ISSUE XVI / MCMXCVI

#16 here is reduced size so I can catch up on my reviews. #17 will have interviews and articles as usual. All adresses are USA unless otherwise noted. Thanks!

A Ten O'Clock Scholar *Quietest* (Grass)

What is the fucking point of this record? A suggestion, boys: most people don't like to listen to a record of a bunch of self-indulgent WANKING. My copy started skipping and it actually was an improvement. (see Omatic for address)

Bali Girls 1996 album (Bitter Sweet) Yet another stupid label on Broadway that is wasting everyone's time by releasing shitty pointless indie rock.

Bitter Sweet, 92 Broadway Ste 143, New York NY 10010

Big Hate 1995 album (Flip)

Big Hate is a rock band from GA with some ugly guys in it that think they're gonna be the next thing on MTV or something. Since MTV plays shit 99% of the time, they're probably right.

Flip, 433 West Broadway, New York NY 10012

Cannibal Corpse Vile (Metal Blade)
With a new singer (ex-Monstrosity)
who manages to sound like Barnes
anyway, and a more stripped down
approach, arrangement wise, and visually detailed lyrics, Cannibal
still hasn't topped Eaten Back To
Life. Nothing special here.

Collapse 1995 album
A DIY release from this half metal,
half hardcore band. Their problem

is that their bridge and segue parts are much better than the verse/ chorus parts and groove parts. It's definitely original, though. For once a band that lives up to its own hype.

\$5 for CD to Brian, 13431 Canyonwood Ct, Moorpark CA 93021

Dar Williams Mortal City (Razor & Tie)

Here we have some pleasant rock and '60s folk with some violins and other things. This is one of those records where the singer has different musicians playing on each song. That's all.

Razor & Tie, PO Box 585, Copper Station, New York NY 10276

Diverje *Electrodiums/The Passage* (DSBP)

A band that put more effort into packaging/production than song-writing. Diverje excells at incompetence in putting two cohesive (or even heavy for that matter) riffs together. Just 'cause you dress like Ministry doesn't mean you're any good.

\$12 US, \$13 elsewhere for CD to Mike O, 520 Palomas SE #A. Albuquerque NM 87108

Dwell Records comp. In Memory of Celtic Frost

Here's a tribute record on which the bands featured are trying to cover the songs they're doing at least somewhat in the style of the originals, and some of them come damn close, too. Warrior's new band makes an appearance as well. Definitely worth the money.

\$12 CS, \$16 CD to Dwell, PO Box 39439, Los Angeles CA 90039-0439

Elend Les Ténébres du Dehors (Holy) Whoa, what is this? Choral music from this Franko-Austrian three piece? Lots of organs and operatic vocals. It sounds like one of those interludes on a black metal record, but a whole album of it. Out of control.

Fleming & John *Delusions of Grandeur* (Universal)

An aptly titled album. The singer is real good ... too bad her band sucks raw eggs. Actually, they can play too; they just can't write a song.

Galactic Cowboys *Machine Fish* (Metal Blade)

Sounds like a third rate Epitaph band that listens to too much metal, if that makes any sense. This record bored the pus out of me.

Game Two Records comp. Mason Dixon Mayhem

A three-way split CD featuring locals Compression, Last Rites, and No Compromise. It's three groove metal bands, either mid-paced or slow, somewhat with a hardcore flavor. It's fairly consistent throughout, so what the hell.

Game Two, 11902 Lanner Pl, Laurel MD 20708

Gore Beyond Necropsy update.

First off we have the Faecial Noise Holocaust 7" (?), which is the usual total fucking insanity from GBN I expect, except with a more experimental side to it, e.g. samples, studio tricks, etc....

The boys recorded a live tape on 11-26-95 on which they performed with Merzbow, Grudge, and Incapacitants members. They do ENT, ND, Fear of God (Swi), Sore Throat, and GEN songs with electronic noise over the top. It sounds like it was recorded in the middle of a riot. Write these maniacs!

Akinob Ohtaki, 837-6 Horinishi, Hadano-City, Kanagawa 259-13, Japan

Human Sector City of Nothingness
A quite technical thrashy band with
plenty of melodic parts is what I
find on this tape. The aforementioned parts are much better than
the verse/chorus parts where the
very bad vocals come in.
\$4 to Gil Zikri, Ropin St 5, Kiriat

Hypocrisy Abducted (Relapse)

Nordo, Netanya, Israel

These guys probably spend their time off tour with rehearsing, writing new songs, and deep regression hypnosis. But seriously, this continues in the vein of the last LP, but it's more trippy, weird, and shows more diverse and varied influences. A+.

Hypocrisy Carved Up 7" (Relapse)
I don't like this at all. This sounds like it was recorded before Hypocrisy became able to write a riff on their last two albums. Save your money for Abducted.

Introspectre Misplaced

The Misplaced cassette costs \$1 and I must say, Introspectre is over-charging for it, it's that bad. Bad metal, played badly.

Rick, 10201 W Appleton Ave, Milwaukee WI 53225

Jack Drag 1995 album (Devil's Weed Inc.)

For a MA band, this has a depressive old english alternative flavor which surprisingly enough sits well with me. The actual songs aren't great or anything, but good background music I guess. And it was recorded on a four track.

PO Box 440246, West Somerville MA 02144

Jane Nöel *Relax Your Penis*

A Boston band ... but they suck. You're god damn right my dick is limp after listening to this. It's a poor man's Sonic Youth and they're not good at emulation.

Lunacy Grey Silence (Witchhunt)
It's not as bad as I remember their last album being, but it sure as hell isn't good. Cheesy tongue in cheek thrash is what this record is. Where do these guys get all the cash for their album packaging, anyway?
PO Box 658, Ch-8029 Zurich, Switzerland

Maple It's My Last Night (Slab)
More alternative rock from this
three piece. Nothing amazing, just
lo-fi songs, mostly mellow stuff.
Mediocre.

Slab, 1133 Broadway Ste 1220, New York NY 10010

Mercury Rising Upon Deaf Ears (Dominion)

Well, I am impressed for a change. It's always good to hear a talented progressive metal band playing in the 80s style, but with a contemporary edge at the same time. A killer professional release by a precise, on-taraget band.

PO Box 286, Colonia NJ 07067

Misery Loves Co. Happy? (Earache)
This is another of the plethora of
CD-Rom releases. It includes the
title track, a non-LP track, 4 live
songs, and a remix. It's cool as
ice if you are into MLC. It's industrial metal stuff.

Neurosis Through Silver in Blood (Release)

They played the first cut live on their last tour, so it's cool to hear it on album. It sounds like Enemy of the Sun except with more instrumental stuff and a few different ideas, but nothing outstandingly new for Neurosis. It's still total god, though.

NOFX Heavy Petting Zoo (Epitaph)
More ultra upbeat Epitaph pop punk
with melodic choruses here. There's
some mid-paced material that has
some ska influences as well. A
cathcy as an office cold record.

Great friggin' stuffs.

Omatic *Dogyears* (Grass)

Omatic is trying to be as grungy as possible. It's very Kim/Kelly Deal influenced, and the main singer is much better than the secondary singer, and he should give it up. The record is good in a way and in another way it's dull. It depends on the song. OK.

Grass, 72 Madison Ave, New York NY 10016

Pan-Thy-Monium III Khaooohs & Konfus-ion (Relapse)

These guys are really in need of electro-shock therapy. This record is a really strange, schizophrenic slab o' death metal. It would have a dark atmosphere if it weren't so fuken geeky. A very artsy, ambitious record, though.

Pitch Shifter Infotainment? (Earache)

I was afraid to listen to this after the last horrid remix crap. They're trying to mix it up too much with metallic groove guitar lines and it ends up too thin. The only good thing about this record is the lyric concept.

Prong Rude Awakeining (Epic)

A toned-down Cleansing, with the mohawk guy actually doing something for a change. There's lots of keyboards and hip hop stuff. Hard to believe there's actually a band playing on this record. Side two sucks, but side one is good.

Sadistic Torment Unearthly Terrors
More slicing death metal from the
local boys. Lots of up-tempo parts
with tons of note runs by the guitarists on this ten song release.
There's grind speeds and it's technical, too, with uppity arrangements. Check into it.

5308 Buchanan St, Hyattsville MD 20781

Scissorfight 1995 7" (Summit)

A two song EP, the first of which is a bore, but the second one is more upbeat and atonal, with a groove metal approach with a dash of hardcore.

Summit, PO Box 995, Boston MA 02123

Senseless Apocalypse/Gore Beyond Necropsy split 7" (Blurred)

S.A. has improved a lot. Their side is blazing noizecore -- they have their own distinct sound, and it's catchy. I love it! GBN here is total insane drum machine noisecore with weird noises, painful screams/growls, and distorted to hell guitar and bass.

Blurred, 482-1 Naka, Kambara, Ihara, Shizuoka, 421-32 Japan

¡Shoutbus! Russian Roulette (Generalissimo)

It'll be the best three bucks you ever spend if you send for this demo. Crazy whack funky punk rock! Il obnoxious songs in ten minutes, which have great lyrics and plenty of samples, no less.

Bill Allen, PO Box 3104, Merrifield VA 22116

Six Weeks Records comp. Six Weeks Omnibus

I am so bloody chuffed! An 8" or so with ten killer Japanese hardcore bands, all standouts, and some of them even grind. What more could one ask for? Highly recommended! Athena/Jeff, 2262 Knolls Hill Cr, Santa Rosa CA 95405

Slughog Grit! (Wonderdrug)

A dissonant, rough, odd, and utterly stupid and boring Boston band which features two bassists, Sheer Terror inspired vocals, and no talent. What is the point? Can somebody tell me that?

Wonderdrug, PO Box 995, Boston MA 02123

Terror Throne *Macabre Passions*It sounds like it will be okay slow

doomish black metal when the execution improves beyond terrible. Let's try again after some more practice at timekeeping and recording. Black metalers take note, this band is from the guy from the zine of the same name!

Robert Campos, PO Box 101, Summit IL 60501

The Chasm From the Lost Years (the Art)

Oh yeah, that's how daddy likes it. A talented, ex-Cenotaph band that plays melodic, mid paced, heavy, textured death metal. This release is worth sending for.

The Art, c/o Oscar Reyes Torres, ap do Postal M-7697, Admon 1 CP 06002, 1DF Mexico

The Jimmies and the Weaklings double CD (Bitter Sweet)

Two bands from Portland playing late 70s punk. It's not bad actually, but nothing totally incredible either. If you're into the standard fare of that style, go ahead. (see Bali Girls for address)

The Violet Burning 1995 album (Domo) There's not much to say about this record other than it's a third rate U2.

Throttle 1995 album (Tee Pee)

Umm....yeah. Let me explain why I fucking hate this record. There's two people in the band. They recorded it live on a four-track. The songs are stupid. The recording is stupid. Sound redundant? My point exactly.

PO Box 20307, New York NY 10009-9991

Weston Got Beat Up (Go Kart)

Good, I'm glad you got beat up! You deserve it after playing such uninspired New York alternative rock with songs about being in love. It'd be enjoyable if it wasn't so whiny and mediocre.

Go Kart, PO Box 20, Prince Street Station, New York NY 10012