

METAL CORE

F A N Z I N E

#21

Tons of Records / Demo Reviews

Fanzine and Distribution listings

underground ads

Editors Page

and more!

Interviews with

Wild Rag Records

Jeff Wagner/Relapse Recs.

Godsend

Subversive Agenda zine

Deathrune

Cursed zine

WELCOME TO ISSUE # 21!!!!

Well, it has been awhile, but here we are in a brand new year and a brand new issue of Metal Core. Some great interviews with some great bands, zines and labels. Please remember the interviews are done by the said individuals and not, Chris Forbes.

By the time this issue is out, the new Immolation Lp: "Here In After" will be out on Metal Blade Records. Buy your copy now.

My distribution service is getting bigger by the day. For a complete list of demos, Cds, shirts, 7" and fanzines that I currently stock, send me a stamp or IRC. Any labels, zines, bands, etc interested in getting their stuff distributed through me, send a sample copy of your stuff and wholesale rates. Trades are preferred, but will sell stuff on consignment.

I am currently working on a article called "Is Death Metal Dead?" I want my readers input. Please send me your thoughts on the subject. This article will be published in issue 21 of Metal Core or another zine.

Some people, mostly some zine editors have been writing me and saying the zine is cool, but the layout is simple and not appealing to the eye. They also say the reviews are too short. Boo Hoo. That is just a shame. First off, I agree the layout is simple. I look at it this way, why do most people pick up a zine in the first place? To get good, honest reviews and to discover new bands. I think I accomplish both. I also do the whole zine on a word processor and don't have an extra \$2,000 lying around to buy a computer I do this zine for fun and that is the way it has always been and will always be. If you don't like it tough. Go buy Metal Edge. About the short reviews, with so much material to review each issue that is the way it has to be. I don't like writing long reviews and short reviews are my style and it's my zine so I'm gonna do what I want. When I get a zine in the mail, I don't look at the layout or the pictures and think, how cool the zine is. I'll take a well thought informative interview that was pasted together than some fancy slick zine that asks bands what are their opinions and thinks every band is unholy. I like zines that show blood and guts and get down in the dirt with their reviews and are totally 100% honest in their reviews. I take my review stance from Maximum Rock N Roll zine. I'm sure you have all seen a copy. It is the punk rock bible of a zine printed on newsprint. Take a look at their review section. Most of the reviews are short and I don't hear anybody complaining about them. I would like to hear your opinions on the subject, so send them in.

Just remember, I do this zine for the love of music and because it is fun. This is not some business venture. I have a full time job, a distro service and I manage 2 bands, so have a heart.

I hope everyone had a great 1995 and will have a better 1996.

Thanks to all the labels and the bands for the promo material. I try to review all stuff that is sent. 95% of the material you send is reviewed and I will send tearsheets to labels and smaller bands I send you, your review.

Any distros that would like to trade some Metal Core zines or Symphony of Grief, 7", tapes or Cds, call or write to me at once.

Ad rates are as follows: \$50 full page \$30 1/2 \$20 1/4
Ads must be camera ready and payment made in full or no ad will be printed.

Send all mail, demos and what have you to the following address:

CHRIS FORBES 13 CARRIAGE LANE MARLTON, NJ 08053-1109
PHONE # (609) 596-1975 FAX # (609) 983-6288

LOOK FOR MYSELF AND IMMOLATION ON TOUR ALL OVER THE USA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD IN 1996. THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT IN THE PAST AND IN THE FUTURE.

I am writing for Ballbuster magazine out of Kentucky. If you would like to check this fine mag out, mail me \$2 for a issue. Take care, I'm outta here.

HOW OLD ARE YOU AND GIVE THE READERS SOME BACKGROUND ON YOUR EARLY YEARS. DID YOU GO TO COLLEGE ...?

I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN BUSINESS IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER SINCE I WAS 19, WHEN I OPENED MY FIRST STORE IN 1969. I DID GO TO COLLEGE. TO GET OUT OF THE DRAFT TO BE ABLE TO PARTY, MAKE ACID IN CHEMISTRY CLASS, TURN ON, TUNE OUT, I'M OLD ENOUGH TO BUY BEER AND ALL THE PORN I WANT, OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW NOT TO HAVE MY FOOT IN MY MOUTH WHEN I TALK.

DID YOU LIVE IN THE CALIFORNIA AREA ALL YOUR LIFE? DESCRIBE WHAT IT IS LIKE LIVING IN CALIFORNIA. IS THERE MUCH CRIME IN MONTEBELLO? HAS YOUR STORE EVER GOT BROKEN INTO?

FOR THE MOST PART IT, CALIFORNIA HAS BEEN MY HOME. I LIVED IN CHICAGO FOR A WHILE, AND NEW YORK AND A SOME TIME IN HOUSTON WHEN I RAN AWAY FROM HOME. BUT THOSE PLACES REALLY SUCK. I HATE THE COLD AND CALIFORNIA L.A. IS THE ONLY PLACE TO BE... FOR ME... THAT IS. MONTEBELLO IS A PRETTY QUIET CITY, ONLY ABOUT 11 GANGS IN THIS AREA, SO IT'S REMOTELY PRETTY PEACEFUL. HERE IS WHERE ALL THE OLDER GANG BANGERS RETIRE TO AS WELL AS THE OLD ARMENIAN AND

METAL STORE, NOT LIKE THIS, NOT ONE THAT JUST "SPECIALIZES" IN METAL, BUT ONE THAT IS ALL METAL AND NOTHING ELSE. AS FOR IT LASTING THIS LONG? WELL, I NEVER ATTEMPT SOMETHING THAT I KNOW I WILL FAIL AT. SO I KNEW IT WOULD BE AROUND FOR A LONG TIME. I DON'T HAVE ANY INTENTIONS OF RETIRING AND THOUGH SOME OTHER STORES HAVE ALWAYS OPENED UP WITH THE IDEA OF IMITATING US, IT HAS NEVER WORKED, THEY DON'T

EXCLUSIVE interview

HAVE THE PATIENCE AND THEY DON'T WORK AS HARD AS I DO.

WHERE DID YOU GET THE MONEY TO OPEN THE STORE? HOW MANY PEOPLE WORK THERE? IS THE PAY GOOD? WOULD YOU EVER CONSIDER MOVING OR OPENING ANOTHER STORE?

FAR AS ROOM, WE HAVE TWO ADDITIONAL STORAGE SPACES AWAY FROM THE STORE WHERE WE KEEP MOST OF THE OVERSTOCK ON SOME STORE PRODUCT OR CD-CASSETTE COVERS FOR THE RECORD LABEL, AND THE WILD RAG! MAGS, CAUSE THERE HAVE BEEN TIMES WHEN THE FIRE DEPT COMES IN AND THEY CITE US FOR ALL KINDS OF VIOLATIONS, BUT WE NEED THE EXTRA SPACE FOR POSTERS, AND T-SHIRTS AND NOW CDS FROM OTHER LABELS CAUSE WHEN WE TRADE, WE TRADE MEGA QUANTITIES, ENOUGH SO WE DON'T RUN OUT IMMEDIATELY, AND EVEN THEN, IT IS NEVER ENOUGH.

LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR LABEL. WHAT WERE SOME OF YOUR EARLY RELEASES? HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH THE MONEY TO PUT THE RELEASES OUT? DO YOU STILL HAVE ANY COPIES OF YOUR EARLY RELEASES FOR SALE? WILL YOU EVER RE-RELEASE ANY OF THE TITLES?

THE VERY FIRST RELEASE WAS NECROPHAGIA FROM L.A. THAT SOLD ABOUT 1500 COPIES IN ABOUT 15 DAYS! WORKING DAYS, SO ABOUT 3 1/2 WEEKS, WHICH WAS UNREAL BUT THE BAND WORKED HARD AT EXPOSING THE RELEASE IN L.A. AND WE HAD A LOT OF INTEREST OVERSEAS, AND THAT'S HOW WE GOT RID OF THE MAJORITY OF THEM. GOOD THING CAUSE WITHIN A FEW WEEKS AFTER

with

WILD RAGS

ITALIAN MOBSTERS. I OPENED MY SECOND STORE HERE IN THIS CITY IN 1970-71. WE GOT THROWN OUT BY THE POLICE FOR THE WILD PARTIES. WHEN SOME OF MY UNIVERSITY FRIENDS STOPPED BY AND STAYED OVER, I QUIT ALL THAT SHIT AFTER MY FIRST MARRIAGE. MONTEBELLO POLICE AND THE CITY DOESN'T TOLERATE ANY BULLSHIT ACTIVITY, SO YOU REALLY HAVE TO BE VERY LOW KEYED. THE VERY FIRST YEAR I OPENED WILD RAGS I GOT BROKEN INTO, SOME DRUNK, A HOMELESS BUM, RAN RIGHT INTO THE FRONT WINDOW, ONE OF THE SMALLER PLATE WINDOWS AND HE PASSED OUT WHEN HE HIT THE GLASS. LUCKILY HE WASN'T CUT IN HALF.

WHICH DID YOU DO FIRST, THE RECORD LABEL OR THE STORE? IF YOU HAD TO LOSE ONE, WHICH WOULD IT BE AND WHY? WHICH OF THE 2, DO YOU ENJOY THE MOST?

THE STORE WAS FIRST AND THEN THE LABEL AND THEN THE FANZINE, NOW THE NEWSLETTER. IF I HAD TO CHOOSE, WELL THEN I WOULD HAVE TO GIVE THEM ALL UP! CAUSE THE STORE IS COOL, YOU HAVE TO BABY SIT SOMETIMES THESE ASSHOLES THAT THINK THEY KNOW IT ALL, OR THEY THINK THIS IS SOME KIND OF MUSEUM, AND SO THEY COME AND REMINISE ABOUT THE OLD BANDS, CAUSE WE HAVE TONS OF PHOTOS OF BANDS THAT HAVE COME BY THE STORE, ETC... AND THOUGH IT IS A PAIN IN THE ASS, HAVING TO WORK SOME DAYS LIKE SUNDAYS, OR SOME DAYS WHEN THERE IS A COOL SHOW ETC. IT'S NOT THAT BAD. BESIDES WE GET TO MEET A LOT OF COOL PEOPLE AND IT'S DIFFERENT, THE LABEL IS EXTREMELY COOL AND SO IS THE MAG BUT JUST TALKING TO PEOPLE AND USING MY WIT AND SALESMANSHIP IS THE BIGGEST HIGH, PERIOD. NOTHING LIKE IT ANYWHERE. I WOULD DEFINITELY HAVE TO SAY I ENJOY THE STORE BUT THEN AGAIN THE LABEL IS EXTREMELY COOL. I'VE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH SOME VERY COOL AND EXCITING BANDS, PUT TOGETHER SOME VERY COOL DEALS

HOW LONG HAS YOUR STORE BEEN OPEN? WERE YOU INVOLVED IN MUSIC BEFORE THE STORE OPENED? DID YOU WORK IN ANY OTHER MUSIC STORES? WHAT GAVE YOU THE IDEA TO OPEN UP A STORE? DID YOU THINK THAT YOU WOULD STILL BE OPEN TODAY?

THIS STORE WAS OPENED IN 1982, IT WAS AN IDEA THAT I HAD THAT I TOSSED AROUND WITH MY THIRD WIFE. SHE WAS DESIGNING SOME WICKED CLOTHING FOR SOME ENTERTAINERS. PLUS WE HAD BEEN WHOLESALING TO BIGGER STORES LIKE TOWER RECORDS, AND IT WAS BORING. WE WOULD NEVER GET PAID ON TIME, AND WHEN WE DID IT WAS ALOT OF MONEY BUT IT JUST WASN'T THE SAME AS BEING RIGHT IN THE HUSTLE. MY EX CAME UP WITH THE IDEA THAT WE SHOULD PUT TOGETHER THE ULTIMATE HARD ROCK/HEAVY METAL STORE, WITH CLOTHING AND JEWELRY. A TOTAL ROCK N ROLL LIFE STYLE STORE. BECAUSE I HAD BEEN INVOLVED WITH SELLING RECORDS (VINYL) FOR SO LONG I DID NOT WANT THE USUAL CLICHE TITLE OR STORE NAME, AND WE JUST HAPPENED TO CHOOSE WILD RAGS! IT SEEMED APPROPRIATE AT THE TIME AND IT JUST EVOLVED IN THE WILD RAG! WHICH IN THE OLD DAYS, A RAG WAS A GOSSIP TYPE NEWSLETTER... I DIDN'T WANT TO DO ANOTHER NAME FOR THE LABEL AND I JUST KEPT IT WITH THE SAME NAME. I NEVER DID WORK AT ANY OTHER RECORD STORE. JUST USED TO HANG AROUND ALL THE TIME AT ONE, AT TIMES I EVEN HELPED OUT PUTTING AWAY STOCK AND HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPIN SOME TUNES ON THE TURNTABLE BUT THAT WAS IT, IT WAS NEVER AN OFFICIAL "JOB". I HATE WORKING FOR SOMEONE ELSE THE IDEA TO OPEN A STORE WAS JUST THAT, I DON'T LIKE WORKING FOR ANYBODY AND I DID NOT LIKE SELLING TO OTHER STORES, I WAS BORED WITH IT AND NOBODY HAD EVER REALLY DONE A TOTAL

WELL IT WASN'T LIKE I STARTED WITH ALL THE MONEY IN THE WORLD, HOWEVER, THE TIMES WERE A BIT BETTER THAN THEY ARE NOW, MAYBE 1000% BETTER. I DON'T THINK I COULD OPEN UP A STORE NOW AND EXPECT THAT IT WOULD GROW THAT FAST, CAUSE THE ORIGINAL IDEA, WHEN WE STARTED THE STORE, GREW FAST... EXTREMELY FAST, TOO FAST, WITH RELATIVELY LITTLE MONEY WE WERE ABLE TO SNOWBALL IT QUICKLY AND EXPAND THE BUSINESS, PLUS WE DID ALOT OF ADVERTISING, IN THE PRESS, ON THE RADIO, AND WE ARE WITHIN ARMS REACH THERE WERE A TON OF METALHEADS IN THIS AREA. NAME ANY BAND AND THEY ORIGINATED FROM L.A. NOWADAYS IT'S ALL HIP-HOP SUCK MY COCK CRAP, UNLIKE IN THE PAST, IT WAS ALL METAL, STRICTLY METAL, I'D NEVER OPEN ANOTHER STORE... NOT UNLESS I REALLY HAD VERY GOOD DEDICATED WORKERS, NOBODY LIKES THE IDEA OF WORKING FOR ANYBODY ELSE, CAUSE IT AIN'T THEIR DREAM, THEREFORE THEY COULD GIVE A FUCK, THE BIGGEST REASON I DON'T LIKE WORKING FOR ANYBODY ELSE IS THAT NOBODY IS AS DEDICATED AS I AM, TO LEARN AND TO WORK HARD AT SOMETHING AND BE SUCCESSFUL AT IT..... IS THE PAY GOOD? FUCK, GIVE ME A BREAK, I DON'T EVEN MAKE GOOD MONEY MYSELF, AFTER ALL THE EXCELLENT IMPORT BEER AND CDS, AND PORN MAGS, AND EVERYTHING ELSE, THERE AIN'T THAT MUCH LEFT, BUT WORK IS WORK, IT AIN'T MEANT TO GET RICH OVER IT, UNLESS YOU'RE MATERIALISTIC, AND I AIN'T.

WHAT WERE THE TYPES OF MUSIC YOU WERE SELLING WHEN THE STORE FIRST OPENED? WHAT WERE SOME BIG EARLY SELLERS? DID YOU EVER HAVE ANY FAMOUS PEOPLE WORKING FOR YOU AT ANY TIME?

I NEVER SOLD ANYTHING BUT METAL, I DID SOME GOTHIC STUFF, LIKE SISTERS OF MERCY, CHRISTIAN DEATH OR EVEN DEPECHE MODE, CAUSE I LOVE THOSE BANDS, DARK SHIT. FOR THE MOST PART WE INTENDED THE STORE TO BE THE HEAVIEST AND PISS AS MANY PEOPLE OFF AS WE COULD, AND WE DID, METALLICA, JUDAS PRIEST, EXODUS, SODOM, THOSE WERE SOME OF THE FEW, CAUSE IN THE OLD DAYS, NOBODY SOLD THIS KIND OF STUFF, OR IF THEY DID, IT WAS NEVER THE ENTIRE CATALOG, ALL THE OTHER IMPORT RELEASES FROM THE OTHER COUNTRIES, IF ANY RELEASE WAS OUT WITH A DIFFERENT COVER, OR WHATEVER, ANYTHING LIKE THAT, WE WENT OUT OF OUR WAY TO GET IT AND STOCK IT, I WENT OUT OF MY WAY TO IMPORT THIS STUFF, EVEN BEFORE IMPORTANT RECORDS WAS DOING IT, THEY DID ALOT OF IT, BUT I REALLY WENT OUT OF MY WAY TO GET THE MOST WICKED AND INTENSE STUFF POSSIBLE, EVEN TO THIS DAY WE HAVE THE REPUTATION FOR HAVING THE WEIRDEST SHIT, FAMOUS PEOPLE WORKING HERE/ FUCK IF THEY WERE FAMOUS, THEY SHOULDN'T BE WORKING, PERIOD.

I KNOW YOU SELL A SHITLOAD OF STUFF, IS IT HARD KEEPING TRACK OF STUFF? HOW HARD IS IT KEEPING THE MAILORDER END AND THE STORE SEPARATE? HAS IT EVER CAUSED THAT YOU SELL SO MUCH STUFF, THAT YOU RUN OUT OF ROOM IN YOUR STORE?

WE HAVE ONE PERSON THAT TAKES CARE OF NOTHING BUT MAIL ORDERS AND MOST OF THE INVENTORY, BESIDES HAVING THE MAIL ORDER CATALOG WE HAVE OUR OWN CATALOG ON OTHER STUFF THAT WE FEEL IS A NECESSITY TO CARRY, TO STOCK HERE IN THE STORE AT ALL TIMES, AND WE TRY TO KEEP THAT, PLUS THE DEMO TAPES, AND FANZINES, AND OTHER RELATED GOODS, IT IS HARD, IT IS EXTREMELY HARD, SINCE SOME OF THE CDS, VINYL, 7"EPS, GO OUT OF PRINT AND THEN WE HAVE AN EVEN HARDER TIME TO TRACK THEM DOWN, BUT THIS IS ALL WE DO AND WE ARE HERE TO GIVE AS MUCH SERVICE AS WE CAN TO ALL OUR METAL HEAD BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THAT'S OUR JOB AND WE TRY TO FULFILL THAT NEED, AS

THAT, THE BAND BROKE UP! I TOOK A WHOLE YEAR TO JUST PLAN THE LABEL, I FOUND OUT EVERYTHING ABOUT DOING AND RUNNING A RECORD LABEL, AND I DOCUMENTED EVERYTHING, WHAT I WANTED TO DO, AND NOT DO AND WHAT I NEVER WANTED TO DO, ONE THING I NEVER WANTED TO DO IS BE LIKE ANY OTHER LABEL, IN ONE RESPECT OR ANOTHER, I ADMIRER THE WAY ATLANTIC RECORDS AND COLUMBIA RECORDS WAS RUN AND THEY WAY THEY WORKED THE BANDS AND MARKETED THEM, IN THAT RESPECT I WANTED TO BE LIKE THEM BUT OTHERWISE, I DID NOT WANT ANY PART OF THE REALLY BIG BUSINESS END OF IT, NOW THE LABEL HAS BEEN AROUND FOR 10 YEARS AND WE ARE STILL AT IT, NOBODY KNOWS WHAT THE FUCK WE ARE DOING AND WE LIKE IT THAT WAY, WE HOPE TO RE-RELEASE SOME OF THE OLD AND FIRST TITLES ON COMPACT DISK, AT LOW PRICES AND SOME OTHER TITLES WITH BONUS TRACKS, BUT SOME BANDS AREN'T TOO COOPERATIVE, WE'LL SEE, WE GOT PLENTY OF TIME, IT AIN'T THE END OF THE WORLD.

WHAT LED TO YOU WORKING WITH THESE BANDS IN THE EARLY DAYS? WERE YOU REAL PICKY ABOUT WHO YOU SIGNED?

SOME BANDS CAME TO ME, TO US, HERE IN THE STORE, IT WAS ONLY NATURAL WE WERE METAL, THEY WERE METAL, AND THEY WANTED THE HELP THAT A METAL ORIENTED PERSON COULD GIVE THEM, I'VE NEVER BEEN "PICKY" ABOUT THE BANDS UNLESS I FEEL THEY ARE TOO BIG HEADED, AND SOMETIMES I WISH WOULD HAVE BEEN PICKY, CAUSE SOME BANDS WOULD NEVER MAKE IT, EVEN IF WE PAID THE CRITICS AND DID EVERYTHING FOR THEM, THEY WERE LOSERS BEFORE WE STARTED WORKING WITH THEM.

I REMEMBER SOMETHING THAT TO THIS DAY WAS SOMETHING THAT HAS ALWAYS STUCK TO ME YEARS AGO THERE WERE ALWAYS TWO KIDS THAT WOULD SKATE ALL THE WAY DOWN FROM LOS ANGELES, PAST THE DOWNTOWN AREA, THOSE TWO WERE OSCAR GARCIA AND JESSE PINTADO, JESSE, OF COURSE, WENT ON TO TERRORIZER AND THEN NAPALM DEATH, AND OSCAR DID THE VOCALS FOR TERRORIZER AND LATER APPEARED ON ONE OF THE RELEASES I DID FOR NAUSEA FROM LOS ANGELES, ONE TIME, OSCAR MENTIONED THAT HE WAS IN A BAND, I ASKED HIM THE NAME OF THE BAND, IT WAS TERRORIZER HE TOLD ME, AND THAT HE WAS ALSO IN ANOTHER SIDE PROJECT, MAJESTY, I ASKED OSCAR IF THEY, HIS BAND, EITHER ONE OF THE BANDS HAD ANY KIND OF A RECORDING, DEMO TAPE, ANYTHING, ALL HE TOLD ME WAS THAT THEY HAD PUT OUT A REHEARSAL AFTER THEIR 3RD-4TH PRACTICE... AND THAT WAS AS MUCH OR AS OFTEN AS THEY HAD EVER PRACTICED! IT WAS OSCAR GARCIA THAT INTRODUCED ME TO MASTER, FROM CHICAGO, HE WAS ALWAYS ASKING ABOUT MASTER, SO I LATER PURSUED IT WITH OTHER TRADERS, ETC.

WHILE KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH OTHER FANZINE EDITORS AND OTHER TRADERS, WHENEVER I MENTIONED THAT THE GUYS FROM TERRORIZER AND MAJESTY WOULD COME IN MY STORE, THESE GUYS FROM EUROPE WOULD JUST PEE IN THEIR PANTS! I REMEMBER WIM BAEULS, FROM BELGIUM, TELLING ME THAT TERRORIZER WAS THE GREATEST BAND IN THE WORLD, THAT THEY COULD EASILY BE GREATER THAN SLAYER!!! I OFTEN TOLD JESSE PINTADO WHAT WIM HAD SAID IN THE LETTER AND HE WOULD JUST LAUGH, I HARDLY SAW THEM, EXCEPT FOR THAT ONE SUMMER, THEY WOULD JUST ABOUT COME EVERY DAY AND BUY ONE RECORD EACH VISIT.

HOW DID YOU GET RELATIVITY DISTRIBUTION? WHAT LED TO YOU GOING YOUR SEPARATE WAYS? WHO IS YOUR BIG DISTRIBUTOR NOW? WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO?

WE WERE DISTRIBUTED BY **IMPORTANT RECORDS**, AND IT JUST CARRIED ON. **RELATIVITY** IS WHAT IT BECAME AFTER IT WAS ALL SOLD OUT AND TURNED OVER TO SONY CORP. IF YOU KNOW THE HISTORY AND THE BUSINESS PATTERNS OF THE COMPANY THAT BOUGHT THEM, YOU WOULD KNOW THEY STOP AT NOTHING TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE 100% OWNERSHIP. I DID NOT WANT TO BE A PART OF THAT TEAM. I THINK FOR SOME THINGS IT WORKS GREAT. FOR A MAJOR LABEL TO BE ABLE TO SELL MILLIONS OF UNITS: CDS, CASSETTE SINGLES, CDS ETC., WELL THAT IS THE WAY TO DO IT, BUT FOR A SMALL LABEL AND LOOKING AT THE BUSINESS FROM A **FAN'S** POINT OF VIEW, I DIDN'T LIKE IT THEN AND I DON'T LIKE IT NOW. I THINK YOU CAN STILL SELL QUITE A BIT OF UNITS DOING IT YOUR OWN WAY. IT IS MUCH MORE WORK BUT WELL WORTH IT. THERE ARE NO 'BIG' DISTRIBUTORS, BUT WE HAVE **STAGE 3** AND **SMASH!** THEY BOTH DO A PRETTY GOOD JOB WITH WHAT THEY HAVE AVAILABLE TO THEM. I GUESS THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT **SMASH!** DOES MORE ALTERNATIVE TYPE PUNK AND **STAGE 3** IS STRICTLY MORE METAL, AND MOSTLY UNDERGROUND, WHICH IS MUCH BETTER, BUT STILL LIMITED TO THE STORES THEY CAN GET INTO. THE LABEL IS DISTRIBUTED THROUGH OTHER LABELS MAIL ORDER IN EUROPE, AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

WHY DID YOU STOP PUTTING OUT YOUR WILD RAG! MAGAZINE? SOME PEOPLE SAY NOW THAT YOUR NEWSLETTER IS JUST A 24 PAGE ADVERTISEMENT FOR YOUR LABEL AND NOTHING ELSE? THOUGHTS ON THIS? HOW OFTEN DOES IT COME OUT?

I'VE NEVER HEARD THAT, BUT MAYBE THAT

AMERICA'S

PERSON DID NOT BOTHER TO COMPLAIN TO ME. THE **WILD RAG!** IS NOW 24 PAGES OF NEWS/INFO/PHOTOS/CONTACTS/ADS FROM THE UNDERGROUND **PLUS** A 16 PAGE CATALOG! THAT SHOULD PISS THAT PERSON OFF EVEN MORE... GOD BLESS HIM OR HER... I SAY THAT ANYBODY THAT HASN'T GOTTEN A COPY OF THE **WILD RAG!** SHOULD DO IT NOW. TODAY, IT'S ONLY \$2 **POSTPAID**. MOST SO CALLED 'DISTROS' CHARGE \$1 FOR A CATALOG WITH 'THOUSANDS' OF ITEMS. WELL, WE GIVE YOU A CATALOG WITH 'HUNDREDS' **MORE** THAT ARE ACTUALLY IN STOCK AND ANOTHER 24 PAGES OF **CURRENT** NEWS AND INFORMATION THAT COMES OUT EVERY TWO MONTHS. SO IT ISN'T STALE OR OUT OF DATE FOR JUST A MERE ONE DOLLAR MORE! THAT'S A BARGAIN... A TOTAL OF **40 PAGES** AND **14,000 COPIES** OF THEM ARE PRINTED!!!

IT'S NOW UP TO THE READERS TO MAKE UP THEIR OWN MINDS AS TO WHAT IT IS, AND WHAT IT ISN'T. WE JUST KNOW WE ARE **THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE INTERNATIONAL UNDERGROUND**. I NEVER PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT 'SOME' PEOPLE SAY OR DO, OR EVEN COMMENT. AND IT WILL SOON PISS THOSE OFF JUST A BIT MORE WHEN THEY FIND OUT THAT I AM DOING FULL SIZE COMIX, COMP CDS, AND EVEN GETTING INTO OTHER EROTIC FULLY ILLUSTRATED COMIX, MINI-NOVELS AND MUCH MORE. AND ALL THE NEW ISSUES OF THE **WILD RAG!** FOR 1996 WILL BE PRINTED IN **TWO COLORS**. EVERY OTHER PAGE, NOT JUST THE COVER!!! WE'RE NOT PLAYING GAMES HERE, WE'RE SERIOUS ABOUT THE WORK WE DO AND I DON'T THINK ANYBODY EVEN GETS CLOSE.

WE'RE GETTING ON THE INTERNET BY THE END OF JAN '96 AND WE'LL PISS EVEN MORE OFF... WHY? CAUSE THEY'RE JUST JEALOUS THAT I CAN OUT DO THEM. THAT'S ALL, THAT'S WHY.

I WOULD SAY SOME OF THE BIGGEST CHANGES HAVE BEEN IN THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS, AND THIS YEAR IN PARTICULAR HAS BEEN THE INTERNET AND THE ON-LINE WEB SITES. THAT HAS REALLY KEPT SOME OF THE PUBLIC INFORMED. THOUGH I CAN'T SEE HOW ANYBODY CAN STAND TO BE IN FRONT OF A COMPUTER, SITTING ON YOUR ASS ALL THAT TIME WITHOUT MOVING, FUCK, THAT'S PRETTY INTENSE. I CAN'T TAKE IT, THOUGH WE WILL HAVE A WEB SITE AND WE WILL BE ON THE INTERNET BY THE BEGINNING OF 1996. THE OTHER CHANGES, THE OBVIOUS BEING THE COMPACT DISK FORMAT THAT HAS GONE DOWN, AND CHEAP ENOUGH FOR JUST ABOUT ANYBODY TO PUT OUT THEIR OWN RELEASES ON DISK INSTEAD OF 7"EP VINYL WHICH IS NOW PRETTY MUCH A DEAD FORMAT. PRICES HAVE COME DOWN QUITE A BIT, FOR EVEN SMALL QUANTITIES THAT I SEE MORE AND MORE BANDS DOING COMPACT DISKS FOR RELEASES. WHICH IS GREAT. AS FAR AS THE DEATH METAL SCENE OR EVEN THE METAL SCENE IN GENERAL. IT IS AND HAS BEEN PUSHED ASIDE, AND DEEPER IN THE UNDERGROUND ON ACCOUNT OF THIS NEW SHIT MUSIC 'ALTERNATIVE'. AND IT WILL BE THERE FOR QUITE A WHILE. FOR ME, AND FOR THE BANDS, I THINK IT IS GREAT. NOTHING BETTER THAN TO HAVE A BIGGER CHALLENGE. THEY SAY THAT IN A LABOR MARKET, THE BEST UNION ORGANIZER IS A SHITTY BOSS. AND THAT IS WHAT WE HAVE HERE. THE BEST MEDICINE FOR US RIGHT NOW AND FOR EVERYBODY IS THIS SHITTY ALTERNATIVE **METAL**. IN ALL FORMS IS GOING TO POP BACK UP ON TOP AND THERE WILL BE A BIG EXPLOSION. BIGGER THAN YOU AND I CAN EVER IMAGINE. IT IS GOING TO BE ALOT OF FUN, VERY SOON AGAIN!!!

WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS ON BLACK METAL, SPEED METAL, POWER METAL? DO YOU STILL ENJOY

SOME OF THE OLDER BANDS FROM THE 80'S?

ACTUALLY, I ENJOY ALL FORMS OF METAL. I GREW UP WITH THE LIKES OF ROCK N ROLL. LISTENING TO REGULAR COMMERCIAL ROCK, BLACK N WHITE ARTISTS PUMPING OUT ALL SORTS OF TUNES, AND THEN THE RISE OF METAL. EARLY METAL FROM THE LATE 60'S, THE BIG BANDS: BLACK SABBATH, LED ZEPPELIN, PINK FLOYD AND SO MANY OTHER BAND PLUS THE PSYCHEDELIC BANDS THAT INCLUDED HENDRIX, ETC.. IF YOU ARE ASKING ABOUT THE BLACK METAL BANDS THAT ARE PUSHING RACIAL AND HOLY WAR HATRED. FUCK THAT. THAT'S THE FUCKING TRAILER PARK MENTALITY. HAVING GROWN UP IN AN AREA WHERE YOU LEARN TO USE YOUR FISTS QUICKLY, OR GET THE SHIT BEATEN OUT OF YOU. I LEARNED HOW TO USE BOTH: PHYSICAL AND MENTAL. YOU CAN'T GROW UP HATING SOMEONE JUST CAUSE THEY ARE FROM THE WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS, EVEN THOUGH THEY HATE YOU FOR IT, AND YOUR PEER PRESSURE ALSO MAKES YOU DO IT, EVEN IF ALL THE OTHERS DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT AT ALL. YOU JUST DO IT IF YOU TAKE THAT ATTITUDE, YOU STAY IN THE SAME ENVIRONMENT. YOU CAN NEVER PROGRESS. THERE IS A VERY THIN LINE BETWEEN LOVE AND HATE AND IF YOU SAY YOU HATE SOMEONE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL GIVE THEM A BIG FRENCH KISS AND KNOCK THEIR TOSSILS OUT! CAUSE THERE ISN'T MUCH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HATING AND LOVING. IF YOU HAVE EVER BEEN MARRIED AT LEAST ONCE, YOU'LL KNOW WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT. OTHERWISE, I DON'T CARE IF SOMEONE WANTS TO WORSHIP A FUCKING STOP SIGN. WHO THE FUCK CARES? I KNOW I DON'T. I AM IN IT FOR THE MUSIC. YES, THERE IS SUCH A THING AS 'POSERS' BUT HOW MANY OF US REALLY THINK THAT ANYBODY THAT SINGS ABOUT KILLING AND EATING AND MAIMING IS REALLY SERIOUS?. OK, YOU MIGHT HAVE A GOOD AND WILD IMAGINATION, AND SOME OTHER JOURNALISTS WILL PUT YOU DOWN AS BEING CHILDISH, OR WHATEVER, BUT THE FACT IS, THAT IF YOU KNOW THE

smallest but

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN REALITY AND FANTASY, YOU'RE OK. IF NOT, THEN YOU'RE NOT SICK, YOU'RE STUPID. CAUSE SOMEONE IS GOING TO SET YOU STRAIGHT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. YOU COME THIS WAY WITH THOSE THOUGHTS AND YOU GIVE OR ANYONE HERE A CHANCE TO FUCK YOU UP... BELIEVE ME. THEY ARE GOING TO ENJOY IT AND WE'LL MAKE THEM TAKE PICTURES OF THE EVENT SO I CAN PRINT THEM!

IF YOU BELIEVE IN THE BLACK GOAT, OR A RIGHTEOUS SUPREME BEING, GREAT. BUT IF YOU MAKE IT YOUR LIFE, TO PREACH TO OTHERS AND YOU WILL KILL THEM IF THEY DON'T BELIEVE YOU, THEN YOU'RE JUST AS BAD AS THOSE THAT YOU PREACH AGAINST. THERE ISN'T MUCH DIFFERENCE. I THINK ANYBODY THAT IS A REAL CHRISTIAN OR A REAL SATANIST OR A REAL JEW OR WHATEVER, IF THEY WOULD REALLY PRACTICE WHAT THEIR GOOD BOOK SAYS, THIS PLACE, THIS ENTIRE WORLD WOULD BE A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN. BUT THE FACT IS ... WE'RE ALL HUMAN, AND WE KNOW NO BETTER. INCLUDING ME. BUT I LIVE AND LET LIVE. I BELIEVE IN MYSELF AND I RESPECT THE RIGHT OF OTHERS TO BELIEVE IN WHATEVER, SO LONG

RECORD LABEL

AS THEY RESPECT MY RIGHTS, AND DON'T INFRINGE ON THEM. OTHERWISE, I DON'T TURN THE OTHER CHEEK.

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON FANZINES THESE DAYS? DO YOU FEEL TOO MANY OF THE EDITOR'S JUST WANT FREE PROMOS? WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE SOME OF THE BEST FANZINES AND WORST ONES? I WANT YOUR OPINIONS ON THE BIGGER MAGS LIKE: THE PIT, METAL MANIACS AND TERRORIZER. DO YOU FEEL THAT THESE MAGS ARE HOPPING ON THE UNDERGROUND BANDWAGON OR THAT THEY ARE SINCERE?

IT'S DIFFERENT NOWADAYS. MORE AND MORE SO-CALLED 'ZINES' POP UP EVERYDAY. THEY MAKE THINGS VERY HARD FOR OTHER LEGITIMATE ZINES. BY LEGITIMATE I MEAN, THEY HAVE A GOOD AMOUNT OF BUSINESS SENSE AND THEY DON'T JUST SAY 'I'M OUT TO HELP THE SCENE'. IF YOU ARE REALLY OUT TO HELP THE SCENE YOU'D FORGET ABOUT STARTING UP YOUR OWN ZINE! YOU'RE NOT HELPING ANYBODY OR ANYTHING! IT'S NOT A MATTER OF THAT THERE ARE TOO MANY ZINES. OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT. SOMETIMES I HEAR THAT BANDS WILL SAY 'THERE ARE TOO MANY BANDS'. BUT ASK ANY FAN AND THEY WILL TELL YOU, THERE CAN NEVER BE ENOUGH BANDS! SAME THING HERE. THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE IS THAT NOBODY REALLY BUYS ZINES ANYMORE. AND THE EXPENSE-COST OF THEM ARE SO EXTREME NOW THAT IT IS COST PROHIBITIVE. THEREFORE ANYBODY THINKING OF HELPING OUT THE SCENE SHOULD HELP ANOTHER EXISTING ZINE, OR HELP OUT A LOCAL BAND THAT DESERVES ADDITIONAL HELP AT SHOWS WITH MAIL OR JUST HELPING THEM GET THEIR ADS OUT, BUT TO START UP A ZINE AND PROMISE 'FAIR REVIEWS' THAT ANOTHER BIG FUCKIN' JOKE!!! LIKE ANYBODY IS REALLY INTERESTED IN WHAT THE FUCK YOU GOT TO SAY, I HAVE BEEN LISTENING TO METAL FOR QUITE A LONG TIME AND I STILL DON'T AND NEVER WILL REVIEW ANYTHING. THAT SHIT JUST BLOWS! I CAN'T DEAL WITH HAVING TO REVIEW ANYTHING, THE RESPONSIBILITY IS JUST TO GREAT. THERE ARE

THOSE THAT JUST LIVE FOR IT, TO DO THAT, AND THEY DO A GOOD JOB. THEIR JOURNALISTIC TALENT BRINGS OUT EVERYTHING A BAND MIGHT BE TRYING TO ACHIEVE. THEY (THE REVIEWER) OBJECTIVELY CRITIQUES THE RELEASE/RECORDING AND CUTS IT UP INTO LITTLE PIECES AND GIVES A POTENTIAL BUYER JUST WHAT TO EXPECT. A GOOD REVIEWER DOES THIS, AN ASSHOLE WILL TELL YOU WHAT TO BUY AND WHAT NOT TO BUY BECAUSE HE KNOWS IT ALL, WHO THE FUCK DIED AND MADE YOU GOD? ASSHOLE!!!

AS FAR AS GOING TO SAY THAT SOME EDITOR'S DO THIS TO GET FREE PROMOS.. YES, I WILL BE THE FIRST TO ADMIT THAT I DO SEND OUT MY NEWSLETTER TO AS MANY POTENTIAL LABELS, DISTROS, BANDS, OTHER ZINES TO GET FREE PROMOS. I CAN'T AFFORD TO BUY EVERYTHING AND I CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS ANYTHING THAT IS OUT THERE, RELEASED AND I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT IT BECAUSE I AM IN THE BUSINESS, IN THE INDUSTRY AND I CAN AFFORD TO PISS ANYBODY AND EVERYBODY OFF WITH WHAT I DO, AND THEREFORE I GET THE MAG OUT, IF SOMEONE LIKES IT, YOU CAN BET YOUR LAST DOLLAR THAT THEY WILL SEND ME SOMETHING TO EXPOSE IT! IT'S THAT SIMPLE I HAVE BEEN DOING IT QUITE A LONG TIME AND BECAUSE OF THAT NEVER HAVE TO ASK ANYBODY FOR ANYTHING. IF THEY WANT TO SEND SOMETHING, FINE. I TRY TO SET THE RULES FOR WHAT THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO SEND IN AND HOW. SOME BANDS, SOME BAND MEMBERS HAVE SAID THAT I HAVE TRIED TO "RIP THEM OFF" FOR A COUPLE OF TAPES. WELL, FOR YOUR 'COUPLE OF TAPES' ... TWO MEASLY FUCKING DOLLARS WORTH THEY LOST A NICE AMOUNT OF FREE EXPOSURE AND PROMOTION. MY NEWSLETTER GOES INTO 33 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES! SO BLOW ME.

SO FOR THESE OTHER MAGS, THEY AREN'T BAND WAGON HOPPING, THEY ARE COMMERCIAL MAGS, COMMERCIAL MEANING THAT THEY ARE OUT TO MAKE MONEY, THEY COULD GIVE A FUCK ABOUT THE SCENE. THEIR MAIN CONCERN IS FOR WHAT IS HOT AND WHAT THE MAJOR LABELS ARE PUSHING CAUSE THAT WAY THEY DON'T WASTE THEIR TIME ON WHAT MONTE CONNER AT ROADRUNNER CALLS 'BANDS THAT WILL NEVER GET ANYWHERE' TRUE, SOMEWHAT, BUT YOU AIN'T GOD AND NEITHER IS ANYONE ELSE....

HEAVIEST

YOU WILL HAVE THAT IDIOT EDITOR AT **METAL MANIACS** TELL YOU HOW MUCH SHE CARES FOR THE UNDERGROUND, AND ALL THAT BULLSHIT. THE FACT IS THAT SHE HATES IT CAUSE HER STUPID LAME ASS BAND NEVER GOT A DECENT REVIEW FROM ANY ZINE! **THE WILD RAG!** IS A COMMERCIAL ENTITY, I MAKE NO QUÁLMS ABOUT THAT, I MAKE MONEY OFF THE WORK I DO, AND I PUSH IT HARD CAUSE IT'S HOW I PAY MY BILLS, AND MY NEW CAR AND A NICE BIG FUCKIN' SCREEN TV, ALL THE IMPORT BEER I CAN DRINK, NOT TO MENTION PORN AND ALL THE OTHER GOODIES I LOVE AND CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT. GOD BLESS AMERICA, SO I DON'T CARE IF SOMEONE SAYS I AM COMMERCIAL OR NOT, TECHNICALLY YES, THEORITICALLY, NO.... I DON'T SUCK-CUM TO WHAT THOSE OTHERS DO, RUN

MASSIVE ADS IN THOSE MAGS OR ADVERTISE TO THE POINT WHERE YOUR BAND 'BUYS' THEIR WAY INTO THE HEARTS OF THE WRITERS OR EDITOR. SO EVERYBODY IS HOPPING ON EVERYTHING. EVERYBODY. ME TOO. I DID IT ABOUT 25 YEARS AGO!

THE BRITISH PRESS ON THE OTHER HAND, THAT'S AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT THING. THEY PRETTY MUCH WILL POKE FUN AT ANYTHING, AND THEY HOPE AND PRAY THAT YOU OR ANYBODY WILL RETALIATE CAUSE THAT IS WHAT THEY ARE ALL ABOUT. THE BRITISH PRESS CAN BE PRETTY BRUTAL WHEN IT COMES TO DISHING OUT CRITICISM, REVIEWS AND EVEN JUST EXPOSING ANYBODY OUT THERE. IF THEY CAN FUCK WITH THE QUEEN, HERSELF AND ALL HER OTHER RELATIVES AROUND HER, THEY CAN JUST ABOUT DO ANYTHING AND GET AWAY WITH IT. THAT'S WHERE WE GET OUR 'FREEDOM OF THE PRESS' FROM THE BRITS ... THOUGH THE PRESS IN THE USA IS PRETTY TAME COMPARED TO THE BRITISH

HOW DO YOU WORK OUT LICENSING DEALS WITH OVERSEAS LABELS? HOW DO YOU WORKOUT DEALS WITH YOUR BANDS TO OVERSEAS LABELS?

EVERY DEAL IS DIFFERENT SO THIS IS A HARD QUESTION TO ANSWER. RIGHT NOW I AM WORKING WITH A LABEL IN SWEDEN, A NEW LABEL TO PUT OUT A MINI-CD THEY HAVE OUT, AND I AM TRYING TO WORK OUT A DEAL WITH A SMALL LABEL IN MEXICO TO LICENSE ABOUT 3-4 OF THEIR RELEASES. AND I AM ALSO IN CONTACT WITH A RUSSIAN LABEL TO RELEASE TWO COMP CDS THEY HAVE PUT OUT OF RUSSIAN LABELS TO HOPEFULLY INTRODUCE THOSE BANDS TO THE AMERICAN FANS. AS FOR OVERSEAS LICENSING OF THE BANDS I WORK WITH, THAT'S EVEN HARDER. NOBODY WANTS TO POUR MONEY INTO A BAND THAT IS 'NOT THEIRS'. I HAVE SUCCEEDED WITH SAY **INTERNAL BLEEDING**. TO GET THEM A COUPLE OF OTHER LICENSING DEALS BESIDES THE ONES THAT **WILD RAGS** DID FOR THEM, LIKE TWO ADDITIONAL 7"EPS THAT WERE PUT

SHIT TALKING

AND GO OUT THERE AND HUSTLE IT, DOOR TO DOOR IF YOU HAVE TO. IF YOU HAVE NOT GOTTEN EVERYBODY IN YOUR FAMILY TO BUY A TAPE, A CD, A SHIRT THEN YOU ARE NOT DOING YOUR JOB, MOST OF THE TIME, THOSE SAME RELATIVES ARE ALWAYS TELLING YOU TO DO SOMETHING WITH YOUR LIFE, TURN IT AROUND AND TELL THEM THAT YOU ARE, BUT THEY ARE NOT HELPING OUT IF THEY DON'T BUY SOMETHING FROM YOU... THAT WILL SHUT THEM UP.

HAVE YOU HAD ANY OTHER BANDS BESIDES INTERNAL BLEEDING GO ON TO SIGN TO A BIGGER LABEL? WILL YOU CONTINUE TO PUSH THEIR RELEASES? ANY THOUGHTS OF PUTTING BOTH RELEASES ON ONE CD? WOULD YOU EVER LET PAVEMENT BUY OUT THE RELEASES AND LET THEM PUT THEM OUT?

I MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT BANDS IN A PREVIOUS QUESTION. AS FOR PAVEMENT BUYING OUT THE RELEASES, THEY DO NOT REALLY BELONG TO ME, JUST THE "LICENSE" FOR A CERTAIN TIME, THAT IS WHAT THEY MIGHT WANT ME OUT OF. BUT WHAT FOR? THEY GOT WHAT THEY WANTED. A NEW RELEASE FROM THE BAND... IT'S NOT LIKE IN THE OLD DAYS WHERE A COMPANY WOULD TRY AND DO IT ALL, AND CONTROL AND BUY OUT... THAT'S NOT THE WAY IT IS DONE NOW.

AS FOR PUTTING BOTH RELEASES OF INTERNAL BLEEDING ON ONE CD WE HAD TALKED ABOUT A LIVE CD RELEASE WITH BONUS TRACKS, BUT IT NEVER MATERIALIZED BECAUSE THE BAND EVENTUALLY GOT VERY SERIOUS OFFERS AND WE STOPPED OUR NEGOTIATIONS. WE HAD AGREED THAT IF THE BAND DID NOT GET AN OFFER BY A CERTAIN DATE, THEN WE WOULD PROCEED NO MATTER WHAT. I TRUSTED THE BAND AND THEY KEPT THEIR WORD. CHRIS PERVELIS IS ONE HELL OF A GUY TO DO BUSINESS WITH, A COOL NERVOUS CHAIN SMOKING GREEK, BUT A HELL OF A SMART MUTHER-FUCKER... THAT'S FOR REAL.

WHERE DO YOU SEE THE UNDERGROUND HEADED IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS? DO YOU FEEL THAT ALL THESE LITTLE RECORD LABELS AND DISTRIBUTORS IS GOOD OR BAD FOR THE UNDERGROUND SCENE?

I AM NOT SURE WHAT IT IS, IT'S HARD TO PREDICT THE FUTURE. 1995 SAW THE DEMISE OF A FEW LABELS GONE COMPLETELY BELLY UP, AND SOME OTHER ZINES THAT WERE IN THE PROCESS OF DOING SOMETHING BUT NEVER DID ANYTHING. PLENTY OF THOSE, AND A LABEL OR TWO ATTEMPTING TO DO SOMETHING ON THE BACKS OF OTHERS.... I THINK THAT THE GLORIFIED MYTH THAT ALL LABELS AND DISTROS-MAIL ORDER COMPANIES ARE MAKING SO MUCH MONEY THAT EVERYBODY WANTS A PIECE OF THE GREED... I MEAN ACTION. IT'S NOT GOOD FOR THE CONSUMER... THE FAN... IF THEY GET RIPPED OFF AND IT'S NOT GOOD FOR US, THE LEGITIMATE COMPANY THAT HAS BEEN AROUND FOR THE LONGEST TIME JUST TO HAVE SOME STUPID-DUMB UPSTART TRY AT SOMETHING ANYBODY CAN SEE HE WILL FAIL AT. RIGHT NOW, I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO GET THIS SCOTT REPPERT OF DISMAL LIGHT RECORDS GET CHARGED WITH VIOLATIONS OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE LAWS, MAIL FRAUD AND A BUNCH OF OTHER STUFF. THIS GUY HAS DONE THE SAME THING QUITE A BIT OF TIMES. AND UNLIKE THE SHIT TALKING THAT WAS GOING ON ABOUT WILD RAGS, THIS IS DOCUMENTED STUFF. THIS AIN'T SHIT TALKING. MELINDA... THIS IS FOR REAL. I THINK THAT IF WE ALL TRY TO DO THE RIGHT THING AND NOT FUCK ANYBODY OVER, IT WILL DO GOOD FOR ALL THE SCENE, AND NOT JUST ONE PERSON, COMPANY.

HOW CAN A BAND GET STUFF DISTRIBUTED THROUGH WILD RAGS? HOW LONG DOES AN AVERAGE ORDER TAKE TO GET SENT OUT? HOW MUCH MAIL DO YOU GET A DAY? HOW MUCH DO YOU SPEND AT THE POST OFFICE ON AN AVERAGE WEEK?

THEY NEED TO GET IN TOUCH FIRST... CALL OR WRITE, AND SEND TWO STAMPS, WE'LL SEND ALL THE INFO THEY NEED TO GET THEIR STUFF EXAMINED, AND PLEASE DON'T SEND ANYTHING IN PAPER ENVELOPES.... A SHIT TALKING BAND IN VIRGINIA FROM SOME DOPEY BAND MEMBER WHO ISN'T EVEN IN THE BAND NOW, DID THAT AND THEN WONDERS WHY HIS BAND'S DEMO NEVER ARRIVED... CAUSE YOU'RE PRETTY STUPID, BRIAN. WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR MORE CDS, TAPES, SHIRTS, ANYTHING TO SELL THROUGH OUR MAIL ORDER. WE ARE NOT... AND I REPEAT, WE ARE NOT A DISTRIBUTOR. A DISTRIBUTOR ACTUALLY DOES TELEMARKETING, CALLING STORES AND WASTING THEIR TIME TRYING TO SELL PRODUCT, WE JUST DIRECT MAIL MARKET EVERYTHING, TWO ENTIRELY DIFFERENT BUSINESSES. SO DON'T GET SUCKERED INTO BELIEVING SOME KID IN THE BACK OF THE GARAGE THAT HE HAS A "DISTR0". HE HAS A FUCKIN SHEET OF PAPER WITH THE SAME TAPES THAT EVERYBODY ELSE HAS!!! AND HE'S ASKING EVERYBODY ELSE TO HELP HIM SPREAD THEM. THAT'S NOT A "DISTRIBUTOR"... SORRY.

AN AVERAGE ORDER, I WOULD SAY 95% OF THE ORDERS GO OUT WITHIN 24 HOURS. THE ONLY TIME WE HAVE PROBLEMS IS WHEN WE HAVE TROUBLE WITH RESTOCKING FROM THE LABELS, THE DISTROS, ETC. OTHERWISE, ANYBODY IS WELCOME TO CALL FIRST, WE HOLD THE MERCH, THE MINUTE THE MONEY ORDER COMES IN, IT GOES OUT THE VERY NEXT DAY... PRIORITY MAIL.

AVERAGE WEEK, I HAVE NO IDEA BUT THE NEWSLETTER ALONE IS ABOUT \$3.5+ GRAND TO MAIL OUT, AND THEN WE DO OTHER MAILINGS, ETC.

DO YOU TRY AND ORDER HARD TO FIND STUFF A LOT? ANY RARE GEMS YOU ARE SELLING THAT YOU THINK MIGHT INTEREST SOME READERS?

I NEVER KNOW WHAT IS A GEM OR NOT... I DO TRY AND GET EVERYTHING I CAN INTO THE STORE. RIGHT NOW, WE'RE HEAVILY INTO JAPANESE CD RELEASES AND SOON WE WILL HAVE JUST ABOUT EVERY SINGLE CD RELEASE FROM EUROPE, AS WE ARE RUNNING ADS EVERYWHERE IN EUROPE FOR MEGA CD TRADES.

WHAT ARE SOME BANDS THAT WILL BE HAVING RELEASES THROUGH WILD RAGS IN THE NEXT 6-10 MONTHS? ARE YOU ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR NEW BANDS? HOW LONG DO YOU REALLY PUSH A CERTAIN RELEASE?

TOO MANY TO MENTION, WE'RE WORKING ON DOING A FEW MORE CDS (SINGLES)... WE'RE TRYING TO DO QUITE A FEW OF THOSE, AND ALSO TO MOTIVATE EACH AND EVERY BAND WE WORK WITH TO DO SHIRTS, LONG SLEEVES, MORE MERCHANDISE.

YES, I AM ALWAYS LOOKING FOR BANDS... GOOD, AGGRESSIVE BANDS, AND NOW I AM LOOKING FOR COMIX ARTISTS, WRITERS TO DO MINI-ILLUSTRATED NOVELS... WE'LL BE DOING A LOT OF THAT. I HAVE ONE MINI-EROTIC NOVEL RIGHT NOW THAT I AM HAVING ADDITIONAL ARTWORK DONE. OBVIOUSLY IT IS NOT GOING OUT WITH OUT TO ALL OUR SUBSCRIBERS ON ACCOUNT OF THE AGE STATEMENT, CONSENT BUT... WE'LL SELL IT BY DIRECT MARKETING, MAIL.

WE PUSH ANY AND ALL RELEASES IF THE BAND IS AGGRESSIVELY PUSHING US, AND AGGRESSIVELY DOING SOMETHING THEMSELVES. WE'RE NOT THE WELFARE OFFICE, HERE YOU DO SOMETHING..... YOU GET SOMETHING, YOU DO NOTHING, YOU GET THE FUCK OUT, CAUSE YOU'LL NEVER GET ANYTHING FROM US.

DO YOU FEEL YOUR CONTRACTS FOR THE BANDS ARE FAIR AND THAT YOU ARE AN EASY PERSON TO WORK WITH? HAS ANYBODY OR BAND TRIED TO SUE YOU?

FAIR??? YOU WANT FAIRNESS JOIN THE BOY SCOUTS.... WE GOT SOMETHING THAT PROTECTS OUR INTEREST AND OUR COMPANY FOR THE WORK WE DO, IN OTHER WORDS, IN PLAIN ENGLISH, WE ARE OUT TO MAKE A BUCK AND WE'RE NOT ASHAME OR AFRAID TO ADMIT IT. WE DON'T TRY AND FUCK OVER ANYBODY JUST FOR THE SAKE OF GREED, THAT'S AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT THING. THERE ARE COMPANIES THAT HAVE RIDICULOUS CONTRACTS WHERE IT ISN'T A MATTER OF BEING FAIR BUT A MATTER OF BEING GREEDY, THAT'S NOT RIGHT, OR FAIR... IF THERE IS SUCH A THING.

NO I AM NOT AN EASY PERSON TO WORK WITH. I'M NOT A PUSH-OVER AND IF YOU OR ANYBODY HEARS THAT I AM A TOTAL BASTARD OR A TOTAL DICK, TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT I WILL TELL YOU THAT I AM, THAT... AND MUCH MORE. I AM NOT HERE TO BE LOVED, BUT RESPECTED FOR THE WORK I DO, I AM NOT GOING TO MARRY YOU OR LOVE YOU. IF I MAKE YOU MONEY AND PUSH YOUR BAND.... THAT'S ALL YOU OR ANYBODY WANTS, NOTHING ELSE.

ALLEN SCOTT/THORNS OF THE CARRION IS TRYING TO SUE US RIGHT NOW. SEEMS THAT HE FORGOT TO GIVE US HIS NEW ADDRESS TO SHIP HIS 100 CDS THAT WE OWED HIM. WHILE I HAD HIM ON THE PHONE, HE NEVER MENTIONED ANYTHING. EITHER WAY I GUESS WE WILL HAVE TO LET A JUDGE DECIDE WHO HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP THEIR ADDRESSES CURRENT AND UP TO DATE SO THAT NOTHING GETS LOST. AFTER ALL, YOU CAN'T CALL SOMEONE AND TELL THEM TO SEND YOU WHAT THEY OWE YOU AND NOT EVEN GIVE YOUR NEW CURRENT ADDRESS! AT THE VERY MOST WE'LL LOSE ANOTHER 100 CDS, AND AT THE VERY MOST BECAUSE WE ARE COUNTERSUING AND WE'LL WIN \$2500!!! POOR ALLEN DOESN'T HAVE A CLUE.

ANY LAST THINGS YOU WANT TO SAY THAT WE HAVEN'T COVERED?

THANX CHRIS FORBES/METAL CORE FOR THE GREAT INTERVIEW. I THINK FOR THE MOST PART THE FANS, OUT THERE, THAT ARE READING THIS SHOULD KNOW OR TRY AND FIND OUT NOT TO TAKE EVERYTHING OUT THERE AT FACE VALUE. THIS SCENE IS FILLED WITH IDIOTS, SHIT TALKERS AND OTHERS THAT KNOW NOTHING ABOUT

NOTHING, YET THEY GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO MAKE RIDICULOUS STATEMENTS WITH NOTHING TO BACK IT UP. THE BIGGEST PROBLEM IS THAT BULLSHIT IS MORE PREVALENT WITHIN THE MEDIA AND THE PRESS ITSELF! I WRITE A PAPER, PUBLISH AND PRINT IT, AND I CAN BACK UP 100% OF WHAT I PRINT IN THERE. MOST OF THE ZINES OR EVEN BIGGER MAGS DON'T OR WON'T DO THAT. THEIR MAIN PURPOSE IS TO JUST SELL MAGS, AD SPACE AND GATHER POINTS. IT'S JUST A JOB FOR THEM, A STEPPING STONE TO SOMETHING BIGGER, A JOB. WHERE SOMEONE GOT HIRED AND SOMEONE WILL GET FIRED.

FANZINES ON THE OTHER HAND HAVE NO RESPONSIBILITY AND THEY AVOID THIS ISSUE LIKE THE BLACK PLAGUE. THE SAME BULLSHIT STANCE THAT EVERYBODY ALWAYS TAKES ON CENSORSHIP IS NOTHING NEW, BUT IT IS JUST A WAY FOR THEM TO SAY AND PRINT WHATEVER... WHATEVER WITHOUT CHECKING OR VERIFYING ANYTHING. OH, SO AND SO SAID IT, SO IT MUST BE TRUE. HOWEVER, SO AND SO IS JUST AS MUCH OF A DIP SHIT AS YOU ARE...!! AND OTHERS, THE FANS, THE READERS ARE LOOKING UP TO YOU, TO PROVIDE THAT DIRECT CONTACT FROM THE BANDS, THE LABELS, AND OTHERS TO BRING THEM THE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH, NOT RUMORS OR UNSUBSTANTIATED LIES, HALF TRUTHS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS DOESN'T INCLUDE PRINTING BULLSHIT. LIES OR UNSUBSTANTIATED RUMORS. MANY A TIME I HAVE CAUGHT SO MANY FANZINES DOING THIS, I CORNER THEM AND ASK THEM TO PROVE THEIR POINT, I EVEN GET DOCUMENTATION THAT WHAT THEY PRINTED IS WRONG, AND NEVER, NOT ONE OF THEM, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF OPEN GRAVE ZINE PRINTED BY L.G. WILLIAMS HAS EVER OPENLY RETRACTED SOMETHING THAT I PROVED TO HIM THAT WAS UNTRUE. THAT WAS THE FUCKING FULL PAGE AD THAT HE GOT FROM MELINDA WITZEL NOW OF MORBID METAL RECORDS/SAN BERNADINO AN OUTSPOKEN SHIT TALKER THAT ALL SHE EVER DID WAS WRITE TO METAL MANIACS AND WANT OTHER PEN PALS TO WRITE TO HER BECAUSE SHE LIVED IN A SHIT TOWN.... WITH HER WIMPY HUSBAND...

ALL THE OTHER ZINES MADE EXCUSES AS WAS THE CASE WITH MIKE RIDDICK AND THE ZINE HE WAS PRINTING THAT GOT AS FAR AS ONE FUCKIN ISSUE, OF COURSE, NOW HIM AND HIS CORNY DRAG-QUEEN LOOKING BROTHER ARE ON TO OTHER THINGS, LIKE POSING LIKE REAL MEN WITH GARB RENTED FROM THE DISNEYLAND HOTEL... THAT'S NOT GOING TO MAKE YOU A MAN, MARK RIDDICK.

IT'S A SHAME THAT THE VERY SAME PUBLICATIONS THAT THE FANS LOOK UP TO... TO FIND OUT THE LATEST NEWS AND TO ACCEPT IT AS THE TRUTH IS STILL USE FOR SOMEONE'S PERSONAL PLAYGROUND GAIN AND TO SHOW OTHERS THAT YOU KNOW IT ALL. BUT WHEN THOSE SAME EDITOR WIMPS ARE BACKED UP AGAINST THE WALL TO RESPOND FOR THEMSELVES AND BACK IT UP, THEY CRY LIKE THE FUCKIN BABIES THEY REALLY ARE.

THERE ARE THOSE THAT ARE NOW QUESTIONING THE VERY VALIDITY OF THOSE FANS WEARING THE BLACK METAL SHIRTS. QUESTIONING THEIR AFFILIATION AND IF THEY ARE TRUE OR NOT. THIS ISN'T HELPING THE SCENE AT ALL. WE ARE ALL HERE TO INSTRUCT EACH OTHER AND TEACH OTHER WHAT IS OUT THERE BUT NOT TO PUSH YOUR BELIEFS ONTO SOMEONE ELSE LIKE SOME STUPID RELIGIOUS FASCIST ZEALOT.

YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY KNOW SOMETHING OR ONE THING WITHOUT KNOWING THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN, IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOU ARE GOOD, YOU KNOW BAD, EVIL. A GOOD THING TO CONCERN YOURSELVES WITH IS THAT THREE-QUARTERS OF THE WORLD IS NON-CHRISTIAN. THREE-QUARTERS OF THE WORLD IS NON-WHITE. CHRISTIANITY IS THE ONLY "RELIGION" THAT ACTUALLY BELIEVES IN THIS GUY SATAN. IN THIS, THE LAST FEW YEARS OF THIS CENTURY, IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA IF ALL YOU WOULD GET A LIFE AND LEARN TO RESPECT EACH OTHER, AND REALLY PRACTICE WHAT YOU PREACH OR BELIEVE IN. IT WOULD MAKE THIS WORLD A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE. IF YOU LIVE BY THE SWORD, YOU WILL DIE BY THE SWORD. BETTER YET, NEVER TAKE THE FIRST PUNCH UNLESS YOU KNOW YOU WILL HIT SOMETHING, OTHERWISE, KEEP IT TO YOURSELF, AND DON'T PUT YOUR LIFE INTO SOMEONE ELSE'S HANDS, IT MIGHT BE THE VERY LAST MISTAKE YOU WILL EVER MAKE.

YOU WANNA FIGHT OR BETTER YET, FUCK FOR SOMETHING, THEN *FUCK FOR PEACE*.

I WELCOME ANY AND ALL YOUR COMMENTS. AND I LOVE TO TRADE CDS AND I AM LOOKING FOR TONS OF OLDER METAL/THRASH/ROCK CDS, PORN, COMIX, ARTWORK, WEIRD 3X5 PHOTOS, AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT IS COLLECTABLE. MY WHOLE FUCKIN HOUSE IS A SHRINE TO ROCK N ROLL AND MY QUEST FOR THE UNUSUAL.

WILD RAGS, RICHARD C, 2207 W WHITTIER BLVD, PO BOX 3302, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640 USA.

UNDERGROUND METAL CORE # interview

STOP THE MADNESS:

OUT BY OTHER LABELS, ONE HERE IN THE USA, AND ANOTHER ONE IN GREAT BRITAIN. BUT MAINLY BECAUSE THEY DID ALOT. AND WE PUSH THEM ALOT. SO FAR WE DONT HAVE THAT MANY BANDS THAT WORK THAT HARD. I MEAN HARD....

WE ARE WORKING WITH NEW BANDS FOR '96 AND EVERYBODY WANTS TO DO WHAT INTERNAL BLEEDING DID. I HOPE SO. THEY REALLY OPENED THE EYES OF MANY A NEW FAN AND THAT REALLY KEEPS THE SCENE ALIVE. NOT SOME FUCKIN MAG... NOT ME, NOT ANYBODY... THE FANS ARE THE ONES THAT KEEP THE SCENE ALIVE!!!!

YOU DONT SIGN ANY MORE BANDS NOW, CORRECT? WHY ONLY DO YOU DO LICENSING DEALS NOW? WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR IN A BAND? DO YOU APPROACH MOST OF THE BANDS OR DO THEY APPROACH YOU?

ACTUALLY I HAVE NEVER SIGNED ANY BANDS!!! ALL I HAVE EVER DONE IS SIGN BANDS TO A LICENSING DEAL. THE BANDS PROVIDE THE RECORDING AND WE DO A DEAL FOR THE FORMAT AND THE TERRITORY AND THE REST OF THE BULLSHIT THAT GOES WITH THAT, PROMOTION, ADS, ETC. WE DO "SIGN" BANDS BECAUSE WE HAVE WRITTEN AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS OF WHAT WE DO AND WHAT WE DONT DO. WHAT THE BAND RESPONSIBILITY IS AND ALL THAT. BUT WE ARE NOT TRYING TO BE SOMETHING WE ARE NOT. ALL LABELS MAKE THE BANDS PAY FOR EVERYTHING, INCLUDING THE FUCKIN AIR CONDITIONING THAT IS PIPED INTO THEIR OFFICES, THE BANDS PAY FOR ALL THAT. WE DO IT A BIT DIFFERENT. WE GET PAID FOR OUR WORK, NO MORE, NO LESS. IF WE MAKE A PROFIT WE EARNED IT AND THE BANDS SHARE IN THAT TOO.

MOST BANDS APPROACH US. I ONLY LOOK FOR ONE THING IN ANY BAND.. GOOD ATTITUDE AND A WILLNESS TO WORK HARD AT THEIR CRAFT, TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED AND TEACH THEM NOT TO LISTEN TO ANYBODY THAT TELLS THEM HOW TO DO THEIR MUSIC, NOT EVEN MY COMPANY, ME OR ANYBODY ELSE.

TO "SIGN" A BAND IS THE MOST RIDICULOUS THING FOR ME, AS A LABEL AT THIS LEVEL. FOR ONE THING, THE PAPER THAT THIS LICENSING AGREEMENT, CONTRACT OR WHATEVER IS JUST A PIECE OF PAPER, THE VERY SAME THING YOU WIPE YOUR ASS WITH. IF YOU CANNOT GIVE YOUR WORD AND STICK TO IT, A PIECE OF PAPER, THAT PAPER IS JUST AS WORTHLESS.... AS WE ARE FINDING OUT WITH ANOTHER RIP OFF LABEL, **DISMAL LIGHT RECORDS/ SCOTT REPERT** OUT IN PENNSYLVANIA, WHO HAS "SIGNED" BANDS TO CONTRACTS GUARANTEEING THEM \$6000 FOR THE RECORDING, FUCK, NOBODY DOES THAT... BUT SOME BANDS ARE GREEDY, AND THE REASON THEY WENT FOR THAT DEAL, AND GOT CAUGHT IN A VICIOUS SHIT SCAM IS BECAUSE THEY WERE GREEDY. THEY KNEW IT WAS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, HOWEVER, GREED SET IN AND INSTEAD OF CHECKING AROUND, AND IF THEY HAD REALLY DONE ALL THAT WELL, OTHER LABELS ALSO WOULD HAVE BEEN CON-TACTING THEM, AND THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO NOTICE THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CONTRACTS. LET THAT BE A LESSON TO ALL AND ANYBODY: ANYTHING THAT IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, USUALLY IS AND DONT BE A GREEDY MUTHERFUCKER....

DO YOU DO A LOT OF TRADING WITH PEOPLE? HOW DO YOU WORK THOSE TYPES OF DEALS OUT? WHAT IS THE MOST YOU WILL TRADE AT ONE TIME?

THIS IS PROBABLY THE WORST PART OF THIS BUSINESS, TRADING. TOO MANY JUST TAKE IT FOR GRANTED TO FUCK YOU OVER, RIP YOU OFF AND NOT SEND WHAT THEY AGREED TO SEND OUT, ETC. WE'LL COMMUNICATE WITH THE OTHER PARTY, AGREED TO WHAT EACH PARTY HAS TO SEND OUT AND SOMETIMES FOR THE FIRST COUPLE OF TIMES EVERYTHING GOES OK, AFTER THAT, ONE PARTY FUCKS THINGS UP. MAYBE IT WAS US, BUT SO FAR, WE ONLY DEAL WITH A FEW PEOPLE, DISTROS, CAUSE ALL THE OTHERS BITE. THEY REALLY FUCKIN BITE.

SOMETIMES I TRADE UP TO 1000 CDS LIKE I JUST DID WITH HOUSE OF KICKS, OR COLD MEAT INDUSTRY, USUALLY IT'S ABOUT 400-700, THAT'S FAIRLY AVERAGE.

I'M NOT GOING TO GO INTO ALL THE BAD MOUTHING AND BACK STABBING INCIDENTS IN THIS INTERVIEW AND ALL ABOUT THE STORIES OF YOU RIPPING PEOPLE OFF AND ALL THAT, BUT DID YOU EVER GET YOUR MONEY FROM LETHAL RECORDS AND ARE THERE ANY NEWER PEOPLE WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF?

THAT'S TOO BAD THAT I COULDN'T TALK SHIT TO EXPOSE THE IDIOTS THAT HAVE BEEN DOING THAT ABOUT ME. LIKE **ENRIQUE CHAVEZ** OF **ex-SADISTIC INTENT**.. OR THE FEMALE IMPERSONATOR, **DAVE ROTTEN** OF **REHASH PUSLE RECORDS/SPAIN**, OR **MELINDA WITZEL**, WHO WAS RUNNING ADS ABOUT WILD RAGS RIPPING OTHERS OFF AND THEN WRITES IN AND WANTS US TO RUN AN AD FOR HER! NOW THAT'S A REAL SHIT TALKER... I JUST GOT ANOTHER ONE THAT WROTE TO **JEFF OLSON** OF **ANGELKILL** AND SAID,

WILD RAGS IS A RIP OFF! JUST BECAUSE JEFF OLSON TOLD THIS GUY THAT THE WILD RAG! WAS A BETTER ZINE!!! SO NOW GERRY SARRACO/ URBAN WARFARE IS A SHIT TALKER ... THE VERY SAME GUY THAT VISITED MY STORE, HAD NO MONEY TO PAY FOR A FEW CDS, I FRONTED HIM THE CDS SO HE COULD TAKE THEM WITH HIM BACK TO NEW YORK AND NOW THAT FAT ASS FUCKER FORGETS WHERE HE CAME FROM..... BUT WE HAVE LOTS OF THOSE IN THE UNDERGROUND. THEY WALK AROUND WITH THEIR FOOT IN THEIR MOUTHS, AND KNOW VERY LITTLE. ANYBODY TELLS YOU... IN THIS BUSINESS, THEY KNOW WHAT THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT, MAKE A MOVE OUT THE DOOR, THEY KNOW SHIT. NOBODY KNOWS A FUCKING THING, NOBODY. NOT ME, NOT THEM, NOT ANYBODY. IT CHANGES EVERY DAY... IT'S ALL IN THE GUT, AND WE ALL TAKE A CHANCE EVERYDAY.

NO. I NEVER GOT MY 600 CDS FROM LETHAL. OF COURSE, NOT MANY THAT HAVE EVER DONE BUSINESS WITH HIM, WITH MICHAEL PIESCH/LETHAL RECORDS, WE HAVE EVER GOTTEN THEIR STUFF FROM HIM. OTHER BANDS, AND MANY OTHER DISTROS. ASK ED FARTS/OF RAGE RECORDS. NOW THE BIG RUMOR IS THAT HE IS BEING FRONTED THE FINANCES BY NUCLEAR BLAST IN GERMANY TO DO ALL HIS RELEASES. SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT, AS HE NEVER HAD ANY MONEY, JUST ACTED LIKE HE DID.

ARE THERE ANY BANDS YOU REGRET WORKING WITH? ANY BANDS THAT YOU HAD A SHOT AT SIGNING, BUT THEY WENT ONTO A BIGGER LABEL?

REGRETS.... JUST **HELLWITCH** IS ONE THAT COMES TO MIND. AN EXTREMELY TALENTED INDIVIDUAL, **PAT RAINERI** BUT JUST NEVER SEEMED TO BE ABLE TO KEEP HIS OWN BAND GOING. HE SPREAD ENOUGH ADS TO BURY THE PLANET EARTH FOR ALL THE FANS TO "BOYCOTT" **WILD RAGS!** SO HIS BAND HAD THE WORST SALES IN THE HISTORY OF **WILD RAGS!** I TOLD **MICHAEL PIESCH/LETHAL RECORDS** HOW GREAT **HELLWITCH** WAS, SO HE SIGNS THE BAND AND HE REALLY RIPS THEM OFF! THEY NEVER EVEN GOT ONE CD! A GOOD LESSON. PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR OWN BAND AND STAY OUT OF OTHER IDIOT BANDS THAT NEVER GOT GOING ANYWAY. AT ONE TIME WE WERE GETTING VERY CLOSE TO DOING MORE LICENSE STUFF WITH **UNLEASHED** BUT **ENRIQUE CHAVEZ/SADISTIC INTENT** WAS HANGING OUT AT **CENTURY MEDIA** AND STEALING CDS THERE, SO HE TOLD SOMEONE ABOUT US WORKING CLOSELY WITH **UNLEASHED**, AND SOON AFTER THAT WE LOST THEM. **CEMETARY** FROM SWEDEN... WE CAME AS CLOSE TO GETTING THEIR RECORDING FOR A LICENSE TAPE AND THAT SAME DAY THAT I GOT THE DAT AND ART-WORK... EVERYTHING, THE BAND CALLED ME AND SAID THEY WOULD SIGN A DEAL WITH **BLACK MARK**. THE **JERSEY DOGS** WENT ON TO SIGN A NICE DEAL WITH A BMG DISTRIBUTION DEAL. **HEXX**.. AN INCREDIBLE TECHNO DEATH BAND. GREAT FUCKIN GUYS TO WORK WITH. THEY SHOULD HAVE STAYED WITH US BUT...THEY WENT TO CENTURY MEDIA FOR ONE RELEASE. AND NOW OF COURSE, **INTERNAL BLEEDING**, NOW ON PAVEMENT WITH A BMG DISTRIBUTION.

AND I WILL NEVER FORGET **NUCLEAR DEATH**. THOUGH **LORI BRAVO**/BASSIST-VOCALIST IS AN OVER GROWN MIDGET THAT WAS STILL LIVING AT HOME WHEN SHE WAS 30, WITHOUT A DOUBT, **NUCLEAR DEATH** PLAYED AN IMMENSE ROLE IN CREATING THAT CHAOTIC NOISE GRIND CRUSHING SOUND THAT WAS SO UNIQUELY, **NUCLEAR DEATH!** LOVE THEM OR HATE THEM. THAT WAS ONE INTENSE BAND. I SAW THEM LIVE AND TO SEE THAT BAND LIVE IS TO EXPERIENCE THE HOLOCAUST. THE SOUND IS OVERPOWERING. CALL IT WHATEVER, YOU AIN'T SHIT TIL YOU HEAR ONE **NUCLEAR DEATH** RELEASE... AND SOON WE WILL HAVE ALL RELEASES OUT ON CD!

WITH ALL THE BANDS, WE DEVELOPED AN EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP AND THE NEED TO WORK WITH EACH OTHER AND FOR A COMMON GOAL. NO SHIT TALKING, NO BACK STABBING AND ANYBODY CAN WRITE TO ANY OF THESE BANDS AND FIND OUT JUST WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT. YOU'LL HEAR OTHER THINGS FROM OTHER BANDS, BUT THOSE BANDS ARE NOT SIGNED.... OR THEY NEVER WENT ANYWHERE... THEY ARE DOING NOTHING! SIMPLY CAUSE THEY WILL NEVER AMOUNT TO ANYTHING AND WILL NEVER GET SIGNED. WHO THE FUCK WANTS A SHIT TALKER ON THEIR LABEL? THAT'S ONE BIG REASON THE **NEW SADISTIC INTENT** HAD TO SIGN WITH THE SAME GUY THAT USED TO BE THEIR OWN VOCALIST AND THE SAME GUY THAT RIPPED THEM OFF, THE SAME GUY THAT THEY KICKED OUT OF THE BAND! THAT SAME GUY SIGNED THEM AND THAT SAME GUY IS NOW NOWHERE TO BE FOUND, STILL LIVING LIKE A NOMAD CAUSE THAT'S THE WAY HE LIKES TO LIVE... NEVER IN ONE PLACE SO NO ONE CAN FIND HIM.

HOW COME YOU DONT DO 7" ANYMORE? WILL YOU STILL PRINT CASSETTES? IF IT IS NOT TRYING TOO MUCH, WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR PRODUCT MADE AT? WHAT IS THE AVERAGE COST TO PRINT 1000 TAPES AND

ALSO 1000CDS?

7" VINYL IS JUST A LOST CAUSE. IT'S A NICE COLLECTOR'S PIECE BUT THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT IF YOU ARE A MUSICIAN, A BAND AND YOU WANT YOUR MATERIAL HEARD, WHY PUT IT OUT ON A FORMAT NOBODY IS GOING TO LISTEN TO IT? WHAT FOR? WE HELD OUT AS LONG AS WE COULD FOR VINYL AND IT DIDN'T DO US ANY GOOD. WE GOT ALL THESE PRAISES BUT NO SALES.. SO FUCK IT. WE'LL CONTINUE TO DO CASSETTES FOR OUR DEMO TAPES AND SOME EPS. BUT THAT IS THE ONLY REASON, ANYTHING FULL LENGTH WILL BE RELEASED ONLY ON CD. WHERE DO I GET MY PRODUCT MADE, PROBABLY IN JAPAN. I DONT HANDLE ANY OF THAT, I JUST GIVE IT TO A SALES REP. WE GET CD REFERENCE MADE OUT OF EVERY DAT JUST IN CASE FOR OUR FILES AND THAT GOES TO... SOMEWHERE AND THEN THEY COME BACK AND THAT'S IT. I DONT EVEN KNOW WHAT I PAY CAUSE I HAVE SOMEONE THAT WRITES THE CHECKS OUT, BUT I AM SURE IT AIN'T THAT MUCH. WE'RE VERY CONSERVATIVE WHEN IT COMES TO SAVING MONEY, OR I SHOULD SAY WHEN IT COMES TO SPENDING MONEY, ANY GOOD MAJOR METROPOLITAN MUSIC PAPER HAS THOSE COMPANIES THAT OFFER DEALS ON COMPACT DISKS AND CASSETTE DUPLICATION. THEY ARE NOT ALWAYS THE BEST, AS THOSE PLACES AND SO-CALLED COMPANIES ARE JUST MIDDLE MEN ACTING AS SALES REPS. SO THEY DO NOT DO ANY OF THE WORK. THEIR JOB IS TO TAKE THE ORDER AND PART OF THEIR COMMISSION IS THE DOWN PAYMENT. THAT'S THE THING YOU HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR, ONCE YOU GIVE THAT DOWN PAYMENT, AND YOU DONT GET YOUR WORK THE WAY YOU ORDERED IT, YOU WILL BE SHIT OUT OF LUCK. WHENEVER POSSIBLE, ASK FOR REFERENCES WITHIN THE LAST THIRTY DAYS. IF THEY CANNOT PROVIDE THAT, THEN GO SOMEWHERE ELSE, IF THEY SAY "DONT YOU TRUST US?" TRUST IS FOR THE BOY SCOUTS. WHEN IT COMES TO MONEY, DONT TRUST ANYONE... PERIOD.

HOW MUCH ADVERTISING DO YOU DO FOR EACH OF YOUR RELEASES? DO YOU FEEL THAT FLYERS SPREAD THROUGH THE MAIL HELP A LOT ANYMORE?

THAT ALL DEPENDS ON THE BANDS, BUT ONE THING WE ALWAYS DO IS ENCOURAGE EACH BAND TO DO THEIR OWN ONE SHEET **NEWSLETTER** WHICH THEY SEND TO US AND WE PRINT 1000 COPIES OF IT AND CIRCULATE EVERY OTHER MONTH OR EVERY MONTH, DEPENDING ON HOW AGGRESSIVE THE BAND IS. SOME BANDS DO THEIR OWN 1000 COPIES AND WE DO 1000 AND THEY DO THAT EVERY MONTH. NEEDLESS TO SAY, THOSE BANDS WIND UP SELLING QUITE A BIT OF DEMOS, CDS, ETC. AS FOR THE FLYERS THROUGH THE MAIL.... WE'RE ALL WRITING TO THE SAME PEOPLE. FANS... WE'RE ALL JUST WRITING TO EACH OTHER. I HARDLY SEND OUT ADS LIKE THAT ANY MORE. I MAKE SURE MY ADS ARE GOING TO LOCAL INDIE RECORD STORES, LOCAL GIGS, TRYING TO FIND NEW FANS, NEW FANS THAT I CAN BRING INTO THE SCENE AND HAVE THEM STOP LISTENING TO THAT PANTERA CD.... THERE'S SOMETHING WAY BETTER HERE WITH UNSIGNED AND INDIE BANDS. THAT'S WHERE I GET THE MAJORITY OF MY RESPONSE.

HOW CAN BANDS PROMOTE THEMSELVES WITHOUT GOING BROKE? DO YOU FELL FANZINES AND RADIO STATIONS STILL PLAY A BIG PART IN HELPING A BAND SELL TAPES AND CDS?

THAT'S A TOUGH ONE. FOR ONE THING UNLESS YOU ARE A GENIUS AT BUSINESS, YOU WILL GO BROKE, EVEN IF YOU DONT PROMOTE. THE BUSINESS OF A BAND, WHETHER YOU PROMOTE OR NOT IS EXPENSIVE. HOWEVER IF YOU LEARN HOW TO BE A BAND, A BUSINESS AND PROMOTE TO GENERATE MONEY, INCOME, AS IT SHOULD BE, THEN YOU'LL DO GOOD. YOU WILL SEE SOME MINOR PROFIT AND RETURN AND THE BAND WON'T BREAK UP ALONG THE WAY. WHENEVER I HEAR THAT BANDS DONT WANT TO MAKE MONEY AT THIS, I JUST LAUGH. WHAT A CROCK OF SHIT... OR THAT SOME WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A LIVING OUT OF THIS, YOU CAN BUT NOT AT JUST PLAYING MUSIC. THERE'S LOTS MORE TO THIS BUSINESS THAN JUST SELLING TAPES OR CDS. LOTS MORE. FANZINES AND RADIO HELP EVERYTHING HELPS. BUT DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR SPENT ON ANY OF THE TWO. YOUR BEST BET IS TO JUST TRAVEL TO A GOOD STRONG SHOW AND SELL YOUR PRODUCT, THERE. RIGHT ON THE SPOT! MOST FANZINES ONLY PRINT A FEW HUNDRED. THE ONES THAT PRINT THAT MANY HAVE 100 REVIEWS! AND THEY MADE A PROMISE TO SEND EACH BAND A COPY, THAT'S ALL 100 COPIES, YOU CAN SEE THAT FANZINES DONT REACH OUT AND TOUCH SOMEONE. A RADIO SHOW MIGHT BE ON AN HOUR A NIGHT, AT THE WEE HOURS OF THE MORNING, WHEN YOU ARE EITHER SLEEPING OR FUCKING AND IF I AM DOING EITHER ONE I AM NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO THE RADIO. AND WITHIN AN HOUR SHOW, YOU COULDN'T EVEN PLAY ONE TUNE FROM HALF OF THE STUFF ON MY LABEL! DO YOURSELF A FAVOR

IS DESTROYING THE

RELAPSE RECORDS/SYMPOSIUM ZINE

INTERVIEW WITH RELAPSE PUBLICIST/SYMPOSIUM WRITER: JEFF WAGNER

HOW WAS IT LIVING IN IOWA WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG? WAS THERE A LOT OF THINGS FOR A YOUNG BOY TO DO? WHAT ARE THE PEOPLE OUT THERE LIKE? DESCRIBE THE LIVING CONDITIONS AND THE MUSIC SCENE OUT THERE? DID YOU GET TO SEE MANY SHOWS AT ALL? "I imagine it's not all that radically different from any other place in the states. There's less people and therefore less pollution in the rural areas and small towns that I grew up in. I feel fortunate that I grew up in the country, and later on around age 11 in a small town of only 6,000, as I prefer the clean, friendly environment of these areas as opposed to dealing with being one of hundreds of thousands of people in a smelly, deteriorating city. I did the usual kid things, like dirt biking, playing baseball, fishing, camping, fighting with my brother John, air guitaring to Ace Frehley (Kiss), all that kind of stuff. The people there are more diverse than the usual 'Iowa Stereotype' gives them credit for, especially in killer University towns like Iowa City. Sure, you have your share of hicks and red-necks who are racist and god fearing and only car about there cars and beating up their girlfriends. I just never aligned myself with those types of idiots, even while growing up in a rural setting where a lot of these people seem to come from. Generally, the people are friendly, mellow, and just much more in tune with nature and its gifts than many people I've met while living here in the eastern part of the country. The living conditions are great, not overcrowded, very clean air and water. The music scene, however leaves a lot to be desired. There are mostly cover bands all across the state, who go nowhere with their music and just cater to 100's of sheep who actually go to these gigs on the weekends. Country music has always been huge there, one of the few forms of music I truly detest. There have been periods of exciting things happening in Iowa City, which is definitely the coolest city in the state with bands like Sludgeplaw, Scorched Earth, Policy, Fleshdig, Modus Vivendi (doom), and a few others, but even that period is over, and all Iowa City now has is Grateful Dead worship bands and horrendously pathetic alternative/college rock crap. I went to see tons of shows, but rarely in Iowa, so we always took road trips to Chicago (4 hours east) to see all the killer underground death/thrash/metal shows. I've seen too many shows in the mid-west to list, but yeah that was/is one of my main interests, catching bands in their live element."

WHEN DID YOU FIRST GET INTO MUSIC? WHAT WERE SOME OF THE FIRST BANDS YOU LIKED AND THE FIRST LPS YOU BROUGHT? DO YOU STILL HAVE YOUR OLD LPS? DO YOU STILL LIKE ANY BANDS YOU LIKED WAY BACK WHEN? "As far back as I can remember, I was drawn to music. Early favs included C.W. McCall (Convoy), Terry Jackson (Seasons in the Sun) Green by Kermit The Frog and then...Kiss happened. I was taken by Kiss at age 7, and haven't been the same since. The music and image was so wild and radical that they made an ideliable impression on me and thousands of other kids growing up in the mid 70's. (Me too-ed) I was a rabid collector of every piece of Kiss music and related merchandise I could afford on my small allowance. They were virtually the only band I cared about from age 7 to age 11, then I began experimenting with other bands like: Styx, Reo Speedwagon, who I lost interest in once I discovered Judas Priest, Aerosmith, Iron Maiden, and Accept around 1982. This was when the whole ball started rolling for me, as I then progressed into more underground bands and remain excited to this day. The first few Lps I brought were all the old Kiss LPs. I still love old Kiss material, it truly stands the test of time, and some of it was very, very heavy and ahead of its time. I've kept most of the LPs I brought back then, but my tastes are constantly evolving, I often sell, trade or just ditch LPs and bands that don't do it for me anymore I used to buy anything that was even remotely metal when I was 14, even crud liked Armed Forces. (They were a shitty metal band from my area-ed) My tastes have definitely changed since those days, though I like most of the bands I was getting into 10-12 years ago, there's nothing like busting out old Exciter Lps and old Cirith Ungol Lps when craving a blast of true metal."

HOW OLD ARE YOU AND WHAT MADE YOU START UP A ZINE? WHAT WERE SOME OTHER EARLY ZINES THAT YOU READ AND DID YOU TAKE ANY IDEAS FROM THEM? WHAT DID YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH WITH YOUR ZINE? "I'm 26 right now and decided to start Symposium in August of 1992 when I was 23. Early zines I read include: Metal Forces, Kick Ass Monthly (the best-ed), Guillotine, Metal Mania, Metal Onslaught, Metal Rendezvous. I wanted Symposium to be a zine that people could read if they were tired of all other zines out there, because at the time, virtually all there were for metal, were terribly written death metal zines." REST OF JEFF'S ANSWER AND INTERVIEW CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE !

"Even though I've always been into death metal, there's so much more out there, so Symposium has always tried to bring a more critical and intelligent slant to metal, by offering interviews with bands who are a little more original and unique than what you see covered in a majority of zines out there. We've got a good group of people who follow and read Symposium regularly, and I feel if I quit today, that it was all worth it and that Symposium made an impact on enough people. It's been received very favorably, and I'm satisfied with the work I've done on it."

HOW MANY COPIES HAVE YOU PUT OUT? WHAT IS YOUR CIRCULATION? HOW DO YOU GO ABOUT PROMOTING YOUR ZINE? DO YOU REMEMBER THE 1ST DEMO YOU GOT? "We're currently working on our 7th issue, which will include a 8 page interview with Bathory, John Arch, The Gathering, Electric Wizard, Xysma, Beyond Dawn, Mindrot and others. Our circulation has grown with each issue, as we get more people investing ads into it, we're at about 800 per issue right now, rather small, but it does its job certainly. For the first 4 issues I passed flyers in the mail profusely, and traded ads with zines and attained distribution from Relapse, Slipped Disc, and others here and there. I worked real hard with mail for those first 4 issues. Right now, Mike Hope has taken over the many duties as I'm very busy with my current job, though he hasn't really done the intense flyering and mail correspondence that I was doing with Symposium. Right now, the zine has a life of its own, but I would like to see more flyering amongst the underground, so I may take over those things once again if things don't improve on that level. Mike's doing a killer job with the zines construction though, I must give him a ton of credit for keeping this project going throughout my transition from Iowa to Pennsylvania. I don't remember the 1st demo I got for review in the zine, but it probably sucked and not worth remembering. The 1st demo I ever remember hearing was in 1985, it was California's Burnt Offering, which featured a lad named Chris Reifert on drums. It was pretty killer for the time, though I'm not sure what happened to the tape. I'd like to hear it again, if anybody out there has a copy, let me know."

DID YOU OR ARE YOU WRITING FOR ANY OTHER ZINES? WOULD YOU WANT TO WRITE ONE DAY FOR A LIVING OR ARE YOU HAPPY WORKING AT RELAPSE? "Before Symposium, I was writing for a lot of zines like, Curious Goods, H.E.L.P., Anti Poser, and Sheet Metal. I think if the opportunity came along, I'd love to write for a living, though I'd have control of what it is I'm, writing about and who it is I interview. I'm much more into writing for the love of it rather than the free stuff and obligatory headaches involved. I'm very happy at Relapse right now, but I'll always keep myself busy with zine contribution, whether it be Symposium or other publications like "Urban Warfare or Delirium. Hopefully Jerry will begin work on Curious Goods #10 soon, and I'm sure I'll be doing a few things for him. Jerry Rutherford is the king."

HOW DID YOU GET THE JOB AT RELAPSE? DID YOU CALL THEM OR DID THEY CONTACT YOU? DID YOU EVER TRY AND GET ANY OTHER JOB BESIDES RELAPSE WHAT WERE YOU DOING FOR A JOB WHEN YOU LIVED IN IOWA? "Wow in it's full detail, this is a long story., as the events leading up to my interview at Relapse were unusual to say the least. To edit for length's sake, Sept of '94 was the absolute lowest and highest point of my life. I had talked with Bill from Relapse ever since Symposium's beginning in '92 and I met Matt Jacobson at Foundations Forum in '94. We hit it off well. with a mutual appreciation for the likes of Destruction & Kreator, and a week later while talking to Bill about Symposium stuff, he put me on the phone with Matt who asked some questions about my current situation in Iowa and then finally came out and asked "have you ever thought about working for a record company?" and pretty much from that point on. although we had only scheduled a interview I knew this was my future because I was ready for this type of move and this kind of job. I really wasn't actively applying for positions for me. I knew that Relapse was expanding their staff, and Ula Gehret actually interviewed for that position I have, but ended up going to Century Media. Ula is the king, man, him and Jerry Rutherford just rule the world, I respect both of those guys immensely. Previous to my job at Relapse I spent 3 1/2 yrs as a care provider for physically handicapped adults, which was very rewarding, I learned a lot about human nature and the hidden strengths of 'handicapped' persons, it was an experience I'll always treasure. I was the staff supervisor at this particular facility and had great experiences while working there, though when I began working there with mentally handicapped persons (rather than just physically handicapped), it was much more challenging, and at times quite trying."

WAS IT A HARD CHOICE TO LEAVE IOWA? DID YOU LEAVE MANY FRIENDS OR A GIRLFRIEND BEHIND? WHAT DID YOUR FAMILY THINK OF THE MOVE? AT THIS TIME, ARE YOU GLAD YOU MADE THE MOVE TO PA? "It wasn't hard considering I had this opportunity at Relapse, though I left friends and family behind, I was mentally ready. THE REST OF JEFF'S ANSWER AND THE INTERVIEW CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE."

HOW DO YOU GO ABOUT PROMOTING A BAND, THAT IN YOUR MIND YOU THINK SUCKS? HAVE YOU EVER HAD ANY PART IN GETTING A BAND SIGNED TO RELAPSE IS THAT SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO ONE DAY? "In that case, I just look at everything on an objective level, I know which zines will be receptive to the band and that makes it a lot easier. Plus, I'm really into just doing my job and doing what I can for the good of the entire label, I can't really blow off promoting a certain band just because I don't like listening to them. So, I promote the same way I would promote a band I like, though with maybe a little less personal enthusiasm. I get the job done, though. I've never been part of a band getting signed yet, though we're currently checking into releasing something I brought to Matt and Bills attention recently I can't give it away, since nothing is official, but the fact that I may be able to help this band out is great satisfaction. Yeah, I'd love to do A/R and sign bands to a label, though I would only sign on the basis of potential longevity rather than the quick buck. I'd look for bands who have a unique vision and an individual identity apart from anyone else out there. I imagine the signings would be a little more experimental than what most labels are into, so I guess I should start my own label someday, eh? I think I have a pretty good ear when it comes to picking out a unique, new band and I'd want to be sure these bands showed signs of development over time. Take Tiamat or Amorphis for example. Both these bands have grown out of their death metal roots and have taken their music to the next level and they're all the better for it. It's these types of bands I'd love to help attain a respectable status."

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF RELAPSE WENT OUT OF BUSINESS? WOULD YOU TRY TO FIND ANOTHER MUSIC JOB OR A REGULAR JOB? "I'd set out for the Dreamtime Village in rural WI and release the pagan hermit that rests deep inside of myself, I'd become one with Mother Earth and all her creatures, I'd gain much knowledge from the great spirits and write about the follies of life and death and grow a long flowing beard and forge iron and metal into usable tools much like the great Haephestus! I'll always be involved in music somehow, y'know. If that didn't pan out, I suppose I'd try to set myself up again with another cool underground label and maybe I'd try to take Symposium to the next level or actually get my University degree I've so long forsaken for the glory of metal. Ideally, I'd like to stay involved in music I love so much, I'm sure I could find something to involve myself with. No regular job for me thanks, I'm too far gone for that stuff now."

WHAT ARE SOME COOL ZINES THAT YOU HAVE SEEN LATELY? DO YOU RESPECT ALL ZINES OR DO YOU THINK ONLY SOME OF THEM ARE ONLY OUT FRO FREE STUFF? HOW WOULD A ZINE GO ABOUT GETTING PROMO STUFF FROM RELAPSE? "I'm sure I'm leaving some out, but these are a few I've found to be particular impressive as of late: Requiem, Isten, Voices From The Darkside, Infernal Archives, Word of Mouth, Headfucker, Sentinel Steel, Baphomet, Grimoire of Exalted Deeds, Wormgear. There are a bunch more, but these are the ones that I have been digging lately. I respect any ounce of effort that goes into doing a zine, as it represents someone's love for the music on a more involved level. I don't really consider the ones out to get free stuff as real zines because their hearts aren't into it and they're just enemies of the scene, out to get everything they can, which is pretty damn selfish, but it happens I don't personally care for a lot of zines out there, I like the ones where you can tell the person or persons involved put a lot of blood and sweat into it. The best way to get involved with Relapse is to send a copy of the zine and maybe follow it up with a call or letter if I haven't actually got hold of you yet. Basically, I have consider the circulation of the zine and how much room I have on my mailing list. Speaking of zines, I'd like to take this opportunity to try and urge one Ula Gehret to resurrect the fallen giant Comedy of Errors, most definitely one of the most well written zines ever, so if you'd like to see this zine put out it's long delayed 5th issue (including Matthew Sweet/Wildhearts and Kataklysm), please contact Mr Gehret at Century Media Records and offer him any goods and services worth his while to bring this wonderful publication back to life. Thank you. Back to the interview."

WHAT ARE YOUR LONG TIME PLANS, IF ANY? ARE THERE ANY GOALS THAT YOU ARE STRIVING FOR? "Long term plans include searching for the meaning of life through metal music and lifting Relapse Records to the highest echelons within the halls of the great metal gods. Actually, I'd like to stay here for awhile as long as I'm enjoying it and I feel I should play out this thing until it's natural end as I've worked hard to get here, and left many behind many friends and family in doing so. This is a goal that I've finally conquered, getting paid for doing something I love, so where I'll go from here dog only knows. I'm never truly content, so I'm sure I'll create new goals and plans to further me on the path of life. Short term: Sleep. Long Term: Contentment with life, a peaceful death and all 267 + King Crimson bootlegs."

INTERVIEW CONTINUES, WERE GETTING NEAR THE END!

HOW COULD A BAND GET STUFF DISTRIBUTED THROUGH RELAPSE? DO RELAPSE DO TRADES AT ALL? HOW MANY ZINES GET PROMO MATERIAL FROM RELAPSE? "Basically, if they are on a label and fall within the vast array of music that we offer (death grind, industrial, gothic, noise and beyond) then we'll either get their stuff through another distributor or the label itself. In the case of demo level bands, if we feel it's something that we can compete with the other 1000's of items we offer, we take 25 or so tapes on consignment and see how it goes. Sometimes a demo will just collect dust on the shelf, other times (as with Usurper) we'll sell out of a demo quickly and have to re-order, so it all depends on how much publicity the band is doing for itself. Yes, we do trades. I have a database of over 500 publications, which includes about 175 zines from around the world. Unfortunately, I can't send promos out to ever single zine in existence, as I get a finite amount of promos to work with and have to make that work for the label as best I can. I'm always looking to hook up with new zines, but I really like to develop relationships with zine editors who are in it for the long run. Of course, I understand the financial limitations in doing a zine, but as long as there's a certain of dedication and acceptable distribution, then I'm into servicing a zine. I'm/We're not into exposing our releases in racist, homophobic rags or in zines that merely copy bios you send and then expect promos that they'll probably go and sell to stores a day later. Not to sound overly P.C. or ungrateful, but there are narrow minded people out there who think our existence depends on their publication, when they only print up 25 copies for their friends and a few labels so they can stay on their mailing lists. I'm not making this shit up, there are rip off artists out there who are trying to scam any free shit they can. I'm wise to these types, so don't bother snooping around here. Fortunately, there are 1000's of dedicated people in the scene, keeping it alive, like yourself, Chris, and those are the type of people we are looking to work with." **DO YOU PLAN ON GETTING MARRIED ONE DAY? ANY THOUGHTS OF STARTING UP A SMALL LABEL OR DISTRO SERVICE AND SELL STUFF RELAPSE DOESN'T?** "Umm...well I would if I was sure that this person was going to be my lifelong soulmate and I guess I'll know when I find her. It would have to be a wedding with no religious content, as I'm atheist and don't want to be swearing to raise my kids in the church and all that goes along with that. I'm not marriage motivated at all, but I do enjoy being in a satisfying relationship with someone and I've definitely had my share of great relationships. I don't think I'd start a distro or anything like that doesn't interest me as much as writing, writing I hope to always be involved with to some degree, no matter what I'm doing as a career at the time." **ANY THOUGHTS OF WORKING FOR A MAJOR LABEL ONE DAY? IF OFFERED A JOB AT SAY, ATLANTIC, WOULD YOU TAKE IT? WHY OR WHY NOT?** "Well, judging by the rosters on the majors these days, I don't see that happening anytime soon. I could not deal with pushing bands who I think are crap, which seems to be most of the bands on majors these days. Let's say Atlantic offered me a job. I'd turn that shit down right away, because there's no integrity there. What do they have, Savatage? They were good back in the day, but they haven't put a good Lp since '87, so what's the use? Okay, they've got the Melvins, one of my favorite bands, but there's no guarantee how long they'll be there and with just one band that I like, as opposed to about 18 bands that I currently work with and dig an, then I think it's obvious in which realm I belong in. I don't care how much money I'd be offered, I'd rather stay at the underground level, working with bands who have a high degree of integrity and artistic freedom, rather than some bland, trendy major label act." **WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE BANDS AND SOME OVERRATED ONES? WHAT ARE SOME KILLER UNDERGROUND BAND THAT THE READERS SHOULD CHECK OUT?** "Damn, you ask some probing questions! This requires a book length answer, so I'll try and pare it down to the top 25. I worship the works of: Black Sabbath, King Crimson, Voivod, Kiss, Cathedral, Holy Terror, Fates Warning, Die Kreuzen, Mercyful Fate, My Dying Bride, Fields of the Nephilim, Anathema, Dead Can Dance, Bathory, Cynic, Iron Maiden, Bang, Amorphis, Judas Priest, Melvins, Celtic Frost, Rush, Xysma, Carcass and Manowar. Overrated bands? There are lots of them, but the ones I think are overrated are enjoyed by many, so what's my opinion matter? However, I'm too opinionated not to mention crap like: Decide, Biohazard and those media hyped, gimmick laden posers in Marilyn Manson. I think you probably have a very open minded readership, so here are some that y'all oughtta be flippin out on: Alchemist, the gods of psychedelic space grind from Australia, In Flames and Eucharist from Sweden, both godly, both unique, melodic, and heavy as hell. Xysma, the gods of the Finnish death/grind and totally unknown and underrated Paraxism (what is with Finland and America's Avernus, one of the few new US bands who can actually hold their own next to their European counterparts." **INTERVIEW CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE!!!**

HOW IS IT WORKING WITH MATT AND BILL? PLEASE BE HONEST. HAVE YOU EVER GOT IN ARGUMENTS OVER THE YEARS? LET'S HEAR A GOOD STORY? "It's fuckin great! These guys I'd probably be friends with anyway. We've got a lot in common obviously and I don't really consider them 'bosses' in the traditional sense of the word. They treat the staff with more respect and dignity than any other I've ever had. I can't really recall one argument we've had over the years, maybe some tension concerning which magazine to advertise in or whether I should add a particular zine to the list or not, but really, they have given me a very wide open job description and let me run with it, and I think they are quite happy with what I have done so far. I'm sure they'd tell me if they thought I was a fuck up or if I had body odor or something. They are very honest guys. Being in this environment day in and day out, I could relate many stories that have happened here, but some of them involve 'in' jokes and circumstances only a member of the Relapse cult would relate to, but there is one, however, that I find quite amusing. Originally, when Bill and Matt took on the responsibility of becoming the US branch of Nuclear Blast, they were supposed to release everything in the states that N.B. ever put out. With the 3rd Master Lp, Bill refused to be in any way involved with it's US release, so from then on there have been a few things that NBA have vehemently passed on, one of which is anything recent by Mortification. When we received a tape of the latest Mortification in August, Bill reacted with such disgust that he immediately ripped the tape out of the deck, placed it on the floor in front of a desk which he climbed on and proceeded to do a flying kamikaze leap right onto the tape, smashing the thing into hundreds of pieces! To add insult to injury Bill doused the remains in this stuff called "Valarian Drops", which were medicinal vials of this Valarian stuff we were using as a promo items for Meshuggah, which stunk like you would not believe!! Absolutely foul stuff! So here's this reeking, acidic-smelling crap all over the remains of Mortification tape, which he promptly sent off to N.B. Needless to say, Markus Staiger, the head of N.B. Germany, was not pleased when he received this bit of correspondence from the guys at Relapse, and he let Bill know it. We did not release the Mortification Lp in US."

DO YOU THINK MAGS LIKE THE PIT, METAL MANIACS AND TERRORIZER ARE GOOD FOR THE SCENE OR ARE ZINES THE ONLY GOOD THING FOR THE UNDERGROUND AS FAR AS READING MATERIAL? "I really like the mags you listed along with Ill Literature. I think M.M is just as vital to the scenes longevity as something like Death Notice and vice versa, each one is essentially doing a great service to the metal scene by giving attention and exposure. Whether there's circulation of 150 or 150,000, I can't fault these publications. A lot of people like to slag M.M because of it's political stances, but shouldn't any publication editor's be allowed to comment on their personal beliefs??? I think music and ones personal outlooks on life go hand-in-hand in many instances, and I don't see why M.M shouldn't speak out on vegariansism and racism if these issues that the writers are concered with. If you don't like it, read something else (like Symposium-shameless plug). Besides, what other magazine can you pick up full of stuff like Samael, Hypocrisy and a full color page on Absu in a grocery store??? That can only be a good thing, I think. A lot of people don't realize that if they're unsatisfied with the 'slick' metal mags out there like M.M and Pit that there are virtually hundreds and hundreds of other publications from around the world focusing on this music, you just need to become a little more active in the scene and order zines of something. Just don't pick up Circus."

DO YOU THINK ALL THESE SMALL LABELS AND DISTRIBUTORS ARE GOOD FOR THE SCENE? DO YOU FEEL THAT TOO MANY UNORIGINAL BANDS ARE BEING SIGNED TOO SOON AND BECAUSE THEY WERE CORPSE PAINT? "I can't find a lot of fault in someone starting up a distro or a label, that just helps the scene thrive and reach more people. However, when an unusually large amount of new labels come onto the scene at the same time, it seems to increase the amount of total crap bands flooding the market and the ratio of quality bands plumm-ents. This happened in '90/91 when everyone and their brother started up their own death metal label, so we saw an increase in average bands, which made it difficult for the fans to sort out the great stuff from the shit, which is even more frustrating when you're purchasing music on limited funds. Survival of the fittest has seen the quality labels and bands surviving while many shit bands and labels have bit the dust, with a few exceptions, but generally that what's happened. There are a bunch of great new labels currently, and I see these labels not as competition for Relapse, but as comrades who believe in metal (and dark and extreme music) as strongly as we do. Some amazing new labels include: Candlelight, Wrong Again Holy, Avant Gargre, and Spinefarm. Of course, there are a few more, but these are the new ones to look for." **JEFF'S VIEWS ON BLACK METAL AND IS DEATH METAL DEAD, FIND OUT WHEN THE INTERVIEW CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE!!!!**

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ON BLACK METAL? DO YOU THINK DEATH METAL IS DYING AND WILL IT EVER MAKE A COMEBACK? ARE THERE ANY GOOD DEATH METAL BANDS LEFT OR ALL ARE WE GOING TO HAVE IS SUFFOCATION CLONE BANDS? "Black metal: Bathory rules all, always has and always will. The first 6 Bathory Lps are a legacy of pure black, Satanic and later, Norse-inspired masterpieces, and Quorthon reign during the '80s and early '90s are to me the most vile black metal albums ever. Currently, the black metal scene is comprised of mostly rip-off joke bands made up largely of kids who don't know a thing about metal history before Darkthrone's 2nd Lp. Way too much emphasis is put on politics and the controversy and the corpse paint and the terrible production. I'm into a lot of the early black metal bands, like Mayhem, Rotting Christ, Darkthrone (except for Transylvania Hunger, which I'll get to shortly) Emperor, Sigh, Enslaved, Genhenna, Katatonia (not really black metal, but related), Absu, and some of the related projects like Proscriptor's solo stuff (Absu), Equimanthorn, Neptune Towers and Mortis. But, as with any scene, there are way too many pretenders and band wagon jumpers who I have no respect for, but the bands I have listed above along with several others are truly good musicians and artists with integrity in relation to the passion in their music. I cannot and will not defend several member's actions concerning racist and homophobic topics, it's the music that I'm concerned with and I can't deny the great sounds of some of these bands. However, one thing I find just plain stupid is the way some bands try to achieve a horrid production. When Bathory first started to record, Quorthon was limited in his resources and funds, so of course the stuff came out sounding raw and underproduced. Raw is great too, and I certainly don't think black metal should have a clean, slick production, because it wouldn't fit the music. However, if a band like Darkthrone is on their 4th record and the sound on the Lp is inferior to even the worst sounding demo tapes, what's the point? If they can't even re-create the sound of the band as it would be if you were standing in their rehearsal space with them (which would sound noisy and extremely raw) then your results are just going to be silly and inferior. It's pretentious and dumb. Listen to Transylvanian Hunger, Bathory got a better sound by not having the resources and not trying so hard to sound raw, so why does Darkthrone (and many of their imitators) try so hard when it's not even an accurate representation on how they really sound?? They should bring back the level of production they had on A Blaze in the Northern Sky. The Lp sounded very natural. Shit, don't get me talking about black metal, I love it, but sometimes I just get so frustrated with some of the philosophies and attitudes within the scene. Bathory rules all. As far as death metal, it's been around since '85 or so, with the origins of bands like: Possessed, Death, Necrovore, Morbid Angel and Onslaught. I could go off on this too, but I recently did that in Grimoire zine (issue #4), so if you really want to know how I feel about it, check that out. In a nutshell, I feel strongly that death metal is a limiting term (as are most labels) and I wish people could just look at it as one big macrocosm that can be easily defined and understood as just plain 'metal'. Why not? Isn't that where all this comes from anyway? We knew all along that Warrant and Britny Fox were never metal anyway, so why the need to attach 'death' or 'black' to it? I mean, Venom were nothing more and nothing less than a metal band. So what if they used the term 'black metal' as an LP title? They're still just one of the most classic metal bands, no death or black about it. The form of 'death metal' has many faces, you have your NY style, the Florida stuff, the Swedish style is always interesting, it's different around the world, so it's quite varied and fast form, really. Yeah, I suppose it reached it's peak as far back as '91, but there are still bands playing this music who are still vital and very minding blowing. Maybe it died in the public eye when Mtv scratched the Headbangers Ball or something, but metal has always outlived the trends and forged on ahead without mainstream support, so it is with death metal." I DON'T WANT TO TURN THIS ZINE INTO A GOSSIP MAG, BUT YOU WANTED TO COMMENT ON WHAT CASEY OF METAL MERCHANTS SAID IN HIS INTERVIEW IN ISSUE 20 OF MY ZINE. FIRE AWAY. "Well, I have to say that I enjoyed your interview with Casey, he's a die hard supporter of this scene and I've known him for 3 years now and he deserves recognition. Hallows Eve fucking rules!!! But yeah, I was a little amused by his conspiracy theory concerning Relapse, and I'd like to address them as briefly as possible, because I don't want to turn your zine into the National Enquirer. Basically, Casey had 2 problems with Relapse: #1: We owe him money. Now I'm not going to doubt that, but I also don't know a thing about it, either. His business with Relapse was conducted long before I was here, and what went down I don't know. But I can assure him that we aren't groveling money-shoveling bastards out to rip people off."

THE REST OF JEFF'S ANSWER AND THE INTERVIEW CONTINUES AND ENDS ON NEXT PAGE!

"I can tell you that our last accountant was fired due to complete incompetence and the guy who took over tries extremely hard to keep on top of the hundreds of accounts we have going at once. When I first got the job here, Casey seemed a little wary of even dealing with me because I was now at Relapse and I understand his hesitation. However, I offered him to talk with our accountant and he declined and said he'd contact him later. He hasn't done that, and I'm sure if we could work together on it we could find where the discrepancies lie and hopefully clear it up. It's his call and I definitely regret that he's had such a problem with Relapse. #2: The big conspiracy theory that Relapse puts products in our catalog that we can't even get to look cool, and then issue credit slips for merchandise we actually do have. How ignorant! This theory is completely false, and I'm sorry for the people that believe it. This is where the 'scam theory' most likely originates: Often, a customer will call up and ask us if we have a particular item in stock. If so, we reply 'yes' and then the customer then sends the order for the item. When it gets there a week later, this item, which was probably an obscure hard-to-find item in the first place, has sold out. We do either one of three things at this point: We put the item on back order and send it as soon as it's in, we send an alternate, or we issue credit. It's all quite innocent and not quite the evil scheming conspiracy Casey thinks it is. We get in tons of legal trouble if we pull scams like that. We don't have the time to waste on such stupid schemes, we're here to do business, and we try to do it better than anybody else. Case closed."

PLANS FOR 1996? WHAT STUFF CAN WE EXPECT FROM RELAPSE? "Relapse is currently a 3 headed triumvirate of unholy extremity, comprised of the Relapse and Nuclear Blast America labels as well as the big monster that is Release Entertainment. Release began as an offshoot label of Relapse, which will focus on extreme music that is truly mind-expanding, but doesn't exactly fall within the 'metal' category. So far, the stuff we've put out on the label has appealed to both metal-heads and non-metalheads, and it's opened up a vast new realm for people who want to expand their listening possibilities. We've released Trial of the Bow, Tribes of Neurot, Malformed Earthborn, The Japanese/American Noise Treaty, and Release Your Mind recently and have plans to increase the profile of this label as well as the 2 metal labels. '96 looks bright, we hope that certain booking agents will realize that there is still a demand for live extreme metal in this country, so we hope to have Dismember, Meshuggah, Amorphis, Mindrot, Hypocrisy, and several others touring the states in '96. As far as releases go, there are too many to list, but '96 will definitely be another exciting chapter in Relapse/NBA history with new Lps from: Amorphis (Elegy), Hypocrisy (Abducted), Kataklysm (The Temple of Knowledge), Gorefest (Soul Survivor), and newcomers Human Remains, Morgion, Blood Duster and tons more to keep you shitting your pants in extreme metal rapture!!! We're currently working on out '96 catalog which will not only feature the immense amount of items we have to offer, but will include articles and reviews on our bands as well as bands we're fans of, like Neurosis, OLD, Brighter Death Now. Most of all the interviews are either done by myself or Bill Y, and a few are taken from various publications. We want to give even more support to not only the bands on our label, but the many publications that are hip to what we're doing. This catalog will look more like a magazine and will still cost only \$2. It's going to crush, I can assure you."

LAST WORDS TO WRAP UP THIS LONG INTERVIEW? "Chris, thanks for being such a major supporter of the scene, your longevity is to be respected, good luck with Immolation, the zine and everything else. Thanks for taking the interest in Relapse, Symposium, and myself for conducting this interview, it was truly an in-depth interrogation! Stay open-minded, strive to expand your musical horizons, release your mind. If anyone out there feels a need to write me concerning the label or the zine or my jaded, selfish opinions, or if you have any rare Black Sabbath, King Crimson, Voivod or Cathedral items, write to the Relapse address, please. And Ula, c'mon just one more issue of Comedy of Errors, okay??? Peace.

**WHAT A GREAT INTERVIEW. TO WRITE TO JEFF OR GET A RELAPSE CATALOG FOR \$2:
RELAPSE PO BOX 251 MILLERSVILLE, PA 17551**

YOU OWN THE NEW IMMOLATION CD "HERE IN AFTER" AND YOU DON'T HAVE THE NOW CLASSIC "DAWN OF POSSESSION", BUT CAN'T FIND IT ANYWHERE. WELL, YOUR IN LUCK CAUSE METAL CORE DISTRIBUTION HAS SOME COPIES FOR \$12 PPD. I ALSO HAVE COPIES OF THE "STEPPING ON ANGELS" CD, WHICH CONTAINS ALL THE BANDS DEMO TRACKS, LIVE TUNES AND A FEW UNRELEASED CUTS AS WELL. THIS IS \$13 PPD. OR YOU CAN HAVE BOTH CDS FOR ONLY \$22 PPD. ALL ORDERS SENT WITHIN 24 HRS. WELL HIDDEN CASH OR MONEY ORDER TO CHRIS FORBES, ADDRESS ON INSIDE COVER. DO IT!!

GODSEND

INTERVIEW WITH GUNDER AUDUN DRAGSTEN

TELL THE PEOPLE ABOUT WHAT IT IS LIKE LIVING IN NORWAY? HAVE YOU LIVED THERE ALL YOUR LIFE? HAVE YOU HAD A CHANCE TO VISIT OTHER COUNTRIES? IF SO, HOW DO THEY COMPARE TO NORWAY? "Well, living in Norway is ok. It's a small country, but I like it. I have lived here all my life. I was born here. Sure I have visited a couple of countries: Spain, Sweden, Greece. Sweden isn't much different from Norway, they are after all our neighbors. Spain and Greece were different. Especially the weather. We have a lot of snow in wintertime, while they don't. The people are also different. I like the Spanish people a lot. I hope that I can go back there soon."

WHAT IS SCHOOL LIKE IN NORWAY? HOW MANY HOURS IS A SCHOOL DAY AND HOW MANY MONTHS OF THE YEAR DO YOU GO? HOW MANY YEARS BEFORE YOU GRADUATE? "The school is ok. The school year is 10 months in Norway and after 9 years you are free to do what you want. How long is a school day varies a lot. It can be from 3-8 hours."

WHAT WERE SOME EARLY GROUPS YOU LIKED? DID YOU HAVE MANY FRIENDS AND WHAT DID YOU DO FOR FUN? "I was very narrow minded when I was younger. I listened to bands like: Kiss, Iron Maiden, and Metallica. These groups were the first to mean something to me. Oh yeah, I had a lot of friends. At that time I played a lot of soccer and went skiing during the wintertime."

HAVE YOU EVER PICKED UP A INSTRUMENT? HOW MANY HOURS DO THE BAND PRACTICE A WEEK? "I play the guitar. Before I played the guitar, I played bass. I'm mostly self taught. I took some guitar lessons, but I just quit. I was too lazy to learn all these scales. I just wanted to play music. I feel that I'm a competent guitarist, but there is certainly room for improvement. I don't practice regularly, except with the band 3 times a week. I should try to practice some more at home, but it's hard to find the time."

TELL THE READERS ABOUT YOUR FORMER BAND: ATROX. ARE THEY STILL AROUND? DID YOU RECORD ANY MATERIAL WITH THEM? ARE YOU PROUD OF WHAT YOU DID WITH THEM? "Atrox was the first serious band that I played in. We were a few friends who wanted to start a band. They are still around, and some of the original members are still there. I think they have plans to release an Lp soon. I recorded some rehearsal tapes with them, but we never managed to enter a studio when I was in the band. Yeah, I would say that I was proud what I have done with them."

WHY DID YOU LEAVE ATROX? ARE YOU STILL TALKING TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BAND? DO THEY LIKE GODSEND? DID YOU EVER THINK ABOUT ASKING THEM TO JOIN GODSEND? "I left Atrox because I was tired of playing with them. I felt that we weren't getting anywhere. I wanted to do something else. Yes, I'm still talking to them. Some of them are close friends of mine. There were no hard feelings between us. They accepted that I wanted to leave the band. I think most of them like what I have done with Godsend, at least they haven't said anything negative about me. Yes, I thought about asking some of them to join me, but decided not to ask."

HOW COME IT WAS DIFFICULT TO FIND MEMBERS TO JOIN THE BAND? WAS IT BECAUSE MOST MUSICIANS DON'T WANT TO PLAY DOOM METAL? "The problem is finding members that I can work with. There were a lot of people interested in playing this type of music, but not all of them have the right attitude."

HOW HARD WAS IT TO RECORD YOUR DEMO? THE 3 SONGS THAT YOU RECORDED, WERE THEY ONLY 3 YOU HAD AT THE TIME? DID THE SONGS MAKE IT ON YOUR DEBUT CD? "It wasn't hard to record the demo. It did cost a lot of money, but apart from that it was no problem. I had more songs than the 3 I recorded, but I decided to just record those songs because I felt they were the best ones. On the debut Lp only 2 of the actual songs were used. Slaydream were re recorded and Silence of Time was added as a bonus track. The last song was taken from the demo recording."

HOW MANY COPIES OF THE DEMO DID YOU SELL? DID YOU AT ANY POINT TRY TO FIND A LINE UP TO PLAY LIVE SHOWS? DID YOU GET A LOT OF POSITIVE PRESS FROM FANZINES? WERE THERE ANY UNFAIR REVIEWS IN YOUR OPINION? "I'm not sure of the exact figures. I think about 300-400 copies of the demo was sold. After the demo was released I worked with some musicians for a couple of months, but we parted company, because I wasn't satisfied with what we were doing. Most of the reviews were good. I don't think that I have read a really bad review of the demo. I know some people thought the songs were a bit boring. They thought the songs were too slow. I haven't read any reviews that have been unfair."

WERE YOU HAPPY WITH THE DEMO IN THE END? DID YOU THINK THAT IT WOULD GAIN YOU A RECORD DEAL? "I sent the demo to a lot of labels, too many to mention. I was happy with the demo. When I listen to it now, I still think it's ok. I hoped that I could get a record deal after the recording and I wasn't worried about labels wanting a complete line up. I knew the big labels wouldn't show interest, and it didn't bother me at all."

WERE THERE ANY OTHER OFFERS BESIDES HOLY? WHAT MADE YOU GO WITH THEM? LOOKING BACK NOW, DO YOU FEEL HOLY GAVE YOU A FAIR CONTRACT? DID THEY AT ANY TIME, PUT ANY PRESSURE ON YOU TO FIND A BAND AND TOUR? "Holy Records were the only record label who showed interest in the band, and because of that I signed with them. They seemed really enthusiastic about the recording. Yes, I would say that they gave me a fair contract. I don't think that I could have gotten a better contract on another label. They never put any pressure on me. They signed me as a one man band, and they knew that I couldn't go on a tour."

HOW WERE THE SALES OF "AS THE SHADOWS FALL"? WERE THEY BETTER THAN YOU AND THE LABEL THOUGHT THEY WOULD BE? ARE YOU STILL HAPPY WITH THE LP NOW? ARE YOU HAPPY WITH THE PROMOTION HOLY DID FOR YOU? DO YOU THINK THEY COULD DO MORE? "I think the Lp sold about 10,000 units. It was far better than I expected, that's for sure. And I guess that Holy hadn't expected such a good sale either. I'm really happy with that Cd. I think it's the best that I have done so far as a composer. I am happy with the promotion Holy did. They weren't that big at the time, and when you take that into consideration, I would say they did a good job. I don't think they could have done a better job. They did their best, and more than that."

WHAT MAKES YOU PLAY THE STYLE YOU PLAY? HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE IT? DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU HAVE FANS THAT ARE JUST DOOM FANS? WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE POPULARITY OF DOOM METAL THESE DAYS? WHERE DO YOU SEE GODSEND AND DOOM METAL IN 3 AND 5 YEARS? "It's basically because I like this type of music. It's the music that I naturally write. I would describe it as 70's inspired doom metal. I think most of the people who like Godsend are doom metal fans. The 1st Lp certainly mostly appeal to this group of people. The new Lp will probably appeal to a wider audience. I think it's great that doom metal is getting more popular. I guess that the problem is that there are fewer and fewer bands doing something original, so the scene overflows with copycats. I think that Godsend will continue to change, and I guess that I'll be moving more and more away from traditional doom metal. And I guess that a lot of the doom metal bands today will realize that doom metal is much more than playing ultra slow songs."

HOW DID YOU FIND THE BAND THAT PLAYS ON THE NEW LP? DO YOU FEEL THAT THE LINEUP WILL STAY TOGETHER? DO YOU HAVE ANY DISAGREEMENTS AT ALL? WHO WROTE MOST OF THE LYRICS AND THE MUSIC ON THE NEW LP? "Well, after the debut Lp was released I decided it was about time to get together a real band. So I put up some ads at various music stores, and that's how I got in touch with the vocalist. Together we worked with a lot of musicians until we found the right ones. All the rest of the members was found through friends. I don't know how long this line-up will stay together. As a musician I know what I want, and if my ideas aren't the same as theirs I guess we'll part company. We certainly have disagreements, and that's not always easy to solve. I wrote most of the music, while the vocalist wrote almost all the lyrics."

WHAT WOULD YOU WANT HOLY TO DO THIS TIME AROUND AS OPPOSED TO LAST TIME? WHAT ARE YOUR TOURING PLANS? DOES IT BOTHER YOU THAT HOLY AS LIMITED DISTRIBUTION IN THE US? WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE US? DO YOU GET A LOT OF MAIL FROM HERE? WHERE DO YOU GET MOST OF YOUR MAIL FROM? "I don't know what I want them to do differently. I wouldn't say they did anything wrong on the 1st Lp. We don't have any touring plans at the moment. Holy have talked about a Europe tour, but I don't know that much about that at the moment. I guess that we'll be doing some shows here in Norway, and we'll see what happens. It's sad that Holy doesn't have world wide distribution. That means that there are people out there who can't get the Lp, but I know that they are working on this. It seems like their distribution net is growing all the time. I'm not sure if they have any distribution in the US yet. Well, the US market is a big market for music and I wish that we could be able to do some shows there. But I know that won't be possible at the moment. I get some mail from the US, but not that much. France is the country I get most letters from. It seems like there a lot of people who like Godsend there."

ARE THERE ANY NEW DOOM BANDS YOU LIKE? DO YOU THINK BLACK SABBATH AND OZZY SHOULD BOTH RETIRE? DO YOU EVER PLAN ON DOING ANY COVER TUNES IN THE FUTURE? "I haven't really paid that much attention to the underground scene. I have been really sloppy there, so I haven't heard any new doom metal bands I think are promising. I think that Black S. should quit. I heard some cuts from their new Lp, and it didn't sound like B.S. at all. I'm kind of wondering what they are doing. I think it was a mistake for Tony Iommi to reform B.S. He should have continued under a different name. In Ozzy's case, I think it's great that he's still alive. I know it can't be easy for him to retire. He has after all been in this business a long time. I might do some cover tunes in the future. There are a lot of songs that I would love to record. But so far I think that we'll just play covers in our live set when we feel like doing it."

INTERVIEW CONTINUES AND ENDS ON THE NEXT PAGE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

WILL YOUR NEXT LP COME OUT ON HOLY? IF YOU HAD YOUR OWN RECORD LABEL, WHO WOULD YOU SIGN AND HOW WOULD YOU RUN THE LABEL? "At the moment we don't know if the next Lp will be out on Holy or not. "In The Electric Mist" is the last Lp for Holy at the moment. I guess they want to see how this Lp sells before they decide if they want to sign us again or not. I would have signed Trouble, Saint Vitus, Beyond Dawn, Atrox and some other good bands. I guess that my goal would be to help bands, not to exploit them. I would give them a fair share of the income. I don't think that I would runned the label by just thinking profit. It feel that you have to let your heart into it to make it worth anything."

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR 1996? WHAT WOULD YOU WANT GODSEND TO BE REMEMBERED TO BE REMEMBERED BY WHEN THE BAND BREAKS UP? "My goals are to make the best possible songs that I can. I hope that I can achieve the ultimate goal: make my best musical piece ever. I want people to remember Godsend as a band who wrote music for themselves, and not letting other people telling them to make music and how to play it. Hopefully they will remember Godsend as a band who never did the same thing twice and wrote music that came from the heart."

WHAT STUFF DO YOU HAVE FOR SALE? "As The Shadows Fall & "In the Electric Mist" Cds for \$18 each. Against All Gods Comp Cd (that features Godsend) for \$16. "Infinite Visions of Hell" comp Cd (features Godsend) for \$16. T-Shirts are \$16 and Long Sleeves w/hood are \$24 & Demo 92 are \$5."

ANY LAST WORDS? "I'd like to say thanks to everyone who has supported Godsend. None of this would have been possible without you. And check out the new Godsend LP. Peace and love to you all."

GODSEND PO BOX 451 SENTRUM, N-7001 TRONDHEIM NORWAY

+++++

GALLERY OF JUDGEMENT MAGAZINE

ISSUE #3 WILL HAVE INTERVIEWS WITH: CRASHDOG, EVE'S PLUME, 7 SECONDS, AT THE GATES, BILL Y. THE OWNER OF RELEASE, MINDROT, HANZEL UND GRETYL, NAPLAM DEATH, TROUBLE, GEEZER BUTLER (BLACK SABBATH FAME), JUGHEAD'S REVENGE, D.R.I, MASQUERADE, AUTOMATIC 7, EVEN STEVEN, TRAGEDY, BEYOND, SISTER MACHINE GUN, VITREOUS HUMOR, SOLIENT GREEN, M.E.S.T., OVERDOSE, INTERNAL BLEEDING, BATTALLION OF SAINTS AD AND BUCK-O-NINE. THERE WILL ALSO BE 200 ALBUM, DEMO, & 7" REVIEWS, SOME COMEDY, AND MORE. EACH COVER WILL BE HAND PAINTED AND LIMITED TO 2,000 COPIES, 120 PAGES...\$2.50 + 4 \$.32 STAMPS OR \$3.50.

CASH OR MONEY ORDERS ONLY PAYABLE TO JAMES MATTEM.

NOT TO GALLERY OF JUDGEMENT MAGAZINE!!!

GALLERY PO BOX 11290 STATE COLLEGE, PA 16805

ATTENTION PRO WRESTLING FANS

WOULD LIKE TO READ THE REAL DIRT ON PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING? LIKE TO GET RESULTS OF MATCHES BEFORE THEY AIR ON TV? LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT ALL THE BEHIND THE SCENE FIRINGS AND HIRINGS? THEN YOU HAVE TO CHECK OUT A COPY OF THE PRO WRESTLING TORCH. GET ALL THE NEWS ON THE WWF, WCW, ECW, USWA, AAA, UFC, ALL THE JAPAN PROMOTIONS, PAY PER VIEW RESULTS AND ARENA RESULTS FOM ALL THE US, PLUS INTERVIEWS WITH SOME OF THE TOP STARS IN PRO WRESTLING.

THIS IS THE NEWSLETER THAN VINCE MCMAHON AND ERIC BISCHOFF DON"T WANT YOU TO READ

EVEN YOUR HUMBLE EDITOR OF METAL CORE PHONES IN RESULTS. THIS IS A MUST HAVE FOR ANY FAN OF PRO WRESTLING. TRUST ME AFTER READING ONE ISSUE YOU WILL BE HOOKED FOR LIFE. TO TRY A SAMPLE ISSUE IT IS ONLY \$2, SO WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO LOSE. NOT A HELL OF A LOT. WHIP OUT THE \$2 AND SEND IT TO:

PRO WRESTLING TORCH PO BOX PO BOX 201844 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55420

SUBVERSIVE AGENDA

INTERVIEW WITH FANZINE EDITOR: CHRIS WOJCIK

What made you want to start a zine? Is it now like how you thought it was going to be? Is it more work than you thought it was going to be? How did you come up with the name of your zine?

I have always been an opinionated sort of guy. From as far back as I can remember I have always had alot of opinions on things, particularly music. I think alot about bands and their releases, what's good about them and why they might suck. I probably think about thins kind of shit too much, but I guess we all have our passions. I remember thinking about my favorite band years ago Iron Maiden, and thinking they started to suck when they let Bruce Dickinson write more of the material, and things along that line. I try to explain why I didn't like something instead of just saying "this is shit". As far as why I started a zine, to be honest I didn't even know such a thing as the underground existed until about six months before I started my zine. I had moved to Cal from my hometown outside of Chicago, and was a bit out of the scene since I had moved... no \$\$ to buy anything new, and I didn't know any good stores that carried the metal and death I needed, so life sucked for about a year. The new Malevolent Creation came out and I was bored out of my skull, so I decided to write a letter to their address and tell them how pissed I was about their new album, "Stillborn". They didn't really write back, but used my SASE to send me a bunch of underground ads and shit like that. Then I found an issue of SOD mag (#4) and was blown out of my chair by how much death metal I was missing. So I ended up getting a bunch of shit from the Relpase catalog, wrote to a bunch of other distributors in SOD and started getting underground zines (like Metal-core) and foreign shit, then I was hooked. I couldn't get enough of the underground, there was something new every day it seemed... and there still is!

I started the zine (to answer the question instead of babbling on) quite frankly, because I saw underground zines like Metal-core and decided if this piece of shit could survive, then surely I could do one of my own. I didn't know how I was going to print it, but I started writing letters everywhere and asking bands for some info. I wrote to a shitload of bands asking for info on their stuff based upon ads I would get in my mail, and most of them either sent me a tape or I sent a blank to get a copy of their stuff for review. I also wrote to a bunch of "well known" bands from the contact addresses on their CDs. I wrote to big bands like Gorguts, Death, dead horse, Mortician, and others, thinking they'd do an interview to promote their upcoming shit. Most did not respond, but the underground bands did and I took it from there. In issue #1 I asked some bands to interview themselves and that worked pretty well too. So here I am now, still doing the same type of shit but now I rarely need to write to the bands first, they see my ads and send their info to me first.

The zine is about as I expected, but I hope for more sales. I put out a good fucking zine and, not to pat myself on the back or anything, I think the sales should be better. I think I would move more copies if the fans could actually see what they are getting before buying, which is very difficult. There are no shows here in Sac, and the people here are too lame even at the few shows we have to even think about underground music. So, I'm sticking to the underground to move copies. It's a hell of alot of work, but I love it. I do wish for more time, though!

When I started the zine, I wanted to have an original name that was not the norm. I was reading the book by Bob Woodward about Bill Clinton called "The Agenda" at the time, and I figured part of the idea behind doing a zine is to sway opinion, hence my "subversive agenda" is to make people think the same way I do about music... is it working, all my faithful readers? Haha.

Describe your 1st and 2nd issues. How many copies were printed and sold? How do you go about promoting your zine? Do you think sending out ads through the mail make a big difference? Do you have many distributors selling the zine?

The first issue I did was a little over 40 pages and I had it printed at Kinko's, who ripped me off like crazy. The assholes quoted me one price and when I picked it up, the price was twice what I was quoted. I printed 200 copies, and I moved them all, although they ended up costing me over \$2 each and I sold them at a loss. I gave a load of them away and sent out some to distros at \$1 each, so I really lost my ass there. But I figured it is what you need to do for long term success, not to mention exceeding expectations, which I like to do. I sent out free issues to everyone who sent me tapes and all the labels I wanted to get news from. All in all, I gave away at least half of them if not more than that.

For #2 I decided to print it on newsprint, since I saw alot of hardcore punk mags printed as such, and they always seemed to have a super cheap cover price. Maximum Rocknroll and Heartattack in particular both sell their mags at ultra cheap prices, so I figured it would be beneficial to me to do it too. Well, after going through the phone book looking for printers, most "printers" were glorified copy boys and were nothing more than Kinko's type (rip off) places. My partner at the time even spoke to the owner of one of them, he said he could do newsprint and quoted him some great price (I don't remember what it was, but it was cheap), but when we got there he said he couldn't do newsprint, and wanted to charge us over TWO GRAND to do it, something like \$2400!!! You lying asshole, that's M&M Printing in Sacramento, also known as "the enemy". The rest of the "printers" in town were no help either, all they were were copy places, which are way too expensive and non helpful. Anyone out there who runs these kind of shops, don't call yourself "printers" if all you are are copy places, dig? One dickhead even had the nerve to tell me that newsprint was "obsolete", if you can believe that. Excuse me fuckhead, but what is your daily newspaper printed on?!?! Thoroughly disgusted and discouraged, my partner and I started looking under newspapers instead of printers, and I spoke to one guy in town who does what we needed. BUT, he says, you'll have to do more than 1000 copies. I won't touch it if it's less than six or seven thousand. He tried to tell me that in order to print such a "small" number he would end up wasting twice that many in order to set the ink for the printing!! He was a prick, is what I'm trying to say. So I asked the old Geritol geezer, how does a publication go from 500 copies to 7000 between one issue, and he couldn't answer. Prick. so I went out of town and found a good printer (Herberger Publications) and they did the 1000 we wanted, no question. It ended up costing us about \$800, well \$795 actually. The funny part is that for the final binding, they had to send it over to the old man with the attitude, since they are not set up to bind my mag properly, so I had the satisfaction of going in there and picking up what he told me nobody would touch. Eat my crusty shorts.

My partner took 1/2 of those and I took the other half, the final total was about 1080, I took 540 obviously. I gave away over 100 and moved about the same number to distributors, I still have alot left though. I may buy back the remaining copies from my ex-partner (a story I am not planning on sharing with the underground, sorry), we'll see. It has been selling like shit, really. The next should be better, because the bands are a bit more well known, so we'll see.

I promote the fuck out of my zine, in fact right now I am going through my ads and picking out names of every damn distributor and label I can, in order to get a lot more distributors for my zine. Anyone interested, write to me and I will let you know all the details on my cheap wholesale prices. I do alot of consignment and I help out my distributors as much as I can, what have you got to lose? I have a good number of distributors carrying the zine, but most seem very reluctant to carry zines. They just don't sell all that well, who knows the real reasons why. I think it is the fact that alot of zines are shit, and many kids are tired of getting crap for their \$\$\$. I personally don't like to slag zines by name, but I've seen alot of them that are less than stellar, if you know what I mean.

Sending ads is essential whether you are a band, zine, distro, or whatever you do. I'm sure everyone reading this has gotten a Subversive Agenda ad at one time or another. Most bands send in their shit based upon my ads, and likewise I find alot of the distros I'm looking for lately from ads, so you need to do it, and never stop. Ads tend to disappear quickly if you don't spread them constantly, because alot of fuckers don't spread them. Please spread every ad you get if you expect others to spread yours, copies are not cheap in the amounts I get them done. By the way Chris, I have been sending out Xeroxes of that page in your #18 regarding new bands promoting themselves, I hope that's cool with you. I think that was the best explanation of how to promote I've ever seen and it really works, but it is not a piece of cake. You must mean it and work your ass off if you want to succeed. Look at me, I'm killing myself here (loving it) but I'm still not where I want to be. But one day...

How many issues do you think you will print before you throw in the towel? How can you make your zine stand out from all the rest? Do you feel your zine is special? Do you feel your zine is different, and if so, how?

I want to keep putting out the zine from now until eternity... that may sound unrealistic, but it's true. OK, I will print at least 10 issues, and if the thing is not self sufficient by then... we'll see. That's a very hard question to answer, since I cannot tell the fucking future, but I love what I do. I'll tell you one thing: I will never change the ideas I hole with my zine. I will not interview black metal bands just because it is the new thing, because I happen to think most black metal bands suck cat manure. All zines that now only do black metal and now "hate" death metal, listen up: fuck off.

It's difficult to make my zine stand out, really. I guess the only way to do it is to be honest in your reviews, have intelligent interviews, and try not to do the same old shit as everyone else. I think my zine is already different from the rest, being as how it's on newsprint and is not a piece of shit, but that's hard to convey when trying to sell copies in the mail. I also answer all mail and respond to everything that lands in my mailbox, so I think that helps me to get respect, something alot of zine editors need to learn.

Yeah, I think my zine is special, but only in the fact that I know I will be around for a long time and I am a determined bastard. It's special to me, anyway, because this music is my fucking life. I love getting into shit from obscure bands and labels, and getting blown away from a killer new band. Doesn't happen very often for my cynical self, but when it does, it makes it all worthwhile.

Why do you think some zines refuse to give bands bad reviews? Do you feel that this is stupid and hurts the credibility of the zine in the long run? How do you go about reviewing bands? What do you listen closely for? Would you be more critical if the band was signed as opposed to unsigned?

The single worst thing you can do is give dishonest reviews. I think it's stupid as hell to kiss ass, although it's easy to make enemies when you don't. I've had plenty of people get bent because I gave them a bad review, people who were good correspondents of mine even up and stop writing to me if I slagged their demo, no matter how constructive I was about it. So I say fuck them, I will not kiss ass and I never will. I'll tell you who does kiss ass and has no credibility: SOD mag!!! His "policy" of not reviewing everything sent to him (demos or otherwise, let's stick to demos for the time being) is disgusting to me. First of all, everything that gets reviewed gets a good review. That in itself is an ass kiss, and probably has determined more of his "success" than anything else. He claims to not review everything sent due to space restrictions and the amount of volume sent in, as well as the fact that he wants to give a diverse "overview" of what's out there... that is horseshit. If you notice, everyone who buys a space in his magazine suddenly is part of the "select few" who gets reviewed, and what a good review they get. Imagine that. For someone who claims to hate black metal, he sure the fuck likes to give alot of it (everything featured) great reviews. Trying to keep his advertisers, I'd wager, since black metal is the new trend and he better kiss their ass if he wants to keep his "market share". Another thing he does, and I noticed it on many occasions, is copy word for word what he says in a review from the bands' bio sheet!! All his reviews are hard to follow, rarely does he actually mention the music, or the quality of the tunes, but he'll say something like "this album will run you over like grandma on the way to the bingo table" or something like that, not that the album has alot of crisp riffing and low, crushing vocals, or that the drummer is right on the money, etc. He kisses so much ass that I am thoroughly disgusted. This is the mag that helped me discover the underground, but now I am at a loss to know what the problem is over there. No integrity at all. I still think it serves a vital purpose, like getting real death and black metal into the stores, as well as good nationwide exposure for smaller labels stuff, but for fans already immersed in the underground his mag is pointless. I don't like to talk shit about other zines, but I feel I have to set the record straight about "ass kissing".

I review bands as honestly as possible. I listen to shit as many times as possible before reviewing it, I try to make myself sick of it if I can. Sometimes you just "know" when you hate / like something and the review is easy, but I'll get weird shit from time to time that I initially hate and then begin to respect, and sometimes even like. There's nothing in particular I look for, but conviction is very important. I sure as hell don't give a shit about packaging, unless you really impress me with a digipack or something. Pro j-cards are old hat on demo tapes, if you ask me. Anyone can do those nowadays, I'd rather have someone put the cash into a good studio or production. But when I listen to shit, I like to take it all in a see if the band is achieving their own goals. A brutal death metal band better be brutal, or a thrash band better not be cheesy, etc. If a band plays their shit well with originality is a winner with me, even if I don't always like the style.

I am admittedly more critical with a signed band than an unsigned, because a signed band has the label, a producer, and alot behind it, and if it is still trash I must destroy it. There are way to many good underground bands out there for bullshit to show up in stores. Labels can be the best thing around or they can piss me off in a big way. Case in point: Century Media just released one of their worst pieces of landfill in the form of a shit band called Merauder, and at the same time released the triumphant return of one of the all time best bands, Trouble. For an unsigned band, I have to look at it differently, since for one they have no label behind them, and for two, they are starting from the ground up playing what they like. I truly don't believe that too many bands in the underground are convictionless, or are in it for commercial gain. If you are, get out now because it won't work. Sure there are alot of Cannibal Corpse bands, but I think they are fully aware (most of them) that they will never be popular, and tour the world or anything like that. If that's what you think, you can leave too. There's plenty of bands who know damn well they're unoriginal, but don't care. I admire that to a point. I like to encourage underground bands more, and I try to see if they attain their goals with their demos, and I give them credit for that more than I would if a label put out some bandwagon jumping band.

What is your opinion on the death, black, and thrash metal scenes? Do you think death metal is dead?

Thrash is wheezing it's last, but from time to time good bands show up in my mail. I think there may be a revitalization of the old styles, which is cool, but hopefully not the "fun" thrash shit that I liked for a bit in my early days. I used to love Anthrax, but the joke got old and now I can hardly stand them. I wouldn't mind hearing good, fast, intense thrash like old Vio-lence but it's not happening now, or very rarely. All the "thrash" we get is rappy Biohazard shit or Pantera clones, and it was never like that before. Mainstream thrash metal sucks shit, give me the old stuff like Sanctuary.

Black metal is an even faster growing trend than death metal was. Everyone and their mother has at least one band going, some of these guys have two side projects in which they are the only member!! What is that? Most of them cannot even play their instruments, and their interviews are about the most pathetic things I've ever read. On more than one occasion I read interviews with fuckers who said that if someone orders our new 7" (for example) and are not "true", we will take your money! What the fuck is that? You facepainted goons better wise up, stop your separatist behavior, and most importantly GROW UP and start behaving with some integrity, or you'll kill your own "scene". The differences between black and death metal are so small anyway, I really don't get it. Another thing, the next prick who says to me "I used to like death metal, but now it's all full of trends blah blah" is getting a shipment of cat shit sent to their house and I am not kidding. You are the trend follower, dickhead, now fuck off. I'm quite sure that Lord Scratchmenutz used to not only listen to death metal but was probably in a death band a year before he became "true", so all this is just a load of the most annoying kind of lie.

As far as death metal being dead, I don't think so at all. The scene is very diverse and in my opinion there's been alot more experimentation in the "death" realm than there ever was 10 years ago when thrash was the shit. Look at all the styles of death we have now; old school, **Cannibal Corpse**, atmospheric, doom, gothic, black, grind, and everything you can possibly think of is being tried using the "death" vocal. I am glad it's here and I think it's here to stay, but all we need is the undying support of everyone in the underground. Don't jump the bandwagon and stick to what you like.

Do you review major label releases? Do you feel that they have a place in your zine or the underground for that matter? Would you ever interview *Metallica* if you had the chance? Why or why not?

I review "major" shit, if you mean **Relapse** or **Century Media** and shit like that. I don't have a problem with it, since that is where alot of the kids are: still in the stores unfortunately. I think that for a new kid who's just starting to get into the underground, and happens to get my zine and sees a bad review of the new album by their favorite "national" death band, and then sees a killer review for a smaller band on **Holy Records** or **Morbid Records** and contacts them, then it makes it all worth while. Not to say that the big labels here don't put out killer underground death metal, because much of the time they do, just that there are labels putting out the same quality product that just aren't as well known. I review anything, I don't care... that's my job. Whether or not they have a place in the underground is up to the listener, I like some "mainstream" shit myself, but it's mostly 70's bands.

I don't know if I'd interview **Metallica**, but they wouldn't like my questions very much. I would ask the hard shit, like how they could go on MTV and flat out lie to people when they said that the black album was more in line with their roots? Or why did they write virtually every lyric on that album to make fans feel guilty if they didn't like it? I sure as hell wouldn't let them off easy, they ruined a form of music I enjoyed very much. The argument could be made that all the bands who followed them had no conviction to begin with, but the fact remains that thrash died in it's tracks and never will rise again, sad. Look for my **Napalm Death** interview in issue #4, it ought to be quite brutal if all goes according to plan.

What do you charge for ads? Do you print free ads? How do you decide who to interview? How do you come up with your cover ideas? Are either of you looking for people to help write for your zines? Do you ever print ads that you now regret?

My ad rates are as follows: \$50 for a cover slot (inside back, inside front, back cover), \$40 for a full page, \$20 for a half page, \$10 for a quarter page. For unsigned bands only I offer a deal: half price on everything except cover slots, and a quarter page for \$1. What a fucking bargain. I also wheel and deal for ads as well, so make me an offer if you like (shirts are nice...). Yeah, I have been known to print free ads, but not on request, only when I need space filler and such. Nobody ask me to do it because I won't do it that way.

I pick interviews based upon two things: I have to like your music, and I have to think you have something to say. Not to sound like a prick, but if you're a foreign band and your English sucks, I won't be interviewing you. I do some humorous interviews from time to time too, but I mostly like to ask good questions. I never ask bands who their influences are, and nobody else should either. I'd rather ask them if they've ever found peanuts in their shit.

I am absolutely not looking for anyone to write for my zine at this time. I recently had a split with my partner and am not looking for any other problems right now. I am not slagging on my ex partner, but the compromise was uncomfortable for me. I want to avoid that kind of thing and concentrate on putting out shit from my hand alone from here on out, but who the fuck knows what the far future will bring. I also urge people to know what they're getting into 1000% before getting into business with someone... you know the old cliché about friends and work? Well, even in the underground it's true.

I haven't printed an ad I regret really, but I have printed an ad for something that to my knowledge didn't come out for almost a year after I printed the ad. One thing I dislike is when bands put out ads for shit that isn't out yet - don't take money unless you can deliver a product. I had it happen to me on one of the very rare times I purchase demo tapes, and three bucks or not I was furious. That policy is a sure fire way to rip people off, don't fuck around in my beloved underground. Hey, I'm a fucking poet; come over and blow it.

How much money does it cost to print an issue? Where does the money come from? How much do you spend in advertising costs for your zine? If you could write for a big mag like *Metal Maniacs* or *Pit*, would you or no and explain your answer.

It costs alot of time, blood, sweat, stress and tears to put out a zine. I paid just under \$600 for 600 copies of #3 just about the same time as I'm writing this. I wanted to do 1000 copies but it just wasn't happening this time, I am pretty pissed about it but that's life. The money comes right out of my own pocket, although I take all the "big money" I made on selling copies and put that into the mix. This time I ended up with just over \$300 to put towards the new issue. My main goal is to have the zine pay for itself, but it's a very hard road and all the competition doesn't help much. Time will tell.

I spend tons in advertising, as far as spreading ads goes. I do about a hundred dollars worth of mail in a week sometimes, and each envelope is stuffed with ads. I cannot say just exactly what I've spent on ads for the last issue, but it's gotta be at least two hundred, if you add together both the cost of copies and the cost of letters. It's hard, expensive work but it is paying off slowly.

I really don't know if I would write for a big mag or not, it would really depend. I wouldn't like having to kiss ass like they do, but if one of them let me write exactly what I want and interview whoever I want, I might do it. But I think we both know that will never happen. I don't want a boss for my zine work, I am the boss and that's final. Nobody is going to dictate to me what is "in" or "out", you know. I haven't watched MTV for years, I have no idea what the big, popular bands even sound like! I have no idea what a band called **Live** is supposed to be, all I know is the name, so I wouldn't even be "qualified" to write for some big mag, except for maybe **Ill Literature** or even my favorite mag **SOD**, since they know what is underground at least.

Have you had a problem with any rip offs? Any bands ever threaten you or written a nasty letter? Please tell us your side and damn you, name names please so we can all get a good laugh.

No problems with rip offs yet, although I still have alot of shit out on consignment so that may change. I truly have alot of faith in my brothers in the underground not to fuck me, and there really aren't that many rip offs out there fortunately. They cannot survive with those practices for long anyway.

One time I got a weird letter from some band named **GLOD (God Loves Over Dose)**. They sent back one of my flyers and with that, a short note that said "your zine please". Now, to set this up, on the ad they sent me it stated "Time to worship Satan with **Subversive Agenda** magazine!" in the first place, and further down in it I said for bands to "send in their shit for honest review and a free issue". (I no longer offer free

issues due to cost problems, so this offer is no longer valid). Apparently, this guy thinks he can send me some bio info and get himself a free issue. NOT! I wrote back and tried to make some sense out of the thing, asking him if perhaps he had sent shit previously and perhaps it got lost in the mail, or whatever, since I didn't think anyone with an ounce of brain would think I was giving away copies for the price of sending your fucking bio! Well, I sent that letter and a week later the guys sends me this thing written in blood, and scribbled all over it a bunch on nonsense like "your zine! Or how to sound evil!?" and the word "Abyss" written in what had to be blood. No return address either, and the moron had sent it to my partner's address instead of mine. So, I searched through what was left of the letter, and on the back of it happened to be his real name (on the bio sheet they use stage names), and address, so I wrote back and told him that for being so "evil" himself he can at least get my address right, and furthermore if he'd like me to review his music he can send it on by... his letter had peaked my interest. Never heard back from him again. I guess the "evil" comment directed toward me was due to the fact that I said my comment about "worshipping Satan". Hello out there, don't you know that that was a joke?!? How fucking stupid do you have to be? So that's my little story, hope you liked it. I have another good one but it's really too stupid to put into print.

Will you ever try to go for a glossy color cover or will you stay where you are at now? How far would you like to see your zine go? Have you set any goals and have you met any goals yet?

I don't want to go glossy, because I don't want to be some pin up mag. I'd much rather stay in the newsprint format, perhaps go to a better bond for the cover but definitely not sacrifice quantity of music covered for a bunch of pictures.

My goals for the zine are relatively simple and I will achieve them within a year. I want to sell 1000 copies each issue between distributors and individual sales, and I am almost there now. I would also like to have the zine be self sufficient by the time issue #5 comes out. I know I won't be able to cover all my general mail expenses, but as far as the actual printing of the zine and perhaps the mail ads, I should do OK. The only goal I've met is having the zine out, something that alot of zines unfortunately never do. My advice to those starting a zine: never stop until you get it finished, at least the first issue. You'll feel great when you do it, trust me.

What are some of your favorite signed bands and unsigned bands? Name some of your favorite zines and some of your least favorite bands and zines.

This is always a hard question for me, because I listen to so much stuff that I really can't pin down what I like and or dislike anymore, other than album by album. I will give you some bands who I think should be signed right now, though: Witch-hunt, Mass Psychosis, Ton, Insataniy, Enthroned, Pax Mortis, Dusk, Tyrant Trooper, Damian Kross, Antagonist, Drogheda, Groinchurn, Master, Rotting Head, Dismembered Fetus, Scepter, Naphobia, Bhaobhan Sidhe, Candiria, Descend, Deteriorate, Entrafis, Withered Earth, Seducer, Rise, Parricide, Pale Existence, Hellwitch, Uneath, Iron Rainbow, Uneathed, a ton of others. Some killer bands on smaller labels that may not be well known (but should be) include: Symphony Of Grief, Ceremonium, Accursed, Mourning Sign, Hybris, Insanity (US and Brazil), Misanthrope, Nightfall, Septic Flesh, Krabathor, Mangled Torsos, Mangled, Hemdale, Usurper, Dark Truth, Detestation, Infester, Windham Hell, Mortuary Drape, Victims Of Internal Decay, Tristitia, tons more. I still love alot of the bigger bands, but the underground provides stuff that's just as good if not better, and if you still don't believe me, then you're missing out.

As far as zines, I love Metal-core, The Grimoire, Cursed, Loud Fast Rude, Third Eye, Horrorshow, In My Opinion, Fiberglass Diaper, Holocaust, Eldrich Palmer, Cotim (RIP), Feh! (RIP), GASP etc. (RIP), SOD, Ill Literature, etc etc. There aren't any true underground zines I hate (I have a love/hate with SOD), but I hate all the big mags like Shit Parader and that lame one in England that likes to give 5 k's to all the shit I hate. I don't slag underground zines, so don't ask me to. Sure, some of them out there piss me off, but I usually tell it to your face instead of shit talking. Speaking of shit talking, it has no place in zines, and there is one notorious well-known zine who does nothing but shit talking in his mag, and I would like to see that taken out of his pages. Sometimes it's funny, but much of the time it's petty and pointless. I know he's reading this so do us all a favor: build a bridge and get over it. The ones I've mentioned are my frequent correspondents, and I've probably missed a few as well. I do a zine report in every issue of my zine so check it out.

Describe yourself and what a typical day is like for you. How much mail do you get per day and week? How much do you spend in postage per week and have you had any problems with stuff getting stolen that you sent or that you didn't get?

I am about 6' or 6'1", with long assed brown hair down to the middle of my back. I am your average freak, as well as a babe magnet (haha). Wouldn't my wife like to hear me talking like that? Anyway, I work nights at my UPS job and work during the day on my magazine, when I'm not sleeping. I do some kind of work every day on it, it's demanding but I love it. I still find time to do things with my wife as well, but all my "free" time is spent at my computer. I get on average about 5 letters per day, sometimes the middle of the week is really slow, but I have been known to have 15 letter days. I answer it all same day if possible, most of the time I do but I don't get to the post right away on occasion. I have had plenty of mail problems, my mailman is a dick. One many occasions I've had people write to me asking if I got their tape, and I never did. Recently that happened with Dismembered Fetus. I hope the asswipes who stole it is enjoying their ear bleeding grindcore, asshole. I'm sure you really like their music. At least rip me off if you're going to use the stuff, not because you might object to the shit I get.

My mailman is the world's biggest fuck. The old guy was totally cool and got to my house before 10 AM, this guy I am lucky to see before 1 PM. I bitched about it and the twat on the phone told me that they cannot guarantee a delivery time, blah blah. She tried to tell me the route got changed or something, that's bullshit. The old guy used to do the big row of boxes for the condos where I live in five minutes, while this guy takes a half hour... the guy is slower than molasses in January. Plus, he re-weighs all my mail, so I get a shitload of postage dues now when I never used to get any, or rarely. Every time I've ever spoken to him, he tries to get some money out of me. For example: "If you get so many postage due items, why not open a postage due account?", "Hey, so you don't have to get your oversized parcels from the manager's office, why not open a PO box?", "Hey, did you know I also sell stamps?" and shit like that. If anyone out there knows whether or not the mailmen have quotas to meet, let me know because this asshole always nags me for something. Sure, by re-weighing my shit he's only doing his job, but the other guy didn't do it, and for how much I spend per year on mail they should kiss my ass. Speaking of how much I spend, figure about 35-40 letters per week at .55 each (they're always overstuffed), plus alot of zines going out, we get... I dunno. I really don't want to know, because it's a lot.

Where do you see the underground scene going? Do you think zines will get faded out and that all zines will be on America Online and stuff like that?

I hope zines will not go to the Internet, I don't have a computer! Really, though, I think people will prefer to have something tangible in their hands for the time being, although I do think the Internet will play a more important role in the underground as we know it. I can't afford to get a

computer much less any airtime for any of that shit now, so fuck it.

The underground would be stronger if everyone would get out there and spend that \$\$\$. I really want to hear from the rest of the member's of bands, other than the one guy for every band who does mail. You guys like this music too, or you wouldn't be playing it, so where the fuck are you? Get out there and buy that demo, zine, CD, shirt, or anything underground and you're doing a valuable service to the metal scene. The Underground is going back to being underground in the fact that the shit is nowhere to be found in stores, at least not like it was in 1991-2. Less and less big distributors are carrying metal labels any more, so the mail is the only option. Look at all the foreign labels that are big in Europe and influential there, but have no support in the US at all. Labels like Osmose, Holy, Morbid, and a slew of others all have great bands and enough cash to send them on tour in Europe, but nobody has even heard of them in the US. Metal (death metal) cannot be commercialized, just look at the Earache / Columbia deal going kaput, and both sides tried very hard to make their shit salable, whether or not you can get them to admit it. Entombed is the biggest example I can think of to put the "sellout" label on, and you just wait and see how their next album sells. Like shit, I guarantee. Relapse still puts out great underground stuff. I have noticed some shit is more accessible, but then look at Abscess or Deceased for proof that good music is here to stay. I could go through and name the last 10 albums I've gotten to kick my ass, and I'll bet that 8 out of 10 are on small, underground labels, so I think the era of trying to commercialize this genre is over.

If you could have a dream concert, who would play on your show? If you could have your own label, who would you sign and how would you run the label? If you could publish a dream zine, who would be your writers and why?

The only dream concert I'd want to see would be my favorite band of all time, the original Black Sabbath, circa 1976. This would never happen, but I think they are the greatest band ever and even today nobody holds a candle to them. I don't even think a reunion would be quite the same, but I could settle for that too.

A label of my very own? Gee, I've even contemplated this one myself. I would sign the most dedicated bands I could find, in fact see my answer to question #10 for some of the band's I'd want. I'll tell you one thing, I would promote the fuck out of my stuff and I sure as hell would make sure the band becomes well known within the underground. I would also do vinyl, like 7"s and full lengths, as well as CDs. I would never sign a band to follow the trend, like get a black metal band just because it's popular, they'd have to be talented and I'd have to be into their shit before I'd want anything to do with them. That goes for any band on my label. I hate labels that try to put out what the public will like, it never works. I admire labels like Moribund who put out weird shit because he likes it, and not because it will sell well or anything. Take bands like NME or Windham Hell... either one could have been flops. Thankfully Windham Hell is getting rave reviews everywhere, and the label prospers by breaking the mold.

A dream zine? I would want you to write for me Chris, as well as Bill from The Grimore, Justin from Cursed, Jeff at Loud Fast Rude, Geri from Feh!, and myself of course. There's others too, like I'd love to get Rush Limbaugh to write a column every issue. But, I like working on my own the most.

Give your zine a plug and tell the readers what you have in store for them in 1996. Do either of you plan on doing something else besides the zine like forming a band or doing a comp or distro, or even (gasp) becoming a manager?

Issue #3 is out now and features great bands like Enthroned, Bhaobhan Sidhe, Kataklysm, Incantation, Esoteric, Gonkulator, Hellwitch, Exhumed, Pale Existence, Compression, more. Fuck the rest, buy the best! Tons of honest reviews too, look for my ads to torment your mailbox soon. All printed on newsprint and it just plain rules. Chris Forbes doesn't let stupid shit into his fanzine, so there you go.

No plans for anything more than the zine right now, although I am not ruling out other shit. I thought about doing a California compilation, but my unit is fucked so I simply cannot do it until I get a better stereo. But one day it will come out, and will feature the best bands from all over the overlooked state of California. I thought about doing distro, but if I did that I'd want to do a label too and the money is just not there right now. Patience is a virgin, so we'll see. The only thing I manage is my pecker.

Your last words to wrap this up.

I think I'm done babbling, don't you Chris? Write to me right now freaks, copies of both issue #2 and #3 are \$3 each, get both for \$5. Distro write for wholesale rates. Do it now!!!
CONTACT: SUBVERSIVE AGENDA, 2230 GATEWAY OAKS #129, SACRAMENTO, CA 95833, USA

DEVASTATING SOUNDWORKS

DISASSOCIATE SPLIT 10" / CD

AMPIRA DEEP IN THE MENTAL-EP

CHAMBER PRESS

SHOWERED IN THE URVE OF THE ABHORER EP

OUT SOON

DISASSOCIATE CONTROLLED POWER CD/LP

7" EP: \$4/US, \$6/WORLD

N.O. (NAME BLANK) OR WELL CONCEALED CASINO.

P.O. BOX 20691, NY NY 10009

NOISE GUARANTEED TO DROP THE SKY AND RAIN

OUT NOW

DARK HOPE



KEET

Highly recommended listening (Ballbuster.)
I highly recommend this.
(Guitarist Network.)

Imagine a cross between
Ween & Satyricon!! (Subchoe)
\$4.00 Keet P.O. Box 31
Russia, Ohio 45363 U.S.A.

"My ad rates are a follows: Full Page:\$40, 3/4:\$30, 1/2:\$20, 1/4:\$10, under 1/4:free. I never make demo bands pay for ads, they get em free. Mainly only labels pay for ads. But I will print free ads for a label in trade for sending me promos. If a label offers to pay, I'm not gonna say no. Gotta get some money to keep this thing going. About interviews, well if a band is good I'll interview them. No matter how big or small. The cover, I don't come up with the ideas (well, as of yet). The person who did the first and second issue covers just did a whole shitload of drawings for me and I picked the ones I liked. I'm looking for someone to do artwork for me, so any artists out there that are interested send me a sample. Yeah, I'm always looking for people to help me out in all areas: interviews, reviews, articles, and scene reports. It's cool to have people help out, makes my job a slight bit easier. No, I don't think I've printed an ad that I regret, nothing comes to mind at the moment." **WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ON THE DEATH, BLACK AND THRASH METAL SCENES? DO YOU THINK DEATH METAL IS DEAD?** "I will never say death metal is dead. It never will be with me. I'll listen to it even no else does. I think the death metal scene is good, in the underground at least. Still a lot of good bands, labels, and zines around. I have been hearing some fucked up shit lately about the death metal scenes bigger acts. Such as Cannibal Corpse kicking out Chris Barnes, Suffocation getting dropped from Roadracer, Malevolent Creation breaking up. (the first two are true and Malevolent did break up but are back together-ed) I think the underground death metal scene will always be around, as long as people stay dedicated and avoid getting sucked in by the trends. Black Metal? Well, I think the music is great, but the attitudes suck. They've taken things that should have never even been involved with music and totally blew them way out of proportion. If Count Cocksnot never killed Eurnymous I think the Black Metal scene would be a lot better. There wouldn't be an enormous amount of trendy bands around, cause that's what started this whole fuckin trend in the first place right? And the way those mimes talk shit about death metal in' unbelievable. They talk about how all these death bands are just Suffo and Cannibal clones, when all they're all Mayhem and Emperor clones. They also like to say how they hate death metal, when half of them used to play it! I can't figure that out. Hey, remember when there wasn't a difference between death and black metal.? I do. They will instantly kill themselves just like Swedish death metal did. I must admit though, I do like this trend for 1 reason, they are so fuckin amusing. I read their interviews and just laugh and laugh. As I said, I like the music, but most who play it are idiots. Thrash metal? Well, I haven't heard one single new thrash band has impressed me. I still enjoy the old shit though, like Exodus, early Testament, Flotsam & Jetsam, old Metallica etc." **DO YOU REVIEW MAJOR LABEL RELEASES? DO YOU FEEL THAT THEY HAVE A PLACE IN YOUR ZINE OR THE UNDERGROUND FOR THAT MATTER? WOULD YOU EVER INTERVIEW METALLICA IF YOU HAD THE CHANCE? WHY OR WHY NOT?** "No, I don't think I've ever reviewed any major label releases. Oh, the new Morbid Angel, that's it. I don't think a major label band deserves a place in my zine. I don't like major label bands (except Morbid Angel). Fuck'em. I'd rather interview a demo band. They need and appreciate your support, unlike major label bands. Metallica? Oh god! Well, I used to be a huge Metallica fan back in the day, but I pretty much despise them now. I'd probably interview them, but I'm not sure I'd print it. Maybe???" **HOW MUCH MONEY DOES IT COST TO PRINT AN ISSUE? WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM? HOW MUCH DO YOU SPEND IN ADVERTISING COSTS FOR THE ZINE? IF YOU COULD WRITE FOR A MAG LIKE METAL MANIACS OR PIT, WOULD YOU? PLEASE TELL US WHY OR NOT AND EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER.** "My printing costs are something you will just love to hear!!!!!!!!!!!!!!To have 200 copies of issue #2 it cost me \$448! That's about \$2.50 a copy (64 pages). All the money I make from the zine goes right back into the zine. Like to get the 2nd issue printed, I'm using money I made off the 1st. Also, my mom helps me out with money, she's really supportive of the fanzine. I spend like \$12 a week in advertising, that is for 600 flyers. Metal Maniacs is okay, but I doubt they'd ever let me write for them and I doubt I'd ever want to. I really don't like their opinions on certain things. I also really don't like how they're trying so hard to be underground all of the sudden, trying to cover underground bands and such. Why don't they just stick to what they know and leave the this beautiful, thriving underground scene to people who know what is happening, us!!!! For what's its worth, Metal Maniacs is a decent mag, but I'd never write for them if I had the chance. Unfortunately, I've never seen Pit." **HAVE YOU EVER HAD A PROBLEM WITH RIP OFFS? ANY BANDS THREATEN YOU OR WRITTEN A NASTY LETTER? PLEASE TELL US YOUR SIDE OF THE STORY, AND DAMN YOU NAME, NAMES, SO WE CAN GET A GOOD LAUGH.** "I thought I was getting ripped off by a bunch of people, but I've straightened most out now. Turns out some people are just slow (really slow) with their mail. Richard C. of Wild Rags dicked me over, but not money wise. What we were gonna do was, I print 2 full pages of ads for him in my first issue and he would do a write up on Cursed zine in Wild Rag #31. Well, I print the full page ads for him, then I don't hear from the guy for like 2 months. Then I get the issue of The Wild Rag and guess what, not a thing about Cursed (nor was there a letter from Richard)! Fucking dick. I'm not sure if you could exactly call that a rip off, but it was still fucked up. Also, theres this dude from Ohio named Lewis Vittek who trades rare audio and video shit. Well, I'm a huge Misfits fan and he had some rare audio and video shit by The Misfits. He said just send him recording tapes and return postage and he'll dub whatever I wanted. Well, I sent the dick 5 recording tapes, 1 video tape, and \$10 return postage and it's been a month and a half since I heard from him. And I've written him about 4 letters asking what's up, but no reply! Don't fuckin trade with him. He's got an ad in the "Shorts" section of the new issue of Metal Maniacs. A total rip off. That's pretty much all on the rip off thing. I've cleared up everything else." **WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE SIGNED BANDS AND UNSIGNED BANDS? NAME SOME OF YOURE FAVORITE ZINES AND SOME OF YOUR LEAST FAVORITE BANDS AND ZINES?** "My fave. bands would be: Oppressor (I'm sure they're signed again), Internal Bleeding, Accursed, Macabre, Satyricon, Darkwoods, My Bethrothed, Sadness, Celestial Season, Necrosis, Infernal Torment, Infester, Horror of Horrors, Regurgitate, Moonspell, Hypocrisy, At The Gates, Ancient, My Dying Bride, Samael, Six Feet Under, Deceased, Slayer, early Celtic Frost/Hellhammer, Mercyful Fate, Vital Remains, Emperor, Cannibal Corpse, Suffocation and tons more. Unsigned bands: Dying Fetus, Witch-Hunt, Hemdale, Mortal Agony, Abominant, Mendacity, Tyrant Trooper, Graveworm, Decrepit, Impetus, Lividity, Slough, Parricide, Within, December Wolves, Ton, Drogheda, and lots more. Fav zines: Metal Core (no ass-kiss intended), Beyond The Grave, Requiem, Descent, Subversive Agenda, FEH, (rip), Left to Rot, Emanzipation, Morticia/Numshull, and others. My least fav mag is Sounds of Death, I fuckin hate that mag. Least fav bands: Too many to mention!" **REST OF INTERVIEW CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE!!!!!!**

DEMO REVIEW SECTION

DROGHEDA/1995 PROMO-I got 3 new tunes of some sick new grind from this Ohio band. The new tunes are very fast and grindy. The vocals are a aggressive style and also feature some Brutal Truth type vocals at times. The production is raw and only adds to the music. This band always is releasing new material and none of it is filler.
Info: 14749 OAK PARK #55 DOYLESTOWN, OH 44230

ALSO BROKEN/1995 TAPE-I wasn't sure what to expect when I popped this tape in the walkman. What I found was a sound similar to King's X in both sound and vocally. I loved this tape. This is some moody, cool rock n roll, but not that alternative crap. All the songs were strong and had my head movin and my feet tappin. For the style this band is playin, they are great. I'll be looking forward to hearing some new material.
Info: PO BOX 16244 PHILA, PA 19144

NON POINT FACTOR/A NEW BREED OF ANGER-A band that has a sound not that far removed from Sepultura and Machine Head in some parts. The songs are simple catchy numbers that would I imagine have a huge pit forming when they play. While some people may say, the band is doing nothing new, a say the songs are so good that the material stands on it's own. I usually don't like groups of this nature very much, but this just stuck to me. Send \$6 to:7680 N.W. 5TH ST #2A PLANTATION, FL 33324

WITCHING HOUR/COMP #1-A 13 band comp tape of some familiar black metal bands (Grand Belial's Key, Black Funeral and a few unknowns as well. The tape sound varies from band to band as you would expect. One of the better comp tapes making the rounds these days. Nick also does a zine too. Info: RR-3 BOX 635-F HAZARD, KY 41701

BETRAYER/1995 TAPE-I trashed this bands last tape with good reason, it sucked. The band return with a new effort and despite the production not being the best, the songs are pretty good. The are basic thrash, but the hooks drew me in. The vocals are clear & gruff and fit the music well. Overall, a very good effort and I shudder to think if the band went into a real studio. YISHAI SWEARTS 10 KAZAN ST RAANANA 43612 ISRAEL

SECRET WISDOM/WHAT NEVER WAS-A 2 man band with a drum machine. The band reminds me of a thrash version of Rush! The vocals are somewhat of the clean nature, but I like them. The song arrangements at first might seem simple, but really are interesting. I really enjoyed this as I felt it was something that was fresh on my ears. Info: 9 MEHAN LANE DIX HILLS, NY 11746

GRAVEWORM/MASSACRE IN HEAVEN-Black metal that thank god doesn't sound like Bathory or Darkthrone. This is more in the vein of old death and black metal. The music is fast and unrelenting. The vocals are somewhat buried in the mix, hopefully the next time the band records they will bring them up more. If you love Celtic Frost and bands of that nature then this tape is for you. \$5 to me gets you this demo.

EXCISION/1995 TAPE-No, no, no. This is another generic wanna be death metal wennie band. The music is 3rd rate speed/death metal with one of the weakest guitar sounds I have ever heard. You would think the drummer could hit the drums a wee bit harder. This is another example of a no name band in an already overcrowded underground scene. Info: N55 W33178 TERRACE DR NASHOTAH, WI 53058

COLD MOURNING/LOOKING FORWARD TO REASON-70's style doom is the ticket here and a good ticket it is. One thing I like about this tape is that the band doesn't sound like any one band, they sound like themselves. If I had to make any comparisons it would be Revelation from Maryland. I like the vocals, clear, but heavy at the same time. If you like doom you can't go wrong here. Info: PO BOX 3324 MONTEREY, CA 93942

THE STORM HAS BEGUN/1995 TAPE-I tried to get into this, but I couldn't. This is some well played progressive music, but it lacks something: songs. The vocals are kinda bland they are just there and don't turn the trick for me. You can't say, oh he doesn't like this style of music cause I love Dream Theater. Some parts were cool, but overall this just didn't cut. Keep trying. I have no other info on the band, sorry.

HARUSPEX/PROMO TAPE-While this band plays fast, catchy death metal their Cannibal Corpse like songs won't get them very far. Sure they have 2 vocalist and that is kinda cool, but they sound too much like C.C. to go very far. The band does have 2 good songs on the tape and they should lose the C.C. sound and work on their own and they would be 100 times better for it. Time will tell. Info: PO BOX 83451 MILWAUKEE, WI 53223

SOULTAKER/1995 TAPE-Just what the underground needs, another Suffocation/Internal Bleeding rip off band, with a shitty production. The singer sucks, the production sucks and this band has no value in the underground whatsoever. Absolutely worthless. Info: 8913-98 AVENUE #182 FORT SASKATCHEWAN ALBERTA CANADA T8L 1G3

BLOOD COVEN/DARK HARMONIES-This is different than what I expected. I expected doom, cause a few of these guys played in a doom band before this one. This is straight forward death metal with dual vocals. This isn't too bad either. It took me a couple of times to really get into it. This isn't your standard death metal band, but a raw form with some ripping riffs. A good effort by these guys. Info: 7390 A FOX HILL MENTOR, OHIO 44060

AMPUTIST/1995 TAPE-Why is it that lots of death metal demos I get, that bands want to sound like other bands? This demo is no different. The Cannibal Corpse virus is stuck to this band. The band do sound tight and the band can play, but the lack of originality hurts here. The vocals aren't too too good, the guy sounds like any other death metal singer. This band has done nothing to separate itself from the rest of the pack. Info: 7400 HART RD SAGINAW, MI 48609

ENS COGITANS/1995 TAPE-This is the first band I have ever reviewed from Russia! They say in their tape insert that they play music that they like. Good for them. At first I thought this was a average thrash band, but how wrong I was. This is thrash, but more than that. This band plays thrash with a touch of the progressive side and sound like nobody. No Bay Area or Metallica sound. I enjoyed this and I think you might as well. Be open minded when you listen to this band. Info: ALIMOV O.V. TOLMACHEV ST. 11- 82 IVANTCCVKA 141250 MOSCOW REGION RUSSIA

PAINGOD/1995 TAPE-This band used to be called Raped Ape and changed their name for obvious reasons. The band have gotten heavier and more catchy with this release. This is some killer shit. The production is a 10+. This is in the vein of Machine Head and Pantera and I don't give a fuck cause this is one brutal, heavy demo. Best demo of the issue. If I had a label these guys would be on it. Look for a interview in the future. PO BOX 5891 LAKE WORTH, FL 33461. Band is also on Metal Massacure XII out now on Metal Blade.

SO WHAT/SOMEONE FORGOT MAYBE THEY JUST DON'T CARE-These dummies forgot to write good music and leave a contact address inside the tape. Uh duh!!!
SHROUDED DEITY/OMENS-Cool 2 songs of black metal with a feel of the European style of black metal. Even though they are in the vein of Darkthrone, Immortal, they don't totally rip off these bands and plus this is only a side project. For doing this on such quick notice and for a side band, this is pretty damn good. Info: 123 HART RD CHERRY HILL, NJ 08034-1725

DIRT CHURCH/1995 TAPE-A Pantera wanna be band. I knew with the success of Pantera that bands like this would be popping all over the place. This is nowhere near as powerful as the songs just fall short. Tired, boring riffs and vocals that don't even touch Phil. They sound like Alan from Non Fiction fame. We don't need more Pantera clones. Info: PO BOX 339 BUTLER, NJ 07467

NEUTRON CAFE/ADV TRACKS FROM PHOTON CD-I got 2 songs here that are kinda like Soundgarden with female vocals. Don't laugh as the band sound pretty cool. 2 songs is tough to judge, but I think this band is heading in the right direction. Sure they are playing a style that is very 'hip', but this band does it with class. The guitar sound is loud and fuzzy and I'd like to hear more. Info: 414 W SUNRISE HWY STE 234 PATCHOGIE, NY 11772

NAGLFAR/1995 PROMO-Decent black/death metal ruined by generic black metal style singing. The singing is absolutely childish and adds nothing to the music. Imagine a super bad version of the singer for At The Gates. The music is cool, mixing a Swedish style with a black metal style. I like the way the guitar sounds, the riffing style is rip roarin. I don't know if this is for sale or not. Info: PO BOX 3523 S-903 10 UMEA SWEDEN. I also got on this tape some killer music by In Flames (fast technical death metal) & Excretion (fast in your face, blasting death metal. Both bands are worth checking into

RAISED IN MEAT/INCOHERENCY-A 378 noise fest that makes Anal Cunt look sane! Song # 378 almost 30 minutes long. The other 377 songs are short blasts of noise, feedback and any other piece of noise you can think of. The funny thing all the songs have names! If your into, Anal Cunt, Meatshits and bands of that nature then get this for \$3: PO BOX 4 GILE, WI 54525-0004

PALE ORACLE/EXTRACTING THE EXTREMETIES-Death Leprosy LP. That is what this demo reminds me of. That is not a bad thing cause, that Death Lp is a classic. The band does use some of their own style throughout the tape and this is one of the best new death bands on the scene at the moment. 5 tunes that you smash down any Offspring fan. Info: PO BOX 583 MUSKEGON, MI 49443

GRINDER/FROM THE GRAVE-This is some wimpy death metal. The production is very weak and the guitar sound has to go. Riffs that have been used by all the 'biggie' death metal bands and the singer tries to sound like Glen Benton, but doesn't even come close. They want \$7 for this tape. That is way too much for a demo, even with the cover color etc. 380 S 10th ST

COSHOCTOCTON, OHIO 43812. Guys use a new studio next time you'll be better.

CATACOMB/MONUMENT OF DEATH-They call this gothic death. I call it shit. The production is a pile of rubbish and the singer is a joke. The drums sound like a garbage can. This is wimpy, badly played music. One of the worst demos I have ever heard. \$5: BOSTJAN SENILJ 118/E 62212 SENTIL SLOVENIA

MORGATORY/III-A local brand of death metal and only a 2 piece. They mix death metal with the power of Amorphis and some mosh parts. The vocals are deep, guttural growls from hell. A different form of death. Worth more than 1 listen. Info: 1925 BERKSHIRE ST PHILA, PA 19124-4618

CALLENISH CIRCLE/LOVELORN-Doom metal with a bit of gothic & rock mixed in as well. Vocals are a combo of At The Gates & Paradise Lost. Real good production makes every instrument sound crystal clear. This band is good enough to sign a record contract. This is not your typical doom band as these songs just plain rule. Info: Patrick R.D. BEERENBROUCKLAAN 28 6123 AC HOLTUM-MORN(L) THE NETHERLANDS

WORLD IN PAIN/1995 TAPE-Prong comes to mind when I listened to this. Not surprisingly all the members from Prong are thanked. Vocals are gruff like the dude from Pro Pain. Even though this band wear their influences proud, the tunes still pack a wallop. Heavy as fuck groove riffs that had me moving my head up & down to the beat. Wouldn't surprise me to see this band get signed. Tunes are that good. Info: 6655 WILKINSON #103 N HOLLYWOOD, CA 91606

RATTLER/FRANKENSTEIN-It is obvious that this band listens to Decide a lot. They are not as fast, the band do have some fast parts, but keep it at mid tempo most of the time. The drummer is good, his double bass chops are not sloppy at all. The singer sounds like Glen a bit, but not to the point of ripping him. At least there is no Cannibal or Suffo vocals. A fine death metal release. Info: RUSLAN (YAKOVLEV) VIRU 16-1A EEOO1 TALLIN ESTONIA

SOCIAL DECAY/INSIGHTS OF REALTY-I got a taste of this band through a one song sampler and now I have the whole tape for review. With 8 songs I can judge this very good this time. The band is in the hardcore vein, but they also take the best elements of thrash metal as well. Don't think this is some crossover band though. S.D. can slam with the power of Sick of it All or rip with some metal like solos. Excellent production and packaging. Info: 28881 HUFFORD RD PERRYSBURG, OHIO 43551

WITHERED EARTH/ABOLISH IN THORNS-I got a chance to see these guys live and let me tell you they don't let up for a moment. On tape it is the same way. The band can blast you or slow the pace down with their music. No Suffo or Cannibal to be found. The vocals are brutal, raw and understandable all at the same time. The band just play brutal death metal that you know and love. Nothing more and nothing less. One of the best new death metal bands and that is no lie. Info: 85 WETMORE PARK ROCHESTER, NY 14606

LEGION/BLISSFUL MISERY-This is the 2nd release from this death metal band. This is death metal played the way I like it. This fast, heavy and damn powerful shit. The guitar crunches like it should. Some other death bands should listen to this demo. The vocals are a bit like Cannibal Corpse, but not the cupped mike shit, just angry, low brutal voice. A very good package as well. Info: 701 N WHEELING MUNCIE, IN 47303

DROPPING THE MESSIAH/KNOWLEDGE FOR ITS OWN SAKES-Decent death metal played with sorta of a thrashy edge, especially the guitar crunch at times. The band does speed it up and that I feel is their best material in their songs. Vocals are raw, guttural growls from hell. Again no Suffo or Cannibal. I'm glad to see not all bands try to sound like those bands. A good first effort and I look forward to hearing more. Info: 2302 DEINDORFER SAGINAW, MI 48603

UNEARTH/MALFORMED CRANIUM-I get flyers from this band in the mail a lot. The band do a good job promoting themselves. The music is good, heavy and crunchy. The vocals and music remind me of Possessed. And the killer thing is Possessed is a great band and this is a great way to carry the legacy of their sound. I know I keep saying the same things over and over, but this is a masterpiece of death metal. Don't think this is just a rip off of Possessed, Unearth just remind me of them. A must get. Info: PO BOX 21097 ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87154

FILTH CHAIN/LIVE FROM THE EMERGING EARTH-A little neat idea here. You get 6 bands from the mid-west who all do live tracks on here. (Not just from live shows). All the bands get 2 songs each and the best was Corpse Vomit and Cannabyss. The other 4 bands were cool and this was a different idea and a cool one at that. Info: 1100 S WILLIAMS APT #2D WESTMONT, IL 60559

LUNATIC/EMPTY PROMISES-They call themselves a heavy, groove band and I would say that is a good description. The tunes are thrashy, catchy numbers in the vein of old Exodus and older thrash bands of yesterday. I enjoyed this as not many bands are playing this style today. The guitar crunch and riffs are smokin. Info: PO BOX 1527 CENTRALIA, IL 62801

CONVULSION/WRATH OF MANKIND-Some pretty cool shit on this tape. Damn the bass sound is low and heavy. The songs while I like them, strayed sometimes a bit too much in Suffocation country for me at times. They didn't do it the whole tape though. Some of the cool parts were the slow, crunchy parts which with the bass sound, just kicked butt. Not a bad start for this young band. They have their shit together and if keep working hard like they are could go somewhere. If you like Dying Fetus and Mortal Decay then you will shit your pants over this. Info: 5514 GARGASZ DR LORAIN, OHIO 44053. Another plus was no Suffo or Cannibal vocals.

KILL BY INCHES/THE PLAYGROUND-I thought the music of this 5 piece outfit was cool, but the melodic vocals don't do a thing for me. They just sound out of place with this band. The music is thrash, with a touch of progressive power metal thrown in. If you like Fates Warning, Sacred Reich and bands of that nature whip out \$5 to: 1508 HARDING PK SOUNDVIEW, NY 10473-2305

AFTERBIRTH/PSYCHOPATHIC EMBRYOTOMY-Generic death metal in the vein of Suffocation, Internal Bleeding. The vocals are total shit, super low and you can't understand a thing. Music is moshy and then that cheezy blast beat crap. Band has a real wimpy guitar sound. Doesn't surprise me that they are from the same area as Suffo. Info: 72 COUNTRY CLUB RD BELLPORT, NY 11713

BLACK ART/1995 TAPE-The tunes are this tape were just there & didn't do a thing for me. No catchy stuff the songs don't jump out at you. The vocals are like Pete Steele, but the music is not in the Type O vein. They do try to use a bit of a gothic sound, but this tape falls flat. Info: PO BOX 130 EAST BRIDGEWATER, MA 02333-0130

SATAN VANGOGH/ADV TAPE-I guess this is a few tracks that will be on a Cd. The music is like older Soundgarden or Kyuss. The production is raw and the good thing is the guitar sound crunches. This is some simple, but effective stuff. Info: 25 INSBROOK CT SUITE 4 EAST AMHERST, NY 14051

CAGE/EARTH-I listened to this a couple times and nothing hit me. The production is very raw, as a matter of fact too raw. You can only hear the guitar and singer. The songs just don't have that magic touch. The band does have a decent start and they should continue to work on their songs. Info: 52 EMSLEY TERRACE METHUEN, MA 01844

NORM REJECTION/SUBTLY MESMERRIZED-I didn't know what to expect when listening to this and after listening to it, I still am going to have a hard time reviewing this. Take death metal vocals, mix some industrial noise and throw in some weird style riffing and you have this. One of the weirdest tapes I have ever heard. Info: SEAN 3 LEONE STR SLIEMA SLM 14 MALTA

MISERY/1995 TAPE-Some people might know this band from a previous release on Wild Rags. The band return with a new set of fast death/grind. This shit is fast and unrelenting. The fast parts blast by like a airplane. The vocals are aggressive and pissed off. One of the best bands from Australia. Info: PO BOX 520 SUNNYBANK BRISBANE AUSTRALIA 4109

INDUSTRIAL FATE/1995 TAPE-A local band from my area here. I have seen these guys live and this is my first time hearing them via tape. The music is a combo of death/thrash with a touch of hardcore. The production is ok, the mix could be better. Overall, a good start for this young band and if they keep up all the hard work it could and should pay off. Info: PO BOX 1292 BELLMAWR, NJ 08099

ACP/SPIDERBRAIN-One of the most boring demos I have heard recently. The songs just plod along with no direction or meaning. There may be a ton of songs on the tape, but it cannot be saved. The vocalist is just plain crap, singing the songs with no feeling and this demo is a complete waste of your and my time. Info: 8 MIDDLESEX DR DIX HILLS, NY 11746

JULY/LOVE APOCALYPSE-Spacey, weird alternative music that doesn't belong in this zine, but on Mtv Alternative Nation. Good for what it is. Not my cup of tea. Info: 1739 E CARSON ST SUITE 350 PITTSBURGH, PA 15203-1700

CONDEMNED/SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENTS-This is a 4 song live tape from this band. This is not to interesting as it like a 80's thrash band. This stuff was cool back then, but it is 1996. The band to sound tight and if this the music they wish to play good for them. I have outgrown this stuff. Info: Mark 63 THE ORCHARD WINCHMORE HILL LONDON ENGLAND N21 2DJ

MINDCAGE/1995 TAPE-Progressive metal totally in the vein of Queensryche. The vocalist even could be a ringer for Geoff Tate. The band are good musicians but sounding like Queensryche is only going to hurt them in the long run. Band should either become a Queensryche cover band or work on being more original. Info: PO BOX 5141 NOVATO, CA 94948-5141

HOLLOW/GRAVE PROPHEES-Black metal screaming and low gutural vocals (Suffocation) are the 2 things that stuck out in my mind. This band is like a bad version of Mortal Decay. Worthless, generic death metal that is unoriginal and no good. Tell the drummer to pound those drums. I hate generic and wimpy blast beats. Another unoriginal death metal band for the underground. No wonder death metal sucks nowadays. Info: 5391 TUCKAWAY CIRCLE #7 GREENFIELD, WI 53221

EXPLODING ZOMBIES/1995 TAPE-I have reviewed this band in earlier issues and never liked them too much. This new tape is a marked improvement in both music & vocals. The band sound a little like Incantation and the Suffocation sound is long gone. The fast parts blow by you like airplane at liftoff. The production is right there and the guitar sound is heavy as fuck. A must have for any real underground death metal fan. Info: PO BOX 190354 BURTON, MI 48519.

DESANCTIFIED/MANIFEST IMPERIUM-Alright, another band that sounds like Suffocation. The music is fast and brutal, but this is another band where you have heard it all before. You can't tell this band apart from the million other death bands. The vocals are just a bunch of vomit noise that has no credibility. Info: 17610 WOLF HOLLOW HOUSTON, TX 77084

RESURRECTURIS/NO FLESH SHALL BE SPARED-Brutal, speedy death metal from Italy. They even sing in Italian. This is some really killer stuff. I'd advise any death heads to write to this band. Info: VIA MEDAGLIE D ORO 73 63023 FERMO (AP) ITALY

ALTERED DOMINANCE/1995 TAPE-3 songs that are heavy enough to knock down a house. This isn't doom, just a heavy and I mean heavy slab of metal music. The vocals sound like a guy from England singing, cause he has a accent. Heavy music for you. Info: PO BOX 481 ATHOL, MA 01331

TEMPER/SEVERED-Power metal with a touch of thrash metal. The riffing is of the Bay Area sound. The vocals are gruff and more in the hardcore vein than in metal. 6 tunes of thrash with class. The guitar player or players really shine on this tape. Info: 343 SPRING ST WESTOM, WV 26452

PARRICIDE/A FUTURE OF SUFFERING-A one man band that has a session musician and I heard has finally found a member besides himself. The 4 tunes on the tape are all ripping fast thrash tunes with a touch of death. The vocals are the standout for me, Bob puts all his hate in the vocal dept. Some killer solos on the tape as well. This reminds me of older Voivod in some ways. Info: PO BOX 17106 ESMOND, RI 02917. See ad also.

SCARYHEAD/HELP ME HATE YOU-After a long intro the music began. I had no idea what to expect. This is some industrial music in the vein of well nobody except a bit of a NIN sound. Excellent production, as good as you hear on a lot of records. 8 songs \$3 a bargain you might not want to pass on. \$3 to: 86 W WOODCREST AVE MAPLE SHADE, NJ 08052

MACHINE DOG/1995 TAPE-My old band I used to manage come out with a 3rd tape that includes 2 of the 3 original members. This is some tastefully done power metal that just oozes with class. John's vocals are the same wild vocals as ever. It is like this band never changed. This may not be in, but it is a damn good demo that I will listen to again and again. Info: 3246 49TH ST PENNSAUKEN, NJ 08109

DEAD INTENT/SO WE MAY DIE-This is great. Old style death/thrash metal that brings me back to the days of Sodom, Kreator and Dark Angel. This band does not sound like any of those bands they just have that feeling of the old days. The vocals are aggressive, screaming, in other words they are great. Excellent band. Info: PO BOX 171 BEXLEY NSW 2207 AUSTRALIA

EPATIKA/IN YOUR FACE-Sacred Reigh is the band that this band sounds like, the older S.R. music that is. The vocals even sound like Phil Rind. The band do have some cool tunes and I enjoyed this and even though the S.R. sound is present, this was a cool thrash demo. Info: RICCI VIA MAESTRA 68 27020 BORGIO S SIRO PV ITALY

BANGLA DESH THAT DOESN'T BANG/COMP TAPE-A 10 band comp that comes with Pull the Chain zine. Bands include: Dawn, Enthroned, Goden & others. Sound is good. Write Stephane at: 89 AV VAL ST GEORGES 5000 NAMUR BELGIUM. Ask him about his zine Pull The Plug, it is a killer zine, trust me on that.

NEOLITHIC/THE PERSONAL FRAGMENT OF LIFE-Excellent atmospheric doom metal here. Deep growling vocals from hell that don't sound like Suffo. The slow parts are just crushing. Wouldn't surprise me to see this band signed. One of the best overseas bands. Info: PO BOX 1 06562 WYSZYNY POLAND

COPROPHILIA/1995 TAPE-Super fast grind in the tradition of Brutal Truth & SOB. This shit is fast and speed fans will love this. This not noise like A.C. just grind. Info: 1986 REATTA LN FERNANDINA BEACH, FL 32034

INFESTATION/CONCEIVED-Straight forward no frills death metal that goes straight for the heart. This is some killer, technical stuff. Like a combo of old Death & Damonacy. Info: 448 MIDDLESEX TRNPK BILLERICA, MA 01821

SLOTH/POVERTY LEVEL GUTTER SWILL-7 tunes of industrial sludge with Ministry like vocals. I thought this way ok, I liked some of the tunes, but this really isn't my cup of tea. Info: PO BOX 1251 MENTOR, OH 44061

NAPHOBIA/OF HELL-Excellent different style of death metal. These guys don't sound like any one band and they have their chops down tight. The vocals are angry & growly and this one of the best new bands from Florida that are playing death metal. Info: PO BOX 677001 ORLANDO, FL.

JOURNEY THROUGH THE DARK/SCREAMS OF SIRENS-The songs on here for the most part are ok, they are long, but have lots of different parts. Vocals are death and black metal screams. The black metal screams I got a kick out of. Decent death band. Info: Gianfuca VIA EMILIA 8 IS 5 98124 MESSIAN ITALY

HABORYM/1995 TAPE-Black metal in the style of Darkthrone, Immortal, etc. The vocals are better than most b.m. bands. This is one of the better US b.m. bands. Info: 3286 HOLLY MILL CT MARIETTA, GA 30062

UNEARTHED/LOSING THE UNKNOWN-More death metal in the vein of Morbid Angel & older Decide. The songs are all fast, heavy crunchy numbers that will have your head spinning like a top. The riffing is fuckin intense. Just another crushing death metal demo that I got for this issue. Get this and you won't be disappointed. Info: 879 HOLBROOK SIMI VALLEY, CA 93065

DEMENTED MIND/SKULLS & BONES-This demo sucks. All it is, is keyboards and guitar feedback. Total junk. Info: 91 COUNTRY CLUB DR OAKDALE, PA 15071

BEHEADED/SOULTAKER-I liked this demo for the most part, except for the lower than Suffocation vocals that do nothing for me. The music is not like Suffo too much, the band are a bit more technical than them. Some of the guitar solos are really off base, in other words they are cool. Not a bad demo, of semi technical music. Info: MARCEL 15 ST MICHAEL STR PLA 15 MALTA

HOLOSADE/1995 TAPE-Very boring power metal that is played with little power and some of the worst vocals I have ever heard. Buddy, but some heart in soul in those vocals. Total shit. Info: 8 WESTCLIFFE CT CO. DURHAM DL3 7UQ

TARGOST/1995 TAPE-Some cool thrash is played here with a touch of death metal. The riffs are semi technical and had my head banging. Vocals are more in the death metal sceme, but no C.C., and are understandable & powerful. Good demo. Info: THORSTEN WOLFSRUCKEN 6 73269 HOCHDORF

EXHAUST/LICENTIOUS POPULACE-Even though the production is only on a 4-track the sound is pretty good. The band mix up a whirl of grind and Brutal Truth like vocals and some of their weird style of recording to make this one weird tape at times. Fast & weird: 5800 WILSON ST HOLLYWOOD, FL 33021

HIDDEN MENACE/CORRUPTED JUDGEMENT-A very catchy metal band that sticks out like a sore thumb. The songs are simple, basic tunes with catchy riffs that perked up my ears. The vocals while clear, the guy doesn't do any banshee screaming. The band do throw in some thrash beats at times as well. Good demo. Info: 509 MORNINGSIDE DR ROUND LAKE BEACH, IL 60073

SUMMERTIME DAISIES/GATHERING OF VERMIN-Great just what I need another Suffo clone singer. The music isn't bad at all, speed parts mixed in with some mid tempo stuff. Those vocals have to go, they ruin it. You can sing brutal and not sound like Suffo. Overall, a damn fine piece of music here and if they work on the vocal problem, they will just be that much better. Info: PO BOX #158 417 RICHMOND ST N LONDON ONTARIO CANADA N6A 3E8

DEMENTIA/NO WORLD ORDER-I liked this bands last tape, and this is more of the same. The band remind me of an older version of Testament, with the vocals sounding like Chuck Billy. The music is solid thrash played with power & tightness. Info: PO BOX 557531 CHICAGO, IL 60655

MORGUE FETUS/LIVIDITY/SPLIT TAPE-What a neat and cool idea. You get 2 bands demos for the price of one. Morgue Fetus deliver some sick grind with a Celtic Frost edge. The vocals have to be heard and thee lyrics are funny as hell. Lividity deliver brutal death in the vein of Internal Bleeding and Dying Fetus. Info: 1110 WENTHE #3 EFFINGHAM, IL 62401

AETRUM/PRELUDE TO EXALTATION-Poor playing and crappy production make this a death metal demo to forget. This band isn't doing anything original and the songs are just plain awful. Vocalist screams like every other death metal singer. Pass on this. Info: 18 RUE MARCEL MICHELIN (F) 63170 AUBIERE FRANCE

BLOODLUST CREATIONS/COMP #1-10 bands get to do 2 songs each. There is a wide selection of bands that include, Windham Hell, Compression, Symphony of Grief and others. There is good selection of bands and lets you hear what the underground sounds like. Info: 7481 HUNTSMAN BLVD SPRINGFIELD, VA 22153

SLIVER/PURGE-Boring metal with that alternative edge. Poor production as well, you can hardly hear the guitar and the bass is too loud. These songs just bored me to death. Next. PO BOX 787 SUTTON W ONTARIO CANADA LOE 1R0

ETERNAL HATRED/VENGEANCE FROM THE GRAVE-This is one of the best one man bands I have ever heard. Slashing, bashing, brutal guitar sound along with a drum machine from hell. The songs just crush like a grape. The vocals are powerful, heavy the way death metal should be. Some bands should take lessons from this guy. Info: PO BOX 1250 LAGRANGE PARR, IL 60526

DIES IRAE/Fear of God-Fast death metal in the vein of Vader & Morbid Angel with vocals like Ross from Immolation. This is some damn good stuff and the drummer is on fire on this release. Excellent production and with 6 tunes to satisfy your death metal craving this is one release not to pass up. Info: SPHINX REC UL NOWODWORSKA 25/97 85-120 BYDGOSZCZ POLAND

MALAMOR/1995 TAPE-Just what NY needs another death metal band that sounds like Suffocation. Enough with Suffo, they aren't even signed and their best LP came out yrs ago. If you like Suffo or Internal Bleeding then write these guys at PO BOX 813 SAUGERTIES, NY 12477

CHAINFLESH/DOWN-This is not what I was expecting. This is metal with a touch of groove, and older hardcore, but not the mosh type of hardcore. This is more along the lines of the Rollins Band. Cool for what is and I like the gruff vocals. Info: KIVIKARTIONTIE 9F 168 20720 TURKU FINLAND

DISSONANCE/CONCEALED-This is a 5 piece doom band from Lithuania. The music is pretty good, but the vocals are very weak at times, like in the first song. The vocals do get better in other songs though. In this style of music the vocals are very important. The music is like older Paradise Lost. I think this is the bands first tape, I'm sure they will improve with time.
Info: RAMUNAS ABROMATIS C-PO BOX 2829 2000 VILNIUS LITHUANIA

GOTTERDAMMERUNG/FUROR TEUTONICUS-I think this is a one man band. The tape is ok, the vocals are buried in the mix and the songs could be better. Some parts of songs are bone crushing to the max and some parts are plain wastes. The best song is song #2, what a riff in this song. If this a one band band the guy did a damn fine job for one guy. Write to the band and find out:
NYAR LINKE KLOPP 4 55471 FRONHOFEN GERMANY

INTHRONED/NIHILISTIC DELUSIONS-This band used to be called Enthroned, but changed their name to avoid confusion with the all the other bands with the same name. I trashed this bands first tape and they have sent me 2 new tracks to listen to. Well, the band have gotten away from the generic death metal and have added a little European sound and it sounds pretty cool. 2 songs is tough to judge, but I think the band is headed in the right direction. Mix a little Death and Amorphis and you will get an idea what these guys sound like. Info: 1710 N LARCH DR MT. PROSPECT, IL 60056

DECIMATION/POWER OF THE MISUNDERSTOOD-This a Canada death metal band and a pretty damn good one at that. Fast, chopping riffing that reminds me of Vader. Some of the riffing gets technical and that only adds to the brutality. The vocals are the only problem with me and the singer just growls out the words like every other death metal singer. Overall a good effort. A band to keep an eye out for in the future. Info: 5 11AVE SAINT-FABIEN RIMOUSKI QUEBEC CANADA GOL 2Z0

MAGGOTY SHIT/MY FAVORITE THINGS-This is a side project from the guys of Exhaust from Florida. This is some sick grind shit. Though the production is poor, I think the band is cool for a laugh. The tape is also only \$2 and if you like super fast grind get this. Erik 4201 N.E. 3RD AVE FT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33334

THORNS OF THE CARRION/THE WILLOW WEEPS FOR ME-Slow, crawling doom that will on your hands and knees. This tape I have is an adv that I think is on Wild Rags now. I have on the tape the longest song I have ever heard. You will take many different paths on this rollercoaster ride of doom. Trust me this doom metal is of the highest caliber. Buy or die. Info: PO BOX 1586 NEWPORT, KY 41072

RISE/SHADOWS OF RUIN-Some superb riffs are the highlight on this tape. This is old style death metal done in a modern way. Riffs that rip your your skull and into your brain. Vocals are very good, growly, but not like the cupped mike kind. This is like old Death in a way, only better. This is one of the best tapes I have reviewed for this issue. Call Rob at (310) 966-3351

TORTURA/THE PROCESS OF PUTREFACTION-Damn this is some fast stuff. They sound a lot like Incantation mixed in with some Carcass. The slow chunky parts, kill. Even though this isn't band isn't breaking down doors with originality this is one hell of a death metal demo. They just bowl you over with their heaviness, power and fuckin speed. Info: HC-01 BOX 8528 AGUAS BUENAS, PR 00703

SARCOPHAGUS/DEADNOISE-This is a bit like the above band. The band just lets loose with their music and you can't help but be sucked in. These death bands have what other bands lack: CATCHY RIFFS! The band remind me of Malevolent Creation, only better. The drummer really wacks the shit out of the drums and the production is right on the money. Deathheads prepare to be blasted!! Info: 5814 PROSPECT BERKELEY, IL 60163

THORAZINE RUSH/FORCE FEED-A thrash band that doesn't sound dated. This is some simple, but effective songs. The riffs have feeling and are not just a bunch of chords thrown together. Mix Testament, Sacred Reich and a bit of melodic sound and you have this band. Info: 134 B ST CADILLAC, MI 49601

GREENGRANDMOTHER/1995 TAPE-I liked this for about 2 minutes and then I got bored. This is a 2 man band and they aren't bad, the vocals I could do without. They are that gruff kind that many thrash bands used in the 80's. The music is like a hardcore band with mosh riffing. (Biohazard, Sick of It All). Not my cup of tea anymore. Info: PO BOX 333 ATHOL, MA 01331

SARCOPHAGY/CUT TO PIECES-Even though there is similiar spelling this is not the same band as the above band 3 reviews ago. This is generic, boring death metal that your have a heard by, Suffocation, Internal Bleeding, Cannibal Corpse. The vocals are super low and are nothing, new or exciting at all. Bands like this add nothing new and only hurt the slowly dying death metal scene. Info: 310 WINCHESTER AVE LAFAYETTE, IN 47905

**HERE ARE SOME LAST MINUTE
REVIEWS OF CDS & TAPES:**

SEPULTURA/ROOTS (Roadracer) This is one of the worst sellout records I have ever heard. This was supposed to be a fast, raw, aggressive Cd. This is none of the above. This has more in common with Biohazard than Sepultura. Groove riffs with samples and mostly mid paced music is what you will find on the disc. No speed, violence and just plain fury that made me a fan of this band in the first place. If thought Chaos A.D. was bad this is worse. Avoid like the plague.

THUS DEFILED/THROUGH THE IMPURE VEIL OF DAWN (Dark Trinity) 9 tunes of raw, fast black metal. The production is very raw, but not like Darkthrone. The band slow down at times and for me are the best parts of the songs. The band throw in some keyboards and it adds a nice touch to the songs. If you like Darkthrone, Ancient and black metal you will love this disc. \$18 to me or 193 Timberleys Littlehampton West Sussex BN 17 60D England

MALICIOUS HATE/BRING FORTH HATE-After a great 7" this band returns with a new tape. 4 tunes of the fast grindy death. Duke spills out the vocals in his unique way. Production is on the money and the live track sounds good too. If you liked the 7" you'll love this. PO BOX 1343 Muskegon, MI 49443

MORTAL DECAY/BRUTALIZING CREATIONS-This New Jersey band also returns with a new product. After a decent first demo the band are back to smack you around again. The band used to sound a bit too much like Suffocation, but now have changed their sound a bit. The speed and the low vocals are still there, but the guitar riffing is no longer Suffocation type of riffs. They throw in some killer slow parts and the style of riffing has become more original and more toward their own style. While most N.J. bands are breaking up here is one that is still here and has grown leaps and bounds with this tape and a tape they should be proud of. \$5 to me or 415 Oak St Audubon, NJ 08106. Tape has great packaging & prod. too.

DISSECTION/STORM THE LIGHT'S BLANE (Relapse) This is a great mixture of the best of black metal and death metal. The band use the fast riffs of black metal and combine them with death metal vocals and aggression in their music. The band also throw a bit of the Swedish death metal sound as well. All in all this is a great release that any underground maniac will want in his collection.

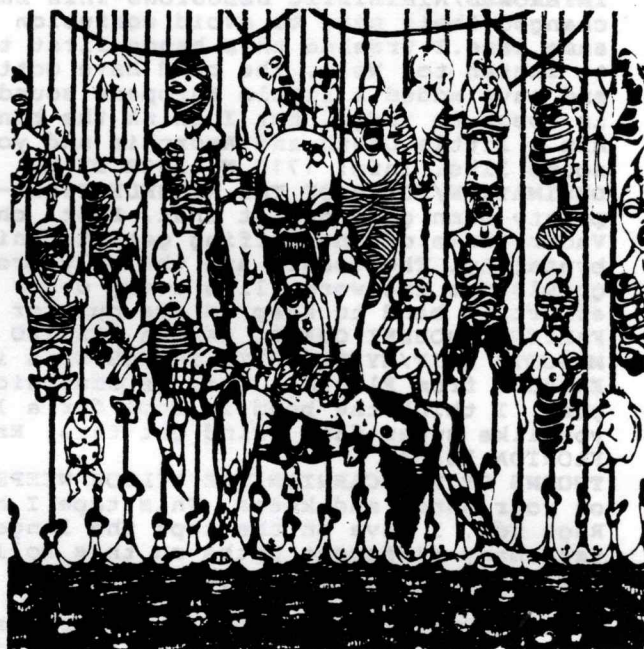
UNSURPER/DIABOLOSIS (Head Not Found) The band that was featured in my last issue release this full length platter of hell. 8 tunes of old school death and black metal. The band sold a heap of demos and this disc should do the same. Band brings back the good old days of Celtic Frost, Destruction and Sodom. There is even a few trademark "uhs" like Tom G Warrior used to do. The raw, drowning guitar sound melts me. This is a classic release any all you new black metal fans should buy this disc instead of crap like Burzum and newer Darkthrone. You can get this through Relapse mailorder or write the band: PO BOX 388897 Chicago IL 60638-8897

MANIAC BUTCHERS/BARBARIANS (Pussy God) Fast, chainsaw pounding black metal that blows Darkthrone away. This is how Darkthrone should sound now. The slow pounding parts ripped me. This isn't the most original black metal band, but

they are a damn good one. \$16 from me or: Curby Dolony 117 533 44 p St Zdanice Czech Republic

PARRICIDE

A FUTURE OF SUFFERING



**4 SONG DEBUT RECORDING FROM A BAND
WHO EXIST ON THIS MISERABLE EARTH
FOR ONE REASON...TO CREATE INTENSE
DEATH/THRASH METAL.**

XX
FULL COLOR ARTWORK BY SEAN CARR (FRESHBLOOD STUDIOS)
GUITAR SOLOS BY BILL PINCINS (RITUAL SACRIFICE)
24 TRACK RECORDING WITH PROFESSIONAL PACKAGING

DISTRIBUTED BY:

RELAPSE RECORDS, PO BOX 251 MILLERSVILLE, PA 17551

STAGE 3 PROMOTIONS, 130 BELCOURT AURORA, OH 44202

MORBID METAL RECORDS, 1184 E. 3RD ST. SAN BERNADINO, CA 92404

COCYTHUS PROM., 2-12-49 MINAMI-KINOMOTO, YAO, OSAKA 581 JAPAN
OR YOU CAN ORDER DIRECTLY FROM THE BAND.

CASSETTE: \$5.00 US/ \$6.00 FOREIGN

CD: \$8.00 US/ \$9.00 FOREIGN

Prices include shipping and handling.

All orders shipped out in 24 hours.

SEND CHECKS, MONEY ORDERS, OR WELL CONCEALED CASH TO:
PARRICIDE, PO BOX 17106 ESMOND, RI 02917 USA

RECORD REVIEWS

Welcome to the record review section. All releases are reviewed as fairly as possible. Any labels or bands that have sent stuff to review and don't see the review in this section or the demo review, chances are that I have reviewed your particular release in *CallBuster* magazine, which is another magazine I am writing for. I review most of the underground releases in a section called the Death Files. For more info you can contact David LA Duke at the following number (502) 447-2231. NOW ONTO THE REVIEWS!

MISERY LOVES CO./NEED ANOTHER ONE (Earache) This is a Ep with 5 tunes from this band. I really liked this bands debut Lp and was looking forward to checking this out. You get one LP track, a non LP track and 3 versions of Kiss My Boots and all 3 versions are weird in their own right. This band to me, is one of the few industrial type bands that I get into because they are so powerful. This is a interesting Ep and you might want to check it out.

NAILBOMB/PROUD TO COMMIT COMMERCIAL SUICIDE (Roadracer) This is the last release of this 2 man side project from Max(Sepultura) & Alex (Fudge Tunnel). This Cd has non new cuts and 11 tracks recorded live at the Dynamo festival last year. The live tracks are full of mistakes, but the aggression and sound are there. This is how a live Lp should sound, not some dubbed in the crowd noise, fix the mistakes piece of shit. The 2 new tracks left over from the last LP are brutal, in your face Nailbomb tunes. This band, is sadly no more and they blow Sepultura away.

ACCURSED/MEDITATIONS AMONG THE TOMBS (Visceral) At last a full length release from this Wisconsin death/black band. I thought the bands demo released before this was good, but this Cd just smokes. No trendy, childish 16 year old, gotta sound like Darkthrone band here. This is 100% US black/death metal at it's finest. The keyboards only add to the bands sound as they don't use the keyboards in overdrive. Cd is \$12 to: PO BOX 1142 MENTOR, OH 44061-1142. Ask Craig about his catalog or you can get it through Metal Core distro as well.

SLATANIC SLAUGHTER/SLATANIC SLAUGHTER (Black Sun) 11 bands pay tribute to Slayer by doing Slayer covers. Forget all those other comps, cause ever band and song on here are excellent. You get: Enslaved, At The Gates Seance, Hypocrisy, Invocator and others doing such tunes as: Anti Christ, Black Magic, Jesus Saves, Post Mortem, Captor of Sin, and other great Slayer songs. This is the best tribute Cd I have ever heard. You can get this from Black Sun: PO BOX 129 401 22 Goteborg Sweden or \$18 through Metal Core distro. A must have for everyone

AVULSED/CARNIVORACITY (Repulse) You may know of this band through their demos and 7" releases. Well they have returned with a 50 minute slab of low, tuned down, brutal death metal. No silly trends, just 100% death metal the way it used to be played by the real underground bands yrs ago. Dave uses is vocal cords to growl out the words in a no Cannibal Corpse/Suffocation way. Dave proves that you don't have to sound like either of those two bands vocalist to achieve a brutal sound with your vocals. Tacked on also are some live cuts. If you like death metal in the vein of Immolation/Incantation then whip out \$13. Repulse address in distro section. Also available through Metal Core distro.

MOTORHEAD/SACRIFICE (CMC) This is the best Motorhead Lp in 10 years. Thank god they are off Columbia and I hope this new record label gives this release the push it deserves. Motorhead crank out the music in this disc as they only know how: LOUD. There is even a couple of faster, older style tunes on the disc as well. Lemmy never sounded better and if you this band is going away, forget it. A worthy purchase for sure.

INTERNAL BLEEDING/VORACIOUS CONTEMPT (Pavement) One of the most anticipated releases in the underground has been this debut LP by I.B. I.B. is like the Pantera of death metal. They base there songs on catchy groovy parts that will want you to slam and throw in a few blast beats as well. As much as some people say how could you like this and not like all those other Suffocation sound a like bands, I say I.B play with such conviction and are so passionate about what they do and what they are striving for that you have to be impressed. Sure the Suffo sound is there to a point, but Suffo has much more blast and the bands new singer Frank is just amazing. His voice fits this band like a new shoe. Production is good considering they did everything in 3 days. I hope next release Pavement gives the band a bigger budget and I am looking forward to hearing a new LP of all new songs. See ad for more info.

DEATH IS JUST THE BEGINNING III/COMP CD (Relapse) 38 tracks of death, doom, grind, and black metal. This is a great comp Cd for people with not a million dollars. You get to hear many groups and then you can decide if you like the bands or not. Some of my favs were: Mortician, Cradle of Filth, Human Remains, Deceased, Mindrot, Disrupt, Celestial Season and many others. I'd 90% of the groups were above average. Pick this up now.

MORTICIAN/HOUSE BY THE CEMETERY (Relapse) This group may very well be the most sickening, grindy, raw death metal bands in the land today. And you know what? I love them for it. This shit, maims, kills, crushes, and mows down anything in it's path. This has the lowest bass sound I have ever heard. Raw, chainsaw like guitars, along with some of the lowest vocals of the Lower East Side in NY make this a death masterpiece. I know most or some people will say this is only noise, but I have a special place in my heart for these guys. This is what death metal is all about. Wait till you hear the Celtic Frost and Napalm Death cover tunes on here, they smoke.

BRUJERIA/RAZA ODIADA (Roadracer) 2nd Lp from these Mexican drug lords (yeah right). This is a second helping of short songs, blast beats, death metal growls, and lyrics sung in Spanish. If you liked the bands first LP then you will like this as well. I thought this was cool for a side band, but with the lyrics being sung in Spanish it made it very hard to get into at times. Check it out for yourself and see what you think.

AC/DC/BALLBREAKER (Atlantic) My favorite band of all time make their best record in yrs. Raw, driving, simple rock n roll and Phil Rudd is back on the drums. What more can a true AC/DC fan want. Angus Young can still crank out those riffs like there is no tomorrow. AC/DC are still the kings of the castle in my book.

DECEASED/THE BLUEPRINTS OF MADNESS (Relapse) My boy King and his band have returned for a 3rd time with some old school, tinged out madness known as Deceased death metal. This is by far the best release yet, the production is finally there. King's vocals have never sounded better and the rest of the band sound tight. The Voivod influence pops ever now and then. Any real death metal fan would like this. Not for trendy Suffocation fans.

ANTHRAX/STOMP 242 (Elektra) First off, Anthrax do me a favor and lose your label they suck. This however is a amazing Lp. I have been a fan since day one and the band have had its ups and downs, but the last 2 LPs have been just killer. The hooks on this LP drew me in like a fish to water. John Bush sounds as good as ever and this is a damn fine slab of music. Probably won't get a good push and that's a shame. This is the bands best since *Among the Living*. Ever song on this is 100% guilty of having my head bang and my feet tapping. Anthrax like AC/DC, just plain rule.

LUCIFERION/DEMONICATION (Listenable) Damn, this is some speedy stuff and even breaks into grindcore speed at times. This is not noise, just fast black/death metal at it's finest. Band reminds me of Morbid Angel/Immolation/Incantation at times and that is good company to be in. Vocals are killer blasts of venom spitting from this gentlemans mouth. A excellent release any any respected death/black metal fan would be doing backflips if he heard this. Info: 18 Quai Duguay Trouin 62480 Le Portel France

GALACTIC COWBOYS/MACHINE FISH (Metal Blade) I always liked these guys when they were on Geffen and saw them live 2x as well. I was looking forward to hearing this release and I was not disappointed at all. The bands harmony vocals are still in place and the band are still writing great songs after 3 Lps of material. If you were a fan of the older stuff you will enjoy this as well.

DARKIFIED/A DANCE ON THE GRAVE (Repulse) Fast death metal in the vein of old Entombed only it's faster. This material was recorded in 1991 and is being released now and I understand that the band is no more as well. This may not be the most original music, but it is pretty damn powerful and you can't say this is Entombed rip off band cause this music is 5 yrs old. If you crave Swedish death metal played with a brutal twist then you have to get this. Repulse address in my distro section elsewhere in this zine.

MY OWN VICTIM/BURNING INSIDE (Century Media) Groove metal in the vein of Biohazard and bands of that nature. The bottom line here are the songs good? Yes, they are. The band write strong catchy songs with some vocals that are understandable and good at the same time. If you like your metal or hardcore the plenty of groove then pick this disc up.

HOSTILITY/BRICK (Century Media) More groove metal with the shouty back up hardcore vocals. The songs are ok, this band is not doing anything original and has been done before by Sick of It All, Agnostic Front and all the older hardcore bands of the 80's. Once again if you like groove metal then you will love this. I thought it was ok.

SAXON/DOGS OF WAR (Mayhem) One of my favorite bands from the 80's returns with a new release. I have heard some of this bands recent works and they were pretty good as well. How does this stand up? I'd say that this release is one of the best of the newer Saxon Lps I have heard. Biff never sounded better behind the mic and the rest of the band sound great as well. If you loved Saxon in the past you will love this release as it is a solid disc of good old metal. You can get this through the Futurist label here in the states.

DECREPIT/CREATION OF SIN (Dismal) This is a 9 track Cd of the bands demos and 7" material plus a bonus track all on 1 CD. The material is all brutal in the vein of Immolation/Incantation and the production is good on all the tracks. This is death metal done the old way and the great way. I have some copies for \$12 or write to: PO BOX 34414 Cleveland, Oh 44134

MUSSORGSKI/IN HARMONY WITH THE UNIVERSE (Morbid Madness) Over 50 minutes of doom, gloom and emotional music. The band never stays in one style keeping you on your toes throughout the whole Cd. The band does speed up at times (not super fast, though). The vocals are very weird, it is almost like he is singing through a megaphone. If you like the doomy side of the underground then check this out. I should be getting some copies of this or write: Ziegelgut 12-7206 IGIS Switzerland

RAW POWER/FIGHT (Flying) It seems like this band has been around as long as my fanzine. This nothing like the band from yrs ago. The band has thrown their blistering fast hardcore sound and went for a generic groovy style. This Cd sucks. The songs are total hop on the bandwagon tunes and you would be better off looking for the recent Cd release of the bands early material. Let Prong and Pantera do this style please.

BATHORY/OCTAGON (Black Mark) What the hell is going on here? This is not the Bathory I know. This is like a bad speed metal band with some crappy vocals. The production and playing is shit as well. I was really looking forward to hearing this and I'm glad I didn't waste money on this. Any Bathory fans I don't think you would like this too much. I heard there will be a new Cd coming out with some unreleased tunes recorded yrs ago and I heard it smokes. I hope so.

REINCARNATION/SEED OF HATE (Repulse) I love 95% of the stuff on Repulse and this is the first band I really didn't like too much. The band just sound too much like Cannibal Corpse and Suffocation for me to get into. The lower than low can't understand a word vocals didn't help any. Repulse address in distro section.

BEYOND NORTH/THE DARK IS MY FATHER ((Imperator) This is a Mcd done by a 1 man band. This is some tasteful, doomy stuff. The songs all solid, catchy numbers that I liked from the get go. This gentlemen also has a damn fine voice to boot. If you loved the first Godsend Lp and like doomy stuff done in a non generic, trendy way then write: Larchenweg 17 53424 Remagen Germany

SECTION 8/PAIN IS TRUTH (J.T.S.) I thought I was going to get some boring alternative band, but instead got a doom band in the vein of Candlemass with a touch of Alice in Chains thrown in. The vocals at first I didn't like, but they grew on me. The vocals are sung in a clear way like new Paradise Lost and My Dying Bride you get the idea. Production is clear and raw at the same time. A pretty decent effort by this NY band. Check this band out. Info: 58 Grissom Dr Clifton Park, NY 12065

UNDERGROUND SYMPHONIES/VOLUME II (Last World) A 16 band comp of bands from all over. Most of the bands are killer, some of the best are: Legion, Nefarious, Witchcraft, Gluhter and others. This is a cool way to check out some killer underground bands. The label which put this Cd out in Canada has gone under, but you can get this in the US through Last World PO BOX 626 Cumberland, MD 21501

PAVOR/A PALE DEBILITATING AUTUMN (Imperator) This label has come up with another winner. They are now 2 for 2. This is some killer semi technical death metal played with plenty of power and speed. There is a touch of newer Death and just plain brutality with some smokin vocals. Imagine throwing newer Death with Monstrosity and you get this. The Imperator address you can find elsewhere.

ISOLATION CHAMBER/GRIND TEXTURAL ABSTRACTION (Beyond Flat Nine) A very interesting and different release than I am used to getting. This is one of those guitar gods Cd. This is much better than all the rest I have heard cause it seems like there was some thought behind the songs and not just mindless guitar soloing. There is some cool songs on this disc and it is mostly instrument type stuff. I didn't think I would like this, but I did enjoy this disc. If you are into Dream Theatre and stuff like that, then you will be into this sort of thing. Info: 92 W 13Th St Bayonne, NJ 07002

LIFE OF AGONY/UGLY (Roadracer) This band went for the big sound on this and they got it. It reminds me of Soundgarden in spots. The band I didn't care too much for live, but hearing this record gave me a different opinion. The band might have mellowed out a bit and the vocals are cleaner, but I feel this band did a change for the good of the band and it payed off well, at least in my opinion.

DRAMELECH/THE FALL (Repulse) 4 death metal tunes on a Mini Cd. The band isn't breaking any new ground with their style of death metal, although it is still enjoyable. The riffs are well constructed and heavy and the production adds to the sound as well. Vocals are simple, but effective low growling that fits right in with the music. Expect a full length later this yr. Repulse address in distro section.

ALGAION/OIMAI ALGEIOU (Full Moon) Dark, sick, fast black metal that blows the last couple Darkthrone Lps out of the river. The music is mostly fast, picking riffing, but the production is not noisy and is clear. The vocals are screamy in the black metal vein, but are not total noise. Overall, this is a superb black metal release by Full Moon. Info: 948 Callahan CT Lakeland, FL 33801

SQUEALER/WRONG TIME WRONG PLACE (Semaphore) Even though thrash is all but died out here in the states, I enjoyed this mid 80's thrash release. You can take bands like Heathen, Sacred Reich, Nuclear Assault and bands in that vein and that will give you a good idea where this band is coming from. You can get this thrash disc for \$10 from Nils 1791 N Sycurose Ave #202 Hollywood, CA 90028

MERAUDER/MASTER KILLER (Century Media) NY hardcore/metal in the vein of Biohazard, Sick of it All, Carnivore etc. This band isn't doing anything new as compared to those other bands, but the material is pretty damn good nevertheless. Plenty of grooves to get some sick pits going live. Not a bad debut.

ABOLISH/TAP THE NERVE (Slam) Regular readers of M.C. have read about this band before and now they return with a Cd release of 10 tunes of heavy, groovy thrash that will rip your brain to little pieces. Music is in the vein of Pantera and Biohazard, but the band has a this edge that is tough to explain that makes them a non clone band. Vocalist/guitarist Tim screams out the lyrics with total passion and fury. A excellent release. Info: PO Box 2719 Phila, PA 19120

MORDETH/LUX IN TENEBRIS (Heavy Metal Rock) This is some bad death metal in the vein of older Sepultura. The riffs are tired and flat and the vocals just go nowhere. The vocals are weak and not powerful. I realize bands from Brazil are limited by funds etc, but this band just doesn't cut the mustard. Info: Rua Washington Luiz 513 CEP 13465-000 Americana SP Brazil

TROUBLE/PLASTIC GREEN HEAD (Century Media) The return of the doom gods. This was and is a welcome release in my Cd player. I enjoyed the releases on Metal Blade and Def American, but this is the best. Some old time fans will argue the point, but keep listening cause this baby grows on you. Crushing, heavy as fuck riffs along with the masterful vocals of Eric Wagner just suck you in like a vacuum and then doesn't let you out until the last note. One of the best 10 Cds I have heard for this issue. Buy.

THE BROOK/SEE IF I CARE -9 tunes of straight forward metal in the vein of Machine Dog and Raven in some spots. All the tunes are catchy, solid numbers that had my feet tapping. This is by far the best material this group has penned. Info: PO BOX Station B Ottawa Canada K1P 6C4

MINDROT/FORLUM (Relapse) This is 3 tracks of one of the best bands in the underground. Some underground fans make be familiar with the bands demos, but this crushes them. 3 tunes of just total doomy power that have you on your knees bowing down. Imagine a doomier Symphony of Grief with a bit of industrial mixed in and you will get a idea what these guys are all out about. Not for the weak.

SILENCE/WAVE WITHOUT A SHORE (BG1) Industrial music in the vein of older Godflesh with plenty of samples and the drum machine. I like some industrial music, but this bored me. The vocals sound like their is a sound effect being used and the music along with the drum beats gets boring about halfwat through the disc. I have no other info on ordering this disc, sorry...

SHIHAD/KILLJOY (Noise) Noise gets into the grunge sweepstakes with this band. However, this band writes some damn good catchy material to separate itself from the pack. Take the first song on the disc, the riff is so damn catchy and heavy at the same time it's not funny. Take a heavier and better version of Alice in Chains and you will have Shihad.

GRINCH/EDIN (Desperate Attempt) Screamy, grundgy vocals and poor songs make this a release to forget in a hurry. There is samples & a lame attempt at being heavy. This is just another one of those bands trying to play heavy music with a twist of the alternative and just like most other bands, they fail.

GOMORRAH/REFLECTIONS OF INANIMATE MATTER (Black Mark) This was a pleasant surprise as I didn't know what to expect. Some cool old style thrash with some killer vocals. This band keeps the thrash flag high with some insane heavy riffing that brings me back to the days when I was listening to Bloodfeast and Blessed Death. Low, but effective vocals make this one of the best new breed of thrash bands I have ever heard. Old underground fans would love this as I did. Thrash isn't dead, yet.

EXMORTEM/LABYRINTHS OF HORROR (Euphonious) Speedy death metal with some of the most insane guitar riffing I have heard in my life. Band reminds me of Damonacy at times. The guitar sounds just kills and maims everything in it's path. Brutal, non generic vocals are also a plus. This is one hell of a release. For more info on this great band write to the label at: Sankt Jorgens Alle 7 O.G. 1 TH DK-1615 Kobenhavn Denmark. I can't stress enough how good this release is. This band is one of the best death metal bands I have heard in awhile. Seek and find this release at all costs.

LAKE OF TEARS/HEADSTONES (Black Mark) I expected a doom band, but not this style. This more geared toward Sabbath, Deep Purple all those great 70's bands. I enjoyed this release for the sound, music and style as well. Solid tunes and a raw, but understandable production is on this disc as well. The Sabbath influence is there, but not like Count Raven and bands of that sort.

CONQUEST/THE KILLING KIND (Self Release) I have reviewed this band before in an older issue of this zine and now the band return with a MCd of sorts. 7 tunes of solid metal with no grunge, thrash or other trendy music to be found. I was glad to see this band has hopped on no trends, instead playing solid metal that bands like Saxon, Savatage, Accept played yrs ago. Sure this isn't the 'in' thing at the moment, but the songs kick some serious butt. If petal to the metal is your thing, you can't help but fall in love with this Cd. A essential purchase for fans of metal. Info: 6054 Odell St Louis, MO 63139

SLAUGHTER/FEAR NO EVIL (CMC) This band returns with their 3rd Lp. I liked the bands first LP, thought the 2nd was a weak release, but this 3rd one is a great release for what it is. This band plays poppy metal with hooks, and catchy vocals. This band I like, cause they write good songs and that is the bottom line. This band has stayed true to themselves and have not gone the grunge look or tried to get more heavy (Motley Crue) and have lost all the fans in the process. Call me a wimp, but I like this band.

BLOODY MARY/FIVE YEARS OF BLOOD, BRUISES, AND BALLS (Self Release) This is a band I'm sure most underground fans are familiar with as Bill spread tons of ads through the mail and were even interviewed in issue 14 of my zine. Sadly, the band has broken up, but here is Cd with all the bands demo tracks and a few surprises as well. B.M was a thrash band that wrote, catchy, heavy tunes with a Southern touch on the vocals. All the tunes still sound fresh, although the newer ones are the best. This was a damn god band and I hope Bill forms another band. Info: PO BOX 560884 Charlotte, NC 28256

G/Z/R PLASTIC PLANET (TVT) This a side band featuring the singer from Fear Factory and Geezer Butler. I'm not even going to tell you who Geezer is, you should all know. This is some heavy stuff. This is not some crappy side band, this is the real deal. Bone crushing riffs highlight this disc. Imagine some of the older Ozzy solo material, only 10 times heavier. I hope this band does another Lp.

454 BIG BLOCK/YOUR JESUS (Century Media) A bad attempt of trying to write groovy music with melodic vocals. I hear a little Only Living Witness in spots, but this band can't come close to that band. This is just another faceless groove band that some will like and others will hate. I'll take Only Living Witness and Life of Agony over this band any day. The vocals are the big let down for me, they just don't do anything for me.

BELLADONNA/BELLADONNA (Mausoleum) I was looking forward to hearing this disc. I wasn't shocked by what I heard. This is heavy metal played in the vein of the "Spreading the Disease" Lp. I don't say that in a bad way as it is one of my favorite Anthrax Lps. Joey's voice is the same it always was and it is a love or hate thing with his voice. I liked this release and I thought it was a solid metal LP played with some power metal thrown in now and then.

MOURNING SIGN/MOURNING SIGN (Godhead) A decent slab of speed/thrash metal that in ruined by some generic vocals. The vocals sound like a million other bands, having no personality of their own. The music is decent, with the band staying at a mid paced level and then kicking it into high gear at times. Not bad, except for the vocals.

SAINT VITUS/DIE HEALING (Noise) Sadly, this will be the last new release by this band as they have broken up after a long career. This a fine slab of doom metal done St Vitus style. Lots of bands have been influenced by this band & it is no wonder why. Listen to this disc and you can tell how much of a influence they have been on many bands. Although, I enjoy the bands earlier works the best, this is a damn fine slab of doom that no fan should be without. I also saw these guys live 2 x and they were great both times, especially with Black Flag.

KRABATHOR/LIES (MOR) Bone crushing riffs and more riffs. This band as most newer bands, is not doing a hell of a lot in the originality dept, but this is a worthy purchase anyway. Some deadly speed/death metal is found within this disc. Vocals are aggressive and heavy and non generic. If you like speed with your death metal, you will love this. Info: Postfach 3 D-03114 Drebkau Germany. For other reviews on Morbid Record releases see the new issue of Ballbuster mag. Available through Metal Core Distro.

OPPRESSOR/AS BLOOD FLOWS (Megalithic) This Cd has 5 live tunes (that sound great), a killer version of Motley's Crue's "Looks That Kill" and the bands demo they released a few yrs ago on this as well. Oppressor are a semi technical death band with very low death metal vocals. Oppressor can play with the best of them and they sound great live to boot. I'm sure there will be a new full length Lp in 1996. For info on how to get this Cd write: 116 E Pleasant St Suite 200 Milwaukee, WI 53212

THE GATHERING/MANDYLION (Century Media) This is the 3rd release for this band and it is also their 3rd singer as well. I loved the bands first LP, hated the 2nd and I love this new one. The band has a female vocalist and she is the best female singer I have heard. She fits this band like a new pair of pants. Music is more in vein of the first disc, beautiful, haunting doom played with total feeling. My fav song is "Strange Machine" the song just flows and drags me in. A absolute must have. This band and Cd rule. Simple as that. Nuff said.

DISMEMBER/MASSIVE KILLING CAPACITY (Relapse) I have mixed feelings on this 1. I have enjoyed the bands past works and I liked most of this one as well. The band still churn out Swedish death metal and have gotten rid of the Entombed tag, but some of the wimpy parts on some of the songs had my head scratching. I know bands have to progress etc and all that, but is progression playing lame wimpy riffs? If you have enjoyed Dismember in the past you will still like this for the most part as I did. I just hope this band doesn't go down the same path as their buddies in Entombed.

SIX FEET UNDER/HAUNTED (Metal Blade) I'm sure most of you will think I will give this disc a glowing review cause they took my band on the road and they are on Metal Blade. Wrong. Any band that gets a good review earns it the hard way: Cause I like them. I have seen the band live out in Milwaukee last year and I must say I like Chris's vocals a lot more here than on any Cannibal Corpse LPs. I do prefer Cannibal Corpse's music over this musical outfit though. The music is somewhat in the Obituary mode as one would expect and also some of the older Death sound is found within the disc as well. In my overall opinion I think this is a good death metal release and now that is not a side project anymore I'm sure the band will get better with time. I wish their were some more speedy parts, but that is just me.

SINISTER/HATE (Relapse) I have seen some reviews saying how great and brutal this Lp was and you know what, they were right. This is some fast and brutal music. Riffs have that windmill style that I love. Vocals are sick, aggressive and the way death metal should be. This is a prime example of 100% non trendy death metal. Bands take note: this is the way death metal should be. Fuck off to those who say death metal is dead. Give this disc a listen and tell me death metal is dead, I don't think so.

THOUGHT INDUSTRY/OUTER SPACE IS JUST A MARTINI AWAY (Metal Blade) This is like a weirder version of Primus without the funk. At the same time it is some cool, wacky, spaced out music, not far removed from Voivod. 14 tunes that will have your head shaking and your foot tapping. This is one tough disc to describe and I say buy this and check it out for yourself. For the open minded only.

IMMOLATION/HERE IN AFTER (Metal Blade) Take my word for it & buy this death metal masterpiece ok.

REIGN/EMBRACE (Mausoleum) A half decent thrash band that is ruined by a vocalist who has no range at all. He sings with a rappy voice that loses it's steam before the 2nd song. The songs are way too long and it takes too long for the songs to develop. I can't see this band making any kind of dent in the scene today.

MOURN/MOURN (Rise Above) Yes, this is Lee Dorian's label and you can get these releases through Flying Records here in the US now. This is a excellent doom outfit, who write some killer riffs that will have your head banging like the old days. The band has a female vocalist and she sings in a normal clear voice that fits this doom band perfect. If you love Sabbath, Cathedral and bands of that type you will love this, I did.

MEDUSA OBLONGADA/MEDUSA OBLONGADA (Megalithic) A bad thrash band with a bad production. The band uses a drum machine that sounds ok, but the bass is too high in the mix and the vocals are just plain awful. The singer just screams out the words with little or no feeling. The band try to add some industrial sounds to the mix, but it doesn't matter as this release can't be saved. Save your money and get something else.

BEYOND/REASSEMBLE (Pavement) This band used to be called Demented Ted and they were a decent thrash/speed metal band. The band has changed their name and their style. They have added a bit of industrial to their style and I don't like it at all. It seems this band is trying to play what it is 'in' at the moment and not play what it is in their hearts. They curse and throw in some Ministry riffs and it fails. Pass on this as well.

INSANITY/PHOBIA (Heavy Metal Rock) Some decent thrash with a bit of the old school vocal style thrown as well. The band does speed up at times, ripping to a hardcore mold as well. If you like some of the older punk and hardcore bands mixed in with a bit of metal thrown in then write to H.M.R., address elsewhere.

METAL MASSACRE XII (Metal Blade) 15 bands are on the 12th installment of this series. As with all the other other 11, this one has some great bands & some average ones. The good by far out weigh the bad. Some of the best are: Ancient, Avernus, Crisis, And Christ Wept, and Paingod. This is a great way to check out so of the best new upcoming underground bands.

ABSURD EXISTENCE/ANGELWINGS (Force) This is a bad band, they remind me of a bad version of Pro Pain. The music is like old thrash metal that has worn out it's welcome like a old shirt. Vocals are gruffy and lack any substance. Production is the only good thing I could find. A band that I hope we won't be hearing from much in the future. Info: Landsberger Strasse 87 80339 Muchen Germany

ABSU/THE SUN OF TIPHARETH (Osmose) After seeing these guys live 2x on their US tour I was looking forward to hearing this new studio offering. This is different than the first one in some ways and the same in others. The music is more in the older vein, bands like Sodom, Immolation, and bands of that nature come to mind. They also mix in the modern black metal sound to make a interesting combo together. This is a better release than the first one and any serious underground fan should buy this now.

25 TA LIFE/KEEPIN IT REAL (We Bite America) 6 tunes of modern hardcore with tunes of moshy, dancy parts that I'm sure stir up some vicious pits when these guys play live. The tunes are all simple, catchy numbers that you will either love or hate. If you like bands like the Crumbsuckers or Biohazard and bands in that style you will love these guys. Info: 1837 W Fulton St Chicago, IL 60612

TORTURE KRYPT/ROTTED REMNANTS (Wild Rags) I'm sure most or all of the readers of this zine have heard of this band. After 2 demos the band releases this Mcd. This Cd rips, kills, and destroys. The band have gotten a great production and it shows on this disc. John's sick vocals really shine as do the fast blazing parts. 5 tunes that will knock the house down for sure. \$10 to Wild Rags or to Metal Core distro.

SCATTERED REMNANTS/INHERENT PERVERSION (Self Release) This band has changed for the better. Before, they used to be another one of those Suffocation clone bands, but with the release of this Cd, they have worked on and have gotten their own sound. The band mix up the speed and the slow parts quite well. The fast parts fly by at a million miles an hour, but they are not noise. The slow parts are killer as well, heavy as fuck. This Cd is a steal at \$7 to: PO BOX 814 Fitchburg, MA 01420

DERANGED/SCULPTURE OF THE DEAD (Repulse) This is one of the best death metal bands I have ever heard from across the ocean. This is some fast, heavy and brutal music. The vocals are growly, nasty and just plain rule. Ten tunes to rip out your brain and turn it inside out. The band do a killer cover of a Rolling Stones tune and you will have to get this to find out what it is. A must get if you are into death metal.

EVIL GOD REVIVAL/FROM THE HEART OF DARKNESS (Rofocale) After a pretty decent demo this band returns with a full length Cd. The band has improved 100% in all areas. The playing and the songs have matured and Jerry sounds much more improved on the mic. The music is more in the death metal vein, but they still have that gothic edge and this Cd just plain rules. For ordering info, see ad. This band is one of the best new upcoming bands in this area and that is no bull.

THE STORM HAS BEGUN/THE STORM HAS BEGUN (Storm Records) A 8 band comp of bands from Malta. Not all of the bands are death metal, the first band, Norm Rejection is more in the Dream Theatre vein. Of course there is plenty of death metal in the form of: Beheaded and Forsaken. Cd includes lyrics and it is a cool way to check out some bands from over the sea. Storm Rec: 15 Nat Tabone Street Sliema Malta

DELUSION/BEHOLD (Sport of Kings) 3 tunes of semi technical death metal that pounds and pounds. The band isn't doing a lot in the original dept, but they don't sound like just one band and that is good. The band write some interesting riffs that had my head banging and my face smiling. The vocals it is also pretty cool, he spits out the words in true death metal style. Info: 656 High St #105 Clinton, MA 01510

ERUPTION/ERUPTION (Storm) More comp stuff and this isn't as death metal oriented as the other comp above. Some cool metal and progressive bands on this comp. I tell you there is some good, talented bands on this Cd. My fav was Brainstorm and Nightwing. Address is above.

POSSESSION/ETERNALLY HAUNT (Metal Merchant) Some killer old style metal with a touch of thrash thrown in to round things off. One of the best bands around doing this style. 10 tunes that will have you banging your head and bringing back your spiked belts. Any true headbanger will want this Cd in their collection. Get this through the band at: PO BOX 3031 Olathe, KS 66063-1031

RITUAL/THE SUMMONING & MORNINGSTAR/RIVENDELL (Wild Rags) Due to lack of space I am reviewing these 2 discs together. Ritual play black metal with some nice chops and originality. They don't sound like Bathory either. M.S. play cheesy, generic black metal with some of the worst vocals I have heard in awhile. M.S. use tired lame riffs as well. Buy the Ritual disc. Wild Rags address in distro section.

LAST MINUTE REVIEWS

Below are some review I either missed the first time around or last minute things I got just before deadline. Enjoy.

CANDIRIA/DEEP IN THE MENTAL 7"(Devastating records) 2 songs as only this great original death metal band can do it. There is some weird time changes and the vocals are very different, but very powerful at the same time. The band are one of the best unsigned underground bands at the moment. The band has a full length release that I will be reviewing next issue. See ad for more info on this release.

HATRED/DAZE OF DARKNESS-Some killer black metal with a touch of old school death metal floating in it's veins. This is not like Darkthrone or Bathory type black metal it is a very original style of black metal. They mix up the speed quite well and the black metal screaming on vocals sound cool on this tape. If your looking for some non trendy black metal done the old way, look no further. Info: PO BOX 10264 Alexandria, VA 10264

BESIEGED/1995 TAPE-I listened to this a couple of times and I thought this was ok. The music is death metal mixed in with some thrash, but the generic death metal, Suffocation like growls just ruin this for me. The band do have the tools as they can write some decent tunes, but the have to work on getting the vocalist to try to something original with his voice. Info: 7618 Lowland Ln Knoxville, Tenn 37920

AUTOPSIA MORTAL/REHEARSAL SESSIONS-5 death tunes with a ok sound for a rehearsal tape. The band blast and grind out the 5 tunes on this tape. You would ill advised to get the bands demo however as the production is better and you can hear the tunes better. If you like fast, blasting music whip out \$3 to: Wicked World Balboa 116 Mayaguez, P.R. 00680

SPIRITUALLY DECEASED-1995 TAPE-Another one of many one man bands that are popping up in the underground these days. This isn't too band for a one man band. The production is kinda weak and the guitar sound could be louder. The drums sound great and I couldn't even tell that it was a drum machine. The riffs are basic and too get too repetitious at times. Not bad and I'm sure the man Sarjoo will get better. Info: 18429 Prairie St #4 Northridge, CA 91325

WITHIN/THE UNACCEPTED-As with their buddies Withered Earth this is some damn brutal death metal from upstate NY. I have also had the pleasure of seeing these guys live and they put 100% into their live show. The demo prod. is right on and this tape just plain rules as far as death metal music. One of the best death metal bands and those non trendy vocala scored points with yours truly as well. Info: 56 Durand Blvd Rochester, NY 14622

TORGUE/MEASURE OF FORCE (I.C.B.M.) This is a new label out of Florida and what a nice little find we have here. This is not the same Torgue from CA which has former members of Violence in it. This some kickin thrash played with the power of a speed boat going 500 miles per hour. This stuff smokes like a tornado had full force. They remind me a bit of older Sacred Reigh with a touch of Pantera with heavier vocals. This a super release and the band will be touring in the summer. Pick this up and prepare to be crushed. Info: 7303 7th Ave Bradenton, FL 34209

KEET/DARK HOPE-Some killer industrial sounds with a brutal underground edge to it. Yet it sounds nothing like NIN or Godflesh or Ministry. The drum machine sounds fantastic and the vocals are screamed with a vengeance. This threw me for a loop as I expected something different. A very unusual, but enjoyable tape. Not for the weak. See ad for ordering info. Don't let the ad fool you this is some hard hitting music I assure you.

GLUTTER/SYMPHONY OF DEATH-8 tunes of death metal with a simple but effective death metal sound. The vocalist growls out the tunes as the riffs play behind him. I'll tell you this music is simple, but the band is pretty damn good. The riffs are heavy, catchy and have a certain thrashy edge that caught my ear. Not a bad band from Canada. \$5 to me or: 5145 RR #1 SUD St-HYACINTHE QUEBEC CANADA J2S 8B1

TRAGEDY/1995 tape-4 tunes of older style power metal that had me banging my head Good strong guitar playing and vocals that stand on their own make this a heavy metal delight. Impressive. Info: PO BOX 4612 Covina, CA 91724

CREMATE/ENCHANTING BLACK RECESS 7"-Excellent death metal in the vein of older Voivod and vocals like older Kreator. Riffs that tickle my spine and are original. Great band. Info: XANTHIS 26 17456 ANO KALAMAKI ATHENS GREECE

HIGH DEFIANCE/SOULS OF NO COLOR 7"-Cool hardcore with a touch of metal. Gruff and growly are the vocals. Musicwise, newer Crumbsuckers without the technical riffs come to mind. Info: PO BOX 103 Astor Station Boston, MA 02123

DEATHRUNE

INTERVIEW WITH VOCALIST KELLY IZQUIERDO

HAVE YOU LIVED IN YONKERS ALL YOUR LIFE? IF SO, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE LIVING CONDITIONS? WILL YOU OR DO YOU EVER PLAN ON MOVING? "I've lived in Yonkers for only 4 years now and I'd have to say it is pretty cool. I was born in Manhattan and grew up in the Bronx. I occasionally hung out in Yonkers, but never thought I'd live there. Since I moved here, I've met a shitload of new people and ended up joining Deathrune in August of 1993. Yonkers is definitely a far cry from the Bronx. There is a huge change in scenery, but there is some areas here that remind me a lot of the Bronx. I definitely see myself moving, but not anytime soon. I think I'll be here for a while. I feel very comfortable here."

HOW WERE YOUR CHILDHOOD YEARS? WERE YOU A GOOD LITTLE BOY IN SCHOOL? ANY BROTHERS OR SISTERS? DID YOU AND DO YOU STILL GET ALONG WITH YOUR PARENTS? "Well, when my parents were together I was pretty innocent. Did what I was told, did great in school and showed respect when I was supposed to. When my parents split up when I was 9 years old, I slowly began to change. I turned into this little bastard who didn't care about school, never listened to my mother and just hated life itself and was always depressed. I started seeing counselors the day after my 10th birthday and it lasted a couple years. So basically, I was a fuck up all through junior high and high school. I now live with my father who I've always got along with, and is surely one of my best friends. I finally began to get along with my mother when I moved out 4 years ago. I've always got along with my brother Joey whose 7 years older than me."

WHAT KIND OF PERSON WERE YOU IN HIGH SCHOOL? DO YOU STILL HANG OUT WITH ANY HIGH SCHOOL FRIENDS? DO YOU OR ARE YOU GOING TO COLLEGE? "Like I said before, I was a major fuck-up. Cutting class, doing drugs, and hanging out was my thing. I was such a truant that I decided to drop out and get my G.E.D. I still hang out with a couple of my high school buddies, but not very often. We've all gone our separate ways and some of them went to college, which is not and never my thing. People try telling me to think about going, but I don't want to go for anyone else. If I go, it will be for myself and no one else. I'm doing all right for now."

WERE YOU IN ANY BANDS BEFORE DEATHRUNE? IF SO, WHAT WERE THE BANDS LIKE? DID THEY RECORD ANYTHING? "I was in a little bullshit band in 1990, but it didn't last very long. One minute we'll sound like Napalm Death and next day like Slayer. It was totally ridiculous. We recorded rehearsals, but nothing more than that. I always wanted to be in a band that fit my style of music and I was not in that situation. I never talk about it at all."

HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED ANY INSTRUMENTS? HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT PLAYING ANY INSTRUMENTS? DOES YOUR THROAT EVER GIVE YOU ANY PROBLEMS AFTER A SHOW? WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE SINGERS? "I took guitar lessons for about a year and gave it up. I was too lazy to practice when my tutor wasn't around and I thought it was taking me too long for me to learn anything. My vocals were always there though. I've always wanted to practice banging away. I could always do blast beats, but nothing else. Death metal is not all blast beats. True death metal that is. I never have problems with my throat unless I am sick or something. Other than that, I'm very comfortable with my vocal style. There have been a couple of occasions where I had too many drinks before our set and I force my vocals a little and I can't talk after we play. My vocal influences are mostly guys who have changed their style a bit. People like Jorgen (Grave) during "Into the Grave", L.G. (Entombed) during "Left Hand Path". Those were some brutal vocal jobs. I really don't have any favorites nowadays. There is a lot of good vocalists out there."

WHAT EARLY COVER TUNES DID DEATHRUNE DO? HOW DID THE BAND MEMBERS COME TOGETHER? WHAT MEMBER CHANGES HAVE YOU HAD AND DID THE OTHER MEMBERS COME FROM OTHER BANDS? DO YOU FEEL THIS LINE-UP WILL STAY TOGETHER? "We fucked around with "Black Embrace" by Amorphis (when they were good), but never got it down. The only one we got totally down was "Lunatic of God's Creation" by Decide. We only did it at practices and never live. We don't plan on it. We've recently been talking about doing a Celtic Frost cover, but I don't know what will become of it. Chris knew the rest of the guys from bands that played with Deathrune in the past and asked them to try out. Mike and Diego came from a band called Septum and Dennis from Infestation. I knew Chris a little longer doing mail and shit like that.

THE REST OF KELLY'S ANSWER AND THE INTERVIEW CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE!!!

"We became drinking buddies and he had heard my vocals before and he called me the night I got pistol whipped by 2 cops and he asked me to try out. We all just clicked together at my try out and we made it official on a very hot August day in 1993. Chris had such bad luck with the other line ups and just got fed up with their weak styles. He was very happy about hooking up with us. We're all great friends and all want the same thing with this band, so we will be together for a long time."

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON SOME EARLY SONGS THAT YOU WROTE AND YOUR FIRST DEMO TAPE? DO YOU PLAY ANY OF THESE SONGS LIVE? "I think you're talking about "Beneath The Cypress Groves" Are ya Chris? **NO I WAS NOT.** "Anyway we really don't acknowledge that demo, but we still do play the title track which is also on "Memories of the Exhumed" and is a favorite of many people. We try to play that song every show we play. People really like the song and know it well. That makes us feel great."

HOW DOES A SONG COME TOGETHER? DO YOU WRITE THE MUSIC OR THE LYRICS FIRST? WHO WRITES MOST OF THE LYRICS? DO YOU FEEL AS THE SINGER THAT YOU SHOULD WRITE THE LYRICS? " Well, usually someone will come up with some cool riffs and then somebody else will. We'll put some riffs we have wrote in the past that were never used and try to fit them together. They don't always fit, so we'll chuck them for later and then finish the music. The lyrics are then penned by Chris to fit the feel of the song and there it is. We'll make some last minute changes, but nothing major. We try to make the song sound as close to perfect as we can get it. I always have the urge to write some lyrics, but I'm not good in that department. Maybe in the future. I have such a fucked up mind from so many years of depression and agony, but I have a major problem putting on paper. I don't know why. Nonetheless, I have no problem with Chris's lyrics cuz I like them so much."

WHAT WERE SOME OF THE EARLY SHOWS THAT YOU PLAYED? WHO DID YOU PLAY WITH, CLUB NAMES, HOW WAS THE TURNOUT ETC? "We played many local shows in Westchester in places like The Low Down, The Rocker Room, Spanky's (RIP), and even a outdoor show in Tibbets Park. A couple in Brooklyn and Manhattan. Most of the shows were with local bands especially with a band from Yonkers called Malignancy who are good friends of ours. In the past, shows with bands like: Immolation, Incantation, Suffocation, Mortician and many others, before I was even in the band. As for when I joined, the turnouts were pretty good. Sometimes the crowds would consist of friends only and it would be pretty weird. We put in 100 % nonetheless. I think our first real break is when we opened up for Morbid Angel and Crowbar. Many doors opened after that show."

DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU DID ALL YOU COULD AS FAR AS PROMOTION FOR YOUR 2ND DEMO? WHAT WILL YOU DO DIFFERENTLY WITH YOUR NEW RELEASE? WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE TAPE AT THIS TIME? "I think we did everything we could possibly do at the time promotion wise. We really busted our balls pushing "Memories of the Exhumed". We spent a lot of time and money trying to get the name out and it payed off. The fact that we had so much support from fans and other bands really helped. We are so fuckin grateful. The true people have really stuck by us. We're going to try to do even more promotion for our Ep if it is all possible. It also helps that Wild Rags has really been pushing us and from what I understand, this is nothing compared to the promotion we'll receive when it is released on Cd. We won't make any major changes with promotion, since we did very well with the demo. Like the say "if it isn't broke don't fix it". You know what I am saying. I think this release will do even better. As long as we stick together, continue to get support and deal with the true mother fuckers like you and many others, we should do just fine. Death to non believers." When I listen to that demo I can't stand it for some reason. I guess it is because our newer material is so much better than listening to our old stuff is unbearable. I've grown to like it again of late. The people like it and that is what really counts. Who cares what I think."

TELL THE READERS A BIT ABOUT YOUR 2ND DEMO. HOW MANY COPIES WERE SOLD AND YOUR COMMENTS ON THE PEOPLE THAT SAY THE COVER IS RIP OFF OF CIANIDE COVER? "Memories of the Exhumed" was recorded after only 2 months of us being together and was done by Roger of Mortician. We were happy with it then and still are even though we have gotten much better and more brutal. We promoted the shit out of it and sold 1500 copies worldwide. We received many great reviews and orders that it only made us more anxious about recording again. We saw the Cianide cover long after releasing "Memories"...so it wasn't intentional. Anyway, they use only a small section of the painting and we used the whole thing, so those people calling us a rip off should open their eyes and shut their mouths. The only ones who have any right to say something like that is Cianide themselves and they haven't contacted any us. So if they haven't said anything, why should someone else? We're totally against rip offs of all kinds. So for those people who judged us, Sorry. Now shut up!"

INTERVIEW WITH DEATHRUNE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE.

DO YOU THINK THAT THE DEATH METAL SCENE IS SHRINKING AND IS GOING BACK TO BEING UNDERGROUND? DO YOU THINK DEATH METAL IS DEAD? WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE RISE OF BLACK METAL BANDS AND ZINES? "I surely don't think its shrinking with all the fuckin bands coming out now playing death/black/grind metal. So many of them are very good, but theres a lot of shitty bands out there also. I mean the scene is very overcrowded that it is very difficult to stand out these days. Its going back to being more underground I think. Its also a shame that a lot of great bands from years past are changing their style so drastically that sometimes it seems as though its a total underground scene. I definitely think a lot of these underground bands should continue to work hard and make a name for themselves, without going overboard. As long as theres bands staying underground, death metal should live longer. It is very easy for someone to say death metal is dead. The fact that certain tours didn't do so well recently and that crowds and sales have gone down a little is not very good. Its fake bands and fake fans that don't support their local scene are ruining it for the people who try so hard to keep it alive. We have to do our best to get these people away from our scene so that we can continue our fight. They can watch Mtv all they want. As long as death metal scene has bands and fans that are loyal, death metal will have a long life. Sometimes it seems as though theres no hope, but that only makes people like us stronger and make us work harder. Death metal has to live in your heart, mind and soul to continue. If thats the case, death metal will never fully die out. Only the weak die. I'm personally a fan of Norwegian and Swedish black metal. There are only a couple of US black metal bands that I'm into. I think many people are jumping on the black metal bandwagon just to say they are doing something different or just a excuse to have a evil image. If you have a evil mind, you will no matter what. I give black metal a huge amount of respect and there should be even more zines dedicated to it. (The only problem with that is those same zines won't support you cause you don't wear corpse paint and play death metal and not black metal-ed) I hope it gets even stronger as much as death metal. It doesn't help to have almost all the great Norwegian bands in prison for stupid crimes like Emperor and Burzum. The Count killing Euronymous, Faust killed a homosexual, Samoth burning down one of the largest churches in Norway and other great things like that. I also read an interview Bard Eithun (Faust of Emperor) where he said he has special plans for Varg Vikernes (Count Grischneck) when he is released from prison. I hope they don't wind up going in circles over there. Instead, focus on their music. Either there in jail or they are killing each other. Oh well. Their personal problems have nothing to do with their musical talents." **TO SOMEBODY WHO HAVE NEVER HEARD YOUR MUSIC, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE IT? A PERSON SHOULD BUY A DEATHRUNE TAPE OR CD BECAUSE: YOU FINISH THE ANSWER.** "We're basically a more of an older style of death metal band with many touches of newer style of death metal. One minute a slow grinding, crunchy part and then out of nowhere, some total all out speed. Mixing it up to keep it dark and brutal. I've heard people compare us to a lot of bands, but the more I hear, the more I know its hard for people to define our style. Okay, a person should buy a Deathrune tape or Cd because we are a band that knows what the fuck we're doing. Nothing trendy involved, just straight forward dark and heavy brutal death metal more in the older death metal vein with hints of modern death metal without going overboard. With interesting changes that keep people on their toes waiting to hear whats next. A band that always progress without leaving their death metal roots. Keep it heavy forever." **DO YOU TRADE TAPES WITH OTHER BANDS? WHAT NEW RECORDS HAVE CAUGHT YOUR EAR? NAME SOME GOOD SIGNED AND UNSIGNED BANDS THAT MY READERS SHOULD CHECK OUT? DO YOU FEEL THAT THERE IS LITTLE ORIGINALITY LEFT IN THE UNDERGROUND?** "Definitely. I trade with many bands and have ran across many great bands who work fuckin hard. I've also made many great friends that way. Back in '90 of so, I used to trade videos and got many contacts. It got way to expensive so I stopped. I still trade demos and stuff like that. As far as records go, I love the latest: Emperor, Ancient, Internal Bleeding, Torture Krypt, Decrepit, Morpheus Descends, Deranged, Decide, Broken Hope, Immolation promo, Horror of Horrors, Vader, Ceremonium an many more. Demos by: Mortal Decay, Hellbound, Immortal Suffering, Corpse Vomit, Witch Hunt, Embalmer, and more. New Kataklysm is a killer as well. People should check out the above bands plus, Decay, Human Remains, Dying Fetus, Droghead, Doom Formation, Legion, Descend, Afterbirth and too many more to mention. Its very difficult to be totally original these days, but there are bands who are taking it to the edge with their sound and style that its very good stuff. As long as bands stay heavy." **DO YOU PLAN ON GETTING MANAGEMENT ONE DAY? HOW MUCH TIME DOES THE BAND TAKE OUT OF YOUR WEEK? HOW MANY DAYS DO YOU PRACTISE?** **KELLY'S ANSWER AND THE DEATHRUNE INTERVIEW CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE!!!**

LET'S TALK ABOUT A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOUR WILD RAGS RELEASE? WHERE DID YOU RECORD IT AT IT AND WHAT DID YOU DO DIFFERENTLY THIS TIME IN THE STUDIO THAT YOU DIDN'T DO LAST TIME? WILL THE CD VERSION HAVE ANY EXTRA SONGS ON IT? Where did we record it huh? Well, we did it at Vortex Sound which is operated by Jim Forbes which you know is your brother. We were very pleased with the production and the treatment we received while we were recording. Jim put a lot of his own input into the recording of the Ep. The guy knows whats up. One important thing we did this time with the recording. For some strange reason or another, we really rushed "Memories of the Exhumed". It probably would have sounded much better if we took out time with it. Anyway, we were rested and in the right state of mind going into the studio. We were definitely ready to put 200% into it and make sure everything was the way we wanted it. The surrounding were also much better for the Ep as opposed to the demo. Much more professional. We knew we were doing good and we physically and mentally drained after each day. Same thing goes for shows. If we don't come off stage gasping for air and water, were not happy. The Ep will be released on Cd sometime in January, the 15th to be exact. The Cd will have 2 extra tracks, those being "Beneath the Cypress Groves" & "Forgotten Path" both from the "Memories" tape.

HOW ARE YOU AND WILD RAGS GOING TO PROMOTE THIS RELEASE? WILL YOU BE GETTING ANY SHIRTS MADE UP? HOW DID YOU GO ABOUT GETTING SIGNED TO WILD RAGS? DO YOU FEEL THE CONTRACT IS A FAIR ONE? WILL YOU WORK WITH WILD RAGS AGAIN? WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE STORIES OF WILD RAGS BEING A RIP OFF? "Well since its only available on tape right now at the moment and there were only a 1000 printed up, the promotion is nothing compared to the promotion it'll receive when it is released on Cd. In the meantime though, ads have been placed in some zines and a few distros are carrying it like yours and Stage 3 Promotions. Not to say that were not pushing the tape or anything like that. It's just that the Cd will be pushed a 1000 times stronger. About our shirts, well our first design we put out after the demo sold out, but that was because we didn't print many. We had our new ones ready to be made, but when it was given to the company, they ran in to some sort of problem that I'm not updated on, which has pissed us off quite a bit. It's just that 'black cloud' over our heads again. We hope for them to be out around the same time as the Cd. The Wild Rags interest came after distributing "Remain...as a promo tape. Richard got hold of one and was impressed and decided to give us a licensing offer. We thought about it for awhile and agreed that it was a fair enough contract to sign. So far, Richard has come through with things that were promised and seems very happy about the Cd release. I think it is a little too early to determine whether or not we will work with W.W.R. in the future, but so far everything is going well. Richard has been treating us fairly and I don't understand all the stories that are being told. I always listen to them cuz it is only fair to listen to someone's opinion, but like I said, we're being treated well and theres no trace of him being a rip off."

YOU HAVE BEEN PLAYING SOME OUT OF STATE SHOWS RECENTLY. HOW HAVE THEY BEEN GOING AND DO YOU PLAN ON DOING A LOT OF THEM IN 1996? "They have gone pretty well although we'd like to play more out of state shows than we have been doing. 1996 should be a totally different story all together. The International Metal Fest in Tenn was kind of a disappointment turn out wise, but we thought we played very well, people loved us and we basically had a blast all weekend. We'd probably do it again in a heartbeat. Montreal is the fuckin greatest. The is so stronger up there right now and from what I understand, it was even stronger a couple of years ago. We hope to hit Montreal and many other cities in 1996 so look out."

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS AFTER THIS TAPE HAS BEEN PUSHED AS FAR AS YOU CAN PUSH IT? HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON PUSHING IT FOR? SPREADING ADS OR PLAYING LIVE, WHICH DO FEEL IS MORE IMPORTANT? "I don't believe in pushing a release too much so theres absolutely no limit for pushing the Ep. We'll push this until the next one is ready to be unleashed. Until then, we want to play to as many people as we possibly can and play out often. Maybe Remain Forever Entangled" is a sign of better things to come. At least we hope. We feel pretty confident though. Its tough to really say which one is better. We've had a great response both through both, but I think that you can spread a million ads, but if you don't play out, theres always going to be that major thing missing. You have to let people experience you on stage playing your balls off to let them know you mean business and that you're serious about what you are doing. Both by mail and by ads, you're gonna get people very interested in hearing your material on Cd or tape. If they get a hold of your stuff, they are gonna want to see you live if they like you. You owe it to them."

THE INTERVIEW WITH DEATHRUNE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE!!!

THE FANZINE SECTION OF METAL CORE FANZINE

Below is a list of zines that I trade with. Please support all these zines as they all could use your help. Any bands or labels out there, these zines would love to have you send your promo stuff for review, so get up off your butt and do it. All these zines are open to do zine trades with other fanzines. All zines are \$4 unless noted otherwise.

CURSED-50 WINTHROP AVE WEST WARWICK, RI 02893
NEPTUNE-PO BOX 770 TOWNSEND, MA 01469
GLOVES OF METAL-PO BOX 3102 BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702-3102 \$3
HEAD STRONG-210 MR B'S ESTATE BISMARCK, ND 58501
CORROSION-R.R. #4 TOTTENHAM ONTARIO CANADA LOG 1WO
PAGAN PAGES-PO BOX 101 SUMMIT, IL 60501
CORPORAL ARTS-1-26-3-204 MIYAGI ADACHI-KU TOKYO 120 JAPAN \$5
LOUD FAST RUDE-12905 SE STARK ST PORTLAND, OR 97233
CRASS MENAGERIE-356 N 23-3 EPHRAIM, UT 84627 SASE
UNDERGROUND SOUNDS-1696 OLD MILL RD MARYSVILLE, PA 17053 \$3
METAL MIX-2601 OLD 14A PENN YAN, NY 14527-8703 SASE
TROUT FISHING-PO BOX 186 MAGILL 5072 SOUTH AUSTRALIA \$5
LOUD & PROUD-329 MAIN ST #4 NASHUA, NH 03060
VOICES FROM THE DARKSIDE-PO BOX 210 212 28222 BREMEN GERMANY \$5
SUBVERSIVE AGENDA-2230 GATEWAY OAKS #129 SACRAMENTO, CA 95833 \$3
UNDER THE BLADE-RR-3 BOX 635-F HAZARD, KY 41701
DREADED-3458 MONARCH DR DECATUR, IL 62526
VIOLENT HEAD-13918 LYNHURST DR WOODBRIDGE, VA 22193
DESCENT-17125 HILLSIDE DR NE SEATTLE, WA 98155 \$6
THE WILD RAG-2207 W WHITTIER BLVD MONTEBELLO, CA 90640 \$2
OPEN GRAVE-PO BOX 692814 STOCKTON, CA 95269-2814 \$5
RUBBERNECK-PO BOX 486 VINELAND, NJ 08360 \$3
STATIC-115 E RIVER RD KAWKAWLIN, MI 48631
ETERNAL DARKNESS-830 S DOBSON RD MESA, AZ 85202
MOVEMENTS-177 N INDIANA ST MOORESVILLE, IL 46158 \$2
CORRODING CORPSES-711 FOREST AVE S.W. APT #2 CANTON, OHIO 44709-3930 \$2
SPYGLASS-4630 FOX HOLLOW RUN EVAN MILLS, NY 13637 \$2
INNER SOURCE-PO BOX 946 DIXON, IL 61021
THE GRIMOIRE-243 ACKERMAN AVE CLIFTON, NJ 07011 \$3
SCREAMS FROM THE GUTTER-268 HILLSBOROUGH RD BELLE MEADE, NJ 08502
PLETHORA OF SOUND-11 CRESMONT DR DOVER, NJ 07801 \$2
METAL CURSE-PO BOX 302 ELK HART, IN 46615-0302 INDIANA
MORTICIAN/NUMSKULL-BOEROESTRAAT 66 3312 HD DORDRECHT THE NETHERLANDS \$6
DECOMPOZIED-68 DESGRAVES CRES WANNIASS ACT 29 03 AUSTRALIA
MID WEST METAL-120 BROADVIEW VILLAGE SQUARE SUITE #406 BROADVIEW, IL 60153
INTITUM NEWSLETTER-PINNETEAU 5 BIS LA DEMI-LUNE 60140 LIANCOURT FRANCE \$2
SIN-1350 WASHINGTON ST APT B GRAND HAVEN, MI 49417 \$3
BLOODSOAKED-#116 MAYAGUEZ, P.R. 00680
MINDSLAY-9600 MT OLIVE RD MT PLEASANT, NC 28124 \$2
SPIKED IMPALEMENT-329 TERRACE DR PAULS VALLEY, OK 73075 \$3
SENTINEL STEEL-PO BOX 123 ROCKAWAY, NJ 07866 (trash/power/heavy bands only)
A VISIONARY'S DREAM-PO BOX 215 HIGHSTOWN, NJ 08520
SPECTRUM-PO BOX 589 HUDSON, MA 01749
OCCULT GRINDER-2-12-49 MINAMI-KINOMOTO YAO OSAKA 581 JAPAN \$7
ILL LITERATURE-PO BOX 480275 LOS ANGELES, CA 90048 \$5
GALLERY OF JUDGEMENT-PO BOX 11290 CALDER SQUARE STATE COLLEGE, PA 16805 \$5
DEATHGASM-4881 STURBRIDGE CRESMONT ROSWELL, GA 30075
DIRECT ACTION-PO BOX 4061 TRENTON, NJ 08610-4061
FIBERGLASS DIAPER-166 E PROSPECT ST PORT WASHINGTON, WI 53074
SYMPOSIUM-PO BOX 1518 IOWA CITY, IA 52244
PROGRESSION/AGGRESSION-267 GILKESON, ROAD PITTSBURGH, PA 15228
PORTRAIT OF DEFIANCE-1221 N JOHNSON ST SOUTH BEND, IN 46628
HEADFUCKER-C.P. 151 25038 ROVATO BRESCIA ITALY \$5
BLACK MOON-1385 ROUTE 35 SUITE 169 MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748
DAMAGE JACKAL-620 STONECHURCH RD W #10 HAMILTON ONTARIO CANADA L9B 1V3
THE SERMON-PO BOX 233 TECUMSEH, OK 74874 \$2
DEADZONE-GRAN VIA 11 5 D 28013 MADRID SPAIN \$5
DRAWING BLOOD-PO BOX 830308 RICHARDSONX 75083-0308 \$5
BLOODLUST CREATIONS-7481 HUNTSMAN BLVD SUITE 510 SPRINGFIELD, VA 22153 \$5
UNDERGROUND ZINE SCENE-6611 MILLIGAN RD CASS CITY, MI 48726 \$2
FEVER PITCH-1108 E CAPITOL DR APPLETON, WI 54911 \$5
URBAN WARFARE-33-14 164TH ST FLUSHING, NY 11358-1442 \$3
T.R.O.A.-PO BOX 7962 J.A.F. STATION NY, NY 10116 SASE
METAMORPHOSE-214 E JACKSON CARLINVILLER, IL 62626
IAK SAKKATH-7702 CARISSA LN LAUREL, MD 20707 1 stamp
KILL YOUR DOG & GET A GUITAR-317 MCKINLEY AVE LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048 \$3
REGULAR PEOPLE-708 5TH AVE FOSTORIA, OH 44830 \$2

NECKBREAKER-217 PATHFINDER COURT FULTON, NY 13069
 BEYOND THE GRAVE-PO BOX 500107 SAN ANTONIO, TX 78280-6107
 ADRENALIN-PO BOX 143 NICHOLS, WI 54152 \$3
 KOD-182/47 97-300 PIOTRKOW TRYB POLAND \$5
 INFERNAL ARCHIVES-817 N.W. 20TH CAMAS, WA 98607
 OBSCURE TALES-APARTADO 26 2835 BX DA BANHEIRA PORTUGAL \$6
 NETHER WORDS-615 S MARGUERITA AVE ALHAMBRA, CA 91801 SASE
 SILENCED SOULS-RUOTUMIEHENKATU 5A 19 20360 TURKU FINLAND \$1
 INTOXICATED-14 GREENHILL RD BILLINGE N.R. WIGAN LANCASHIRE WN5 7LG ENGLAND
 WEIRD-6720 S NORTH CAPE RD FRANKLIN, WI 53132
 JUST ANOTHER METAL-PO BOX 922 HOMEWOOD, IL 60430
 ZERO-PO BOX 41384 MEMPHIS, TN 38174 \$2
 RECLUSE-5902 VALLEYWOOD SAN ANTONIO, TX 78250 \$3
 BRAINSTORM-PO BOX 1045 3042 KAUNAS LITHUANIA \$6
 VOX METALLUM-3804 OXBOX DR CAMP HILL, PA 17011-1447
 USENT-COTE 6 2400 LE LOCLE SWITZERLAND \$1
 MORE THAN MUSIC-1101 WALNUT STE 807 KANSAS CITY, MO 64106
 SCAPEGOAT-PO BOX 36121 LA, CA 90036-0121 \$5
 EDGE OF TIME-JUSTINISKIU 73-1 2056 VILNIUS LITHUANIA \$5
 BIZARRE DOMINATION-711 GOBIN DR CARLISLE, PA 17013
 PULL THE CHAIN-AV VAL ST GEORGES 89 5000 NAMUR BELGIUM \$6
 ABSCEADANT STRAINS-10651 E TIMELESS DR TUCSON, ARIZONA 85748 SASE
 TIN BEAN-7918 NW 21 F-11 BETHANY, OK 73008
 HORROR SHOW-36 W 37TH ST HIALEAH, FL 33012 \$3
 DER TOTE ESEL-2949 HWY 52W #33B WEST LAFAYETTE, IN 47906-5543 \$3
 HELF FROST-9933 W ARGONNE DR MILWUKEE, WI 53222
 LEFT TO ROT-2627 N 45TH AVE #1053 PHX, AZ 85035
 SUFFERMASS-PO BOX 6441 LAWTON, OK 73506
 REAL SICKNESS-11539 TEMEPA RD PALA, CA 92059 \$3
 WORM GEAR-PO BOX 426 MAYFIELD, MI 49666 \$5
 NO COMPASSION-DRAMA STR QORMI QRM 06 MALTA \$5
 LAMENTATION-7187 MAJOS VII U 22 HUNGARY \$5
 GRAVEN IMAGE-70 RODIMAN AVE FITCHBURG, MA 01420
 ++++++
 DISTRIBUTION SECTION-SEND A STAMP OR 2 IRCS (Unless otherwise noted)
 REPULSE-PO BOX 50562/28080 MADRID SPAIN
 C.M.D.-3841 4TH AVE #266 SAN DIEGO, CA 92103
 VISCERAL PROD-PO BOX 1142 MENTOR, OHIO 44061-1142
 HOLY-4 BD GUTENBERG 93190 LIVRY-GARGAN FRANCE
 FULL MOON-948 CALLAHAN CT LAKELAND, FL 33801
 OSMOSE-B.P. 57-62990 BEAURAINVILLE FRANCE
 MORBID METAL-1184 E 33RD ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404
 WICKED WORLD-BALBOA #116 MAYAGUEZ, PR 00680
 THE WILD RAG-po box 2207 W WHITTIER BLVD MONTEBELLO, CA 90640 \$2
 NOISE POLLUTION-166 MOONEY POND ROAD SELDEN, NY 11784
 AVULSION-4881 STURBRIDGE CRESENT, GA 30075
 RAGE-PO BOX 541520 FLUSHING, NY 11354-7520
 BEWOLF-PO BOX 442 EAGLEVILLE, PA 19403-0442
 SHIVER-BOSSEPLEINSTRAAT 6 3128 BAAL BELGIUM
 GORE STATION ONE-815 S 18TH ST #305 ARLINGTON, VA 22202
 LAST WORLD-PO BOX 626 CUMBERLAND, MD 21501-0626
 EXHUME-1615 VERA CRUZ MEMPHIS, TN 38117
 AESTHETIC-SILWOOD PERSHORE ROAD ECKINGTON WORCS WR 10 3AP ENGLAND
 ETERNAL DARKNESS-830 S DOBSON RD #50 MESA, AZ 85202
 GRINDING PEACE-PO BOX 1343 MUSKEGON, MI (\$\$\$#
 MORIBUND-PO BOX 77314 SEATTLE, WA 98177-0314 \$1
 THRASH CORNER-PO BOX 577 LAS PIEDRAS, PR 00771
 WARPED RECORDS-PO BOX 480275 RUMFORD, RI 02916 \$1
 STAGE 3 AMERICA-PO BOX 562 AURORA, OHIO 44202 \$3 for huge catalog
 BARBWIRE PROD-PO BOX 480275 LOS ANGELES, CA 90048
 CURSED PROD-PO BOX 302 ELKHART, IN 46515-0302
 PIGEONECK-PO BOX 9450 DENVER, CO 80209
 RELAPSE-PO BOX 251 MILLERSVILLE, PA 17551 \$2
 MORBID-POSTFACH 3 03114 DREBKAU GERMANY
 X RATED REC-APDO POSTAL 1-2023 CUERNAVACA C.P. 62001 MEXICO \$1
 SOUP CAN-4201 NE 3RD AVE FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33308
 ELEGY-245 LAKEVIW AVE SUITE #319 CLIFTON, NJ 07011
 =====

The above list is as complete as I could get it. It is the fanzine editor's & distros services job to keep me informed that they are still in business & still publishing a zine. You don't send a zine, your zine is taken off the list. No updated catalog or no contact, your distro service is taken off the list. Remember this service is for the readers of Metal Core fanzine and the underground. Rip offs will not tolerated and will be exposed to the readers of M.C.

Late distro address: FUNERAL MASK-PO BOX 770 TOWNSEND, MA 01469

"We've been interested in seeking management, but never really focused in on it. I think we'd like to set in a little more before we pursue that. It's definitely something we would want in the near future. We practice about 3 times a week and I personally do mail anywhere between 2 and 5 nights a week, even though I get behind often. You have to put a lot of time into your band if you're at all serious. If you don't, you'll go absolutely go nowhere and die. You have to make sure being in a band of any kind is what you want and believe in."

HOW MUCH MAIL DO YOU GET? DOES ALL THE MEMBERS ANSWER THE MAIL OR JUST ONE? DO YOU MAKE ANY MONEY OFF THE BAND AND WHAT JOBS DO YOU ALL HAVE? "Oh man, I get so much mail it's unbelievable. Sometimes it'll slow down, but not for long. Mike and I do the mail and we get a shitload from all over the world. Mike and I still get orders for our 1994 demo sometimes and it is fucked up cuz we literally have a hand full left. (I have some left for \$5-ed) We both enjoy doing mail very much though. It's one of the main reasons we sold so well and made a name for ourselves. We'll continue to do as much mail as possible cuz it's been so good to us. Why stop? We really haven't made any money, but it is still very early. We're not doing it for the money though. We are doing it for the love of music and that's what counts. If we make some money, even better. If I personally was doing it for the money, I would have quit a long time ago and I'm sure I speak for everybody in Deathrune on that. As far as work goes, I was an assistant manager at a pharmacy in the Bronx and worked there for 4 years and quit in Nov of '94 and haven't worked since. I'm still looking though. Chris worked at Tower Records for awhile and quit to work as a security guard to kick some ass, ha ha ha!!! Diego was working in a bagel shop for awhile, but quit for no reason. I guess he didn't like spreading cream cheese for old people. Fuck it, it's a job. Dennis is a self employed tattoo artist who by the way, did all of the bands ink. That's one of his true loves. He really doesn't like working for anybody else. It's funny, Mike has been working for awhile now and I'm not totally sure of what he does. I think it's something with washing machines, dishwashers and shit like that. I'm not very sure."

PLANS FOR 1996? WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACCOMPLISH AS A BAND? HOW LONG DOES THE BAND PLAN ON STICKING IT OUT? Play as many shows as possible and get as many fans as we can. Push the Ep until it's time to hit the studio again. Gain more interest from bigger labels to possibly release a couple of full lengths and get it to people all over the world. Until then, we're gonna continue to work hard and do what we're doing now. We have to work for what we want. We'll stick to it till it's no hope anymore and its time to pack it up. That's not anytime soon, so we're here to stay. We're a strong hearted group of guys who don't give up on anything, especially Deathrune, and we don't plan to start being weak. We wanna put in our share of work to keep the scene alive and strong. If bands are not ready to do that, get the fuck out of our scene and let the true believers prevail."

ANY LAST WORDS TO WRAP THIS UP? WHAT MERCHANDISE IS FOR SALE AND WHAT ARE THE PRICES? Chris, Thanks a lot!! Not only for the interview, but for staying loyal to the death/grind/black metal scene for so long and for helping so many people. You are a true friend to all of us. Good luck with your fight to keep the scene strong. Our shirts should be available in early '96 and so will their prices. Our Ep is available on tape for \$5 and our Cd for \$9. Both are available through the band or Wild Rag Records. People are encouraged to write us for more updated info and updated news and merchandise. By the time this is out, I'm sure that our '94 demos will be gone, but you can still try. (I have some-ed) No fuckin rip offs. I hope to see all of you at our shows throughout 1996. Take care.

YOU CAN GET COPIES OF THE BANDS 1994 DEMO AND NEW WILD RAGS TAPE THROUGH METAL CORE DISTRO, AT \$5 A PIECE OR BOTH FOR \$9, ADDRESS ON INSIDE COVER. WRITE TO DEATHRUNE FOR SHIRTS, TAPES AND CDS AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: KELLY IZQUIERDO 43 AMBERSON AVE #3 YONKERS, NY 10705

SYMPHONY OF GRIEF 'OUR BLESSED CONQUEROR'

DEATH/DOOM/GRIND/FROM NEW JERSEY

A MUST FOR ANY TRUE UNDERGROUND FAN AND METAL CORE READER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

YOU MEAN TO TELL ME YOU DON'T HAVE A COPY OF "OUR BLESSED CONQUEROR" ON WILD RAGS? WELL YOUR IN LUCK. FOR METAL CORE READERS THE CD IS ON SALE FOR \$8 AND THE TAPE IS \$4. SEND YOUR ORDER TO ADDRESS ON INSIDE COVER. DO IT NOW!!!!!!!!!!



**THE WAIT IS
OVER!!!**

**IMMOLATION
"Here In After"
In stores
February 13th**

IMMOLATION

**MUSIC FOR
SOULS THAT
DON'T NEED
SAVING**

**COMPACT DISC & CASSETTE ARE AVAILABLE FROM:
METAL CORE DISTRIBUTION CD \$15 & TAPE \$10 PPD
SEND MONEY ORDER OR WELL HIDDEN CASH TO:
CHRIS FORBES 13 CARRIAGE LN MARLTON, NJ 08053-1109**

H e r e I n A f t e r

For a free catalog write to: Metal Blade Records Inc., 2345 Erringer Rd., Suite 108, Simi Valley, CA 93065-2200
E-Mail: MetBlRcds@aol.com • Website: http://www.tama.com/Metal_Blade • Info Hotline: 805/522-7548

EAST EUROPE DOESN'T SLEEP!

NO TRENDS

PROTEST CD



OUT NOW!

Send \$1 or 2 IRC's for our mail order catalog of black/doom/death/grind/trash/hc/CD's, EP's, MCD's, demos.

"What For Name, When Humanity Is Dying"

EDITOR

COMPILATION

PHANTASMA



cassette

EDITOR
"Shut Up!"

Crossover

"Shut Up!"



cassette

Brutal Death - Grind

WRETCHED PEOPLE IN THE REAL WORLD

"Wretched People In The Real World"



cassette

Black - Death

"Welcome In Heaven"

BESTIALIT CD

DEHYDRATED CD



Brutal Stuff

"Fuckland"

SPLIT CD



Megabrutality

"Burnt"



CD : \$16
MC : \$6

M. A. P., P. O. BOX 42, 038 61 VRÚTKY, SLOVAKIA