That's a little personal isn't it? Neil who?

**AF: Are you gonna come out with a new album soon? Please say yes!**

**Hooch:** Yes.

**AF: Why did you put (carp)fish in people's houses?**

**Hooch:** Deeply personal and religious reasons.

**AF: What do people need to do to become a priest in the Luciferian Brotherhood?**

**Hooch:** You must apply... go to [www.brotherhoodofbaphomet.com](http://www.brotherhoodofbaphomet.com)

**AF: Any last words?**

**Hooch:** Here are some words: sackville, chinese pizza, dope, cunt burger soup, vaginitis, pork sword, goo lag, chicken balls, Tofino, Bruce, Gord the destroyer, Space Blood, Switchblade Valentines, Rod Iron Haulers... and Ian Blurton. These are words off the top of my head.

**AF: Ok that's it! Thank you so much!**

**Hooch:** Thanks

[www.thematadors.net](http://www.thematadors.net)

# TWISTED SISTER

## Interview with Jay Jay French – Guitar

On the eve of their 30th anniversary and most recently inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame alongside Joan Jett and The Stray Cats, New York's Twisted Sister will be going out with a bang by releasing their final studio album: A Twisted Christmas. With over 10 million albums sold world-wide, TS has certainly had a good run.

The band plays Toronto on Dec. 5 and has not been in Canada since the Stay Hungry tour back in 1985. Their recent Québec gig mustered up a whopping 80,000 fans. I myself, remember seeing them on the "You can't stop rock 'n roll" tour with Queensryche opening when Geoff Tate still had hair. Those were the days. I sat down with guitarist/Founder Jay Jay French for an update and possibly my last chance to interview a Rock 'n Roll legend.

**E.S. Day: Correct me if I'm wrong but Twisted Sister has actually been around since 1973. What's it feel like getting back with the boys for another round after 30+ years?**

**Jay Jay French:** Well if you would've asked me back in 1973 and since I'm the only original member, if you had told me we'd be around in 30 years I would've collapsed and laughed hysterically. It's strange but it's our business. It's our life.

**E.S. Day: Why did you pick the X-mas season/album to reinvent the band?**

**Jay Jay:** It's an idea we had at rehearsal when Dee sang "Come all ye faithful" over top of the music for "We're not gonna take it" and he said he always had a dream of making a Christmas record with either AC/DC or Judas Priest [songs] since we were a cover band

already it's very much a homage to bands that we love. It was a great idea and we had a lot of fun making it

**E.S. Day: Rumour has it that this is definitely the last tour ever, any truth to this?**

**Jay Jay:** Well there's a lot of speculation of this, when we got back together in 2001 nobody thought it would last more than a year. We take every year one year at a time..

**E.S. Day: Are you still hounded about the PMRC days?**

**Jay Jay:** Not many people bring that up in a historical context, I never



### TRACK LISTING:

1. Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
2. Oh Come All Ye Faithful
3. White Christmas
4. I'll Be Home for Christmas (Featuring Lita Ford)
5. Silver Bells
6. I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus
7. Let It Snow
8. Deck the Halls
9. The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting On an Open Fire)
10. Heavy Metal Christmas (The Twelve Days of Christmas)

took that too seriously to be honest, it was a joke to begin with it and it had no effect at the end of the day and never impacted me much.

**E.S. Day: How did Lita Ford's name come up for the duet on "I'll Be Home For X-mas"?**

**Jay Jay:** She is a friend of Dee's and he asked her to be on the record, she said yes. She's great and is a

welcome addition on this record.

**E.S. Day: A certain prominent music site states that you were previously in a band with Gene & Paul from KISS – any truth to that?**

**Jay Jay:** You know I did audition for Wicked Lester and I never got in the band. I was one of hundreds of guitar players who auditioned and never got it.

**E.S. Day: With all the different genres of Heavy Metal these days which one (or two) is sticking out in your mind and what bands would they be?**

**Jay Jay:** I'm a music fan, not really a metal fan per se. I'm more of a

blues fan than anything. I do like AC/DC and Judas Priest and Sabbath but the new generation of new metal stuff doesn't particularly appeal to me but it seems metal has survived which is phenomenal

**E.S. Day: It seems the band really kept the new album traditional as opposed to tearing the shit out of some X-mas favourites. Is this meant to be a parody? Or are you guys really in the Christmas spirit?**

**Jay Jay:** It's not a parody, it is a homage. We had fun making this record. Parody may not be the right word it's an ironic take on some of the most classic songs and we think people will love it. It is Christmas songs done heavy metal style done straightforward with a certain sense of humor.

**E.S. Day: Who is "Bent Brother"?**

**Jay Jay:** Bent Brother is a Twisted Sister cover band - it's us without the makeup.

**E.S. Day: Are you looking forward to your Tonight Show appearance on Dec 13th?**

**Jay Jay:** Actually, it's the first time ever doing a nationwide network television show. We're also doing the Craig Ferguson show which we're really happy about.

**E.S. Day: How's the custom Epiphone guitar doing – are you still making that available?**

**Jay Jay:** Yeah it's still out and it's still doing well thank you very much

**E.S. Day: When can we see the new DVD hitting retail?**

**Jay Jay:** Well the new DVD [which is a compilation of all the greatest hits] will be out sometime in the spring on Rhino (Records)

**E.S. Day: Anything you would like to say to your West Coast Canadian fans?!**

**Jay Jay:** You know, thanks for supporting us. We had a great time when we played in Edmonton. Canadian fans are fantastic. The 80,000 we played to in Québec this past summer blew our minds. We love Canada. Canada has been very supportive of the band and we wish you all a happy holiday and Merry Christmas and buy the CD - a portion of the CD goes to [cureautismnow.org](http://cureautismnow.org) in the spirit of the holiday season - keep that in mind and we hope to see you in the future.

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MR. CHI PIG



## IS ALIVE, SWELL AND LIVING DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE

Interview by Justin Schneider

The one and only Mr. Chi Pig was happy to sit in a park with me and my cousin on a beautiful day in Vancouver and talk about a little of everything. He pulled out his sketchbook right away to do a "portrait" of my cousin as we talked. But what Chi does is not your usual kind of portrait. His unique caricatures are based on his perception of you, usually a first impression that contains all the elements he sees, but very little realism or conventional sketching. Once he chooses his colour of pencil, he mutters about the lack of a proper sharpener, jokingly threatens me with a tiny penknife on a key chain, and tells my cousin, the Wolfman, that he looks like Frankenstein's monster without the bolts and that he will draw him as such. Chi is very good natured and is always a bit of a performer, spouting one-liners and poking fun, but never being mean. He tells me he has been drawing since he was seven. His main subject matter will vary slightly, but there is almost no change in his composition or style. The main design sits in the middle of a page and is surrounded by assorted dripping eyeballs, skateboards, dead fish, and flying saucers.

Chi basically started the interview without me, volunteering all kinds of information about his youth, skateboarding and getting into trouble. Here's where I got my first question in.

AU: So you got pretty good at skating?

C: Yeah, well I had five brothers and six sisters. Me and brothers would go down to the Boys and Girls Club in Edmonton. The ironic thing about that place was that your parents would encourage you to go there to keep you out of trouble but that was where you got into all the fuckin' trouble, because that's where all the other teenage hooligans were. So you started a little gang, you started sniffing glue... you just got into trouble, right? But they had a skateboard there, a wooden one with aluminum trucks and the clay wheels. The gym floor there was totally waxed and clean and you would do a turn on it and slam on your face. My brother was a natural, but I tried and tried for like six months and couldn't do it. I was getting really jealous of him and then my sister bought us a skateboard from the drugstore, one of the ones that came in a box, all-inclusive. It was a plastic one, didn't even have base plates, the trucks just screwed right into the plastic, but it had urethane wheels with the loose ball bearings and we would share it but I commandeered it and learned how to skate. Then this ski shop in Edmonton got a huge ramp, it was 16 feet high with 5 feet

of vertical and we would spend all our Saturdays and Sundays there. Eventually we were on a skateboard team and we had these competitions. If my brother didn't come in first then I did so we had a whole bunch of trophies and stuff. This was during the second insurgency of skateboarding in about the mid-seventies.

AU: So how old are you?

C: I'm 43, but I know I probably look about 80 (laughs). I was gonna wear my teeth for the interview but I'm still getting used to them and I tend to slur a lot. I take them out when I sing too because, the last thing you want is for your teeth to go flying out.

AU: So about your drawings, do you sell many of them?

C: Yeah, I do. You know it's funny, people look at you almost as a vagrant or a transient, and I don't know if it's just because of who I am... you know I'm not gloating or bragging but when you are in a band for that long and you take it to such a level, people have an image of you in their head. So when they see you at bar, talking to people and selling your sketches for fuckin' five or ten bucks, they look at that as failure. I don't look at it that way.

AU: Are you happy with where you're at these days?

C: Well, my physical body is not in good shape, and I miss playing music right now, but my other band Slaveco should be rehearsing again in a couple months and yeah, I'm doing okay.

AU: What about the SNFU break-up?

C: I really don't look at it as a break-up. Mark has done this three or four times over the years, and as far as I'm concerned, this is just another one of those breaks. It's not over until I die. When pig dies, (laughs) that's when SNFU is over.

[Chi is still thinking about the skateboarding topic...]

C: Getting back to the skating, we were on the Skeeters team and there was this other team, The Dells, a sports shop on the South side and the guys that didn't make the cut for our team would be on the Dells. Well 2 of them were the Belke brothers [guitarists for SNFU]. That was how we met, started drinking together and going to gigs and stuff. Then they were the thorn in my side for the next twenty-five years, or vice versa.

AU: How old were you when you started the band?

C: About 19, we had a band before SNFU that we called Live Sex Shows, because it looked so good on the poster, LIVE SEX SHOWS-ALL AGES! (laughs) Lots of phone calls from parents.

AU: Who are your all-time favourite bands?

C: The Damned, The Dickies, early Misfits, I'm a huge Smiths fan, I love the way fuckin' Morrissey sings. I remember discovering Frank Zappa, the Overnight Sensation album, with that song Dynamo Hum, and the cover on that record was so crazy.

AU: Just curious, how come so many of your songs were built around famous names like Eddie

Vedder, Dean Martin, Joni Mitchell etc.?

C: Well at the time I would be holed up in my apartment, and you know, maybe eat some acetaminophen tablets or drink some cough syrup, which can be counter productive, but I always felt that if I got a great song or drawing out of it then it was worth it. So I'd be up at night when it was quiet and I was watching tons of TV and reading those tabloids. I watched a lot of the biographies and documentaries. So by the time that FYULABA record came out, I guess I was obsessed with all these names. Some stuff like "Dean Martin was a Martian", just had a cool ring to it and I would always come up with a whimsical title like that and build a song around it.

AU: So not inspired by an actual dream or anything?

C: No, more like a hallucination (laughs).

AU: What about a song like "Painful Reminder" that happens to have some kind of crossover appeal? How much truth is in that one?

C: You want to know the twist about that? Okay, the song is of course about a kid in junior high school who has a crush on his homeroom teacher, and then he finds out that she's married, and he draws this awful picture of her with an ax in her head and all that. Then he vows never to... well to him it's love, but it's just puppy love... but he vows never to do it again. Well that was me in Grade 8, and I had a crush on my Grade 8 teacher, but the only fuckin' difference was, he was a man (laughs). Actually I failed Grade 8, had to take it again, so I had that same teacher two years in a row (laughs). It was great!

AU: So did you finish school and everything?

C: Yeah, I actually graduated with academic and non-academic honours; 85% across the board and my non-academic was a commercial art course that they offered.

AU: Did you have a lot of teachers that you didn't like?

C: Well, yeah. In those days you see... from about Grade 3 to 6, they used to fuckin' beat kids! With a yardstick or a pointer...

AU: Were you a wild kid, did you get beats?

C: Oh yeah, I got beat all the time. I was a brat... totally disruptive.

AU: I was wondering about some other songs, what's fact or fiction? Things like "Eric's Had a Bad Day" and "Drunk on a Bike".

C: Well, "Eric" is based on Eric Thorkelson who runs the "Flex Your Head" radio program.

AU: And he's the DJ voice on the track?

C: Yes. And "Drunk on a Bike" is true... just the concept of being drunk on a bike. I drank for a decade, right, and then quit for about 16 years. It's only in the last few months or so that I've started drinking again, so when I have a beer now, I get fuckin' soused. But lots of people have come up and thanked me over the years for that song, because we all know the feeling of trying to get home drunk on a bike and you have to ride twice as far cause you're swerving all over...

AU: I wanted to ask you about another lyric "beaten up by football jocks, forced to hide out in toilet stalls"? How much truth is there to that?

C: Some truth, yeah. Where I went there were a lot of jocks and we all kind of dressed like punk rockers

with spiky hair, weird plastic sunglasses, stovepipe jeans, boots... you know, kind of soft but still rebellious. The best thing was though, we were the DJs of the high school radio station. We would start at like 7:30 in the fuckin' morning with Dead Kennedys, Sex Pistols, The Ramones. We'd be on there for five minutes and no less than five or six heavy metal guys would be there, pounding on the Plexiglas with their fists; "Turn that shit off! Play some fuckin' Nugent or something, man!" They'd threaten us "You fags!"

AU: So it was nothing to do with being gay at all?

C: No, it was 'cause we were different. One thing that happened with it though was that we actually got our locker burned. The jocks set the fuckin' contents on fire, so we had to move to a quieter area of the building with less traffic. Not much real beatings but they would push you around all the time and the verbal abuse with things like "Are you a fag?" or "Hey, Devol!" or "Sid!" It was pretty fuckin' traumatic to get your locker burned though.

AU: What do you think of the punk music these days, the new stuff?

C: I don't really listen to the emo stuff, it doesn't grab me. It's almost like metal with some dude screaming about how painful his life is. But it's all kind of weird because kids are kind of programmed and they always go out and support the same bands, see NOFX, Pennywise, Rancid, the bigger bands that really don't need the support. They should be supporting the smaller, more underground bands. That's what the Cobalt is for, right?

AU: What are some of your favourite BC/Alberta bands right now?

C: The Rebel Spell is a good band, Married to Music. Of course No Means No and the Hanson Brothers are fuckin' great. A good Edmonton band is Wednesday Night Heroes.

AU: How about the alternate meanings for SNFU?

C: Well, after we took those initials off the logo it was free rein for people to just come up with their own. My favourite is a Stupid Name For Us (laughs), cause it's a stupid fuckin' name. When we started Society is No Fucking Use just meant that it was better to blaze your own trail than conform to society.

AU: So why pronounce your name Chi when it's spelled Chi?

C: (laughs) Because it sounds better than Chi. The name comes from a night where we doing this show and buddy decided our stage names would be the first three letters of your last name. Mine were c-h-i and there was this band called Chi Pig so I added the 'Mr.' for a little regality.

AU: So what's next for you and do you think SNFU will play again?

C: For the time being I'm just trying to take better care of myself, probably failing miserably, but trying. My new band should be rehearsing again soon and next year is the 25th Anniversary of SNFU so if we get together that would be the time to do it. Apart from that, I've been thinking of doing a Mr. Chi Pig show with some friends of mine and just doing material from the first two albums.

AU: Thanks for your time Chi, it has been great to talk to you.

C: Not a problem, just give me call if you have more questions. We can do this anytime.



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**INTERVIEW WITH THE THICKETS**

by Kevin Leeson

At one time or another, we've all seen a local band, and wondered why they aren't a household name. Well, you can add the Darkest of the Hillside Thickets to that list. On October 21st, they played at the Backstage Lounge, and put on one of the most entertaining live acts you will ever see. Between the horns and the goat legs, it's easy to forget that the set is so solid. Their music is infectious straight-up rock, and even hours later, it's almost impossible to get it out of your head. Bottom line, if you have an opportunity to see them, you should run to the show, not walk.

The Thickets, as they are affectionately known amongst their die-hard fans, have a peculiar and original reason for being. They exist, to bring to life in music, the stories of early-20th Century cult horror author H.P. Lovecraft. The Darkest of the Hillside Thickets are the self-proclaimed, "World's pre-eminent Lovecraft tribute band," and they take that role very seriously.

They are well-known amongst their fans for their imaginative and bizarre on-stage costumes. If you haven't moshed with a miniature Cthulhu, or won a head in a jar as a door prize, then you obviously haven't been to a Thickets show.

I had a chance to sit down with the Darkest of the Hillside Thickets' lead singer, Toren Atkinson, to talk about the band, and the inevitable fate of the human race.

**Absolute Underground: Who are the Darkest of the Hillside Thickets?**

**Toren Atkinson:** Canada's premiere Lovecraft-inspired rock band. There are plenty of other bands that do Lovecraft stuff, but I think we are the most popular.

**AU: Who is H.P. Lovecraft?**

**TA:** H.P. Lovecraft is an author who lived in the 20's and 30's. He wrote horror/science fiction/weird tales, and they appeared in the pulp magazines of that time.

**AU: Why are you an H.P. Lovecraft-inspired band?**

**TA:** Well, at the time we started, there weren't any. So, I decided this was a niche that needs to be filled. I had been introduced to Lovecraft by a friend, who had given me the anthology, "Bloodcurdling Tales of Horror and the Macabre". I loved it. The whole philosophy that mankind is a speck in the universe is right up my alley. It's cerebral, but also has the monsters, mood, tainted genealogies, and secrets that man was not meant to know. I found it interesting.

Primarily, our songs are adaptations of his stories, and stories that are in his circle, the Cthulhu Mythos. In the liner notes of our second album "Cthulhu Strikes Back", we have recommended reading for all the songs that relate to Lovecraft.

**AU: What exactly is the Cthulhu Mythos?**

**TA:** He wrote a story called "The Call of Cthulhu", and it was one of his most popular. One of the cool things about Lovecraft, was his habit of mixing real people, places, and things, with things that he made up. The Necronomicon is one of his most famous creations. There are still people today who think that's a real book. As well, he permitted other people in his writing circle, his peers, to use all of his devices in their own stories, like the cities of Arkham and Dunwich and Innsmouth. Fictional cities he created, and other people started to write their own books based on his. Then, in turn, Lovecraft would incorporate some of their contributions into his next story. So, it became a co-operative mythology, and that came to be known as the Cthulhu Mythos.

**AU: What word best captures the spirit of the Thickets?**

**TA:** The fun. Early on, we were trying to find our footing musically, and there was the funness of it being new and untested. Spaceship Zero was fun in that we took it in another direction. The concept album was something new and experimental. So, trying new things and being fun is our core ethos.

**AU: Is there a new album in the works?**

**TA:** The next album is going to be another concept album. The whole album is an adaptation of one of Lovecraft's stories, "The Shadow Out of Time", and our version is "The Shadow out of Tim". It features a marine biologist that finds himself possessed by an alien intelligence, just like the fellow from the original Lovecraft story. The album recounts his tale, as he's trying to figure out what happened while his body was possessed. The plan is to make the stage show a kind of operatic musical. There might even be multiple costume changes, but I don't want to make any promises yet.

The new album has been an incredible challenge. Originally, it was just going to be a mini story within the album. But, as we went along, it became apparent we would be recording two separate albums. "The Shadow Out of Tim" should be available early 2007, and then another album with a DVD that features all our videos, as well as some live stuff should be out in August of 2007.

**AU: I've never seen a Thickets video, which songs do you have videos for?**

**TA:** We did a video for "Worship Me Like a God", which was kind of a Blair Witch thing five years before Blair Witch. We tried to get it on Too Much For Much, but it didn't get on, it was simply banned outright.

**AU: So, it's been a while since you shot a video?**

**TA:** We tried to pull together the resources to make videos for some songs from "Spaceship Zero", but sadly we couldn't make it happen. If there are any fans out there that want to throw some money in the garbage, but have fun doing it, we don't get a lot of play on Muchmusic, but we're great to work with.

**AU: So, you go from one album every five years, to two albums in 6 months?**

**TA:** It's a bold new era.

**AU: You guys are kind of famous for your on-stage presence. You always seem to have a costumed element to your live show. What inspired the costumes?**

**TA:** Well, our first show, we only had three songs. We were a little short musically, so we had to compensate with antics and costumes. Eventually, we realized that going on without an outrageous costume just wouldn't be the Darkest of the Hillside Thickets. We would feel naked out there.

**AU: What was the most ambitious costume that failed?**

**TA:** I had an idea for an Azathoth costume. He's a blind idiot god, that resides at the very centre of the Universe. He's the size of a planet or a star, and he has these other monsters that orbit him and pipe madly on their little flutes. So, the idea was to have this giant orb of a costume, and then have train tracks running around it, where all the cars would be dressed up like different monsters. I decided that would be kind of impossible to do, much less actually perform in it. Again, Lovecraft's monsters are so weird, non-traditional, and non-humanoid that in theory I would love to make all these monster costumes and perform in them, but it would just be unwieldy.

**AU: In an ideal world, where will the Thickets be in a couple of years?**

**TA:** Ruling the Universe from our throne of tentacles. Realistically, I would like to be commissioned to do the music for a Lovecraft movie. That would be incredibly awesome, but I'm not holding my breath.

Check out their website ([www.thickets.net](http://www.thickets.net)) regarding any news, merchandise, or upcoming dates.

# TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY NIGHTS



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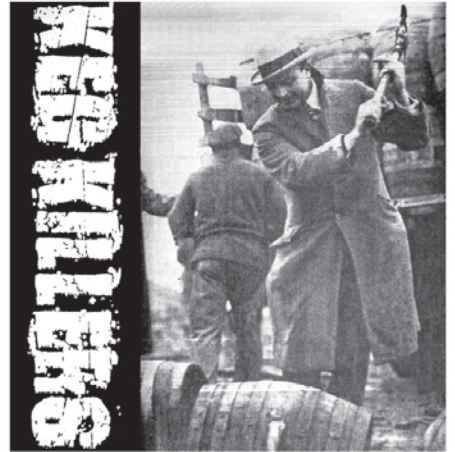
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Hey kids, Jeff Chan here, VP of the Vancouver Skateboard Coalition. There's been a minor development in the China Creek situation. In a meeting with one of the parks planning managers last week, he told us that they are slightly changing their approach to the meeting on December 5th. Now, instead of recommending to the Parks Board that they bulldoze China Creek, they're going to make a neutral presentation of the two options. The Vancouver Skateboard Coalition is sending a delegation to that meeting so that we'll be on hand to make sure that our side gets fair representation. So it's a small and mostly symbolic bit of progress, but it's sort of notable and we'll take it for what it is.

Check out the Vancouver Skateboard Coalition's website [www.vspc.ca](http://www.vspc.ca) or [www.beyondrobson.com/sports\\_play/2006/10/save\\_china\\_creek/](http://www.beyondrobson.com/sports_play/2006/10/save_china_creek/)

for more info. All the info's there, including e-mail addresses for the Parks Board commissioners who will be making the final decision. Spread the word!

P.S. I saw your associate, Timmy Jak, on Thrasher's website. Shit-hot video footage of him shotgunning beers and then puking in the gutter. Ahoy!



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## Destroy Destroy Destroy

### - Devour The Power -

Interview with Vocalist Brian Kemp  
by Ira "Dragonslayer" Hunter

Hailing from Nashville, Tennessee, Destroy Destroy Destroy have been destroying it for close to four and a half years. These Viking-Metal Gods have been raised on classic metal like Iron Maiden, Judas Priest and Slayer and have formed their own distinct style that can best be described as "Medieval Metal". Bands like this are the reason my mom used to beat me with a wooden spoon for playing Dungeons and Dragons. "Out Satan, Out!!!"

**AU:** How did u guys get hooked up with Metalblade?

**Brian Kemp:** We played a show with The Red Chord one time, and Guy the singer, he owns Black Market Recordings. We met him there

and he really liked us so we ended up signing with Black Market and then Metalblade.

**AU:** Do you think it had something to do with your stage presence and the way you guys dress? I know you personally take the stage with nothing more than a gauntlet, a bullet belt, and a G-string on.

**Brian:** I think it's a combination. That and our music in general. I think he was looking for something different.

**AU:** Brian Kemp is only one letter away from Brian Hemp. Do you or any members of the band partake?

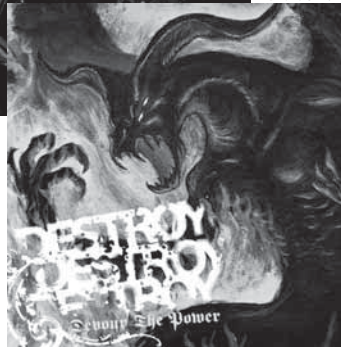
**Brian:** Um. Not really. Our roadie does.

**AU:** I guess there's not that good of weed in Tennessee.

**Brian:** Yeah, but we drink a lot.

**AU:** Your tunes are a real mix of early thrash and the new death metal. How would you describe your sound?

**Brian:** We're trying to



sound like epic thrash, epically thrash metal.

**AU:** I was noticing on one of your songs "Ripped Apart by the Juggernaut of Fornication" I can hear heavy 3 Inches of Blood influences. Who else would you site as your influences?

**Brian:** We listen to a lot of older metal. We all just kinda put in the whole spectrum of metalism and we just take things that we like.

**AU:** Tell me about your buddies, The Tony Danza Tapdance Extravaganza.

**Brian:** They're our best friends and we actually started right around the same time they did. We practised in like shit hole travel lots and they started across the way from us. They'd just hang out drank beer and shoot off fireworks. We've been friends with them ever since. When we started there were a lot of hardcore and metalcore goin on. We wanted to start a fuckin' metal band and not have any part in that stuff.

**AU:** Tell us about your album Devour the Power.

**Brian:** It's a collection of songs from the past. Some of those songs are pretty old.

We just wanted to get all of the work onto one album.

**AU:** So its sorta like a best of and then from this point forward you'll be doing all new stuff?

**Brian:** Yeah.

**AU:** Do you ever wear pants?

**Brian:** Uh... sometimes. Just not on stage.

**AU:** Would you say that you were influenced by Gwar?

**Brian:** OH YEAH!

**AU:** Do you ever do anything on stage like kill people or have swords or anything like that?

**Brian:** We do some stuff but not like Gwar quality. We used to have this guys named Grimstock run around with a sword and hack people.

**AU:** Who would you guys like to play with that you haven't had the chance to yet?

**Brian:** MANOWAR!

**AU:** Do you guys ever plan on touring Canada?

**Brian:** HELL Yeah! But I don't know if we can handle the arctic blast up there.

**AU:** Hahaha! It's not that bad man, but you might have to wear pants though.

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## 21 & Under with... Hatebreed

If ever I could have been thrust into an abyss of uncomfortable urbanity, it would have been on the Hatebreed tour bus, on this hateful and dreary evening in downtown Vancouver. With my PC Mic/Headset's 20ft cord dragging along the floor like entrails from a Romero flick, I proceeded to do a sound check while the "Breed Brothers" tried to clean out their fridge. Confused, and tempted by the goodies that were being mercifully thrown to the trash bin, I could not help but mention that they should be dropping this stuff at the Union Gospel Mission up the street.

Perfectly good food - gone to waste. Fitting - as a perfectly good interview turned as sour as the food that was being tossed out. I found myself being ostracized and thrown to the dogs by guitarist Sean Martin. "Fuck this" I say, to PR guy Kent. Get me a band member who can answer questions without using phrases like "Uh...," "Yeah..." or "...whatever" - please.

Stepping up to the plate - drummer Matt Byrne decides to have a go at me - the first journalist the Haters encounter on this; the first date of the Canadian leg of the tour to support their current Roadrunner/UMG release - Supremacy

**1. E.S. Day:** A lot of your older fans (Victory Records days) seem to still label you as a punk band, where as today the kids label you as a Metal band or a crossover band - what do think you are?

**Matt:** We are definitely a crossover band I think our newer stuff leans a little more towards the metal but yeah, I would say we are a crossover band.

**2. E.S. Day:** Dream endorsement, Tama, Ludwig or Pearl?

**Matt:** Well I am endorsed by Tama so...

**E.S. Day:** Well I guess we will have to say Tama then won't we. (laughs)

**3. E.S. Day:** Most fucked up fan incident this year?

**Matt:** "We had a guy show up in Oklahoma City and..." (I promptly cut him off)

**E.S. Day:** "Let me guess... he had a bomb on him!"

**Matt:** "No, he pretended to be a pizza delivery guy cause he wanted to get on our bus and say hi. He was pretty resourceful when you think about it" (When I said "fucked up I meant more like having a psycho jump onstage and shoot your guitarist in the head. But whatever, I'll go for Pizza Delivery guy. They can get pretty psychotic trying to deliver within those time guarantees) - E.S. Day)

**4. E.S. Day:** Since you have been in Vancouver, have you indulged in our national export?

**Matt:** I don't smoke

**5. E.S. Day:** Favourite tour of all time and with whom?

**Matt:** Slayer - all six times.

**6. E.S. Day:** What music is playing on the "Hate bus" these days?

**Matt:** Uhhh... a lot of classic rock.

**7. E.S. Day:** What is your stance on marijuana reform in the states?

**Matt:** Don't care

**8. E.S. Day:** What's your favorite food to eat on tour?

**Matt:** Sushi & Steak.

**E.S. Day:** Sushi & Steak folks!

**9. E.S. Day:** It is All Hallows Eve month- any good horror flicks on the bus?

**Matt:** Mmmm... not really - I want to try and catch Saw 3 when it comes out.

**10. E.S. Day:** Fave horror movie of all time?

**Matt:** Um that's a tough one. Horror film huh? There's a lot of blood and guts



type movies that I'm into, but what I really like are movies that are real suspenseful.

**11. E.S. Day:** Who is the Defeatist?

**Matt:** I have no idea

**E.S. Day:** Sean (guitarist) says "You" (meaning myself and all music journalists) (Laughs)

**Matt:** Yeah! (laughs)

**12. E.S. Day:** Do you guys prefer the intimacy of a small club venue or the thrill of a large outdoor festival?

**Matt:** No preference - both are great. It's like two different drugs. (how the hell would he know? - E.S. Day)

**13. E.S. Day:** How much of an influence does the band draw from Pantera?

**Matt:** I'd say we're fans of them but we don't draw a lot of influence from them. I think our influences are from early 80's thrash and the Bay Area movement.

**14. E.S. Day:** Oh like Anthrax, Abattoir (both not from the Bay Area - Abattoir from L.A. - dose enough) shit like that? Do you remember Abattoir "Vicious Attack? Remember that shit? No?

**Matt:** No

**E.S. Day:** Nobody remembers that one... I must be out of my mind!

**15. E.S. Day:** OK... I am going to named ten

bands, you tell me the first thing that comes to mind.

Biohazard: New York City  
Pro-Pain: Thrash

Cro-Mags: New York City  
Public Enemy: Good rap

The Goats: Never heard of them

Smokin' Suckaz Wit Logic: Never heard of 'em (Hmmm...)

Tygers of Pan Tang: Heard of 'em

Loudness (or Roundness): Japanese

Lamb of God: Good Dudes

Pantera: Rockin' band

**16. E.S. Day:** If you were invited to be the new drummer on the next season of 'Supergroup' who would you want to round out the line-up?

**Matt:** Uhhh... that's a tough one...

**E.S. Day:** Isn't that a bitch? I mean, we don't want to piss off your fellow band-mates.

**Matt:** Yeah, ya know what? ...uhhh...

**E.S. Day:** No comment?

**Matt:** Yeah... no comment. (laughs)

**17. E.S. Day:** Being from Connecticut, how did the NYC hardcore scene seep into the band's sound?

**Matt:** Well part of our influence comes from the NYC hardcore scene.

**E.S. Day:** Yeah, but you're not from New York - you're from Connecticut.

**Matt:** I know but we used to listen to

Agnostic Front, Sick of It All, etc.

**18. E.S. Day:** With all the stupid fuckin' questions you get from music journalists, what stupid question would you ask me as a journalist, given the chance?

**Matt:** Where do you come up with all the stupid questions?

**19. E.S. Day:** And since Vancouver/Victoria fans are "As Die Hard as They Come", what would you like to say to the kids who can't come to the show because Mommy won't give them the money?

**Matt:** It's not that often we get to play here. We're trying to make our way through Canada and different parts. It's been three years since we were here last. Hopefully it'll be sooner before we come back.

**E.S. Day:** Thanks.

\*NOTE\* The 20th & 21st questions have been omitted, due to the simple fact that they got lost in a hazy shade of indica smoke. Sorry. - E.S. Day

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## Hail The Sultans of Meat Rock!

by Bexy

As I walked into Lucky Bar for an interview with Sons of Butcher I anticipated an event of pure hilarity. I've seen a few episodes of the Sons of Butcher cartoon, which airs on the teletoon, and watched some killer concert footage of their band online and all I can say is that these guys are fucking brilliant! Seriously? What's better than 3 guys who carve meat for a living and love to rock smothered in spandex? My point exactly!

**AU: Introductions please.**

This is **Sol Butcher**...from sons of butcher

This **Doug Borsky** Yo!

Hey its **Ricky Butcher**...what's goin on?

**AU: Do u guys smoke weed?**

**Ricky Butcher:** Ya... but never before a show.

**Sol Butcher:** Are you guys meeting up with your girlfriends?

**AU: Your actual girlfriends or your Victoria girlfriends?**

**Ricky:** Haha the REAL ones.

**AU: You take your girlfriends on tour?**

**Doug Borski:** Yeah, we flew them into BC. We haven't seen them in a month... I literally got married and left.

**AU: Where are u guys from?**

**Ricky:** Hamilton, Ontario

**AU: Describe Sons of Butcher for all the "lame-mans" at home.**

**Ricky:** Well, the live show is described as the best show in Canada

by many people every night. And if you come to the show you're gonna see some

dudes in spandex rocking out to shit that hasn't been so good since the 80's.

**AU: How did the cartoon end up getting made?**

**Ricky:** Well...I knew all the dudes from the Red Green Show, all the producers and shit. I had a different show with my brother and he was an animator. So we made our own demo and our own music, showed it to S & S and they got behind it and they pitched it to teletoon and they sorta liked the look of it. They gave us some money to make the fuckin' real demo. Then we made it and showed it to them again and they were like, "Yeah! This could be a good show!" So they bought it. It took 3 years.

**AU: What is the style of animation used for the Sons of Butcher cartoon?**

**Sol:** It's all done in Flash.

**Doug:** Well we shoot our heads live on a green

screen and bring it into flash and the animators kinda just do their thing and interpret our facial expressions.

**AU: Would u suggest smoking a huge fatty before watching the show?**

**Ricky:** Hopefully everyone does that!

**AU: Tell us about some of your tour highlights.**

**Ricky:** Signing Boobs.

**Doug:** Ya...lots of boobs.

**Sol:** In St.John's, a girl got completely naked and flashed her exposed asshole, spread it right at us. That was bizarre. Haha.

**Doug:** Seeing what bacon and eggs taste like in different restaurants in different towns.

**AU: What are your favourite songs to cover?**

**Ricky:** Journey...We used to do "Oh Sherry" by Steve Perry, which I wanna bring back. We're doing a little Midnight Oil tonight.

**Doug:** And Dio. We do Dio every single show...

**Sol:** ...and Billy Ocean.

**Ricky:** Yeah, a little salt of that.

**AU: Who are your music Gods?**

**Ricky:** Steve Perry.

**Sol:** Billy Ocean.

**Doug:** Dio.

**Ricky:** Def Leppard .

**AU: What about the Ultimate Concert Line up that you'd like to see live, living or dead?**

**Ricky:** Journey. A Journey revival with Steve Perry on vocals.

**Sol:** Billy Ocean as a headliner...

**Doug:** and Dio! Hahaha!

**AU: How do you guys come up with your song ideas for classics like "Fuck the Shit"?**

**Doug:** I wrote in the script "Ricky plays the most offensive song ever made" and he brought Fuck the Shit.

**AU: Any plans for the Sons of Butcher Movie?**

**Ricky:** If we get our 3rd season, yeah for sure! We're doing a Sons of Butcher tour documentary right now.

**AU: Where are u headed next?**

**Ricky:** Nanaimo... we're gonna get the shit kicked out of us at the Cambie.

**Sol:** Do Asian gangs and bikers hangout a lot at the Cambie? Do they take kindly to spandex? I do a lot of homoerotic stuff on stage. I don't know if that's going to be a problem at the Cambie.

**AU: You'll be fine...**

**Ricky:** I think I wanna live in Victoria though. It's the nicest city we've played.

**Doug:** Vancouver was awesome!

**Ricky:** It was the best! Edmonton had more people... but Vancouver was better. The fans were better. But everywhere people fought and stole our shit. They stole a whole bunch of meat.

**AU: Do u guys have groupies?**

**Sol:** Well... yeah... there's one that's followed us around BC. She's a mega fan. She gotta Sons of Butcher tattoo the other day and we filmed it.

**Ricky:** Yeah. A big nasty ugly one on her leg..

**Doug:** She took a week off from work and she's just travelling with us, following us, running beside to the van.

**Sol:** Hahaha Running beside the van! <in a girl's voice with actions> "Guys Guys Guys... This is awesome! Slow down...Guys Guys Guys!"

**AU: I shouldn't have fucked her... JUST KIDDING!!!**

**AU: Final question. In a drinking contest who would win, Sons of Butcher or Fubar?**

**Ricky:** Us!

**Doug:** We'd definitely win! Sol is a recovering alcoholic... but ya, we'd win!

**Doug:** Fubar... Those guys are pretty heavy duty though.

**Ricky:** No, we'd win! They're skinny! We could drink more than those guys put together and still be standing!

## AT THE BUFFET WITH GLEN & TY

TY

Shabusen is a Yakinioku style Japanese buffet that also incorporates Korean BBQ and hot pot as well. You basically sit down and check off what you want and how much of it you need. Big Rick had this well in hand as he was the resident veteran at our table. We started out with sushi and lots of it. California Roll, Dynamite Roll, sashimi (salmon, tuna and fatty tuna), spicy squid, miso soup (that I promptly spilled on myself), some amazing oysters and green onions on the half shell and baked in cheese that I forget the name of, suanomo salad... Things were

getting out of hand fast and all of the sudden our BBQ stuff arrives. Before you know it, we've got skewers of beef, pork and chicken roasting on two small grills built right into our tables! I want this at home NOW! The food is still rolling and we're all having a hard time keeping up... Well, not that hard, but it was overwhelming to say the least. More rolls and more sashimi hit the table. I know I'm missing stuff, but my head is swimming in soya sauce just thinking about it.



When it was all said and done, we knew that this place was something special. There were five of us at the table that day. Five men pushed beyond the brink of buffet capacity. At last count, over one hundred pieces of sashimi were consumed, and there was no certain count on the rolls. Rick was right. Shabusen is sushi heaven on earth and it was a good day. Until next time, remember that the Sneeze Guard is your friend and protector. Treat it with the respect it deserves...At The Buffet.

# 18

Service: 5 (Quick and to the point, but not in your face)  
Cleanliness: 5 (The place is a marvel to look at as well)  
Quality: 5 (Everything RULED!)  
Affordability: 3 (Not cheap enough for an everyday thing, but not too bad)

## MISSION#2: THE SHABUSEN SLAM

This time around we found ourselves in Vancouver at the end of The Hoosegow's tour. Big Rick had been telling us for months about a legendary sushi buffet on Granville called Shabusen. I mean he was obsessed. The plan was made early on that we would hit it on the way home to celebrate (or mourn, I should say) the end of the tour. We were excited to say the least.

GLEN

Okay, the first thing you need to know about this buffet is that it rules because you don't have to get up. That's right, you heard me. It's all you can eat and they deliver everything right to you. You just fill out the card and BAM, it shows up at the table. There is somewhat of a tiny salad bar in the back, but as we all know you don't make friends with salad...

The next thing that sets Shabusen apart from other buffets is the two BBQ grills installed right in the table. Meat and fish cooked up right at the Table-Q. What fun!

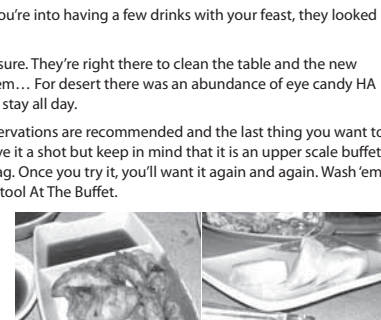
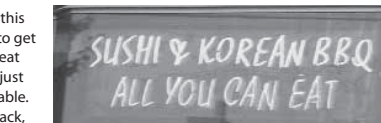
As for the food, we're talking about all kinds of sushi, skewers of meat to grill, some deep fried tempura, and best of all, CHICKEN WINGS!!! Lot's of soup and tea as well and if you're into having a few drinks with your feast, they looked to have a well stocked bar as well.

As for the service, they were damn fast to be sure. They're right there to clean the table and the new dishes are flying out as fast as you can eat them... For desert there was an abundance of eye candy HA HA! There is a two hour time limit, but I could stay all day.

There are two locations in Vancouver and reservations are recommended and the last thing you want to do is have to wait. Next time you're in Van, give it a shot but keep in mind that it is an upper scale buffet and it's a little pricier than the average feed bag. Once you try it, you'll want it again and again. Wash 'em, wash 'em, wash 'em, clean hands are the best tool At The Buffet.

# 16

Service: 5  
Cleanliness: 4  
Quality: 5  
Affordability: 2



# A Summer in the Life of Watermelon

I closed this summer with another sampling party and salon in my home. Only this time I served Gin and Chronic to my guests along with marijuana cheese and crackers (Hoocheese), pumpKIND tarts, and of course the infamous gingersnap with extra snap. When hosting a weed tasting party I must be an alchemist crafting perfect highs for the masses. This means I don't want to disappoint anyone and I also don't want them sleeping over. Sometimes I include a small



amount of magic mushrooms to keep everyone alert, but not this time.

This time I wanted to showcase some products that don't generally get served at desert. Marijuana should be ingested before a big meal as things will be answered in priority sequence. By serving a cheese ball and cocktail you and your guests can get your high on earlier in the night and not wake up stoned. However, if you do want to get stoned for breakfast, call me, I have a great Budscotti. All this and a stripper from Sweet Soul Burlesque, Pete Johansson doing comedy, DJ Girl Cherise and Slow Poke and the Smoke singing Doo Wop Pop! It was a party not to remember!

Earlier in the summer I went to Shambhala, BC's version of Burning Man. Whenever I am asked



how it was I think "Man it was great, but all I can remember was the extortion."

Imagine, four guys dressed in black approaching me and my boyfriend, handcuffing us and demanding to search the vehicle after the festival had ended. I was eating corn on the cob and Gary had a Q tip in his ear, we were waiting for a tow doll to pull my defunct van off the property. The hired thugs/security made it seem as if they were working for the RCMP but they weren't. After finding nothing substantial in the van but money they decided they would like to take some of it. They demanded I forge some vendor documents, took four grand and then offered me a sweet receipt. When I got back Gary still had the Q tip in his ear and we were released. Long story short, I played a few aces when I returned to the city and finally two guys came to my door with apologies and four thousand dollars in cash. The moral of this story is, "The only time you should be in handcuffs is during consensual sex." (This story is in more detail on my website.)

Another highlight for me was Moses Znaimers' IDEA City held in Toronto June 21st. It features 50 speakers from all over the world discussing everything from cryogenics to torture victims in Saudi Arabia. This event attracts the cream of the crop in entrepreneurs on all sides of the spectrum. It's like jumping jacks for the brain. I was not only miraculously invited to attend; I was also rather well received by what many would consider conservative people with lots of dough. I only bring this up because one week earlier I was kicked out of an East Side Pride event. What's happening in the world when the gay community finds me too extreme and the business community finds me charming?

Ah! Summer on Wreck Beach! What can I say? I can never decide 'what not to wear.' I religiously sold watermelon and cookies to my nude disciples whilst basking in the warm glow of the sun every day. I coffee break in the ocean, or groove to some live music just the next leg over. Life is sweet on Wreck Beach. I can't wait to get to work every day because I can't wait to get na-



ked. Don't forget to come join us for FREE WATERMELON DAY next year. I give away over five hundred pounds of free watermelon. It is a glorious day coupled with our BARE BUNS RUN, the only nude marathon held on Canadian public soil.

Life is what you make it these days and I got to say I am pretty happy being unapologetic about who I am. I'm Watermelon. Comic! Baker! Entrepreneur! Woman! Drug Dealer Extraordinaire!

- Watermelon  
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## AN INTERVIEW WITH PETER IWERS OF IN FLAMES

Interview by Robin Thompson and Ira Hunter

Gothenburg, Sweden's In Flames is undoubtedly one of the most influential bands to hit the world metal scene in the past ten years. Formed in the Swedish underground in 1990, elements of their melodic death metal attack are often copied by North American and Scandinavian bands alike

Starting in 1994 with "Lunar Strain" and releasing 8 full-length studio albums all the way to this February's top selling album "Come Clarity", In Flames is pushing hard to maintain their relevance and dominance in the genre. Some long term fans have been alienated by the immense popularity and widespread commercial touring (Ozzfest 2005, Sounds of The Underground 2006) of the band, as this has dulled the band's razor sharp death-metal edge. 2004's universally panned "Soundtrack of Your Escape" sounded to many long term listeners as a complete concession to commercial rock radio.

Read on, and remember all you new fans: ya ain't heard In Flames until ya heard "Episode 666" and "Behind Space" live.

AU: What's the metal scene in Sweden like?

Peter: It's better than anything else basically I'd say, there are lots and lots of good bands coming out of Sweden and you know a lot of them, they influence a lot of the bands over here, so it's a really good scene.

AU: Tell us about some of the bands in Sweden, that we wouldn't normally know about out here.

Peter: Well, that's the thing, you know about most of them, because they are so good, you have Soilwork, Hypocrisy, and Opeth, all these bands and you know about them right?

AU: Well we know about them, but we don't often get to see them. How is Canada treating you now that you are here?

Peter: Really good, Canada is always really good to us. We've done some places that we usually don't play, we come to Vancouver and Montreal and Toronto and Saskatoon I think it's called, and Edmonton?



smart man. So I understand that you toured with Ozzfest last year, how was that?

Peter: It was interesting, we opened up the main stage, which was kind of weird, because as we did that Rob Zombie was closing up the second stage, and there was kind of a crash there, a lot of people thought they could see both sets in their entirety, but sometimes he played a little longer than he should have, and we always went on early. It was interesting, but I prefer to play for people standing up rather than sitting down in amphitheaters.

AU: Agreed. Do you know anything about the Ozzy and Bruce Dickinson fight, what happened there?

Peter: I only know what was said in the media. I know that Ozzy wasn't involved himself though.

AU: Was that a big controversy on tour then?

Peter: Not really, I remember Bruce did some cracks here and there, some which were true, and some that were out of line, but what was most out of line was the people who went to see the show got so ripped off when some certain somebody decided to ruin an Iron Maiden show, regardless of what he said. A lot of people wanted to see them and they were ripped off, and I think it was really unprofessional.

AU: Do you think it's tainted Ozzfest for the future?

Peter: I don't think so, but I heard Ozzfest isn't what it used to be, not even the year that we did it, but I've only been on that tour once, so am not quite sure.

AU: So let's talk about Metal more and what influences you?

Peter: Everything, everything. A lot of bands say, well you have to listen to this extreme metal all the time, but we listen to everything from Simon and Garfunkel to Cannibal Corpse you know?

AU: Simon and Garfunkel?

AU: Have you gotten a chance to smoke any of the Vancouver marijuana yet?

Peter: No, not yet

AU: Looking forward to it?

Peter: No comment

AU: Ha, no comment,

how was that?



Peter: Yup

AU: That kind of music must calm you down on the road.

Peter: Totally. It's very healthy to be influenced by all types of music I think. When you create your own music you will have a bigger variety, more open minded music.

AU: So with that said, is there any Canadian bands that you really like?

Peter: Annihilator, really good band, Sebastian Bach is from here, really good singer...Rush.

AU: Geddy Lee, does he influence you?

Peter: Absolutely, amazing guy.

AU: So what's next for In Flames?

Peter: Well, we've been touring now since January, so we will have about two months off, and then we go to Japan for some festivals and then we do the European version of Unholy Alliance with Slayer. Then we come back here in December.

AU: Who else is on the European Unholy Alliance tour?

Peter: Children of Bodom, Lamb Of God, and Thine Eyes Bleed.

AU: So the same as Canada but with In Flames.

Peter: Yeah, but without Mastodon.

AU: Do you miss home when you're touring?

Peter: Absolutely.

AU: When you get back do you party hearty, or are you sick of it?

Peter: I'm sick of partying. I spend time with my family.

AU: You have kids?

Peter: Yup, one boy, one girl.

AU: So you're a family man, who's still a metal hardcore?

Peter: No, I'm a family man who likes music, always will.

AU: What do you listen to when you're at home with the kids?

Peter: Simon and Garfunkel.

AU: Final words?

Peter: As always, thanks for the appreciation, and I hope you come out when we come to play next.

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Justin Hagberg and Nick Cates of 3 Inches of Blood



## No Remorse, Only Revenge!

Interview by Ira Hunter, Robin Thompson and Mitochondrion Nick  
Intro by Erik Lindholm

Vancouver, British Columbia's 3 Inches of Blood is the ruling force of heavy metal! Blending the melodic gallop and twin guitar harmonies of NWOBHM bands such as Iron Maiden and Judas Priest along side Cam Pipes' falsetto vocals and Jamie Hooper's metalcore-style growls has created an unstoppable anthemic beast. In a live venue there is no equal: the energetic band earns the crowd's mosh pit madness every fucking time.

Formed in 2000, the band has released two albums. Their debut "Battletcry under a Winter Sun" gave them the musical momentum for giant label Roadrunner Records to pick them up and put them on tour across the world. Their second album "Advance and Vanquish" brought forth videos, singles, critical acclaim and of course, world tours. Hammering home the orc-slaughtering message for the masses with rockin' bands such as Motorhead, Corrosion of Conformity and The Darkness has raised the profile of 3 Inches to dizzying heights.

On the verge of releasing their yet untitled third album, Absolute Underground caught up with 3 Inches of Blood to discuss Dungeons and Dragons, East Hastings, hot knives and METAL.

**AU: You guys just got off stage, how do you feel?**

**Hagberg:** Awesome!

**AU: What's the best show you've played so far on this tour?**

**Hagberg:** Sounds of the Underground was killer.

**Cates:** Sounds of the Underground was phenomenal!

**Hagberg:** This whole tour kicked so much ass!

**AU: Who were you most stoked to see on Sounds of The Underground?**

**Hooper:** Behemoth was definitely the tightest band of the night. Their drummer's fucking crushing, and those synchronized hair whips were bad ass. They probably practice in front of a mirror with a metronome. It's pretty cool. What's funny is Behemoth play second out of fifteen bands and, "As I Lay Dying" headlines. It's pretty tragic.

**AU: Are they really Christians?**

**Cates:** As I Lay Dying are Christians, and Behemoth had shirts that said, "Christians to the lions!"

**Hooper:** Fuck, I've gotten the Jesus talk from As I Lay Dying. In the same conversation as trying to talk to me about Jesus, he talked about roller blading.

**Cates:** Yeah! The Sounds of the Underground show, was one of the best shows I've ever been a part of, in any band I've ever played in! That was insane. Having Gwar come out at the end of the set, and kill your singers. Fuckin' Beefcake comes out with a fuckin' sword and killed Cam and Jamie! That's the craziest! When I turned around and saw him coming out from behind the amps, I was in shock!

**Hooper:** You stopped playing! (laughs)

**Cates:** No, I kept playing, but my jaw dropped. I heard a rumour that

might happen, but I didn't think it would. I mean, Gwar comes out on stage and kills your fuckin' singers! How cool is that? It's the coolest thing I could think of.

**AU: So what happened?**

**Cates:** He had a bunch of fake blood capsules in his hand that he smashed on Jamie's head, then hit him with a sword. Blood went everywhere.

**Hooper:** I forgot that he was gonna kill me. When he came out it was like, "Wait a second!" I was so fuckin' stoned at that point too, I was like, "Aww, shit!" So I just fell down. I was like, "Alright, spray the blood."

**Cates:** Tonight was my first show ever in Canada, in any band. I come from the States. My old band's drummer had a D.U.I. with unpaid fines. He could never get across the border, they'd always deny it. We'd get up there, I'd be all pumped to play Canada, and then we'd have to go back. I honestly couldn't think of a more epic first Canadian show. This is epic man.

**AU: I hear you guys turned down a full tour with Gwar to do the new album. Is this true?**

**Hooper:** We'd already scheduled the new album before Gwar offered to tour with us. It would've been a couple months with Gwar. It was gonna be Gwar, us, and Municipal Waste or something like that. That's a bum out to turn down, but, we gotta get the new record out. It's unfortunate, but it'll be another time.

**AU: Is it coming along well? Any producers in line, or anybody to mix it?**

**Hooper:** Joey Jordison, the drummer from Slipknot, is producing it. He's very talented.

**Cates:** He owns "Allfather: Weapon of Ascension." He knows fuckin' metal! The first time I met Joey Jordison, I'm wearin' my "Manowar" hoodie and he looks at me and starts singing, "Kings of Metal." Word for word right off the bat.

**AU: Justin, what is your experience like compared from Allfather to 3 Inches of Blood?**

**Hagberg:** I like Three Inches, I miss Allfather. They've both served a purpose in my life, and I'm very proud of both.

**AU: Would you ever do an Allfather reunion with all of the original members?**

**Hagberg:** Maybe. An Allfather reunion is guaranteed, an Allfather reunion with every original member is not, but you never know what can happen.

**AU: Nick, you've recently joined 3 Inches of Blood, how did that happen?**

**Cates:** (Laughs) A God came down from the heavens and he picked me! I'm not sure why. Actually, Kane Hodder, my old band, was managed by the same people that manages 3IOB. I was pretty unhappy about the goals they had set for themselves, and I heard through the grapevine 3 inches were looking for a bass player and I basically made them give me a tryout. I already knew a bunch of songs.

**AU: Do you have a lot of input?**

**Cates:** Yeah dude, I work super great with Justin and Shane. I'm coming up with a lot of the music and stuff. Then we hand our kinda finished songs over to Cam and Jamie, and they sprinkle their magic



on top of it.

**AU: Awesome. There were some new songs in your set, when are you going to release those to the world? When are we going to be able to hear that and more?**

**Cates:** Around March.

**AU: So, you guys are going to go into seclusion for recording a new album instead of touring?**

**Hooper:** A couple weeks maybe. In September we're going out across Canada with, "A Javelin Reign" from Vancouver, then we're gonna play some shows with, "Rammer" from Toronto, and, "Illuminati."

**AU: Who are some of the bands you've been playing with that we might have not heard about?**

**Hooper:** The last two bands we toured with a couple of days ago were "Early Man", and "Bad Wizard". We played with a band called "MegaTwat" from Chicago.

**AU: What were they like?**

**Hooper:** Brutal, brutal grind. It's a two-piece, drum and bass, with a drum machine. They also have a muppet-drummer. It starts from the head, the body is inanimate, and it has moving arms the guy controls, and it plays the drum machine parts, on a cardboard and tin-foil drum kit. It was so crushing.

**AU: What does it look like?**

**Hooper:** It looks more like Beaker if you were to compare it to an actual Muppet. It's made out of tinfoil and flannel and they wear flannel shirts. It's basically brutal grind with a drum machine, and muppet drummer with, synchronized to the drum machine, geriatric gay porn being flashed from a screen behind them. At one point, the bass player actually break-dances in time to the drums, gets back into the set... it's probably one of the more fantastic things I've seen in life. It was like two years ago.

**AU: When you've been on the bigger label do you get hooked up with bigger bands, like Roadrunner bands, when you go on tour?**

**Hooper:** Yeah, but a lot of the Roadrunner bands are not necessarily bands that we'd want to go out with on tour with.

**AU: I like how you're going on tour with your friends bands, like Javelin Reign. Does that help keeps the tours fun?**

**Hooper:** Yeah. We're very into that. Taking bands of people we know. It's really about having a good time.

**AU: Any last words for your fans?**

**Hagberg:** Easy livin'!

**Cates:** Uh, (laughing), I don't know. I always screw up that question. I'm just gonna go with Justin's.



Jamie Hooper



## BEYOND HELL AND BACK!!!

Interview by Ira Hunter and Chad Persley

Intro by Erik Lindholm

From the depths of Antarctica comes a force so primal and powerful, a force so musical and entertaining that all feel the rock when they come near. Rising from the glaciers in 1984 and releasing a series of politically incorrect, completely offensive and musically superior albums on Metal Blade and DRT Entertainment, GWAR is currently poised to take over the entire world by spraying blood and semen on all who dare pay witness to their madness live! Indeed, their latest album "Beyond Hell" has made vaginas wet across this rock known as Earth.

It takes effort to keep a group of horny immortal Gods happy, and that is just what Absolute Underground was seeking to achieve by providing immense amounts of sacrificial animal blood, whores, and strong drugs.

**AU: What was the genesis of Gwar?**

Dave Brockie/Oderus Urungus: It came from a punk/comedy/metal outfit called 'Death Piggy' and some weird artists who were working on 'Scumdogs of the Universe'. I was in Death Piggy and sometimes helped with the costumes they made, but mostly just drank their beer. We had this kooky idea for a band called Gwarrggghhh. In the beginning it wasn't Gwar, but always started with G-W-A-R. There's no proof, but it is true. As a warm-up for Death Piggy we'd do three awful songs, mostly just standing there with our instruments feeding back. You'd have to watch 'Blood, Bath and Beyond' to see what we looked like then. We're not grotesque, or wearing masks, or make-up, we're just a bunch of kids dressed as monsters from space. Just skateboard helmets painted black with horns stickin' out of 'em. It was stupid as shit. We did it as a warm-up for Death Piggy until that fell away. One day after a show a guy handed me a stack of money so we immediately went out and bought pot. We realized we had something going so Death Piggy broke up and Gwar just took off from there. The rest is history.

**AU: Is this all on the new DVD, 'Blood Bath and Beyond'?**

DB: It has a lot of really early Gwar footage. The costumes were paper mache, not latex-rubber. A lot of effort was put in and a lot of documentation made filmed but never used. We did the DVD 'cause the original copies were deteriorating to the point they weren't gonna play anymore.

**AU: What were some Gwar's early inspirations?**

DB: We were certainly influenced by Alice Cooper and Kiss. We did it for the fun of emulating our heroes. We're as surprised as anyone else that we've created a 21 year old juggernaut of entertainment destruction.

**AU: What about other bands that have copied you guys?**

DB: I wouldn't say they copied us any more than we copied Cooper or Kiss. We see our influence in other bands, but we're still the kings! Nobody's doing what we do. I'm surprised a band hasn't come along to take it to the next level yet. Bands are still locked into the idea that it has to be a band playing rock and roll music. You really are free to do anything you want up there.

Michael Derks/Balsac the Jaws of Death: One band that has done something different is 'The Guerillaz'. They've created a totally fabricated band that doesn't exist in reality where they become the rockstars. I'm really impressed by them. I would say they've taken that step in a way, but not gross.

**AU: Have you guys kept all of the original members from the very beginning?**

Balsac: I wasn't on the first album. I joined just after it was recorded. There were actually two Balsacs before me.

**AU: When you're writing songs, does it start with the music, or does it come from the character's perspective first?**

Balsac: Musically we can do whatever we want, which is our downfall at times 'cause we're so unlimited. We forget what big monsters from outer space would sound like.

DB: Brutality goes with the image. We finally realized that the most powerful incarnation of Gwar was when the music was brutal, heavy, and hard consistently. That's what we do live. We're happy that Gwar has gone through so many different song writing styles, it's really cool and our band's really come full circle. There was a period of about 5 years where we weren't allowed in Canada. We just got back in 3 years ago, and the shows have been great up here.

**AU: What pisses you off and makes you want to kill and maim stupid celebrities?**

DB: How fucking rich and completely untalented they are. Why are they so deserving of such richness and respect when they are these absolutely manufactured, personality-less, completely one-dimensional, banal, idiotic, stooges?! Puppets! Yacking mannequins! Ugh! Just posing and preening, pimping their corporate sponsor like the good little whores they are. If anyone deserves to be rich off showbiz it's fucking us 'cause this band has kicked ass for years! We've never gotten the kind of financial success that you would expect a band as important as Gwar to have. These other complete A-holes, they're so

loaded. I can't get health insurance for my employees or myself. We all have terrible credit. It's ridiculous. The government should just give us a cheque and say, 'Thank you Gwar', but instead, ugh... Justin Timberlake! Pop used to good! There should be bands like The Beatles around. I don't want to sound too old, but it's just horrible now. Absolutely, completely horrible.

**AU: What aspects of your stage show have changed since you were last here for Sounds of the Underground?**

DB: The show is completely new and different. It's showcasing the new album, 'Beyond Hell'. It's the story of Gwar's descent to Hell. Driven from our fortress by combined armies of man and nuclear carpet bombing, we're unable to defend ourselves and have to retreat to the lowest levels of the lair where we find unexplored tunnels. Through there, we find the gates of Hell. We meet different demons, monsters, and creatures as we go down further, finally meeting Satan himself. The show reflects the story of Gwar's descent and return from Hell. The songs are like chapters in a book. For the last few years, we've just been chopping off heads and maiming celebrities. This year we're challenging ourselves and our audience to take a step up, get a story across and damn if it hasn't worked. We used to try to do the concept album thing but it would be such a muddled mess you couldn't understand what was happening. We thought that everyone was hanging on every plot detail but generally our show was going right over everyone's head.

**AU: How many story lines have you had over the years?**

DB: Generally, every album had a theme or story behind it. The only ones that really stand out are 'Beyond Hell' and 'RagNaRok', which told the story of a comet hitting the earth. Beyond Hell is the first real concept album where we really try to tell a story all the way through, from beginning to end.

**AU: What about that weed rally you went to at the Playboy mansion?**

DB: That was such a lie! Like so many other lies they tell us. They're like, do 'School's Out', Alice Cooper will be in your video. Wrong! We're gonna give you this big award, you're gonna party at the Playboy mansion. Wrong! It's gotten to the point where we don't believe any of that shit anymore. If we don't see it in front of us, with our own eyes, and exactly what they said is happening is happening, it ain't true.

**AU: Did Hugh fuck you?**

DB: Whoever put together this thing, they obviously thought they were a lot more important than they were. They made all these fuckin' fat-ass promises and then the shit started to hit the fan. Suddenly it's time to talk money, contracts, scheduling, plane tickets, production, all the things we need to make this happen. That's when we knew we were dealing with rookies. All of a sudden the party wasn't at the Playboy mansion, it was at some other place, then it wasn't at all. It was so retarded.

**AU: Just a bunch of potheads?**

DB: Not even potheads, those dumbass, dress up like vampire people that run around the woods and play live-action role playing games.

**AU: Living in Antarctica, are you worried about the effects of global warming?**

DB: No, I don't really give a shit about that.

**AU: Have you guys ever produced any prosthetics and effects for any movies other than the Gwar releases?**

DB: Splinter elements of Gwar factions, like Don, who does Sleazy P. Martini, he's got a little production business. He blew up a boat for the history channel. That was pretty cool.

Balsac: Also we did a few pieces for a Broadway show.

DB: John Cusack, the actor, had a stage version of Hunter S. Thompson's 'Fear and Loathing'. We provided a dead dog. He wouldn't send the dog back, so I called him up in the Oederus voice and left a very threatening message on his answering machine. We had the dog back in three days. I'll never talk to John Cusack again though.

**AU: Is it true there's an 'Evil Dead' Broadway play?**

DB: Yes there is. There will be a Gwar show on Broadway one day. We'll have a haunted casino in Vegas too. That's my other insane dream.

**AU: Tell me about the opening bands tonight, 'Municipal Waste', and 'The Red Chord'?**

DB: Municipal Waste is from Virginia, they're a really cool, hyper-

thrash band. A lot of people say they sound like D.R.I. Definitely that old school thrash style. They're hilarious! They do beer bong, and take boogie boards and surf around on the crowd. They're really awesome musicians. I've been watching them the whole tour and haven't heard one wrong note. That pisses me off.

Balsac: The Red Chord is from Boston. They're kind of death metal without the death-y attitude. Insane musicians, super fast, super technical. I can't even comprehend the way they play.

**AU: Do you think people come to the Gwar show for the music or for the spectacle?**

DB: They come to a Gwar show for the spectacle, and that includes the blood, music, and cuttlefish upside the head. The getting drunk with your friends at the bar. It's the whole experience of a Gwar show, but the music is the backbone of it. It's the single biggest reason that people are there; 'cause those P.A.'s are blaring out fuckin' metal. So, I think the music is the most important element of Gwar.

**AU: How long was the process of writing the Beyond Hell album?**

DB: They wrote the music in less than a year, I did the lyrics in less than a month. Lyrically, I can't progress as fast as them without the music. I always feel like I never have as much time to really write as much as I want, but then when you lay it all out, I'd see that I've written a fuckin' mini-novel.

**AU: You've had comic books, now I see Gwar action figures in the works?**

DB: Yes. The comic books I hope to come back to one day, maybe with the action figures. We just got the Beefcake one out. Oederus is next. We've been waiting for this for years. It's totally awesome!

**AU: Are they gonna be anatomically correct?**

DB: Beefcake should be fatter, he's a trimmed down, svelter Beefcake. The level of detail is amazing. As far as the costumes, they look like they do on stage for this tour. Besides, I can't see a world without a Gwar video game. We gotta figure out how to do that. It would be the coolest, sickest game ever.

**AU: What kind of game are you thinking of?**

DB: A module-istic, first-person shooter, but more developed. The idea we've been kicking around is you start out as a fucked up, disgusting fan stumbling around some horrible city. There's a show that night and you gotta steal and rob to get enough money to get a ticket. You go to the show, fight your way through the crowd, then get kidnapped by Gwar and taken back to Antarctica where they throw you in the darkest level of their dungeons. As a hideous bohab fan, you have to work your way up through all the different levels until you get into the Gwar fortress. The first one's called, 'The Keep of Balsac'. You sneak into his keep and get to the final chamber where Balsac is sitting on his bed with his jaws off. They're on this altar and if you can get to the jaws before Balsac, you become Balsac. The game playing totally changes at that point. You become Balsac and the Gwar fortress is under attack from Techno Destructo or something. You gotta marshal all the other Gwar guys and assemble them for the final battle. It'll have that sick sense of humour, and we would totally go for the most disgustingly violent, over the top, blood and gore that's ever been in a video game. Retarded amounts of blood everywhere; death scenes that are just horrible. Just completely overdo it. I've never seen a game like that where it's just bodies piling up to the point where it's just, 'Oh my God!'

**AU: Did you hear they found Michael Dunahee? There was a rumour that had Gwar abducted him after playing a show in Victoria.**

DB: Where'd they find him?

**AU: Living with some other family, I think.**

DB: Oh good, I hope he has a great Christmas. We got all the missing kids back at Antarctica working on our giant, bubbling, seething, war-cauldrons. That's where the missing children of the world end up.

Balsac: They're slave labour.

**AU: What do you think of B.C. weed?**

DB: It's the best! I can't smoke it for hours before a show or I'll be fuckin' useless. A high Oederus is not good. It's the best pot in the world, period.



GWAR unmasked!!!, ...nope just some of Hastings and Main's Finest



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Balsac The Jaws of Death



GWAR's number one fan, he was bein a total dick in the pit, he got his...

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by Heather Furneaux

Vancouver's legendary band The Deadcats gave birth to the bastard child we call "Psychobilly". Going strong for twelve years this beer soaked rumble of psychobilly, rockabilly, surf punk and country-billy will get you rockin' with their new Cd 'Feline 500'. You'll definitely get a mix of heavier stuff and "tear in your beer" tracks. I recommend The Deadcats for a raunchy greasin' good time! Catch them at Logan's Pub, 1821 Cook St December 16th.

Tell us how The Deadcats got their name?

Mike- 2 ways:

1. The name is a tribute to all the cool cats who are... DEAD!!! i.e. Eddie Cochran, Robert Johnson, Frank Sinatra, Gene Vincent, Charlie Feathers, Joe Strummer, Hank Williams, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis, etc etc

2. When we formed we were kinda like 'The Dead Kennedys meet The Stray Cats' as we were described by one writer.

The new album 'Feline 500' came out recently. How has the response been so far?

Mike- It's actually gotten a lot better reviews than I thought it would. We didn't take a lot of time recording it & some of the songs we'd only played live once or twice. It's good and raunchy though. How would you compare 'Feline 500' to other Deadcats releases?

Mike- It's a little heavier in spots than the last one (Bad Pussy) especially songs like 'Peggy Suicide' which is flat-out psychobilly. But then we also did songs like 'Bar Stool', which sounds like traditional 'tear in my beer' country, on this CD as well.

Where did you record the new album?

Mike- HEAVY-O-SONIC studios in Vancouver engineered and mastered by Marc L'Esperance, who has also worked with bands such as NOMEANSNO, RAY CONDO, COAL, HANSON BROTHERS, and more. How does the song writing process work?

Mike- The songs are all written by me or Chopper (guitar). We bring them in about 90% finished, and we arrange them in rehearsals.

How long have The Deadcats been around and how many albums have you released?

Mike- Our first gig was Friday the 13th, of January, 1994. We only



have to get a band going together! So we threw together a line-up to do a gig a few weeks later. We didn't have a name for the band so we took the name of his old band The (original) Deadcats, of which he was the founder. The crowds in Vancouver loved it, they had never seen psychobilly before, and all these cute Betty Page type girls starting coming out to our shows because the music was very danceable. We knew we had stumbled onto a winning formula!

We've now got 5 full-length albums out and one 7-song EP. Most of the albums have come out on FLYING SAUCER but we've also had releases on CRAZY LOVE RECORDS (GERMANY), REVEL YELL (JAPAN), AND RAUCOUS (U.K.)

What are the bands musical styles and influences?

Mike- Well mostly rockabilly, psychobilly, punk, and instrumental/surf (stuff like Dick Dale, Link Wray). Chopper is a master of the surf guitar sound; he's got that tone and sound DOWN. And I and MARBLES (new 2nd guitar) grew up playing in punk bands.

formed about 6 weeks before that. I was playing in a punk band called House of Commons (H.O.C.) and a drummer friend of mine, a Vancouver 'legend' named 'Beef' dropped by our practice place to hang out. When the other guys were out of the room he jumped on the drums, and we started jamming on some Cramps covers. It sounded real cool, and very primitive. Beef said 'Mike, your playing is giving me a boner, we



MARBLES also plays in MIDNIGHT DRAGON (heavy 70's power-rock) and THE SPITFIRES (high-energy punk'n'roll). STEVE, our drummer, used to play with bluesman DAVID GOGO.

I heard The Deadcats are planning a European tour, how are the plans for that going?

Mike- YEAH, we'd like to get over to Europe next year, and maybe Japan. There's been a big psychobilly scene in Japan for years. And in Europe, especially Germany and the U.K., there's been a psychobilly scene since the late 70s.

What are the bands most memorable tour moments?

Mike- Well nothing that's fit to print... (\*laughs out loud) Really though... we've toured the USA from New York to San Diego, but surprisingly the craziest gigs and parties have usually been in Alberta, for me anyways. They like their beer and psychobilly there.

The Deadcats are currently signed to Flying Saucer Records.

When did Flying Saucer records evolve? Who is the label's founder?

Mike- I guess it was me. It was originally formed just to put out Deadcats CDs. It has now evolved into being a distributor, online shop, and a label. We have about 10 releases, including CDs from bands like the ALLEY DUKES, SEASON OF NIGHTMARES, and BLOODSHOT BILL. We get orders from all over the world, & ship a lot of stuff to dealers in Europe, Australia, U.K., and Scandinavia.

What direction are The Deadcats and Flying Saucer Records taking?

Mike- Well we lost the washtub bass player so I took over on upright bass, which I have played for a few years. So the band now has a lot more bottom end and a more rhythmic groove. I want to get even more back into the roots rockabilly sound, we've even been doing a lot more heavy blues kinda stuff recently too. That's kinda the opposite of most of the contemporary psychobilly bands these days, which are quite heavy. That's ok, it's not really what I'm into playing myself though. Our next album should be quite a departure from our last few albums. We even plan to record a John Lee Hooker cover, we'll just raunch it up a bit Deadcats style.

FLYING SAUCER Records is putting out an International psychobilly compilation CD in a few months. It'll also include several Canadian bands such as the GUTTER DEMONS, RAYGUN COWBOYS, BRAINS, and the ALLEY DUKES. It should be out in early 2007.

Anything else?

Mike- Support your local bands! You've got some incredible bands in Victoria like The Switchblade Valentines, Rod Iron Haulers, Slim Sandy, Carolyn Mark and Hank Angel & his Island Devils!

<http://flyingsaucer.records.tripod.com/>



Wounded Paw Records has been helping bands in the Toronto and surrounding area with all aspects of life in the independent music scene.

This issue I am talking with founder and owner Preston.

**Tell us how the label got its start.**

It was about 10 years ago now when the name Wounded Paw appeared on the first Spazmz 7". The logo reflected the bandages I have to wrap my wrist in to play bass properly (sort of). We never considered going to a label at the time, since I felt I knew what was needed to put it out anyways. I got us recorded at Signal To Noise studio, found a pressing plant, did our own graphics, and released it ourselves under the Wounded Paw logo. The same thing with the next Spazmz CD, and another band I was in that followed called Spotty Botty. By that time people had gotten to know the Wounded Paw logo and bands started showing interest in being part of it.

**Who were some of those bands?**

The Class, who later went on to become Action (Punkcore Records), were only young guys, 15-16 years old when they first came to my studio to record. I enjoyed working with them and decided to help them put their CD out.



I still did not consider myself a 'label' at that time, I just knew how to record, get it manufactured, and ready for sale. I put my stamp on it, but I really did not think much of it at the time. It wasn't until my current band Murder Squad T.O. that I really started to push Wounded Paw as a 'label'.

**Since then, who else has become part of the WP collective?**

I've worked with Battlestar, Always Die Fighting, The Uncivilized, No-No's, and Polidicks.

**What bands occupy your current roster?**

The 3-Tards are a big one at the moment. They seem to be doing really well, and they take up a lot of my time and efforts. On December 16th they've got a big show with Beetlejuice from the Howard Stern show hosting it. I did quite a bit of everything the last few years with the Sinkin' Ships, I mixed and pressed Saigon Distress Signal's latest recording for them, and then there is always my Murder Squad T.O. stuff to attend to. Up next is Excarnation, the Polidicks new project. I would also like to bring The Antics back into the studio for a proper recording, and

I'll be mixing The G-Men's latest recording.

**What kind of gear do you use?**

The console that I mix on is an amazing 36 track Quad-8 Coronado from the 70's. I usually record the drums somewhere nice, and then bring everything back to my studio for vocals, guitars, and mixing. It saves money and gets a great sound.

**I've heard a few strange stories about your flexibility when working with musicians.**

Working with musicians can be quite difficult! I like to be open-minded when it comes to working with any artist. No request is silly or ignored. I had one girl who was scared to sing in front of anyone, so we put her in a closet upstairs with lots of pillows for sound proofing, and

the microphone cables and headphones to the board from there. Anything goes!

**You have also played bass in many bands throughout the years. Give us a bit of your band history.**

It all started back in 89 with a band called Sloppy Crotch! I remember playing a show at the Rivoli with Bliubber And The Rat Crushers and our singer JJ (later bassist for 2-Pump Louie) did one of the worst/best face-plants after tripping on some cables and just kept on singing. After, there was Nina Haagen-Dazs, who later became the Ethyl Mormons. Four years of evolution and we had the Spazmz. We had a pretty good thing going at the time, with that band. Everyone seemed to have fun with it, especially the kids in Montreal. I was in Ulcer for a bit, and then helped form Spotty Botty. Murder Squad T.O. was recording at my studio when they complained about their bass player leaving, and the rest was history! Lately I still jam and tour with MS T.O. and also jam with a band called Fuckknuckles.

**What's your favorite poison?**

I try to stick to drinking a LOT of beers! I'm a really laid back person so I don't really smoke pot often.

**What is your favorite beer? and place to drink it?**

Definitely Becks! And I always enjoy shows at Sneaky Dee's, College and Bathurst, but my favorite place to drink is at practice!

**Tell us more about Spinerazor records and Machine clothing.**

Well, it's basically just one combined company along with WP records. My partner Spenser Cage deals more with the metal side of things with Spinerazor. They have their own bands including Mastery, Kill Cheerleader and CJ Sleeze. Machine prints great quality shirts, hoodies, patches and other things for low cost at any quantity large or small.

[www.WoundedPaw.com](http://www.WoundedPaw.com)

[www.MySpace.com/woundedpawrecords](http://www.MySpace.com/woundedpawrecords)

[www.Spinerazor.com](http://www.Spinerazor.com)

[www.MachineClothing.com](http://www.MachineClothing.com)

Well first off let me say that I ended up screwing up the poor guitar players name by calling him Topon. The more I repeated it—the more I felt like John Belushi bellowing "TO-GA!". Upon arrival to Le Château De Cobalt he informed that his name was in(Fuck The)fact- pronounced "Topon as in 'Chopin'" but a slightly tormented version. Speaking of tormented I refused to let him and FTF vocalist Mel (as in Melanie) get in a word of broken English. Hailing from Ottawa, these Senators of Canadian crust took time out to spend 13 minutes in a piss-soaked alley littered with needles, empty sky-blue water vials and crushed tins of Ensure...a grindcore garden that needed no watering.

**E.S. Day: Have you been getting "That's a fact Jack" jokes on this tour?**

Topon: No actually.

**E.S. Day: C'mon, you got to be kidding me! Jesus Christ! I've been making fucking "that's the fact Jack jokes" all week in preparation for this interview. Alright so what does "Fuck the Facts" mean?**

Topon: Well that's a pretty deep question.

**E.S. Day: Well fuck that fact then!**

(Laughs)

**E.S. Day: How has the Canadian metal scene changed for you guys in the past five years as listeners and buyers of metal music?**

Topon: I would say there is so much more to pick from now, which is not necessarily a good thing, but there is something for everyone now, which I guess is good.

**E.S. Day: How do you compare yourselves to some of the new stuff out there?**

Topon: Well the thing is for us, the band has done what we wanted to do, when we sit down to write- it's whatever comes to mind.

Mel: Yeah, we don't sit there and try say okay lets sound like this etc....

**E.S. Day: Actually - you know what? You can hear that in the album, it doesn't sound contrived, it sounds like you went in and plugged in and whatever came out that was it.**

Topon: That's why when I started this band I didn't set out to be a grindcore band or a death metal band. It was going to be a musical project where we created whatever we wanted. At the same I'm sure that there was a lot of kids that listen to our new stuff and were like: "I wish FTF would be just more of a straight up metal band".

**E.S. Day: Now Mel, were you ever influenced by some of the European old-school female-fronted bands like Girlschool, Rock Goddess or Doro/Warlock shit like that?**

Mel: No. When I was younger, I liked girl singers like...



# FUCK THE FACTS

**E.S. Day: Don't say Lee Aaron (The Metal Queen)**

Mel: No actually I was more into like the singer from Carcass a lot. But I don't think he's a Lady.

(Laughs)

**E.S. Day: If you had to - how would you compare yourself to some of the current female fronted bands like Arch Enemy?**

Mel: I have not seen them live. I have a feeling that a lot of women in these bands just do what they have to do.

**E.S. Day: Not to mention the marketing. I think some of these ladies are just "Growing for dollars".**

Mel: If someone wants to scream and make money but not compromise what they want to do, then...

Topon: I mean we realize that having Mel in the band brings a couple more opportunities when it comes to the press - stuff like that and we know that we'll never change. We never intentionally put Mel in the front.

**E.S. Day: Well, we're almost at the end of 2006, what are your top three album picks for the year?**

Mel: We just bought the new Converge.

Topon: Unearthly Trance is another one, oh yeah and the new

**Misery Index**

**E.S. Day: What do you want Santa to bring you?**

Topon: I know, maybe some new gear.

Mel: Ummm... a new van I guess.

**E.S. Day: Dream tour - who would it be with?**

Topon: Brutal Truth and Mr.Bungle.

E.S. Day: Any collaborations in the future with any label mates or guest appearances by any big celebs that we might be impressed by?

Topon: No, not for now. After this tour we've got three months off to relax and focus on the next album.

**E.S. Day: Awww c'mon... anyone, anything! a lie - gimme a lie, we'll print it, we're the media!**

(Laughs)

**E.S. Day: FTF will be the supporting act on the Rob Halford Fashion Tour (Mel on the catwalk - killing a cat!)**

(Laughs)

Mel: Oh you mean you didn't know about that one yet?

(Laughs)

**E.S. Day: Do you think you'll ever try to break out of Canada since you are on an American label and maybe wind up on an Ozzfest tour or something?**

Topon : Given the chance, we are going to take whatever we can get our hands on! But we are a band, and as long as we don't sell out and do whatever we want, it doesn't matter if we wind up on a nice tour. The reality of the music industry is that we have to pay the bills. But we will take whatever opportunity comes our way.

**E.S. Day: And that's the fucking fact... Jack.**

(Sorry)

(Laughs)

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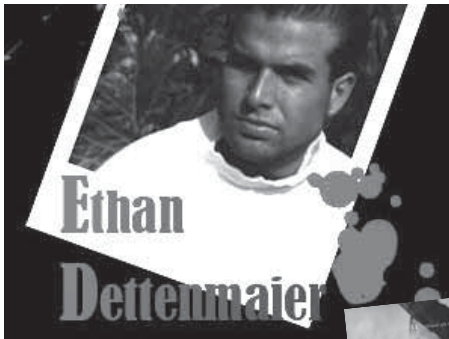
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- [PitofHorror.com](#)

AU: What was the last good movie you saw?

ETHAN: I liked Downfall out of Germany.

AU: What was the biggest piece of shit you saw in 2006?

ETHAN: That's a pretty long list. Poseidon was a wreck... literally.

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- [Reelhorror.com](#)

The two attempts at the Exorcist Prequel. Ya' know I try to block a lot of it out!

AU: If you ran Hollywood, what would you change?

ETHAN: For starters... just about everything! I'd have the 'evil studio empire' razed to the ground and dismantled for spare parts to be harvested for Katrina victims. Then I'd build a new studio there in its place run by people who specialize in good work. I would create a new 'farm system' to find and develop talent outside the studio system so we can resurrect this business with new, inventive ideas from new writers rather than continue to work only with people inside the 'Hollywood box'.

I'd make it a criminal act to continue this trend of re-makes and sequels and start doing films that count for something. Not House Of The Dead 3, Deep Blue Sea 2 or a re-make of

Battlefield Earth but new original work.

can make an impact, and it starts with the artist, not a studio based production accountant. We have to get back to good scripts and interesting material. It's time to put some guts back in this business and make the films that will make going to the movies an event again!

AU: Tell us about any upcoming projects you have slated for when you're done working on Sin-Jin Smyth.

ETHAN: I start KNIGHT FEVER in March which is a film set in the early to late 1970's about renegade GI's in Vietnam who traffic opium back to the States in the flag draped coffins and bodies of dead GI's and a special police force made up of SWAT, Vice and the Bomb Squad who have to stop it.

Also, THE STATION CHIEF about CIA Advisors in the Middle East. RESPECT THE DEAD a film noir about a New Orleans based grave robbing racket on the edge of the bayou. SOLDIERS OF DESTRUCTION about the German Afrika Korps in their last days of World War Two. BRIGADE about the SAS. A film about the French Foreign Legion and a film about Samurai ghosts who terrorize the countryside during a Japanese civil war. Our production outfit is in development on MARK OF THE VILLIAN about a turn-of-the-century Scotland yard investigation into a corrupt medical school. JOB ([www.gutsandgory.com](#)) with Jonathan Davis, Michael Pera and Bill Mosley which just started production. Also Champions of Hell by Ira Hunter and Robin Thompson.

AU: How did you first come across the Champions of Hell?

ETHAN: We run an unconventional production outfit... we specialize in finding new, innovative artists who can make a sincere effort to break new ground. I was at Days Of Darkness, a horror convention in L.A., and the Champs were on display. We checked it out and it was unlike anything we had ever seen, it was imaginative, and had character. It focused on characters who battle ethics but in a sinister environment and the work was dangerous. The rumor was at the time that comic book houses were trying to suppress it. So I talked with Ira Hunter out of Canada, the writer behind the project and he walked me through the series and his intentions for what happens in the books not yet written. I took some material on it. He scratched together a script and we decided to see if we could get it made. Now in Hollywood, that path to production of meeting an unproven writer and have him develop his script his way without

marketing study on it and a series of studio script doctors all giving contradictory notes on how the script can be improved combined

with the attachment of a major star who most likely can't act, is frowned upon. But here SNAPKICK PRODUCTIONS INC. ([www.snapkickproductions.com](#)) we believe it starts

with the artist, in this case Hunter/Thompson, it starts with them and what they can do, then we build this thing out with the right elements. Good ideas don't need to spend a quarter century in development before they hit the screen.

AU: What was your initial reaction to the Champions of Hell comic book? Do you think it will make a good movie and when can we hope to see it on the big screen? Hopefully sometime before the Apocalypse?

ETHAN: The comic book took place on a vast stage in a very dark time, during the Apocalypse. It starts in fact with the hero working around the clock in a crematorium to keep up with the death and disaster around him. It had an inventive platoon of bad guys and a main character who although down on the world around him still operated with ethics. And yes we'd also like to avoid any real-life apocalyptic tie-ins and get it to theaters soon.

AU: When can we expect to see Sin-Jin Smyth? Are you expecting a theatrical release?

ETHAN: All the talk has been for a theatrical release, early next year. Some advanced reviews of the film, which was nominated for the Spike TV Screamfest Award of Most Anticipated Film of 2007, have already hit the net:

[http://blogs.ign.com/Horror\\_Brain/2006/09/21/31486/](http://blogs.ign.com/Horror_Brain/2006/09/21/31486/)

[http://www.moviehole.net/news/20060810\\_clint\\_gets\\_a\\_sneak\\_peek\\_at\\_sin.html](http://www.moviehole.net/news/20060810_clint_gets_a_sneak_peek_at_sin.html)

AU: Does getting an R rating make it harder?

ETHAN: Yes. Were asked on day one to cut content so the studio could attract a wider teenage audience. But Sin-jin Smyth is a hard R! And most of the content is not fit for kids.

AU: How did you hook up with Wrestling Legend Roddy Piper, who is one of the stars of the film? I loved him in They Live.

ETHAN: We've known Rod for sometime... we wanted to work with him on another film but this one got pulled together first. So when I was looking for tough personalities, I hired him.

AU: What are some of your horror movie inspirations?

ETHAN: The work of James Whale. Roy William Nell. Early Carpenter. Films like the original The Haunting, Frankenstein, Carpenter's The Thing, The Exorcist, The Last Man On Earth, Alien and even the original House On Haunted Hill. Also the work of Lon Chaney. I also like the literary work of Robert Louis Stevenson (Jekyll and Hyde) Washington Irving (Sleepy Hollow) Matheson, Serling and a few others.

AU: Any words of wisdom for filmmakers hoping to break into Hollywood?

ETHAN: Do it. Just get your hands on any camera or start that script and get to work. No one is going to ask you to become a filmmaker, you need to take advantage of any opportunity you can create for yourself and get busy. Who knows, you may be the next inventive force to revolutionize our business and that would be great for all of us! So get to work.

AU: Last words?

ETHAN: Thank you for taking the time to talk to me. Let me know when the revolution starts!

<http://www.evilread.com/sinjinsmyth/>

<http://esnips.com/doc/df31efec-7a3b-49c3-9f15-5a2dbb6d5175/Channel-66.6-HM---Haunted-Radio-102706b.mp3>

[www.championsofHell.com](http://www.championsofHell.com)

One of the most anticipated horror films of the last decade, Sin-Jin Smyth, is the brainchild of one of Hollywood's most outspoken and controversial directors, Ethan Dettenmaier. Unafraid to speak his mind about some of the crap the Hollywood studio system has been churning out, Ethan pulls no punches and verbally lashes any and all who stand in the way of creating a movie that lives up to his strict standards. A maverick? A renegade? A genius? A madman? Yes, to all of the above. Look out because Dettenmaier has his double barrel shotguns loaded and he's taking aim...

AU: Who are you and what do you do?

ETHAN: My name is Ethan Dettenmaier, I'm a writer/director on the project Sin-jin Smyth ([www.sin-jinmysyth.com](#)). Absolute Underground... sounds like a "resistance movement". Are we going to overthrow the Government later?

AU: How did you get your start in Hollywood?

ETHAN: Through the mail room, I took the only job that was available to me with the studio messenger service and from there I made it my business to get established. I scratched together a script and took it to a story editor I delivered mail to. That got me started, from there I took any job I could get paid or un-paid, it didn't matter because I was about making contacts and getting my work out there. (In addition to Sin-jin Smyth, Ethan has since worked for the producers of the Blade films and Steven Seagal, in addition to selling several horror scripts).



AU: Tell us about your upcoming much anticipated horror film Sin-Jin Smyth.

ETHAN: SIN-JIN SMYTH is about two federal marshals who have a midnight prisoner transfer, over Halloween weekend, of a man who turns out to be the Devil! It all takes place on the edge of the apocalypse with the United States under martial law. And these two characters, one a Staff Sgt. and suspected war criminal just back from a tour of duty in the Middle East, the other, an Instructor at The Federal School Of Interrogation. They operate out of an isolated field office in the Kansas badlands when they get

the emergency message to jump the state line and that starts our story. (There is a SIN-JIN SMYTH 2 in the works that starts in Hitler's bunker in the last days of World War Two then cuts to present day United States in the year 2015 with the country fighting a modern day civil war in the climate of a nuclear winter).

AU: Is it true you wrote a screenplay for Steven Seagal, about him fighting a Yeti?

ETHAN: Yes... and Seagal breaks every bone in it's body! Twice.

AU: Is Tom Cruise gay?

ETHAN: It's his business.



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## MUTANTS IN THE BASEMENT

Interview With Bassist Land Phil.

by Ira "Hazardous Materials" Hunter

Hanging out backstage at Gwar interviewing Oderus and members of The Red Chord was cool but when I saw Municipal Waste's Land Phil walk in the door I just knew they were going to be my favorite band of the night. It was all in his look, that classic skate thrash D.R.I. / Suicidal Tendencies hat flipped up denim vest style. Even though we didn't have an interview set-up, I just knew it had to be done for the good of the mag, plus he wanted to smoke a joint. As the room was engulfed in a hazy cloud, we toked and talked. All you really need to know is this... These fuckers are the real thrash!!!

**AU: So Phil... from Municipal Waste, what do you do in the band?**

**Land Phil:** I play bass and I tour. I play shows with Gwar.

**AU: I think it's only like \$25 up here.**

**Land Phil & room:** Aww noo wyyyy!!! Aw shit we gotta go past the border tonight to Portland so I can't do that and buy a big bag of weed off the streets. I have a band badge home called Cannabis Corpse. Weed Death Metal. All of our song titles are based on Cannibal Corpse songs. We have a full length coming out on Force Field records. It's called Blunted By Birth. We got songs like "I Come Bud" "I Will Smoke You", "Disposal of the Baggie" and "Staring Through The Eyes That Are." Check out [www.myspace.com/cannabiscorpseva](http://www.myspace.com/cannabiscorpseva) It will blow your mind!

**AU: Have you ever had a chance to open up for D.R.I. or anything like that?**

**Land Phil:** Yeah they did open for DRI once, before I was in the band,

but we are gonna play a couple shows with Destruction and Sadist which will be awesome. Thrash pioneers.

**AU: There's not that many newer bands that are keeping the old shit goin' is there?**

**Land Phil:** I think it's startin' to come around. We're seeing younger bands comin' out decked out in the old school jean jackets and shit. There's a shitload of bands down there in Texas into thrash revival. Then there's other cities that have never even heard of thrash metal. All the kids are into Mudvayne or somethin'.

**AU: Tell me more about this other band that you're in, Cannabis Corpse.**

**Land Phil:** Ah. It's just a band that I did with my brother. I had a month off between tours, so I just spent the whole month workin' on the 8 track and we recorded 10 songs. We were very stoned the whole time, taking gravity bong hits. We recorded a full length high on pot. So when you're listening to the music, just imagine us being so stoned that we can barely even work the 8 track. It turned out pretty good, for what it is.

**AU: What are most of the Municipal Waste songs about?**

**Land Phil:** We always have songs about Zombies and Mutants and Toxic Holocausts. Just mostly toxic cartoon themes. We never really get that serious unless it's about a shark, then it's pretty damn serious. Be careful, we do have a song about a shark.

**AU: Do you have a stage show like Gwar or anything crazy? I heard you guys like to do beer bong on stage and ride boogie boards on the crowd.**

**Land Phil:** We thrash people's faces off. We don't squirt blood or anything like that but we definitely bring the thrash. And we don't do breakdowns. It's all go, no slow.

[www.facethewaste.com](http://www.facethewaste.com)



## The Better To Strangle You With

Intro by Erik Lindholm

Interview by Ira Hunter

Hailing from Massachusetts, The Red Chord bring you the finest elements of hardcore and metal in a blend that will rot your mind. Active since 2000, they released their first album in March of 2002 with the title of "Fused Together In Revolving Doors" for the Robotic Empire label.

Signed to Metal Blade Records in 2005 and on the Ozzfest tour in 2006, the erratic metalcore outbursts of Guy Kozowyk (vox) and atonal grindings of Mike "Gunface" McKenzie and Johnny Fay (axe-wielders) are making a dent in the popular culture. The latest The Red Chord album, "Clients" was released this year, and takes you on a trip inside mentally-disabled people and their musings - as defined by their particular illness.

Currently wrapping up a two-month tour with Gwar and Municipal Waste, The Red Chord are re-loading and heading to the studio once again. Absolute Underground hooked up with The Red Chord to discuss hockey, lap-dances, and George Washington.

**AU: Introduce yourselves if you don't mind.**

**Greg:** I play the bass.

**Mike:** I play guitar.

**Jonny Fay,** I play guitar.

**Guy,** And I sing.

**Brad,** (screams from the bathroom) I play drums!

**AU: Where's the band from?**

**Greg:** Boston, Mass.

**AU: What are some other wicked bands from Boston?**

**Mike:** Converge, Kill Switch Engage, All That Remains, and Unearth are all from the Boston area.

**AU: What's the meaning behind the band's name.**

**Jonny:** It's got to do with some play. There's a red cord in the play, it strangled someone.

**Greg:** (sarcastically) Really good answer.

**Mike:** I'll fix that. It's a German play and it's kind of a Jekyll and Hyde thing. A gentleman slits his wife's throat, and then he comes out of this weird thing he was in, it wasn't like a coma, it was more like an alternate persona, and he asks "What's that red cord around you're throat?" because her throat was slit. But our old guitar player spelled it incorrectly.

**Greg:** We also like to pretend it came from the Bible. There's a reference in the Bible, on Jericho's Wall, "And a Red Cord meant war", and so they let down the red cord." Which still would mean that we misspelled it.

**AU: How would you describe the Red Chord sound?**

**Jonny:** Fun, kind of fancy free.

**Mike:** Fabulous, lots of chocolate.

**Greg:** Delicious. Maybe noisy and metal and chocolaty.

**Guy:** Two ply, extra soft, easy listening.

**AU: How did the band originally get together and how did you get noticed?**

**Greg:** We used to play with our dongs hanging out.

**Guy:** We got together over time, the band has gone through so many lineups that we found each member one by one, pretty much replacing the original line-up. That's how we found people. People joined the band for different reasons, and I guess we got noticed by playing a lot of shows.

**AU: Have you guys been in Canada before?**

**Mike:** Yes, lots of times. Not this far West though. We've never played Vancouver. Played Montreal and Toronto a ton. And this summer was our first trip to the Western part of the country, we played Regina and Edmonton.

**AU: Did you enjoy any full contact lap dances in Montreal?**

**Greg:** Well, that's pretty much all we did. What didn't we do? On stage we had all these strippers come up...

**Guy:** Cocaine was falling out of the ceiling! Strippers and drugs were just everywhere.

**AU: How did you guys get hooked up with Metal Blade?**

**Guy:** We pretty much harassed them. We actual just started talking to them, and then like three years later we signed with them. We've done one album with them and we're working on a new one right now.

**AU: What's the new album all about?**

**Mike:** Fun and big fabulous chocolate! **Guy:** There's a lot of Zydeco-core metal influence.

**Jonny:** Elevator grind.

**Guy:** Elevator Zydeco Death Metal.

**AU: With Jazz infusions?**

**Mike:** Some people say that we have jazz fusion parts, but we don't know shit about jazz.

**Brad:** If you can imagine the sound of your favorite metal album being flushed down the toilet... that's about

what the next record's gonna sound like.

**AU: What's it been like touring with Gwar?**

**Mike:** Huge nakedness. Lots of big dudes walking around naked. Blood everywhere.

**Guy:** I can't really talk to you about a lot of the stories without being really embarrassed to ever be able to talk to my family again.

**AU: Has anyone had the honour of being killed by Gwar while playing your set?**

**Brad:** We didn't get killed, but Tony from Municipal Waste got killed by Flattus Maximus on Halloween. That was a great night.

**AU: This ones for Guy. I wanted to ask you about your record label Black Market Activities. How did that all come about and who are some of the bands involved?**

**Guy:** Well, basically I've been doing that the last four years now. Some of the bands are Ed Gein, Psyopus, Animosity, From A Second Story Window, Gaza, Behold... the Arcotopos, The Network, and Destroy Destroy Destroy. It just started as a way to promote some crazy underground bands that weren't getting promotion.

**AU: Are you guys fans of George W.?**

**Greg:** No! Of course not. Are you kidding? Yeah, we love him!

**Guy:** George Washington?

**Brad:** Yeah, we are fans of George Washington, he smoked hemp, but I like Abraham Lincoln because he invented the smallest coin.

**Guy:** I also like him because he invented the smallest dick!

**Mike:** Did he?

**Guy:** Yeah he did, the smallest dick to actually be found on the side of the road, and somebody said it was Abraham Lincoln's.

**AU: What pisses you guys off?**

**Mike:** What picks us off? Snipers pick us off.

**Greg:** Everything pisses me off.

**AU: Have you guys smoked any BC Bud yet?**

**Brad:** I'm the only one who smokes and I'm looking forward to doing that after the show.

**Mike:** I'll probably take it out of his hand, then eat it...

**Brad:** Mike doesn't smoke it, he just trips out by eating it.

**Mike:** ...I'll grab it from him, eat it, and then shit it at the sun.

**AU: What is the ultimate goal of the band?**

**Mike:** The ultimate goal of the band is to take a nap.

**Guy:** To fucking headbang until our faces disappear into a blood circle of evil. Satan! And to visit the castle of Unholy Hell and Satanic Mastery of the Universe.

**Brad:** We wanna Date She-ra...

**Jonny:** ...and Sheila and Xena, and China.

**Guy:** We wanna date Red Sonja and Grace Jones.

**Mike:** Grace Jones would beat my ass. She would make me suck her dick. She has a penis.

**AU: What advice can you give to a band starting out?**

**Guy:** Quit! Don't believe it when they tell you they're going to give you pocket cash.

**Mike:** Don't fuckin' eat Burger King everyday.

**Brad:** Don't do it for the chicks and the drugs and the money, because you won't get any of that.

**Jonny:** You won't get any of that. Do it because you love music.

**Guy:** Don't do it because of you wear eyeliner and have a cute haircut. That wouldn't even look good on a girl.

**Mike:** GRRRR!!!

**Brad:** Tight pants, white belts, and nail polish are good though.

**Guy:** And tight pink shirts.

**Jonny:** Don't play Death Metal just because suddenly it got cool to play Death Metal.

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# Absolute Horror

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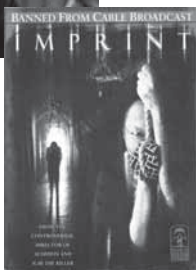


By Mickey Maggot  
Anchor Bay 2005

This is the episode in the series us gore dogs down here at Absolute Underground have been waiting for! Banned on HBO, which pretty much means an X rating these days, there has been a shitload of hype surrounding this 63 minute entry in the series. At first I thought it was



a load of shit that anything in this fuckin' series should get the yank, until I pressed play on the DVD player. What followed were some of the most horrifying images ever to be viewed by yours truly! Within the first 30 seconds we are given the pleasure of watching an aborted fetus floating down a river face first. The story kicks in about an American played by Billy Drago



missing girl had so does the torture this girl torture scenes look like a needles into of incense in Guinea Pig or time in my player to hope there was also

mutants, and brutal domestic violence. This was a horrible experience from start to finish and for that Takishi Miike will remain at the top of the shiteap on modern horror. I almost suggest warming up to this with some of his earlier works about crazy fucked up Yakuza like the afore mentioned Ichi The Killer or Gozu, and many seem to think Audition to be his finest. You decide, just get out there and support a this truly gifted Master of Horror!



## HAMMER (SMASHED FACE) HORROR OR "THE RESURRECTION OF THE PROVERBIAL HOCKEY MASK"

by Ryan Dyer

Horror is in a bittersweet position as 2006 slams its acrid smelling radioactive barrel shut. I swear that it feels like I should grab a pair of 3-D glasses, slap on my Dokken t-shirt from the dirty clothes basket in the basement, and get a ride from my handicapped friend Lance's brother to the theater to see Friday The 13th Part 3 on the big screen! That is to say that the movies of today are indeed performing well, but they're almost doing too well, at least by the standards that were nearly eradicated in the 90s with the odd slasher defying that standard and making it to number one. The pure drive to create something more horrific than your peers and to have it totally embraced by a small minority and watched with at the least, mild interest by the mainstream public is what we are seeing in 2006, which is why I make disco Jason references. The 2000's have officially become the horror of the 80's (and to a similar extent, Hammer Horror from the 50s-70s).



Films like Saw, Final Destination, the updated Texas Chainsaw Massacre series and now Hostel with The Hills Have Eyes remake announcing sequels of their own are the new anthologies of the 80s. They are the new A Nightmare On Elm Street, they are the new Halloween, the new Puppet Master, Hellraiser, and new "chuckle" Children Of The Corn.

I am not complaining, I love that people are walking out of the theater because of the tastelessness of some of the new films. I liked the perverse suffering in Saw 3, enjoyed the bloody carnage of Final Destination 3 and was dancing in the aisles at Texas Chainsaw Massacre - The Beginning, but really, doesn't the relentlessness of each sequel and ignorance of various plot points from the films before it just remind you of Jason going from hairy to bald in the transition from part 2 to 3? How about Myers coming back from being barbecued to a crisp in part 2 to finding a new zest for life and wanting to strangle and mince and kill and maim and violate his whiny niece Jamie in part 4! Now, the ominous tone from the original which was tightly and meticulously vacuumed becomes too self referential and thus, cheesy in moments, which is evident in Saw 3.

So Movie Maniacs doesn't run out of horror icons to make figures out of that actually have horror credibility, there now has to be proper horror icons like that of a Pinhead or Freddy. Jigsaw and the Firefly family from Devil's Rejects qualify as memorable characters, as well as the already esteemed though re-chiseled in gore Leatherface and Pluto from the Hills Have Eyes, though a lot of villainous entities are subtle or very close to reality, like in Wolf Creek or Hostel. I like characters and caricatures equal, so I don't really care which pops up in the next movie, as long as what he does is vile, inhumane, and misogynistic. You're doomed, you're alllll doooooomed!

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### JACK FROST

A man is bathed in acid and turns into a white and fluffy snowman... and it's not Micheal Keaton. Balderdash runs amok in this 1996 cult classic, depicting a former convict on a killing spree in Snowmouton (a pun on Edmonton) in damn good camouflage. Shannon Elizabeth gets fucked and killed in the shower by the mutant creature, and the chilly bastard is finally eliminated using anti-freeze.



### SILENT NIGHT DEADLY NIGHT

A young boy named Billy hears from his Grandfather who is in a mental hospital that Santa only brings presents to good little girls and boys, but punishes the naughty ones. Later on, a man dressed as Santa rapes the mother and subsequently kills both parents of the boy, traumatizing the lad and further stenciling his Grandfather's information. He then lives life under the bigotry of nuns, deathly afraid of Santa coming in to see the children and even drawing photos of him with a decapitated reindeer. As an adult he witnesses a rape and sets out to punish those who are "naughty" via Santa outfit, like Christmas Evil, becoming a somewhat moralist of extremes. This film surprisingly takes itself seriously, and looks to have been made on a big budget. Some of the death scenes are fucking absurd, for example impaling a girl on the horns of a severed deer head on the wall! Parents protested at the time for having such a gentle and jolly character like Santa depicted in such a distressing way. Pussies. Ignore every sequel, but enjoy this hardened and moldy fruitcake of a holiday feast.



### SANTA'S SLAY

Bill Goldberg - 149-0, 150-0, 151-0... the death toll rises as Billy becomes the world's most muscular Santa and goes on, what the title intends, a "slay". Actually, Santa has always been evil according to this movie, as the son of Satan he loses a curling match with an angel, being duped into benevolence for 1000 years. After the time passes he vows his revenge on the angel, dashing through the snow, on a white buffalo open sleigh, over the hills he goes, killing on the way ha-ha-ha!

### CHRISTMAS EVIL

On Christmas Eve 1947, Santa Claus makes his way down the chimney to leave presents, eat delicious cookies, and even more delectable pussy! A young child sees Santa slipping his tongue into his mother's wreath, sending him into hysterics. As a very unstable adult, he works on an assembly line at a toy factory; countless hours of putting together stupid little red men for pissy brats. He feels the children don't deserve the toys he is laboring over, spying on them and listing their misconduct - checkin' it twice, and then... who guessed it? Killing spree. This is the first killer Santa Claus movie, and with it comes one of my favorite lines out of any of these capers - "Now I want you to remember to be good boys and girls, respect your mothers and fathers and do what they tell you. Obey your parents and learn a whole lot. Now, if you do all of this, I'll make sure you get good presents from me every year. But if you're bad boys and girls, your name goes in the bad boys and girls book. And I'll bring you something horrible." John Waters called this his favorite Christmas movie, I can see why - perverse, violent, hot, horny, despicable, delectable. Deck the hall!



### BLACK CHRISTMAS

Predating Halloween by several years, this masterpiece introduced the first person method of madness that would be used in countless movies following it. What works in Black Christmas is what you don't see. An unknown assailant climbs in through a window of a girls sorority house and kills each of them off one by one while at the same time not being too discreet about it, leaving tremendously obscene phone calls that When A Stranger Calls wishes they had the balls to produce. The only physical evidence to who is stalking and killing these girls is the ghastly immortal image of a dissonant eyeball peeking through a crack in the door. Completely unnerving, with rich and tasty almond color throughout, Black Christmas feels like I'm sitting by a roaring fire with hot chocolate on my tongue trickling down my gums whenever I watch it. It is a holly jolly Christmas classic in my home.



-Ryan Dyer



## Black Christmas

*If This Film Doesn't Make Your Skin Crawl, It's On Too Tight!*

*Interview with the legendary Bob Clark*

*Director of Black Christmas, Porky's, A Christmas Story*

by Mickey Maggot

Lord knows how many years in a row now the family sits around the X-Mas tree watching either the Griswolds and Cousin Ed, or A Christmas Story. It's hard to believe the mastermind behind A Christmas Story is the same man that brought us the yuletide slaughterfest known as BLACK CHRISTMAS.

Released in 1973 it is highly regarded among horror freaks as one of the first of its kind, almost kickstarting the mad slasher genre that was to follow. BOB CLARK first burst onto the scene with late night classic Children Shouldn't Play With Dead Things followed

by Deathdream. He also worked on Deranged but did not accept credit. Black Christmas was filmed in Toronto in 1973, and features Margot (Lois Lane) Kidder, John Saxon (Enter The Dragon) and Andrea Martin (SCTV). A group of college students are bumped off one by one by a screaming, moaning, masturbating, obscene phone calling freak, who much to their surprise has taken up residency in their attic.

This movie has the classic plastic over the face scene and is shot beautifully putting the viewer behind "Billy's" eyes, just like John Carpenter would do five years later in Halloween. The prank calls were years ahead of When A Stranger Calls, and are extremely offensive for 1973! This film remains disturbing after repeated viewings, making it almost hard to believe it was filmed 33 years ago. As with most horror films these days, they have recently remade Black Christmas, so make sure you do yourself a favor and watch the original first. We could go on all fuckin' day about how brilliant this film was or we could even go into the fact that this guy also directed Murder By Decree and the PORKY'S flicks, but lets just cut the shit and get to the interview. HorrorsHow got our man on the blower last week, so let's see what he has to say about all of this!

**AU:** What would have influenced you in pre-VCR 1973?

**BOB CLARK:** Actually, I didn't have any, I liked the Night of the Living Dead and had done "Children Shouldn't Play With Dead Things" for forty-thousand dollars in Miami. I watched a lot of Sherlock Holmes with Basil Rathbone. Psycho was another.

**AU:** It is often stated that this film helped kick-start the whole mad slasher Genre that would follow from the late 70's into the early 80's, and does this actually predate the Texas Chainsaw Massacre?

**BOB:** That is correct, yet Texas was very much its own film, but everyone has expressed admiration for the film and considered it an inspiration. I'm pleased, right after, John Carpenter had asked me to direct his first screenplay about retarded killers in the Tennessee mountains, sorry that's politically incorrect

**AU:** That's OK. We're a Politically incorrect publication! Do ya remember the name of that one?

**BOB:** I cannot.

**AU:** Are you and David Cronenberg fans of each other's work? Shivers is another groundbreaking horror film from the same year and was also Canadian.

**BOB:** Very much so, he's very much an original. I don't know that he admires my films but I certainly admire his.

**AU:** We heard that there is a remake of Black Christmas. How are you involved

**BOB:** I sold them the rights so they put my name on the poster. It's being directed by the team that brought us the Final Destination series. I spent a week at shooting and was quite impressed with what I saw.

**AU:** What do you think of the recent state of horror?

**BOB:** I've been too busy to catch any of the remakes, but Rob Zombie just bought the rights to DeathDream. The Saw films were quite horrifying, I liked The Sixth Sense, and The Others. Going back I love Jaws, The Exorcist, and The Silence of the Lambs. Hostel, I could barely watch because it was so brutal.

**AU:** A DVD with all three Porky's films is now available

**What can we expect from the Porky's reissue?**

**BOB:** I'm totally unfamiliar with it, they didn't ask for a commentary track.

**AU:** Did you carry any elements of Black Christmas over to your ever popular A Christmas Story? Was the leg lamp up in the attic with the raging strangler?

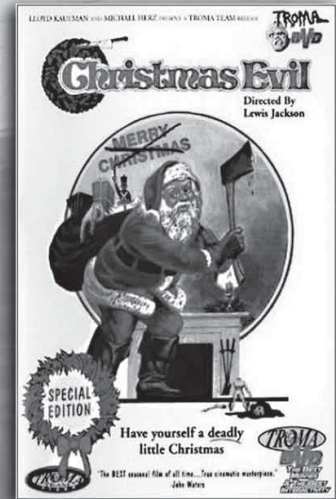
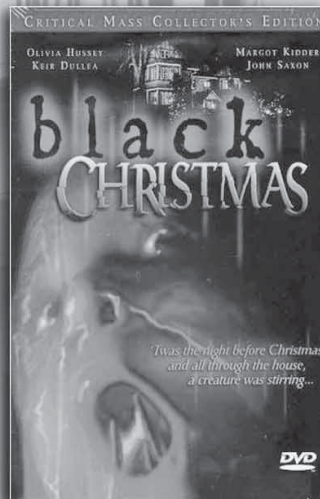
**BOB:** (Chuckles) No connection, A Christmas Story is based on short stories from the radio back in the day.

**AU:** Any Christmas wishes?

**BOB:** Just that all my projects fall into plac



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## DVD Reviews

### Charles Bukowski - Bukowski at Bellevue

Casablanca video has everything; I was doing change over there on new DVDs, and I came across this Charles Bukowski diamond in the sand. I immediately rented it and was put through a time warp right into the middle of skid row - the quality is grainy, it stops in some places, the sound is terrible, but that's all part of the charm that is Bukowski. His words are like ripe oranges mistakenly put through the garbage disposal; violated but entirely edible. My favorite piece on this is a poem called "The Night I Killed Tommy" about him and a girl going into a piss scented roach motel and after squashing one of the roaches (named Tommy), another fucks the woman he brought in. Splendid!  
-Ryan Dyer

### G.G. ALLIN-HATED DVD

I first heard about GG Allin in 1987 from the guitarist in my band Atrocity, it was an interview in flipside called "Havin' Milk and Cookies with the Geegle!" I was instantly fascinated with the image that was pounded into my thick skull of a grown man in nothing on but a bandanna and cowboy boots, a mic up his ass and blood and shit all over his torso and forehead. My dad shit a Honda Civic when I brought home a copy of "You Give Love A Bad Name"; then I started the hunt for all of his vinyl, "Public Animal No. 1", "Eat My Fuck", "Freaks, Faggots, Drunks and Junkies", his shit with the ultra-poppo Jabbers, and my holy grail of GG faves, the notorious "Expose yourself to kids" e.p. From 1988. He pretty much held the bar for outrageousness throughout the end of the 80's and into the 90's, then before we could say "Bite It!", he was thrown into the joint for a few years.

Film Threat Magazine released this movie in 1993 when our man was still very much alive, and it blew minds everywhere it was seen. The film follows our troubled troubadour through a series of events and interviews, as well as some of the most brutal and savage rock and roll footage to ever be captured on camera. Legs are broken, women are punched in the head, shitting, serious self mutilation, coprophilia, DeeDee Ramone! Appearances on Geraldo, visits in jail with John Wayne Gacy. Then right when ya think it couldn't possibly get any worse, the big guy with the little dink shoves a banana up his ass, drags a female by her hair, which promptly earns him a beating, then he cuts his chest wide open with a torn beer can. I'm sure most die hard GG fans favor the scene where the wiener is inserted into the prostitute's rectum, then given to our triumphant hero, who in turn, throws it up all over himself after ingesting several rather large mouthfuls of her urine. This was a birthday present! This was hard to take in '93' and it was hard to watch last week! The shit comes flying during "Bite It" just to warn you first timers, BE PREPARED! The interviews with Merle and the other band members are priceless, Dino the naked drummer being almost as sick of a fuck as GG Allin, "When I don't wear underwear, I don't get hurt" can you believe this fuckin' guy? Dee Dee doesn't even really know where the fuck he is during his interview and quits after a week. GG's high school band teacher nearly has a coronary when the director plays him "Suck My Ass It Smells" and the list just goes on. You don't ever get bored and at the end you aren't sure whether or not you've just watched a porno, a snuff film

are a special on A&E about a serial killer! This version also comes with an added bonus of the infamous last show at the Gas Station in NYC. Highly recommended viewing and definitely a sure way to clear a room at any party. I often wonder what the planet would be like if GG was still alive? Different, I'm sure.  
-dustinJaK Grdn. Hd.

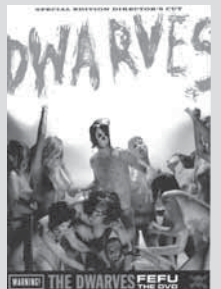
### GWAR - Blood Bath and Beyond

Gwar's "Blood Bath & Beyond" is a multi-fluid encrusted crystal ball that peels through the layers of Gwar's twenty year career. Packaged like a B-movie and framed with cheeseball segments with your pals Sleazy P Martini and Oderus Urungus, "Bloodbath" takes you across a hallucinatory road map of rare live, behind the scenes and D.I.Y. promo spots all to a soundtrack full of memorable favourites and obscure alternate and previously unreleased tracks. If you liked either "Phallus in wonderland" Or "Live in Antarctica" then I definitely recommend this vile new offering!  
-Necrodonis



### The Dwarves FEFU MVD Visual

This bloodbath of a DVD is another relentless release from the "Most Violent Band in The World" THE DWARVES. The main focus is on the video and video shoot of the song FEFU (Fuck, Eat, & Fuck You Up). The video features the Suicide Girls in all their untamed glory. There's a couple extra old vids and live footage including Blag's "Goth Years" and him performing shit faced drunk in front of like five people. There is also over an hour of unreleased concert footage for 5 different albums/tours. These are some of the things I jotted down as I watched this unholy spectacle unfold... Midget Maulings, Speedo Mishaps, Nipple Tattoos, Groping, Spanking, Wang Flapping, you get the picture. Includes banned Suicide Girls behind the scenes footage. The Dwarves prove once again they live by the words Blood, Guts and Pussy.  
-Mal Content



### DIAMOND HEAD-"TO THE DEVIL HIS DUE"

Live @ The London Austeria 05'  
New Wave Of British Heavy Metal pioneers return for a killer performance. I didn't quite know what to expect with only the guitarist/songwriter Brian Tatler remaining, but the new guys throw down hard, tearing through the tracks off of the 1981 LP "Lightning to the Nations" including "Helpless" and "Am I Evil" who some radio band covered, (snicker, snicker). The sound is awesome on this and the lighting is perfect and shit can that old dude tear it up on guitar. You can see that Hammett fully copped his style. The new songs also stand up to the originals and make the new disc worth seeking out. A treasure for all old school metal-dogs and fans of the NWOBHM which itself is also nearing its 30th anniversary.  
-Dustin Jak

## Book Review

NINA a novel by Blag Dahlia  
Published by Scapegoat

Nina West hasn't quite crossed the line into adulthood yet, but that's the only line she hasn't crossed. Too cool for school, too hot for television, and too scandalous to be believed, Nina is the twisted tale of an object of desire who gives as good as she gets, wreaking havoc from her quiet hometown to the glittering shores of California, in search of cheap thrills and black lipstick. With a cover by pop artist Niagara, this ambitious comedy entertains and outrages with each turn of the page. A truly twisted tale of a young girl coming of age with no apologies.

I especially like the parts where she blows everything that moves, masturbates in front of her vice-principal, and has the two small children she's babysitting lick ice-cream off her body.

Recommended Reading at its finest!!!



# Album Reviews

## Triphord

### Surviving the System Cyclone Records

The first thing I thought when I put on "Sinner Of Man" was The Tea Party being beaten and molested in the dark by Peter Steele of Type O Negative. As the disc went on, I got more of a Godsmack feel. Godsmack being beaten and molested in the dark by Peter Steele? This CD has enough small hooks to catch an octopus, but don't look for them in lucid waters; they prefer to be under an thick black oil slick of corrosive angst.

- Ryan Dyer

### Destroy Destroy Destroy - Devour The Power Blackmarket Activities/Metal Blade

In a stylistic crossover fuckmash of epic proportions Destroy Destroy Destroy give us the highest octave, rowdy behavior inducing debut of recent memory. This is just so high energy, it's ripping out of these here speakers. Let me take you through what I am hearing here: gang vocals, metalcore chugga. chugga. whugga. chugga. Maiden-y chorus bits, death metal colon dropping vox followed by black metal howlings, Children of Bodom - keyboard wankery, crystal meth smoking double-bass drumming, random battle cries and spoken word interludes... The album hammers from start to finish - 39:42 of metalllllllllll. So, then I go on the website. And they all look like Manowar (black Speedos are for swimming) but with tattoos. Ridiculously heavy + campy attitude = you just cannot touch this. 3 Inches of Blood and Children of Bodom watch out - Destroy Destroy Destroy is after your Pilsner and D&D sourcebooks.

Standout tracks: Gods Of War And Open Sores, Ripped Apart By The Juggernaut Of Fornication, The Beast That Cannot Be Fed - Erik 'Iron Speedo' Lindholm

### Keg Killers S/T - 100% Wild Records

10 (Keg) Killer tracks of solid mid-to-fast paced punk rock (and roll). Pissed off and funny at the same time (No Good @ No Nothin', Problems), catchy as hell (Maniac, Blue Velvet), and not for the faint of heart (Nazi Pope, Fucks). If you love the Dead Boys, Heartbreakers and Ramones (read Please Kill Me) you'll die without hearing this sleazy piece of street trash. My jaw is getting tight just listening to it, and I've been clean for days! Don't be afraid of the real deal.

- Frank Zito

### Psycroptic Symbols Of Failure Neurotic Records

The onslaught of carefully layered grooves saturated in molten Death Metal is in abundance as with previous releases. However this is the first release with their new singer (Jason Peppiatt) and unless he breaks out something fresh on the next album he may always be eclipsed by the original vocalist: Matthew Chalk. The album keeps a steady pace throughout but fails to surpass the bar set by the previous album "Scepter of the Ancients". Highlights would include the first track "Alpha Breed" and from the 2 min mark in "Minions: The Fallen". I can recognize this as quality metal but I am yet still unable to feel its might. If they where to regain the original line-up and employ another guitar player who was as tight with leads as Joe Haley is with rhythms, then maybe they could do some undeniable damage.

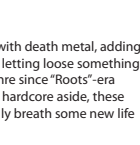
-Necrodons

### NAILSHITTER - "From The Bowels Of The Impaled"

Extreme Underground/Straight out of Florida comes Nailshitter, Another worthy addition to the ever growing deathgrind scene! Very brutal and very tight. This disc is enjoyable to listen to, however it's the kind of disc you'll forget about after hearing it. There is nothing all too memorable in Nailshitter's debut. These guys do however show a lot of promise, and in time I predict these guys will make a good name for themselves.-Jaron Evil

### NOISE FOREST - "Morbid Instincts" Armageddon Music

Noise Forest combine hardcore with death metal, adding also tribal rhythms into the mix, letting loose something that is the best attempt at its genre since "Roots"-era Sepultura. Personal bias against hardcore aside, these guys have what it takes to actually breath some new life



into the genre while still being true to what has already been done. If late Sepultura is your thing, you will most likely find a new favorite band in Noise Forest.

### (the) MELVINS (a) Senile Animal

As much as I've enjoyed the past few Melvins collaborations and the Houdini Live record, I have been anxiously awaiting a new straight-up MELVINS release since Hostile Ambient Takeover arrived in 2002.

This is the first album with new rhythm section Jared Warren and Coody Willis, previously in Karp and currently in Bad Business. The dual drummer approach lends itself excellently to these heavy blasts of sludge, especially Blood Witch and History of Bad Men which sound oddly like Night Goat's schizophrenic cousin. Civilized Worm is probably the most commercial sounding song they have ever done but with the dual vocals and anthemic ending it works very well. So for those of you who have always thought that Honeybucket was a good song but that the Melvins were just too weird, this is the album for you.

- Brent Sorge

### SHATTER MESSIAH - "Never to Play The Servant" Dockyard 1

This is a very interesting band. Progressive metal with prominent elements of thrash, power metal, goth, and melodic death metal. The guitar work is superb with memorable riffs scattered throughout. Lots of technicality executed with sheer tightness is the icing on the cake. Shatter Messiah will be a band worth keeping an eye on. Once these guys really get noticed, the true metal crowd will be reveling in their might and awesomeness! In fact I'm making this album my pick of the month!

-Jaron Evil

### CHAMPIONS OF HELL SAY YOUR FUCKING PRAYERS

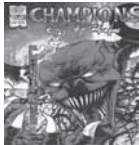
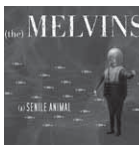
Starting off with Satanic bong-smoking, then tearing into a mixture of D.R.I. meets DARK-THRONE, this disc is a must. Serious grindcore/black metal with breakdowns and gallops and unearthy growling from our man INSANIAC. Not for Emo dicks!!! SODOM and IMPETAGO also come to mind when sodomizing dead chickens to this, er... I mean listening to this. Songs like "Soon To Be Crucified", "Cannibal Sutra", "Mustache" and the notorious "Cedar Hill" leave the listener with a blood-thirst for Christians, but there is a bong toke in between every song on this prick so I went through an entire eighth of weed and just ended up with a blood-thirst for fried chicken. The live shows are legendary, check em out! (The band is based around the underground cult comic book for more info go to [www.championsofhell.com](http://www.championsofhell.com))-D.JaK 06'

### D.O.A. Bloodied But Unbowed Sudden Death Records

A re-release of the 1984 compilation of various tunes D.O.A. put out in their first five years together. I have always liked D.O.A., but I find that their older stuff is their strongest. Some of the stuff they put out in the 1990s did not measure up to their earlier material. So with that said, this is a pleasure to review, it was great the first time round and it is awesome now that it is all re-mastered. Ranks up there with "Greatest Shits", another great compilation of early D.O.A. material. How can you not love songs like "Fuck You" (yes I know it is more of a Subhumans tune)? Classic pissed off angry 1980s punk rock. Though I do think re-mastering punk rock is kinda funny in itself, but hell this thing was probably out of print or something anyways. I have been searching for their "Talk-Action=Zero" live CD for years, but that is so far out of print I doubt I will ever own it. -Chuck

### SH EGLANK'D SHOULDERS: Endless Grind: Honest Dan

I've been blessed with some amazing skate rock this time around. First of all, you need to watch the classic Powell Peralta video "The Search For Animal Chin" in order to understand the band's name. Now that's taken care of it's time to rock out. Sheglank'd are a skate rock band in the purest form. Yes, every song on "Endless Grind" is about skating and it's many facets. From the amazing ups of "Skateboard Hoiligans" (the



first skateboard of song I've ever heard) and "Paradise is and Empty Skatepark", to the tragic lows of "Flatspot Hell" and "Too Twanked To Skate" these boys rip it up. Anything on this disc would fit in on Thrasher Magazine's hallowed Skate Rock compilation series. Calgary has a rich heritage in skate rock and I'm happy to report that Sheglank'd Shoulders are representing nicely. Now shut up and skate! -Ty Stranglehold

### DEADCATS - Feline 500

When the new Deadcats album arrived in my mailbox, I jumped up and down and squealed like a little girl, and for good reason. This album rocks from the start with Peggy Suicide and Mummified Baby, two songs you can really dance to. The gutbucket bass and drums provide a relentless beat and the surf influence throughout is a refreshing change. There's a good mix of sounds and genres here. You've got your rockabilly, psychobilly, surf and even a good ol' country song. Sweet! And I love the Hawaii song!!! I can imagine dancing in my undies to this holding a nice tropical drink and spilling it all over myself. "Go to fucking Hawaii...Get drunk in the sun!" Get this album and forget it's winter!

-Anita Fixx

### The Briggs - Back to Higher Ground

As soon as I put this CD in my stereo, it instantly became my venturing soundtrack. The feel good, jump around, whoah, kind of tunes that I like to hear. They are strong songs that bring out up-beat realist punk rock with simple riffs and great political insights. Gripping riffs, uplifting outlook and sing-a-long choruses are the ingredients that these guys have perfectly blended together for their listeners. They know exactly what they're doing. The Briggs is fronted by 2 strong brothers and they hold it down tight.

-Bexy B

### Disillusion - Gloria

System of a Down techno violin massacre is the only thing I could use to describe this album. I felt like I was trapped and dragged through a cactus carnival. All of the tracks were painful, pointless ballads of nonsense that put me into a fucking raging coma. And now I'm officially mentally retarded. Put me away! I consider myself to be an eclectic listener but this is definitely something I would only listen to if I was completely incoherent and oblivious to what was going on around me. These guys need better day jobs. But if it is their mission to piss people off, Mission Complete Guys! -Badass Bexy

### TOWERS OF LONDON - "Blood, Sweat and Towers"

There has been a bit of hype surrounding this in the U.K. but then that doesn't mean shit because they like fucking Oasis over in their parts! This was however worth the hype. This comes across as a more polished version of the Black Halos, yet crossing over into early Maiden style metal with full on nods to Sham 69 and the Cockney Rejects. Fans of the other excellent British Glam/Punk band the Tokyo Dragons should really get a kick out of this album. "Kill the Pop Scene", "Beaujolais" and "Fuck it Up!" all throw down hard. These guys get fucked up too. I like that, true professionals! -Dustin JaK Gordon Head

### Likely Lads - Trouser Snake Rising "Recorded at Skiff's hot mom's house"

The name of the album is bloody clever and I like when Alex Obnoxious sings super high on "Monkey TV" when he falsetto's "You're the problem." Haha. I reworded and listened to that a couple times, it made me laugh... WITH him, sure, yeah. He actually has great vocals and it's nice to review a punk CD where the singer isn't drowned out by instruments. The band is tight, Professor Nopants can sure smash it up and I like all the ADD rhythm changes between the relentless moshpit thrashing. "Meathead" is a fun, wonky tune. I'd like to know who tortured the orca for the background sounds. This album has 15 songs on it and is only ten minutes long. That rules.

-Emily Kendy

### Strapping Young Lad - The New Black

Strapping Young Lad's latest album, The New Black, is unique in how the album combines, slow heavy riffs, speedy aggressive riffs, melodic synthesizers, melodic guitar solos, and both clean and growled vocals. The melodic hooks on The New Black come from everywhere. The melody and catchiness of the album is mirrored in opposition by the occasional burst of blast beats, shouted choruses, aggressive and growling vocals, and thrashy and shredding guitar riffs. This new album will appeal to a young generation of Metal fans as well as fans new to SYL.

-Ryan 'Platoon' Primrose

### Goatwhore - A Haunting Curse Metalblade Records

Rising from the dark crevices of Katrina, comes the chitlin'-chewin' southern-fried black metal outfit Goatwhore. A Haunting Curse is the bands' 3rd full-length and their first, for legendary label Metalblade. With titles lifted directly from the Bathory catalog our heavy metal-horned-hooker-heroes, deliver chugga-chugga riffing pulled from the

grave of Hellhammer's first EP (no coincidence here, as the Billy Goat's are gruffing it on tour with Tommy G. and the Celtic Frostoria Symphony) A Haunting Curse was produced and made in the U.S.O.F.A. This should keep the "American Metal" (w)hordes happy, as they don't need to look overseas, for a surer taste of Lucifer that has been peppered with turgid Nomadic Viking stories.

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### DIE HUNNS - You Rot Me: Volcom

Duane Peters never fails to amaze me. I mean really, what are the odds that the guy is even alive let alone churning out quality punk rock and still kicking ass in the combi pool? Die Hunns is DP's project with his wife Corey Parks and you can tell it's a labor of love. Where U.S. Bombs have a Sex Pistols meets Gene Vincent kind of feel these days, Die Hunns has a constantly evolving kind of feel. For the most part it seems rooted in almost a mid 60s garage pop/psychelic thing but often veers out into some classic punk and 70s rock avenues as well. I've seen Duane do a lot of things, but who knew he could actually sing? That's right; the Master Of Disaster can really belt it out and does so on a few tracks with great results. His voice is complimented so well by Parks' too. Just a couple of gravel voiced lovers getting their aggressions out. I think this record has pushed U.S. Bombs out of top spot in my opinion. -Ty Stranglehold (Volcom)

### Crashed Pulse - Self-titled EP CPR Music Inc.

Every once in awhile it is nice to hear your critique shovel hit the pad lock on a tiny chest of local gold.

No - not the smokable kind; but a unique little package that you stumble upon, once every 3 or 4 years. Produced by Doug Naugler (The New Pornographers, Headstones, Tommy Chong), I found an anxious energy surrounds this 4 piece outfit from Vancouver with a sound that could only be described as dark, brooding, haunting...brilliant.

On the verge of a double scoop White Stripe sundae add some Alice In Chains and you have a tasty EP full of melodic metal flavour. Intense power chords from guitarists Brent Bednar & Erik Nguyen compliment the sophisticated & charming vocals of singer Melissa Lai. Combine all of this with hard-driven beats from drummer Dov Kushnir and you have an impressive little debut.

Get a hold of the band or the CD through [www.crashedpulse.com](http://www.crashedpulse.com) or [www.myspace.com/crashedpulse](http://www.myspace.com/crashedpulse)

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### Batnix - Battastic

Dark, alluring rock n' roll meets punk rock. Think the Misfits, and the Dead Boys crashes into the Deep Eynde. Fast upbeat punk tunes with slower more gothic punk tunes dispersed throughout the disc. A good beginning, by a band that is becoming a fixture in the Victoria scene. They stand alone in the Garden City in the specific style of punk rock they play. But that does not take away from their strength as a band. I am particular to the upbeat rocker, "Tonight" and the slower, heavier "Victoria", the latter reminding me a lot of the Deep Eynde and Black Sabbath at the same time.

-Chuck

### SAW III - Soundtrack Treadstone/Warcon

I haven't had an interesting soundtrack thrown on my desk since Judgment Night (maybe Spawn). You see, what makes this album semi-special is the "Flavour Crystals" that have been freeze dried and vacuum packed so it's bursting with a robust heavy metal aroma.

All That Remains kicks off the album with a facile offering in the form of "This Calling" which invites Static X to ear-fuck my noise receptors with "No Submission". Enter Helmet - Monochrome. More like; mediocre chrome. Who the fuck listens to Helmet anymore? Sounds like another indomitable Nirvana throwaway track that Butch Vig held on to, and sold it this people for a gargantuan chunk of Afghani hashish.

Bullet For My Valentine. What is with this rabid craze of "My" monikers? Nevertheless - undeniably Iron Maiden. I'm sure that Eddie is turning in his grave no matter how many times he's resurrected. Nothing would please me more than to retrieve the hatchet from the "Killers" cover and bury it in their braggadocio - worn heads come Feb. 14.

The rest of the disc rounds out with some average filler from Average Sevenfold, Blue October (think Cake meets Fear Factory), Ghost Machine whines their way through the noise gate and straight to the shooting gallery to go on the nod while enduring Opiate For The Masses. Sounds like the majority of the songwriting has been willfully conducted under the influence of some good china white. Time to give your ears another coat of Vaseline as Meshuggah gets ready to squeal like pigs with a "Trip to the Shed". This has to be "The Shuggs's" audio pop-up book version of Deliverance. Ouch! Mastodon - "The Wolf is Loose"...and so is Mastodon - brilliant track! Overall this label might need to "Warcon" it a little harder next Halloween. © 2006 E.S. Day



# TINK SLINGERS



## Blank Generation, Victoria, BC Scott Robertson

I first met Scott when he started working at Blank Generation downtown on Johnson St. in Victoria B.C. Blank Generation is owned by Justin Roubard, a well established piercer in town. They have worked on building a stellar reputation for the shop based on skill, quality, dedication, and amazing customer satisfaction. The size of the shop means that Justin and Scott have control over the atmosphere and the shop has a relaxed environment where people are encouraged to feel comfortable and make educated and informed decisions about the work that they want done. I often find myself on the couch watching part of whatever movie is on when I've got time to kill downtown. Scott tattooed my lip a few years back. I had been having trouble finding someone that was interested in doing it, and Scott said he'd be happy to do it. It healed amazingly and hasn't even needed touching up yet. When I was in need of another very personal and important piece I walked into the shop with a shitty sketch that I had done on a napkin with a jiffy marker and Scott drew something up for me that blew me away. He gave me a beautiful tattoo that I wear with pride, and when he finished it up last month I was blown away by how good it looked. So let's

talk to the man...

**AU: How long have you been tattooing for Scott?**

**Scott:** About four and a half, almost five years.

**AU: How did you get your start?**

**Scott:** Complete dumb luck actually. I apprenticed under Derek Dufresne in Kelowna. I left my sketchbook there one day and went back to pick it up so I could hand it in to school, and he said, "You're going to be a tattoo artist for the rest of your life, you have no choice." I thought "Sure, that'd be fun" and that was about it.

**AU: How long have you been drawing for?**

**Scott:** Forever! I'd been drawing on paper plates as a kid. Had to go to a whole bunch of psychiatrists and the whole nine yards. I was five years old, drawing skulls and skeletons. They were wondering why a nice kid like me was drawing all this shit on plates. He might be fucked. Heh, so yeah, been drawing forever.

**AU: Were there many artists who inspired you?**

**Scott:** Lots of them. Lots of comic styled stuff, Saturday morning cartoons and all that jazz. Now it's a few more technical things. I got my Bachelor of Fine Arts so I was able to widen the spread of my inspirations pretty good. Got some different classical artists to draw from and rounded out my skills a bit.

**AU: What's your favourite part of being a tattoo artist?**

**Scott:** I love the people. I totally do. Love being

able to do custom shit, make sure it's profiled to 'em so that it's exactly theirs. Make 'em happy, and get that bug-eyed look like "Fuck yeah!" That's pretty much what makes it worth while.

**AU: What's your least favourite part? Is there a downside?**

**Scott:** Uhm yeah... (he pauses, trying to pick his words carefully)

**AU: People? Haha**

**Scott:** Haha, yeah people, exactly. You know, like the maple leaves and shit like that. It pays the rent so I can't really complain but you don't get the artistic satisfaction from stuff like that.

**AU: Do you find that by keeping the shop smaller you are able to do more custom work?**

**Scott:** Oh yeah. It's a loose kinda setting but it makes it more tightly knit because it's just Justin and I. We work really well together and so it gives the place a good atmosphere and makes people want to come back. Everyday we hear people saying that one of the reasons they came back in was because we were so approachable and respectful and didn't treat them like shit. That alone brings people back.

**AU: Recently you went to the Calgary Tattoo Convention. How was that for you?**

**Scott:** It was my first convention. I kinda went just to see what it was like. Learned a lot of great things. A bunch of different techniques that you'd never really think of until you see them being

done and learn about them. Also I met one of my tattoo artist heroes. I did a black and gray portrait session with Bob Tyrrell, and also a photo realism in colour course with Deano Cook.

**AU: So you've been in Victoria for a while, do you think it's a good city for tattoo artists?**

**Scott:** Oh yeah! Kelowna sucked. Nothing but maple leaves and kanji. I do more cool things here in a week than my old shop would do in a month. They'd maybe get one huge back piece a year, where as I've got like five on the go right now.

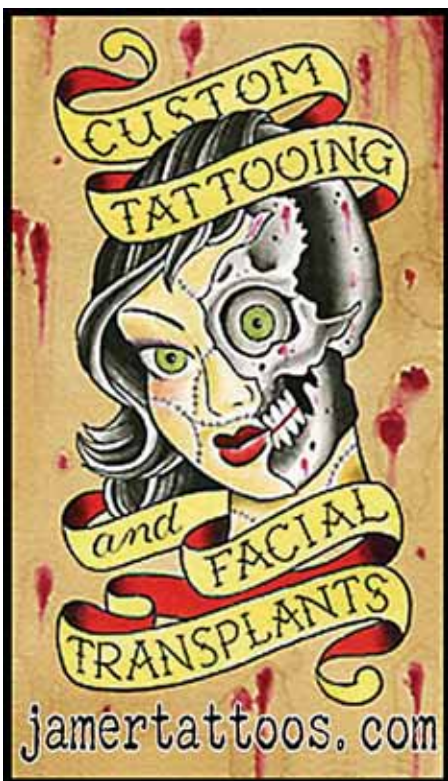
**AU: You've done a lot of really impressive sci-fi and geek work...**

**Scott:** Hahah, I'm a huge geek. I'm a huge Star Wars fan, so any of those tattoos are awesome to do. Everything I know I learned from Star Wars. (In case anyone is in doubt of Scott's fanaticism for the epic tales spun by Mr. Lucas go check out the mounted light sabers in his tattoo room, or the Imperial guard that's mounted atop his tattoo gun). Haha, I love all of it, the more someone is into the work they're getting done the more I'm into it, no matter how geeky!

**The force is strong in this one.**

2 thumbs up (the butt) for Blank Generation and Scott and Justin. Thanks for the great tattoo buddy. It's more than I coulda hoped for.

Keep it sleazy, bsxjen



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# ABSOLUTE UNDERGROUND

## CHRISTMAS CANCELLED



# LIVE Reviews

**Cryptopsy, Skinless, Alivia**  
Stetson Inn, Oct. 19, Calgary, AB

I started drinking at 3, left my house at 7 for this show I had been anticipating for a few months now. I went to the Stetson Inn a few weeks prior and demanded a ticket, but I heard news they weren't preselling any, because they oversold a few shows before (Daylo Abortions) and had to keep it compact. I wore my pastor's collar around my neck in reference to Skinless' frontman wearing a Pope costume as he comes out on the stage. I made sure I left early in fear that I would miss the show - I had a string of bad luck with 3 Inches of Blood and Nashville Pussy being sold out and me having to find something else to do those nights, but alas I was fucking determined to see this show! Alivia opened, who I didn't really care to see. It didn't seem like anyone else was that interested either for the most part. It was then announced that Cryptopsy would be playing next, sweet!

As I am writing this now it feels as though I was run over by a bulldozer - Cryptopsy ripped heads off shoulders and filled the stumps with worms. Actually, there was no worm eating tonight (must have been a long tour) and no drum solo (!) but without those things it was a pure unadulterated ass kicking. After Cryptopsy I didn't think my head could possibly stay on its shoulders for Skinless, but that is what these shows are about - perseverance, survival. You can act like an absolute animal and no one will think twice. "Trample The Weak, Hurdle The Dead" is right, Skinless tore new assholes open all around, albeit without the pope costume. No fills, no freerackers, just death at 500 mph. Frontman Jason Keyser had every lunatic in the place come on stage for one song of pure pandemonium. I hope after trampling the rest of the earth, they come back again!

- Ryan Dyer

**Nashville Pussy/Priestess/Pride Tiger**  
Oct. 7, Hi-Fi Club, Calgary, AB

Missed Pride Tiger, but as I came in, Priestess was seriously kicking some ass. I had never heard this Montreal band, but it's safe to say I will be hearing a lot from them in the future. Very loud set, reminded me of a more metal sounding Bad Wizard. This was tight stoner rock of the highest caliber. I love going to gigs and catching an opening act that kicks my ass. You can always trust bands like Nashville Pussy to bring along some incredible opening talent. I ended up buying a t-shirt, CD and a record later on. Being completely fucking blown away by an opening band you've never heard of is a great way to start out any gig, really.

When Nashville Pussy took the stage, they effortlessly turned what appeared to be a final sound check into such a killer tune. Since I was completely loaded by this point, the song order and set-list were a little fuzzy. This was my third time seeing Blaine Cartwright and company, but it was my first time seeing them with new bassist Karen Cuda. She more than fits in and she's super-unbelievably sexy when she licks her bass while playing the shit out of it. Goddamn! Ruyter Suis absolutely fucking slays on lead guitar. She's noticeably one of the greatest lead guitarists I've ever witnessed live, particularly shining on her insane southern-fried solos. From what I can barely remember their set consisted of pretty much every great song you could name from their amazing discography. This was a career highlight set that led me back to the merch table and doling out more cash for a DVD and t-shirt. Great bands, a sold-out crowd (that was extremely into the music), and lots and lots of booze, what more could a guy ask for while getting loaded with some friends? Well, I can think of a couple of other things but... A personal highlight was "Gonna Hitchhike Down to Cincinnati and Kick the Shit Outta Your Drunk Daddy". What a great fucking tune. -Jeff VandenElzen

**Black Label Society, Priestess**  
Nov. 24th, Moore Theater, Seattle

Roadtrip! A journey to land of Miller High Life and handguns - The show kicked off with Montreal's Priestess - they played some good ol' 70's style rock and roll. Notable tracks were "I Am The Night, Colour Me Black" and their big single "Lay Down". Crowd response was half-assed; no one was there to see Priestess. Black Label Society

kicked off like this: A huge BLS curtain was placed in front of the stage, lights dimmed... "New Religion" off the latest album "Shot To Hell" got lit over the PA system. Emotional piano melodies with synths... then as the guitars came in -BOOM- curtain drops and the band of merry men proceed to knock the shit out of any non-believers. A well played show from Zakk and crew, the setlist included "Been a Long Time", "Suicide Messiah", "Bleed For Me" and the Dimebag tribute "In This River". The whole theater sounded like a European football match - drunken chanting on every chorus that night. -Erik Lindholm

**Denim Demons w/ Black Flab**  
October 28, Logan's Pub

Coming down from a recent metal show in a club venue, it was comforting to walk into a bar and drink some beer in front of a little stage with an old punk rock drum kit, a Marshall stack and a Peavy bass rig with beat up guitars waiting to be further abused. Black Flab (Victoria's own Black Flab tribute band with food-themed lyrics) did just that. Armed with food tattoos, costumes and a fill-in for "Greg Chinn" playing a Fruit-Loops box guitar, the four ripped through a cholesterol-fueled set of "Flag parodies with surprisingly decent musical accuracy. If you ignored singer Jelly Rollins massive gut, and the wittily re-written lyrics, it could've been 1982 all over again. Firecrackers going off in the pit during the set helped the overall feel of things.

Ultimately though, Vancouver's Denim Demons were the raunchiest, most entertaining thing that happened on the Saturday before Halloween in Victoria. Dressed in full denim outfits and makeup in true Turbonegro style, the sextet ripped through an hour-long set including perfectly executed beer-spillers City of Satan, All My Friends are Dead, and Erection along with tonnes more songs sexual in nature. Stage presence, thunderous volume, convoluted pseudo-Norwegian banter, it was all there, proving to Victoria's Turbojuggernaut that these guys truly are the next best thing. -Cros.

**Nightmare Proportions**  
Ost Est Ima, Abortion Grenade, Hateful Aggression, Blood Nasty  
Nov. 10, The Distillery, Calgary AB

This was a Rock For Tots show, but I noticed there were no pre-schoolers up late enough to hear death metal that night. Tints of Keiths were cheap, at a low discount price of \$4, so I fueled up for about an hour before any bands actually started playing, which was about 10 pm. First up was Nightmare Proportions, who were very ambitious, just not too interesting to me. I liked the ultra-thin mohawk of the singer, and enjoyed watching the Beer Core outfit while enjoying my own brethren of liquor from a distance. By the time they ended, it was already around 11 and I had expected maybe three of the bands to have finished already, so I was drunk and ready to fucking rock for Ost Est Ima. I was bludgeoned from fretboards by headbanging so close for these guys. I have heard their brand of death probably a few times before, though live is where it counts, and they are a band to take notice on if you want your guts slit, eyes scalded and cheerful day to be ruined by abhorrent sounds.

Abortion Grenade was the last band I caught tonight, because my friends left already, I was too drunk, I ran out of cigarettes to recreationally smoke, and by the end of their satanic pow-wow, my leg felt snapped in two like ants biting through a sugar cane. I remember seeing them before, but forgot they were three native dudes who played Sepultura like thrash, even with a "Roots Bloody Roots" cover at the end in which they gave me the mic to scream along with them. I was shifted then, and lost track of the time, so I wisely took the train home to go party some more without worrying about getting stranded. A good Rock For Tots, I would have brought my child if I had one. -Ryan Dyer

**Halloween Resurrection!!!**  
The Sweatshop, Champions Of Hell  
Featuring Bloody Betty's Burlesque  
Oct 31st @ Logan's Pub

What a great line-up for Halloween! Does it get any more perfect than an hour with the

Sweatshop followed by the hell-sent, rip-roaring Champs? Only if you add everyone's favorite naked bloody chicks to the performance. The last hour at Logan's looked more like the last hour at the Titty Twister.

The 'Hogs were in top form, back from Vegas and doing some of their best work yet as a 3-piece. Of course, they were dressed as a Quaalude and a ballerina (sound familiar?) with some big demon priest on guitar. They even had one of the Jail Baiters from "Up In Smoke" with them, who was instantly recognizable, her costume was so good. The bud-fueled trio rocked out all the hits, plus a few new ones. Big Rick did an awesome cover of Cash's "Cocaine Blues", localizing some of the lyrics and belting it out rapid fire. Brandon ripped it up on vocals as usual, and his bass playing was pretty pro-styles too. Almost didn't want to stop The Sweatshop, they were doing so well, but the show had to move on.

Some horrific bunch of demons tuned up, turned on and blasted through a metal set straight from the depths of you know where. The Champions of Hell were here! With jaunty tunes for Saint Slayer, Gas Chamber, Warpig, and the rest of the happy gang, they were visited on stage by each nasty bastard in turn. Then, out came those demonic whores of the underworld, The Bloody Betties. Soon the stage was a crowded frame from the comic book itself, as Satan's finest rocked out with blood-covered naked ladies writhing everywhere. When it was all over, but the mopping up and the return of the hearing, you had to hand it to the two bands. Call them the sound and the spectacle, but it was a fine way to spend Halloween. -John Nosecandy

**Blind Guardian, Leave's Eyes - Tues Nov 14 @ Commodore Ballroom, Vancouver BC**

Majestic is the only word I can use to describe this show...and nothing less. Leave's Eyes performed a set of what I consider to be medieval rock coupled with the soprano vocals of Liv Kristine (the ex-singer for Theatre of Tragedy - when they were good.) It was very atmospheric and the passages were memorable and anthem-like. Fans of Nightwish would definitely dig this band, although Leave's Eyes are even more mid-tempo and slower, instead of exerting faster power-metal segments.

Anyways...to the good shit...Blind fucking Guardian. It's tough to judge whether they played all their best material, because almost ALL their material is their best! They did play a good balance of everything though: Fly, Mirror Mirror, And then there was Silence, Imaginations from the Other Side, Nightfall, you name it. Imagine being surrounded by metalheads of all genres; grind/power/black/death metal and whatever else, and ALL of them are standing around clapping and singing along to "The Bard's Song." That was the most fucking memorable moment of the whole night.

All in all, a great fucking show and 2006 has definitely been the year for power metal shows (w/ Dragonforce, and Sonata Arctica) -Akylor

**Up Your Kilt! The Real McKenzies, Raised By Wolves, Los Furios, the Dreadnoughts(RIP)**  
Nov 2nd @ the Red Room

It was a great show! I've never been spun around a room that much.

Lotsa great bands too, there was Los Furios with some fun ska that you can really dance to. Then there was Raised By Wolves with weird rock n' roll. And I mean "weird" in the best way possible. I missed the first band but I heard they were good. And then The Real McKenzies!!! Some rocking Celtic punk. Some people might see those two words together as a bad thing. I don't know how. I think the traditional Celtic styles of music go really well with punk rock. Like Haggis and Ale or something. Anyways it was fucking great! I danced so much! And I still have the image of Paul mooning the audience engraved in my mind. Ah... treasured memories! -Anita Fizz

**The Antics - Saturday November 18th**  
Toronto's Edge 102.1FM Tudio on Yonge St.

On my way to the show I tuned into the radio to hear The Antics were being interviewed live on the air. They were so en-



The Denim Demons and Black Flab's Pizza Rollins

tertaining that I was excited to see the guys play a set. The place filled up fast with plenty of street level punks. The Antics opened with a cover of Folsom Prison and then kicked the crowd in the teeth with an Antics classic, "Who's the dumb-ass now?" The set list had 22 songs on it but sadly they would only get to play 14 songs before the real action would begin! As the crowd gained momentum, a mosh-pit erupted right in the radio station studio. One security guard was being cool about it. He simply asked people to leave when he thought they were too rowdy. As I watched the band, the Police presence outside the studio was getting quite heavy. Then the cops came in to talk with the on air personalities. The Antics looked stunned, but played on, finishing a newly written tune called "Grave Digger". The Edge's security and staff opened up all the glass doors, and the cops entered shouting "the show is over". The 100 fans crammed into the small studio were all being told to leave. Some one yelled "Fuck you pigs!" and the screaming ensued. Then the gas hit. Our eyes were fine, but none of us could breathe without coughing. We were originally all laughing at the fact the Cops had sprayed such a non deserving group of people with pepper spray or some other stuff. We went outside to get fresh air when things escalated. Cop cars started blocking both sides of the street as police pushed and shoved and arrested anything in sight! I remember two scenes vividly. A young girl about 14 or 15 was grabbed by a Cop and

thrown against the wall and choked while her friends screamed in disbelief! And across the street, two punks were just walking, minding their own business, when two cops chased them down, and slammed them down on some concrete stairs! It seemed everywhere I looked someone was getting shoved in cop car, all because they were enjoying a good old fashioned punk rock show. The cops even forced one kid to delete all the pictures he took, that they did not like, on his digital camera. The Antics were in full flight when they got yanked. This had nothing to do with the Edge 102.1. Even the on air personalities were shocked. They were coughing from the gas too. The on air guys are super-cool and they were just as pissed as we all were, about how this all went down. With the studio air clearing, the last cruiser left with another Antics fan in the back. As he drove by the kid looked at me and behind his handcuffed back he showed me 3 fingers, 3TARDED for life! HA! A smile broke on my face. Through all this shit, this kid still had an 'up yours' humor to him! The cops were clearly in the wrong here. 10 more minutes of moshing and the show would have been over without incident at 10pm. But oh well another night at an Antics show I guess? Cough, Cough...

-John Tard  
www.FuckTheAntics.com  
www.myspace.com/fucktheantics

## SPOKEN WORD REVIEW

### There's Always Time for Jello Even When He Has No Time For Us

If I had heard more than a couple of things in the first three hours of An Evening of Spoken Word with Jello Biafra that I hadn't ranted about myself earlier that week, I might have stayed for the second half. Jello takes the opportunity to preach to the choir and he ain't cheap from what I hear. As much as I love and agree with the old bastard, it's hard to believe he's working for the greater good by overcharging punks that already subscribe to his beliefs.

On the bright side he did cover some Canadian stuff that was news to me, but if he can't recommend better than to say "Take a sledge hammer to the electronic voting machines", what's the point? Jello was funny and it was neat to see him in person, and I'm sorry if you now go to the Church of Jello, but seriously, he's not going to change the world this way.

Also, he must have been in some kind of hurry. As funny as it was for him to break social convention by showing us his freshly hankied snot and letting us listen to him pee via wireless mic not once but twice, he really didn't perform for the people who had just forked out 20 bucks to see him, other than to come out at the beginning in a cape and sunglasses. Of course there was the call at intermission to spend more money on one of his t-shirts or a CD of what you just heard. Wow. Way to put yourself out for the fans Jello. Tell us again about what a prick East Bay Ray is?

Anyhow, it was still cool to see him I guess, and maybe we can give you a better story next time if he makes time to give us an interview.

-Myers Hurt

(Editor's note: There is an interview planned with Jello for next issue, as long as he doesn't get wind of this tirade first. And for the record, Jello spoke for close to 5 hours, so that's time enough, considering your average punk rock set is like 45 minutes.)

Video of the Jello Biafra performance at the Dreamspace on October 28th has been posted by The Infamous Pirate Ninja Cat. on www.youtube.com.



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- JANUARY 16 CANADA GAMES ARENA - GRANDE PRAIRIE (NO ICE CUBE)
- JANUARY 17 REXALL PLACE - EDMONTON
- JANUARY 18 STAMPEDE CORRAL - CALGARY
- JANUARY 19 ENMAX CENTRIUM - RED DEER

# BILLY TALENT



- JANUARY 18 SAVE ON FOODS MEMORIAL CENTRE - VICTORIA
- JANUARY 19 PACIFIC COLISEUM - VANCOUVER
- JANUARY 23 ENMAX CENTRE - LETHBRIDGE
- JANUARY 24 PENGROWTH SADDLEDOME - CALGARY
- JANUARY 25 REXALL PLACE - EDMONTON

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- JANUARY 16 - REXALL PLACE, EDMONTON
- JANUARY 18 - PACIFIC COLISEUM

# Gig Listings Canada Wide!

Send Us your Gig listings by Email [admin@absoluteunderground.ca](mailto:admin@absoluteunderground.ca) Support Your Scene!

## Monday December 4th

Fear Factory, Hypocrisy, Decapitated, Suffocation @ Sugar (Victoria)

## Tuesday December 5th

From the Shadows, Bitchfork, FoundBroken, N-7 @ Victoria Event Centre (All Ages)

## Wednesday December 6th

Rock Rock Rock n Roll Market with DJ Caligari, The Remanes, The Switchblade Valentines @ Logan's Pub

Guns And Roses, Sebastian Bach, Helmet, Suicide Girls @ Pengrowth Saddledome (Calgary)

## Thursday December 7th

Guns N Roses, Sebastian Bach, Helmet, Suicide Girls @ Rexall Place (Edmonton)

Homeless For Christmas\* The Black Halos, The Jolts @ Plaza Club

Sugar Coated Killers, Kamakazi Night, Secondrate Rejects @ Pub 340

## Friday December 8th

The Rebel Spell, Eastside Death Squad, Cambridge, ROCK PILE @ The Cobalt

S.A.R.X., the Grey Army, RottenFiends, Mind Between the Lines, D.I.Y., D.T.B.S. @ Sunset Room (All Ages) 6 dollars 7:00 - 11:00 doors at 6:30

The Rebel Spell, Eastside Death Squad, Faty Maty and the Yellowbelts @ Griffin Rec Centre North Vancouver BC (All Ages)

## Saturday December 9th

Dimebag Darrell Tribute - Within The Ashes, Cerberus, The Lucifer Project @ The Mead Hall (Edmonton)

Aerosmith, Motley Crue @ Rexall Place (Edmonton)

Inhuman, Insidious Omen, Begrime Exemious @Rendezvous (Edmonton)

Death Tribute - Norrath, Mark Of Cain, Nebucadnezzar, Sentient @ Underground (Calgary)

The Sweathogz, HELLBENT CUNTRY @ The Cobalt

4th annual Punks Against Cancer: Golgotha, AK47, Self Inflicted, The Remanes @ James Bay Community Center (All Ages)

Daggermouth, Landon Auger and Granny, Living With Lions, Zarley Zalpski @ Limerick Junction

Eagles of Death Metal, with Special Guests @ The Commodore Ballroom

The Doers, Dandi Wind, Hot Loins, Cheerleader Camp @ Mount Pleasant Community Center (All Ages) \$8

The Gomers, Blind Witness, Eastside Death Squad, ROCK PILE @ Pub 340

## Monday December 11th

...And You Will Know Us By The Trail Of The Dead, Blood Brothers, Celebration @ Macewan Hall (Calgary)

Aerosmith, Motley Crue @Pengrowth Saddledome (Calgary)

## Tuesday December 12th

...And You Will Know Us By The Trail Of The Dead, The Blood Brothers, Celebration @ Edmonton Events Center (Edmonton)

Bravado, Somaste, Hallowed Moon @ Stetson Inn (Calgary)

Inner Surge, Studded For Pleasure, The Intended @Broken City (Calgary)

## Friday December 15th

Atreyu, Coheed And Cambria, Ten Second Epic, The Fall Of Troy @Shaw Conference Center (Edmonton)

Kilyakai Pointzeroeight, Decipher @Verns (Calgary)

Chris' Farewell show part II (with booze!!) Kincaide, Rod Iron Haulers, A Textbook Tragedy, conversation @ Legends

Golgotha, A.O.A., plus guests @ Denman Island Community Hall

Tough As Nails, The Dirt On, Italian Edition, Citadel, Cobras Cobras @ Sunset Room

## Saturday December 16th

Demonika's XXXMAS Spectacular feat. Divinity, Ost Est Ima, Scorched Banditos, Power Of Murder @Warehouse + Underground (Calgary)

3-tards, The Antics, Mr Plow feat Beatlejuice from Howard Stern @Kathedral (Toronto)

The DEADCATS, the MAGS, HANK ANGEL and his ISLAND DEVILS @ Logan's Pub

Uncle Nestor, The Hits, The Smears @ Limerick Junction

Friday December 17th

The Living End @ Richard's On Richards

You Say Party! We Say Die!, FROSTED TIPZ, The Doers, Fun 100, CHRIS-A-RIFFIC (VS), Mr. Plow @ The Cobalt

## Friday December 22nd

Johnny Fiasco @ The Warehouse (Calgary)

Black Christmas!!! Keg Killers, Sweathogz, Bloody Betty's Burlesque @ Lucky Bar

## Saturday December 23rd

Zappa Plays Zappa - Tour de Frank Dweezil Zappa, Terry Bozzio, Steve Vai, Napoleon Murphy Brock @ The Orpheum Theatre (All Ages)

The Rebel Spell, Rio Bent, Cobweb Society, Kamikaze Night, Likely Lads @ Limerick Junction

Enchanted Fairies, Blood Nasty - Anal Impalement @ The Cobalt

## Saturday December 30th

Ahnabith Gish, Heroicredible @Verns (Calgary)

Married To Music, Motorama, NoseBleeder @ Pub 340

The Town Pants @ Limerick Junction (Vancouver)

## Sunday December 31st (NEW YEARS EVE)

The Sadies, @ Horseshoe (Toronto)

Necronaut, Acantha, Bravado @Rendezvous (Edmonton)

Nuvo Wavo @ Canoe Club

Chixdiggit, Mad Cowboys @ Broken City (Calgary)

Sufferance, Verbal Deception, Valour @Verns (Calgary)

BDFM, Sneak Attack, Deadneck Fury, Primitive Screw Heads and guests. @ the Distillery (Calgary)

## Friday January 5th

S.A.R.X., stiltskins, WAYNE POWERMAN, Mind Between the Lines, D.T.B.S. @ The Garry Oak Room

## Saturday January 6th

Ost Est Ima, Passado, Ahnabith Gish @ Verns (Calgary)

## Friday January 12th

James Brown @ Red Robinson Show Theatre, Coquitlam BC

## Wednesday January 17th

Mr. Lahey and Randy of Trailer Park Boys @ Nothern Institute Of Technology (Edmonton)

## Tuesday January 23rd

Into Eternity @ Stetson Inn (Calgary)

## Wednesday January 24th

Anti-Flag, Billy Talent, Moneen, Rise Against @Pengrowth Saddledome (Calgary)

## Thursday January 25th

Anti-Flag, Billy Talent, Moneen, Rise Against @Rexall Place (Edmonton)

## Saturday January 20th

The Rebel Spell, The Joey Only Outlaw Band, The Switchblade Valentines, D.I.Y. @ TBA (All Ages)

## Sunday, January 21st

Into Eternity, Golgotha, tba @ Lucky Bar

## Friday February 2nd

Sufferance, Verbal Deception, Nebucadnezzar, Entropy Of Earth, Sacred Ally, Norrath @ Macewan Hall (Calgary)

## Thursday February 8th

Cradle Of Filth, 69 Eyes @Edmonton Events Centre (Edmonton)

## Friday February 9th

Cradle Of Filth, 69 Eyes @ Macewan Hall (Calgary)

## February 18th

Metal Church , Golgotha and guests @ the Colbat

# Punk Rock Classifieds

Send your listings to [prclassifieds@absoluteunderground.ca](mailto:prclassifieds@absoluteunderground.ca)

Absolute Underground is available in Toronto at:

Rotate This!  
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Bovine Sex Club  
Shanghai Cowgirl  
Suspect Video  
Sal's Tattoo  
Planet Kensington  
Sneaky Dee's

Bands wanted to submit to a compilation CD called "Rock Against Harper"  
DPS Records is a Do-It-Yourself label based in Ottawa dedicated to supporting the underground, politically active music scene. This is a callout for politically active bands to rise up and speak out against Stephen Harper's plan for Canada to follow in the footsteps of George W. Bush. If you are interested in being featured on this compilation CD, please write to [rockagainstharp@gmail.com](mailto:rockagainstharp@gmail.com)

PUNKS - gross!  
Upcoming Photography exhibit featuring Bev Davies January 5th to 15th Opening reception Friday Jan 5th @ 7pm the Jem gallery - 225 East Broadway, Vancouver, BC 604-879-5366 [thejemgallery@yahoo.com](mailto:thejemgallery@yahoo.com)

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A big FUCK YOU to the idiots who broke into The Cobalt. You'll get yours you dumbfuck scumfuckers!!!

For the sake of the Heavy Metal environment on Vancouver Island, Terry of the Great Tribune Beast is reviving the old Island Metal message board. Check it Out:  
<http://islandmetal.proboards44.com>

ART SHOW OPENING:

Farm-sized Adventures  
Islands Fold Book Release and Show  
Collaborative work by Luke Ramsey with Jonny P. at Studio 16 1/2 Art Emporium in FanTan Alley December 7th - January 8th  
Opening reception: Friday December 8th, 8pm  
Studio 16 1/2 regular hours: Noon to Six Wednesday to Monday  
Luke Ramsey : [www.mebeme.com](http://www.mebeme.com)  
Islands Fold: [www.islandsfold.com](http://www.islandsfold.com)  
Jonny P.: [www.conundrumpress.com](http://www.conundrumpress.com)  
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HEMPOLOGY 101 LECTURES WITH TED SMITH

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Jan 24 Economics of Legalization  
Jan 30 Growing Cannabis  
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Feb 14 Medical Cannabis Products  
Feb 21 -break-  
Feb 28 Cannabis and the Law  
Mar 7 Social Impact of Prohibition  
Mar 14 Pot in Politics  
Mar 22 Medical Cannabis in Canada  
Mar 29 History of Hempology 101  
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# BC SMOKE SHOP

## *Twas the Night Before Christmas*

*Twas the night before Christmas and we were all high  
I hear out the smoke with a big cloudy sigh  
Mom and her rollies and dad with his bong,  
And the stereo playing my favorite Afroware song  
When over in the kitchen there arose such a clatter  
I slowly sauntered in to see what was the matter  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
But an old man smoking up through a crutch and can of beer  
The air was heavy with the stinky smell of grass  
And the jolly old man was stoned off his ass  
His eyeballs were red as Rudolph's red nose  
And his eyelids were heavy and three quarters closed  
He stood up and straggled his ass back to the sleigh  
And said he'd deliver the other gifts some other day  
A message to all when you harvest your crop!*

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