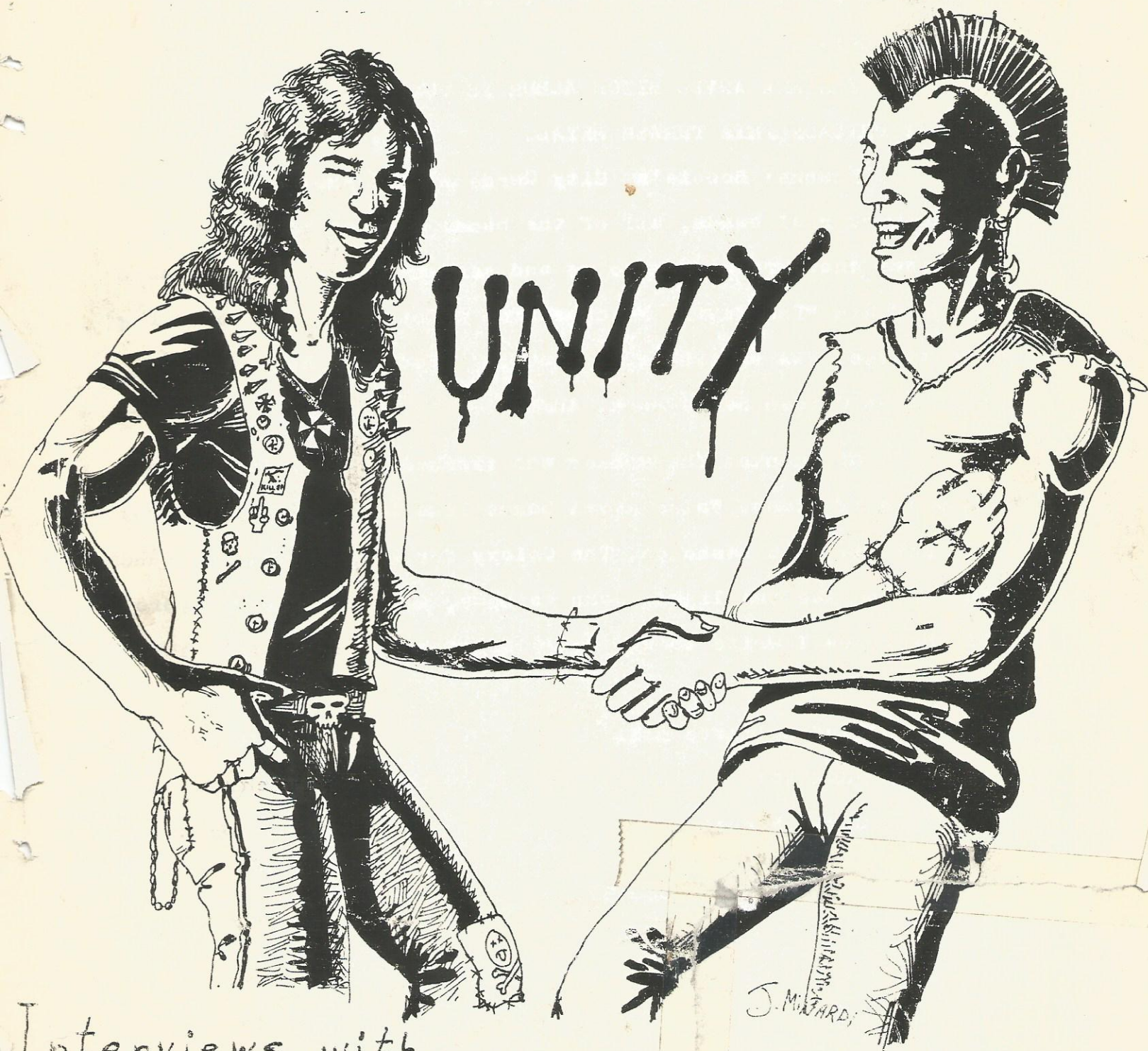


METAL-CORE

ISSUE

No.2



Interviews with...

Dark Angel

Possessed

Hallow's Eve

Savage Death

Dream Death

Desecration (Az)

Savage Thrust

At War

...Plus over
25 demo reviews
and show reports

Hello and welcome to Issue No. 2 of Metal-Core. We have improved as you can see. We are full-sized now and we have added pictures. Well, I don't want to bore you, so read on and enjoy...

THE NEW ANVIL BITCH ALBUM IS OUT. BUY IT NOW AND SUPPORT PHILADELPHIA THRASH METAL.

Thanks: Bonnie's, City Gardens, The Empire for starting to book real bands, all of the bands in this issue. To all the bands that wrote back to me and sent me demos. Bret "Hitman" Hart and Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart for winning the WWF World Tag Team titles, NWA Wrestling, Elizabeth, Precious, Babydoll, my friends at Garden State Park, AHHH!

No Thanks: The wanker who trashed Club Pizazz. Thanks you waste of flesh. False metal bands like Lethal Injection. We will get you, you assholes. The Galaxy for booking make-up bands. Wake up and see the light. John Mathews, you dick. Spectaguard and all the bands I write to who don't write back. A big FUCK YOU!!!

Send all hate mail
and other junk to:

Chris Forbes
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Marlton, N.J. 08053

Extra special thanks
to Mike Minnick for the
printing and Joe Minardi
for the cover. It rules,
man. You are God!



AT WAR: Ordered to Interview

At War is an excellent power metal band from Virginia Beach, Virginia. Their first album, "Ordered to Kill," has been out for a couple of months and I recommend that you pick up a copy. This interview is a couple of months old and is done with Shawn Helsel, their lead guitarist.

MC: How long has At War been around?

Shawn: About three years the way it is now. Before the demo, we briefly had a singer and another guitarist.

MC: Who is in the band?

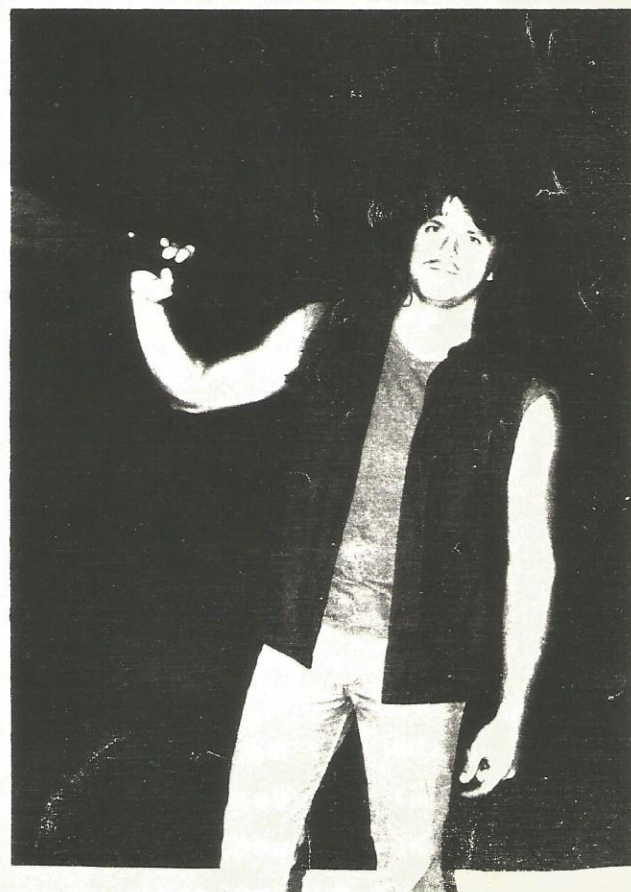
Shawn: The lineup is Paul Arnold, bass and vocals; myself on guitar and Dave Stone on drums.

MC: What are your influences?

Shawn: Pretty much the standards, Old Venom, Motorhead, Metallica, Slayer. Me and Paul listen to some punk like DRI, Coc, Suicidal Tendencies, Broken Bones. And lyrically, we're influenced by World Politics, Wartime Past and Present, Military defence and weaponry, that sort of thing.

MC: How did you get on New Renaissance Records?

Shawn: Actually, we never knew they existed until they contacted us. We had sent about 20 or so demos to the LA area, and before we knew it, there was about 200 in circulation there.



New Renaissance caught wind of it, contacted us and signed us for Speed Metal Hell 2 (the track that is on there is Rape-chase, which is also on the demo and album, ed.).

MC: How did you guys like playing Lamour's?

Shawn: Fuckin' great. Lamour's was always a goal for us. It is for most bands. You really want to make a statement when you play there for the first time because a lot more people are paying attention. We hope to headline next time. But there will definitely be a next time.

MC: How well is the album doing?

Shawn: So far, it's been a killer. It was late coming, but it's making its mark on the U.S. scene. It's too early to tell world-wide because we just got foreign licensing in Brazil, England, Germany and other countries. But it looks like it will do very well.

MC: How is the Virginia Beach metal scene?

Shawn: There's not very much happening here. What little there is, is very intense, but not enough to get a lot of bands here. We rarely play here. We only live here because it's cheap, where we can write and record. So when it comes time to tour, it's bye-bye Vagina Beach.

MC: Where do you get your lyrics from?

Shawn: I pretty much covered that one. Paul writes the majority of the lyrics.

MC: With all of the trash bands getting signed, do you think you guys will get signed to a major label?

Shawn: Well, any band who's serious is always hopeful. But if we do, or don't, that won't stop us from doing what we do best. And that's making thrashing, bombing, fuckin' Death. Look for the new album in April, '87.

MC: Any New Year's resolutions?

Shawn: Just to keep on trying, harder than ever before, to make and maintain a good scene.

MC: Any last comments?

Shawn: A home for every gun and a gun in every home, the cure for AIDS is a 12-gauge.

Well, that's it. For more info on At War, write to Megaton Management, 1979 Oceana Blvd., Virginia Beach, Va. 23454, U.S.A. They have shirts and buttons and other stuff.



Savage Thrust is a great thrash band from Staten Island. They have one demo out, "Demo of Doom," but that is out of print. They have a new live tape out now and are currently looking forward to putting out an album. I recently had a chance to talk to them and here is what happened.

MC: How long has Savage Thrust been around?

Ed: Since November of '84, but we did not play live until the summer of '85.

MC: What are the band's influences?

Ed: Our influences range from Sabbath to Metallica.

MC: What was your favorite show and why?

Ed: Our favorite was with Anthrax and Nuclear Assault (I was there and it was a killer show, ed.) The crowd was insane.

MC: What was your least favorite?

Ed: The least favorite had to be either The Show Place in Dover, or February's. The crowd was non-existent.

MC: How many copies of the demo did you sell?

Ed: As far as I can remember, we stopped at 1200-1300.

MC: What songs will be on the live tape and where was it recorded and when will it be out?

Ed: The live tape is available. It was recorded from a show we did at the Park Villa on Staten Island last December. The songs are "infected Virgin Scream," "But Soon Revenge," "Seed of Demon," and "The Vice."

MC: How did you come up with the name, Savage Thrust?

Ed: The name was kicking around in an old band of mine (Terrornauts) and when we formed, it just seemed like the best because it is the ultimate sex/violence innuendo.

MC: Where do you get your lyrics from?

Ed: Mike writes the lyrics. Where they come from is merely an extension of his demented lifestyle.

MC: When will the next Savage Thrust fanzine come out?

Ed: We're trying to get it together by spring. It's a lot of work putting together such a perverse, iconoclastic piece of literature.

MC: What's your opinion of bands like Poison that see real men wearing makeup and other people putting them down because they're afraid to wear makeup?

Ed: Ha! What would any of those faggots know about men. I think other people put them down because they suck. Not because they're posers...then again, that guitarist don't look too shabby when I'm half-tanked.

MC: What do you think will be the next trend in underground metal?

Ed: Reggae. Thrash-syntho-Pop-Core...it's gonna be big. I hope these underground labels will wake up and stop signing all of these talent-less, boring, noise-metal bands.

MC: Do you like slam-dancing at your shows?

Ed: Sure! But if you go too wild and get thrown out, don't blame us. As long as people respect and help each other, everything will be fine. Personally, I don't slam anymore... too many battle wounds, I guess.

MC: What do you think of MTV's Metal Music half-hour?

Ed: Metal! Poison, Motley Crue and Cinderella (who are they? ed.) Well, I did hear they played Megadeth's video for a while. Too. bad it sucked. Perhaps if enough people demanded it, they'll have a live Metallica concert, or something.

MC: Do you think you have a chance at a major label one day, with all of the cool bands being signed?

Ed: Most definitely...some hardcores have deemed us "commercial," while slam/pose rockers call us Death/Metal...I feel that being caught in the middle (style/wise) can enable us to cross over to a wider audience than underground metal has to offer. We refuse to sell out, though.

MC: Your future plans?

Ed: Gold album, world tour, play Madison Square Garden; to own a yacht, mansion, plane, Porsche...Christ, this is America, goddammit.

MK: Last comments?

Ed: Chris Forbes knows his shit (I'm blushing, ed.) Support this zine and other underground bands/fanzines. See us live. Send letters, comments, soiled panties, your sister's phone number and measurements, noxious abuse and filthy pornograms.

Savage Thrust merchandise: Live tape, \$6; T-shirt, \$10; button, \$1; fanzine, \$3; stickers free with S.A.S.R. Write to Savage Thrust, P.O. Box 206, Staten Island, N.Y., 10302. Send cash or postal money order only, please.

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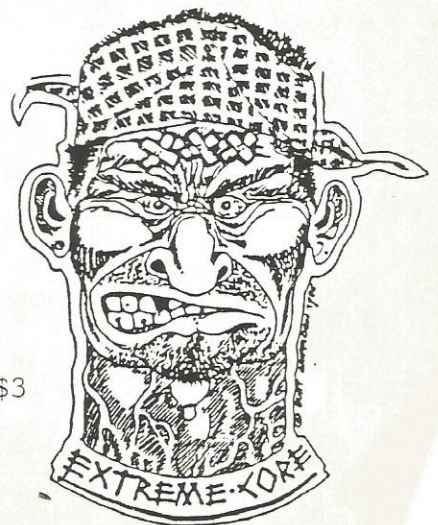
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WRITE TO: DEFLAG. 396 7th St.#2,JERSEY CITY,NJ.07302 --U.S.A--



SAVAGE DEATH

SAVAGE DEATH: Interview

Savage Death is a great death metal band from North Jersey. The second demo was reviewed in Issue # 1, so now we have an interview with their bass player, Tony Laboss. Read on!

MC: How long has Savage Death been around?

Tony: We have been around since January of 1985.

MC: Has the lineup stayed the same since you started?

Tony: Yes, for the most part. We have a new drummer, Erik, who really isn't new. He's been with us since January, 1986, so he's been with us for a year or so.

MC: What are the band's influences?

Mike: We listen to a lot of bands, Possessed, Slayer, Kreator, Cro Mags, Misfits, the list goes ever on.

MC: Have you played live much?

Tony: No! Not at all. It's not that we don't want to; it's because the clubs suck.

MC: Any label interest?

Tony: Yeah, Combat Records said they wanted us a few months ago, but they seem to be putting us in the field. I don't know if anything will happen. We still negotiate with them from time to time.

MC: What do you think of people who put down death metal?

Tony: They're fuckin' wimps.

MC: What do you think of the cross-over scene?

Tony: It's good, but I like the bands to stay original.

MC: What is your favorite Savage Death song and your least favorite?

Tony: I would have to say Bring Me the Guts, or Evil Dead, would be my favorite. My least favorite would be The Advisory. That song is old as hell.

MC: Where do you come up with your lyric ideas?

Tony: We get them from movies, or they are just thought up.

MC: What do you think of the Showplace in Dover, N.J.?

Tony: Well, it's a pretty bad place. We played there, but it's pretty bad.

MC: How far do you think Savage Death will go?

Tony: Pretty far. We will probably be around for a long time, too.

MC: Your future plans?

Tony: To tour and play for people.

MC: Your last comments?

Tony: Just for people to thrash and support the real metal bands.

Savage Death's two demos are still available:

Mass Genocide, \$3

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Write to:

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DESECRATION

thrash till Desecrated Death

Desecration is one hell of a band. They're from Arizona and they are an excellent punk band with intelligent lyrics, with a bit of metal thrown in. Well, here is the interview with Jack.

MC: How long has Desecration been around?

Jack: Desecration has been spewing out its Pacifistic thrash since July of 1985.

MC: How many copies of the demo did you sell?

Jack: I'm not really sure, to be honest. Much more than we thought, in the 100s, not the 1000s.

MC: What are the band's influences?

Jack: Musically great thrash acts, like Raw Power, Old Discharge, Crucifix and Black Sabbath. Lyrically, it's the world around us, our deteriorating world. Bands that inspire us lyrically are Conflict, The Iconoclast, Follow Fashion. Monkeys, False Liberty, Christ on Parade, Final Conflict, Half Off and tons more. Those with intelligent and positive messages.

MC: How do you compare the Ep to the demo?

Jack: The Ep full on shreds the demo. If you were Damaged by Decibels the first time, you will be dead and reincarnated by decibels this time. The production is 100 times better.

MC: Where do you get your lyric ideas from?

Jack: (Actually, Jack answered that earlier). It's mostly from problems we face in society, problems like the mistreatment of the poor; the threat of nuclear war, and the importance of global disarmament; the ever-growing Neo-Fascism movement in the U.S. that must be stopped. Every once in a while, some personal things are thrown in, but only when I feel they are beneficial to our listeners.

MC: What do you think of the cross-over scene?

Jack: Personally, I'm not really fond of the music (but the rest of the members are).

What we really all agree on is what really counts is the lyrics. I can respect any band that has intelligent lyrics, even if the music is real metal sounding. Excel is great, along with a few others, like Cryptic Slaughter, Axe Grinder, Phantasm and more. I hope in the future that more metal bands will start using more common sense lyrics rather than santanic, violent bullshit. As far as the crowd goes, we don't care what anyone looks like. We are all the same. We are human beings.

MC: How is the scene in Arizona?

Jack: The scene is really getting better. Some hot bands to check out are Last Opinion, Y.U.C., Fatal Mistake and N.O.S. The only problem is the skingang bullshit. Personally, I don't consider them a part of the scene. All that they contribute, well, not all of them but the majority, is mindless ignorance. I wish these kids would just grow up; positive skins rule. We don't care for racism in the scene, or the world.

MC: Have you played live a lot?

Jack: We play once or twice a month.

MC: What do you think of nuclear weapons?

Jack: There is no excuse for nuclear weapons. We have two choices. Either we globally disarm all nuclear weapons, or face the possibility of complete extinction of the human race.

MC: Do you have any new material coming out?

Jack: Not as of yet. We are looking for a label to do a full-length record on. We've got the tunes but no label yet.

MC: Any label interest?

Jack: We've had quite a few write to us but so far, nothing.

MC: Your future plans?

Jack: To go on tour and spread the word of peace, equality and solidarity all over.

MC: Any last comments?

Jack: Please write us for info on t-shirts, Ep, or just to be friendly. Think, use your mind, not your fists.

Write to Desecration at P.O. Box 195, Mesa, Az., 85201,
U.S.A.

DREAM DEATH

Dream Death is one of my favorite bands. In Issue No. 1, we had a demo review. Well, now I have done one better and gotten an interview with Mike Smail. If you like real metal, then pick up this tape. The address is at the end. Read on!

MC: How long has Dream Death been around?

Mike: Me and Brian have been playing together since we were little kids. Officially, I guess when Ted joined in '85.

MC: What are your influences?

Mike: Trouble, Celtic Frost, Obsessed, Candlemass, W. General, old Angel Witch. Angel Witch is probably my favorite band in the whole world.

MC: What would you classify your music?

Mike: We call it sludge metal. We try and play in a slower moodies vein with a lot of tempo changes.

MC: Have you played live much?

Mike: Yes, but only in Pittsburgh. We have yet to play out of the city. We might be playing with Anvil Bitch in Morgantown, West Va., on March 21st (what a show-ed.).



MC: Any label interest?

Mike: Right now, we're looking at New Ren. We're going to be on Speed Metal Hell III, or Thrash Metal Attack.

MC: How many copies of the demo have you sold?

Mike: I don't really know. We've sold close to 100 down at Eides, a local metal store. We've given a lot out for free.

MC: How is the thrash scene where you live?

Mike: It's small but it's growing. There are a couple of other cool metal bands here, like Doomwatch and Necropolis. There is a new band coming up called Eviction. We all play together a lot. It's kind of like a big family.

MC: Where do you get your lyrics ideas from?

Mike: I'm a big sword and sorcery fan. R.E. Howard is my favorite author. I usually write that type of stuff. Brian writes the other stuff. We like to write about horror movies and stuff like that.

MC: What is your opinion of the underground scene?

Mike: It's good and bad at the same time. I don't want to get into it too deeply, because it would fill up your next 30 issues. I don't like some of the attitudes in the underground. I believe in just having fun and having a good time and doing what you want.

MC: What is your favorite Dream Death song?

Mike: I don't know. It's usually some of the new stuff. We write until we write something newer. Probably because it's fresher than the older stuff. Sealed in Blood is a classic, though.

MC: What fanzines have you been in?

Mike: Blackthorn, Warhammer, Troubador, Suck City, Metal Thrashing Mad.

MC: Where was the demo recorded?

Mike: Gamnet Studio. in Latrobe, Pa.

MC: What are your future plans?

Mike: To hopefully get signed with a label and put an album out.

MC: Any last comments?

Mike: Thanks for the interview and help. Support the Pittsburgh scene. Order Doomwatch's Ep and Necropolis' demo.

POSSESSED

Possessed is one of the few death metal that I enjoy. I could do without the growling, although on the second album, Beyond the Gates, the singing is improved. I got a chance to talk to Possessed at City Gardens after a great set. Here is how it went with Mike...

MC: How long has Possessed been around?

Mike: Two and a half years.

MC: How did you get on Metal Massacre Number Six?

Mike: Torrid got in contact with us. They said Brian Sagel wanted to do a single song with us and so we did it.

MC: How did you get on Combat?

Mike: They got hold of us from our old manager, Peter Snell, and they discussed things with us, how it was gonna get done like that. And then Debbie became our manager and she and Peter were then our managers, and then Peter was gonna get out of it, or something like that.

MC: How long are you on Combat for?

Mike: One more album and an Ep will be coming out shortly.

MC: How did you get Carl Candey to produce your second album?

Mike: We heard the Anthrax album. We kinda liked the way it sounded, but when he did ours, the guitars kind of got lost.

MC: Are you happy at the way the album turned out?

Mike: I don't know. The guitars could have been better. Other than that, it's cool.

MC: How is the album selling right now?

Mike: It's selling better than the first one.

MC: What is your favorite Possessed song?

Mike: Oh, I have a lot of favorites.

MC: How would you classify your music?

Mike: Oh, fast metal, thrash metal, whatever you want to call it.

MC: Do you think you will be signed by a major label soon?

Mike: I hope the fuck soon.

MC: Why do you think people compare you to Slayer?

Mike: They don't compare us to them anymore. They used to, but no more.

MC: What do you think of the punk/metal crossover scene?

Mike: I think it's great.

MC: Do you have songs written for the Ep?

Mike: Uh, yeah. Confessions, My Belief, a new remake of Swing of the Ax, Storm of My Mind and Eyes of Horror!

MC: Your future plans for the next couple of months?

Mike: To do another album, I guess that's about it.

MC: Any last comments?

Mike: Well, thank you for the interview, and thanks for coming.
Write to Possessed at 2441 Ryde Avenue, Conole, Calif.

94564.



3 Cheers for/
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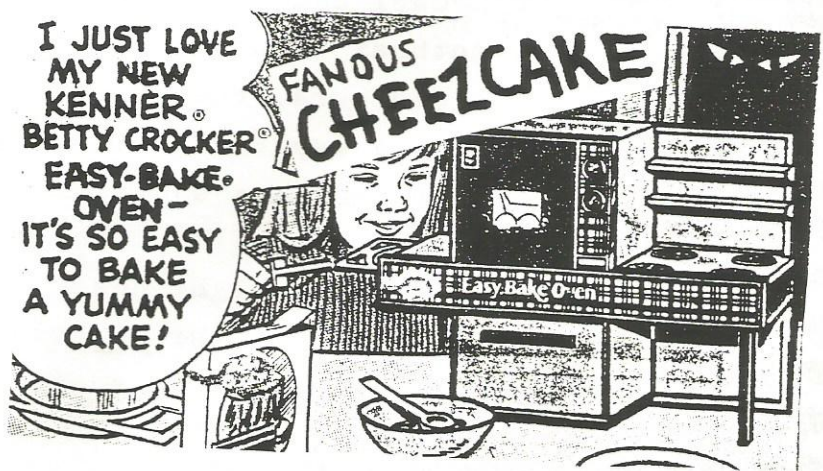


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The Doomwatch Ep and Necropolis hopefully will be reviewed in my next issue. As for Dream Death, you can order their demo (any real metal fan should have a copy). Just send \$4 to Mike Smail, R.D. # 1, Box 2196, Leechburg, Pa., 15656, U.S.A.

Other mags to buy:

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Send \$1 to TZS, 1601 Scenic Drive W., Trenton, N.J. 08628

--Disorder 2, with Dark Angel, AOD, Crumbsuckers, and more.

Send \$2 to Paul Gross, 2117 Magee Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., 19149, U.S.A.

--Jersey Beat, covers all Jersey underground bands.

Send \$2 to Jim Testa, 418 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087, U.S.A.

--Total Thrash 8, with Nuclear Death, Sadus, Desecration,

Send \$1.50 to Scott Helig, 2127 Tryon Street, Philadelphia, Pa., 19146, U.S.A.

--

ALBUMS TO BUY

Kreator: Flag of Hate. Speed metal...super heavy.

I like this Ep. Rating, 9.0

Overkill: Taking Over. Power metal...excellent

release...better than the first. Rating, 9.5

Anthrax: I'm the Law Ep. Power metal...these guys

have wimped out superb. Rating, 8.5

Deathrow: Satan's Gift. Speed metal...good speed

album from Germany. Rating, 8.0

Desdrution: Eternal Defastaion. Speed metal...best

release so far. Rating, 9.0.



For additional information concerning "MACHINE DOG"; appearances, demos or bookings, please write in care of

SEND
13
FOR DEMO

P. O. Box 1502
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034
(609) 627-4439/(609) 354-8149

~~FXM~~

Necropolis

86 Demo

Well, I got this demo a couple of days before we went to print, so here is the review. The music is very heavy, like Celtic Frost, and Black Sabbath. The tape has six songs and all are cool. The only thing bad about a tape is the production. The lyric content is very different. Some of the songs are about surviving nuclear war, instead of stopping it. Let's hear it for originality. My favorite song is Annihilus. It's very fast and very catchy. Also, the vocals remind me a lot of Legion of Death. I hope these guys go into a better studio next time. But for now, this tape is recommended. For info: 400 East End Avenue, Apt. #2, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15221, U.S.A.

Dark Angel... interview

Dark Angel is a great speed metal band. They are from L.A. and have two albums out. Their latest, Darkness Descends on Combat, is selling very well. I got a chance to interview their drummer, Gene, at a recent City Gardens show. Read on about their new singer and other stuff...

MC: How long has Dark Angel been around?

Gene: Dark Angel has been around since 1981. The original members were Jim Durkin on guitar (he's the only member that's left); and there was Rob Long on bass, and Don Donly on vocals. We recently replaced Don with our new singer, Jim Drioubs, who's working out great.

MC: What are the Dark Angel influences?

Gene: Early influences include Motorhead, Tank, Venom, Metallica. We try not to be influenced by anybody these days. A lot of people are worried concerning themselves that Dark Angel sounds like Slayer, but that's a load of crap. I don't believe so. A lot of people compared We Have Arrived to Slayer. You won't hear one Slayer riff on that album. A lot of people on the East Coast think so, but I'm not worried about it. Influences nowadays are fast and heavy stuff. It doesn't have to be blinding speed. I personally love Possessed, Sacrilege from Frisco, Excel from L.A., Phasmer from Las Vegas, Sacred Rite from Phoenix, Viking from L.A. Those aren't influences, just anything fast and heavy.

MC: What are your feelings on the first album and Axe Killer Records?

Gene: Well, the first album, a lot of people in the band weren't too happy with it. I wasn't on it, but I was around then. I was hanging out with them. I was impressed with it. It was really just a demo that made it onto vinyl. It was originally on Metalstorm, Azra in America, and Axe Killer in Europe. Axe Killer were cool to us. Metalstorm was filth. The guy Dave Richards is a very nice guy. But the guy who runs Metalstorm is cool but a horrible businessman. Axe Killer were cool to us. They tried to help us out, but the album was definitely low-budget.

MC: How did you get on Combat?

Gene: About the time We Have Arrived was about to be released, somebody from Combat called us and said that before you record anything else, to let them know. They said they were really into us guys and that, please, call us whatever you do. When second album time came around, well, it was time to call Combat. We called them up and sent them a tape of our new stuff. They thought the tape was great. Combat is GOD. You've heard horror stories about how some people were treated. Well, Combat is God. They're the heaviest label. Dark Angel aside, they have the heaviest bands. Combat is it, that's all there is to it.

MC: How is the album selling?

Gene: Excellent. The album is taking off great. Combat expected a lot of sales. They're cruisin' up there. I don't know the exact figures.

MC: How was it working with Randy Burns?

Gene: Randy Burns is a great producer. He's got his own ideas. We're really pleased the way Darkness came out. We think it came out great. The budget we were given, well, we weren't given as much money as it sounds like it was. It sounds like we recorded it for a lot more money than we did. I can't wait to get to the next album. We're gonna have three times as much money than the last one, and the production on the next one is gonna kill Darkness.

MC: How did you like playing The Ritz with Motorhead and the Cromags?

Gene: It was great, it was a lot of fun. We were having a lot of problems that day. It wasn't like our best show or anything. I hope nobody charges that show as truly Dark Angel. The show was great, the Cromags were god to us. Motorhead, we expected to be rock stars. They were really cool to us. The crowd out there, well, we were the opening band, but they were there to see Motorhead. But we had our fans, the people going crazy up front, so I think we left a good scar. When we play there next week, we will kill.

MC: Are the L.A. shows as sick as people say?

Gene: They're sicker. They are lunatics. L.A. people are constantly breaking their arms. I love the East Coast, but L.A.'s my hometown. San Francisco, they seem to be mellowing out.

PAR 1 7
NEXT
ISSUE

DEMO REVIEWS...By Chris Forbes

Annihilator: Phantasmagoria

This band is from Canada and, along with Dream Death, is one of my favorite death metal bands. This demo has four tracks: Gallery, Alison Hell, the title track and Ligeia.

All four songs are excellent, but the standout track is the title track. A couple of other things I like is that the singer actually sings, not growls or vomits, like most death metal singers. The production is also very good, making this demo way above average. The only thing bad about the tape is that sometimes the drums get lost in the mix. All in all, I would recommend this tape to anybody into death metal. If you're not, you still might want to pick it up. You won't be disappointed: Annihilator, 2386 Monroe Avenue, K2C1L2, Ottawa, Canada.

The Eviscerators

I came face to face with the Forces of Evil...

If you thought the Mad Butchers tape was bad, well there is a band that is worse. This tape fuckin' sucks with such cool song titles as Venus Ate My Penis, Fuck Babes, and I Live for Porn. This tape belongs in everybody's collection. The music sucks so bad, and on top of it, the lyrics aren't even funny. If you have money to burn, buy this tape. Otherwise, avoid this tape at all costs. If you want more info, and you're an asshole who loves to be ripped off, then write to: The Eviscerators, 750-119 North Indiana, Pa., 15701, U.S.A.

Devilfood Snake 86 Demo

More garbage! This tape is as bad as the tape above. If you love shitty metal with no meaning, then you will love this tape. Check out these song titles: The Salad Bowl of Rock n Roll, Douchin' With the Devil, I'm a Drinker, Not a Thinker. I wish bands like this would give up! For more info, use the same address as the Eviscerators.

Sonic Annihilation
Obsessed With Torture

This is a good demo. This band is from Drexel Hill, Pa. It's about time we got some more cool thrash bands in the area. The only thing wrong with the demo is the original song titles, Torture, Kill 'Em All, Machine Gun and Terminal Death. The band told me that the next demo will have better lyrics. I hope so. The music, however, is a different story, very fast power metal versing on speed. The singing is also good. You can actually hear the words. The production is also pretty good. So if you like power metal, or speed metal, write to these guys: Sonic Annihilation, 2513 Irvington Rd., Drexel Hill, Pa., 19026.

Lethal Aggression
From the Cunt of the Fucking Whore

You read the interview in the last issue, and you still don't have the tape? What are you, nuts? L.A.'s demo is one of the best demos from the opening Cords of Stooze to the last notes of Lust. This tape just rips with power. The tape has seven songs altogether, and each one is a killer: Vodka Vodka, Country Pig, Moroid Reality, Anarcheology and Metallic Rage. This tape is crossover before crossover. Rob's voice is also a plus. The lyrics are great, too. If you're into hard core, punk, speed, death or power, I order you to get this tape: L.A., P.O. Box 991, Brick, N.J. 08723, and enclose \$4.

Deathrash
Faces of Death

This demo is quite old, but it still deserves mention. This tape kicks butt. The tape has three songs, Lock Jaw, Buried Alive, and Blood for Blood. The riffing reminds me of Exodus, but the vocals are more in the hardcore mold. Deathrash is also on Speed Metal Hell #2, out of New Renaissance. Anyway, if you like cool power metal, then you will want to add this tape to your collection. For info, write: Pat Burns, RR #2, Box 1039, Highland Lakes, N.J. 07422, U.S.A.

Aftermath

86 Demo

These guys are from Chicago, which I understand has a great underground Scene. Well, if they keep putting out cool bands like this, then the scene will get bigger. This tape has four tracks and, along with Sadus, is one hell of a ripping tape, although this has more time changes. The production is also pretty good and the singing isn't bad, either. It reminds me of Bob Yost of Desecration. Sentenced to Death isn't an original title, but the music is great. Revenge, the second song, is OK. Shotgun, the third song, is a killer. The fourth and last song, an instrumental titled Aftermath, is ok, but the guitar gets lost in the mix. Well, if you like speed metal, you might want this tape. Send \$3.50 to Charlie Tsiolis, 6131 W. Byron, Chicago, Ill., 60634.

Negative Youth

Simplex 1

This band is from North Jersey and is a hardcore, joke band. The music isn't very good, but the lyrics are funny, especially "I Fucked Your Daughter." The music isn't even up front. The vocals are more, and this makes the tape less enjoyable. Some of the other hilarious songs are Clowns of Society, Jerk-Off Brigade and Fuck. If you're into funny music like the Mentors, or Intense Mutilation, then you will want this tape. If not, you still might want it anyway. For more info, write: N.Y., 111 West Somerset Street, Raritan, N.J. 08869, U.S.A.

Repulsion

Slaughter of the Innocent

Repulsion (which used to be called Genocide) sent me this tape about 10 months ago as a rough mix for a forthcoming lp. Well, if you have the tape, you know why it didn't make it to vinyl. This group sucks. The singer, if you can call him that, can't sing. He just growls and spits out a bunch of noise. The music is played as possible, although the first cut, The Stench of Burning Death, is good. After that, it's

all downhill. The lyrics are very stupid and dumb...Decomposed
Maggots in Your Coffin, Black Breath. If this band would
slow down a little and get a new singer, anybody would be an
improvement, they could have a chance. This is trash and
deserves to be burned. Send \$5, you loser, to: Aaron Freeman,
3525 Dakota Avenue, Flint, MI, 48506

Torture

Enter the Kingdom

This band is from Texas and claims to play power metal.
They play heavy, but not fast enough for my liking. The
first cut named Power Metal is catchy, but I wish it was a
bit faster. Also stupid is the last line in the song, Fry In
Hell, You Posers. Real original. Another thing is that Torture
lists its influences as Slayer and Destruction. Yeah, I don't
think so. If they're playing power metal, how are they influenced
by Slayer? The other song isn't so hot, either. Plus, they want
\$5 for a two-song demo. I think these guys are in it for the
money. For info, write 1808 A. Palmer, El Paso, Tex. 79935.

Insted

At Last

This is one of the best hardcore bands I've ever heard.
The lyrics are excellent and so is the music. This is the
perfect hardcore band. The lyrics are very well thought out. The
music isn't all-out speed and it goes well with the lyrics. Unity
is a very good example of the lyrics stating that we all have to
stick together. The other eight songs are good, too. I'm Confused
is my favorite overall. I can't stress how good this tape is. Buy
it now. Lyrics are enclosed. If you're into excellent hardcore,
write to Key 1151 Roxboro St., Anaheim, Ca., 92805

Deflagartion

Comp Tape

This tape has two bands on it, Rapt and Herrraids. The first
band plays super-fast hardcore, with super-fast singing. The other
band, Rapt, is from Sweden and is super-fast also. The cool thing
about the tape is you get 60 minutes of music. This tape has 52
songs!! Of the two bands, I like the first band a bit better, since
I can understand the words better. Anyway, if you're into super-fast
music, like Cryptic Slaughter, then you will love this tape, and
other tapes. Ordering info, look for the ad elsewhere in the mag.

Metal Onslaught

87 Demo

This is one hell of a demo. These guys are gonna be big. This demo has six songs, and they are all killer cuts. This is how thrash should be played: heavy, fast and with power. The demo sounds professionally done. Another thing I like is the humor in the band, which is displayed in "Buttfucked." The vocals are excellent, too, very raw but appealing. If you don't have a copy of this tape and don't like it, then you are a big loser, so go order the Repulsion tape. Look for an interview next issue. For the demo, send \$7 to 1770 Joseph Ct., Elgin, Ill., 60120, U.S.A.

The Best of....Wicked Angel

Wicked Angel is from Canada and is a pretty good power metal band. They have three demos out so far and they have an Ep coming out. They sent me a tape with four songs on it. The first cut, Black Shark, reminds me of Holocaust. The next cut, Within the Walls, is ok, but doesn't have the power of the first cut. The third cut, Welcome to My Sacrifice, is pretty good and reminds me of Medieveland the Rods. The fourth and last cut, Screaming In the Night, sounds like the Rods. This group isn't too bad; if you love speed bands, avoid this tape. But if you like The Rods, Anvil or Medievel, you might want to pick up this tape. For info, send \$6 to Jeff Oppen, 1124 Prado Place, Windsor, Ontario N8S2H8.

Heathen Pray for Death

Heathen is a five-piece band from California and it's excellent. The Exodus-inspired riffs kill. The tape at times reminds me of Anvil Bitch. The vocals are very good and original, not trying to sound like everybody else. The guitarists, Lee and Doug, play with fierce intensity. The production is very good, not sludgy like some of the demos I get. If you like heavy riffing and cool vocals and Exodus and Anvil Bitch, then send \$5 to Heathen, P.O. Box 7564, Berkeley, Calif., 94707. They also have shirts and buttons.

Satans Bake Sale
We're Cooking Now

This band is as bad as it sounds. The music sucks, sounding like everybody else, playing 1,000 miles an hour. However, they are working on a new demo that they say will have better music and lyrics. Good for them. The music may not be the greatest, but the lyrics are very funny. I'll give them credit for that. Time to Make the Donuts is a classic, right up there with the Mentors. Other cool cuts include Uncle Fester, Molly Ringwald, Trapped In Flypaper. If you like funny music, you will definitely love this tape. Send \$4 to S.B.S., 9 Kings Arms, Mech, Pa., 17055, U.S.A.

Global Obliteration
Vicious Slaughter Demo

No, this isn't a stupid death metal band, but a cool crossover band. The demo has seven cuts, some in the death metal mold, Evil Dead and the title track. The other five are more hardcore, which Mike, the bass player, said they're going to stick to. One of my favorite songs is Metal-Core, which is about unity. The hardcore songs' lyrics are very well thought out, and Joe is an excellent singer. I love this tape. The production is kind of sludgy, but it makes the tape better. On the bad side, the two death metal song lyrics suck, but just the lyrics. Society sucks rules. I wanna hear more. For info, write Mike Berdecia, 2102 Bronx Park East, Bronx, N.Y. 10462

SADUS
D.T.P.

This tape is fuckin' great. So fuckin' fast that your neck will break trying to bang to it. The singer screams, he doesn't vomit, or growl, and it sounds like his lungs are gonna pop out at any moment. This is speed metal all the way, and this is the way it should be played. This is way heavier than the Repulsion demo; this is the way it's done, guys. This demo has seven tracks and all will rip your head apart. Also, the production will amaze you. I thought the production would suck. All in all, this is a great demo. Speed freaks will die over this one. More info: Send \$5 to Darren Travis, 517 Kean Avenue, Antioch, Ca., 94509

M.D.L.

Mother Roses Basement

This is a four-piece hardcore band from Washington and is quite good. This tape has 18 songs, with the lyrics ranging from talking about Spitting in Public to Dear America, which is about the threat of nuclear war. Most of the song lyrics are well thought out, and the tape comes with lyrics, which is cool. Baf has a cool voice for a punk singer, too. Some of the songs are all-out blaze, while the others are medium-paced. Beware of Dogs is a classic. You've gotta hear it, it's so funny. The production is also very good, so if you like cool hardcore, then you'll be advised to pick up this tape. M.D.L., 1004 C St., Ellensburg, Wa., 98926, U.S.A.

Corruption

Infest of Rage

Corruption is from California and is a crossover band, but definitely more on the hardcore side. The music sometimes reminds me of Lethal Aggression. This demo has eight tracks of aggression on it. The music is fast, not as fast as possible, and the lyrics are shouted, which is the way that hardcore should be played. Lyrics are included, too. Guitarist Billy is very good and Steve, the drummer, pounds away, making this band sound just very tight on the demo. If you like cool hardcore and songs like Beef to the Core, and Drunk and Alert, (very funny), then write to Paul, 15641, Pensacola St., Westminster, Ca., 92683

Cerebral Hemorage

86 Demo

C.H. are two guys from Whiplash, John Bongiovanni and drummer Tony Scaglione (now drumming for Slayer), and somebody named Dr. Killpatient. This is an off-shoot project, and it is an excellent demo. I like this better than Whiplash! The tape has 11 songs, some of which are killers like the title cut and Khadaffy Must Die. Others are joke songs, like Sploof Song. The music sounds like Whiplash going hardcore. If you like crossover, you'll love this. I'd recommend this tape to everybody. Send \$5 to Dr. Killpatient, 107 Lafrance Avenue, Bloomfield, N.J. 07003, U.S.A.

Violence

86 Demo

Despite the name of the band and the song titles, this band kicks ass. This tape has lots of heavy riffing and, yes, the band plays fast, but not just noise. They sort of remind me of Kreator and Destruction. The tape has four songs: Eternal Nightmare, Kill on Command, Bodies on Bodies and Paraplegic. The lyrics are still way above most death bands, and the music is bottom line, anyway. If you like real metal, and heavy riffing, then order this tape. Also, the singing is better than most death metal weenie bands, too. If you want a real heavy and fast tape, then write and send \$6 to:

Desecration

EP 86

You've read the interview. Now it's onto the review. I reviewed their demo a couple of issues ago in Total Thrash (buy it, ed.), and this Ep is way better than the demo because the production is far better. The music is still blazing speed core, with intelligent lyrics. The Ep has six songs, two more than the demo. My favorite track is Macho Man, which is about a guy trying to be macho, but who really is a dick. The lyrics are excellent and well-thought and have meaning. Buy this Ep. Write to Jack, P.O. Box 195, Meza, Ariz., 85201, U.S.A.

Doomwatch

Ep

I also got this Ep before we went to print. This is one hell of an Ep. The music on the Ep is really heavy and doomy and gets speedy at times. The Ep has five songs and not one dull track. I can't stress enough how good this Ep is. Buy it and find out how good it really is. For more info, write to: Doomwatch, P.O. Box 14055, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15239, U.S.A.

Hallows Eve

Hallows Eve is a great thrash band out of Georgia. They have been on tour supporting their second album, Death and Insanity. I got a chance to talk to their bass player, Tom Stewart, after a disastrous gig in Philadelphia, with Club Pizazz being torn apart.

MC: How long has Hallows Eve been around?

Tom: About three years now. We started playing live in July of '85, so it's really hard to say. The first year, we just put ourselves together.

MC: How did you sign to Metal Blade Records?

Tom: We played together for about a year and arranged to do a demo tape we knew Metal Blade would like. We sent it to them and they signed us right away.

MC: Where are some of your influences?

Tom: Yeah, I'll surprise you. I go back a little ways. I grew up with old Black Sabbath and Jimi Hendrix and all that stuff. And after a while, it became Ted Nugent, Aerosmith and then the Motorhead thing started happening. Then Metallica all started to happen, so that pretty much was the evolution.

MC: What happened to the guitar player on the first album?

Tom: He was strange, man (laughs). He's still strange; he, I don't know, he suddenly didn't like us anymore. He and Stacey particularly didn't get along, and besides that, he didn't like the kind of music we were playing. He decided we weren't enough hardcore for him, and not thrash enough for him. And ya know, we told him we just write songs and they are what they are, and we weren't gonna change them for anybody, not even for ourselves. We were just gonna write what we write and he didn't like it, so he left.



MC: What area are you most popular in?

Tom: Northeast industrial towns and, as of late, Atlanta is starting to like us a lot.

MC: How is the thrash scene in Atlanta?

Tom: Real good now. A couple of years ago, when we started playing there, there wasn't anything happening, but as time went on, they finally caught on to what we were doing. The first time we played Atlanta, they never saw or heard anything like us, and these people weren't even aware of Metallica, or anything like that, like Anthrax. These people had no idea who these people were, and I remember the first time we played Atlanta, everybody stood there with their mouths open. They asked us what we were doing; after the show was over, they still didn't understand the concept of metal at all.

MC: Do you get a lot of hardcore people at your shows?

Tom: Yeah, it's a good mix.

MC: What do you think of the PRMC cutting stickers on albums?

Tom: I agree with everybody that says it's great. I mean, as far as us putting the lyrics on the front cover goes, that would suit me, too, because later on, when the record companies get tired of printing your album, they're deciding it's not selling enough, the lyrics will still be there because they take the lyric sheet out first. I'd like the lyrics to be on the album. Then I know it's gonna be there 10 years later, so it suits me.

MC: Who drew the cover of your second album and how did you come up with the title?

Tom: Stacey did a drawing of the cover, and then another guy painted it. As far as the title goes, he based the drawing on the title. I came up with the concept of doing an album based on the subjects of Death and Insanity because I felt like, it seemed like every album we'd have two or three death songs.

So I said, why don't we do a whole album about death and then promise we will never say anything about it again. So we did it like that, and got it off our chests and we're never gonna talk about it again. All the new material written for our third album, hardly anything has to do with death. We covered it.

MC: Any new song titles you can give us?

Tom: Yeah, we got Monument to Nothing, Rot Gut, Looking Glass, Routine 2, the Decibel, Evil Offering, which we were gonna play tonight; Inaliation, Norman Your Mother is Calling. Oh, there is a bunch of them. We are ready to do a third album.

MC: Where do you get your lyric ideas from?

Tom: Stuff like this (somebody Broke a pipe in the Club Pizazz bathroom and the show was cancelled after 20 minutes of Hallow's Eve; then people punched holes in the wall and the cops came).

MC: You'll write a song about it, right?

Tom: Yeah, we'll probably write a song about tonight. We've been doing a lot of live shows, so I wrote a song called The Mighty Decibel. So we have a halfway riot tonight while we were playing, so I might write a song about it, or I might write something about what I saw on the bathroom wall.

MC: So what are your future plans for the next couple of months?

Tom: To play all of the cities we haven't hit yet, at least on the east side of the Mississippi; the East Coast towns we haven't hit, and then maybe the West Coast, where we could get into a studio. We have all of this material that we're just sitting on. We wanna get in there and do some pre-production. We've already started some taping. David and I have been working out some stuff on a four-track, or an eight-track, or whatever is available. So in May or June, we will go into a studio for the third album.

MC: Last comments?

Tom: I wanna thank everybody for supporting us and to tell everybody who went out to the store and said they couldn't find the Hallow's Eve album; go in there to the clerk and order it. That really makes a difference in support. Write to: Hallow's Eve, P.O. Box 725166, Atlanta, Ga. 30339

Bloodbath
86 Demo

These guys are from California and play death metal. You must know my feelings on death metal. I think 90 percent of it sucks. This tape isn't too bad, compared to others. The singing isn't too bad, and the music isn't all that original but you can still enjoy this tape. I lost the song listing, so I can't mention any songs. All I can say is that if you're into death metal, you will want to buy this tape. For info, 908 # B, Minaker Dr., Antioch, Ca. 94509.

CITY GARDENS

2/22/87

The opening band, Heathen's Rage, was pretty good. I saw them two years ago and they have improved since then. I'd like to hear their studio material. Flotsam and Jetsam were up next, and they blew the place apart. They were playing with their new bass player. Musically, they were tight and the sound was pretty good, considering they were an opening band. I don't have their first album, but I remember the opening cut, "Hammerhead," which is on Speed Metal Hell 2. Some of the other songs I recognized were "I Live, You Die," off Metal Massacre 7 and "Die Furor." Megadeth was up next and boy, did they suck. They played mostly songs off their new album, Peace Sells, including "Devil's Island," and the "Congorging." They dipped back into their first album, playing "Rattlehead," and "The Mechanix (the Four Horsemen by Metallica). They played one encore, "Love to Death." Megadeth looked tired and played sloppy. Flotsam and Jetsam was the best band on this night.

Hallow's Eve/Metal Shop, Delaware

The place wasn't packed, but then again, it was a Thursday night. Hallow's Eve kicked ass, nevertheless, not letting the people who came out to support them down. They raced through a 13-song set. H.E. played songs off both their albums, and the sound system was very good. Opening with a song off their new album, which I didn't know, they did play DIE, Tales of Terror and one of my favorites, Metal Merchants. H.E. has gotten better since I saw them open for Slayer at Lamours two years ago. They have gotten tighter and in my opinion, their stage appearance is a lot better. DIE was a total mash, with the crowd eating it up. Plunging to Megadeth ruled my favorite Hallow's Eve song. Toward the end of the set, Hallow's Eve lost some of its momentum, probably from exhaustive touring. Nevertheless, H.E. is an excellent live band. When those Metal Merchants hit the East Coast again, you can be sure I'll be there.

Dark Angel/ City Gardens

Dark Angel opened up for Possessed on this cold night in Trenton. Attendance wasn't that good because Slayer was playing with Wasp down in Philly. Dark Angel hit the stage, opening with Darkness Descends. They had a new singer, too. He wasn't very good and needs stage presence. Gene was pounding the drums like a madman, though. D.A. played mostly stuff off their new album, "Death is Certain," and my favorite, "The Burning of Sodom." They also played stuff from their first album, "We Have Arrived," and "Welcome to the Slaughterhouse." The last song was "Merciless Death," which is on both albums. This was D.A.'s last song since they weren't headlining. They weren't bad, but they need a new singer.