

GLOVES OF METAL

DEBUT ISSUE

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and
OBSESSION!!!!



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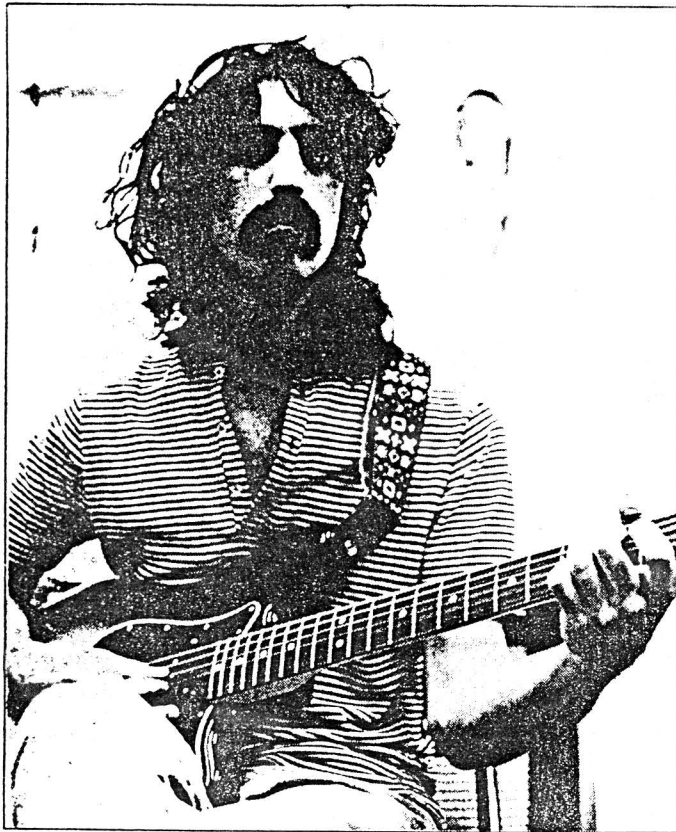
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A Tribute to MANOWAR!!!

plus: Articles, Reviews, and a lot of other awesome shit!!!

THE TRUE UNDERGROUND / HEAVY METAL BIBLE OF THE '90s !!!

✠ IN MEMORIAM ✠



FRANK VINCENT ZAPPA

(1940-1993)

Never in my life has there ever been a greater influence in my music and writing than Frank Zappa. For years, I've been an avid and ferocious fan of his, always taking his musical and political ideals very seriously, and comparing them to the world I live in and am forever at odds with...

Losing him is indeed one of the saddest moments of my life, and the whole world suffers with the loss of his wit, creativity, honesty, and most importantly his sincerity...He wanted nothing but to live in a saner, more understanding world; and he wanted nothing more than to be taken more seriously for the work he has done and the contributions he has made over the years. More than any other American musician throughout time, Zappa mattered so much...his quest to remain true to his ideals and beliefs serves as an example for all of us, to never relinquish our originality or creativity to succumb to a society that thrives on all of our weaknesses.

- Steve

CRISS OLIVA

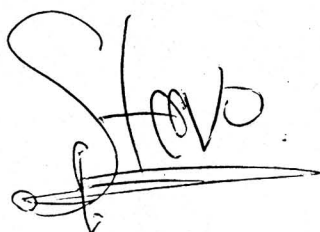
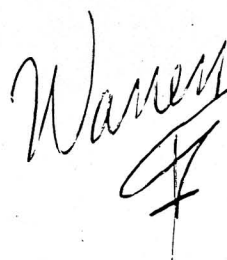
(d.1993)

In the early days of what will always be known as the silver age of Heavy Metal, SAVATAGE will always be remembered as one of the greatest underground success stories...from the very beginning, known as AVATAR, they strived for perfection and respect through a unique brand of professionalism, skill, and sheer determination directed fiercely by a textbook style of self-motivation that truly serves as an example to all of us in the underground. Along with their professional zeal, SAVATAGE sported a truly fresh and original style of metal, so heavy and melodic that it truly stood brick for brick against many of the greater bands in the world of heavy metal...With their early LPs, they set the stage for a resurgence of underground metal both here and abroad, and from their beginnings on indie labels to their eventual success on a larger record label, they always showed a tremendous amount of class, no matter what direction their music took. It's sad to know that SAVATAGE were on the brink of a second burst of strength in their history, and tragic to know that Criss Oliva was truly one of the brightest of all rising stars in the world of music...all cut short in the latter part of 1993 by an auto accident that claimed Criss' life unmercifully, and unjustly. My heart mourns this loss, as he was still very young and his talent only just beginning to show it's most glorious phase, as seen brilliantly on SAVATAGE's last LP "Edge of Thorns"...he will never be forgotten.

- Steve



Greetings, underground music fan!! You are holding in your mighty fists, the completed premiere issue of "GLOVES OF METAL", the result of many months of dreaming, planning, and hard work! There are many underground mags out there now, in fact there are too many! Some great zines aren't selling anymore, because alot of fans are tired of seeing the same bands get exposure. I mean, who wants to read another CANNIBAL CORPSE interview? Who wants to read another review of the new MORBID ANGEL LP? "GLOVES OF METAL" will feature bands who aren't appearing in many other zines. We'll be not only reviewing LP's you won't find in usual mags, but you'll see honest, informative and well-written criticisms of LPs and demos instead of stupid, inane ass-kissing anecdotes. Every issue we'll spotlight a few newer (or older) bands we feel are of interest, and we'll also feature a few interviews with great bands!! "GLOVES OF METAL" will have lots of regular features as well, for instance every issue will have a retrospective of a great band like MANOWAR, SAINT VITUS, etc...future issues will include killer features like a special history of Italian underground music, the origin and growth of the US doom metal scene, and an overview of the history of underground tape-trading and record collecting! Every issue of "GLOVES OF METAL" will also include reviews of classic metal and hardcore LPs, and an open readers forum where you'll write in your opinion of a given topic and each issue, comments on that topic and others will be printed in an open underground debate!! We're also putting together a special underground contact page, unlike anything ever found in any other zine!! It will contain addresses of bands, zines, collectors, traders, pen pals, and fans seeking to contact others in the true underground! We tried with this small zine to bring back some of the greatness the underground once had not only in music, but in journalism! We both remember the fond days when a fanzine was literally a vital collection of news, facts, and pertinent information relating to the music we loved and lived for...nowadays these fanzines are only used for obtaining free materials and kissing the asses of the bands and the industry who have turned the underground into a literal battleground!! We are the true warriors of the underground, and "GLOVES OF METAL" is our offensive!!! We hope that you, the reader, enjoy this debut issue, and that it takes you back to the days when the scene was a special thing, belonging only to us! Hail to all true supporters of the underground, our fists are held high in the air for you, brothers and sisters of steel!!!

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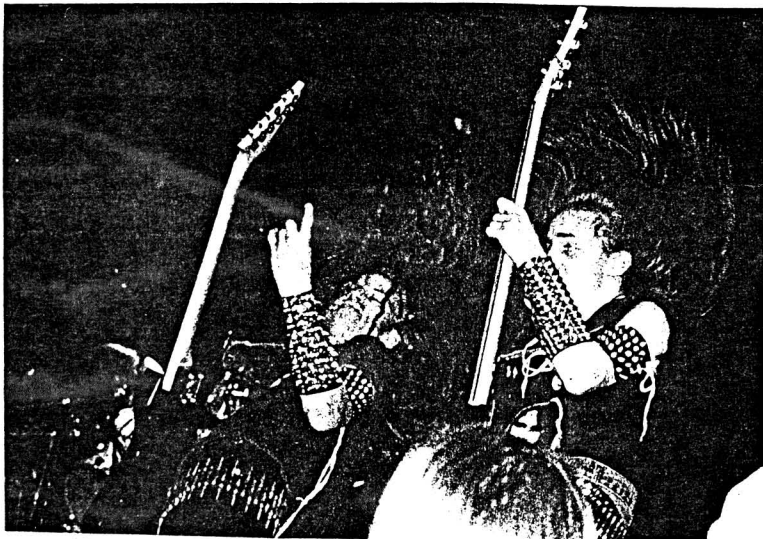
A SPECIAL, SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES, WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT THIS MAG WOULD NEVER BE!!! THANKS ALSO GO OUT TO THE BANDS, LABELS, AND OTHERS WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS AND INFLUENCE HAVE MADE THIS MAG STRONG!!! GUARD WELL THE SECRET OF STEEL!!!

News...

The big news, of course, is the rumour that Adam Lehan has, indeed, parted company with CATHEDRAL...it's also said that Jus Oborn (former axeman for the lamentedly disbanded lords of depressing rock ETERNAL) may take his place. Not sure if this is true, but we'll see. Those of us who caught CATHEDRAL on their US tour with MERCYFUL FATE, ANACRUSIS, and PLOTSOID AND JISM may have noticed legendary bassmaster Scott Carlson sitting in with them, he may even be permanently in the band by now...I was also recently informed that CATHEDRAL parted from the tour prematurely due to a disagreement with FATE about sound mixing or something...turns out FATE had been canceling a lot of shows without informing CATHEDRAL (who were driving to shows themselves separately), and really had been assholes in general, according to Lee and company...they just finished a small stint with FIGHT across the U.S., hope you did not miss them...

More leaving home news...Michael Amott has left CARCASS, and is working with his own band whose name escapes me at this time...also look for Mr. Amott's guest solos on the forthcoming DERANGED mini-CD!!

Also leaving the fold of a great band...it seems that the molten voice of Martin "Chicken" Witchskinner has once again parted from German gods BLOOD, to concentrate more on his own band DAWN (which also features former BLOOD second guitarist Wenge). I'm sad to hear it, Martin was really a great part of the band, but if that's what he chooses, best of luck to him!! The DAWN demo is out now, see the demo review in this issue for more info!! Yes!!



FREDRIK + NILS OF NOCTURNAL RITES --- HELL YES!!!

Unless you've been under a rock or in somebody's closet with your little brother's CANNIBAL CORPSE CDs, you know that one of the longest surviving and best second generation U.S. death metal bands, BAPHOMET, were forced to change their name to BANISHED...this because of a band from Germany by the same name, with one or more alleged LPs out, who until this time absolutely nobody had ever heard of! BAPHOMET certainly have been swell about it by changing their name, but I ask you...who in the underground did not know about BAPHOMET (the U.S. band) at all? I mean, these guys have been a constant name in the scene since the release of their first demo in 1989 I think...they appeared at the infamous Day of Death festival in Buffalo, NY back in 1990, and really, between that time and the release of their LP in 92, showed up in just about every international zine you could think of...so, these guys from Germany show up and claim rights to the name after they release an LP!! Lame!! What a sense of timing...at any rate, BANISHED have unleashed a 7" on the questionably resplendent Chicago Red Light clone label Olympic Recordings and it's quite a hummer, even though U.S. death metal is mostly garbage and moldy cabbage these days...it should also be noted that original member Gary Scipiani has left the band...

The end of black metal, forever...with the death of Euronymous, MAYHEM's bizarre leader, also dies his record label Deathlike Silence (and all the planned releases) and record store Helvete...to me, his murder is a tragic example of how stupid and ignorant shitheads can take something fun like music and turn it into some warped battleground...it is also an example of how the underground is taking this ever-popular black metal thing, and occultism in general. Leave that stuff to those who understand it, don't mess with shit you know nothing about. I turn my back on this whole thing, because after this and some other events in my life over the years, I don't think it's a good idea to mess with this stuff. Now that people are getting killed for no reason, I'm through with it. It was never meant to be taken seriously, ever.

Heading into the studio soon will be VITAL REMAINS, who have a new drummer from Ohio and a new vocal style!! And I'm not giving any hints as to what my guess is the style sounds like...you'll just have to wait and see! They have a new address too, it's VITAL REMAINS c/o Jeff Gruslin, 47 Langdon Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02904.

Stupid nazi-cunt band BURZUM have put out a lot of stuff on a distribution service called Cymophane in Norway...I'd print the address, but I think enough kids buy that ignorant nazi crap already, so...

BUFFALO ex-members re-emerge...read all about it here!!!! Yes, Pete Wells is in the re-formed ROSE TATTOO! Speaking of down under happenings, our trusty Australian correspondent Kelvin Craig sez BILLY THORPE AND THE AZTECS have also re-formed and are doing some gigging...so there ya go!

Sometime in December 1993, the new tape and CD by Ohio corpse-grinders BLESSED SICKNESS (fronted by Vince "the Butcher" Smithisler) will have been unleashed...you really should check it out, the band features a re-vamped line up and the music really sounds promising...write to them at BLESSED SICKNESS, 4276 W. 21 ST, Cleveland, OH 44109.



HELSTAR ... GODS!!!

You've heard some of this somewhere...maybe...but it's true that Texas gods HELSTAR indeed have reformed and are once again signed to Metal Blade Records...they're supposed to have some kind of EP out in the new year, but nothing confirmed yet, this is all words from the mouth of James Rivera, their marvelous vocalist...the only recognizable members are James and bassist Gerald Abarea, and I might add that their performance at this past summer's Milwaukee Metal Fest was truly a wonderful experience, their new material is completely killer, 100%, and they sound tighter than it could be believed...look out for this EP, it will be a killer!!

More sad news from here to you...Chicago lords TROUBLE have parted ways with American Records (formerly Def American) and recently played at the farewell show at Malo's, the famous Aurora venue where TROUBLE and several other Chicago-area bands made their name known...sadly, Malo's is closing down, and TROUBLE were there, former drummer Jeff Olson even joined them onstage for "The Tempter" and "Bastards Will Pay"...best of luck to TROUBLE in finding a new deal, but let's hope they give us something better when they return than what they gave us with their last LP...disappointing! Barry Stern has also been filling in on vocals with his old band ZOETROPE, who recently kicked out their singer...

Out now on Foundation 2000 is the debut CD from European mystery band SAD WHISPERINGS...the CD is a nifty offering of blackish avant garde atmospheric doomish heavy metal (??...works for me!), something I know your little hearts are greatly fond of...

James Murphy has joined TESTAMENT!! Ha ha ha!!! What a punk!!!!

Also out now are two 7" EPs by one of the best bands I think I've heard in a long time...I mean, these guys play really creepy, sinister, and absolutely brutally heavy and intense music. I couldn't recommend their music more to those of you who like any kind of black, death, doom, goth, industrial mayhem...I'm speaking of NEUTHRONE, Belgium's brightest (or darkest) star, next to AGATHOCLES of corpse! Anyway, they've got two 7"s out on the Genet Records label, that address is P.O. Box 447, 9000 Gent 1, Belgium...they are also available for a limited time through the mighty Fred Schaus (who, I might add, is really busy now starting his very own record label!), his address is 2 Rue des Chardonnerets, B-6760 Ethe, Belgium. Also out on Genet Records within the next few months will be a full-length NEUTHRONE CD...in the next issue we'll try to persuade Fred to import us a very special feature interview, or at least an article, about this very different band...

You want MEAT SHITS info! Yes, you do!!! You want to know all about the mass smattering of releases coming out soon (and as we speak...like NOW) from this most perverse gang of nastiness, via several independent labels...you do need this information, I insist!! Send a stamp to MEAT SHITS, P.O.Box 577241, Modesto, CA 95357-7241...any fan of truly extreme music would do themselves justice by obtaining this info right away, forget what you've heard by them in the past, their new stuff is truly different, remarkable, and diabolically wonderful!

So, what do you think of the METALLIC ANGEL...er, uh...MORBIDALLICA...ehm...isn't it a riot how once-great bands who record with idiots like Flemming Rasmussen (yes, Warren, I still consider the guy worthless) end up sounding like shit?? Look out for the "Angel of Disease" Spandex Mix 12" out soon, on Warner Brothers...on a serious note, I want to say for the record, that I think this band sucks, I spit on all their works! I dismiss them, their LPs, their music, and their attitude as 100% lame; they should move to Seattle and live with a stupid grunge band...my, aren't I scathing??

R.I.P. department sadly reports the self-inflicted demise of the underground's one and only TAXIDERMIST, that sadistic creation of Matt Sharpe, the only guy I know who wants to be buried in a coffin full of maggots!!! Anyway, Matt has laid TAXIDERMIST to rest so he can concentrate on his full-fledged band INCINERATOR, who do have a demo out, for more info do yourself a favor and drop him a line: Matt Sharpe, 43 Spoonville Rd., E.Granby, CT 06026.

"Kluke" of the legendary Metal Meltdown fanzine is clearing out his stock of back issues, if all you true molten metallers really want to see a cool zine done right, then write to Kluke and ask what he has available...the prices are very reasonable, and some of you kids might get a chance to see what the underground was really like back in the late 80's and early 90's, when you were too young to even think of buying a DEICIDE record...I am really kidding!! Seriously, the zines are great reading, Kluke is a true survivor and supporter of the scene since way back when, so find out more about his back issues, and what's next for Metal Meltdown by writing to P.O.Box 8244, Severna Park, MD 21146...

New York's intense thrash masters CHARNEL HOUSE are working on a new release...their demo "The Killing Breed" found good company in this metalhead's tape collection, really a heavy, palatable tip of the speed/thrash hat to good old SLAYER, without being so nauseatingly clonish...still a youthful band though, and I'm sure the next recording will show a bit of maturity...CHARNEL HOUSE, c/o John Siemerling, 149-57 20th Road, Whitestone, NY 11357.

There's another rumour, that after one more LP legendary doom lords SAINT VITUS will call it quits...it will be sad to see them disappear from active status after all these years, but we have so many recorded works by them and a wonderful memory of the music they left us with...whether or not they actually will disband is unknown, but best of luck to them...

It appears now that another party is taking over the reins of Deathlike Silence, no word on who it is, but it's true. Coming soon, the SIGH "Scorn Defeat" LP...

Speaking of BLACK SABBATH (were we?), they are currently touring with MORBID ANGEL (ugh)...versatile vocalist du jour Tony Martin has rejoined SABBATH, he's no Ronnie James Dio but it will be a great show to check out, if you can make it through the MORBID ANGEL set without gagging tremendously!! Oh yeah...the BLACK SABBATH reunion is officially "not happening," so it looks like they pissed off Dio for no apparent reason...by the way, Dio is working on a new LP soon, and if he sounds as great as he did on "Dehumanizer," I'm sold! **↓ P.S. IT'S OUT! IT RULES!!**



Ohio death/doom/sludge lords SIN-EATER have disbanded, and a portion of the band (spear-headed by Dann "Wurdalak" Saladin) have resurfaced as BLOODCOVEN, they've got a promo demo coming out soon, so watch out!!

Chicago's MORGUE are working on new material, sporting a complete new style...if you've heard the new CARBONIZED, that pretty much gives you an idea what this new stuff sounds like!

Mauricio "Bull Metal" Montoya, formerly of Colombian "brutales" death gods MASACRE, is now involved in a band called TYPHON, if you're into the older black sounds of BATHORY, VENOM, CELTIC FROST, etc. then you should contact him at A.A. 056642, Medellin, COLOMBIA...and don't forget to ask him about his own record label, Warmaster Records!!!

Sweden's NOCTURNAL RITES have undergone a few changes music-wise...they now play 100% true metal, and are trying out singers now...expect a studio release within the next few months, for sure!!

I take that earlier comment back that I made about Tony Martin being no Ronnie James Dio...I worship Dio's vocals, but upon second thought, Tony Martin kicks fucking ass!!

The new LP by THE OBSESSED is done, and it's 100 % killer shit!!! Wino and Company have really made a fuckin' killer record, one that won't be leaving my turntable for a long time once it's out!! I've no word what it's called or when it'll be out, but it smokes!! They are currently touring now with WHITE ZOMBIE and PRONG...if you really love THE OBSESSED, then it might be worth it to pay the ridiculous \$18 a ticket to see the show...

BEREAVEMENT, Colorado's death/doom combo, are playing some live shows and working on improving their style...write to Curtis Clark, 3006 De Cortez #303, Colorado Springs, Co. 80909

Late obituary addition...sad to hear of the demise of Ray Gillen, premier metal vocalist who spent time with BADLANDS (also with Jake E. Lee), BLACK SABBATH, and others...chronic ulcers claimed his life sometime in late December 1993...we salute this true metal titan, as he takes his place at Valhalla's table...

Holland's CANTARA have got a mini-CD coming out soon, and they may even be signing to Peaceville!! More on them maybe in the next issue!!

Chicago local scene presto-chango!! Legendary guitarist Paul Kratke, formerly of SLAUTER XSTROYES and now known as "P.K.", has left his most recent band JOHNNY CHAINSAW and is now a member of (gasp) RIPT, now calling himself "P.K. Ripper"...Ex-MASTER/ABOMINATION members Aaron Nickeas and Dean Chioles are now in a band called BODY BAG (not to be confused with the death metal band of the same name from the pacific northwest) and are shopping a demo around...Ex-MASTER drummer and co-founding member Bill Schmidt is also in a new band...but I've forgotten the name!

That does it for this issue...if some of this info is a bit outdated, pardon me!! Anyone who has news on their band, zine, label, local scene, whatever...please don't hesitate to send any and all info and reporting to the staff at Gloves of Metal, we need your help in keeping our readers updated on what's new in the Wild World of Metal!!

-SMD

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The Way I See It...

STEVO rattles on about pertinent and not-so-pertinent issues on his mind... those parties easily offended or prone to gross misunderstanding are prompted to possibly look elsewhere for safer reading material!!

It's not hard to tell from the current proliferation of flyers from independent bands and labels pouring into my mailbox that, it's true, "black metal" is indeed the happening thing. A couple years ago (shit fire, was it *really* that long ago???) I asked my old pal Chuck Keller of ORDER FROM CHAOS what he thought the next big thing was...black metal or industrial. I told him, no way could black metal become more popular than industrial!! I mean, think about it...the latter is so much easier to market!! If you take the success of bands like GODFLESH, PITCH SHIFTER, and later on SOULSTORM, it seems like the industrial syndrome was upon us in full force barely over a year ago!! Then, the self-proclaimed war on music declared by the black metal front took an unsuspected and very interesting turn! Yes, I'm referring to that fateful front-page full-colour coverage in KERRANG! Promoted by the fellows in MAYHEM, BURZUM, EMPEROR, et al...take note that Samoth of EMPEROR never once mentioned this to me, as if he knew nothing about it!! Then, when I brought it up to him, he just shrugged it off like it was no big deal! What the hell?? Did every kid in Europe form a black metal band after reading that insipid display of propaganda?? You bet they did, after the so-called "true" black metallers did the one thing they swore they'd never do, that is to expose themselves to the outside world!! Whatever happened to the days when nobody ever took this shit seriously?? Now we have people dead, in jail, and playing in stupid bands, wasting their time...shit, they were breakdancers and skatepunks only yesterday!! Just ask Varg (real name "Christian," look on the back of your OLD FUNERAL 7") Virkenes how "true" he really is...too bad you can't ask Euronymous, who was coldly murdered by this asshole! Euronymous once said, and I quote, "we aren't into satanism, that stuff is just stupid!!"...I don't care how you cut it, and this is in no way meant to insult or offend any black metallers, most of you know what I'm saying!! Do yourselves a favor...if you really believe in the underground, you'll piss all over anything Virkenes has done, he preaches Nazi-supremacist shit (a total slap in the face to our Teutonic brothers and an insult to those of us with Viking blood) and hate, something we do not need in this scene at all!! Please, let's get things back to the way they were, so nobody else ends up dead, beaten up, jailed whatever...the music is the most important thing, and when reality goes beyond that, we're all in trouble!!

Some controversy has always surrounded the medieval witch hunt of suspected "rip offs." Since I can remember, those of us who supposedly know our shit have attempted to warn those of us who we assume haven't got enough brains to take care of

ourselves about the so-called "rip offs" in our scene. I think the first time I ever heard the term in the underground was when a pen pal of mine ordered a fanzine, and three months later never got his money back. I can't remember what zine it was...actually, it's of no importance. What I couldn't understand at the time (and even now) is that this fellow, without reason or discourse, apparently felt he had been cheated out of his two bucks, and beyond that, he felt his trust had been twisted and really unsure of ever ordering something again from anyone. So, this fanzine is a "rip off," right? If you answered yes, go fuck yourself!! I'm not defending said fanzine, but did this guy ever write a letter saying "where's my zine?" or "did you ever get my money?"...my memory serves that he did indeed write a letter, but a nasty one!! And, of course, no reply! What a dickhead, no? Listen...cash gets ripped off from letters all the time, it rarely happens (and I mean rarely...out of all the mail order I've done it seems like only once or twice has there been problems!) but you gotta face the facts, it *does* happen, and the best thing for you to do, is first write a friendly letter (not a juvenile "you ripped me off" note) and let the other party know you're merely concerned! Second, if you still get no response it may indeed be a case where somebody is jerking around with your money! But let's not forget, these are people just like us and things may not be going as well for them...it doesn't make it right for them to ignore you and "rip off" your two bucks, but it makes more sense to forget about it and go on with your life! What it all boils down to is...if you mail cash, learn to accept the fact that it may never get there; and never, *never* cry "rip off"...it merely shows how immature and careless you are! Really!! If you don't buy my argument, just sit down and think about it for a while...if you *still* don't buy it, I'm really sorry you don't see things this way!!

While we're discussing the underground witch hunt...those of you out there who know me well (or who've at least read my newsletters the last few months) know how I stand on Wild Rags Records and the so-called "anti-WRR movement" out there! I think such negative energy is a complete waste of time, we used to work together and understand our differences in the past! Now, we're name-calling, spreading lies, and refusing to see BOTH sides of the story!! It's true, not everybody agrees on any said situation, that happens in everyday life! I can't and I won't comment on any of the charges leveled against Richard C. because of the mixed nature of the attacks...I truly believe that some of the problems have resulted from escalation of simple misunderstandings! However, I believe that a great deal of these horrible claims are completely unfounded and even ludicrous in

nature!! Richard has proven quite a few of the charges to be complete lies in the past, other claims are too ridiculous to address! Again, I'll state my case...in the years I've known and worked with Richard C., I've never had any problems of any kind with him. He helped put IMPETIGO on the underground map in a major way, he gave us our first chance at making a record, he made an ill-fated but intrinsically successful journey to Puerto Rico possible, he set us up twice at the marvelous Milwaukee Metal Fest, and most important he always had complete faith in us and supported us 100% of the way! Even when we sent him the original cover for "Ultimo Mondo Cannibale," he showed us this strength. He wrote me and acknowledged that the cover was indeed, *very* extreme...he wanted to be sure we knew that with a cover like that it wouldn't land in many stores at all...now, would a supposedly money-conscious business rip-off person manufacture and promote an LP with a cover that he knew he couldn't sell in a huge market? Fuck no!! He was totally respecting our artistic rights, and supporting our concept for the LP!!! It's unfortunate that the printers refused to work with the LP cover, but what's important is that Richard C. was never concerned with his financial gain (and expected loss), he only wanted us to be happy with our decision!! It's only one story that expresses the kind of working relationship we have with Richard and Wild Rags, but it's one of many that should be told!! In these days of slagging and doubting the man's credibility, I'm doing what those of us who have the balls to go through with it should do...all we hear is negative shit about this guy, why doesn't anybody with a positive word or two about Richard C. speak out? Are you perhaps too afraid of the disfavor of the "anti-WRR movement"? Well, fuck you then! Richard C., thanks for all your help brother!! You're what I consider a true underground hero, and in these pages, you'll be hailed as a champion!! If anyone out there would like to hear some of the facts concerning the allegations of Richard's business and conduct, why don't you send him a stamp and ask for some info...he's done several interviews lately that address the problem directly!! It's too bad some people (even my friends!) have been caught in this debate...I still truly believe that poor communication has contributed to a select few of these problems! But, for the most part, these lies deal with some people's

refusal to understand reality and it's savage consequences!! Don't judge until you know the facts!!!!

Finally, a really bizarre and particularly strange thing has happened in the underground I'd like to share with you! When the Berlin Wall fell and capitalist freedom and it's principles were introduced into the republics of communist dominated societies, we all raised a glass of honour to those affected by these winds of change, for the tough years they would face as they learned to adjust to the new world they were now a part of...but who could have foreseen the resurgence of hate that is happening now?? ~~No~~ not talking about black metal again (some of you will *never* understand the things I said about black metal earlier!! *Never!!!*), what I'm talking about is fascism!! Hard to believe in this day and age, isn't it?? Actually, I'm being a bit sarcastic...with the rise of neo-Nazism in Germany and the escalation of hate worldwide, it's not surprising that such an ugly social condition should rear it's ugly head in a country shocked by economic and political revolution. Any band or zine who've received mail from anyone in Russia may have noticed the ever-lovin' swastika symbol occasionally! Now, there are a lot of letters I get from the Russian republics without these or a mention of racism...but once in a while, it's there, and there's no denying what it stands for to these kids!! Several international magazines have published articles on this rebirth of Fascism/Nazism in the former U.S.S.R., and bands such as KORROZIA METALLA (or METAL CORROSION to us yanks) actually *promote* this movement in their recent music and live performances!! What the fuck is really going on here?? In these pages, I'd like to hear some sort of feedback from the Russian kids...how do they justify the proliferation of fascism?? Do they really understand what they are getting into?? Does anyone know? Unfortunately, that's the only information I have on this, but it deserves a closer look, for sure!!

Well, for this time around...that's the way I see it!! Remember, I welcome any and all comments, suggestions, rebuttal, debate, information, concern, etc. on these and any other topics that may concern us--musical, political, or otherwise!! I fully intend for this to be an open forum for the underground, and those of us intelligent enough to express our views or share our thoughts on anything!! I do have one question to pose to all of you out there, before I close this portion of "Gloves of Metal"...whatever happened to the good old days??

-SMD

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE INTERNATIONAL UNDERGROUND.

the wild RAG!

ISSUE #26

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DEMO REVIEWS *-by Stereo!!*

Lots of really killer demos have been coming out lately, but fewer killer ones than ever before, if you know what I mean! Here in "Gloves of Metal" we hope to cover a few demo tapes that you don't hear about very much, or that really deserve investigation, whether you've heard of them or not!! If a demo gets sent to "Gloves of Metal," rest assured it'll be reviewed honestly, no ass-kissing at all! Many mags promise this policy, but few deliver...you can be sure that if we don't like it, we will make that fact known without caring if anyone dislikes our opinion or not! In this first issue, everything reviewed was not sent for that reason, so this session will be rather merciful, I think!! Starting out with a band I dare say is one of the most genuinely original and unbelievably atmospheric bands I've heard in years isn't hard to do...they were originally called ELDRITCH, but since their first awesome demo, they've become ETERNE...this band hail gloriously from the U.K., and are actually a two-piece comprising of Dave Dando, who also publishes his own zine "Crawling Chaos," and Martyn Lear...**"The Endless,"** their second and most impressive recording yet, is an astounding marriage of chilling heavy doom metal with a rawer-edged alternative sound more associated with "new wave" acts of the early 80's. Don't skip this review though, read on because this tape is unbelievably heavy as fuck!! And twice as depressing as you'd believe possible...the wonderful sounds contained within this demo shouldn't be ignored, especially those who are tired of the industrial-metal thing, this is provocative and interesting yet crushing and insanely beautiful!! ETERNE, c/o Dave, 27 Elizabeth St., Pentre, Rhondda, Mid-Glam, South Wales, UK... P.S., I've just heard that they've signed with Candlelight Records in the UK, so keep your eyes out for more of this stuff!! One band that truly stood head and shoulders above most when it came to innovative and unusual death metal would be without a doubt Sweden's AFFLICTED!! Their first LP was indeed a killer venture into Psychedelic Death Grind mayhem played with class and precision, yet general disinterest in this sort of product not only settled ill with their record label (who canned them in the summer of 93), but apparently with the band themselves, as they've recorded a brand new promo demo with a brand new sound...in reality, the sound may be new to them, but not to the ears of the true Metallion!!! That's right, brothers and sisters...AFFLICTED now play 100% true metal, or "battle metal" as Daniel from LOBOTOMY calls it!! Believe me, you won't believe your ears when you hear it, two awesome tracks of killer crushing power metal!! The vocals are done well, and with more training and practice, they could easily annihilate all non-believers!! This band is so different, their sound is completely unrecognizable compared to their older fare!! This tape features two songs, "Into Battle" and "Dragonbreath," of which the first is hands down the best track, but the other stands up well!! It is our sincerest hope that a label with true balls snatches this band up fast, so our ears can be filled with true metal fury!!...Many death metal fans of the true underground will know well of the legendary TAXIDERMIST, the sickening one-man death/black/grind/gore project band fronted by eternal sicko Matt Sharpe (who also briefly played with VITAL REMAINS and LACHRYMATOR)! As reported elsewhere in this mag, Matt has disbanded this project for good now, in favor of a band he's been working with known as INCINERATOR. Their first demo **"Enter the Incinerator"** is honestly a better debut demo than most, and much stronger indeed than your average death metal crop. It's four songs aare heavy and twisted enough to pass well here, but the scope of death metal has truly ran its gamut! Simply put, for this band to attract more than a nod of attention, they should pry apart the conventional death metal approach and throw something different into the fire, otherwise, this talent really will be unappreciated! INCINERATOR, c/o Matt Sharpe, 48 Spoonville Rd., East Granby, CT 06026, U.S.A. ...FULGOR is a new name to ears on both sides of the seaboard! This interesting little project is made up of Asar, a longtime good friend of mine, and a member of the German black death group UNGOD...the sound and premise on their previously released promo demo was predominantly a black metallish-avant garde sort of atmospheric torture/doom/death/techno/hate/diarge music, if such a thing exists!! It seems in their latest demo **"To Be**

One With the Stars..." their range expands even more, and in a much more mature way! Don't get me wrong, this is no pop music, but it's darker and more profound in a very original and non-black metal way...if you know what I mean!! None of this stupid fallen angel crap, just plain and psychotic music filled with pain, hate, and mystery...It may be a bit too unusual for most ears, but take my word for it, it's one hell of a ride!! FULGOR, c/o Asar, Burgstrasse 4, 97645 Ostheim/Röhn, GERMANY...It's been a while since I've heard a tape that featured the likes of something I've not heard in along time (well, maybe the previously mentioned AFFLICTED promo demo comes close!), but the first demo by UK's YEAR ZERO really took me by surprise! Of course, you all may know this band as one formed by former CATHEDRAL bassist Mark "Griff" Griffiths, who now plays guitar...when I heard of YEAR ZERO and their inclination to play heavy 70's type doom metal with a bit of early punk-era fused in, I never expected such an excellent tape...well, the description above works for all intents and purposes, but to label the music YEAR ZERO play is like telling a dog what a dolphin dreams about! It's a complete fucking mystery to me how I'm supposed to tell you about this tape, it's almost like THE OBSESSED, after a case of beer and one bong hit too many, with Lemmy of MOTORHEAD sitting in, trying to play DISCHARGE covers a la PINK FLOYD at a pace and tempo that would impress THE DAMNED in 1980...howzatgrabya?? If you want a better description filled with lots of useless toejam underground zineage labels and comparison thrown in, maybe **"Metal Maniacs"** will review the demo sometime next year! Until



INCINERATOR! OY!!

then, I recommend this tape, and if you want to hear it (which is the only way you'll know anything about it!!!), then write to the band! YEAR ZERO, c/o 29 Sandeman Rd., Liverpool, L4 8SP, U.K....A tastefully strange, yet genuinely interesting tape arrived in the mailbox from Nigel Fellers (who some might know as one of the U.S.' most avid heavy doom fanatics) who has, with the aid of a very vivid and surreal imagination, and a decent sounding drum machine, produced a demo tape under the name NORTHERN LIGHTS. I'm still reeling from the blow of this very different, very heavy, and very bizarre offering, but to put it simply I can say that if you're into dark and heavy doom music that is very much influenced by the likes of BLACK HOLE, PENTAGRAM, et al. but sounds not a stitch like them (at least enough to be accused of plagiarism!), then really NORTHERN LIGHTS is an item for you to investigate further!! To attempt to put this demo into a typical review-type perspective is, once again, practically useless!! Take my humble word for it, check this tape out!!!! NORTHERN LIGHTS, c/o Nigel Fellers, 1819 Barbee St., McLean, VA 22101, U.S.A....More intense heavy doom madness reigns!! You bet...the name-ETERNAL is a common name in the land of total doom metal. It's true, in this new age of doom, they are amongst the instigators, having mutated from the old grinding death combo PUTREFACTION into the atmospheric death/doom masters LORD OF PUTREFACTION (who, of course, self-produced and

released a fine split LP with UK's MORTAL REMAINS nearly four years ago) and then on becoming morbid doom merchants THY GRIEF ETERNAL, becoming ETERNAL sometime in 1992! While we are all still waiting for the release of their "On Blackened Wings" 12" (recorded in 1991 as THY GRIEF ETERNAL), the band have come up with a chillingly fantastic promo tape, which now sadly sits as their epitaph, as the band have officially split up for good. This tape reeks with heavy doom intensity (of the true kind!) and awesome 70's brutal psychedelia, classily pulling quite a powerful punch without being a bit overwhelming or pretentious! The opener "Magickal Child" is a classical doom-rocker, with a completely catchy riff at mid-tempo, then catapulted into a grooving-grinding heavy middle part...totally great and worthy stuff! Having suffered a lack of worthwhile vocalists since their beginnings as ETERNAL, guitarist Jus Oborn's vocals are perfect in the band, and ironically probably the only thing that so-called "doom" fanatics of the death metal variety (you know...the knuckleheads who think SORROW play doom metal!) will cite as the only difference between them and CATHEDRAL...the only resemblance between the two bands is their respect, love, and influence of similar musics, a common kinship felt by all doom lovers! Therefore, comparisons with any other doom combos are hereby rendered obsolete by yours truly!!! Their cover of "Electric Funeral" is very tasteful and even retains a slab of original interpretation--if Ozzy had ever tried to sing this song while wasting away on serious drugs, his vocals might sound as sinister as Jus' do here! The lengthy "Chrono-Naut" is truly a gem here, possessing a true 70's doom jam (ala HAWKWIND and/or BLUE CHEER) that truly blows the mind in a million different ways!!



THE LEGEND -
BRIAN
ROSS!
GREATEST METAL
VOCALIST EVER!
...NO ARTICLE,
JUST THIS
COOL POST-
AVENGER PHOTO..
BECAUSE
HE
IS
GOD!!!
-Stevo!

It's a pity this almost-sensation had to end (what timing!!), but you are advised to participate in this cult classic demo while it's still available!! ETERNAL, c/o Jus Oborn, 37 Gravel Hill, Mercey, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 1RW, ENGLAND...Another great German doom band, in the mighty footsteps of DAWN OF WINTER, seem to be MIRROR OF DECEPTION, who truly surprised me with their heavy and melodic doom music, featured in their 1993 live in the studio demo tape. The band find themselves very influenced by the usual slew of heavy doom masters, the mightiest influences I can readily detect are those of the afore mentioned DAWN OF WINTER, as well as the unique sound and style of REVELATION!! While the band are a wee bit critical of the production of this tape, I find it produced very well, and the song-writing very extraordinary and complex, which is hard to do and stay true to doom at the same time!! MIRROR OF DECEPTION do this well, and maybe with bands like them and

DAWN OF WINTER, we've got the birth of a new age in German doom metal!! For more info on this tape, and any future releases, get a hold of the band at MIRROR OF DECEPTION, c/o Jochen Fopp, Kirchstrasse 37/1, 73066 Uhingen, GERMANY...While the German doom metal front is expanding, the death metal scene is ever strong (see the feature section in this issue, for more info!) and with bands like DAWN, it can only get stranger!! DAWN is of course, the child of former BLOOD vocalist Martin Jäger. While the band has been in existence since he and guitarist Wenge originally left BLOOD in 1991, they haven't been ready to record until 1993, when their debut demo was done. In the vocal department, it's everything you'd expect from Martin, whose coarse and vulgar throat truly helped set the style for violent death/grind music as far back as 1989 with BLOOD's debut LP "Impulse to Destroy," only here Martin's sickening voice is wrapped around a



DAWN

bizarre and unusual vortex of devastating death metal sounds. The music of DAWN is very different than the usual death metal mold, even in the glorious world of the European underground. The utterly cryptic and totally out-of-this-world lyrics add to the force-filled energy of DAWN, it goes without saying that if you're any kind of death metal fan (and, those of you who prefer the "blackier" side of music, take note!), this tape is a sure bet for you!! Write to DAWN, c/o Martin Jäger, Otto-Dill-Strasse 6, D-67141 Neuhofen, GERMANY...as for what lies ahead in the next issue, we'll have to wait and see!!! Until then, stay true and support these bands!! If you write to them for any reason, don't forget to mention that you saw them in "Gloves of Metal"!!!



DUAL CELEBRITY SCUMFUC :
EXPOSURE PHOTO!!!!!!
The Legendary BLOODY F. MESS and STEVO
hanging out at "The Gallery"...it's a SCUMFUC
REUNION!!!! IT'S FUCKING PUN CROC!!!

LOBOTOMY

The following band should really need no introduction to avid followers of the death metal underground...in the dying waves of the bittersweet Swedish death metal fad, very few bands have maintained a shred integrity before, throughout, and in the aftermath of this underground phenomena! One of those bands is clearly LOBOTOMY, who since their debut demo in 1990 have continued to release quality death metal classics, culminating in the marvelous "Against the Gods" epic-length demo in 1992...bouncing back from a slight lineup change (founding member Fred left the band in late 1992), they've now got a couple new releases circulating and are still vying for their unofficial title as Swedish Death Metal Gods Eternal...as far as this magazine and its staff are concerned, there's few other bands who deserve such a title!! Their interesting, non-cliche sound and completely terrorizingly violent attack make LOBOTOMY quite a killer group, even in the ears of those who question the validity of a "good" death metal band...drummer Daniel Strachal has been a close underground pal of mine for years now, through the band and his own zine of the past, "The Raptured Zine," a breathtaking document published in decidedly better days of underground press...let's lend an ear to his multi-faceted musical world and get to know what lies beyond within the world of LOBOTOMY, the Swedish death metal scene, and more!!

GLOVES: Tell us about the lineup changes recently...what happened with Fred and what are the new guys like?

STRACHAL: Well, we've changed our lineup to a 5-piece. Fred left the band in September 1992, cause we wouldn't work together and he wasn't into the band anymore (or rather he couldn't work with Lars). He started his own band together with Tobbe of NECROPHOBIC called SIN, which is a pretty cool band, at least original. We stayed as a 3-piece for about 8 months until we got Etienne and Max in May 93. Since these guys joined the band we've grown to a more vital band, I think. We can try out stuff we never dared before, and for me working with these guys has definitely widened by horizons, I can write songs and lyrics more diverse 'cause they're both into the same kinda development as I am into. And for Lars as well 'cause he can concentrate on his guitar playing and writing ability instead of putting a lot of effort into the vocal-harmonies, which he never liked. Max can handle all that now. These guys are really cool, Etienne for example joined me and Masse (ex-HYPOCRISY, now ALTHOTAS) to the Rokslide-festival in Denmark this summer and we had a blast, man!! Max is also cool even though he's into us going techno, ha ha ha!! Well he's into a lot of gothic stuff and he's pretty slapped by us 'cause his girlfriend lives in Australia at the moment, and he haven't got any sex for about 6 months, ha ha! But he's down there for Christmas, so I'll guess he is happy right now.

GLOVES: What's your opinion of the death metal scene, November 1993?

STRACHAL: To be honest, I don't give that much fuck about it, I

know that I shouldn't answer like that, but all in all it's like a damn river, just flowing and you just can't keep up with it. Some new good bands always pop up and I try to support the death metal scene as much as I can, but there haven't been any new bands at the moment that you go like "wow, these guys shred!!" But some of the more bigger bands have released great albums lately like the new album from EDGE OF SANITY, which is a masterpiece, and the new ones from ENTOMBED, PITCHSHIFTER, DISMEMBER, CARCASS, and FETISH 69. But if you are talking about underground, the scene is not like it used to be. Too many idiots are just starting bands and zines to get free stuff and just write you 'cause they just wanna suck you out. I hope this hype shit blows away, so it can be healthy again...when that time comes, I will definitely go into the scene more deeper. Maybe produce a zine and start to sign bands to my own label, Raptured Art Productions.

GLOVES: Honestly...do you think all this black metal craze is taken the wrong way by stupid, impressionable kids?

STRACHAL: No, it's like people should cut their head off just because Alice Cooper does, the ones who do take this church-burning image to their hearts, have problems with other things. I don't mind these bands, as long as they don't start threatening me. If they would do that, now that's another side of the story.

GLOVES: "Against the Gods" was really one of the greatest demos of 1992...how was it received by the underground?

STRACHAL: Thanks man! Well, I haven't--to be honest--seen a single

LOBOTOMY



negative review on that demo, I don't know cause sound-wise it does lack of certain things, but I guess it's a pretty intense demo with seven different cuts on it. I have received letters with comments saying that if we don't get signed by a good record label for that demo, then the scene is dead. It's kinda flattering, but in the same time it's very confusing. I don't know if some just see us like the flavor of the month. But yeah, the response has been very good for this demo, and it has opened a lot of doors for us.

GLOVES: So many Swedish death metal bands...How does LOBOTOMY stay true to their roots and so deliciously un-trendy?

STRACHAL: All in the band listen to different music and we always try to do the next song different from the latest one. We also don't see any point of getting help from other bands musically, like contribute to each other. And to be honest, Lars have never seen us as a death-metal band, he just says "Metal." I know what he means now 3 years later, and it's good 'cause with that attitude we can go wherever we want without being nailed into a certain way of playing. We never have any special image like occult or gore. Maybe we are plain boring...hahaha! Still, Patrik is the only one I know who has two kids and plays in a Swedish metal band. The other guys hang out with different guys, it's not like all in the band hang out with the same bands. Actually, I'm the only one in the band who hangs out with the better known bands here in Stockholm. Actually, that was a very hard question, bro!

GLOVES: Do you think Dan Swano is the busiest musician on earth, or what?!

STRACHAL: Yeah, he kinda reminds me of Zappa (R.I.P.). Not only does he have alot of bands to play with or produce, he's varied also. Like the band O (the circle), they sound so different from what you should think from a guy who produces bands like MARDUK, MERCILESS, and NECRONY, and plays with EDGE OF SANITY, PAN-THY-MONIUM and alot more! He's a nice fella, I haven't spoke with him since last summer, when we talked for about one and a half hours about anything that goes with music. But yeah, you can say that he does alot of things.

GLOVES: Tell us something about your two newest releases...

STRACHAL: First there is "Nailed in Misery" the cassette-EP released through Obscure Plasma records (Italy). The songs on this cassette have a very clean sound and the arrangements are pretty straight. It was recorded as a 3-piece and Lars really hated doing the vocals, but I force him though, he he! Then we got "Hymn" our new 7" EP. It's the first release featuring the new line-up, and this one was actually recorded as a promo thing, just to check out the new songs, but it turned out great so Rising Realm records (Finland) offered us a deal to do an EP, so we just sent them the recording, and they were very pleased with the result.

GLOVES: Why aren't the band selling them, too much mail?

STRACHAL: Well yeah, but I was going to sell "Nailed in Misery" but Obscure Plasma ripped me off, I've sent them cash for about 30 copies, still no reply after 4 months!!! So I just thought "Fuck it!" And Rising Realm has very good distributors, and I trust them as well 'cause these guys are very honest, so instead of letting people go wondering where they should get it, I just tell 'em to contact the label, because they have all the merchandise. I don't see any negative views why we're not selling these releases. If so, I wouldn't let someone else release this stuff.

GLOVES: Tell us about your musical development, from when you were a child 'til now...How did the music you listened to throughout the years affect your work now?

STRACHAL: My first fave band was DEEP PURPLE, my dad bought "Made in Japan" and I was sold!! Then I started to check out THE BEATLES and HENDRIX, I guess I was about five years old. All my friends at the kindergarten played Elton John and stuff, and I brought DEEP PURPLE so I could go nuts to "Smoke on the Water" in the music-room. Then I found out about BLACK SABBATH and LED ZEPPELIN 'cause my dad had these tapes he had recorded from some friends, and by that time I quit listening to Sesame Street and other kid-records and go for rock n' roll music. Then I heard about KISS and to be honest, OK of course I thought their image was cool, but I thought the music was awesome, especially "Black Diamond." Then my dad bought "Live" with RAINBOW, and it was this that got me into fast music. Then I started school, me and my friends discovered

"Heavy Metal" bands like THIN LIZZY, U.F.O., SAXON, IRON MAIDEN, RAVEN, JUDAS PRIEST, and MOTORHEAD. This was my fave music until '81 I guess when the labels Metal Blade and Mausoleum started to release more brutal stuff like THE RODS, VENOM, MERCYFUL FATE, HEAVY LOAD, and EARTHSHAKER. Then later, ANTHRAX, METALLICA, TROUBLE, LIZZY BORDEN, and SLAYER. But I listened to both brutal stuff like SLAYER and glam stuff like MOTLEY CRUE and RATT until '86 when I heard about the thrash metal wave on radio, cause even though SLAYER and METALLICA were around, this was the first time I faced a music style with really raw intense bands that only the fans accepted. So I started to go into this kinda music more deeper, with bands like VOIVOD, POSSESSED, NASTY SAVAGE, METAL CHURCH, SODOM, and DESTRUCTION. And the gods CELTIC FROST, who actually made me go into BLACK SABBATH once again, then I started to go into hardcore and crossover (CRUMBSUCKERS, DISCHARGE, C.O.C., D.R.I., and AGNOSTIC FRONT) then there was NAPALM DEATH, ELECTRO HIPPIES, and E.N.T. and that kinda brutal side of music. Until I got a tape which Alex (ENTOMBED) my school mate had recorded from a friend, which featured SINDROME ("Into the Halls..."), MORBID ANGEL ("Thy Kingdom Come"), DEVASTATION ("A Creation of Ripping Death") and some more like MACABRE, REPULSION, and MASTER...this was '88, and by this time I got into buying demo tapes and stuff. Since then I have gone back to my roots, gone to more strange stuff like FISHBONE, BUTTHOLE SURFERS and then to SOUNDGARDEN and SAINT VITUS and all that SST stuff. To industrial, doom and stuff, I get into new music every time there's an interesting release, but the last time I was into a whole new scene was probably '88 when you could buy stuff that wasn't available in the ordinary metal shops, like foreign demo tapes, T-shirts, and EP's in limited edition. But I'm only 21 years old/young, so there's a lot more stuff to find out before I die.

GLOVES: What are some great new or old bands you're listening to now?



LOBOTOMY 12/93: ETIENNE, LARS, PATRIK, MAX, AND DANIEL!

STRACHAL: DIO, SABBATH, CREAM, JEFF BECK GROUP, GENESIS (with Gabriel), ANTI-CIMEX, N.W.A., DEEP PURPLE, SINDROME, DEICIDE, MELVINS, CELTIC FROST, INSOMNIA, FISHBONE, PANTERA, MANOWAR, VOIVOD, BAD RELIGION, N.I.N., DISCHARGE, MARDUK, TROUBLE, CATHEDRAL, SLAYER, ALICE COOPER GROUP, KISS, DA LENCH MOB, THIN LIZZY, BOO-YAA-T.R.I.B.E., CROWBAR, BUTTHOLE SURFERS, PRONG, THE OBSESSED, TIAMAT, TYPE O NEGATIVE, LARD, STEPPENWOLF, BODY COUNT, IRON BUTTERFLY, FAITH NO MORE, RAINBOW (with Dio), THE STOOGES, TERRORIZER, BEATLES, THE WHO, MOTHERS OF INVENTION, NIRVANA, MISFITS, SUICIDAL TENDENCIES, MEAT PUPPETS, CLUTCH, MINISTRY, FLESHQUARTET, DREAM THEATER, and a whole lot more.

GLOVES: Is it true that you've been banned from purchasing alcohol in Stockholm, due to the amount of chaos you've caused?? (This is a joke question, Daniel!!)

STRACHAL: Maybe for one night at a special place, but not like "Ohh shit, here comes Strachal, hide the china!!" I have never caused any chaos (except when we play live), by the way I hate destroying things and I have never been the only one who go nuts. But lately I only drink beer 'cause I used to drink alot harder stuff before, but I don't wanna kill myself. And I've been drinking since I was 13 years old. The same goes for pot, I might smoke under festivals and stuff, but never regularly. By the way where did you hear that? (It was Ragne Wahlquist from HEAVY LOAD...just kidding bro! -STEVO) I'm known to be pretty soft and horny when I'm drunk, but I'm not a fuckin hoologan. If so I must have been pretty thrashed.

GLOVES: You took a trip to England a while back, what was it like?
STRACHAL: It was fun, but I was kinda disappointed 'cause all the cool shows with bands like CATHEDRAL and FISHBONE were there the week before we got there. And it wasn't so cheap as I thought, when I was there the last time. But I had some fun with women and liquid. I was the only long-haired guy, so I was the most different looking from me other buds, guess whose got most skin to grind?

GLOVES: What's your opinion of American music?

STRACHAL: Just like everywhere, both good and bad bands and music. But yeah, Americans have it more easy to gain recognition and stuff. Mainly 'cause everything is focused on the states and of course, the language problem is nothing you have to think about. The Americans have made a great impact on every scene I guess. (But, Daniel...what about ABBA??? -STEVO again!)

GLOVES: Do you remember the very first time you heard the PLASMATICS? Where were you and what were you doing?

STRACHAL: Yeah I was watching TV, a hard rock program back in '81 I think. And there was a reportage about this scary band from the states called THE PLASMATICS, I remembber that Wendy O. Williams was covered in shave-foam and had rubber nails on her nipples. She was playing around with a chainsaw and grinded a whole car with that saw. I was kinda embarrassed 'cause I was watching the show together with my mom. I only bought two albums "Beyond the Valley of 1984" and "New Hope For the Wretched"...I never got into it that much though, I was looking after those records some days ago, but I couldn't find them, maybe I sold them, I don't remember. But I would like to hear them now, because I can't put my hand on it, except for Wendy's raw vocals.

GLOVES: Well, my friend, we've seen a lot in the underground in the last few years...what do you think is around the corner?

STRACHAL: I hope the scene tries out more different stuff, like Death-Rap, Classic-Heavy Metal with samples, or Grind-Grunge...hey, didn't RIGHTEOUS PIGS sound like grunge-grind? Ha ha!! At least I hope the support comes back, and all those fake fuckers who are only into it 'cause of the free stuff dies. I hope we can see new interesting magazines, new interesting labels and of course, new interesting bands with no limits!

GLOVES: Has anyone ever told you that you bear a resemblance to Lips from ANVIL? Do you like ANVIL??

STRACHAL: Ha ha ha, I thought he was awesome whhen I was a kid. I had this poster with Lips in a shower naked with only a guitar and a vibrator. Cool as hell!! Let's pound some metal!!! I have the albums they did in the 80's. And yeah, I've heard the Lips resemblance before. When I was 15 my friends thought I looked like young Ozzy. And about two weeks ago a girl came up to me and my drinking friends and said Ilooked like Cliff Burton, guess I have it eazy to look like a musician! By the way...I nailed her!!

GLOVES: Thanks for your time, brother!! Any final comments?!!

STRACHAL: Rule, Metal-bro!! Thanx for a good time, even though I have a hangover, I made it pretty good I think. Write us, we never rip off!! Order our new 7" EP "Hymn" (with full-coloured cover, etc.) It costs \$6 US from this address: RISING REALM RECORDS, P.O. BOX 16, 01661 VANTAA, FINLAND...Hail Heavy Metal, pound for pound!! Support the Gloves of Metal!!! See ya soon brother Stevo, and Good Luck!

Hail to thee brother Daniel, and the greatest of luck to you and your new brothers in LOBOTOMY!! All you readers, if you haven't been "Lobotomized," I suggest you do so immediately by writing to these brothers of brutality for info only at the following address...and please send them an I.R.C. to help with the postage!! And don't forget to order their EP, from the afore-mentioned address!!

LOBOTOMY
c/o Daniel Strachal
Silkeborgsgatan 14
S-164 43 Kista
SWEDEN

INSOMNIA

TIME WOUNDS ALL HEELS

Recorded Live 5/7/94

WRITE TO:

c/o STEVO, P.O.Box 3102
Bloomington, IL 61702-3102
USA

c/o Brett Fugate, P.O.Box 2630
East Peoria, IL 61611
USA

Heavy Doom Metal from INSOMNIA...
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AVAILABLE NOW!!!
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with new cover...only \$4 US / \$5 Worldwide

CHURCH OF MISERY "Sorrows of the Moon"
the first demo...still available! **\$5 EVERYWHERE!**
COMING SOON: **CHURCH OF MISERY**
"Minstrel of Mourning" CD! Write for more info!!



This tape and info reached my mailbox in quite good form, a very impressive package indeed...high-quality photo, quality duped cassette, and a professionally printed bio sheet; must have been quite a few deutschmarks poured into this effort!! At any rate...at a time when the U.S. death metal scene is getting ridiculously stagnant, leave it to our European brothers to continue to deliver us with incredible bands!! Not that the European death metal scene is lagging any less (well, okay...I'm not holding my breath!), but it's bands like PAVOR who emerge these days and keep my interest in this lost art of metal, even if only marginally so...Actually PAVOR seem to be no mere newcomers! They were founded in 1987 by guitarists Holger Seebens and Armin Rave...after several line-up changes, they finally found a truly sickened union in early 1992 with Michael Pelkowsky (drums), Claudius Schwartz (vocals...sporting a style I can now truly say is likened to only Teutonic death metal merchants), and Rainer Landfermann (bass, formerly guitarist in LOVEORN). They recorded their debut demo (no title to it!!) during the winter of 92/93 and it's just now seeing the light of day, or at least the steel of my mailbox...you really have to turn a deaf ear when you read so-called zines (and even bands themselves!) hailing this band or that band as being

an alleged original death metal band. As a network of true underground metalheads we must dissolve this insipid promotional talk; death metal is strictly derived from other forms of "alternative" music derived from others, it is useless and ridiculous for a band to call itself "original" when they all sound like those bands who came before them. Listening to PAVOR you can hear the wide influence of death metal styles that does not make PAVOR a very original band, but I've just said that such a band does not exist!! Therefore, PAVOR really do cater well to the tastes of those who prefer very heavy, brutal and delightfully recognizable death metal! No silly fusion here, it's all gut-puking, gut-wrenching, fucking ugly metal from start to finish--five tracks of truly heinous grinding death slaughter, over 28

minutes worth of high class production, packaging and terror!!! Really, any self-respecting death metal fan (and even some death metal fans w/ are...gasp...losing interest) with a few bucks spend, ought to do so by sending \$8 / 13 DM to:

FAVOR
c/o Rainer Landfermann
Oberwinter
Larchenweg 17
D 53424 Remagen
GERMANY

P.S. If you order two tapes, the cost is \$13 US / 13 DM!!

—SMD

PAVOR ↓



GRIEF

Here's a band that could seriously use a few couch sessions!! No, no, I'm only joking!! Really, Massachusetts' crust/doom/sludge/whatever maestros GRIEF represent a truly depressing and disturbing tableau of solemn, slow, and unbearably WINTER-ish hymns of utter desperation...in an era where "death/doom" bands literally crawl from the woodwork and leave their waste scattered all over your speakers, presenting a rather unpalatable style and musical approach to those ears who are accustomed more to the likes of SAINT VITUS and PENTAGRAM, it's true that GRIEF bring forth a much more acceptable style of "neanderthal doom," that is, doomish sounds more in the vein of MISERY, EYEHATEGOD, or even MELVINS at their most roughshod...this sub-genre is sadly represented or associated with the likes of WINTER, who are an interesting band, true, but their so-called concern and sincerity were nothing but a brilliant hoax at

best, which idealistically makes them "non-contenders" in the eyes of this misguided purist...GRIEF were officially formed December 30th, 1991, but they truly began in concept as early as 1986!! Formed by guitarist Terry Savastanos and drummer Pete Donovan, they merely set out to play the heaviest, slowest, mind-numbing music humanly possible, being totally unfettered by musical trends or restrictions...adding Randy Ordierno on bass, then Jay Stiles on guitar (who originally played bass!), and finally Jeff Jayward on vocals. Their first gig took place February 1992, one month later they recorded a 7" EP that disappeared quickly (got an extra copy...sell it to me!); in September of that year, they recorded the marvelous "Dismal" 12" and some more tracks which later ended up on a special ten-song CD...the music really isn't technical, but like I said, it brings to mind bands like SAINT VITUS who rely more on sheer heaviness and awesome riffs rather than tempo changes and nifty arrangement; in fact the almost complete lack of tempo or any sort of technical wizardry-type niftiness are half of what I

enjoy about GRIEF...the other half lies in their lyrical approach! The common slew of religious/gothic metaphor in the current brand of death/doom errata lays like a stale, wet noodle in comparison to the woeful misdeeds of GRIEF...in a confused nutshell, they paint a grim and totally nihilistic (well, almost) portrait of the most decadent of any song-writing subject; the poor, degraded and abused human psyche...as dark as some bands claim to be to sing about death and terror, the most terrifying darkness lies within the minds of those who live on the edge of their own fragile sanity...GRIEF present to us a landscape of spent humanity, a collage of hopelessness and fury, wrenched helplessly from those who can no longer feel pain, or no longer care about death or what lies beyond...hatred lies within us all, and whether our souls will endure is a task for others to dwell on, a look at our own purgatorial chasm is a draining and emotionally sour experience, and is much more akin to what I feel defines "dark"...for more info on their releases, and to see what's new with the band, drop them a line at:

GRIEVANCE RECORDS
21 Thomas Road
Lawrence, MA 01843
U.S.A.

—SMD

**WANT TO SEE YOUR AD IN
A FUTURE ISSUE OF
"GLOVES OF METAL"?
LET'S TRADE ADS...OKAY??**

MURDER BASKET

The legendary seminal death/grind cult band DISCIPLES OF HATE (who sadly only recorded one demo before disbanding in '91) featured sewer vomit vocalist supreme Rob D., who after the demise of DISCIPLES OF HATE, spent some time with another great (but not as great as D.O.H.) band known as NAILED. NAILED, despite personality problems in key members of the group, proved to be very brutal and original in some places, but Rob's voice of violence truly unlocked the twisted horror in their music. After his departure from NAILED (who will suffer in his absence), Rob's newest project MURDER BASKET (where he's now known as Richard Speck) continues the mutilation, and a great deal more admirably than NAILED...though I really liked their music, their attitude (save Rob) spoiled any ingenuity they could have possessed...with MURDER BASKET, the stage is set once again for a truly horrifying and bizarre descent into the lower depths of death/grind insanity...MURDER BASKET was formed in late August 1993 by Richard Speck (vox) and Richard Ramirez (guitar); their main objective was to play mostly crust-type stuff and maybe record a demo. Soon after the break-up of local band TORMENT they acquired the talents of John Wayne Gacy (guitar), Ted Bundy (bass), and David Berkowitz (drums). So, MURDER BASKET was complete, ready to annihilate the underground scene with what they call "Hate Metal," named so because of the lyrical content towards the beating and killing of women. MURDER BASKET have a 9 song demo out now entitled "It's What's For Dinner" recorded on an 8 track and professionally duped. They are currently working on new songs for their second demo "If It Moves...Fuck It!" due out in the new year. The only merchandise available thus far is the demo and stickers. Musical influences include G.G.ALLIN, MORTICIAN, MEAT SHITS, BLACK SABBATH, IMPETIGO, (OLD) CELTIC FROST, and all old true metal bands--no false ones!! I can tell you from this tape that MURDER BASKET are an incredibly heavy and extremely demented group of individuals...If you're absolutely bored of uni-tempo multi-riff laden boring style death metal, or if you're unimpressed by cheap gore gimmicks (ha ha) or stupid occult lyrics, the caliber of MURDER BASKET's hate metal mayhem is so incredibly over the top, you'll wonder why these guys aren't more well known, or at least you'll wonder how they got out of prison...to order the tapes, send \$4 worldwide (stickers are only \$1) to:

MURDER BASKET
c/o John Wayne Gacy
1708 14th Ave.
Moline, IL 61265

or
c/o Richard Speck
1506 28th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201
U.S.A.



This next band may not offer the same kind of intense brutality as your everyday run-of-the-mill death metal weenie band, but they certainly pack a punch when it comes to violence and force!! Make no mistake...AVATAR are no sissies!! This powerful thrash combo combines classic speed riffing and tempo changes with brutal force and delivery capable of stopping a speeding school bus dead! AVATAR was born in 1988, founded by Chad Millage, Stacy Richardson, and Bill Cooper. They concentrated on songwriting and self improvement of their playing styles. In the summer of 1989, AVATAR began playing their music live to anyone who would listen. After many lineup changes, in 1992 they caught the ear of local record company Stock Market Records, who signed them to a recording contract. Just prior to the recording of "With a Vengeance," Chris Alwes joined the band, adding a much needed outside influence to the final product. The moderate success of the album caused the band to rethink their direction, so the band scrapped all prior material and added bassist Mike Smith (formerly of DREADED INFECTION) to complete the new five-piece lineup. They then broke all ties with their record company and began anew.

Soon after this, the band made another line-up change, dumping vocalist Bill Cooper in favor of guitarist Stacy Richardson's vocal abilities. After a year of writing and playing locally, the band entered an eight track studio to record the latest demo, which has only been out a couple of months but has garnered much respect for this enthusiastic quartet. Even for the most skeptical of music tastes, if you like heavy shit, give AVATAR a try. For more info on the band and the demo, drop it a line...

AVATAR
c/o Mike Smith
3485 Monarch Dr.
Decatur, IL 62526
U.S.A.

P.S. Ask him about his underground mag, DREADED Zine!!!

-SMD

AVATAR



-SMD

INTO THE VAULT

Join us now brothers and sisters, as we gaze into the ancient vault of 'GLOVES OF METAL'!! Feel the mouldy cobwebs, smell the dust of ages, the perfume of time long past, when molten vinyl ruled the land and no man or beast was safe from the assault of truly righteous metal force and fury!! Join us now as we take a look at some of the best of the past...

TYRANT'S REIGN "Reign of the Tyrant" 87 EP

It's true that the old glory days of metal are past us now, but once upon a time it was not so!! It was during these days that fierce, uncontrolled metal bands like TYRANT'S REIGN did exist!! The Chicago scene produced many killer acts, indeed way too many to list at once, but seldom does the name of TYRANT'S REIGN echo within the halls of underground reknown!! It's a sad thing too, because this band is true killer metal at it's fiercest!! This rare and obscure platter opens up with the awesome and devastating track "Tyrant's Reign", perhaps the best tune on the entire EP!! It's a one-hundred percent steel clad power metal assault from start to finish on this record, the extreme and powerful vocals by totally shatter the eardrums of unsuspecting listeners!! I'd say the influence of mighty European metal masters like ACCEPT, IRON MAIDEN, etc. crossed rather violently with a lethal dose of mid-80's power thrash demetia is quite evident, yet their fine-crafted headbanging mania has a charge and flavor all it's own, with searing guitar work and fantastic production all the way!! If you can find it, this EP is a definite must in any banger's collection, and for sure an EP to be played abso-fucking-lutely full friggin' blast!!

SALEM'S LAW "Tale of Goblin's Breed" 89 LP

1989 really wasn't that long ago, but this album is such a relic of sorts, I felt that it must be included here! This practically unknown Danish band certainly didn't make many waves when this record was released, and it's certain they won't make any after this review is written...but, know well that there are those of us who appreciate these rare jewels of heavy music, and SALEM'S LAW are absolutely a wealthy resource of classic, yet truly bizarre and obscure metal. The opening track "Prayer" is an odd spoken-word and ambient thunderstorm sound effect laden intro that segues into the epic power/doom anthem "Thunder of the Gods"...while ploddingly melodic and briskly tempoed fury, the strange vocals and arrangement can easily leave most metal fans uneasy! The singer is very hard to describe, it's almost a forced-operatic-baritone...like King Diamond himself after 20 lessons with Beverly Sills, and then played at 33 speed instead of 45!! Really, as strange as it sounds, I can think of no other way to describe this odd yet marvelous voice!! His operatic interpretation hides behind absolutely no falsetto whatsoever, the range is really his, and he uses it in a most peculiar way! Indeed, it's a voice that has to be heard to be believed!! The next track is the killer "Circle of Times," a faster track with wierd Euro-metal riff changes all over the place! The next song, "Misanthrope," is easily my favorite on the record, probably one of my all-time fave songs period!!! The tune starts out with a chillingly beautiful doom/ballad section, soft chords echo in a chamber of ambient sound and atmosphere...then the singer cuts in, with the most morose warbling I've ever heard!! Then, everything develops into a crescendo and full verse...a wierd mellow doom part for sure!! Then...pow!! The coolest power/doom riff ever!! Unbelievable...this part turns into the most killer power anthem

refrain...auugghh!! This track is just 100% breathless shit!! "Dream of Love" is again, a really creepy love-ballad kind of tune, but it's total power/doom shit, and I fucking love it!! It sits high on the roster of the all-time faves (and all-time wierdos) within the catacombs of the vault itself...this LP really is a stand out in any self-respecting metal head's collection, if the kind of shit you like is DECIDE, you will completely hate this, and perhaps by some strike of decent luck, you'll BURN ALIVE WHEN YOU HEAR THIS!!! Seriously...hunt this one down folks, my words cannot bring it justice!!

DARK AGE 84 Mini-LP

Wow!! Another boss find amongst the racks of obscure metal!! California's unrecognized kings of heavy power doom metal, DARK AGE, put this seldom-heard minor masterpiece on Greenworld records in 84, a mere two or three years before Greenworld collapsed amidst bankruptcy and controversy...it's a sad thing indeed, but I really don't know much about this band and what ever happened to them, save for the fact that in their probably brief and uneventful history, they left their legacy of heaviness and originality within this mighty Mini-LP!! True metal rave-ups like "Metal Axe," "Rock Revelation," and "Warrior" have a familiar sing-along sound to them, yet their raw energy and a-typical sound make these tired and worn formula song structures bristle with life and danger, in very much the same way that MOTORHEAD intimidates anyone they play with, because they are that fucking intense!! Throughout the album, they make awesome use of dual lead guitar riffs, the kind that bands like PARADISE LOST are now making a living off of! The true gem on this platter exists in "Tales of Medusa," which begins as a very 70's rock/doom epic ballad, and matures into a heavy doom rocker of unquestionable power and might!! DARK AGE, where are you now, when the stores are filled with trash and true metal might like yours flows coldly and secretly within the blood of those who really can appreciate this great music? I long for the day when the truth about this band is known to me, for now I wear their vinyl offering to the Gods of metal as a shield!! This is true gothic-epic-doom metal at it's finest and proudest!!!! The cassette version has a bonus track "Dark Age," so look for it also!!

SADWINGS "Lonely Hero" 85 LP

Sweden has produced many a fine metal band since even the sixties, and Ebony Records (based in the UK) has produced many a killer metal record since the early 80's, until 86 or 87! One of their finest moments shines through in this (again) relatively unknown sensation called SADWINGS...the first time I heard their "theme" track "Sad Wings," I almost freaked out!! It's so fucking european, and ever so DOOOOOOOOM!!!!!! Although the LP opens with the commercial-flavored rocker "Love in the Third Degree," the track itself isn't bad...even if it were, the rest of the album certainly doesn't suffer from its presence here! SADWINGS turn out to be a very heavy, talented, and hella-killer epic doom metal band, with lots of tasteful strains of power metal thrown in for reckless

abandon!! A great soundtrack of awesome euro-metal, and even more a blessed example of what european heavy doom music (the same mold that produced such talent as CANDLEMASS, MERCY, SORCEROR, etc.) is made of! Whilst the aforementioned bands really got more exposure than SADWINGS, it's a fact that while SADWINGS may not be as legendary (especially when we're talking CANDLEMASS here!!) they really deserve a mention of honour here!! The only criticism I have, is the drum sound...this fellow is a great drummer, but those stupid electronic tom-toms really bug me!! But, don't let that spoil your fun! Check out this LP, and you be the judge!! I say it's great!!!!

BORTILÉGE 83 Mini-LP

True fans of heavy power metal unite!! This brief but lethal combination of raw riffs, force-crushing beats and awesome vocal melodies is truly searing to the ears!! Making its debut on the Rave-On Records label (who in the previous year released the first-ever vinyl offering from MERCYFUL FATE), this classic slab of metal is a must for all true lovers of heavy metal!!

International music lovers will also be thrilled by the fact that all the lyrics are in French! Side A is the strongest, with the killer "Progeniture" being my favourite track!! Side B doesn't lack in sheer power either, but with only two tracks instead of the three Side A offers. Overall, this is a great record with a great feel for true heavy metal. A solid recommendation!!!

MANIAC 85 LP

Here's another intense classic that may be collecting cobwebs on your local budget vinyl rack, even as we speak!!

MANIAC hail from Austria, and upon first listen you'll hear their Teutonic origin straight off!! Boasting a killer German power metal sound, this mighty 8-song LP begins with a solemn and mysterious synth intro, which launches right into the opening rocker, "You Don't Know It"...immediately, your balls are completely removed and you're shoved against the wall with this intense metal!! What a killer sound!! The drums go straight through your brain, and the amazing solos leave you mad with sheer energy!! The style isn't totally original, but if you love this sound (and you know I do), then this album will rest well in your collection. "Dressed to Kill," "Ride On," "Stage Free," and the majestic rebellious anthem "We Swear at You" are set amongst the stand-out tracks on this LP!! Fans of CUTTY SARK, OZ, and ACCEPT, beware!! This record will rip you apart!!

SILVER MOUNTAIN "Shakin' Brains" 83 LP

Sweden didn't just start giving us righteous metal in the late 80's when the Swedish Death Metal craze began!! In fact, since the seventies, Sweden's brought quite a plethora of heavy and interesting bands...SILVER MOUNTAIN rank amongst Sweden's true finest, all bullshit aside they always will stand as one of the best and one of the sadly forgotten. SILVER MOUNTAIN, of course, achieved early recognition in Europe and beyond thanks to their original guitar player, one Yngwie J. Malmsteen by name!! A definitive source of recordings by this

lineup (besides a few early demos) is unknown to me, but everyone knows, Yngwie left the band in 1982 to join L.A. STEELER (with Ron Keel and Mark Edwards) and subsequently left that band in 1983 to join Graham Bonnet's supergroup ALCATRAZZ. Yngwie stayed with ALCATRAZZ for a few LPs before embarking on his highly successful solo career, but after he left SILVER MOUNTAIN they lost their rising star. This doesn't mean that SILVER MOUNTAIN lost any of their talent when Yngwie split; what it means is that Yngwie's departure created a loss in the band's promotional department. Gone was the band's young guitar hero, their sole ticket out of Sweden and into the wild wonderful early 1980's Camelot of Heavy Metal music worldwide. Yngwie found his ticket with STEELER, and that following year SILVER MOUNTAIN produced their only hope, the remarkable "Shakin' Brains" LP. Licensed to Metal Blade in the U.S., the band, their management and most of the record biz people involved thought they had a winner; at least it sounded like it!! "Shakin' Brains" is easily recognized as one of the best metal LPs of the early 80's; a truly heavy and innovative combination of the class and fury of DEEP PURPLE in their



heyday (and heck, a taste of early RAINBOW as well!) with the style and raw energy exhibited by that era's legends IRO MAIDEN. It can be said that SILVER MOUNTAIN really sounded more like old DEEP PURPLE than the re-formed DEEP PURPLE a few years later sounded...whether this is true or false is of no matter, for all intents and purposes "Shakin' Brains" is truly a classic killer platter!! Albeit hard to find, the LP from start to finish is an awesome explosion of great vocal work, amazing guitars (I would have been very

interested to hear Yngwie play some of this stuff!!), and unforgettable keyboard performances...Sadly, this album did little for SILVER MOUNTAIN, it's been said they recorded another LP before splitting up in 1985, but if this LP ever saw the light of day is unknown. It should be noted that as the band split up, most of its essential personnel in actuality became RISING FORCE. Yngwie's band throughout his solo career!! At all costs, "Shakin' Brains" is a winner throughout, and any fan of early 80's metal or 70's prototype rock/metal should really attempt to find this album.

-Stereo

NEXT ISSUE IN THE VAULT: LP's by THOR, LEE AARON, VANADIUM ACID, WITCHFYNDE, and RAW ENERGY!!!!

SINDROME

Here is a band that has really been a vital part of the underground for many years indeed!! In one way or another, Chicago's SINDROME have been a great influence upon several important bands (the most noted, I think, to be HELLBASTARD!) and upon the scene in general! Their sound, and self-marketing techniques (perhaps the first pro-copied demo tape ever!!) both lie behind a fierce and very independent aggressiveness so strong, one wonders why a major label hasn't snatched them up in the same wave as they have other, less impressive bands...This interview was done quite a while ago, but most of the information is still accurate and on the mark...I asked lead vocalist Troy Dixler to discuss with me, the past, present, and future of SINDROME!!

GLOVES: Okay, to be generic...Give us an update! What took so long between "Into the Halls of Extermination" and "Vault of Inner Conscience"?

DIXLER: Rather than give a thousand excuses why it took so long between both releases, I'd much rather say that between the lineup changes, progression of writing style and purely working out all of the loose ends really took the majority of the time. With SINDROME we try and finish everything we start with the highest level of professionalism. A lot of times it takes longer than if we were to mindlessly write songs and release them. It wasn't so much one thing or another that took so long, it was more or less a combination of everything. I think that we've kinda tried to adapt the quality ideas into everything from writing and attitude all the way to merchandise and live shows. We've taken a long time putting SINDROME into the underground, but I think that once we get out through Europe, etc...the hard work will show off when it comes time to see SINDROME play out live.

GLOVES: What is the current SINDROME lineup?

DIXLER: Troy Dixler (vox), Shaun Glass (bass), Mick Vega (guitar), Ken Savich (guitar), and Tony Ochoa (drums).

GLOVES: Tell us a little bit about the concept behind "Vault of Inner Conscience"?

DIXLER: In my eyes there are two types of people that listen to music. There are the ones that listen to the musicianship overall and grade on that scale. Then there are the others that really want to look into the lyrics and see what type of message is being said to support that music. When I was writing the lyrics for "Vault" I wanted to put together a concept that would challenge the mind of the reader. Basically it's about someone who is having constantly re-occurring dreams of the future. At first he tries to dismiss them, but they keep returning. Instead of fighting off the dreams, he sort of drifts with them and realizes that he is being channeled by a spirit. The spirit communicates that he has been chosen to see visions of prophecies. He separates his soul from his body and sees the coming of the Antichrist, disease, and starvation that is coming to the future of the world. He then feels that it is his destiny to change the course of our predetermined future by spreading the foresight he knows. Everyone dismisses him as a reborn again Christian and he realizes that he is alone with these visions and finally separates his soul from his body so that he may live immune to the impact that is soon to face the world.

GLOVES: I know that it matters not to you anymore, but tell us a little about the old days when you were the killer-

vocalist for Chicago's DEVASTATION!! Were you an original member?

DIXLER: I'm not sure what you want me to tell. Yes, I was an original member from the beginning. When we were writing music back then, I believed in us right from the start. I would never look at my past and be anything but respectful. Whatever people want to say about DEVASTATION, SINDROME, or me as a person in a positive way is well appreciated.

GLOVES: Have you heard the ENTOMBED LP "Clandestine"? The vocals are obviously very SINDROME influenced!! Care to comment on that? Must be a bit flattering??

DIXLER: I think that it's great compliment that other bands are calling me influential with today's death metal scene. I know a lot of people that probably would use that to make their current bands look better. All I can do is sing with as much conviction as possible and if people want to look at me with that much respect, it only helps me believe in myself and my music that much more.

GLOVES: Why did you leave DEVASTATION? Did the departure leave you at odds with the other members?

DIXLER: After playing with DEVASTATION for a long time, there were a few tensions between members not to mention that there was a difference with what direction we were going to head with future material. For me personally, I was obviously headed in the direction of where SINDROME has gone and other members of DEVASTATION went towards bands that were in the alternative/punk sound. For me, I've always liked alternative music, but it wasn't where I was going with my singing style. I have respect for all of the members that were in DEVASTATION and we all get along as people today.

GLOVES: Erv Brautigam played guitar for DEVASTATION and even SINDROME for a while...why and how did he part ways with SINDROME?

DIXLER: Like I was talking about above, some of the members were going into the alternative sound, and Erv liked where SINDROME was going at the time. It just worked out that he and I were together again. We did two tours with Erv in SINDROME, and DEVASTATION basically broke up after Erv left.

GLOVES: Erv used to be an amazing guitarist...now I hear he's totally flaked out! What's the scoop?

DIXLER: Erv was pretty young when he was with DEVASTATION, and he was still looking for his direction

musically. When he was with SINDROME he was into a heavier sound, liked to play leads all the time, and hated commercial music for the most part. Towards the later stages, he kinda turned around to be the exact opposite. So after we split with him, he got into an all girl project (him being the only guy), and went with that for a while. Lately he's into the POISON commercial style of music. I guess all people find their way eventually. Erv was just young at the time he was with SINDROME and DEVASTATION.

GLOVES: I was curious about SINDROME's lineup changes. Why did you part ways with some of your ex-guitar players?

DIXLER: Since the release of "Halls..." we had a number of guitar players come through SINDROME. It gets difficult to find members that we feel have the dedication. I'm sure that there are a lot of bands that can relate to going through lineup changes. Practically every band has to find their own identity and that requires a lot of work. Whenever we would bring someone into the band things would work out great in the beginning. You never know who is gonna deviate for one particular reason or another, but all you can do is watch them stand the test of time. With a few of our past guitar players each one had a particular reason why they didn't work out. Each one of them worked their hardest to contribute to SINDROME, but in the end our views were different and resulted in them leaving. Instead of going into depth about why each member had to leave, I'd rather talk more about the positive parts they left with us and the current members in SINDROME. None of us are the type to talk negatively about ex-members of SINDROME.

GLOVES: Tell us about your current guitar players Mick Vega and Ken Savich...how did you meet them?

DIXLER: Mick was a local musician in the Chicago area. When we were holding auditions a few years ago he came down and gave his all. He just seemed to have a lot more conviction than most everyone preceding him. He also had a very serious attitude and everything seemed to work together. Ken was an entirely different story. We were out visiting Craig from FORBIDDEN (long time close friend), and knew we were coming into another lineup change. His roommate was Ken and we slowly started talking to him. Not only did we get along as people real well, but his musical background and future directions were in perfect alignment with where SINDROME was going. He relocated to Chicago and basically started a whole new life with us.

GLOVES: Going waaaayyyy back, what is "Into the Halls..." about lyrically?

DIXLER: "Halls" was based on World War II and the massive genocide committed in that era of history. I try and describe what I interpret the entire war to be about from my eyes. I guess the entire Nazi thing has always gone over my head. I'm completely in a different world from people that preach hate for their main goal in life. Obviously the idea of trying to eliminate a particular race of people just because of their religion alone is completely a concept that I'll never understand. There are criminals in every race and religion and they should be punished for what they've done, not for who they are.

GLOVES: Why did you decide to re-master and re-issue "Halls"?

DIXLER: We'll always be proud of "Halls" and what it has done for us. It's built us a diabolical following that any band would be happy with. We decided to re-master it because we felt that there were a lot of things in the mix that had gotten buried at the time. We also wanted to keep our first release available and give it the best sound possible. "Halls" was a great tape for the time it was released, of course it is not what SINDROME is about nowadays but it is still SINDROME. I'm sure as we develop new fans they will want to research our past as well. As long as we are around so should all of the music we record.

GLOVES: I heard that "Vault" was originally supposed to be a promo-only tape to help you get a record deal...if so, why did you decide to release it?

DIXLER: I'm not sure where you heard that, but that was never the case. We wanted to come back with a tape that would show everyone that we were coming from a different side to music. "Halls" was professionally done back in '87 and we wanted to release "Vault" with even more professionalism and better music than before. Yes, we are going to be shopping "Vault" to the labels, but I'm sure that the labels will want to hear our newest music as well. Any material we put together between "Vault" and the album will never be pre-released except in our live shows in 93.

GLOVES: How is the Chicago scene? How does it feel to be an early, vital part of the Chicago scene??

DIXLER: The Chicago scene has come a long way since we were first together. Almost every national death/thrash metal band that has come through on a major tour has either sold out or come pretty close to it. Our local scene has also come a long way. I'm sure that people in the underground are familiar with a lot of the bands. In every local scene there are the bands that are good and the others that are jumping on the trends. As for us opening doors and leading the Chicago scene, I really don't have an ego enough to put us on a high pedestal. If other people or bands want to say that for us...we'll take it.

GLOVES: I heard RoadRacer records made you an offer? Of course you turned it down. What kind of record deal are you seeking and have you had many offers?

DIXLER: Back in 1987 we had a number of labels that were writing to us. The main reason for holding out to signing with a particular company back then was more or less SINDROME finding where we were going. Any company that would have signed us for the material we were writing on "Halls" would have had a surprise when the material for "Vault" was released. I think more than anything it was us putting everything together for the bigger picture. I've seen too many bands come up, sign with an independent label, tour a few times, and fall right into the mold of the thousands of other bands on the circuit. We just have been building a much different idea for SINDROME. It's taken a while with all of the bullshit we've gone through, but I'm confident that we will finish negotiating by the end of 93. The sooner we can put a full length album out where everyone can buy it in stores is the sooner we get out and tour to make up for the people that have been patiently waiting for us since 87.

GLOVES: The new material is a little different than the old stuff...how would you describe the difference?

DIXLER: When "Halls" was written we were thinking in one particular way. I think the riffing is a lot more basic, mid paced and basically more primitive. With "Vault" we got a lot more aggressive and progressive with the riffing and it's a lot more of a frontal attack sound. Not to mention the production is way cleaner, etc... One thing is for sure, we are happy with both releases. We were thinking one way with "Halls" and another with "Vault." I think that for a band to go into a studio and consistently put out the same album with a different name year after year shows a band's lack of creativity. We are not looking to record a second "Vault," but on the other hand we are extremely happy with the "Vault" too.

GLOVES: Are you still playing any of the "Halls" songs live?

DIXLER: Yeah, we still play some of the songs from "Halls." We figure that a lot of people locally and internationally who really liked it never got to hear those songs live. We're not ones to turn our backs on the people that have supported us from the beginning, and we're not ashamed of the songs either. Now there is a difference though, we have re-done the songs with a lot more today's sound. Believe it or not we made them heavier and darker than

they were 3 years ago. I'm sure that when we tour through Europe everyone will hear the classic songs from "Halls" live.

GLOVES: Speaking of playing...SINDROME rarely plays live! How come?

DIXLER: To be honest with you, SINDROME hasn't played out often in the last few years. Back when "Halls" was released we went out on two tours to support it. Now we look at playing live in a much different light. Firstly, SINDROME isn't signed to a label currently and we have an extremely large live production. If we were to haul everything out onto a tour, and consistently turn audiences on to us, our main intention is to increase album sales. You see, if a kid comes out to the show and wants to tell his friends about us, he won't be able to pick up our material in a store right now. More importantly than playing live is finishing up the negotiations for an album contract. After we release a full length album of have both of our EPs released worldwide and getting full promotion, you can bet you'll be seeing SINDROME live quite a lot not to mention our live shows on a lot of audio/video tape trading lists.

GLOVES: What are some of your influences in SINDROME? Any cool bands you've been listening to lately?

DIXLER: In all honesty there wasn't one particular band that got me to start playing music or singing for that matter. Of course, we all grew up on all of the classic metal bands in the 70's and early 80's. Rather than going into a list of early rock bands like almost every band would do right about now, I'd rather talk about the bands I respect nowadays. All of us listen to a wide variety of music. We respect all styles that are put together with well thought out music. I've been currently listening to PETER GABRIEL, YES, NINE INCH NAILS, and JELLYFISH quite a bit.

GLOVES: Heard a good joke recently?

DIXLER: Hmmmm, how about...what's red and goes pop? A baby in a microwave...yeah, it's old but quick and classic!!

GLOVES: What's in the future for SINDROME?

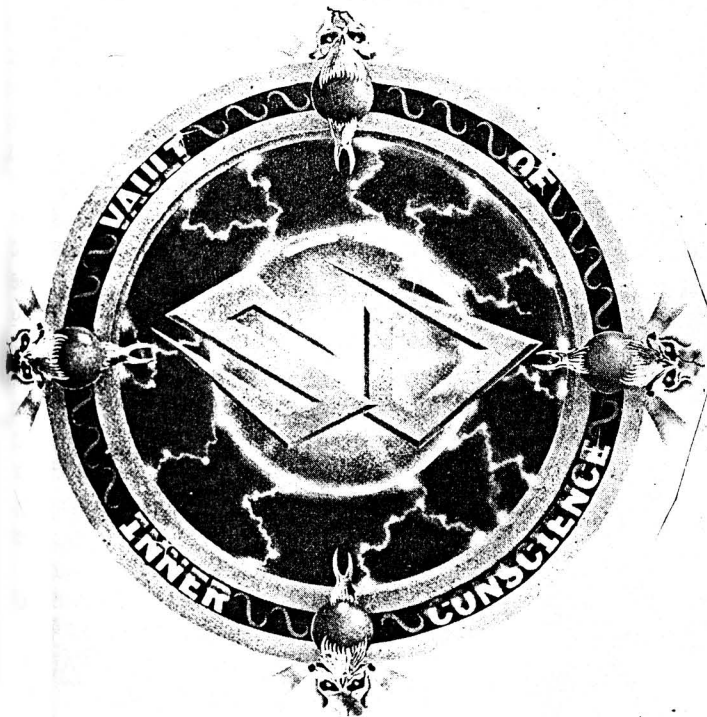
DIXLER: Right now we are trying to promote "Vault" as much as possible. We're looking for as many magazines, radio stations, etc...to put SINDROME out there. More importantly, we just want to maintain building up our diehard following so when we do get out to Europe we will have the strong support we need. In the next few months we'll be dealing with all of the politics of record companies and showcasing, etc...

GLOVES: Tell us about the merchandise you have available and any last comments to our readers?

DIXLER: Thanks a lot to Steve and "Gloves of Metal" magazine for featuring SINDROME, and we have a lot of merchandise that we have offered through Midwest Management Exchange. Rather than going in depth with each of the designs, just write to the address below and we'll send out our list. It was done in full color so you can see exactly what each of the designs look like. Both "Halls" and "Vault" are each available for \$6 + \$1.50 for US, and \$2.50 Foreign postage. Also "Halls" was re-mastered at Morrisound with a new layout, pictures, etc (It sounds way better)...

There you have it, a killer interview with one of the greatest and most sincere bands of the underground, I want to thank Troy for taking time out to do this, and offer my sincere apologies for the extreme delay!!! If you've never checked out any of their tapes, do yourself an immense favor and check them out right away!! Write now, their catalog is extremely cool, and they've got lots to offer in the merchandise department!! The address is:

**MIDWEST MANAGEMENT
EXCHANGE
P.O.Box 2112
Highland Park, IL 60035-8112
U.S.A.**



SINDROME c.1987...

**CHRIS MITTELBRUN, TONY OCHOA, TROY DIXLER,
SHAWN GLASS, AND... ERV BRAUTIGAM!**

STOP THE PRESSES!!! As we're getting ready to print this, the sad news has reached us that SINDROME have broken up for good!!! A special report will appear in the next issue!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Mercyful Fate



Discography and History
Written and Compiled by Warren Slocum

MERCYFUL FATE, one of the most influential bands of all time, came forth from the ashes of a Danish heavy rock band called BRATS. The original lineup of this band included guitarists Hank Shermann and Michael Denner (the latter a self-proclaimed die hard Michael Schenker fan and follower). BRATS had a track called "Pair Punk" featured on a 1979 compilation LP, and subsequently in 1980 released

their debut LP "1980 BRATS" on CBS (Holland) Records. This LP featured a raw sound tinged with punk and metal. Eight tracks had the metal feel, while three leaned more towards the hardcore/punk side...one song was a Russian folk song sung in Russian by Michael Denner

himself. The LP did very well in Europe, but a changing musical world led to the band being dropped by their label...if this had never happened, MERCYFUL FATE may have never formed. BRATS at that time split up, Denner joining bass player Tim Hansen in another heavy rock combo called DANGER ZONE, whilst Shermann hooked up with ex-BLACK ROSE vocalist/guitarist Kim Peterson to form a new band. DANGER ZONE, although only half a band (finding members was difficult for Denner and Hansen), managed to write enough material to record a demo in 1981, but needed the help of old pal Hank Shermann to sit in on second guitar. Shermann brought with him to the sessions Peterson who, influenced by a strange dream in which references to the playing card "King of Diamonds" abounded, became known as the infamous King Diamond...and, MERCYFUL FATE was born.

BLACK ROSE, featuring Kim Peterson's vocals as well as guitar, had a definitive Alice Cooper influence, an early trademark of theatrical rock upon which Peterson would rely heavily in later days. BRATS released one demo before their split in 1981,

which along with the DANGER ZONE demo would make up the bulk of MERCYFUL FATE's earliest material. Late 1981 (a very busy year for these fellows) found the recording and release of the very first MERCYFUL FATE demo material, and soon after the release of these classic recordings Ebony Records in England contacted the band to record some material for their then-popular series of

compilation records. In Ebony studios, MERCYFUL FATE recorded "Black Funeral" (featured on "Metallic Storm") and "Walking Back to Hell" (aka "Death Kiss," "A Dangerous Meeting"), the latter song was never used by Ebony.

A series of brief

lineup difficulties, namely the swift arrival of Kim Ruzz in late 1981, his departure immediately before the Ebony sessions, and his return soon after those sessions, didn't slow the Demonic Danes down any. By mid-1982, most of MERCYFUL FATE's material had been transformed lyrically to reflect the rejuvenation of King Diamond's bizarre occult beliefs. September 1982 found MERCYFUL FATE recording their infamous self-titled debut EP on Rave-On Records (dubbed by fans as "Nuns Have No Fun"). The swift success of this release brought upon an invitation from the BBC for MERCYFUL FATE to record a session for their popular Friday Rockshow program on March 19, 1983, an event which would put MERCYFUL FATE over the top in Europe, and which subsequently led to their successful deal with Roadrunner Records.

Their masterpiece debut LP "Melissa" was recorded July 19-27 1983, and this LP really put MERCYFUL FATE on the international metal map. The remainder of the year was spent touring all over Europe, generating a mighty response in nearly every venue they appeared. The LP was licensed successfully in the USA by Megaforce Records, which led to an American visit



MERCYFUL FATE - 1981... DENNER, HANSEN, THE KING, SHERMANN, AND B. PETERSON !!!



in 1984. August of that year found the band in the studio working on their follow-up LP (original working title "Don't Break It"), the legendary "Don't Break the Oath," which many MERCYFUL FATE fans consider their greatest and most innovative LP. A personality change in some members of the band (for the most part, Hank Shermann) led to the departure of King Diamond, Michael Denner, and Timi Hansen in early 1985, leaving Shermann and Ruzz (who quit the band a short time later) to carry on with the band, now called FATE. FATE recorded a couple commercial pop/metal LPs, and eventually kicked out founding member Shermann before splitting up around 1989. Meanwhile, King Diamond gathered

Denner and Hansen, and Swedish metallians Andy LaRocque and Mikkey Dee to form his own band, KING DIAMOND. King enjoyed quite a marvelous career and put out several fantastic LPs, proving to most that his contribution to MERCYFUL FATE was strong, and greatfully carried on in his solo work.



Years later, in 1992, King Diamond found himself working again with Shermann and Denner (who left the King Diamond band in 1986) on a project, when it was decided to reform the band with the three and bass player Timi

Hansen (Kim Ruzz showed no interest in joining MERCYFUL FATE again). The end result was the tremendously successful comeback LP "In the Shadows" recorded and released in 1993.

MERCYFUL FATE 1980-1993

A Selected Discography

BRATS "1980 BRATS" LP

BRATS 1981 demo

DANGER ZONE 1981 demo

(the last two have been incorrectly catalogued as
MERCYFUL FATE demos in some cases)

MERCYFUL FATE 1981 demo #1

MERCYFUL FATE 1981 demo #2

MERCYFUL FATE 1982 Ebony demo

MERCYFUL FATE "Black Funeral" track on "Metallic Storm" 1982 Ebony Records compilation LP

MERCYFUL FATE 3/19/83 BBC Friday Rockshow Session

MERCYFUL FATE 1982 Rave-On Records EP

MERCYFUL FATE "Black Masses" 1983 12"

MERCYFUL FATE "Melissa" 1983 LP

MERCYFUL FATE "Don't Break the Oath" 1984 LP

MERCYFUL FATE "In The Shadows" 1993 LP

Selected Bootleg Releases:

"Curse of the Pharaohs" (BRATS, DANGER ZONE, and MERCYFUL FATE demo tracks)

"Live From the Depths of Hell" (1982+1983 Live tracks)

"Live"

"Fata Morgana"

"Black Message"

"Return of the Living Dead"

(the latter four consist of live material
from various dates and sources)



Special Announcement!

M.F.'s 2nd Single ever—
"The Bell Witch" c/w 2
live tracks!!!!

100 Great Metal LP's of 1984

Why LP's, You Ask? Cause There Were No Fucking CD's!!!

The following comprises an exhaustive, but by no means complete list of the most killer releases of 1984! Since this happens to be the tenth anniversary of the greatest year for vinyl, the "Gloves of Metal" staff have decided on 100 LPs, of which only the first 10 are in any order!! Follow along and see how many of these milestones and metal classics are in your record collection!!! If you don't see anything you know came out in 84 and deserves to be on this list, send it along to us and this list will continue to grow as the mag goes on...this is in no way meant to be an authoritative or critical list, it's only a brief and nostalgic reference point for those of us constantly searching for more information on the best and most obscure releases in metal history!! ENJOY!!

1. **TROUBLE** "Trouble" (Metal Blade)
2. **JAG PANZER** "Ample Destruction" (Iron Works)
3. **MANOWAR** "Hail to England" (Music For Nations)
MANOWAR "Sign of the Hammer" (10 Records)
(tie!!!)
4. **HELSTAR** "Burning Star" (Combat)
5. **SACRED FEW** "Beyond the Iron Walls" (Skull)
6. **SAINT VITUS** "Saint Vitus" (SST)
7. **STYGIAN SHORE** "Stygian Shore" EP (Roadster)
8. **MERCYFUL FATE** "Don't Break the Oath" (Combat/Roadrunner)
9. **CUTTY SARK** "Die Tonight" (Mausoleum)
10. **PAUL CHAIN** "Detaching From Satan" (Minotauro)

11. **CHATEAUX** "Fire Power" (Ebony)
12. **PANTERA** "Projects in the Jungle" (Metal Magic)
13. **METALLICA** "Ride the Lightning"
(Megaforce/Elektra)
14. **BROCAS HELM** "Into Battle" (First Strike)
15. **VENOM** "At War With Satan" (Neat)
16. **THOR** "Only the Strong" (Ultra-Noise UK)
17. **WITCHKILLER** "Day of the Saxons" EP (Metal Blade)
18. **CROSSFIRE** "See You in Hell" (Mausoleum)
19. **SLAYER** "Haunting the Chapel" (Metal Blade)
20. **THE RODS** "Live" (Combat)
21. **THE RODS** "Let Them Eat Metal" (Music For Nations)
22. **GRIM REAPER** "See You in Hell" (Ebony)
23. **ANTHRAX** "Fistful of Metal" (Megaforce)
24. **EXCITER** "Violence and Force" (Combat)
25. **LOUDNESS** "Disillusion" (Music For Nations)
26. **WARLOCK** "Burning the Witches" (Mausoleum)
27. **SPARTAN WARRIOR** "Steel and Chains"
(Roadrunner)



THE LEGENDARY PAUL CHAIN, c.1982!!

28. WARLORD "And the Cannons of Destruction Have Begun..." (Metal Blade)
 29. OSTROGOTH "Ecstasy and Danger" (Mausoleum)
 30. MANILLA ROAD "Crystal Logic" (Roadster)
 31. GRAVE DIGGER "Heavy Metal Breakdown" (Noise)
 32. SPINAL TAP "This is Spinal Tap" (Polygram)
 33. SPIDER "Rough Justice" (A&M)
 34. BENGAL TIGERS "Metal Fetish" (World Metal)
 35. VOW WOW "Beat of Metal Motion" (Roadrunner)
 36. SORTILEGE "Metamorphose" (Steamhammer)
 37. SHOK PARIS "Go For the Throat" (Auburn)
 38. MINDLESS SINNER "Mindless Sinner" (Mausoleum)
 39. Q5 "Steel the Light" (Music For Nations)
 40. WARFARE "Pure Filth" (Neat)
 41. WITCH CROSS "Fit For Fight" (Roadrunner)
 42. GRAVESTONE "Victim of Chains" (Scratch)
 43. CHARIOT "The Warriors" (Shades)
 44. KILLER "Shock Waves" (Mausoleum)
 45. SACRED RITE "Sacred Rite" (Sacred Rite)
 46. JACK STARR "Out of the Darkness" (Passport)
 47. H-BOMB "Attaque" (Rave-On)
 48. BLACK LACE "Unlaced" (Mausoleum)
 49. TANK "Honour and Blood" (Roadrunner)
 50. TYSONDOG "Beware of the Dog" (Neat)
 51. TWISTED SISTER "Stay Hungry" (Atlantic)
 52. BLOODY SIX "In The Name of Blood" (Mausoleum)
 53. MIDNIGHT DARKNESS "Holding the Night" (Hot Blood)
 54. BARON ROJO "Baron Rojo Live" (Camouflage)
 55. ROSA NEGRA "Rosa Negra" (Epic)
 56. FAITHFUL BREATH "Gold and Glory" (Mausoleum)
 57. ZNOWHITE "All Hail to Thee" (Enigma)
 58. AVENGER (UK) "Blood Sports" (Neat)
 59. DIO "Last in Line" (Warner Bros)
 60. IRON MAIDEN "Powerslave" (EMI)
 61. PRETTY MAIDS "Red Hot and Heavy" (Epic)
 62. MALTESE FALCON "Metal Rush" (Road Runner)
 63. ARMORED SAINT "March of the Saint" (Chrysalis)
 64. HELLHAMMER "Apocalyptic Raids" (Metal Blade)
 65. BURN "Burn" (Moonshine)
 66. TORCH "Torch" (Tandan)
 67. OBSESSION "Marshall Law" (Metal Blade)
 68. VIRGIN STEELE "Wait For the Night" (Mongol Horde)
 69. SAXON "Crusader" (Carrere)
 70. M-80 "M-80" (Megaton)
 71. ACCEPT "Balls to the Wall" (Epic)
 72. VOIVOD "War and Pain" (Metal Blade)

73. LIZZY BORDEN "Give 'Em the Axe" (Metal Blade)
 74. ARMED FORCES "Let There Be Metal" (Metallic Flame)
 75. VULCAIN "Rock n Roll Secours" (Devil)
 76. WARRIORS "Warriors" (Attic)
 77. WILD DOGS "Man's Best Friend" (Shrapnel)
 78. WITCHFYNDE "The Lords of Sin" (Mausoleum)



WITCHFYNDE!!

79. DARK WIZARD "Devil's Victim" (Mausoleum)
 80. W.A.S.P. "W.A.S.P." (EMI/Capitol)
 81. EXPLORER "Symphonies of Steel" (Hot Hard Heavy)
 82. AXE WITCH "Visions of the Past" (Fingerprint)
 83. EARTHSHAKER "Midnight Flight" (Viper)
 84. STERLING COOKE FORCE "Full Force" (Ebony)
 85. WARNING (Fra) "Warning" (Polydor)
 86. RAZOR "Armed and Ready" (Voice)
 87. TORCH "Electric Kiss" (Tandan)
 88. CIRITH UNGOL "King of the Dead" (Enigma)
 89. TOKYO BLADE "Night of the Blade" (Powerstation)
 90. KEEL "Lay Down the Law" (Shrapnel)
 91. LEE AARON "Metal Queen" (Attic)
 92. THUNDERSTICK "Beauty and the Beast" (Thunderbolt)
 93. RESTLESS (Ger) "Heart Attack" (Scratch)
 94. SOUND BARRIER "Born to Rock" (Enigma)
 95. QUEENSRYCHE "The Warning" (EMI)
 96. FUTURE TENSE "Condemned"
 97. FATES WARNING "Night on Brocken" (Metal Blade)
 98. OVERDRIVE "Swords and Axes" (Planet)
 99. BATTLE AXE "Power From the Universe" (Roadrunner)
 100. HOLOCAUST "No Man's Land" (Pheonix)

"GLOVES OF METAL" TRIVIA CONTEST #1 JANUARY 1994

Here's your chance to test your metal brain and win something way cool as well!! Yes!!! Just answer the questions below and see if your know-how is up to snuff...only **one** winner will be selected in each contest, and the staff of "GLOVES OF METAL" have the final say, of corpse...

JAG PANZER

→ Infamous JAG PANZER vocalist "**The Tyrant**" was in quite a few other bands throughout his career as an awesome metal singer! Name **three** other bands featuring his fantastic talent, and for a bonus, give the aliases he used in each band!!!



BLACK SABBATH

← The legendary gods of heavy doom metal music had some of metal's finest vocalists in the company of Ozzy Osbourne, Ronnie James Dio, Tony Martin, Ian Gillan, and Glenn Hughes on their LPs...at different times in their career, they've featured three other lads as well, who **never** appeared on any LPs! Name these **three** fellows, and for a bonus, give the year they served their time with BLACK SABBATH!!!!

MANILLA ROAD

This mid-western US band has been around for so long and have recorded many great LPs in their time...they recorded one LP that was never released!! Give the **title** for that LP, and for a bonus, name the band who recorded a cover version of a song from that unreleased LP!!



GOOD LUCK!!!!!! Get all three questions correct and win a free CD, LP, or MC!! Get all three questions **and** the bonus questions and in addition, you'll receive a free copy of the next issue of "GLOVES OF METAL"!!!! Send your answers soon, the deadline for this contest is **AUG. 15,**

1994!!! Send them to:

GLOVES OF METAL

P.O. BOX 3102

BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702-3102

U.S.A.

For five years now, the concept of ANGELKILL has existed within the darkest dreams and most hideous nightmares of its main conspirator, the enigmatic BLAKK...so here, in the premiere issue of "Gloves of Metal," we get into the ring with this morbid, yet perpetually sane artist and purveyor of the macabre...



Garden of Crosses

← BLAKK, 1988

GLOVES: HOW AND WHEN DID YOU FIRST BRING ANGELKILL TO LIFE AND WHAT WERE THE EARLY DAYS LIKE?

BLAKK: Well, I started ANGELKILL in 1988 when I was just tired of looking for something original in a local band and who wanted to go farther than the local club. So, in the beginning I did everything myself; the lyrics, the music, everything. In 1990, I finally recorded on just a small 4-track around 10 songs which was the very first version of "Beyond the Black," which was very raw with poor sound quality, but it was a start for myself. By 1991 I had improved with everything, had gotten better equipment and recorded an 11 song demo called "Artist of the Flesh," which was much better but as far as musical tightness and production there was still much improving needed. In 1992 was when I finally put together the best line-up so far, which would in April of 1993 release "Garden of Crosses."

GLOVES: TELL US ABOUT THE DEMOS AND LINE-UP CHANGES AND MUSICAL IDEAS AND CONCEPTS UP TO "GARDEN OF CROSSES"...

BLAKK: Like I said, the first two were very low budget as far as quality, and everything was pretty much done by me except I would have studio drummers do drum tracks. As I said, it really wasn't until 1992 when I put together a real working band which was me on vocals, Steve Swyers on guitar, Mike Kore also on guitar, Brett Fugate on drums, and Norm Sales on bass. We put together the 9 song "Garden of Crosses" which is by far our best (so far). As far as the concepts, I write all the lyrics, which are about the darker side of life and death...tales of horror, I guess.

GLOVES: WHAT IS THE OVERALL CONCEPT BEHIND "GARDEN OF CROSSES"?

BLAKK: It is about this old dead witch who speaks from her tomb. Only young children can hear her; she tells them of the rope burns on her neck and the ashes on her cape and so on...

GLOVES: TELL US OF YOUR RELIGIOUS VIEWS...DO YOU THINK THE SATANIC STUFF VERY COMMON IN THE SCENE IS WEARING THIN??

BLAKK: Well, I have my own beliefs which are probably just as warped as all the other religions. I too feel we were created from a higher power, but not from gods, more like advanced alien beings (we may be nothing more than some giant science project!!)...and when we die and see ourselves rising above our bodies and reach for the bright light, that light will lead us to the "Mother Ship"...yeah, I told you it was warped!! As far as satanic stuff, it is very popular from what I've seen but it's much more popular in Europe. I believe in many "satanic" ideas, but to me it is just another religion.

GLOVES: WHO ARE SOME OF THE MUSICIANS AND AUTHORS WHO'VE INSPIRED ANGELKILL?

BLAKK: King Diamond definitely! BATHORY as well, old Alice Cooper and Simon & Garfunkel, and I'm sure many others. I don't read that many books so I don't think I've been inspired by books much.

GLOVES: TELL US HOW THE NEWEST LINE-UP CAME ABOUT!

BLAKK: Well, Steve and I are long time friends, we met at work a long time ago and we've always gotten together to jam on guitar. Mike I met in '92 as he was my new next door neighbor at that time and we too would play guitar together. Brett and I had been writing each other a year previous to that, and were good friends. When Brett joined, he brought Norm with him.

GLOVES: I KNOW OF MR. FUGATE'S SKILL AS A MUSICIAN FIRST HAND...HOW HAS HIS PRESENCE IN YOUR BAND HELPED YOU?

BLAKK: He makes the songs much heavier just by his style, he is a very technical percussionist, which makes the songs more interesting. It takes everyone in the band to do their part to put it together and he certainly does his part!!!

GLOVES: WILL YOU PLAY FAVORITES LIKE "EVIL WALKS AMONG US" AND "LADY CADAVER" IN YOUR LIVE SHOWS, TO PLEASE FANS OF YOUR OLDER STUFF?

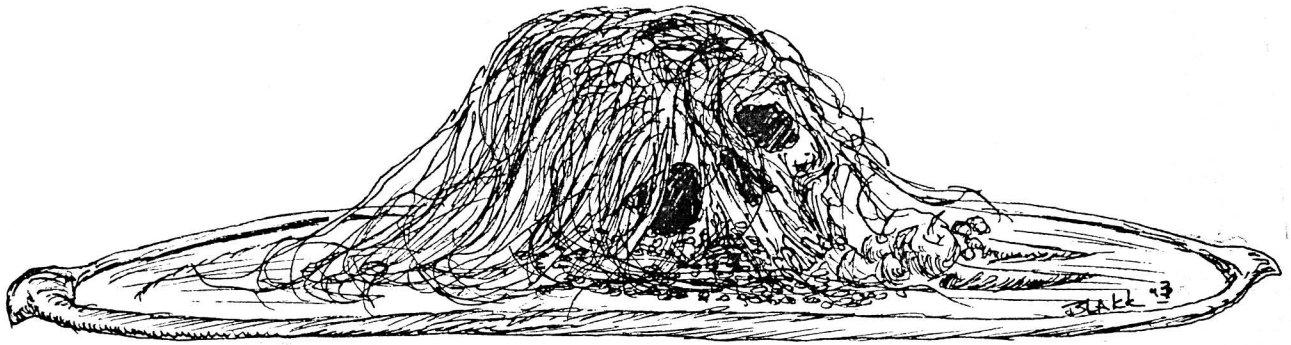
BLAKK: Oh yeah, those two are classics of ours. Presently we are working on a project split release with Poland's BATTERY, and we will be including a live track of "Evil Walks Among Us," so anyone interested should check it out!!

GLOVES: WHY THE SLIGHT SWITCH IN VOCAL STYLE?

BLAKK: Well, I used to only sing the high pitched vocals but I wanted to show people that I was more diverse with the vocals, so now I have the high pitched vocals with the power growls, ha ha.. I guess I want to be different from the mainstream!

GLOVES: ANY LABEL INTEREST IN ANGELKILL SURFACING?

BLAKK: A few, but the bigger offer is from Tombstone Records from England who wants to release "Garden..." on CD. They want to start with 20,000 copies (!!!...Ed.) which is cool with us! So I hope it works out, it would certainly help!!



SOME OF BLAKK'S SINISTER SCRAWINGS...

GLOVES: WHEN WILL ANGELKILL ENTER A TRUE STUDIO?

BLAKK: I've got my own studio at home, but when the recordings are done I take them to a professional studio to be mixed and mastered on DAT. I like it this way because there is no rushing while recording and it gives all the time in the world to create.

GLOVES: WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS AS A MUSICIAN?...AS A BAND?

BLAKK: I guess the main thing is that I know I've invested too much time and money in ANGELKILL. I know I can't stop. I can never give up.

GLOVES: TELL US ABOUT A BIZARRE, MYSTERIOUS EVENT IN YOUR LIFE?

BLAKK: I was probably 11 or 12 years old. I had to ride the school bus 'cause we lived out in the country. Well, we had this lady bus driver who was the ugliest old bitch you could meet. Well, one day on the long route home I thought I was being cool and picking up garbage off the floor, going seat to seat. When we got to our stop, as I was about out the door she grabbed my arm tightly, screaming how I was never to leave my seat and if I did I'd be walking home, etc... I walked to the house with extreme hate!! I was pissed as hell! I chanted to myself how I wish she would burn, better yet, everything her family owned would burn, and so on and on. Well that night her house did burn to the ground! All their belongings gone! She and her family were out bowling or something and for some reason the house burned! I didn't find out till the next day at school. I nearly shit my pants!! It is true what they say, watch what you wish for 'cause it might come true!!!

GLOVES: YOU'RE ALSO A VERY INTERESTING ARTIST...HAVE YOU EVER DONE ANY WORK FOR OTHER BANDS? WHO INFLUENCES YOUR ART?

BLAKK: Yes, art is another passion to me, actually my specialty is painting. I do all the cover paintings and most of the art for ANGELKILL although I am always interested in showing off other artists work so we have some works in ANGELKILL like our next T-shirt designs, including the cover art for our split release, done by artist Russell W. Evans. I also do art for several zines and demo covers for bands. I am usually so busy with mail that I rarely have time but if someone asks, I am always willing to donate art to them. As far as influences in my art, I'd say Van Gogh, also H.R. Giger.

GLOVES: YOU'RE GETTING MARRIED IN '94, RIGHT? TELL US ABOUT THE FUTURE "MRS. BLAKK"?

BLAKK: Actually, we were married this year, Sept. 4th. It was alright, we'd been living together for around 5 years so it was nothing new. She is cool, I don't really think of Michelle as my wife, I've always thought of her as my pal or companion. She humours my morbid sickness and puts up with the music. She still doesn't like going to the ANGELKILL shows to see the blood and severed heads, ah but she'll learn to enjoy the finer things in life!

GLOVES: THAT JUST ABOUT ENDS IT...ANYTHING TO ADD?

BLAKK: We hope everyone will definately check out "Garden of Crosses"!!! Also our soon to be released split with Poland's BATTERY! We certainly want to thank Stevo for his ultimate coolness! Support "Gloves of Metal"!!!! Thanks to everyone out there helping ANGELKILL in some way!!!!!!!

ANGELKILL '92- FUGATE, BLAKK, KORE,
SWYERS... not Pictured, SALES

Take it from me, "Garden of Crosses" really is a killer tape, in the meantime, hook up with Blakk and friends for merchandise info or whatever...and watch out for those evil hag bus drivers!!! Write to:

ANGELKILL

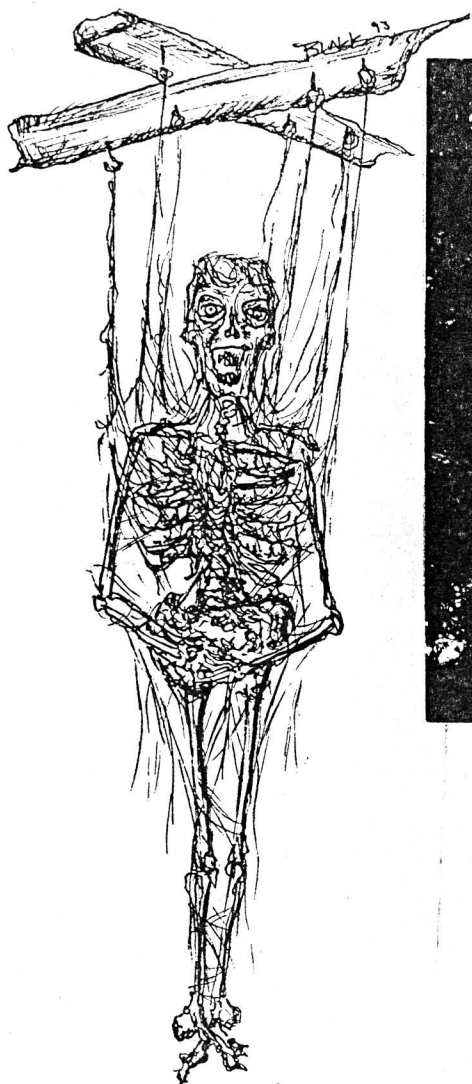
BOX 371

LeClaire, IA 52753

USA

...and tell them GLOVES OF METAL sent you!!!!!!





ANGELKILL '93 - SALES, BLAKK, KORG, SWYERS, FUGATE...



MORE NEWS!!!!

SOLEMN ASSEMBLY, Australia's death/doom lords, have got a new demo coming out soon called "Eternity"...still available, is their old tape as well, so write to them!!! c/o Justin, 16 Cornwall St., Hallam 3803, VIC Australia!!!!

Michael Schenker is alive and well!! He's releasing a new CD (for fan club members only!!) of all new shit! Michael is GOD!!!!

RESIST are breaking up!! Drummer Ty Smith will still be playing with GODLESS though!!

Chicago creeping doom heads EVE OF MOURNING are desperately searching for a second guitarist and a drummer, so anybody interested should contact them at P.O. Box 306, Palos Heights, IL 60463 USA...also, they've got a new promo tape coming out soon!

UK's gods ETERNE (demo reviewed elsewhere!) have released a 2 track 7", courtesy of Finland's "Hammer of Damnation" productions...look out for it!!

If you're into truly disgusting and chaotic death/grind bullshit (and I KNOW you are!!) you should get a hold of VOMIT SPAWN, the most hideous creation the U.S. probably has to offer! Write to them at P.O. Box 6046, Hudson, FL 34668 USA!!!!

The new OBSESSED CD is out now, and it fucking rips!!

UPDATE: VITAL REMAINS will enter the studio May 31st to begin recording their second LP!! The cover is done already, and it's a masterpiece by one of the greatest artists in the world, Tim Phillips! Stay tuned to these pages to get more news on VITAL REMAINS!!

Finally...no advance word yet on the line-up of this year's Milwaukee Metal Fest! MEAT SHITS may play, a few other Wild Rags bands as well, and VITAL REMAINS have been asked too!!! More next time!!!!

Alas, when it rains, it fucking pours!! No longer with us is the legendary PENTAGRAM, who have split up once again, and sources say it's really for good!! But, what about the "Show 'em How" LP that was never released? Was it done being recorded? Who knows? I've been told that Victor Griffin (g) and Joe Hasselvander (d) have both joined CATHEDRAL, not only is this not confirmed, but it's absolutely wild! More info as it makes it here, probably be a lot on this next issue!!!

Speaking of CATHEDRAL...PAUL CHAIN has signed with Godhead Productions in Italy, and will record his first LP for them this summer, due for release...the LP will feature the vocal and lyrical talents of none other than Lee Dorrian!! Ouch!!! What a killer release that will be! Paul Chain has just released a split 7" with DER TOOL, and also an amazing live CD! If all goes well...an interview in a very near future issue! Yesssss!!!

SAINT VITUS are without a label, and now Christian Lindersson is no longer with the band. The main rumour is that VITUS would do one more LP and call it quits (sob!), but with Christian gone now...maybe they're giving it up for good, starting now?

Departed SINDROME bassist Shaun Glass is presently playing with BROKEN HOPE, best of luck to him!!

The new CIANIDE LP is finished, and sounds heavy from what we're told! That means only one more album, and goodbye GrindCore!! That third album will be intense, I can tell already!!

HAIL AND KILL!!!!

"GLOVES OF METAL" PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE UNDISPUTED
KINGS OF METAL!

MANOWAR

MANOWAR, metal's true and uncontested kings for well over a decade, began as a basic concept in the minds of two metal-crazed New Yorkers. The early 1980's found Joey deMaio, bassist extraordinaire who among others has played in the legendary ELF with Ronnie James Dio as well as numerous New York metal bands, as a pyrotechnics technician for the one and only BLACK SABBATH; and legendary ex-DICTATORS axeman Ross the Boss (real name Ross) wielding his might as a member of French heavy rock band SHAKIN' STREET. Joey and Ross met as both SABBATH and SHAKIN' STREET were touring together in Europe. Both found brotherhood not only in their native city of origin, but also in their desire to create the heaviest band ever. "He was the only New Yorker around and we got on well straight away," Ross said in an early Kerrang! interview. "I'd always wanted to put together the ultimate power trio—a musician's band." Soon, the pair were back in the states and working on their dream project, now titled MANOWAR! Before long, they discovered Eric Adams, a former meat cutter, who at the tender age of 11 had a hit record in Spain with his band THE KIDS. Eric's voice is among the most incredible in the entire realm of known music!! Never before, nor since, has a vocalist had such range, such power, and such complete control over such a wonderful set of lungs. The vocal skill possessed by Eric perfectly complemented Joey's amazing classical training and total speed and accuracy, and Ross' lethal metal axe assault. After recruiting Donnie Hamzik to man the cannons of death for

*"No band in their right mind
would let you guys open up for
them—you're too good..."*

*Paul Clark, BLACK SABBATH
Road Manager, sometime in 1981*

MANOWAR, they soon entered the studio to record a brief and inexpensive (only \$250!!) demo, which caught the attention of soon-to-be manager Bill Aucoin, the man who successfully marketed KISS into a huge multi-million dollar money making megaband, and the multi-global EMI-America Records, who consequently signed them to a large contract.

Little time passed, and MANOWAR's debut vinyl offering "Battle Hymns" was unleashed in 1982. The album was self-produced by the band, a rarity even in those days for a new band on a major label to take the production reins in their own hands...but, this was MANOWAR! The band felt that after years of being victims of record producers in their past projects, that they were mature enough to handle this chore. While some feel that the production is where "Battle Hymns" falls short of a great LP, it's

easy for the fan of true heavy metal to readily disagree. The LP features an early, crude version of what the later, more polished MANOWAR sound would be like...very powerful guitar and bass tracks almost mixed in perfect unison to create a deadly grinding attack, yet highlighting enough finesse from both instruments to complement each other in the unique arrangements found in even the most formulaic of MANOWAR's repertoire...Eric Adams' terrific voice, so up front and mighty that the ears of disbelievers bleed upon hearing it's sound...the awesome battery of war drums, a thundering powerload of violence and force!! Even in it's earliest form, this method of mixing the metal sounds of MANOWAR is distinct and consistent in most of their work. "Battle Hymns" artistically presents a safer, yet still powerfully lethal form of MANOWAR, evident with the straightforward heavy metal tunes which dominate side one ("Death Tone," "Metal Daze," and so on), to the anthemic "Manowar," side two's opener. With the next track "Dark Avenger," we are immediately introduced to a supreme taste of what the next MANOWAR offering will be like! Starting off with a very slow and very

heavy SABBATH-style riff, the song ventures warily into a dark and cryptic realm of magic, sorcery, and mystery. Then, a semi-orchestral interlude featuring the mighty narration of the late Orson Welles (who did his part in a mere 20 minutes!!), which skillfully segues into a fast and powerful ending section. MANOWAR fans will know this formula well in the albums to come, for it's in "Dark Avenger" where the band began the bulk of its most creative work. Welles also delivered oratory on an intro tape used for live performances



MANOWAR, 1983 — JOEY — ROSS — SCOTT — ERIC —

by the band (a suggestion made by Welles himself), and for another experimental track that was not featured on "Battle Hymns," but that would be re-recorded later with Welles' contribution added at that time. Following "Dark Avenger" is another MANOWAR first...the awesome Joey deMaio bass solo!! On "Battle Hymns," he opted for an interpretation of the classic "William Tell Overture," entitled "William's Tale" here. On later LPs, the Joey deMaio bass solo would return, albeit with some differences. The LP closes with the awesome "Battle Hymn," a favorite MANOWAR concert closing number! A truly heavy and majestic track, a classic MANOWAR tune from start to finish!

With the release of the LP and the direction of Bill Aucoin, the band stood ready to begin what would have seemed to be a storybook rock n' roll career for this killer band! But, as in the tales of brave and courageous warriors who fight under the shield of truth and honor glorified in some of their songs, MANOWAR were betrayed before the battle had even begun. Two months after the record's release, the EMI Corporation gained a new president, and the company suddenly lost its nerve...that revised philosophy ended up in the almost immediate sacking of MANOWAR for allegedly not shifting enough product. Nothing could have been farther from the truth, however!! As Joey explained, "All of a sudden they didn't understand the commitment that has to be made to keep a heavy metal band rolling—they got cold feet. And nothing has happened for EMI in the heavy metal field since." The news of the release made the band admittedly a bit relieved, as all EMI was doing for the album up to that point was allowing it to sit on the shelf with little promotion. But now, the pressure weighed upon Aucoin's shoulders to come up with another label and another contract...and fast!! Unfortunately, little success was met with Aucoin's efforts. He explained that record companies simply wanted nothing to do with a band who had been dropped from their former label in only two months, but the band felt that in reality the record companies just weren't giving him the time of day...as Ross later explained "I'd say that he just happened to be in the right place at the right time with KISS." Completely dissatisfied with his work with the band, MANOWAR subsequently dumped Aucoin as their manager. "Aucoin nearly destroyed us!" Joey would remark years later. Their next step was to record their next LP by

themselves, and continue to search for a new label and new guidance.

The next few months proved rocky for MANOWAR...even without a major deal,

MANOWAR continued to attract the attention of the modern world, and in 1982 signed a deal to tour extensively with Ted Nugent! The tour would only last five

dates, though. MANOWAR, the loudest band in the universe, were asked to cut down on their equipment or turn it down, so as to not compromise Nugent's stage volume. To this, the lords said "FUCK NO!" and were immediately bumped off the bill. Sullen from their initial problems, Donnie Hamzik was kicked out of the band. He was swiftly replaced by Scott Columbus, whom a friend of the band had discovered working at a foundry, beating molten steel and

**"(Bill) Aucoin nearly destroyed us!"
Joey deMaio, 1984**



MANOWAR, 1984: JOEY, ERIC, SCOTT, AND ROSS!

aluminum!! Columbus had been kicked out of all his previous bands for playing too loud...whether or not it's true, what is evident is that Columbus' powerful drumming made the following MANOWAR drums mighty indeed, giving their sound that added force to surpass "Battle Hymns." With the album under their belts, and in desperation, MANOWAR entered a one-album contract with longtime friend Jon Zazula at Megaforce Records. In no time at all, MANOWAR entered the studio with the master Jon Mathias...a few months later, in the year 1983, "Into Glory Ride" was unleashed, and it still stands as probably the greatest MANOWAR epic LP of their career!!

The dark cover wields the first and only band photo seen on any of their LP's: the four mighty warriors in full leather and animal-skin gear, all wielding the swords of the mighty and the brave!! All MANOWAR fans will truly never forget the very first time

they heard the awesome tracks from "Into Glory Ride"!! Song for song, the tunes included on "Into Glory Ride" truly represent the most powerful aspects of MANOWAR, not only at that time but for the future of their career as well. The album's opener, "Warlord" is similar to the standard anthem-style metal hymns heard on the first LP, but this time with more power and force than ever felt before!! The next song is truly one of MANOWAR's most powerful and moving songs ever, the mighty "Secret of Steel." The song almost sounds at first like a sequel of sorts to "Dark Avenger," but as the song continues the listener is mesmerized by the bizarre beauty and heaviness of the tune...instead of the climax "Dark Avenger" reached, "Secret" never reaches a crescendo, instead the killer bassplaying by Joey deMaio and Ross' searing solo drive the somber melody into the halls of classic metal, while

Eric's fabulous voice gives the tune a truly wonderful phrasing and feel...a MANOWAR classic indeed! Following closely is "Gloves of Metal," the album's third track. While "Warlord" or "Manowar" could be considered trademark MANOWAR anthems up to this point, it should be noted that "Gloves of Metal" blows both songs away...a true battle hymn for true heavy metal people all over the universe!! A terrific battle cry, rippling with pride and elation, a tribute to those who remain true, no matter what!! And if that weren't enough..."Gates of Valhalla" follows, in what's

sure to be one of the mightiest metal tunes of all times! The drums are true thunder, like no other sound made by man made instruments ever before!! And of course, Eric's voice is true steel in this track...his complete control and fierce power is awesome indeed!

Side two opens with perhaps the bloodiest of all MANOWAR tunes, the incomparable "Hatred"...it's true, this album wields total power, and thus far the listener's senses have been literally overcome by the force and fury MANOWAR doth

possess...now, witless mortals must hear "Hatred," a song which truly spits fire into the eyes of those who don't believe that MANOWAR are truly, the one and only KINGS OF ALL METAL!! Upon hearing the seething lyrics and death tone of this legendary track, posers have been known to explode immediately! Only true heavy metal people shall stay alive!! "I taste your blood /

**"Let each note I now play,
be a Black Arrow of Death,
sent straight to the hearts
of those who play
False Metal....
AARRGGHH!!!!!!"
Joey deMaio, "Black Arrows,"
1984**

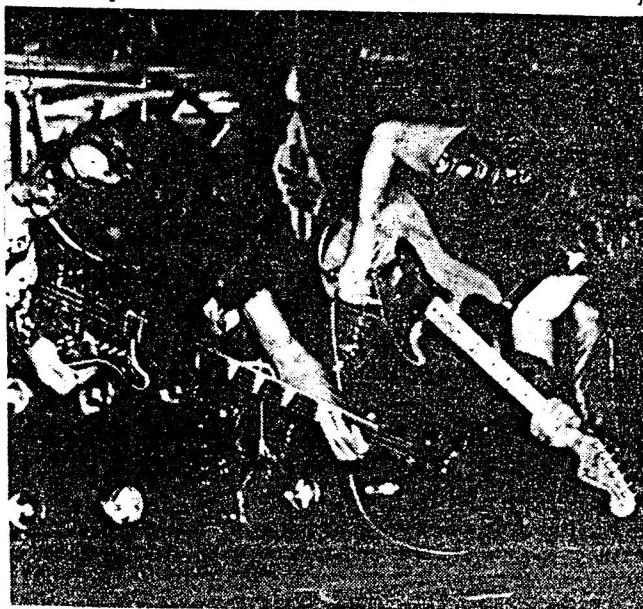
as it showers from my blade / I eat your heart / From Evil it was made / With heart-filled HATRED, black blood runs through my veins..." listen and DIE all pretenders to the throne of mighty metal!! What follows is, what else? Another classic MANOWAR hymn, this track entitled "Revelation (Death's Angel)," which joyously and atmospherically brings the aura of battle, victory, and final reward to stunning life!! Closing this tremendously classic LP, is the fantastic and very rousing hymnal "March For Revenge (By the Soldiers of Death)," a song so powerful and emotionally stirring, it's horrible to think of anything else whilst listening to it...never before in metal has such a true tale of love and courage befallen! All brothers and sisters of metal must have memorized those somber and brave words of eternal tribute to our fallen comrades..."For when we march, your sword rides with me!" All hail MANOWAR, the true Kings of Metal!!

Yes, destiny did the world of metal a great force of delivery when "Into Glory Ride" arrived on these shores

Meanwhile, MANOWAR's album and touring exploits drew the attention of fans from all over the world, in droves they accepted the gauntlet of steel and joined the hordes of MANOWAR! A trip to England found them met with a grand reception on those shores, and eventually a small deal with Music For Nations, who immediately released a 12" EP featuring "Defender," a massive song recorded during the "Into Glory Ride" sessions (and was tried earlier while recording "Battle Hymns")...the somber and brutally heavy track once again featured the work of Orson Welles, and is a true MANOWAR masterpiece, just as every other track on "Into Glory Ride." As a B-side, the 12" featured the killer track "Gloves of Metal," as it appeared in "Into Glory Ride." The band then promptly entered Phase One studios in Toronto, to record their third LP with Jack Richardson. The result, finished in a mere 12 days and for a cost of \$20,000, would once again throw a metal stake into the hearts of false metal vampires, and crush all those who claim to be mightier than MANOWAR!

A tribute to the country that not only inspired them to greatness, but that also recieved them well and honoured them during their times of troubles, "Hail to England" was released in the early months of 1984 to an audience still reeling from the blows they incurred while hearing "Into Glory Ride." The album is indeed, a very tasty followup to "Into Glory Ride," yet the production doesn't stand up to the previous

efforts. "Hail to England" has a mighty and powerful sound, it's true, but the crushing piledriver effect of the drums and the top end their sound experienced working with Jon Mathias was toned down slightly by Jack Richardson...the result remains a deadly LP still, but only a shard less lethal than its predecessor. The album's opener "Blood of My Enemies" is an amazing MANOWAR-style hymn of defiance and anger, and aptly sets the tone for the rest of the LP. The songs on "Hail to England" mirror well the format pioneered on "Into Glory Ride," yet with a more mature flavor...they seem to almost compare to actual compositions in structure and presentation, rather than mere 4-minute psalms of destruction. This method of



MANOWAR 1984, full tilt!!

writing was very evident on "Into Glory Ride," and was very effective in creating their most memorable epics, on "Hail to England" its finesse has been honed and crafted like a fine broadsword!! "To us, it's music that counts," Joey deMaio elaborated upon the album's release, "we believe in certain values and won't compromise on them to any extent. MANOWAR are trying to create six-to-ten minute symphonies that are technically stretching and give the fans something to hold onto beyond simple riffs. I'm a great fan of Ennio Morricone, his style of dramatic orchestration is really what I love to listen to and I hope MANOWAR have captured a little of that approach on the new album." This statement really nails down the focus of how their song-writing and arrangement truly developed between "Battle Hymns" and "Hail to England." "Each Dawn I Die" is a bizarre warrior's suicide oath and ritual, a truly haunting and powerful track with it's bottom-heavy bass sound and pulverizing drum track. "Kill

With Power" is another MANOWAR classic favorite, and quite a step faster than anything on their previous LP. The title track "Hail to England" is another awesome anthem, complete with 20-piece backing choir and rousing refrain!! The following song is one unique to the world of music, where bands and artists seldom recognize their fans for their support. "Army of Immortals" is especially dedicated to MANOWAR's fans, for their huge part in the success of the band. This is a truly special MANOWAR track, for it speaks directly to all of us, who have stood by them always!! Many magazines and bands laughed at this song when this album was released, saying it was corny and almost "a joke," an egotistical rambling of the group!

Not so!! Any true fan of metal who hears this track and listens to the lyrics can feel the sincerity that MANOWAR express when they say "We want you to know...In our eyes you're immortal / In our hearts you'll live forever..." Very few bands have ever done anything like this for their fans!! Ever!! What follows can only be considered legendary in MANOWAR lore, and that is the fantastic piccolo bass solo called "Black Arrows." The track begins with a personal dedication by Joey deMaio himself: "Let each note I now play be a Black Arrow of Death, sent straight to the hearts of those who play false metal...AAARRRGHH!!", and with that fierce warriors' scream he launches into nothing short but a whirlwind of violence and sheer brutality, unparalleled in true hate and poison! This track burns with severity, and truly shows the skill of deMaio unleashed to the extreme hilt! The closer of "Hail to England" is indeed one of MANOWAR's most controversial tunes. "Bridge of Death" is a strange symphony of a warrior's diversion into the practice of ritual sorcery to achieve his ultimate revenge...the eerie intro and hate-filled lyrics complement an epic arrangement, truly befitting the musical style of MANOWAR in full battle gear. The lyrics themselves are truly over the top, and deMaio was once quoted as saying that they were somewhat inspired by the tales of bands like MERCYFUL FATE and VENOM, and a gesture to them to "top" the blasphemy in "Bridge of Death," but also that the song is only a tale, and not an indication that MANOWAR indulge in any black arts!

With the initial success of "Hail to England," Music For Nations began promoting the album heavily in the UK, and plans for a European tour with MERCYFUL FATE supporting were immediately made. At this point begins another fateful chapter of the ever-changing luck of MANOWAR...

NEXT ISSUE: Our tribute to MANOWAR continues with "The Sign of the Hammer" and beyond...join us for part 2 of the history of this powerful and influential band!!!

Coming up in future issues of
GLOVES OF METAL!!!

FEATURES AND INTERVIEWS WITH
SOLITUDE AETURNUS - PAUL SPECKMANN - MOLOTOV
PAUL CHAIN - DEADLY BLESSING - PHANTASM
DAWN OF WINTER - CIANIDE - HELLBASTARD
JAPANESE METAL - ACROSTICHON - DIO
ITALIAN UNDERGROUND - ARGENTINE SCENE
FANZINES YESTERDAY AND TODAY - and more!!!!!!

Plus...the return of our regular features and the second part
of our tribute to MANOWAR, and a selected discography!!

Next Issue Scheduled Release: August 31, 1994



...THERE WILL BE AN INFORMATIVE, FULL-LENGTH
INTERVIEW WITH THIS AWESOME BAND IN THE NEXT
ISSUE OF "GLOVES OF METAL"... HEAR THE TOTAL TRUTH!!
DON'T MISS IT!!

"GLOVES OF METAL" NEEDS CONTRIBUTING WRITERS!! Write to STEVO for more info!!! Write band interviews and features, scene reports, live reports, reviews...whatever!!! State your case, brothers and sisters!!!

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IT ALL STARTS HERE, NEXT ISSUE!!!!

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SEE YOU NEXT ISSUE!!!!



GLOVES OF METAL Bonus Pin-Up!!!