Hi again thrashers!

Have you ever heard of an underground mag that hasn’t been delayed? Well, we don’t wanna break that tradition, so we have been waiting with all the stuff ready for release for more than a month, just to fulfill this tradition. No, of course not! We’ve been having some problems getting qualified staff, getting money back from the distributors and lately we’ve had problems with the tax-authorities. Being an underground mag we don’t keep accounts, nor do we pay any kind of taxes. To us this mag is a hobby - not a business. Well, the authorities has another view on that. If they can rip you one single cent, they’ll do it, and it surely doesn’t make it easier running the mag!

Some may have expected a Metallica interview in this issue. We had also planned one (they played in Denmark, so what would be more obvious?), but noone can fight against destiny. Our destiny was that the concert agency wouldn’t give us any backstage passes to the concert. OK, no indignant feelings about that, we just bought some tickets by ourselves. Secondly we couldn’t get any photopass for the concert. With difficulty, just one day before the concert, we got an interview arranged. Later it showed that we had 15 min. to do the interview, and no photos! This is what I call ridiculous. We wouldn’t be able to do something serious in such short time, and with no photos it would be a very insufficient article to bring, so we simply dropped it.

No need to worry, we have several other great interviews this time, not forgetting to mention our new layout. There’s nothing new in our colour cover (sorry, we couldn’t afford a poster this time either!), but the type setting has become even better.

Also on the material front, we have improved alot. We no longer feature hard, heavy, gore etc. Only the real thing! Pure thrashing death metal! This improvement also includes the record review sector. We’re now supplied by almost all major labels, and thanks to this, we can drop the uninteresting reviews.

Fair enough, (ha ha) we were awarded by Monte Conner (WHN - New York) as best magazine of 1986. All back issues are sold out, so I guess it’ll be very difficult to get in hung of a complete collection if you don’t already have one by now. It seems like the first issues have become “collectors items”!

Oh by the way. Should I, just to avoid confusion, mention that this guy, Henrik Kjær, actually is the same person as Henk Leviathan. He has just changed to his civil name together with his moving to another address.

Till next time - enjoy the mag!

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PLAYLIST : RECORDS
1. Slayer : Reign in Blood
2. Megadeth : Peace Sells .......
3. Anthrax : Among The Living
4. Nasty Savage : Indulgence
5. English Dogs : Where Legend Began
6. Dark Angel : Darkness Descends
7. Nuclear Assault : Game Over
8. Artillery : Terror Squad (adv. tape)
9. Possessed : Beyond The Gates
10. Voivod : Killing Technology

Canadian contributor : Johnny Hart
US contributor : Monte Conner
Contributing photographers : Patrick S. Ellis, Monte Conner.

PLAYLIST : DEMOS
1. Heathen : Pray For Death
2. Agony : Execution Of Mankind
3. Annihilator : Phantasmagoria
4. Mysto Dysto : No AIDS In Bell
5. Infernal Majesty : Demo 86
6. Angel Of Death : Angel Of Death
7. Morbid Angel : Rehearsal 20.01.87
8. Sadus : E.T.P.
9. Soothsayer : To Be A Real Terrorist
10. Crionic : The Land Which Once Were

Any trash/death metal bands interested in review, as well as distributors, advertisers etc. should contact us. Do it today! And dammit - send the prices of your material along!


Front page : Jeff Becerra - Possessed (Photo - Eben Slot Sørensen)
Back page : Piggy - Voivod (Photo - Eben Slot Sørensen)

Copies printed : 3,000
THRASHING METAL NEWS

*Florida's* Death have completed work on their debut lp "Scream Bloody Gore". The lp was produced by Randy Burns (who has worked with Dark Angel, Possessed, Helstar and Megadeth). It will be released in mid '87 on Combat and will contain the following 12 tracks: Infernal Death, Zombi Ritual, Beyond the Unholy Grave, Denial of Life, Sacrificial Cunt, Mutation, Land of No Return, Baptized In Blood, Torn to Pieces, Evil Dead, Scream Bloody Gore and Regurgitated Outs. *Chicago's* Terminal Death have split up. Tony Dialer is no longer the vocalist for Chicago's Devastation. His replacement is a guy named Dunn. *Sacrifice* will enter the studio in January to record their 2nd lp "Fear Strikes". Probable tracks include: Pyrokinisis, Cyanide, Forever Enslaved, Afterlife, Lover Strikes and Reanimation. *Morbid Angel* will soon be relocating to New York where they will record their "Abominations" lp in early '87 for Goregoth Records. *Cradle of Filth* has been picked up by Metal Blade Records in the US. It's rumored that Savage Death has been picked up by Combat Records. Master of Sludge metal, Medieval, with the "Reign of Terror" ep out on New Renaissance, will release a full length lp in mid '87. Other forthcoming New Renaissance releases are Bloodfeast's "Kill For Pleasure" and Weinacht's "From the Darkness". *Roadrunner* have signed an act in New York City. In addition to Whiplash, Carnivore, King Diamond, Belgium's Cyclone will also have their "Brutal Domain" ep out in US by the beginning of '87. *Florida's* Massacra have added a 2nd guitarist Rob Goodwin. The rest of the band is comprised of Kane Lee & Rick Ross (ex-Death members) and Bill Andrews & Mike Borders. It is rumored that Cobra Records is interested. The band hopes to enter Motorhead studios in the near future to record their debut lp "From Beyond". It will contain the following 8 tracks: Plains of Desolation, Cryptic Realm, Suckumbus, Beyond, Dawn of Eternal Justice, Infection of Death and Bio Hazard. The new material sounds like a cross between Slayer and Celtic. *Deathrash* plan to enter a 24-track studio in the near future to record a brand new tune: No one is Innocent, The King Is Back, Return to Slavery and Heart of Darkness.

*Staten Island's* own Savage Thrust also plan on visiting a studio soon to record the highly successful "Doom of Doom". If at first she does not bleed, Thrust and thrust again! *Saint Vitus* have a new singer, Mike Weinberg, and have just recorded a new lp called "Born Too Late". It will be released on SST Records. *Zeotrope* will be using production services by Regency Farms for their 2nd Combat lp tentatively titled "Street Metal". The new material is heavier than the older sounds and is more popular. New songs include: Prohibition, Detention, Procrastination, N.A.S.A. and Seeking Asylum. After over a year of silence, we finally have some news from Trouble. They entered the studio in January to record their 3rd Metal Blade lp "Run to the Light". This lp will include tracks: Rotten Born in a Prison, In the Beginning, the Misery, Please of Mind, Thinking of the Past and the title track. The new material is more faster and heavier. *Rohns is an guitarist Rick Wareoll, is more straight-forward, less complex but much more powerful than "The Skull". Their new drummer is quite the old Dennis Lea. Contrary to popular opinion, former drummer Jeff Olsen did not leave the band to join the ministry (though the split did involve religious reasons). Very exclusive news: Dave Lombardo wants to rejoin Slayer! After having been replaced by Whiplash drummer Tony Scaglione for some time, this is really much. The reason of course is that Thrash. They have not split up despite rumors started by the band. They are preparing to enter the studio to record their 2nd lp "Ticket to Mayhem" which will be a little different from the first lp with less emphasis on speed and more emphasis on melody and musicianship. The new tracks are: Spell of Violence, Cyanide, Grenade, Eternal Eyes and Drowning in Torment. The band is currently looking for a guitarist. "ex-Hurricane" vocalist Karon N. Dapena has formed a new band Phantom with Ron McGovern on bass and Nathan Williams on guitar. The band has many new tracks including: Bowed to Oblivion, Fury for Power and Depression. By now they should have recorded a debut demo with Bill Nettie of Metal Blade engineering and Gene Hoglan (of Dark Angel) helping with the drums. The band's style is positive hardcore music with a message. Contact: US. Phantom, c/o Karon, 6062 San Rafael Dr., Buena Park, CA 90620 - Europe, c/o Marco, F.O. Box 3057, 8152 Oltenbrugg, Switzerland. The first metal combo Messiah is looking for a new label. Therefore they've recorded a new demo, which is only for labels and press. They've also recorded a live tape featuring some of the new tracks. I don't know if it's available to the public. You should contact 'em at: R. Broglin, 4a Rüteliweg, 8030, Zurich, Switzerland. Having just released their 2nd killer album "Unstoppable Force", Agent Steel has split up into 2 groups. It's not yet known who will get to keep the name Agent Steel. *The new Voivod album "Killing Technology" has got back the great slammer sound that dominated "War and Pain". It will knock down your house! *US thrash-core band Septic Death will release their new ep called "Screaming of the Eyes" on Boner/Bunker Records. On this release will appear Andy - Attitude Adjustment and James - Metallica on backup vocals. *The last American act, Mace are ready to release their 2nd album. Their contract with C.O.M.A. Records was suddenly dropped. They've now been picked up by Carol Reckone, who will release their new 10 track album "The Evil in Good" during March. *Possessed will release a 5-track ep during spring (probably by April/May). It's yet untitled, but the tracks will be: Confessions, My Believe, Eyes of Horror, Storm in my Mind and Swing of the Axe. It'll be produced by Joe Satriani. Some will know that he has taught people such as Steve Vai, Kirk Hammet and Gary Holt to play guitar.

Photo: Jim Readman

Larry Lalonde

and Possessed guitarist Larry Lalonde has announced that his band's heavy/doom metal band Prophet's Doom has changed its name to Migalor. They've also changed their line-up a bit. New line up is: S. Jasper - guitar, Michael Bodin - guitar, Torben Ashholm - vocals, Niels Holstrup - bass and Johnny Michael - drums. *Deadbolt (who's that?)* has released a new demo. This time it's a 4-tracker called "Fat Boys Wanna Rock". The songs are: *The Diet Song*, *Cloth Society*, *Reception* and *Sardonic laughter before Nothing*. It has a total playing time over 26 min. Price US $ 6.00 (the dollar has taken a "kill" lately you know) at 10 DN 1 IRC. Send orders to one of the Blackthorn addresses. *German band Poison will have their vinyl debut on the Rock store". "The Invasion" being released on Roadrunner. Their song "Sphinx" will appear among 7 others from "Germany's best unsigned bands" (who'll buy such an album? It should be out by March (now you've been warned) . Poison is also negotiating with Roadrunner for a full length release. Nothing is sure yet. *Amphillator* got signed to Roadrunner. So did Outrage and Aggression. Congratulations! *Bon Doy has left Dark Angel*. New vocalist is Jim Deboo.
HEATHEN

It's amazing such a radical change in the "leading" thrash metal style has gone through during the last months. With leading thrash metal style, I'm talking about the style which Mercenary were the pioneers of; The aggressive, powerful, fast-changing, well-produced thrash metal. Mercenary fulfilled one very important mission: To open the gate to a whole new genre of thrash metal, which we have named high-tech thrash metal. It seems like this Californian act Heathen has followed in Mercenary's footsteps.

It all began in April '85, when producer of the Legacy demo was in control of the early Heathen version. The only present members then, besides Doug, was Johnny "Zico" - drums and Lee Atkinson - guitar. This line up, however, soon broke up. A few months later Doug, Carl and Lee reformed. They recruited a bassist, Eric Wong, and by December the new line up was completed with the ex-Bleed Illusion singer Dave Godfrey. They worked mainly on re-arranging old material, gigging (they've supported Exodus, English Dogs and various local bands, as well as headlining successfully, of course) and making new material.

After several months of hard work, they were out with a self produced 6-track demo called "Pray For Death", which is out now. The track list is: Pray for Death, Cochlin's Blade, Open the Grave, Heathen, Deaf in the Silence and World's End. The demo is very well produced/mixed and has an excellent sound. They're professional as hell! Very tight playing, and suitable changing between power riffs and middle-tempo riffs. However, (not negative meant) they haven't as many rhythm-shifts as Mercenary. They're driving more with a main rhythm, of course filled up with breaks and other riffs, which prevent from being monotonous. Now I have all the time used Mercenary as comparison. Influences from Exodus, Metallica, Legacy, Anthrax etc. can also be tracked. I think the track "Heathen" reminds a little of Anthrax's "Madhouse". And even old Rainbow, from the "One Nation Underground" tapes when Rainbow was writing listening to tape, we had heard in the song "Deaf in the Silence". But everything hasn't been said by that. Also some Queensryche screams and Satan arrangements can be found. Absolutely a highly recommendable demo!

They are currently preparing their first album project. Their "Pray For Death" demo is available for US $ 5.00 at: Doug Piercy, 2023 15th St., San Francisco, CA 94104, USA.

NEWEST NEWS: Eric Wong has been replaced by "Yaz" - 2nd from left on the photo.

Agressor

What we've got here is a classical 1 of a 1000 example. This band is Italian, and they're great! It's true man. The sound quality isn't too good, but you can certainly hear some Slayer and Kreator inspiration. Later on I'll tell you more about the tape.

Agressor was formed by Cede - guitar/vocals and Masso - drums on the 15th of May 1985. Both of them had played in different bands before they combined forces in Agressor. The original line up left after six months. In the beginning, he was replaced with Lars who had played with a band called Merciless. Their influences range from Slayer and Destruction to Bathory. Definitely a speed thrash metal band. I mean, I don't like that sort of metal and don't expect much from the sound quality, then you're going to like this demo.

It was recorded on the 25th of May 1986, one year after the beginning. On a four-track player and it contains 5 tracks, this includes some intro crap. This tape is sheer thrash metal, the hard way, yet controlled, from the second track to the last - I think it's very good. Their tracks are a bit boring as they don't change rhythms that often, anyway I guess it suits them ok and I don't think that Agressor is more boring than so many other bands in their genre. So look at it from a total thrash metal freak's point of view and you'll hear some speed and sometimes heavy thrash metal rhythms. There is a funny thing with the singing in this band, besides it sucks. If you've ever heard a person having a vocal cords fault he will understand what I mean, he has to use a voice simulator. Then just imagine how it would sound if they sang, well then you've got the singing on this tape, now you're warned.

Another criticism I have to point out is that they sometimes get too close to Slayer, Venom and other bands, they're in fact stealing some of their rhythms. If you can live with this, you should send US $ 7.00 to the address below and ask for a copy of their rehearsal tape. They told me that they plan to record a new demo in the beginning of this year, which should be better recorded. I have my doubts as I still have to see the day where I hear a demo with a good sound quality from an Italian band. So if you are interested in Agressor you can just as well order this tape.

Agressor, c/o Cesare Marulli, via Autio Mosana 152, 00169 Rome, Italy.

Criminal Christ

Canabah was the first Japanese thrash I heard and as you could read in the last issue, it really surprised the hell out of me. Here's another Japanese band and they surprised me even more. First of all there's the name. I don't have to comment that. "Canabah" is a Meeting of the members, I will not even bother mention them, but they remind you of Sodom. I did also receive a picture of them on which I could see four small kids. On the top, I got a letter from the members in which he told that they love satan, so to be honest I expected some of the worst crap you could imagine.

First a brief band story. Criminal Christ was formed by XXX - vocals, and Death - guitar who both had been in different bands, but as they were being in the same school they formed their own band. This was in March 1986. They got hold of Necrophagia bass, Massacre drums and Hades - guitar and then Criminal Christ was a reality. Hades left them in May '86, due to musical differences. They're having a temporary split up, because they have to graduate later this year, so they can attend university. They'll reform in April this year.

The tape I've received features 5 tracks, one of them is a cover version of Nuclear Assault's "Live, Suffer, Die". It's certainly an excellent cover version. The tape is recorded in their rehearsal room, but you can definitely hear what's going on as they're a pretty tight playing band. This is a new gore metal band, how can you get such an idea? Do you think their name sucks? Criminal Christ should be inspired by Possessed, Death and Bathory. I'll certainly agree with them in their Possessed inspiration, well perhaps Death as well. They are for sure a death thrash metal band worth spending US $ 5.00 on. On the other hand, the demo is a rehearsal tape. You'll get a good feeling about their ideas if you order it, the sound quality is like most of the rehearsal tapes, not one you'll play loud.

Criminal Christ, c/o Masahiro Nakagawa, 1-25-12-205 Ichikawa, Ichikawa-shi, Chiba 272, Japan.
Halloween Eve, the band hated by some and loved by more, is one of the chosen ones to be tormented by our questions for an interview. After having released two relatively different albums and been on several sampler albums, the band has become quite popular.

We decided to find out what's behind their tough dead image. So we got hold of Tommy Stewart, bassist and leader of the band, and a very serious and intelligent songwriter as well.

-In all the lyrics on "D.A.I.," you're (the band) using the word "death". I presume this is done on purpose, why have you chosen this "death"-image, on "T.O.T." most of your lyrics were dealing with visions, don't tell me you're doing it because that's what life is all about?

The album "D.A.I." is a concept album, an essay, or you may even call it a play that deals with the subjects of death versus the insanity of worrying about death. It's not that we are into death, but we are fascinated by how close to death we all are at all times and how our people are obsessed with it. Our message on this album is summed up in the last two lines of "Kobobby Lives" by saying "...Heads have danced only when there were only peaceful tides!"

To interpret, we mean there is a lot of unnecessary worry about it, fuck it and live, live, live, because we're all going to die, so who cares just live! Our message is positive! We've been misunderstood somewhat on our so-called image. We don't try to portray any image... We dress in our street clothes through six stacks and are loud so that's our live presentation.

Our first album was an album of visions called "Tales of Terror" and the second was "Death and Insanity." Carefully consider the titles because that's exactly what the album is about! Our third will be about social conscience and you'll never hear a Tale or a d.i.e. again.

While "T.O.T." received some pretty good reviews "D.A.I." has received some remarkable bad reviews. I've got the feeling that this has happened because your tracks are pretty simple, but as I say - "It's simple, but certainly effective!" What's your feelings about those reviews? Will you have those in mind when you'll write some new material?

-To a point, because I'm always ready to listen to any type of criticism, but I write what I feel and have never had anyone in mind when I write about my opinions, my experiences, my visions. I write the truth, my truth, not the world's. There is a picture as I see the world and I paint it in music and put it out for the whole world to see the inside of my head and I will never understand my vision, but lots write in and tell me they share this feeling or experience with me and that is what I do it for.

Most of the bad reviews were by those who obviously just didn't "get it", you know, and I don't expect anyone to. He has! We do get pretty bizarre! Once we were called Pink Floyd meets Slayer and I thought that was pretty apt. No, no, no, I'll write what I wish, thank you, it's no hanging, not them, and I'll choose the rope if I must, phew! Great questions, man!

-Why is "D.A.I." (Reprise) included on the album?

The album is a whole and just pretence that's when to read the credits, like in a movie at it's conclusion.

You're still using Brian Slagel as a producer. Master Savage told us that they wouldn't use him on their second album, they wouldn't have him messing around as they said. What's your opinion?

-I really don't like to comment on people or other bands, but I don't think they'll mind as we're all friends. I don't know if Brian will be on our next album either, but I know we were glad to have him and thought he did a great job for us.

-Why are you a four piece now?

T-There is a time thing here. We've always been four people, but Steve (Skellator) was in the band in the band for a few months, just long enough to get in on doing the first album. He never performed live with us and never really fit in. It was his decision to leave, no one ever forced anyone out of our situation. He wanted to be theatrical and use stage names and we didn't want to, so screw he's gone. It's been the only four of us since March of '85 and we do fine as that.

-It seems like you (the members) prefer to write your tracks separately why don't you combine forces?

T-I've always found writing a song to be a very personal experience and so has Stacey. I think a person should write all of his lyrics and if possible the music too in order to get to the essence of the feel of that person at the time. Actually, we are trying to write together a little more from now on and I have collaborated for the first time recently.

-I can't find any nuclear holocaust songs on "T.O.T." (great!), why? It seems so popular nowadays.

T-Ah, "Lethal Tendancies" is a song about after-match of a nuclear holocaust! Sorry to disappoint you, but maybe it will make you happy to know that we have avoided it except for that one song because it is a thing that is inevitable so why worry about it. Anyway, our message with this album is don't worry about the inevitable because there is nothing to be done about it. Isn't it ironic we write songs about worrying about not worrying? But, don't worry, because this album was an exorcism for us. We said all we have to say about death and we're done with it and that's what we wanted to do!

-What's your (you personal!) opinion about the future?

T-I don't know, I honestly don't know. There's still our support lies. I'm looking on my calender and I see we dates this month and a possible 15 in Europe February in Belgium, Holland, France, West Germany and the UK and none of that possible without it! You can't forget your roots and I never do! I answer every letter sent to me. When we're not playing, I sit around and read. And read. And read.

-Why did you write "Suicide?" It's not your style, is it? I'm thinking of "Hallow's Eve" and "Nobody Lives Forever."

T-You're right in a way, but I think anything I write is my style. Hey, every once in a while your boy gets a little silly, you know? Tommy isn't always playing it straight. And...Any leaders in Halloween Eve?

T-Oh yea, when I started the band I made it clear that we...you, you gotta go to the world to get your hands on it and I said you can row or get off cause we are and will make it to that island if I row the whole way by myself. I have to stay for the talent and witty decisions. I gotta get places to go, things to do, and can't do 'em soon enough, so I tend to take over in whatever I do.

-What's your opinion about music to a movie? T-"Lethal Tendencies" is going to be in a movie called "River's Edge". A guy kills somebody and gets in his car and puts in a tape and it's "Halloween Eve!"
Eldritch Rite

What we've got here is a 4-piece thrash power metal band working with some experimental ideas, many of them not too good. Basically because they've only got one guitarist on the demo I've received, their first official release. The first time I heard them I had a tendency to describe them as a high tech thrash metal band, which is both wrong and right, so I prefer to call them a thrash power metal band.

The story of Eldritch Rite began in January 1985 when Steve Murphy - bass (at that time guitar) and Ronny Harris (ex-Ritual) filled in as guitarist and in February 1986 the line up was completed with Chris Orlandi handling the singing. It was with this line up that they recorded their first official demo. It features five songs. It shows that Eldritch Rite has got some very good riffs and knows how to write a track, but because of a not too good production in my ears a wrong singer, only one guitar though it's studio recorded and some strange ideas here and there it lacks a bit. It's of course an above average demo, otherwise it wouldn't have been reviewed. I must admit that I liked them better in the beginning, but as I said they've got some very good and heavy riffs, but you have to like experiments if you'll consider ordering this demo.

Many of those faults I pointed out earlier have been solved since. They've got a second guitarist in Rick McConnell and singer Chris left them to go to school in Austin, Texas. They said goodbye to him with tears in their eyes, I don't understand why. Jason McFaster (Watchtower) is in as temporary replacement. Their second guitarist is not just a fill out guitar. He'll be used to add more technicality to the band.

Their demo is available for US $ 5.00 and if you like what Eldritch Rite describes as progressive power metal, I'll like to add the words thrash metal to that description, then it would be worthwhile checking out. They've also got a t-shirt available for 10 bucks - All prices include postage.

So far they've signed a deal with Iron Works Records for an appearance on a tyrant compilation album. There is some plans for a new demo, perhaps recorded with Jason handling the singing.

Eldritch Rite, 317 Meadoucreek, Coppell, TX 75019, USA.

INTOLERABLE HORROR

POST MORTEM - "CORONER'S OFFICE" NRR11
AND
BLOOD FEAST - "KILL FOR PLEASURE" NRR16

Available on LP and Cassette
New Renaissance Records
Distributed by Important
The Vonvod/Possessed/Deathrow European tour named "Hell comes to your Town Tour '86" (very original like the other tours arranged by Noise) started off on Nov. 10th in Markthalle, Hamburg - West Germany. We want all the way from Denmark, so to do but to do a concert review, we did an interview with the two Euro-debutants Vonvod and Possessed. The tour turned out to be a success, so England was added to the list. (Deathrow didn't play on this part.)

The tour was arranged by Noise Records. Karl Ulrich Wilterbach who has managed Noise Rec's since the birth some years ago from the company Modern Music, which made Noise what it is today. Thanks to him, alot of bands has become known worldwide. Think of bands like Kreator, Venom, and Celtic. But unfortunately there has also been a few flops such as Tankard, (Deathrow), Rage, Running Wild, Grave Digger etc. This might be based on a too patriotic a point of view. Anyway, it's a fact that non-German bands must have a success in the level of Vonvod's to be considered for a contract. Otherwise you're just ignored.

Noise was a very sought after label, because of its reputation for good band treatment, fair deals and very well organized distribution. SFV in Europe and Combat Records throughout USA. Besides they possess their bands properly, contrary to other labels.

As I said before, I won't do a review of the gig. But I will just shortly review Vonvod, and explain why they weren't interviewed. Vonvod is in fact a quite good average thrash metal band. Nothing revolutionary, but certainly in the better end. Their album "Bicero of Doom" (Satan's Gift) is very good (see the review under the record review section). They play tight, know how to use a studio - no problem. The problem first show, when the talk is about live appearances. Like tons of other German bands their looks and attitude are against them. They're definitely not a live band. No thrashing, they don't know how to act on a stage, they have simply not enough experience.

If a talent scout from a record company was judging their show, I guess he would have said something like "Nice tried guys - come again next year!"

This is the reason why we don't think an interview with these guys would be of any value.

So we'll rush forward to the next band POSSESSED:

Possessed was together with Vonvod standing ahead of their European debut. It isn't the first time they play together. They've played two concerts together (No Speed Limit Weekend and World War II). So there shouldn't be any problems or difficulties between the two bands. And there aren't - they're best friends!

At the tour they had the opportunity to "inspect" the European (German) audience, as well as promote their new album "Beyond The Gates" which should be selling quite well already - despite the slight production. Their first album "Seven Churches" definitely had a better production. It has also been selling quite well, but no correct figures has been informed - Not even to the band (And I thought Combat was a reliable record company?!) So what is meant by "selling quite well" will only be pure guesswork. If you haven't already got their new album, you can find some advice under the record reviews.

Now that the European-tour is over, they're going back to USA to tour with Agnostic Front. Actually we had already made a Possessed interview for issue#4, but due to some very short, undetailed and uninteresting answers, we chose not to bring it. So now that we had the chance to do a live interview with them, we wouldn't throw away the chance. Besides you also have the possibility to follow up on answers. The two persons interviewed are Jeff Becerra and Mike Toro.

-Now you've just released "Beyond the Gates". After this release what do you then think of "7 Churches"?

J -I still like it. It's heavier, better production.
M -It also sounds better.
J -You're also changed style.
M -We're getting better. We're already writing material for the 3rd album and it's even heavier, almost like the first. Except this time we're gonna try to produce ourselves, so we get the sound we want. "Cuz on this one, we aren't actually too happy with the guitar sound - it sounds like fuckin' shit to me. I don't like it at all. First is sounded good, but suddenly I don't know what happened. The "7 Churches" was some kind of sloppy thing, we didn't know anything to the studio. Now we know alot more, what to do and what ideas to put in etc.
M -What about your lyrics, are they still in the same old NW style?
J -Yes, basically + a little change.

Hey, don't they like Blackthorn?

We've got more subjects. It's not like the fuckin' same old worn out thing like the same thin and same that. Fuck that! Now we wanna do more like "March to Die", more sublimity, yes different subjects instead of just one subject we're trying to do this time. I like the songs on it. A lot of people are complaining about the production. I've heard the song "Phantasm" from the Combat compilation "Bullet", it sounds a little strange. How come?
M -That's Larry's song - The wimpist song on the album.
J -Why have they then put such a track on the comp?
M -They're just trying to get some more people to like us, it's more a Metallica-like song. The rest are more heavy.
J -This new album was delayed because of a brutal cover or something. Don't you think it's ridiculous when Mr. Reagan tells everybody that USA is such a free country, and then you can't even decide for yourselves what to have on your cover?
M -They don't give a shit, they don't care, really.
J -Oh no, it was Combat who didn't like the cover.
M -But the first album was. It was really pathetic, they wouldn't go for it. You know like the formal witchcraft is like the wind - everything is blowing one way, but her hair was blowing the opposite way, hanging down from a chair. They wouldn't go for that - no way!
J -Have you been participating in arranging this tour, or was it Combat
Beyond the stage?!

M - Those guys sucks, I hate the fuckin' thing!
J - I like it, I skate alot.
M - I don't. Jeff and Larry skates, and they don't know a shit how to skate, that's why they fell all the time. It's just an image. I have a motorcycle, it's not so dangerous, ha ha.
J - You see, in California all thrashers skates and all punks skate. Do you like skate punk?
J - Yeah...
M - I don't like it, I hate it!

- Punk?
M - No, skating. I can't skate anyway.
- How come Larry and Mike Szus aren't more involved in the songwriting?
J - They can't, ha ha! Mike can't say a song shall sound like this "bom bom bom" [saying like a drum?].
M - But they can do some lyrics, but they just don't deal with 'em. I did 2 lyrics on the first album.
J - They were stupid.
M - Yeah, I didn't like 'em either.
J - Hallow, evil, astan... blash blash ha ha!
M - Many people don't like your lyrics, so if I was you, I'd shut up! (started arguing ed.). But I like the musical part. Larry he come from another band, Krazies and he got his own style. He wrote "Phantas" and I don't like it.
J - Oh, it's good, but if you compare it to one from "7 Churches" there's nothing like it. It don't even belongs to it. He also wrote "Sane" and "Tribulation". Well, they sound like Possessed, but the other ones you can tell Possessed.
J - I used to be, "cuz I just like to do all the things for the band, but...
J - You get so much shit to do.
M - Yeah, I can't concentrate on all the shit we've got Debbie, but still I like to do it. You just got to have one spokesman for the band, and every band has one, no matter who it is.
Kerry King is the spokesman of Slayer.
J - I guess we have to do sound check now.
M - Are you nervous for tonight?
J - We haven't played for a long time - about a week.
So I guess we'd better stop now.

After the show we got a chance to do a Volvod interview. During the sound check in the afternoon, when we did the Possessed thing, Volvod hadn't even arrived yet. Their plane was delayed, and when they at last showed up, there was only time enough for a sound check and a few songs, they were very tired and left again to get some sleep at the hotel, while Deathrow and Possessed played.

The Four guys, who's real names are:
Snake - Denis Enlander, Blacky - Jean-Yves Theriault, Away - Michel Langevin Piggy - Denis D'amour, are about to finish the recordings of their 3rd album "Killing Technology", which features 9 songs. They're heading for a March release. Until then you should check up their new live demo recorded in October on the "Speed Limit Weekend" festival in Montreal. It's a 14-tracker, containing 3 songs from the new album "Terrorize", "Overreaction" and "Savagery Reexisting", and it has a helluva good sound! I'm not sure of the price (if at all is available to the public), but I guess CA $ 7.00 incl. their first live demo "Morgoth Invasion", should do it.
Write to: Iron Gang Fan Club, C.P. 127 Succ St-Michel, Montreal, Quebec, Canada P2K 3L2, add $ 2.00 CDN, $ 3.00 European, postage. Just before their appearance on stage they seemed quite nervous, except Snake who hadn't any instruments to worry about. Afterwards they were clearly released that this European-debut turned out well. So here we bring the result of our talk with them.

Three is a crowd!

-From "War and Pain" to "Possessed", there was a huge gap, a difference in style. Will the difference be just as large from "Possessed" to "Killing Technology"?

A-B - A new album is Volvod waking up after a nuclear war. And then on the second album, we wanted to do a kind of evolution of the Volvod-story like The Volvod becomes Korgel. The Exterminator more technical, more complex so he represents exactly the style of the album. The album is more complete, more technical. Our there's a big space in time between the 1st and 2nd because of thousands of problems with Metal Blade, our equipment stolen etc. When we put out the "Possessed" album, the songs were already old, and we were already more technical. And it's the same case for the 3rd album. Korgel The Exterminator woke up after a disease, so he will have to enter space. The evolution of the album is the same as on the Platt which will show the Volvod in space, and the music is like space metal...

- Ah, something like Iron Maiden's new concept.

A - Yeah, I got surprised over their last cover, 'cos it's exactly the same way.

- What then after space. What comes next.
A - I got ideas for the next album. You'll see.

- The picture disk released by Noise Records. Besides it's a great picture, nice colours etc., what value does it actually have. I mean there's no new tracks or live tracks on it. So
is it just for money matters?
A - It's a collection with only 2,000 copies released. It was Noise who decided to release it. At first we wanted to put on some live tracks taken from our US-tour, but they wouldn't have us on.

Your lyrics, why are they the way they are. Long sentences which doesn't fit together. Almost all other bands uses choorous and you have none, why?
A - It's anti commercial. We don't want to be commercial.
S - We work together. We combine our ideas. And when I write a lyric, my mind is open for all the ideas, and I just write what occurs to me.

The tour you were doing with Running Wild. How was it being on tour with such an unpopular band?
A - Well, the guys were really cool, but their music just didn't fit. People spit on 'em, so they were taken off the bill. We didn't have anything against the guys.

Why are your lyrics always negative kind of science fiction like? Why haven't you some positive ones?
A - We have a positive message. It's violent, aggressive, but there is a message in the evolution of the Volvov, that says you have to fight. You gotta fight if you want a place in the world. That's why we wrote "Build Your Weapons" etc. It represents what we want to say to the kids. Since we started we've had shit of problems, but we never quit. You have to fight, and you can go through everything.

S - The message is: Don't let anyone break your mind, and what you want to do.

A - It comes out negative because it's aggressive, violent, but the message is optimistic and positive.

S - We see the medicine to raise the positive side.

How many days will you use in the studio for the next album?
A - 18 days, that's enough. We work very fast in the studio. The reason is that we're a live band, so we do in the studio exactly the same as we do live.

-You don't use alot of overdubs?
S - Not really.
A - We mix some of course, but we're recorded everything on tape, so that when we enter the studio we know exactly what to do, and it doesn't take time.

A - On "Killing Technology" we have made a pre-production (rough-mix) in 25 hours in a studio in Montreal.

S - We used a 16-track studio and recorded 9 tracks.

-Haven't you had any problems with Noise refusing to publish your lyrics. "Kreator" wasn't allowed to publish their lyrics because they were too brutal.
A - I think it's better to be on a label as Noise which can be considered as a small major, then being on a major label who won't accept your project.

-Will they accept your lyrics, "cuz they wouldn't accept "Kreator"?
A - Oh they wouldn't? We've had the same problem with our distributors in Canada. They dropped the lyrics to "P.O. A.H." so there was just a blank space. That's stupid!

-Now after your European debut what is your view on the European thrashers?
A - There's a large difference between European and American thrashers. In Europe I think there's more fist bangers.

Sleepy warriors of ice.

-You do? I think there was alot of people stage diving here tonight, and I know Maurice wasn't too happy about it! (Maurice is their manager ed.)
A - I have nothing against stage diving but those in there were running across the stage and disturbing. You go on the stage and you dive - no problem. But fooling around on the stage is stupid!

-Yeah, especially your Piggy, you had some problems a couple of times.
A - Pigs ran it during my guitar and it went out of control and it's really some shit when you concentrate on playing suddenly being pushed around.

-Have you ever given a thought how long your musically career will last?
A - S - TO THE DEATH!

You haven't thought of getting some kind of education?

A - No, we don't need no education (singing the Pink Floyd tune). We've gone to school for a long time now and worked, that's enough.

Tell us about your new tracks.
A - It's more hardcore than ever.

Will you compare 'em to the first album or the second?
A - I think it's a mix between the feeling from "P.O.A.H." and the technique from "Kreator".

We've got more power and become more technical.
A - And better guitar chords, ha ha!
A - I was just about to ask about your guitar chords. You use alot of disharmonic chords, wanna explain it?
A - I try to make it special. I'm working out from a normal chord, try some variations on it, and when I've found something new and interesting, I keep it.

S - We don't want to sound like other bands.
A - I guess you've succeeded on that point with a very powerful bass and a guitarsound in the true 60 'ties style.
A - Ha ha ha ha ha isn't that psycho live metal, acid metal, space metal?
A - What about the intro on "Kreator", where did you get it from?
A - It's a mix of analogue and digital delays on the guitar.
A - I thought it was something from a factory. How do you get such ideas?
A - It was just a night we were practising.

What will you be doing after the recodings of "Killing Technology"?
A - Tour the states with Kreator starting in March.

What about this Euro-tour. Was it something you pushed for, or was it only Noise who arranged it?
A - It's arranged with Noise. In the beginning they've invited us to come to Europe to record the next album, so we didn't have the say to the tour at that time. So they came and asked if we wanted to do a few gigs - and we said yes.

So, this was the interviews. It was getting late. Actually we had arranged a little "check up" at Reeperbahn together. It was totally wild about this idea, but they weren't allowed to go for Debbie (mother). They had a very hard schedule for the recording and they had to go to bed early that night. A pity for them, 'cuz we had a great night!

All pics by Ebeen Slot Sorensen

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Kresse - guitar, Tom - guitar/vocals, Bjarnar - drums and Klas - bass makes the four members of the new Danish thrash metal act CROMIC. They were formed in June '85 by Kresse, Tom and Klas. It wasn't until autumn '86 their line up was completed with Bjarnar. He came from another local metal band called Warhol's Wealth. They used to have their rehearsal room next door to us (Desert), but lately they've moved into our place, so actually we're now room mates. On the very first day in our room, Kresse busted one of my Marshall amps, but that's another story.

Getting back to business; They were very intense rehearsing almost every day up to their demo "The Land which once Were" and I must say their work hasn't been in vain. This demo is first class! What else can you have expected when they use the same studio and producer as Desert? Ha ha!

The demo turned out very professional, showing a Cromic I never knew existed. I guess they've also been very surprised over the result themselves. In the rehearsal room they're very fast (still tight) sounding like a mix of S.O.D. and Metallica, but the demo came out as being more "polished". It's like the speed and energy is gone lost during the recording. I talked to the producer, and he told me that he had persuaded them to slow down a bit to become more tight (as if their original tempo wasn't tight enough!!). Anyway, still a damn heavy and very tight and it has a good sound too. The riffs are quite complex and filled with 2nd guitar work in the background. You can really hear that they've had their influence from bands such as Metallica, Exodus, Legacy etc. In fact, alot of their riffs might as well have been written by James Hetfield. Also Bjarnar
heavy drumming is exactly along the lines of Lars Ulrich. But don’t think they’re covering Metallica. No way man! They have a style of their own. A good band deserves a good comparison. But - and I’m sorry to say it - there is a but: A lot of high talented bands has been drawn down by the singer, and OrionIC is no exception I’m afraid. Usually Kresse was doing the singing. During the recording, they found out that his voice didn’t sound too good, so they just had to do something about it, and quickly! Time is expensive in a studio! Klas was frightened to death just by the thought of him taking over. Björn didn’t mean he could possibly get enough air (was he frightened too?) so the duty fell on Tom. It’s logic that such a thing is very criticial, and it is almost impossible that the result turns out good. However, considering the circumstances, he’s managing pretty good. I mean, who can go to a studio and make his debut as a singer that good? I’ve heard a lot worse singers, still I don’t think his voice fits their style. Sometimes he almost sounds like Fleming from Artillery.

This I guess, would be the main reason, in case they don’t get a record deal. (I’m not talking of the deals from King Klassic, Axe Killar, Laslyday etc that are given to everybody who can manage to put some noise onto a tape. No I’m talking about real record deals). Another reason might be that the band is quite new and still quite unknown. Playing to themselves, I know darned well, how hard it is to convince the fuckin’ record co’s to get signed. You nearly have to show ’em an order list for 10,000 records in advance before they’ll consider signing you (na ha!). Of course a much easier solution would be moving to Germany. Every German band seem to get signed, no matter how good or bad they are. Just think of Sodom, Tankard etc. Well, enough of that bullshit! I’d really advice you to get off your butt, and rush US $ 5.00/10 DM or 40 Dkr. to the address below to obtain this brilliant 4-track demo. OrionIC, c/o Kresse, Esplanaden 90, 8240 Risørk, Denmark.

Except from their ridiculous name, there’s not much sign of clichés in this band. Martti’s voice is brilliant. Like old Vince Neil/Dave Mustaine. This sound a little strange but I’m sure it is. Hey, did I just say it? Sorry, I mean when ‘cuz of course you’re going to buy this demo (despite the shock you’ll get in a few lines when you see the price!), you’ll agree, also when I claim that his voice suits perfectly to the music.

The demo, which is recorded during June/August ’86 contains 6 tracks, and it’s certainly worth the price. Do you remember Anvil’s “Butter Bust Jerky”? Well, Metal Oslaught has a song called “Butter-Fu”, which makes “gaj” sound like a lullaby. Do this track I guess they’ve changed the production (maybe it’s studio-live), ‘cuz the drum sound like cartons. Currently they’re seeking label representation and while searching, they sell quite a few merchandises. Both their demos (they’ve done a 2-track “mini-demo” before “Primal Scream” called “Lightning Warfare”) are US $ 6.00. They also have t-shirts at US $ 8.00. All orders add $ 1.00 for postage ($2.00 overseas). Metal Oslaught, c/o Joffrey S. Churchwell, 1770 Joseph Ct. Elgin, IL 60123, USA.

METAL ONSLAUGHT

This is certainly something worth checking out! Metal Oslaught is a quartet from Canada. The four members are: Martti Payne doing the vox and bass. He’s the founder of the band. A very interesting thing I noticed in their band info, was that he’s been playing in Mercenary. And actually a lot of Mercenary stuff can be traced in Metal Oslaught, but I won’t be too certain on that statement, ‘cuz there’s quite a distance between Chicago and Francos. So it doesn’t seem quite likely that it should be the same Mercenary as the high tech thrash metal gods from the bay area. Guitarist Ken Vetch with over 10 years experience is doing most of the writing for the band (songwriting or correspondance?). James Coleman is the drummer (or skin slammer as they call it). Before Metal Oslaught, James has also played in bands with Martti and Richard Godfrey who’s the other guitarist. Richard (maybe he’s a relative of Dave Godfrey, the vocalist of Heathen) also has a love for classical guitar. He writes a great deal of the band’s material. (So it was ken taking care of the correspondance?).

According to their “recording history” they’ve been featured on “Satans Revenge” and “Speed Metal Hell”, both comp. albums from New Renaissance Records. I’m afraid I’ve missed those two appearances, ‘cuz the copies I have at home, does not include Metal Oslaught. But I’ll give you my word that their “Primal Scream” demo exists for real - and it’s raging!

As I mentioned before, there’s a helluva lot Mercenary influences on this demo, still I won’t be too sure that this influence comes directly from Mercenary. Also Megadeth crossed my mind when reviewing this tape. Yeah, I think this characterizes quite well their style; a mix of Mercenary and Megadeth with a touch of death metal. However, I’d still prefer Mercenary and Megadeth, cuz technically they’re way better.

INFERNAL MAJESTY

Here in Blackthorn we try to use as many pics as possible of the bands we review. First of all for the purpose of giving the mag a good look, but also for the bands sake. Well, sometimes we don’t receive any pics. Anyway, in this case I did receive a photo. When I saw it I thought the band was a glam band, which it certainly isn’t. Therefore we decided not to use it, I think the band is much better off without that pic along with this review. I guess if we had used it, you wouldn’t be reading this now. Enough rubbish.

INFERNAL MAJESTY is a 5-piece emerging of Toronto, Canada. I suppose that’s the English part of Canada. They’re also a band which is tired of all the trendy thrash metal bands who’re playing metal for the sake of being fast. And what’s the purpose with that, man anyone can play without too much musical talents, just listen to punk. I.M. is a pretty young band and so are the members. They were formed in April 1986 and the members (who are all between 14 and 19 years) are Kenny Hallman - guitar, Steve Terrors - guitar, Steve Russel - bass, Chris Bailey - vocals and Rick Hens - drums. Rick is a former member of Rapid Tornado, a band some of you may know if you’ve been into metal for at least a couple of years. I wonder what ever happened to them.

They have, as mentioned before, so much against those trendy thrash metal bands, that it’s a real pain in the
AGADAY

Out of Scandinavia comes Agony. In #4 we reviewed a Swedish band called Agony. Well, it's the same band. Maybe they've just found out that the name was spelled wrong. Anyway, enough of that! I must certainly say they have changed else but their name. Their style as well! Their first demo I would call something like Fast Motörhead. A lot has happened since then. They've added a lead guitarist to complete the line up which consist in Pete - vocals, Magnus - lead guitar, Pelle - rhythm guitar, Happe - bass, and Tommy - drums.

During the summer they played 6 gigs in England together with some called Anti-Cimex on "Chainaw Tour '86". Despite a great loss of money, the tour went off great. There are plans that they probably going to tour England again here in the beginning of '87. In August '86 they recorded their 2nd demo called "Execution of Mankind". It's a 4-track demo recorded in a 24-track studio in Stockholm (this is too capital to Sweden, for those of you who shouldn't know!). The 4 songs are: Deadly Legacy, Stealing Your Life Away, Execution of Mankind and Sliced (New version).

Their influences are: Anthrax, Metallica and Exodus. And sure you can hear this. Especially Exodus. Besides that the riffs rhythms are very much along the lines of Exodus, Pete's way of singing is very similar to Paul Baloff and their sound very clearly in 'Stealing Your Life Away'. Well, sometimes the songs are a bit too longdrum. I think a faster changing between the rhythms could do good.

They are about to get a deal with a Swedish/English label, but nothing final has yet been decided. However, they hope to release an album during the beginning of this year. (They gotta hurry now!).

But until then, I think you should support 'em by buying their 4-track demo. The price is 3/US $ 4.00/DM 10 at Pete Lundström, Mardagisten 12, 17171 Solna, Sweden.

STOPPRESS: I've just received a new one-track demo which they've recorded studio live and sent to Music For Nations. The track is called 'Trouble' and with this track their style has improved even more. They've got rid of the boring longdrum riffs, and the lastest news I've heard is that this demo actually has given them the contract with Music For Nations - Congratulations!

I also received a live tape recorded in Sweden. It's realy great, but unfortunately I don't know if they sell it.

Double Watch

There is one thing the Pittsburgh area is known for, the coal! Well, if you're into doom metal you can get yourself ready for another thing than coal. In the last issue you could read about Dream Death, a 3-piece into doom metal the "Trouble way". Get ready for another one, they're called Doowatch and is a 4-piece.

Unfortunately I can't give you a perfect review of Doowatch. I can't give my comments about the drummer. You see, in a letter they told me that they couldn't agree with my opinion about punk, that's their fault, and they also told me that their drummer was a hardcore punk drummer. If you have any doubt about what I'm only saying this because he's a punk drummer. If I say he's good they...

Here's a little band information about 'em:

Founding members are: Jeff - lead guitar and Daniel Klasnick - rhythm guitar/vocals. Later on came Blair Powell - drums and Terry Weston - bass.

The first ideas of Doowatch started out in 1982 when Jeff and Daniel started playing together with the intention to form a metal band. The real beginning was in the summer '85. Jeff and Daniel had, as Dream Death, a tough time finding the proper members. They did in fact play with Brian and Mike from Dream Death but they decided to go separate ways. It's been a long time since I heard that they split as good friends, obviously they just hadn't got the same ideas.

They like to see themselves as a power metal band, the band are much more powerful than a power metal band and they're certainly heavier.

They released their first official demo some time ago, and it's certainly recommendable. Some of their riffs reminds of S.O.D., but don't hang me up on that and think I'm calling them a S.O.D. is very similar to Paul Baloff and some riffs reminds you of S.O.D. In general they don't remind of 'em. If I should put a label on their band, it would be something like heavy thrash metal. My only criticism is that the singer and their arrangements. I think that a little more work with the arrangements would be a good idea, but a new singer is a must.

Their demo features four tracks and it's entitled "Wile Napping" and it's available now ($ 4.00 US and 4.00 overseas). The tape is a rehearsal tape, one of the better ones, both music and sound.

Doowatch, F.O. Box 14055, Pittsburgh, PA 15229, USA.
As you may know, a lot has happened to Legacy lately. Therefore we arranged an interview to get some things cleared out. Former vocalist Zetro Souza left to join Exodus. He has been replaced by Chuck Billy. Due to some legal problems, they had to change their name and they've chosen Testament because of its unique meaning (well, I don't see much of an unique meaning in that name ed.). The reason was that there was already a funk band (?) that had the rights to the name Legacy. Well, one thing is their official name, another thing is their name among the thrashers - I bet they'll never be called anything but Legacy. Therefore we have used their "old" name, as we didn't have their new logo, "sorry"!

When we made the interview, we didn't know about their album contract with Megaforce Records. They have now made it official, and they're heading for a mid-April release. The debut album will be entitled "The Legacy" and features the following 9 songs: "Over the Wall", "The Haunting", "Burst Offerings", "Raging Waters", "Curse of the Legions of Death", "First Strike Is Deadly", "Do or Die", "Gone in the Dark" and "Apocalyptic City". But now, let's go on with the interview. It was done on a tape, so unfortunately we don't know which persons answering the questions. It was hard enough to make out what they said, 'cuz they were all speaking at once.

How come you haven't been signed yet you had so many offers in the beginning? I guess I can figure it out, but please tell me anyway.

We have been signed. With Megaforce Records. Distributed worldwide by Atlantic Records. It's a much better deal than Metal Blade would've given us. It's scheduled to be out by March.

To me you sound very inspired of Exodus with a melodic touch.

-We have. We think we have our own style. We didn't listen to any bands, and we didn't really get inspired of Exodus. We started playing our music before we really started getting into Exodus. We're more melodic than Exodus, and we don't think we sound like them at all.

-It was Exodus who recommended you to me, the bands in San Francisco seem to be very good friends.

-Yeah, we're friends with almost all local bands. Everybody is pretty close here, 'cuz we all play the same places and we all hang out together.

-How come you got a management and fan club on this early stage of your career. It seems like you wanna keep a distance to your fans?

-No, not at all. We're just doing that so we won't have to worry about all that. You see, by now our album is out and we're playing a lot of places, so we really can't take time out to handle the management too. We didn't really plan a fan club. Things just started going kind of well, and people just started helping us out.

-Your demo is one of the best I've ever heard for a long time - what do you think of it yourselves?

-We appreciate the compliments, but we don't think it was very good. So many people like it, but we don't. Our album is almost done and there's just no comparison.

-Your "Reign of Terror" track is about Hitler. It's the 2nd one I've heard in a short time from an American band. The other one is Flotsam & Jetsam. Why a track about him, he died many years ago and his influence on today's people is very little, or is it?

-Well, it's just something we write a song about. It's just a story about the time, it's not really a story about Hitler, it's just the time. The story doesn't support Hitler at all.

-"Burst Offerings" is about nuclear war, right? If yes, please tell me your opinion about mr. Reagan and his relationship to mr. Gorbajov.

-It's not really about nuclear war. It's just about a guy who looks into a crystal ball and he sees the world ends. It's not really clear how the world ends. It could be nuclear war, but it's more like what everybody want 'a it to be. Reagan vs. Gorbajov? Well, REAGAN, REAGAN, REAGAN! (Yelling wild in chorus ed.).

-Do you agree with me when I say there's a new sort of thrash metal genre on the way with bands like you and Mercenary?

-Yeah, definitely! There's a lot of new bands in the bay area there'll be following up as soon as our album comes out. There's also a lot of bands that you Europeans haven't even heard of yet. A lot of really good bands (don't be too sure about that! ed.).

-What's your feelings about Zetro's departure, besides that you would've done the same yourselves?

-No, we would not. I don't think any of us would have done that. I don't think his plans went very well. His plan was that he could quit his job and start making money instantly. But he's still working at his job. We've all been recording an album, and Exodus hasn't even started recording yet - Zet is still scrubbing cars. I think Zet figured, that when he quit he would be having an album out immediately with Exodus, but some happened and we're recording our album before, so I don't think he really accomplished any goal, unless he does later on. Exodus' music was based around Paul's voice, and I don't think Zet fits the vocal pattern very well. We've got somebody that fits us alot better, so I guess things worked out for the better - our new singer sounds alot better.

-What's your feelings when you receive letters from people asking for free demos because they want to recommend it to their friends?

-We can't afford it. We gave out alot of free ones in the first place. We give out free ones when ever we can, but now we can't anymore 'cuz there's no more demo's!

-Thank alot for the answers.

-All right, see ya!
U.S. of A. AT IT'S BEST

US 1

CARL SNARE - VOCALS

US 2

US 3

AT WAR

U.S. METAL RECORDS
P.O. Box 220009, 4300 Essen 1
West-Germany
Before we jump into the record reviews, we'll give you a quick summary about our unusual point system.

- 13 - Is given for the unusually independent and excellent performance.
- 11 - Is given for the independent and excellent performance.
- 10 - Is given for the excellent but routine performance.
- 9 - Is given for the good performance a little above average.
- 8 - Is given for the average performance.
- 7 - Is given for the passable performance slightly below average.
- 6 - Is given for the somewhat hesitant but more or less satisfying performance.
- 5 - Is given for the hesitant and not satisfying performance.
- 4 - Is given for the very hesitant, very imperfect and unsatisfactory performance.
- 0 - Is given for the completely unacceptable performance.

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**Atomkraft** : Queen of Death
*Atomkraft* received a lot of praise before they ever had released any vinyl, and the first time I heard them, I was told it was their first album "Future Warriors" and I was very disappointed. It hadn't got the slightest touch of the power I had heard it should have, it was power metal without power.

When I got this ep into my hands I did not expect anything at all, but this time I got surprised. This was what I had expected them to be: speed metal at some of its best!

This ep is promoted as it should feature the next and exciting Atomkraft. I consider this as the real Atomkraft, and try to forget their full length album.

The ep isn't just full speed ahead from the beginning to the end, though they're doing the best they can. They've also got a classical guitar track on this great ep. It's entitled "Mode III" and it's some of the best I've heard from this type of band.

**Concrete Sox** have become more heavy (like Omen) since their "Your Turn Next" album. OK their style is still a bit schizo changing between punk and metal, but they're on the right way. The music has become more fixated on the guitar instead of just making noise as primary purpose. They even have some guitar solos. Unfortunately the marks are strong handicapped because of side 1.

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**Heresy**

I've heard quite alot about the band Heresy lately. People have been sending me stickers of them etc. So I thought "this seems to be quite a popular band, let's hope I soon hear them!" I was very much looking forward to them. After I sent them some stickers - Obviously they don't like us, 'cause this is the worst punk crap I've heard for a long time. They have a few acceptable tracks "Mausoleum" and "In Silence", but certainly nothing I'll recommend. It's a relief turning the record.

**Concrete Sox** have become more heavy (like Omen) since their "Your Turn Next" album. OK their style is still a bit schizo changing between punk and metal, but they're on the right way. The music has become more fixated on the guitar instead of just making noise as primary purpose. They even have some guitar solos. Unfortunately the marks are strong handicapped because of side 1.

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**Post Mortem** : Corner's Office

"New Renaissance" (1p)

First pressing on red vinyl - So what? Does it make the music better? In that case, Post Mortem should be very glad they weren't released on "ordinary" black vinyl, "cuz then it really wouldn't be worth listening to. However, they actually have some good things to offer. Some of their riffs may even deserve being characterized as great. It's a shame they spoil all their arrangements (or lack of same!). There's a very huge gap between slow and fast. The style doesn't suit each other and it doesn't help much that their "bridges" to connect fast and slow is very bad. A track such as "No Time" reminds me of an old track of our own; "Salva-

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**Nuclear Assault**

**Brain Death + Game**

"Combat" (ep) + (1p)

Nuclear Assault may be known to some of you, 'cuz they've become quite wellknown "institution" throughout the American underground scene. Since their start back in early '80 they've played alot of gigs around New York and released two demos. Strange enough, 'cuz we here at Blackthorn have never got any of'em! To those of you who still doesn't know 'em I can tell you that they've got a very known bass player, namely Dan Lilker who's know from bands such as Anthrax and S.O.D.

I've chosen to make this a double review, as it would have taken too much space making separate reviews. Furthermore their longest track "Brain Death" is on both releases. Actually, here they're in
Halloween Eve: Death & Insanity

The "Tales of Terror" album, which was the first album release from Halloween Eve, received some very good reviews in magazines all over the world, while this new one has received some remarkable bad ones.

I can also hear that something has happened with their style, but I do not think that they have disappeared. You shouldn't compare the two albums, as it's two different albums. Listen to them as if it was two releases from two different bands. I liked the first album, but I like this one just as much, just in another way. The new one is more listenable, while the first was strong as you had to listen carefully to the music to get the full pleasure of it. Something that definitely has improved from the last to the 2nd is the production. They would just improve if they were less critical of "Death & Insanity" have to agree with me about that, right? "Death & Insanity" is done simple, but it's done with efficiency. Give it a chance. Take a listen to "Nobody Lives Forever" (a sort of ballad), "D.I.E.", "Lethal Tendencies" etc.

Napalm: (Boot Camp)

"Too loud, too fast, too fuckin' bad!" it says on the cover. I don't know about the two first, but I'll certainly agree with the last stage: "too fuckin' bad!"

This boot camp series is a thing Combat has started, 'cuz as they put it: "to see how good a possible album would sell". In other words: they put out a band's demo on some "second-rate vinyl" just to see how well it'll do. If it doesn't do well, they have saved a very expensive album release, and if it is doing well, they'll start the project. Obviously not aware of that not many will buy a record with a few more songs and a bit better sound. There's too many other good records to be bought first! I really don't see the great idea, but of course that's not my problem. This ep contains 4 tracks and they're very different from each other. Some pure hardcore with not much of a metal sound. And some heavy trendy rhythms. It's a strange sort of crossover, absolutely more punk than metal. Sometimes the more I might remind of John Connelly from Nuclear Assault. I don't really like it (though they have some quite good and interesting riffs), but more the extremely edge of punk with a touch of metal (far beyond VoVod), would like it.

Metal Church: The Dark

"Hey, what the hell has happened to the good old Metal Church I used to know? Gone for the big score, huh? This may be one of the drawbacks getting signed to Elektra. Obviously their first demand says: "produce some music with a sales-guaranty!". Ok, Metal Church has never been the heaviest band, but they sure can do alot better than this. As their bassist, Duke Erickson, so very right said in the interview in issue 7: "It would be nice to be on a major label but it's a disadvantage like influence of the music". And actually, how have they influenced the music? Well, I'd put it this way: David Wayne's vocals is the only thing you might recognise. And I say might, because even that would be difficult too. Most of the time he sounds like Udo Dirkschneider (like most of the music sounds like Accept). They've just been on tour with Metallica. Apparently this has inspired them so much that they've stolen Metallica's intro to "Welcome Home (Sanitarium)" and used it in "Watch The Children Pry" (in the album). On side 2, you can hear that it is Metal Church (and not an Accept record put in a wrong cover). You almost get seized with nostalgia, recalling the
The conclusion of this is a bit weird: Do you like a blend of old Maiden, Riot and Nuclear Assault (17) - then buy it! It is the other Bunker Rec. released [can be obtained directly from the company, by sending $ 8.00 each album (includes postage) to Bunker Records, B.P. 111, 38001 Grenoble Cedex, France.

**Flotsam & Jetsam**: Doomsday for the #RM 9655 (lp) Deceiver

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The band have the guts to say so? I gave the album a listen and the first song "Power" sounded pretty heavy, it had definitely nothing to do with glam metal. My final opinion about this album is that we've got a very good power metal band in Krank, with the pressure laid on "power". It's not a power metal band in the melodic way, as most of the power metal bands are today. I hope you've got an idea about Krank and perhaps you think it's worth a listen. It's a pretty good album but not breath.

**Jesters of Destiny**: Fun at the Fun-ner #RM 9655 (lp)

Is this really an album released by Metal Blade? I know they were featured on Metal Massacre V with the track "End of Time" and it was a pretty good track in itself, as there was something special over it, but I couldn't imagine a whole album with tracks like that, that would be just too much. I thought to myself, it's probably the only track which is special and that we would never hear anything about them again as all of their other tracks were too ordinary so that the special one would best on a compilation.

So when I received this album I expected some pretty lame heavy metal, but I got very disappointed? This album is a mix of boring psychedelic music, punk and even some Beatles. It was all the more to be expected. The production, well call that a production once again and... no, it sounds like an album recorded studio live with the facilities that had got in the sixties! It's just too much!

The 03 is given for the time I liked "End of Time". Well, I still like that one in itself, and it's in fact the heaviest track on this album, but too much special is nothing special!

**Krank**: Hideous #R 9674 (lp)

Appearances are deceptive! If you take a look on the cover of this album you'll for sure say something like I did: "Oh no, this is a glam metal band". It took me some time before I had the strength to look at the cover again, I was definitely not starting thinking about listening to it! I looked at the cover and what did I see, a little line saying "No thanks to posers and glam bands". How the heck could this

**Bullets**: Vol. 1 (comp) #C 8111 (lp)

First of all I'll start to say that I don't think this comp. album (if it's meant as a appetizer for coming releases) has very much of a value in Denmark, Germany and other civilised parts of the world, where you're allowed to hear the record before you decide whether to buy it or not. So I guess this album is mainly meant for the Nordic like, Ethnogon, American and other d-country markets.

So here's to all you oppressed wretch, a chronologically going through the tracks of this album; "Mogadith" I just love Dave's voice - Do I need say more?(11). "Abator" I'm hammer of the gods ok, nothing special, but quite good anyway(8). "Helstar" "Remnants of War" this one isn't new, but that doesn't make it less good. Really heavy and destruction sound. The singer reminds of Joey Belladonna of Anthrax but with much more abundance(9). "Agent Steel" "Mad Locust Rising" I've never been very fond of Agent Steel, but this one is all right(7). "Dark Angel" "The Burning of Sodom" this one really got balls! Full speed, yet heavy and with a good production(11). "Agnostic Front" "The Eliminator" no, it's not ZZ Top. Except from their lyrically Mogadith rip off (killing is my business, and business is fine), this isn't the fuc'kin' speedcore I feared, but good death/thrash metal (9). "Crumpackers" "Bullshit Society" I guess they've found their most metal-like song for appearance on this comp. Still it is not worth much(7). "Impaler" "Blood Sabbath" after Crum- packers this sounds quite good, but in itself it isn't too good(7). "Possessed" "Phantasm" together with Mogadith and Dark Angel, Possessed makes the elite of this album. It isn't very fast, but it certainly kicks ass. Great breaks, rhythm changes etc. (10).

All in all this album would do a great job on a night with the friends.

**Helloween**: Judas #Noize 0048 (ep)

This ep only features one new track, except that the other three tracks on this ep and the others are live versions of "Save the Sky" and "Guardians" from their first full length album "Media of Jericho". This album had a strong a-side and a very weak b-side, but this review should be a review of their latest release, a 5-track ep.

The new song "Judas" is a typical Helloween song, when they're doing the best. The live tracks are also very good, I just wish that the bass was mixed a bit lower.

If you like Helloween's old stuff, you'll like this one as well. I must admit that I'm a greater fan of them. It's not that they've changed, I've just lost a little of my interest for them. Fans should definitely buy this one.

**Crimson Glory**: 1st #R 9655 (lp)

Yeah, this is the band wearing those stupid masks. They even wear their live. They probably look like five criminals, abstinence or they take the mask off. I do certainly not hope that they think it's original or that they look smart with them on - 'cu then they're bloody wrong!
The production is unfortunately very thin. Besides this there's nothing negative to say about this album. They're very tight, and they're dealing with some interesting, so far unheard, aspects of the metal genre. The riffs are very complicated but in a strange way they're very catchy. They combine a raw and powerful punch with a lot of melody.

Shit! The word melody has become very negative in this business, and I'm afraid I've been one of those who gave it a negative meaning. I have now found out that there's two sides of melody. The one which is used by bands such as Exciter, Motley Crue, Saxon etc. to earn money. And then there's - to me, totally new - which is used to make striking raw metal even better. It kind of gives the music a fourth dimension.

It's a very special style of metal. I won't call it trash or high tech, maybe something in between. Comparing them to other bands is simply impossible, 'cos I've never heard anything quite like this. Some of it might remind of Megadeth and some of Exodus, but don't use this as a guideline.

Impaler: If we had brains... We'd be *Combat (1p) dangerous.

This album is produced by Bob Mould of Hüsker Du - and if this should be something to be proud of OK, the production isn't the worst thing on this album. In fact it's not bad at all. However, I still think it's a good record.

What Impaler is delivering is nothing but average mainstream heavy metal. Too boring - there's nothing in it. Sounds like a mix of old Alice Cooper and Vardis.

Do they absolutely have to rip off Metallica's titles such as 'Puppet Master' and 'Search and Destroy', this is almost as ridiculous as their WASP outfit.

These songs are like small Chinese boys in the communist army; they look exactly the same, and with no individual value. If any 'highlights' should be picked, I guess I'll mention 'Metal Messiah' because of it's (seen in relation to the rest of the album), almost, power/ death, metal arrangements. A pity they don't keep that line all the way through.

Mentors: Up the Dose

Before I ever heard this band, I had the feeling that you either hate or love them. I think I'm in between (but I can easily imagine me hating them - which means 0/10), because this band has got some humor and the music can sometimes sound like Motörhead as they sounded a few years back - I'm referring to the real Motörhead.

So I think it's the lyrics and their attitude that makes them interesting, because I find it hard to listen to their music as it's very boring. But reading the lyrics at the same time, makes it slot better. It'll make you smile a bit.

"Up the Dose" is Mentors 2nd album on Metal Blade, and I think they'll get difficulties getting their 3rd one out, as you get tired of them pretty fast. It's limited now long since you'll find them funny. A story is always best the first time you hear it and Mentors tracks are only interesting because of their small "stories". Have Mentors got any relatives at Metal Blade?

Hexxx: Under the Spell

It's strange. Most times you can tell where a band is from when you see a picture of them. You can't do that with this band. If it didn't sound better, I would definitely say that they were from Britain, 'cos they haven't got the slightest touch of style, that typical British heavy metal look. But this is as far away from the United States, to be more precise, the center of metal, California.

Anyway, I think I'm supposed to do a review of this album, instead of talking about nothing. There's one thing in this band that's American and that's the music, though the sound sounds like my nightmare of a singer - He reminds me of the one from Quiet Riot!

They can best be described as a power metal band and I think they've changed for the better since their debut album "No Escape" which was a bit boring. Hexxx will never become one of the bands I can't do without but they're worth listening to. If you like professional melodic power metal you'll probably like this one - it's done good.

Candlesman: Epicus Doomicus Metallicus

Every time something is real heavy, you're liable to compare it to Sabbath and Trouble. This is also real heavy - however, it's not only real heavy, it's far more than that. It has an inapplicable value beyond just being heavy. Have you ever considered, that occasionally Manowar was extremely heavy? As a matter of fact, they were sometimes heavier than any other band have ever been - including Sabbath and Trouble! And this style, Manowar at their extremely heaviest point, I'll compare Candlesman (former NOMICIS) to. Besides the vocals are also very close to Manowar. And also Gillan (the way he's singing). The production also helps alot. I'd call
Maxx Warrior: 1st
US 1 (ep)

Maxx Warrior is the first band out on the new European label US Metal Records, which is run by Axel Thunberg, another of the one who had Earthshaker Records.

I think the name US Metal is picked as we'll do alot of licensing deals with American companies, like New Renaissance Records.

Anyway, I don't like this release too much but it is a bit better than most of the releases from Earthshaker. This band has a professional sound, which couldn't be said about the bands cut on Earthshaker.

Maxx Warrior is a heavy metal band. If you've been into heavy metal for some years, I guess you'll get some sweet memories if you listen to "Burning Down THE Gates of Hell!", It'll remind you alot of Saxon's "The Eagle has Landed" - at least it did to me.

I think that if you who are into heavy metal will like this one as they, as I said earlier, have got a professional sound, I'm sorry, but I'm not that much into heavy metal any longer.

David T. Chastain's CGSS: Praise the Black Dragon O16 (lp)

This guy has been compared to Yngwie Malmsteen and Ritchie Blackmore - Why, I think that it's his selfishness, naming a band after his own name. This only fits a few, OK, he knows how to handle a guitar, but it's certainly not only the guitarwork this record bears the impress of. I think the vocalist is very characteristic too. If you could imagine Dio with a more burning voice, it still has the abundance in his voice as Dio. Maybe it's a little exaggerated, comparing to Dio, but at least sometimes he reminds me of Dio.

Their way of building up the lyrics is very simple: Steal some phrases which once won popularity, put 'em together and you got a lyric. Here's an example picked from just one song fox on the run, wheels of steel, if it's too loud, then you're too old, the last in line, restless and wild, back on the road again, back in the saddle, screaming in the night. - Very original, indeed!

Certainly this album is a heavy improvement over their first album "World gone Mad". There's some great guitar passages and heavy rhythms, but mainly the carrying rhythms are too anonymous.

Possessed

Exumer: Possessed by Fire *Disaster 10005 (lp)

Yeah, just as I prophesied when we received their demo "A Mortal in Black" for review #44; "They won't stay a demo band for long". And I was right. With this album Exumer has proved that the German death metal scene is still alive.

What the hell does he mean, some might think. That's quite easy to explain. I simply do not count all the tons of hopeless and unfeeling gore metal bands.

In that direction I guess Germany gets the credit (of doubtful value). No, I'm thinking of real thrash/death metal bands. There hasn't been some real good since Destruction and Kreator. Maybe Necronomicon and Destro-

row, but they haven't had the quality to push it any further. On the contrary, I guess Exumer will be able to do it.

The album is quite well produced, and the music does fit its cover. It's energetic. It really kicks ass. Pounding death metal! The vocals is a mix of typical German (aarrrghh!!) and Paul Baloff. The sound is very well arranged.

Their inspiration covers a wide field from Scorpions solos to Slayer riffs. Don't let you deceive by Von von Stein (vocal/bass) who on the back of the cover is wearing a GBH shirt.

Obviously he's just caught by the ridiculous fashion of winning punk shirts, "Our music has absolutely no punk inspiration - Luckily! Their music is far too good for that label.

I'm sure we'll hear much more about 'em in the future.

Overkill: Taking Over *Noise 0069 (lp)

It seems like Noise Records has really gotten the most taste of music Black-thorn has got, which certainly pleases me as I really love to do some great reviews.

As you may have noticed then we're only featuring pictures of the best albums, which means that both the Vol

vod and this Overkill album should have been featured, but we received them too close to deadline so there wasn't enough space left for pictures.

Overkill has improved alot since "Feel the Fire". It's in fact difficult to hear that this is the same band which has released this album if it wasn't for bad singer Bobby Ellsworth.

The sound on their first album were so thin you had to look for it, this time it has got the right abundance for Overkill's music. The guitar is also much more raw - Guitarist Bobby Gunderson - at least I finally got the guitar sound I really wanted. It's the same sound that comes out of my amp live!

The song writing has also changed a bit, but it's the sound improvement which has caused the big improvement from "Feel the Fire" to this album. It's much more raw and heavy.

Cities: Annihilation Absolute *HR 9656 (lp)

A.J. Pero did a wise thing leaving Twisted Sistor before they fell completely apart - their commercialism got them up for redemption. It's really a pity when you think back to their first album release "Under the Blade". They were at that time one of the heaviest bands in the music and the music was done with feeling.

A.J. Pero decided to join Cities in which he played before he joined Twisted Sister. Claiming that their goal is to deliver powerful metal, though they think it's thrash metal that's in the spotlight, right? I can't agree with him right there. I don't think there has been released as many heavy metal albums before as there is right now. Anyway back to Cities.

They want to play powerful metal and that's exactly what they're doing. The singer is a bit too metal for this band as the sometimes reminds me of Jimmy Bain when he played in Wild Horses.

Cities is a fair metal band, but I don't think they'll get that far with the way they're playing right now.

They'll disappear among all the other metal bands, but A.J. Pero's name can probably help them alot.

Lizzy Borden: Menace to Society *ST 73224 (lp), The Murderous Metal Roadshow *HR9702(2.l)

Lizzy Borden is being described as the new major band on the metal scene. They'll not become one of my favorites they're much too metal for that - they are a heavy metal band. I listen to them, well then I can understand that they should be able to make it big. They write very listenable tracks and Lizzy Borden has a pretty good voice for this type of music. And then there's the way they dress. They all have a very professional look, so they'll probably make it big with the right management.

Their latest release is "Menace to Society", which is a studio album.
Before that, they released a double live album, which probably was Metal Blades biggest investment so far. It was the first live album, first double album and along with that followed the first video and the first CD on Metal Blade. The production on this double live album is pretty good, but it could be a bit better; the sound is a bit thin. Lizzy Borden is not the best thing I know, but they are probably loved by most metal fans, or they will be.

Speed Metal Hell vol. II comp.
**NHR 016 (1p)**

Hey this is a quite old release, so why give it a review? Well, some say that it’s because our own band Samhain (now DenExult) is featured on it - but I assure you, it has absolutely nothing with that to do (ha ha). No, another good reason to do it is, to show how many of the bands that have got a record contract after this appearance. Or maybe you haven’t even heard of this album before. New Renaissance Records have had quite some problems with the distribution company Greenworld which has now been sued for owing way several hundreds of thousand dollars. However, the problems seem to be solved, as they’re now distributed through Important Record Distributors, the way the album + vol. 1 has just been released in Europe as a double album through SPM.

Well, I’m afraid this brief report over New Renaissance’s present situation has taken a bit more place than scheduled, but do I need say that this is one of the better comp albums? It easily beats the Metal Massacre’s with many lengths. I just have to mention bands like Desipient, Plodonata & Jetsam, At War, Anvil Bitch, Savage Thrust, Aggression and yeah of course also Samhain.

It’s funny: All the mags who’ve reviewed this album have different views on which bands are the best, but one they all mention is (believe it or not) Samhain. And even more “Funny”: Samhain is almost the only band on this comp. that hasn’t got an album deal by now. Certainly a comp. worth buying.

Medieval : Reign of Terror
**NHR 020 (lep)**

At last Legacy got some vinyl cut. What...isn’t it Legacy? It gotta be with that title! Sorry...what did you call ‘em?...Medieval. Oh yeah, now I recall those guys from the Metal Massacre TV, right? Then it may not be as bad at all. They’re from the mediaval! from the M.K. was very very heavy I fuckin’ loved it, and still do. I must certainly say those guys know how to keep exactly that tempo. Like the tracks this ep is almost the same style as then. Maybe this is due to the recording time of this ep (May-Oct. ’85). But they have changed a bit since. They’ve become a little faster, like Witchfinder General (so if you’ve heard of Medieval before reading this, you now know who we stand - calling Witchfinder General fast!).

Well, the production isn’t the best. I liked their deep, doomy sound on M.K. better, but certainly every heavy metal fan should find no excuses for not buying this one.

8

Blood Feast : Kill For Pleasure
**NHR 016 (1p)**

This is definitely the best release from New Renaissance so far. It certainly shows that they’ve changed their signing policy from signing almost every little band that sent on a demo to only signing a few, and then concentrate on those few bands so they can give ‘em a good promotion. Anyway, this band Blood Feast (weren’t those guys used to be called Blood Lust?) is playing some real fast metal. Speedthrash I’d call it. Like a mix of Destructor, Kreator and Dark Angel. It has a very good sound, but I think sometimes they’ve given the one guitar a too over distorted sound. It sounds like it has some frequencies which the speakers aren’t too happy with. Luckily this isn’t very often. Another thing I’m not too happy with either. Is their intro to “Vampire”. I know Slayer has given inspiration to alot of bands, but do they absolutely have to steal directly? Well, the intro on this track sounds alot like “The Final Command”. Only difference is that the guitar riffing isn’t exactly the same and the drums are too resonating. Do you like speed (and also a few heavy riffs) done properly with a singer like Kreator/Destructor - Blood Feast may very well be the best alternative to the “major” bands on the market right now.

9

Anvil Bitch : Rise to Offend
**NHR 013 (1p)**

Oh what a shame, they deserved better. Their demo from ’84 sounded so promising, and then they record such a sloppy album. So what exactly is wrong with this album? It’s simply too weak! There’s nothing in the production - absolutely no abundance. A pity when you know they could do alot better. It’s one of the most anonymous productions I’ve ever heard. It gives no “personality” to the music. The album features 3 of the songs from their demo. What? I only make it 2, some might say. Yes, when looking at the titles you’ll only find 2: “Time to Die” and “Neckbreaker”. But actually it also features “To The Grave”, they’ve just changed the text and it’s now called “Life after Death”. Don’t ask me why, “cuz I really don’t know why”.

Best tracks on the album is “Time to Die” and “Neckbreaker”. Still I can’t forget about the sound. It’s an almost ridiculous thought, that their demo sounds better than their album! But maybe it’s not as bad if you don’t have the demo to compare to.

8

Agent Steel : Unstoppable Force
**NHR 65 (1p)**

Fucking, this is great! It’s a very bad thing to hear that they’ve split up right after such a great release. Of course this split-up can’t be caused by anyone but space man John Cyrias. But so is life - it’s always the best that split up. However, the loss isn’t that big, “cuz they’ve split into two groups, so there should be a chance to hear more of this great music sometime in the future.

Actually I wasn’t too fond of their first release “Skeptics Apocalypse”. They were too much pop metal/Iron Maiden. But now they’ve shaken off that image and developed their own style - power thrash. Very great riffings like Exodus and Heathen. And the production is good too. OK, they may have a little of their Maiden sound left, and John Cyrias’ disgusting voice is also very difficult to “escape” from. Maybe therefore the instrumental track “The Bay at Guayaqui” is the best on this album. Well, sometimes he also sounds like Queensryche and that’s good. And by the way; Nasty Ronnie has done a couple background vocals on it too.

Really a positive new album.

9

- 21 -
Nasty Savage : Indulgence
#HR 9630 (1p)

Take good notice of this band. Of course the loyal Blackthorn reader have already noticed em as they’ve been featured in this mag quite a few times. What I was going to say was that Nasty Savage really have the possibility to become one of the new major metal bands. Maybe not in the size of Metallica, but indeed big! Their style have the quality to be picked up by the huge crowds. I don’t mean they’ve turned commercial - fuck commercialism! But that they have a very pleasant and attractive sound, still being fuckin’ heavy.

I also liked their first album, however, this is a heavy improvement over the first. It’s filled with great rhythms, refined breaks and their riffs have become more complex. Great new version of "XXX", way faster than on Metal Massacre VI. Man those double bass drums - fantastic! Ronnie has also dropped his a bit mangled screaming singing. He’s now singing with a more raw voice. It fits the music much better.

The album has a good production, but it’s a pity you can’t hear Denha’s bass - or is it just me that haven’t caught the "picture" or it yet? I think Ronnie should cut his wretling crap and concentrate 100% on the band, ’cuz they’ll for sure have some busy years to come.

Hellion : Screams in the Night
#WN 73 (1p)

It’s a long time since the public have heard something from Hellion. Actually their last vinyl release goes back to sometime in ’84. A lot has happened since then. Dio picked em up and did a lot to promote them. However, this didn’t really work out, and they were left alone again. Then the band split up leaving only Ann Boleyn (vocalist) fully intended on putting a new band together. And she succeeded. One person worth mentioning in this new line up is the guitarist. As the Thompson, he’s really great. Some of his solo work seems inspired of Chris Poland and Vivian Campbell. The way he has also been playing on a video for a company that deals with taped instruction for student guitarists.

Hey, wasn’t I supposed to review this album? Sorry! The new line up manages quite well to keep the Hellion style. Maybe some tracks are too much like other band’s. Check out: "Screams in the Night"( Dio) or "Put the Hammer Down"( Accept - Balls to the Wall). Chet’s guitar work put’s some new life into the band. Indeed this is a good produced progressive heavy metal album.
Uff!, more death thrash metal. I almost begin to miss the plain heavy metal demos we used to receive (ha ha)! Morbid Angel was started in '84 by guitarist Trey Azagathoth in Tampa, Florida, but the original group had some short comings which required a change in personnel. During their first major recording session it was realized that the drummer and bassist were not up to the level of technical facility that the two guitarists had achieved (second guitarist is Richard Brunelle). Therefore they moved to Charlotte, North Carolina (wow, the nectar of metal, huh! Does there live elsewhere, but it's certainly there?). They join forces with bassist Dave Vincent and drummer Wayne Hartwell. The matched techniques of the current line up make possible accuracy and speed which were never possible with the old line up. Actually it's not very often we've give a rehearsal tape a big review, but in this case we feel that the band has so much to offer both technically as well as artistically, that we'll do an exception.

Their style may not be revolutionary, but they're certainly contributory to raising the standards. The tape was recorded on January 30th '87 and features such tracks as "Painless, "Holy "Blasphemies", "Chapel of Ghouls" and "Evil Spells". The sound comes across as being nasty, especially the vocals, but that's due to recording conditions and not their skills, "cus they're great! And how is the music then? Well, it's better than that, but not always able to hear some Slayer inspiration in a great death/thrash metal band. I would say they sound like Possessed more than any other bands and Ammoniator in the heavy parts. The problem with such a comparison, is that not many know these bands yet. Besides the limitation as such, any band may be very limited. I hope you understand my scruple! Maybe this quotation from their info sheet would better than a reference, "If you love the sonorous tone of the bass tone, the force is power, the method is perfection and the result is DEATH! This is death metal the way it was meant to exist. Morbid Angel lives and dies the fever of thrash!" They certainly don't hide their light under a bushel.

Do you know the price of this tape? "cus I don't write to Morbid Angel, 3001 Central Ave. suite 133, Charlotte NC 28205, USA.

NUCLEAR DEATH

No no no, this has absolutely nothing to do with Nuclear Assault. Nuclear Death is a 3-piece coming out of the Arizona deserts in USA. They were formed in April '85 by Lori Bravo - bass/vocals who started out as a rhythm guitarist for Nuclear Death. Phil Hanson - guitar, joined him later on the same year. The line up was finally completed when Joel Whitfield joined them in April '86, one year after the beginning. Nuclear Death are into writing lyrics meant to stir the imagination, they do not believe in any kind of religion. They were so kind to enclose a lyric sheet, and to me it looked like they were into a religion, the religion of writing bad lyrics. No, that weren't fair, I mean there's so many bands writing bad lyrics, so I don't see any point in that comment, forget what I said about their lyrics, they fell on average above.

There's a person in this band who certainly isn't above average, I'm talking about Mr. "No Talent" Joel, who's trying to play drums. I can only say that he is good at one thing, in running this bands forming. And to the last bad criticism; I hope that Phil will learn at least a few chords. I can't hear any on the tape they've sent me. The tape they've sent is a 1986 demo entitled "Wake Me When I'm Dead", and it has 5 songs on it. In their biography they mention several bands which should have inspired them. If I should pick one of those bands as their main insinuation it would be Destruction, but to this you must add a style of their own. I've been harsh against the talents of this band's members, mostly drummer Joel, so you could get the feeling that I don't like them at all. Well, first of all: I'm always a very critical person and I send, at first to find the bad parts in a band, sorry but that's the way I am. Secondly, if I didn't like them in some way, you wouldn't even be reading this, because you couldn't find it in Blackstorm. Nuclear Death has got some very heavy and fast riffs in the best speed thrash metal style and with quite a few rhythm changes. Then they've got a very strong singer in Lori Bravo. He has got a great voice to be singing in a band like Nuclear Death. The sad part is the drummer, he destroys the good general impression you could get if they just had an average drummer. Ok, I may be overreacting and some of you may not get as bad impression as I did when you hear him and that's "good" for you.

If I was you I would be looking for a demo price. This tape is worth checking or at least the band is, but you can be looking for a long time as I haven't got the price. Between you and me, I guess $ 5.00 should be enough.

Nuclear Death, c/o Lori Bravo, 4656 W. Northview, Glendale, Arizona 85301, USA.
Hello dude! Here they are again. Deathrash reviewed in the last issue. We thought this band had some good things to offer, so it would be quite natural to get some things specified in an interview. Since the release of their brilliant debut demo "Faces of Death" they have played some gigs around New York. They've also increased their line up from being a trio to a 5-piece. The two new members are Tim Scherer - 2nd guitarist and Peter Pollack - drums. Remember, they never had any permanent drummer. The session drummer on the "Faces of Death" demo was Tony Scaglione who's now with Slayer.

At one gig (at CBGB's) they had a live tape recorded with the new line up which features some of their songs from the demo - some new ones which will be on their debut album "No One is Innocent" that should be due to release by May. I guess we've had enough talk now, let's rush to the interview which was done with the bassist Pat Burns;

"Boot Camp" is a lousy idea. If a company doesn't believe in you enough to take a financial chance with you - then fuck them, why give them anything? "Speed Metal Hell II" has gotten me heard of us before, we're very happy with it.

What have you done in effort to promote yourselves? I mean, with "only" one demo - a live tape out, you're still considered a newcomer. You've already got an album contract. P - We got five points like publishing, tour support etc. They've offered a 3yr./$ album deal, but our lawyer doesn't want us obligated to one company for so long.

-That sounds like a clever decision. What will it be like, compared to your demo?

P - It will be immensely better than the demo. "Faces of Death" was our first time in a studio and we really didn't know much about recording. Now we have a real good idea of what we want and how to get it in the studio. Our new material is much heavier than the old stuff, as well as more musical. Some songs are faster, but we don't believe in "speed for speed's sake". Musicianship & power are just as important and it seems a lot of bands are forgetting that. The track "No One is Innocent", however, shreds. It's a total scorcher with this tribal mesh part in the middle and meaningful lyrics about irresponsibility. The tracks on the album will be Lockjaw, Feel you Die, Possessed by Thrash, No One is Innocent, Time to Slay, Heart of the Darkness, Blood of the Wolf, Blood for Blood and either Blessed Violence or Death Seducer. The album is going to decimate, because we're not going to settle for less. We've worked very hard and long, and we're not rushing anything now.

- The appearance of your song "Buried Alive" on the New Renaissance comp. "Speed Metal Hell II", has it caused any offers from other companies? Except from the two you've already mentioned.

P - So far we've only received contracts from the two previously mentioned companies. Combat offered us a "Boot Camp" deal, but we think the have told me that I only see the negative/dark side of things - well, I clipped those headlines out of leading NY newspapers. People are paying money to read about others tragedies and the media is exploiting the suffering. So who's being anti-social? He who notices this stuff or the people who can read about "babies born in day care centers blind" over breakfast? I don't get involved in politics because most of it is bullshit. We deal with things that are concrete of ours or piss us off: War, censorship, violence, irresponsibility etc. We're not a political band - we're a thrash band that deals with reality.

Know, and we still send news & info as things happen. Between all the great write ups and "SMH II" we've built up a very large following. Tape trading has helped us alot too, as there are a few live tapes and rehearsals going around the underground. It may appear that we are a very young/new band, but I've been working on this idea since I was in Whiplash in '84. I quit because I wanted more control in the songwriting and direction, and Whiplash really weren't doing anything at the time. So I set out with the idea for Deathrash and now we're here today. Us and Whiplash are great friends still and they helped us alot with "Faces of Death" - They're great!

-I think musically, your name Deathrash explains very exactly your style. But what about lyrically? What will you consider yourselves? To me, your new stationery seems very anti-social in the hardcore punk vein. Are you a political band?

P - Our lyrics are about things that concern us and are real. We write about war, death, violence, drug, decadent, self destruction etc. We don't like fictional type lyrics because there's enough real stuff to be concerned with. The idea behind our new stationery is this: A few people - 24 -
VOICES FROM THE UNKNOWN

ANNIHILATOR

Yeah, here they are again. The Canadian thrashers reviewed in #4. This time they have a new bassist that wasn’t good enough for a large review. This has now changed. Blackthorn has grown bigger, and we now receive a lot of material. Therefore we no longer have to promote to review all the material we get. So bands reviewed here can be as good as they wish and a large one (or even better). The only difference is that they have already had a large one, or that we haven’t received enough band info to make a large one of them. (This was an appeal to all you, who just send a demo!)

Getting back to Annihilator. Their “Welcome to Your Death” demo received high reviews. And so they decided to make a follow up demo. But before telling you about this, I have much to tell about the band itself.

After having spent a year and a half with months of bullshit and nothing but problems from a couple of members, Jeff (guitarist and manager), decided that new personnel would be beneficial, and so put together a new line up. Jeff started writing songs and auditioned musicians before he found what he thought were the right ones. Well, at this point I’m a little puzzled, ’cause I’ve seen and heard them, and the vocalist and bassist couldn’t handle the problems associated with life on the road, and that they had to be replaced. Later on in the info, it is said that new members are Paul Malek — drums(?) and Joe Bongiorno as second guitarist. Nothing about a new bassplayer, so I guess they’re still looking for one. Jeff has temporary taken over the singing till a permanent replacement has been found.

Their new demo “Phantommator” (recorded in Oct. ’86) is a somewhat radical change in style from their first, which I will describe as speed thrash. The new one is more heavy thrash. Powerful and with a melodic touch, that is in the Megadeth vein. Heavy riff’s fast changing and still they have some fast rhythm too. Jeff’s singing doesn’t fit the music perfectly, on the other hand it could also be worse. However, he has some good ideas in his way of screaming, moaning and his falsetto sounds really great, though it sometimes borders on King Diamond.

It’s a 4-track demo. According to the info-sheet, the tape all in all took 2 hours to make and was recorded on a 4-track Fostex mixer in their washroom! (Having just a little knowledge about recording, mixing etc and having heard the quality of this demo, you know that this just can’t be true. This thing is fucking great! It easily beats most studio demos, really.

I think you should check up those guys (which you of course already have done after the review in #4 — HAVEN’T YOU?!?). The price is US $ 5.50 (includes postage) at: Annihilator, c/o Jeff Waters, 2386 Monroe Ave., Ottawa, ON, Canada K1C 1L2.

L.S.N.

I guess you all know about this band. At least I’ve seen them reviewed in quite a few mags. Unfortunately we didn’t receive their demo before the release of issue #4, and the music is too good to drop just because it’s old stuff. Therefore I won’t go very deep in their history, as you probably know everything about them. So maybe you’ve heard some rumors saying that L.S.N. should have split up, because some of the members had joined Detente. This is fuckin’ bullshit! Detente needed a guitar and bassist for their tour, so Greg and George filled in temporarily. But their tour fell through, so now L.S.N. is back in full fuckin’ force.

Maybe I should also remind you that their 4-track demo is still available for US $3.00 (US & CAN) and US $4.00 elsewhere at: Geoff Robb, P.O. Box 864, Venice, CA 90294, USA.

CALDERONE

The drummer, Chris Spoelch, from Berlin doom metal band Watan, is also playing in another band called Calderone. They’re way better than Watan, so I suggest Chris to drop Watan and concentrate on Calderone.

They’re a 4-piece and are playing a very fast and powerful kind of doom metal. Did you get that? They’re not a trash metal band and certainly not speed metal, ’cause this music contains much more than just speed. Death doom with speed you may call it.

They should have an official studio demo called “Never too young to Thrash” available by now. Send 12 DM and ask for the new (2nd) demo. If it isn’t ready by now, I’m sure they’ll send you their brilliant (good sound) 5-track reh. demo, Calderone, c/o Zlatko Rešić, Wexstr 39, 1000 Berlin 31, West Germany.

ANGEL OF DEATH

This I guess is the best Australian death/thrash metal band — Amazing! Angel of Death is the title of a Slayer song, so you then know what I gonna say next? Yeah you’re right, they sound alot like Slayer. Sound, lyrics, riffs, vocals etc., still they keep it fresh. Their heavy riffs are far the best.

PENTAGRAM

This is absolutely the best South American thrash/death metal band. No doubt about that! Sepultura, Massacre, Overdose or whatever you might be called — go home! They started in October ’85 with Behemoth on guitar/vocals and Asazel on bass playing their first gig with a guest drummer. Due to this problematic incomplete line up they split up.

In late ’86 they reformed still with Behemoth on guitar/vocals, but now Asazel has dropped the bass and are now doing the rhythm guitar. On drums they have a guy named Burycromes. They were offered a vinyl production by a new European hardcore metal label (I wonder who this might be). They recorded 3 songs in a studio: “Fatal Predictions”, “Spell of the Pentagram” and “Demoniac Possession”. Behemoth had to take over the bass on this recording, as a permanent bassist wasn’t yet been found. (I wonder why Asazel didn’t do it. After all he was the bassist in their first line up?!) They expect these 3 songs to be released on a 7” single, so unfortunately the tape isn’t available. But watch out for ’em! If you should be interested in any info about them, write: Pentagram, P.O. Box 1895, Santiago, Chile.
SADUS
Take a look at the photo! Even this is enough to tell that this band KILLS!! As we mentioned in Issue #4, it seems like a metal band is born every week in the bay area, CA. This band confirms that statement. The funny thing about this is that all these bands are great through Satan acts. "84-metal" you might call it. Due to the very scanty info they sent along with the demo, I’m only able to do this small review. They certainly deserve a larger one, but it’s limited what I can tell you about ‘em, sorry! As said before they’re from Fornicaia and they say that along with their gut wrenching 7-track demo entitled "T.D.T." (meaning: Death To Faggots, make-up, dead black hair, devil dick suckin' Posers!). And these 4 guys, Jon Allen - drums, Steve Digioiogio - bass, Rob Moore - guitar and Darren Travis - guitar/vocals, really know how to thrash! They’ve got a lot of ideas from Slayer such as beginnings, solos, breaks with only the drums mashing ahead etc. But their sound is far from Slayer. It’s more like Nuclear Assault and English Dogs, but with the abundance of Exodus. Great catchy, yet complex riffs. Most characteristic is Darren’s vocals. My mother has always said that my music sounds like drawing a cat by the tale. And yes, Darren actually sounds like a cat drawn by the tale. Sometimes he also sounds like Tom Araya. At times too many – but indeed special.
If your money is low at the moment, you must skip the meal for a few days, use this demo to follow and have US $ 5.00 (6.50 overseas) for Sadus, c/o Darren Travis, 517 Gear Ave, Antioch, CA 94509, USA. They also have stickers ($ 1.00) and shirts ($ 10.00 + 4.00 postage).

PEDIFILE
Though pedifile means a child molester, this band is not child molestors. They were formed in May ‘86 and the four members are: Chris Yakke - vocals, Dean Wall - guitar, Tony Jessop - bass and Tim Davis - drums. They have been opening for bands like Xeromut and Dark Angel. Their demo "Die A Violent Death" contains 4 songs. They’re into heavy, technical music with heavy vocals and ear piercing screams, and as they say very right put it: all this is displayed on this demo. I think they gotta cut off those ridiculous screams if they should have any chances of getting a record deal.
I really like their lyrics: "Let’s Kill Satan and burn the Devil. I wanna fuck all of his women, T’em down and let’em go swimming in my spern". This is really a new radical way of involving Satan in the lyrics. Maybe "serious" black metal freaks think this is blasphemic - I don’t fuckin’ care!
The demo costs US $4.00 but don’t order it! Order this instead: A special package deal - US $6.00 for a demo + shirt [indicate size]. The shirt is Lars Ulrich’s Metallica favorite shirt, so go ahead and order it at: Chris Yakke, 1823 S. Emerson, Mesa, AZ 85202, USA.

SAVAGE STEEL
Actually this isn’t a demo review, but a pre-album review. They’re going to have an album out on New Renaissance very soon. It’s called "Begins With A Nightmare".
They’re from Toronto, Canada. The current line up is: Marshall Birch - guitar, Paul Gleniek - vocals, Mark Talveitie - bass and Brian Vella - drums. They’re a really tight driving power-metal band holding more to the thrash side than to the heavy metal side. As they have just released their debut album (or are about to) I don’t know if they still do. At least they have merchandising, info etc. at this fancy address: Savage Steel, 6019 Sunset Blvd. suite 195, Hollywood, CA 90028, USA.

HELLWITCH
This band was as close as you can come to a big review without getting it. This is basically caused by the not too good singer and because of their too many failed experiments. Hellwitch describes themselves as a technical thrash metal band. I would rather call them an experimental thrash metal band, and I think there’s a difference. A technical thrash metal band, there’s no doubt that they’re a thrash metal band and they’re so much better technical than other thrash metal bands. At the same time using it,
Hellwitch

which makes them a technical thrash metal band as they’re using ideas which belong to thrash metal. On the opposite we’ve got experimental thrash metal. They’re experimenting with ideas that don’t belong to thrash metal and something not even metal. You could also add the word “technical” as you sometimes have to be better technical to do experiments.

The review was based on a 4-track studio recorded demo which is available for US $ 4.00. If you like experiments then you should order it. The quality and their rhythms are pretty good, if not then don’t order it.

They’ll appear on a new Renaissance compilation entitled “Thrash Metal Attack” with a track called “Torture Chamber”, so that’ll give you a chance to check them out before you order the demo. Hellwitch, P.O. Box 397, Gainesville, FL 32602, USA.

MAYHEM

Until a few days ago, I wasn’t going to feature Mayhem in this issue. They’ve sent me a copy of their “Fucking Armageddon” demo, which had an even worse sound than an old Poison demo! How they’ve sent me a rehearsal tape with some new songs on it. On this demo you’re actually able to hear what they’re playing, so I guess I have to give it a review.

They haven’t had a singer so far, so the tape is “instrumental”. I would call it “speed for speed’s sake” – a few acceptable rhythms. About now they should have finished the recordings of their second demo “Deathcrush” which should be a studio demo. On this they’ve had Maniac, the editor of the Norwegian mag Damage Inc. doing the singing. They can be contacted on: Mayhem, Box 75, 1405 Langhus, Norway.

SACRED OATH

On no. another hopeless German band, I thought I saw them on a local gig once. Mayhem sent along with this demo. You know, grown up men, a bit fat, and with beards. All over their heads. Human and goat skulls, black candles and “death” in the background. Really “tough” guys – they could be nothing but German! It wasn’t until I began reading the band info I found out that they weren’t Germans, but Americans.

And the music assured me that they weren’t Germans either. Actually it’s quite good. At the same time very ordinary and with a character of it’s own. A mix of Nasty Savage and Mercyful Fate. A bit more raw. A lot of harmony solos – just a pity they don’t play exactly the same all the time! Also they use some quiet passages played on bass. Every time I hear some bass solo work, I’m inclined to compare to Steve Harris. (Damn!) ‘cut this bass solo’ doesn’t sound like Iron Maiden. In fact it’s a pretty good - maybe a bit unventive!

The best thing is the price of the demo “Shadow out of Time”, only US $ 3.50 and this includes postage! Sacred Oath, c/o Rob Volpintesta, 4 Buckenboard Ridge Road, Bethel, CT 06801, USA.

REVELATION

Revelation was formed in May ’86 after John Brenner – guitar/vocals was kicked out of Havo Mercy. Two former band mates joined. Andy Brenner – bass and Steve Branagan – drums.

In January ’87 they recorded a demo called "Phase Reality". It features 5 tracks recorded on a 4-track recorder, but the sound is pretty good anyway. I must admit I like Havo Mercy better - I think this is too doomy. Not that it’s not good, they have some real great riffs now and then, I just think it’s too slow a lot of the time. A clear Trouble/Negro Manta inspiration can be heard.

If you’re into some real heavy stuff you gotta have this demo, and with the prices they’re having there’s no doubt that everybody that just think they might like it should order it too. The price is only $1.00 ($2.00 overseas) - That’s cheap! Revelation, c/o John Brenner, 3107 Fleet St., Baltimore, MD 21224, USA.

RAMPAGE

A 4-piece hailing out of Australia. The members are Mark Bailey – guitar, David Drew – bass, George Mitrov – guitar/vocals and Ric Sorrentino – drums. I would in general describe them as a power metal band. Some inspiration from both heavy and speed metal. A track such as “Acid Storm” is basically a power speed metal track, while a track like “Bride of the Black” is a heavy metal track mainly because of the singer. What I’ve noticed after having listened to a couple of times, was that they’re beat at writing instrumental parts, their singing rhythms are a bit boring. There’s also a lot of instrumental parts in their music, I think they should try more of those, though that’s dangerous, or get a more powerful singer. There is an instrumental track on the tape. Amazingly enough it’s a boring and longdrawn track, so I guess they should try out with a new singer if they want to continue doing a power metal band. I think that’s George is a pretty good heavy metal singer, but that they would be better off with a more powerful singer. The tape is available for US $ 5.00 and this includes a sticker, Rampage, P.O. Box 138, Northcote, Vic., Australia 3070. Att: David Drew.
Necropolis

Many music scenes are in lack of good friendship among the bands, but definitely not the Pittsburgh metal scene. I knew three bands hailing from there. One of them is Necropolis, and they’re working together to get their names spread around all over the world. This is the way it should be, which it certainly isn’t. What usually happens is that the most famous bands get upset when they realize that the smaller bands are getting popular. A pity, that’s the way it is. Back to Necropolis. They’re the third band I’ve heard coming out of the Pittsburgh area, the first two were Dream Death and Deathshitz. I must admit that I liked those a bit better than Necropolis. They consider themselves a thrash metal band, but I think there’s a little crossover style over them and some power metal too. The tape I’ve received is entitled “Welcome to the Macabre” and contains 6 tracks. The sound quality is like a good rehearsal. My main criticism is the singer, I do not like his voice. He reminds me of a bit of the singer Al Word from Nightmare. Talking about Nightmare, if I should compare Necropolis to another band then it would be Nightmare but Necropolis is chronicle. Their 6-track demo is available for US $ 4.00 at Necropolis, 400 East End Ave Apt. 2, Pittsburgh, PA 15221, USA.

Obscurity

Obscurity hails from Sweden. Hopefully this quartet is some of the last ground zeroes from the satastic image that marked the tough end of the metal scene for quite a few years. They started back in ’85. At that time satanism was already worn out - However, they picked up the image, and kept it. The 4 members are: Daniel - bass/vocals, Linde - guitar, Janne - guitar and Harre - drums. Their demo "Quotations to Death" was recorded in Dec. ’86 in an 8-track studio. They aren’t the most professional musicians, but the 6 songs on this demo turns out quite loaded with speed and energy. The sound isn’t exactly optimal. A better sound would for sure result in more power. Anyway, this demo should satisfy most die hard thrashers into speed. The price is 30 S.kr./US $ 5.00 each. Obscurity, c/o Janne Johanson, Borggatan 22, 23200 Arlöv, Sweden.

Thanatos

The band with a lot of talent has now released their first studio recorded demo. It isn’t the best you can get, but soundwise when you consider it is recorded in a studio, but they only used one day to do the recording of 4 tracks. Certainly not enough, because Thanatos style needs a good production to get the best possible result. While other band’s music can’t do much better in a studio, Stephan’s singing has improved on this demo, but I think they could do it much better with another singer, though it isn’t that important. The guitar is very heavy on this tape, on the other hand we’ve got the drum sound which could be a lot better. I think Stephan describes the style of Thanatos when he is mentioning bands like Slayer and Metallica and to this you ad their own style. So do not expect a new Slayer or Metallica, but Thanatos when you order this demo. They’ve received quite a few offers from small labels like King Klassic and Killer Elite. They’ve decided to wait for a bigger one. A pretty good idea, I think Noise would check em out.

The tape is available for US $ 5.00/4 Pounds/10 DM or 200 S.Fr. at Thanatos, c/o Stephan Gebidy, Karlastraalan 27F, 3081 BD Rotterdam, Holland.

Poison

Germany has got a new Poison. No, not another band called Poison, it’s still the same old one I’m talking about. They’ve recorded a new demo (their 4th) - Their first real demo I would say. Out their 3 former "rehearsal room-noises-tapes" I won’t characterize as demos. And I was really SHOCKED when I heard this new one - really! They’ve spent 2 days in a real studio, and the result is amazing. They’ve come up with a good sounding 4-track demo called "Into the Abyss", which shows Poison from a side I’m sure not many ever knew existed! It’s extremely heavy and the guitarwork is way beyond my expectations. Very ironically, I call Poison has always (at least to me) been a standard of reference when I was reviewing some real suckin’ bands. And now with this demo, they’re almost ready for an album deal. Only one damned drawback might be a hurdle: The singer sucks! Those growling sounds isn’t worth much. A less important thing, though still a drawback, is the drummer. He’s not exactly bad (with bad, I mean Bodom level), but he’s too anonymous. He doesn’t break in some independent work, he just follows the rhythm. An old Trouble/Savatage inspiration can be tracked in the heavy 11 passages I saw and also Slayer/Megadeth will be reasonable comparisons. But they’re certainly not ripping off those bands, they’re very talented creating a style of their own.

I can really recommand this demo. You really get value for your money. More than 30 min. For 10 DM/$ 5.00 at: Jürgen Hildenbrand, Birchererstr. 58, 7925 Laupheim 1, West Germany.

Exile

There is one thing about this band that really gets me down, the drummer. They could have used a drummachine instead of a real drummer - this guy is boring! Besides the boring drummer, you can find 3 persons in this band, yes it’s a piece. The members are Mike - guitar/vocals, Luis B. Galvez - guitar, Mike - bass and Tomas - drums. They were formed in Sweden back in 1984. They call themselves a thrash metal band and that’s probably fair enough. I think it’s a pretty average thrash metal band, and the tape they’ve released is a rehearsal tape, so unless you’re looking desperately for new thrash metal, I think you should skip the idea of buying this tape. If you want Swedish thrash done properly you should contact Kefisto or Agony. Exile needs some more experience, especially in songwriting and arrangements. The tape features 5 tracks, and 0 of them are covers. It would have been better if they hadn’t included them. As I said earlier, if you’re looking for a new thrash metal band that might have a chance for getting some vinyl out in the years to come then I think you should send US $ 5.00 to them ($ 4.00 in Europe). Exile, c/o Mike, Björkavägen 2, J10 34 Kvibille, Sweden.
DARKNESS

It seems like it at last has become in again, to record demos in a studio, and not just use your sister’s taperecorder in the rehearsal room, and then call it a demo. Brian.

These kids have also spent some time in a studio, but I won’t hope they’ve spent too much money. (”I’d consider that lucky under the circumstances they’ve achieved isn’t much better than an average 8-track mixer. Anyway, considering their musically skills, a proper studio would have been, or even heavier loss of money I guess. Actually their rhythms aren’t too clever. Here and there they also have difficulty keeping the time, but they aren’t more than 16-17 years old, still it isn’t g - I’d call it”)

Mainly they’re heavy. Occasionally they have some fast riffs, but they’re certainly not a speed metal band as they claim. Sodom and old Poison freaks must have this 7 track demo called ”Fear of Evil”. The price is 10 DM at: Andreas Kock, P-Scheidemannstr. 55, 8700 Ludwigsafen 25, West Germany.

M.S.W.

This headline means Multiple Stab Wounds and they’re a 4-piece from Connecticut, USA. Their names are: Tottie Heman - vocals, Jeff Faly - guitar, Brian Duca - drums and Ian Miller - bass.

I’d call’em a light/heavy thrash metal band? With light I mean their rhythm, riffs etc. they’re more power metal like. With heavy I mean their sound - it’s fuckin’ thrashing! As I just said, I think their rhythms are too much straight chordon driving, and the drums aren’t too good either. But I like their singer. If you could imagine the old Artillery vocalist, Carsten Lohmann, making his voice a bit more raw, I guess you get pretty close.

Their demo, recorded by the beginning of this year is called ”What’s all this Then?” (you tell me? ed.) and features 5 songs. It can be obtained by sending US $4.00 (US) and US $6.00 (elsewhere) to: Ian Miller, 146 W. River St., Milford, CT 06460, USA.

BLACK UNIFORMS

Already when you see the name Black Uniforms, you fear the worst kind of punk. But don’t worry, this band doesn’t exactly cheer you up either. This must be punk and it is punk - according to their info.

When you listen to the tape you get a pleasant surprise: There’s much more metal than punk in this band. Something in the style of Nuclear Assault and Possessed. You might call it crossover with Possessed sound.

They’re a 3-piece from Sweden. The demo is called ”Back From the Grave” and features 4 songs: ”Pulla vill Knulla” (drunks wanna fuck, I guess!), ”F.O.A.D.” (very original title), ”Do U Conform?” and ”Preedy” (this lyric about Preedy Krueger is even more ridiculous than a C-horror film!)

The demo is available for 50 Dkr. (about US $ 7.00) at: Cliff Lundeberg, Palaestra 193, 214 34 Malmo, Sweden.

SHEER TERROR

First of all: This is thrash - or at least a kind of. I’m afraid that by now thrash just isn’t enough any longer. It’s become too ordinary. The circumstances ”demands” something more. Admitted: It’s damned difficult to add something to the thrash/death metal genre (which I see as the ultimate style of music!). However, occasionally there’s good examples of it. Actually I haven’t much info about Sheer Terror (they’re one of those who)

just send a demo and not a shit elsewhere! so I gotta stick to the demo cover.

It says that they’re a 4-piece coming from New York. The demo is called ”Ge Grounds For Pit!” and features 8 trax. Side 1 is recorded in a ”so called” studio, and side 2 live at the famous CBGB’s in New York where the bull is the audience!

If thrash could be categorized as in the one end, and slite in the other end. Slite, I think Sheer Terror belongs to the first part. Anyone interested should contact: Paul Bresier, 23 Bay Terrace, Staten Island, NY 10306, USA.

CATALEPSY

As mentioned in the L.S.W. review, there has been some problems with Détente. Obviously a bit more than I thought in the first place. The question is if Détente at all exists anymore? Cue the two major songwriters Steve Hochheiser - bass and Ross Robinson - guitar have formed this band in December 1986. On drums they’ve got one named Blaze Gomez and on vocals a female, Veronica Ross, and yes she sounds exactly like Dawn Crosby. So as you may have figured out,
DESECRATION

Yes, it’s the California ones, and they’re back in business. If you remember the reviews of them in #4, you might recall something about a split up, but that the leader Rob Yost already had got hold of a female guitarist and a bassist named Neil Secretario. Well, the female guitarist is out and was replaced by Junnie Kauhala and Rob got hold of Chris Pechers & A drummer. This line up has produced a very pretty good general tape entitled “Cowboys In Bondage” which contains three new tracks plus two old ones, and the one thing I dislike on this tape, then it’s the fast rhythms, but the heavy ones makes it all worth listening to. I can’t describe what’s wrong with the fast rhythms, I just don’t like them. Anyway, as the tape is pretty cheap,

MASSACRE

Yes, Massacre. No, not the American ones, these guys are from Chile. They’re a 4-piece and the first time I read an album sheet I thought to myself: Kidlat Nowobrane and the sounds isn’t too good. They can ’t give ’em the usual prescription; Spend some more hours in the rehersing room and find a proper studio. I guess those main influences are Slayer and Kreator. They have some good ideas, but sometimes they get unlight. Any interested in their 3-track “Pissing Into the Mass Grave” demo, should send US $ 5.00 to: Massacre, c/o Sir Yanko Yvotolic, Carmen 635, Santiago, Chile.

KNOTHMADE

This is the third time Nightmare received a review in Blackthorn, all of them small though. The last time I told you about their album plans. I don’t know if these plans have been dropped or the tape I’ve received from them is some sort of an advance tape. To me it looks like a new demo. This is the best stuff I’ve heard with them so far. The style is power metal and it is what you would call very listenable. It’s not for a thrasher, but I think that everyone who’s into powermetal will find a good band in Nightshade. This tape features 4 tracks and the line-up is still the same.

As you may guess, I don’t know the price of this tape or if it’s for sale, sorry. The Just Agency, 46 Waltham St. - 305A, Boston, MA 02118, USA. att. Louis Salomone.

At the time the demo was recorded they were a 3-piece, but as far as I’m informed they’re now only 2 left. They’re looking for a new drummer, if anyone should be interested. The demo can be obtained by sending 8 DM or US $ 5.00 to: Cannibalistic Combat War Front Union, c/o T. C. Hermann, Krimmchen 70, 4400 Münster, West Germany.

OLIVER MAGNUM

I had my doubts about a feature of this band, anyway I decided to do it, because they delivers some very professional heavy metal the powerful way. The band is a 4-piece and they’re from Oklahoma, USA. The tape they’ve sent me, contains five tracks mainly in the powerful heavy metal way. Side 2 of the tape is definitely the heaviest, while the two tracks on side 1 are close to what you would call heavy metal. The three tracks on side 2 are closer to powermetal, especially the first two “Old World Knights” and the instrumental “2.10”. So far they’ve done several support gigs for major bands like Metal Church and Megadeth (so they can’t be that bad). I’ve got the feeling that we’re going to hear much more about Oliver Magnum in the future, though not in Blackthorn. The tape is available for US $ 5.00 and they’ve also got t-shirts and stickers available. You have to write for prices of those two items – I haven’t got them. Oliver Magnum, P.O. Box 3991, Enid, Oklahoma 73702, USA.

KAMCHATKA

When I read the bio to this band, I expected some great stuff. I could read that they were inspired by Metallica, Exodus, Mercycor, Possessed and that they weren’t small kids as many newercomers, so I expected something professional and got very disappointed. First of all there is the sound quality, but that’s a minor problem compared to the mess they deliver musically. You could call this the high tech retail answer to Poison - certinly NOT a compliment to any band! Then we’ve got the singer, he has got a fantastic voice, but he doesn’t know how to use it. If he took some singing lessons he could get out looking for a band who could make it big, because I’ve got my doubts if Kamchatka will ever make it.

If you want to hear a singer with a good voice you should order this tape. If you want some good music, well then don’t even consider buying this tape. It is available for US $ 6.00 or 7.00 (Europe). Kamchatka, c/o Henry Isaac, 360 East 137th St. apt. 3Q, Bronx, NY 10454, USA.
INCINERATOR
This band is good friends of the Italian Schizo, but that doesn't stop them for being reviewed. The intro to this band's 4-track demo tape is pretty cool and considering the band is coming from Italy, I think that the sound quality is good. The band is a 2-piece, namely Antonio Silvia - bass/vocals and Luigi Ficarra - guitar. The demo was recorded with Gianni De Feo. Their style is a primitive form of thrash metal, a bit too simple for my taste. Of course they belong to the better part of the Italian metal scene. If you aren't too discriminating in your thrash metal taste and if you like cloud drawings in the sky, I'm referring to the demo cover, then contact them for the demo price, because I don't know it. Incinerator, c/o Antonio Silvia, Via Calatabiano 20, 95125 Catania, Italy.

NECROPHAGIA
I thought you could call this an ex-gore metal band, but have heard none of theirs yet. I heard them in Alcor, Italy and I definitely think they sound better than any of their previous material. It sounds like they know what they're doing. Before the intro it sounded like 3 persons rehearsing on different material. They're a 4-piece and much better. They're definitely a death metal band in my ears, and they've got a very special front man in Killjoy. There's no doubt in my mind, nor in his I guess, that he's inspired by King Diamond's singing. He is also a very big fan of his. The problem with Killjoy is that he is exaggerating and therefore it sounds too scabby, it's not everyone who can sing like King Diamond. There should be an album out with them on New Renaissance Records in the beginning of this year entitled "Season of the Dead". This review was based on a demo tape they released in the end of 1986 and this tape is still available for US $5.00. Killjoy is also handling a magazine called Goremania and everyone interested in appearing in this should send demos, pics, photo etc. to their address. Necrophagia, P.O. Box 282, Wellsville, Ohio 43968, USA.

EXPLORER
The name sounds like we're over in the punk business, but luckily we're not. But I must admit we're in the harder end of thrash. Explorer is a 5-piece from Belgium, and they've been around for quite a while. They've also played support for Celtic Frost, Living Dead and some others. This demo "Served as a Meal" is their 3rd. The sound on this 4-track demo isn't too good, though still acceptable. The guitar is too "buried" in the sound picture. If the guitar had been a bit more Dominating (and of course with a better sound) this demo would have been really great. I can't exactly find out what I think about the singer. Sometimes I like him, sometimes not.

The demo is available for 200 B.Fr. (about US $5.00), overseas add 90 B.Fr. (more send dollars). Explorer, De Buysers Roger, Harmoniest, 114, 2018 Antwerp, Belgium.

HELFIELD
Helfield comes from Denmark. Quite funny, 'cos Kim the guitarist and Christian the vocalist are two of our good friends. You know some of you have a great time together with, get stoned with and sleep at, in case you have too long home. Unfortunately this happens too seldom. We hope you're playing guitar and that he was trying to start a band. When we were together, we never talked about it. Suddenly one day they visited us, and they had brought along a copy of their demo "The Key to Freedom". I must admit I didn't think it to be that good. Important: I will not let my personal relations to some of the band members affect this review (at least not very much, ha-ha!).

They were formed in Copenhagen in January '86 by Kim Margarid - guitar, Henrik Gesander - guitar, Henrik Quaade - drums and Christian (this doesn't mean the religion - it's simply just a Danish name) Poulsen - vocals. April a transatlantic, Allan Nielsen was lost. At the same time, the guitarist Henrik Gesander left, so the place is still open to anyone interested.

By June '86 they recorded the above mentioned demo on a portable 4-track recorder (Amplifier clones?). According to themselves, this quality is less than satisfactory and it merely indicates that the style and skill of the band. You can always find excuses. As Helfield doesn't need excuses. As Amplifier they have used the 4-track mixer very profitably. The sound is very clear, though it misses a bit abundance.

They describe their style as being "late-eighties" metal - the music of the future. Well to be honest I don't find much new in it, which in my opinion, should be a must for a style named music of the future. Ok, it's said that history repeats itself but...!

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They're influenced of, among others, Metallica, Metal Church, Lanz Rockit(asterisk!!!),Mercyful Fate and US Metal. And this is about right. Actually Kim is very good on guitar - great solo work. Christians singing is how shall I put it? special. But I think you'll get used to it, after having heard the tape a couple of times. They have their next demo, Artillery, but luckily this doesn't show in their music. (Maybe this one was a little too rude, but they deserved it!!). They haven't played live yet, but they're working hard to get some jobs. Their 4-track demo can be bought for 40 Dkr./£10 DM/£5.00 at Christian Poulsen, Hegnsvang 6, 2820 Gentofte, Denmark.

EXECTIONER
This band beats everything - concerning few information! I really don't understand why people are so interested in these bands about themselves. I got the opposite writing info for the bands. The board of this band, 2-piece. They're from Florida. By the way the same city as Nasty Savage has their home, but they're not influenced by Nasty Savage as you may think. Their music is more death metal, like Possessed and Artillery. Do I need any say that I don't know the price of this (very short, but quite good) 2-track demo? The only thing I was lucky to get, is the address. I'd be very surprised if US $5.00 shouldn't do it! Write to: Exeactioner, P.O. Box 527, Brandon, FL 33511, USA.

UNITED
It's very rare to receive demos from such an old band as United. They were formed back in '81 as a 5-piece. The only ones left from the beginning are Masaki Inaba - guitar and Takeshi Nakagawa - guitar. They're still a 5-piece and the other ones in the present line up are: Yoshihiko Furui - vocals, Akifumi Yokoyama - bass and Tetsuo Takizawa - drums. They describe themselves as a heavy metal band, but I can tell you otherwise. They were in fact very close to a big record, so they can't be that bad. They released their second ep last December, which I've received a copy of. The first two tracks on this ep can be described as a very heavy form of metal, so the words heavy metal is a bit misplaced.

We've got something completely different on side 2. I can put it this way: They sound inspired of their country men Casbah or perhaps it's Casbah who's inspired of United's heaviest tracks and just doing it even heavier and faster. No demo price, sorry! United, c/o Akihiro Yokoyama, 2-29 Wakamatsu-cho, Yokosukucity, Kanagawa 238, Japan.
MEFISTO

I presume this is what you would be calling a review out of date, but that's not my fault. I received this tape long after it's release and also after the release of Blackthorn. A band called Mefisto is very unknown and even to the underground, this is probably caused by the fact that they haven't been reviewed in Blackthorn. Mefisto was formed back in 1983 by bassist Sandro and an unknown guitarist. This band was called Torment and soon it became a 3-piece, a drummer called Thord joined the band. This line up didn't work together very well, so Thord and Sandro decided to look for a new guitarist. They found Omar in Oswego who were playing in another band, but they split up so he joined Thord and Sandro. In the meantime they had changed the name to Mefisto. Then it was time for recording some material for the band. Omar took care of the music, well most of it, while Thord wrote the lyrics. Their lyrics are dealing with the things that happens in war (I guess they've got a great experience with that subject??). By May 1985 they sent into the studio (I said it was old) and recorded their first demo. This demo was entitled "Medalomania" (hope they haven't got that, because this there is certainly needed too), containing the 4 songs: Missing in Action, Frost of Inferno, Betrayed Truth and Act Dead.

The first couple of times I heard the demo I found it very ordinary, though I liked the intro from the beginning and the acoustic guitar and baby crying was great - but it got better and I think it's a pretty good demo. I think you have to listen to it very carefully, otherwise it goes in through one ear and out of the other. The beat track on the demo is Missing in Action, but the others are still great, maybe too much alike. It's a bit tough to pick out an outstanding track, but as I just said I think Missing In Action is the best. There is something I just have to point out; The musical qualities of the band are very different. The guitarist Omar is obviously better than both Thord and Sandro. It's not that he's excellent (he's good!), it's just that the two others aren't too good, especially not Thord - he's boring! I can't hear the bass so I can't give that a comment but Sandro's singing is a bit strange, he sounds like he's singing instead of singing, but he's also doing some interesting screaming. Their rhythms are very good and they've got a lot of different rhythms, the best one can be heard in Act Dead, but that's probably caused by the fact that it's stolen from S.O.D. Anyway, keep up the good work Omar. My last comment is - forget all my sarcastically comments about Mefisto and buy their demo.

If you like thrash metal with a touch of death metal, you'll love this. It's definitely one of Sweden's very best bands we got here. The tape is available for US $ 5.00/$ 4 pounds or 30 kr. If you just want to correspond, then remember to enclose an IRC.

Mefisto, Möckasin, 14, 126 39 Magersten, Sweden.

DON'T PICK YOUR NOSE, THORD - LOOK TIGHT!

ROTTING CORPSE

Along with a demo, photo and biography of this band was a letter from one of the members in which he made it clear that Rotting Corpse has just as much against gore metal as we have. What I'm trying to tell with this is that it is much better to receive some personal stuff along with a demo because it gives you a chance to write a better and more interesting review if you can tell something more about the band besides that they were formed in year, what ever it may be and they consists of etc. etc. It gives you a feeling how the members are for real, if you know what I'm talking about. For instance this band Rotting Corpse consists of what I would call true metal fans. They've been into metal from its early days, you know when Black Sabbath, Thin Lizzy, Rush, Saxon, MSG etc. were the hardest you could find. Then you probably wonder why they've chosen such a cliché name when they've been in the business so long, well that's also explained in the letter. They are from Arlington, Texas and in that area you'll find a lot of lame false metal bands and they decided to use a name which would upset everyone of them and then I think it's up to yourself to judge if that's a good explanation. It's things like that you can tell in a letter instead of a bio, as an American friend of mine once said - "I want to receive a letter from a person, not a Xerox copy machine!" Well, I think at least some info about Rotting Corpse is needed. They are, as I said earlier, from Arlington, Texas and they're at the moment a 4 piece band! Drummer Dave Greyder is on his way out of the band, but he'll continue playing with them until they've found a suitable replacement. I don't think it's because he's a bad drummer. I think he's doing a fine job, so I guess it's personal problems. The other members of Rotting Corpse are Jim Mulqueen - vocals, Walt Traeschler - rhythm guitar, John Perez - lead guitar and Randy Cook - bass. The demo I received from them is a studio recorded demo and it features 3 of their tracks. If I should describe it, it would be something like: "It fills up the gap between power and thrash metal, but it's closest to thrash metal." This tape has sold more than 100 copies in the Texas area, pretty good I think. I will not consider this as a highly recommended demo, but as it's available for the ridiculous sum of US $ 3.00 including postage and handling, well then I think you should order it at: John Perez, 1009 Bert, Arlington, TX 76012, USA.

John, Randy, Walt, Jim. (Ps. what is this peeping out Walt's trousers?).
METALLIC NOTES

AT DAWN THEY READ, Swedish mag written in English, is now in. Distributed free int. with Motörhead, DeExult, L.S.N., Annihilator, King Diamond, Candlemass, Mefisto, Exciter, Battlelore and unnumbered pick-up from Bathory + gig review etc. #2 is still available for the same price as #3, but #1 is sold out. Send US $ 2.00/1,00 Fonds or 4 DM cash, c/o P.O. Box 1344, D-6050 Offenbach, Germany.

DEATH/Hardcore/thrash mag out new! This time with 11 int. - Artillery, DeExult etc. 52 pages, Venus competition and besides the issue we have reviews on 3 new bands. It's available for US $ 3.00 in an international money order, Sunset, 95 Blvd. Raspail, 75006 Paris, France.

SUNDAY#5 is available now! This time with 11 int. - Artillery, DeExult etc. 52 pages, Venus competition and besides the issue we have reviews on 3 new bands. It’s available for US $ 3.00 in an international money order, Sunset, 95 Blvd. Raspail, 75006 Paris, France.

DISORDER#1 Hardcore/Thrash mag out now! Featuring interviews with Ami Bitch, Betrayal Aggression, Nuclear Assault, C.O.C., Deathrash and Hallowes Ave. Also, articles on Social Decay, Total Fuckin' Noise, Scioto and A.B.B. + lotsa album reviews, show review + GREAT artwork! #2 out soon featuring interviews with Crumbsuckers, whipping lash, D.O.D. and much more. For #1 send 2 bus (US), 2.50 (Europe) to: Disorder, c/o Paul Gross, 2117 Magee Ave., Enola, PA 17025, USA.

HARDCORE DEATH/HASHER would like to swap or buy hardcore thrash videos + tapes. Looking for Angeldust to Voivod, Alan Moses, 107 Norton Ave., Salisbury East, S.A., 5109 Australia.

STEEL SHOCK!! is out including articles with industry, interview with Foskum, I, Jetasm, Astorax, Angel Dust, Exxas, Virgin Steeple, Bloodgood, Aftermath, Looker, Target - reviews of demos in the "underground metal world". This issue (printed in France) is available for $2.50 (or the equivalent in other currency) cash or by money order to: Steel Shock, c/o Lucid France, 10 Place Delcourt, 4204 Liege, Belgium.

TROUBADOUR, a new French fanzine is born! Issue#1 features interview with King Diamond, Wallop and Insmann and a lot of articles. #2 will feature interviews with Hallowes, Astorax, Xand, Sheer Dope and more. We are waiting for your demos, logos, bio, b/w photo especially if you play melodic speed metal. Article and free copy guaranteed. Write to: Stéphane Criou, 6 Avenue du Sgt Maginor, 95000 Nantes, France. I am also interested in trading live tapes.

B.O.D. #1 out now featured interviews & articles on Poison, Sinhaim(dk), C.O.D., Misanthrope, Aggression, Black Majesty, Russian Winter & more. Issue #2 featured Death Chamber, Hirax, L.S.N., Voivod, Bathory, Necrophagia & more. Issue #3 featured interviews with A.D.O., Manowar, Miasma, Terror, Wehrmacht, Insanity, Poison, Cryptic Slaughter & more. #4 out very soon featuring Excursions, Acid, Evoked Death, Poison. Book insert available for $3.00 or 20FF ($4.00 overseas). We're still looking for new thrash/death speed/hardcore bands. Please send demo or vinyl, bio, logo & pics. Article guaranteed! B.O.D., c/o Laurent Remadou, La caillererie, Vovres, 72210 La Roche, France.

SUCK CITY! is finally out! This time we feature an amazing interview with Tim Baker of Cirith Ungol, King Diamond, Holjesen, Keith Alexander Carnivore now of Primal Scream, Mace, St. Vitus, Cherry Bombs, Ozzy Killer and More. There are a lot of reviews, silly drawings and the usual garbage that makes up suck. Send $2.00 (including postage) US, 2.50 overseas to: SUCK CITY, P.O. Box 41183, Indianapolis, Ind. 46204, USA.

DIE HARD, New death metal fanzine written in English out now featuring int. and stories on Mutilator, Damnation, Cryptic Slaughter, Assassin, Fantom Warrior, Death Chamber, Minotaur, Miasma, Black Shepherd, Necrometh, Savage Thrust, Poison, Outrage, Cerebral Hemorrhage, Basket Case and Mayhem. Price US $ 2.50, Europe: $4.00/10 fl. (Europe) at: Die Hard, c/o Anno Gjes, Sandbotden ve 14c, 1000 SK, Norway. All bands send, demo/pic/info/bio/logo. Review & free issue guaranteed.

CRIMONICS is the first and only death/thrash/doom/black/hardcore etc. metal magazine from Holland. Bands should send: Presstipotes (live photos), logo, full bio, demo/record and other stuff about the band to: CRIMONICS, c/o Weerba Schippers Dorst 11, 7671 A Wieringen, Holland. Issue#1 is already out with: Savage Thrust, Desecration, DeMolition, Howling Wisdom, Heaven & Hell, The Marilyn Manson, The Death Angel, Coroner, Deathrash, Black Magus and much more. Issue#2 out now with: Masty Savage, Voivod, Casbah, Outrage, Poison, Iron Angel, Creator, Destruction, Cryptic Slaughter, Deathrash, Mefisto, Vacant Grave, Kulaib Khan and much more. Price US $ 1.00 (+ 2 IRC's) US. Issue#2 is written in English.

METAL WARRIORS No. 3 out now! A German quality written in English, Interview with Assasination, Detente, Death, Violent Force, Death Angel, Holy Moses, Antrix, Thomatos, Mefisto, Deathrash, Bu Clan, Miasma, Poison, Massacre etc. and more tunes more. 44 pages! Many demo and record reviews, plus a VOIVOD poster! Send your DM + IRC (Europe) or $ 3.00 (elsewhere) (e.g. for all interviews on Metal Warriors, c/o Rüdiger Schmitz, Christophe-Frost-Str. 11, 4040 Korne, 1 West Germany. Issue#3 is available for US $ 3.00 overseas (postpaid, US funds only, please) to: Thrashcore, c/o Shelley Slater, 9250 Severn Rd., Silver Spring, Maryland 20902, USA.

I want tape traders. I have S.O.D., Desecration, Celtic Frost, Possessed, Slayer, Slaughter, Metallica lots of King Diamond and Merciful Fate. I get 100 every month. Martin Carlsson, Majastugan 9, 77100 Ystad, Sweden.

DEATH/Thrash/Hardcore/whatever fanzine DRENCHED IN BLOOD out new for hands to be covered in our mag. Send vinyl /demos/live tapes etc. Tape traders: Send your lists and we will print your ad. Issue#1 out soon featuring: Rancid Decay, Sacrifice, Wehrmacht, Death, Gore, DeExult and more. Send 1st: Drenched in Blood, c/o Craig On, 3008 Fallon Ave., Silver Spring, Maryland 20904, USA.

DEATHBRINGER#4 out now w/ Sacrifice, Hellfire, Necronomicon, Ludicrist, Excursions, Poison, Massacre, Wreckage, Tension, Savage Thrust + more death news, reviews and tons of ordering info. Send US $ 2.00 to: Deathrash, 3504 Birch Dr., Loveland, CO 80538, USA.

Any bands interested in appearance in a new Belgian mag called EXPLOSION send bio, disc & promo stuff to: Benny Geemerts, Donkenstriaat 11, 2860 Heist o/d Berge, Bruxel, Belgium.

POISON#1 is still available for US $ 3.00 (Europe) or £ 3.00 (overseas). On about 55 pages it includes interviews of Creator, Possessed, Death, Living Death, Violent Force, Voivod, Batman, Dark Angel, Acid, Angel Dust etc. Many ip/band/concert /demo reviews. Buy it before it's sold out! #2 will be released in the near future. Available for US $ 2.75 (Europe) or £ 3.00 (overseas) and it will contain about 35(!) interviews with bands like Sodom, Raw Power, Destruction, Miasma, Backwater, Iron Angel, Canadian Slaughter, Savage Thrust, Masty Savage, Drifter, DeExult, Artillery, Hirax and lots more. With 3 posters, on about 50 pages in 4 size. All orders to: Poison, c/o Cedric Gobert, Vogenzaanstr. 18, 7609 Hoheberg I, Germany. Bands please send us your stuff. Article & free copy are guaranteed. Thanx!

THRASHCORE#2 is finally out and better than ever! Featuring interviews and articles on: Voivod, Necrophagia, Intense Mutilation, Celtic Frost, Lethal Aggression, Leagon of Death, Desecration (Ariz.) and many, many more! Plus reviews, artwork, scene reports, and other fun stuff! Send $ 2.00 US or £ 3.00 overseas (postpaid, US funds only, please) to: Thrashcore, c/o Shelley Slater, 2520 Severn Rd., Westlake, Ohio 44145, USA.

Quality is good, you have the chance to be featured on the next "Thrash Rules" compilation-tape.

Airplay for punk/metal bands on Melbourne (AUS) radio station 3PBS FM. Interested bands please send demos + bio to: GRAMLIN, 73 Greenborough Rd., Macleod 3085, Melbourne Victoria, Australia.
Memento mori, as now the official European Cryptic Slaughter fanclub was founded. Send $1.00 for merchandise list and free biography to one of these addresses: Heinz Schren, Tangenstr. 4, 5000 Düsseldorf, W-Germany or Thomas Stockmeier, Bergstr. 12, 6006 Geselsellschaftshaus, W-Germany.

SACRIFICE#5 - Thinking men's metal magazine with interviews/stories of Savatage, Syrus, Motörhead, Kill D'Kor, Vengeance, Saxon, High Tension, Metal Church, David T. Chastain, DeSTRUCTION and lots more. No stupid interviews with 3 questions here. Lots of demo-album and live reviews. First twenty orders will receive a Celtic Frost poster. (mention the Blackthrorn ad! First class print, available for $2.50 or DM 5.00. Bands of all styles from hard rock to thrash write, we feature all kinds of metal. George "space migrant" Lüger, Zaslawstr. 120, 7800 Freiburg i.Br., W-Germany. P.S. Anybody selling original demo of "144,000 gone"?

NOT3 out now. Featuring int. with Intense Mutation, Deathrow, Judgement, Stockholm's Negrar, Chainsaw Pin, Virgin Sin, Assassin, Aggressor and more with Disrespect, Dream Death, Minotaur, Batus, Tel, Stakluomo, Trespassion of Skull, Fantasie Warrior + more like news, reviews, quizzes, lyrics, art work. A few copies of #2 also left with int. Agony, Malignant, Deathcult, Savage Thrust, Exile, Mayhem, Christian Death + more. Feat. St. Ytian, Wolna, Black Jack, Aggressor + more. Bands should send promo stuff for space in NOT. Send $2 for #2 and 2-50 for #3. Write to: NOT prod, c/o Johnny Christiansen, Gränby 25, 23003 Anderslöv, Sweden. All editors send your fanzine for a swap!

SLAUGHTER magazine is looking for death-speed-thrash metal bands to be featured in next issue. Please send demo, photo's, logo and full bio for Slaughter Magazine, c/o odd-Egil Hansen, Valhallaveien 13, 0166 Oslo 1, Norway.

VIDEO-trading in the VHS/pal system. I have bands like Slayer, Megadeth, Overkill, Savage Grace, D.O.A., S.O.D., Agent of Hel, Kreator, Artillery, Sodom, Celtic, Destruction and lots of others. Write for list at: Frank Kruse, Punkestr. 26, 4250 Bottrop, West Germany.

California thrash metal gods Mercenary have got an European fan club. Interested should contact: Mercenary Europe, c/o Mercenary, Via Montecatini 14, 20010 Moncalieri (TO), Italy. Or if you have a phone budget you can call on (011) 661 0195 + some national codes!

Thrash demo metal magazine MEGALOMANIAC is looking for bands to feature in coming issues. Please send demo /logo/photo and bio. Megalomaniac, c/o Martin Carlsson, Majanatten 9, 27100 Fstad, Sweden. Article guaranteed, so keep in touch.

VERMIN SCUM - Danish cross-over band from Rockilde, wants drummer desperately! Our influences are: Hoxton, B.B.L., Beyond Possession, Excel and Cryptic Slaughter. Call soon at Allan 02-3536316 or Peter 02-3635387.

Metallic Beast - Danish Hardcore /Thrash zine written in English. No 4 out now, full-size and features Metallica, Anthrax, Suicidal Tendencies, Machine Gun, Spanish Children, Hirax, Dark Angel, Weyrmacht, Cyclones, Agony, Cro-Mags, Cryptic Slaughter, Kreator, Final Conflict, Polivoks, Death Angel, Blindfold Death, Zwotz, Savage Death. Legacy, Heathen, Master and many more. Over 40 bands, many interviews, gig/demo reviews, news, ads, Californian hardcore report and more + free Metallica "Alcoholica" poster! Send only $1.00 (includes postage) for your copy to: Peter Markman, Enghavn 25, Sognervej, 4000 Rockilde, Denmark.

DAMAGE INC. The big total death mag from Norway. Issued #6 - 36 pages (full size, 36 pages) out now! Contains interviews with Morfeo, Demolition, a full length feature on Necrophagia, Savage Death, Slaughter and Mayhem. Articles on Agony, Kino, Necromancer, Wolna, Calderone, Sadist + a hell of a lot more! It costs $3.00 or the equivalent in your currency. Order from the address below. Bands wishing to appear can send demo/bio/pix/logo to: Maniac Productions, Box 62, 3864 Sauland, Norway.

Ps. Henceforward we'll ask the modest amount of US $5.00/DM 5.50 for publishing an ad in these sections.
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