

EAT GRITS AND DIE

Issue Number 1

Summer 2008

The Scumbag Gazette

FLATFOOT 56

Bastardise Irish Figs



NASHVILLE SHOPLIFTING

Better Than Seattle

Is in Your Future

**FIST
OF THE
NORTH STAR**

Picks it to the Man

THE CARRY ONS *Get Double Feamed*

NASHVILLE PUNK

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*"More addictive than ice cream.
More deadly than death itself.
All the kids are on it."
...Some Dude*

NASHVILLEPUNK.COM

- Nashville's best Underground Rock message boards
- Free promotion for your band (post your own flyers etc.)
- Hang out online with all the fine Grits folks and other punk superstars!
- Punk Rock news by Mel
- Read Adam's famous movie reviews
- Bad words are OK!

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The screenshot displays a Myspace profile page for 'Nashville Punk'. The profile header includes the site's logo and the text 'The Punk Rock Party Presents: PUNKFEST 2008'. Below the header is a table of recent posts or events. The table has columns for 'Date', 'Time', and 'Location'. The posts listed include:

Date	Time	Location
10/12/07	8:00 PM	1000 10th Ave
10/12/07	8:00 PM	1000 10th Ave
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The background of the advertisement features various punk-related graphics, including album covers for 'Radio Death Wave', 'Joece', 'Creech', and 'The Grits', as well as a 'Less Than Perfect' album cover.

myspace.com/nashvillepunk



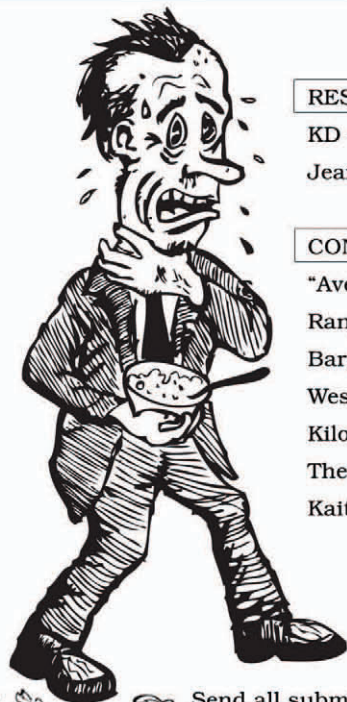
EAT GRITS AND DIE

Issue #1
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We would like to welcome you to Nashville's only printup of underground rock and roll, brought to you by the scene itself. We hope to do these a few times a year and eventually work our way to monthly issues. Here at "Grits" we will be putting info and articles dedicated to all that rocks in the middle TN area,

We will feature show and band reviews, upcoming events and anything else that you want to hear about. Feel free to send in suggestions, articles for review or info of bands and shows going on in our area.

See you at a show!
KD



RESIDENT SCUMBAGS

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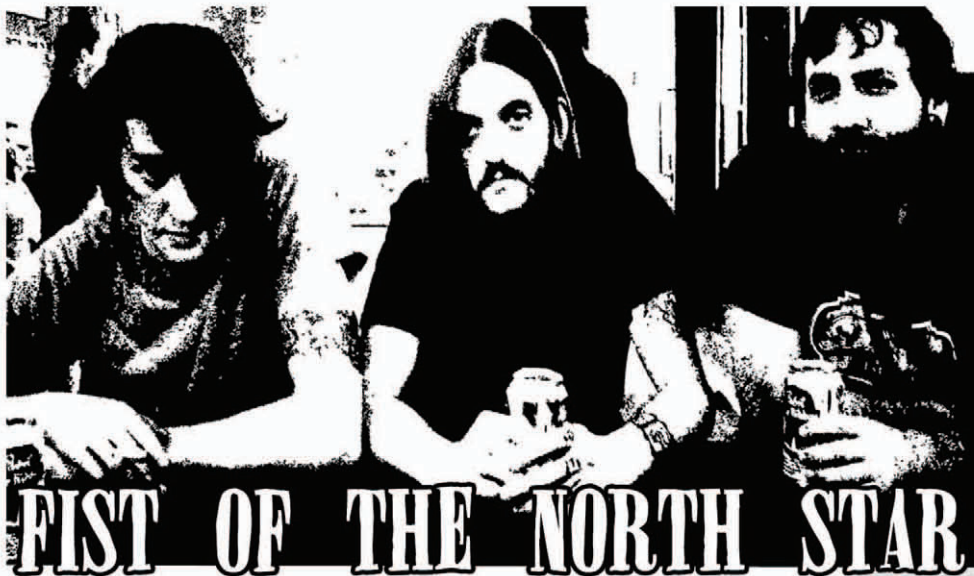
The Ghost

Kaitlin Roach

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Fist of the North Star Interview

By Wes Cobb

Fist of the North Star—not only a mouthful but an earful as well. In less than two years this Nashville punk band has gone from a couple of guys jamming out old punk covers to a nation-touring force of underground hardcore punk rock. The band's history has been dramatic: innumerable lineup changes, members getting fired then rehired, and birthing Music City's newest punk record label, Stik Man Records. With a sound that can go from early Oil to modern hardcore, FON'S' catalog is as diverse as its incarnations. This interview is with three iconic members of Fist: KD, bassist, manager, and merchandiser; Edwin, vocalist/philosopher/boy-toy; Chris, lead guitarist has since joined the band.

Q: How long have you guys been together?

Edwin: Well I think the band really started coming together around the time I showed up, which was around late August/early September 2006. I think it was around then, I know we played our first show in September 06. so I guess you could say that's when we started. So real close to about a year and a half.

KD: The first lineup started back around May of 06' as a three piece, but we consider the first "real" lineup a few months later when we added a 2nd guitarist and fulltime vocalist.

Q: Who was in your original lineup?

Edwin: I know KD, Jeremy, and Wes were there. And I can't even remember the name of the drummer that was there for half a practice. But I feel like the "real" original lineup of Fist was KD, Jeremy, Wes, Brett, and myself.

Q: The band has gone through a lot of lineup changes in a relatively short period of time. Consequently, FoNS has a lot of different sounds. Do you guys want to keep up the variety or are you trying to hone down a single "FoNS" sound?

KD: Although the continuous changing has held us back some and varied our sound, I feel that it's helped us with finding what I really like to do best, which is the faster thrash shit. And while we still play a few of the older songs, all of our newer songs seem to have a close feel to each other. Edwin and I have written the majority of the newer music, which seem to go along with our older thrash stuff, but most have not yet been introduced in shows due to the constant changes in line ups. I must admit though, playing with multiple people and their different ways of playing, practicing, etc. has made me a better bass player and better when it comes to knowing what to look for or not for in bandmates.

Edwin: I don't really think we ever go for a certain "type" of sound. We just bring some ideas to the table and just kind of see what unfolds. A lot of times is fast, crazy, in your face kind of stuff. I guess we just don't get off on writing happy songs about nice things. We're way too bitter for that sort of thing.

FIST

Q: Daniel, you have become very involved in the Nashville punk scene in the last couple of years. Do you have a vision of where you'd like the scene to go?

KD: I would like to see few things happen in the next few years. First I would like to see Nashville back to the way it was, like what Mike Sims talks about. People always going to shows even if they don't know who's playing, packed shows for two local band/ two touring band shows, things like that. There are a lot of great bands in and coming through Nashville and I wish more people were there to see them. Sometimes it should be more about going and having a good time with good people just to do it and if the bands happen to be good as well, then hell that's extra. To me live music is usually good, some I like, some I don't, but I appreciate the fact that those guys are out trying and doing what they can and I enjoy seeing or hearing live instruments. I would also like to see all the surrounding areas work together more and help each other bands out. I hear from a lot of bands that it's hard for them to get into certain cities or states and I wish the bands that get help from others would return the favor more often. The more we work together with flying for each other, promoting each other, passing on contacts to each other, the more we will all benefit from it. Also I would like to see more of the "Big" bands start coming back through Nashville. I hate it when I see all these tour schedules hopping over us. I think it has a lot to do with shitty promoting here and some of the same other reasons that people don't go to more shows in general, but hopefully in the near future with this Zine, Nashvillepunk.com, Stik Man Radio and a lot of us here in Nashville starting to work closer together some of these things will start to change for the better.

Q: Edwin, a lot of your lyrics deal with either politics or nihilism/alcoholism. Are you trying to reconcile two different ways of coping with modern American culture?

Edwin: I really don't set out to write about anything really. I just write about what I know.

Q: What about the band's politics? Ron Paul seems an unlikely candidate for punkers to support doesn't he?

KD: We try not to talk about it too much between each other and I try not to with other people just because I get over heated sometimes and its really not worth it. Ron Paul the man only seems like an odd choice to me because he's old and not exactly into anything me or my friends would be, but Ron Paul as a politician seems like a good, maybe the best this year, choice to me. He is definitely anti-government involvement with wanting to end all the bullshit government organizations and I like his spending ideas. He is bad when it comes to the environment however, which is a big deal for me, but might not be for everyone.

Edwin: Politics suck. It's always just a choice of the lesser of evils. As much as I hate it, it's a two fucking party system and that blows. So it's all about who has the most money and the best looking answers. When in fact no one has the answer and we're just a country that's will be well on it's way towards a revolution of some sort in the next 15 to 20 years. It's really just becoming a lost cause.

**Look for the latest CD from FoNS,
"Here's To An Early Grave"
Summer 2008**



MYSpace.COM/FISTOFTHENORTHSTARMUSIC

FLATFOOT

SHOW REVIEW
THE MUSE, JAN 9TH, 2008

By Adam Smith Riggs

I don't get out on the town as much as I'd like to, but when I do I enjoy nothing more than a grimy punk rock show at one of Nashville's fine dives, a bellyful of beer, and the quality company of good friends. This night did not disappoint. The bar SOLD OUT of Pabst Blue Ribbon for goodness sake! It was also the last show I'll get to see with my little brother Drew for awhile, as he had to report for duty in the Army two days later. The bands played only a small part in what will go down in my memory as one hell of a good time, and a shining example of what our local scene has to offer.

FIST OF THE NORTH STAR

These guys may be the hardest working band in Nashville (bassist KD is the man behind this zine, as well as Stik Man Records, and also books shows out the ass). They were asked to play this gig mere hours before showtime and answered the call of duty honorably. I mean damn, if one member can't show they just rearrange the band and rock on anyway. The five piece version definitely works better for them (Edwin, stuck behind the drum kit this evening, is one hell of a frontman), but they still pulled it off in fine form. Rhythm/lead guitarist Jeff did a fine job playing those riffs and taking over the lead vox at the same time (the mighty dual guitar thrash punk of Fist is a bit more involved than your typical three chord punk), and lead guitarist Jeremy sounded better than ever, shredding through solo after balls out solo. Good job. I applaud them for stepping up to the challenge. See these guys whenever and wherever you get the chance.

THE LAST HOPE

I was so glad these guys made it after their van's radiator blew earlier in the day. They play some great nasty street punk n roll, with a dash of glam thrown in for good measure. Very high energy band. They have THREE guitarists and manage to pull it off without stepping on each other, delivering a true wall of sound beyond the Beatles' wildest dreams. Fucking loud as hell (one of their first national tours was called the "Louder than Motorhead" tour)! Killer frontman as well, and great songs to boot. This is an outspoken yet outcast Christian band with no shortage of bile to spew at the "church" from which they were rejected. Good choice in cover songs as well, burning through the Stooges' "Search and Destroy" and the underrated punk anthem "Sonic Reducer" by the Dead Boys with vicious aplomb. I seriously dug them, and picked up their latest album "Violence, Vengeance and Retribution" after the show, which has been getting quite a few spins in the days since.



HILLBILLY CASINO

These cats may very well end up being my favorite local band. They bring it in spades. They have one of the best frontmen I've ever seen, the inimitable Nic Roulette. He stands on a soapbox shouting like a street preacher extolling the fire 'n brimstone gospel of the punk rock gutter, holding the crowd in the palm of his hand. The lightning fingered playing of unmatched guitarist Ronnie Crutcher (who you may know as the bass player for Brian Setzer's Nashvillains) and the triple slappin' punch of upright bassist extraordinaire Geoff Firebaugh are top notch. A good way to describe these boys is Nashville honky tonk rockabilly troubadours doing acid listening to Iggy Pop during the Apocalypse while the bar is on fire. They have some of the most well written songs of any local band, very clever and tight. "PBR" in particular is an instantly hummable ditty that we can all relate to I'm sure. And their cover song choices are impeccable. George Jones AND Motorhead, motherfuckers!!! Also, the rollicking juke joint western swing tune "Mimes Of The Old West" is a cover of a little known rockabilly band called This Train (which featured Th' Legendary Shack Shakers' Mark Robertson), and is one of the most fun songs you'll ever hear played in any bar in Guitartown (it's rightfully their own song now, as Robertson gave it to them). According to Nic after the show I'm the only person he's met that knows the original, but everyone who's ever heard the song can't help but love the offbeat humor. I love that song and that, along with the band's musical prowess, clever delivery, and over the top stage presence solidifies their place as one of Nashville's best live acts.

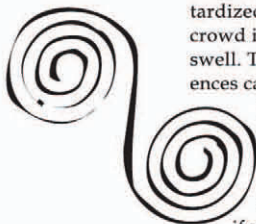




FLATFOOT 56

Ok, I got a little long winded talking about HC. Let me just say this - I know of NO other young punk band today better than Flatfoot 56. When this Chi-town based Celtic punk/oi band comes on stage the energy never stops. Whether old Irish folk songs, classic hymns, or rollicking punk anthems, these boys bring a passion unmatched in today's music scene. They are a Christian band and I get the vibe that some of the passion comes from the fact that their music is important to them on a spiritual level, but it's a fervor that can be felt by anyone regardless of religious or social persuasion. The musicianship is stellar, especially Josh Robieson on guitar, mandolin, AND the mighty bagpipes. The close knit unity (the towering Bawinkel brothers make up the other ¾ of the band) felt on stage bleeds over into the crowd and we become one big diverse family. .

Your fists want to pump in the air almost involuntarily. Your feet begin dancing a bastardized Irish jig all on their own. The chaotic circle pit that consumes almost the entire crowd isn't dangerous or violent, just so full of energy the walls can barely contain the swell. This music, this band, this feeling, is INFECTIOUS! (One's concertgoing experiences can not be deemed complete without having heard Flatfoot's take on "Amazing Grace", though their originals - "Hold Fast", "Battle of Bones", and "Carry 'Em Out" to name only a few - are nothing to sniff at.) I'm sure we all drove home humming a happy tune and looking forward to the next time our brothers from Chicago come back to town. I may have described their set a bit more metaphorically, but that's the best way I knew how. Flatfoot 56 is amazing! And if you missed 'em, all I can say is I'm truly sorry. "This one's for THE WARRIORS, torch n spade WARRIORS A-WHOA OHHHH!!!"



Hometown

Pride

By Baron von Jockstrap

Nashville, yeah, we wear shoes and most of us still have our teeth.

Nashville, yeah, I'm sure you have heard of us. You have probably heard that we are a bunch of inbred rednecks with gunracks in the rear windows of our pick-up trucks who always vote republican and are required by a city ordinance to fly the Confederate flag over our homes so we can be ready just in case the South does rise again.

Fuck that shit.

If you have just found yourself in our city you might be surprised to find out what life is really like in Music City. First off I said Music City, not Country Music City. There is probably as much diversity in the music being played here as there is in any city in the US. Punk, jazz, blues, rock, emo crap, indy crap, bluegrass, gospel, classical, you name it and it's here, including country. Furthermore get the damn chip off your shoulder, sure most new country sucks but don't forget that Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, George Jones, Tammy Wynette, Lefty Frizzell, and a lot of other great artists played some pretty damn freaking amazing country music, and this is one of the few cities where you have any chance of hearing their stuff. So open your ears and get ready to be surprised by the variety and amazing talent you can hear at the dive bars, honky-tonks, and street corners in this town.

The people here are just as varied as the music, you can find rednecks, pretentious rich people, hippies, punks, skins, queers, religious fanatics, Marxists, Hindus, hoochie mamas, swingers, just about any race, ethnicity, and .sub-culture that you can imagine. This town is a real melting pot, and I'm not saying that in the bullshit way people in Seattle do. Not only are most of the varieties of humanity found

here but we all tend to intermingle and interact with each other to a greater extent than I have seen in most cities. Of course we have a few racist and xenophobic idiots here, but what city doesn't? At least here they are out in the open enough that we can avoid them or use them for our own entertainment.

Stuff to do? Yeah, we got that. Lots of shows, some museums, prostitutes, more really great restaurants than we deserve, parks, sports, a zoo, bars, at least one sex club, and tons of tourists to laugh at. We don't have an amusement park any more but we all drive like idiots so that makes up for the loss of bumper cars.

If you have arrived here from one of the coasts be prepared to shit yourself when you see how much cheaper it can be to live here. Also get ready to have complete strangers walk up to you and start a conversation, and I'm talking reasonably sane people. People here tend to go out of their way to be nice, even if they hate you. So know ahead of time that when the chunky soccer mom says to you "well bless your little heart" she may not be signing up to be a member of your fan club.

What it comes down to is that Nashville has so much to offer that it can be pretty much what you want it to be. Just give it some time so you can learn your way around and adjust to the culture (if you have never eaten red-eye gravy or been given directions that started off "Turn left where the gas station used to be" you haven't been here long enough) and then decide if you like it. If you don't, well bless your little heart, douche bag.



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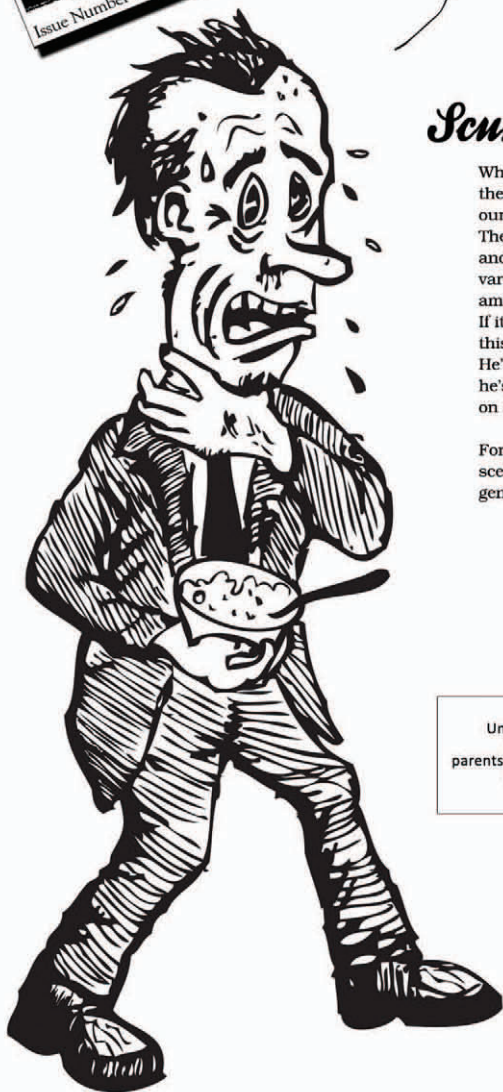


Scumbag of the Month

When it came time to select the very first Scumbag of the Month our choice was pretty easy. The man behind the Punk Rock Party and Nashville Punk (online) and various other events etc. is a man among man, walking tall with a plan. If it's punk and local, odds are this guy is involved in one way or another. He's old and has acid reflux, but he's always ready to throw down on some punk rock!

For years of hard work behind the scenes and onstage, ladies and gentlemen, your Scumbag of the Month...

MIKE SIMS



POSTER DIRECTIONS:

Unfold staples, remove poster then refold staples.
Mount poster someplace (church bathroom, parents' bedroom, work breakroom or wherever you see fit)
Tape, stapler, tacks, glue or other sticky stuff works best for mounting. Do not eat poster.

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**MIKE
SIMS**

*Scumbag of the Month
Summer 2008*



Scumbag of the Month

MIKE SIMS

Age, 40

Instruments?

Bass and Guitar. Started out playing classical violin but haven't really touched one much since I was 18.

Bands Played In:

Sweaty Crotch in Madison, WI -1987

CSD in Nashville -1988 to 1989

The Groove Krickets - 1997

Cretin Grims - 2003 to 2005

Radio Death Wave- 2007 to 2008

Favorite Bands:

The Exploited, The 4 Skins, Fear

First Punk Show:

1982 I believe it was when Minor Threat and CPS played Cantrell's here in Nashville

How long have you been doing the Punk Rock party?

About 2 and a half years.

Greatest PRP Memory:

Murphy's Law playing was one. There's a ton of them and their hard to narrow down to a best.

What OTC med works best for acid reflux?

Prilosec works wonders for me.

So I guess I got lucky I don't have to have a prescription med.

Zantec didn't do shit for me.

What do you want it to say on your tombstone?

He made mistakes he never regretted, he had fun, and he lived the way he wanted!



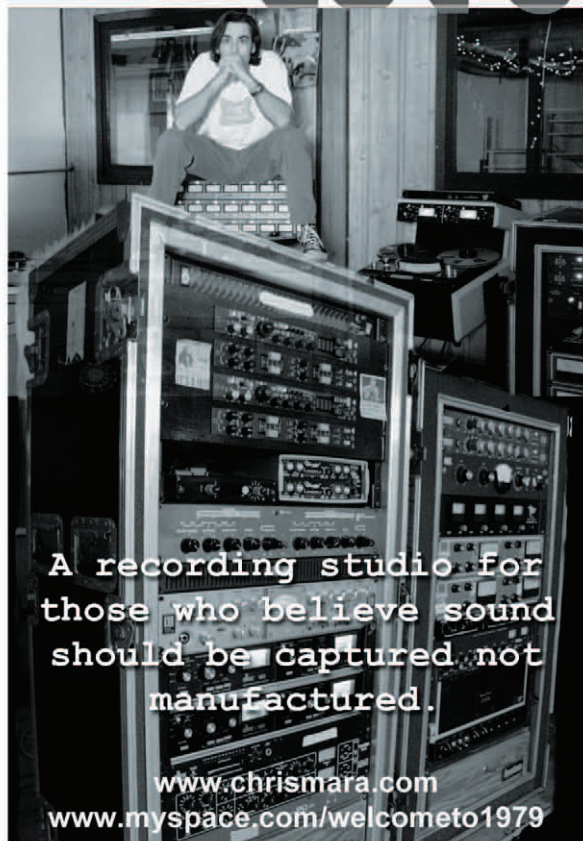
FIST OF THE NORTH STAR



HERE'S TO AN EARLY GRAVE

SUMMER 08

Welcome to **1979**



A recording studio for those who believe sound should be captured not manufactured.

www.chrismara.com

www.myspace.com/welcometo1979

MORE
BAD ADVICE



Distraught?
Need advice?
We have answers...

email:
eatgritsanddie@gmail.com

How to make her say, "I wish I could quit you."

By Ranger Dick

In the interest of scene unity, I'm going to let the guys in on a well-kept secret that will help them get massive amounts of snatch. I will probably get kicked off the pink team for this, but gay dudes aren't really gay. We just pretend in order to have many beautiful women show us their breasts and rub their hatchet wound all over us. Have you ever noticed that girls love to go to gay bars? I can't tell you how many times a girl has asked me to dance. And I'm not just talking about doing the cabbage patch. I'm talking about full-on snail tracks. Girls want guys to notice their bodies. Period. But they don't want to feel like dirty whores, so they get gay guys to look.

We can admire their boobies, give massages, "practice" kissing, and inspect the ol' honey pot. And then there's the thing where girls want to "change" guys. They also think that their beaver is the best feller of trees. When they see a fudgepacker, they say to themselves, "I know I can get him to go straight. My furburger is the BEST!" And, yes, I've succumbed to their wily ways. I was drunk, it didn't count.

"I will probably get kicked off the pink team for this but gay dudes aren't really gay."

But the reason I'm sharing with the guy readers right now, is that you too can have massive amounts of vertical bacon sandwich all over your face. Here's how to convince a girl you are a bonesmugger: Say GIRL! before and after everything you say. Talk about vaginas in one of two ways. Either be very cold and almost medicinal about vaginas (e.g. using the word vagina), or (if you can pull off the dramatics) get entirely grossed out by them and say you'd never go near one. For example say: EWWWW! I'd rather mix stripes and polkadots! (this will make them really want you to go muff diving). (And, sorry, but your reaction PBR should be the same as to pussy. This will not get you free beer, but it will get you laid.) Drink pastel drinks through a straw. Try to contain your erection when slow dancing with your female partner. Pretend that you are afraid to get too close to her boobies.

When she does discover that you have a heat seeking moisture missile, tell her that she is so beautiful you wish you could look as good as her when you're in drag. Look embarrassed. She will totally do you right there. Girls fall for this dopey shit all the time. Without pretending to be gay, my goofy looking ass couldn't get pussy if I had catnip in my pants. Pretending to be gay takes a lot of work and patience. But with much practice you will be surrounded by beautiful women that want you to go on a "girls night" (read: 10 drunk horny girls will end up in a pillow fight in skimpy pajamas and end up on your face). And if you still have trouble driving the beef bus to tuna town, (and if you are moderately attractive) you can always have sex with the author of this article (I still have to pretend I'm gay, too).



SHOPLIFTING

Let's talk about shoplifting and employee theft for a minute. Normally these things are considered a terrible scourge on our free-wheeling capitalist system and the fine individuals who participate in these practices are looked upon with scorn. I think we need to shine a different light on those who participate in capitalism on the outer fringes.

First off I am not a shoplifter and do not steal from my boss, and this article is not intended to encourage shoplifting and employee theft. It is only intended to shed new light on the practices. It is mainly concerned with stealing at stores and businesses that are owned by large corporations as stealing from independently owned small businesses have a totally different set of consequences. Please understand that I do not condone in anyway things like armed robbery or any other form of stealing that involves violence or the threat of violence.

"The costs of shoplifting and employee theft are passed on to the consumer and hurt us all." This is a very common statement and is probably the most often used to show the evils of stealing, and it is a true statement. However the statement implies that if stealing were to stop tomorrow the cost of goods would go down. Bullshit. Let's imagine that all shoplifting and employee theft ended tomorrow, do you really believe that this would cause stores like Wal-Mart and Target to immediately lower their prices instead of simply keeping the extra profit for themselves? I think not. The stores would simply look at this as a windfall and would continue on with the same prices while enjoying a higher profit margin. So I seriously doubt that removing theft from the equation would benefit anyone, but it would in fact harm many.

If there was no stealing there would be no need for the security departments at large stores, no one would need to watch or maintain the security cameras, no one would need to be there to trail potential shoplifters through the store. The police force would probably wind up being smaller as well with fewer officers needed to respond when a shoplifter was caught in a store. All of these people would lose their jobs and many, if not most, would be forced to take lower paying jobs in order to survive. Also think about the companies that provide the security systems for the stores, they would probably go out of business, think of the individuals who create the training programs for employees so they can learn how to help prevent shoplifting, think about the jobs at the factories where the goods are manufactured, no stealing probably means some companies would need to lower their production levels.

BY
BARON VON JOCKSTRAP

This might be a very small and slight change but I am sure it would lead to additional job losses.

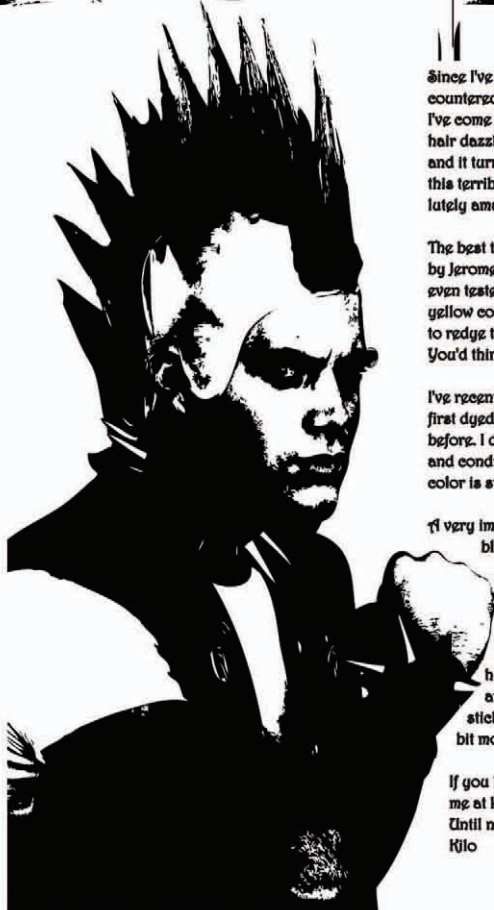
All of these people out of work or having to work in lower paying jobs would put an additional strain on government services that are already stretched thin as it is and would wind up costing us all even more, on top of the fact that it is very doubtful that the cost of goods would go down at all. Not a very enjoyable situation for all of us to be in if you ask me.

So the next time you see someone stuffing something in their pants at K-Mart, don't alert security, instead thank them for helping all of us out.



HAIR COLOR

BY KILO



Since I've been dying my hair wild colors for many years now, I've encountered dozens of brands. You name it, it's probably been in my hair. I've come across so many bottles of lovely colors promising to make my hair dazzle, when in fact, it's just been a disaster. I've tried to dye it blue and it turns green after a week. I've dyed it purple only for it to fade to this terrible grey color. However, I FINALLY found a brand that is absolutely amazing.

The best temporary hair color I've used to date is called Punky Colors by Jerome Russell. The color lasts a long time and stays vibrant. I've even tested it with the more well known Manic Panic. I used a bright yellow color from Punky colors and deep purple by manic panic. I had to redye the purple within a week, but the yellow was still very bright. You'd think the dark color would stick, but it wasn't the case.

I've recently used flamingo pink by Jerome Russell to dye all of my hair. I first dyed it October 20th, 2007 after bleaching my roots the night before. I didn't have to redye my roots until December. Also, I shampoo and condition my hair almost everyday because I have oily hair and the color is still super bright.

A very important tip for dying your hair with temporary color is to bleach or lighten it before hand. The more damaged your hair is, the brighter the color will be and it will last significantly longer. Basically, your dry and damaged cuticles will suck up anything you give them. (A great tip I learned in high school cosmetology class) However, my hair is actually very healthy and the color stays. Honestly, the only problem I'm having with Punky Colors is that it won't come out of my hair! I am very satisfied with this product and I'm definitely going to stick with it. I really hope you will try it too. The work needs a little bit more color!

If you have any hair questions or comments, please feel free to email me at kilc9219@hotmail.com
Until next time,
Kilo

CREEPING CRUDS

creepingcruds.com
myspace.com/creepingcruds

THE INCREDIBLY STRANGE PEOPLE WHO STOPPED LIVING AND BECAME THE CREEPING CRUDS

A cool campy intro by Tennessee horror host Dr. Gangrene and beautiful flesh-rotting artwork by Stephen Blickenstaff greet the listener before The Creeping Cruds tear into ten tracks of badass raw 'n' roll fused with a dangerously geeky obsession with old school horror flicks, monsters and gore.

A messed up mutation of AC/DC power riffs, Ramones three-chord catchiness and dark Southern rock, these grown up monster kids don't just pay tribute to the horrors of their youth, they become them. Only the most B-movie-soaked brain could come up with lyrics as inspired as "M-U-R-D-E-R means your fuckin' blood on the banners" or song titles in the vein of Driving Miss Zombie.

Why can't every horror punk band be this much fun? -AL ★★★★★ (Five Skulls - Rue-Morgue's highest rating!) - RUE MORGUE MAGAZINE

GET IT NOW BEFORE THE BRAND NEW CRUDS RECORD HITS THE STREETS



BUY IT ONLINE



Don't be a damn fool. Get Cruddy today!

BAD ADVICE

By Kaitlin Roach



Working at a fast food joint, you become more aware of the quickening pace of society. Everything is instant these days. If you're not as quick on your feet as people would like, they bite your head off like a rabid dog. I've been a victim of this from time to time. It's not a pretty site when a customer is fuming because they don't get their food instantly as if some fucking robot is in charge of making the food. This seems to happen on the road as well.

Every time I'm driving, there'll be someone on my tail even when I'm speeding. Though, I have been guilty of this as well. I'll be in hurry to get to school or work because I'm running late, so I'll go faster than the car in front of me. We're always on the go now. place is getting a drive-thru. The veterinary clinic even has one. You can take your pets to get their shots with-out getting out of the

car! All I'm thinking about this is, "What the fuck?" We have become increasingly lazy. With the increase of technology, we have to have everything done by a machine, or we have to have everything that's a product from these machines. If you want to talk to someone, you text message them. If you want food, you either buy it at a fast food joint, buy shit from the store that isn't even made with natural ingredients, or you microwave your meal. If you want to lose weight,

We rely too heavily on these instant devices. We've lost practically all of our patience. If something just takes a few minutes or even seconds longer than we anticipated, we go postal. People never even seem to have time to stop and relax anymore. We're always working. We keep going and going and going on four hours of sleep or less, maybe even none at all. So, we take caffeine pills or energy drinks, and god knows what they're doing to our bodies.



This overly fast-paced lifestyle just causes more stress and lack of sleep, which only leads to death if it isn't interrupted. I think it's obvious we need to slow our lives down before our lives end in unintentional suicide. Take some time, feel the breeze outside. I think too many of us spend our lives inside. We need to get out and breathe in some fresher air before we go fucking psycho. Maybe if we slowed

down, life wouldn't feel too short, and we could actually enjoy it by doing what we want to do rather than doing what others tell us we should do. We would definitely end up healthier that way. I think we should all do ourselves a favor and...slow down! And it just so happens that I like to drink and think that religion in general is just fucking nonsense. I'm not really coping as much as just bitching I think. It's kind of like I get 30 minutes every show to get up in front of a bunch of people and bitch about things that bother me in society. So I ask you...when are we drinking?

GO GO GO

SCUMBAGGY CD REVIEWS

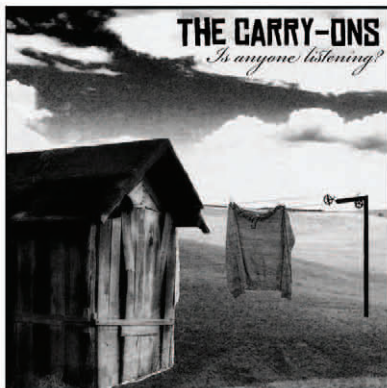
ADAM AND THE GHOST DOUBLE UP THE CARRY-ONS WHILE THE BARON LOOSENS UP HIS KILT AFTER A MELT BANANA SPLIT AND JEANO ROID PROFESSSES HIS TURBOPREFERENCE

1

THE CARRY-ONS IS ANYONE LISTENING?

The latest from local punk stalwarts The Carry-Ons is a masterpiece on every level. From Abe's thoughtful and insightful lyrics to the powerhouse dual guitars of Elliot and Neil to Will's blazing walking basslines and James' driving rhythms, this album is a blast. Melding melodic punk, hardcore, and ska into one cohesive whole, the disc leads off with the excellent 'Fuck The Cliche', which does exactly that with its staccato vocals, reggae backbeats and flamenco-style lead guitar. This is followed up with the anthemic 'The War Is Over', an idealistic fist pumper that is no doubt a backhanded indictment on our government's consistent 'mission accomplished' line of bullshit. There isn't a misstep on the whole thing, but other standout tracks include 'Common Cents', another political tour de force complete with smoldering guitar solos and guest vocals from Stuck Lucky's screaming banshee Jonzee, 'No Question', the sing-along exhortation to our sadly apathetic youth to make a difference, and the curvelball track 'Apocalypse Song', which features an almost country/blues guitar background providing the backbone to a tale of destruction and doom. The band doesn't shy away from calling out the prevalent hypocrisy and money-fueled rehashing of Nashville's entertainment press on the pissed off 'Zero In', or giving a backstabbing friend a piece of their mind to chew on in the bass-heavy ska punk of 'Now You Know' with lines like 'Were you inspired when you found out Brutus helped the Senate kill his best friend?'. By the way, if there is a song more suited for the title "all time Nashville punk classic than the catchy 'I Remember', a unity-inspiring effigy to more carefree days, I haven't heard it. I seriously can't recommend this album enough. The guitarwork constantly blows my mind, switching between punk rock chugging, heavy riffing, ska upstrokes and rock n roll leads effortlessly. The mix of different styles keeps things fresh without ever feeling disconnected. A big thumb ups to Andrija at The Bomb Shelter as well, because the recording is top notch and the mix pristine. 'Is Anyone Listening?' is a worthy addition to the punk rock canon, a big step up for an already excellent band, and an album that demands your attention from beginning to end, never letting up with its energy and passion. If no one is listening now, there's just no hope (did you hear that, Nashville Scene? Probably not, over the din of your 'Hot Pink critic's pick').

ADAM SMITH RIGGS



2

First, who is The Ghost? The Ghost is a lost soul that died and went straight to hell. There ain't no fire there. As a matter of fact, there ain't shit. It's an empty void. So the Ghost listens to new music, searching for something that makes us feel something. Something, the energy that used to live in the decrepit body that was The Ghost. So make music that drives The Ghost to inhabit a body again and you'll earn a rating of POSSESSED! The Ghost was in purgatory when the first Carry-came out so we haven't really heard the first work done by the Carry-Ons. But we have seen 'em live. Great energy. Good vibe. Good line up of strong players. They make The Ghost feel like movin'.

The Ghost listened closely to the latest offering, "Is Anyone Listening". We was duly moved, impressed by the energy and the production, the catchy back-beat and the flourish of just enough guitar. But most of all we was moved by the message. Aware, but not naive. Pissed with a purpose, but hopeful. Most important there's a call to action. Something sorely missing in today.

Worth owning, the Ghost says be POSSESSED by this. Read the fuckin' lyrics too!

The stand out, catchy, you're gonna find yourself singing it track is, "The War is Over". Or is it, "I remember... standin' on the corner..."

THE GHOST



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MELT BANANA BAMBI'S DILEMMA

What would happen if you took Alvin & the Chipmunks, feed them nothing but diet pills and psilocybin mushrooms for a month and then stuck them on an overbooked flight from New York to Tokyo filled with annoying little rug rats who know of no greater pleasure in life than to sit for hours on end kicking the back of the seat in front of them and as soon as the plane landed rushed them to a studio to record an album? Bambi's Dilemma by Melt Banana is probably as close as we will ever get to answering that eternal question.

Melt Banana is a Japanese noise/punk band from Tokyo and Bambi's Dilemma (a name the band's singer, Yako, came up with after she hit a deer with a van while they were on tour in the US) is their latest album. Melt Banana is, to my ears, a very Japanese band. But don't think about samurais and ninjas, think about capsule hotels, 20 mega pixel cameras housed in cell phones the size of your fingernail, and vending machines that sell used panties formerly worn by high school girls. It is fast, chaotic, electronic (but not in an annoying Depeche Mode way), and as much of an acquired taste as octopus pancakes. Add to this tones that ring with familiarity. I can hear similarities to the Velvet Underground, The Damned, Television, Circle Jerks, and Sonic Youth. In other words, it is a musical tossed salad, and dammit, I like it.

Bambi's Dilemma contains 18 tracks, the longest, is a marathon 5 minutes and 3 seconds, the term marathon makes perfect sense when you realize that the 7 songs leading up to this one range from 33 seconds to 1 minute 23 seconds. Sonically they range from the sweepingly beautiful "Type: Ecco System" which sounds almost like it was from a band featuring former members of Kraftwerk, Art of Noise, Cocteau Twins, and oceanographer Jacques Cousteau, to the flat out speed punk of "Blank Page of the Blind" and several other tracks. Songs like "T for Tone" and "Lock the Head" are blatant noise assaults filled with sounds from video games, mis-tuned short wave radios, and a garbage compacter filled with all of the robots from all of the Star Wars movies. Then you have that 5 minute track mentioned above "Last Target On the Last Day." I have to say I have never heard anything quite like this before. It has a certain Scottish quality to its phrasing but with one of the most complicated rhythms and least structured melodies I have ever heard. It was like I was listening to a computer channel the ghosts of Theonious Monk, Syd Barrett, and Wendy O'Williams all at once. None of whom, strangely enough, made even remotely Scottish sounding music. Such are the difficulties of trying to describe music this original and unique.

Of course in music originality and uniqueness carry certain risks. The music on this album constantly teeters on the edge between compelling and unlistenable, but every time you think Bambi's Dilemma is going to fall into that abyss of stupid art-crap-noise it pulls you back in and forces you to admit to yourself how much fun you are having. Bambi's Dilemma is loud, screechy, fast and noisy with indecipherable lyrics (and yes, they are being sung in English), I don't think that Melt Banana is all that concerned with how much you like their music. I'm fine with that, just as long as they keep it up.

BARON VON JOCKSTRAP



TURBONEGRO RETOX

"Took my band way across the land, but too much ass can destroy a man. See I emptied all my glands, inside the emptiness of all my fans. I spent all my testosterone giving all my favorite fans the bone."

Motherfucker, all you need to know after reading these lovely heartfelt words of self reflection from Turbonegro's resident loudmouth Hank Von Helte is that yes, the jam does match the jive. Could Turbo deliver yet again after four straight death punk masterpieces? Can the demin demons from Norway cut yet one more slab of pure molten Rawk gold?

You bet your assless demin chaps!

On the latest Turbodisc, Retox, Hank might be lamenting the coming of middle age with songs about Rock star hair-loss (Hell Toupe) as well as the addition of a few more inches of pinch (Everybody Loves a Chubby Dude) but there's still blatant juvenile themes aplenty here. Let's hope for the sake of multitudes of Turbojugend everywhere this band never grows up.

Just as Turboslabs past have done, Retox picks it's poison - a twist of lovely early 80's Euro-Metal - and sticks with it throughout. Look the fuck out Judas Priest and Saxon fans, the Donnington Festival has new headliners! Whereas Turbo has flexed a multitude of different Rock muscles in the past (Stooges, Stones, AC/DC Alice Cooper etc.) The sailor men from the north bust out the pointy guitars here and goddamn if it doesn't kick Nordic ass. Ten years after birthing the best Rock record of the 90's (Apocalypse Dudes) these princes of the rodeo remain the only band that really matters. If you want the most massive of riffs, you got it with Retox. Add to that Hank's typically addictive sing-along style super-huge choruses and the biggest sounding production seen on a Turbo release yet and you have the the follow up to 2005's mighty Turbo Animals.

For anyone keeping track, Retox like all of the band's records has a whopping shit-load of borrowed moments from Rock gone past. There's name-dropping and shout outs aplenty. Even Charlie Manson gets some love here. With lines like "stealing riffs and a blowing gigs, but now I'm stuck Googling for wigs" Turbo pulls no punches about getting older, balding and fatter and having sticky fingers.

With so much bullshitin' false-Rock in 2008, it's absolutely amazing any band can continue to deal righteous Rock dope the way these Scandinavian leather-clad lads continue to do. If they need girdles and toupees to Rock into the next decade, so fuckin' be it. I'll slap a Turbonegro sticker on the back of my Hover'round and meet you at the show!

And that sums it up in one big lump...

JEANO RÖD

Stik Man

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Says check this shit out!

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