

YUCK!
#5

CORROSION OF CONFORMITY

76%

UNCERTAIN

SALEM

66

OCTOBER

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NOV. 85

Well, as promised, we're going to have more reviews of L.P.s and cassettes, and shows in this issue. I would really appreciate seeing some sort of response from you, the reader, in the near future. Distribution is getting a lot better although it still isn't anywhere near as good as I would like for it to be. Advertising is still free, but I might be forced to charge a small fee for each issue and I wouldn't be very happy about having to do that. If you have a band that wants free publicity, (Same goes for a 'zine) just write to us at the address below. Thank for reading this, and please respond.

YUCK!

2 Cornwell Dr.
New Hope, PA
18938

76% Uncertain / The Meatmen
Sunday, September 8, 1985
City Gardens in Trenton

Originally, this show was supposed to have 4 bands. YDI from Philly, and Detox from I don't know where. YDI cancelled and Detox just didn't show up. Both of these bands are really cool and that was a big letdown. After a pretty long wait, 76% Uncertain took to the stage and they played a nice fast, tight set. They did some material from their forthcoming L.P. which should be pretty cool. It's due out in October. I got the chance to speak with Bones, the lead singer, and we arranged an interview so keep your eyes open for that! The Meatmen don't play shows as often as other bands, but when they do I heard it's a lot of fun. They were one of the coolest bands that I've ever seen at City Gardens. Tesco came on in a big red cape, elf boots, and fake blood coming out of his mouth and smeared on his chest, the rest of the band were in tutus and they had the place screaming. The Meats opened up with the title track from the latest record "War of the Superbikes" and they were using a smoke machine all throughout the set. They were doing a lot of material from all of their records and they did a cover of "Sheena is a Punk Rocker" by the Ramones. There wasn't that great of a turnout and if you missed this show you missed one of the best this year.

Cassette Reviews

Smersh- A Murder of Crows

This is a really interesting tape. Smersh is wildly experimental and have some stuff available on vinyl now. From what I understand, they shall still remain as cassette artists. If you want to try something new and have a lot of patience, purchase this cassette. Really neat.

337 William Street
Piscataway, New Jersey
08854

Rat At Rat R- Plague

This tape is pretty weird, but I still like it quite a bit. It sounds a little bit like 9353 and the band does some interesting songwriting. It only consists of three songs, but it's enough to satisfy me. Art.

520 East 11th Street Apt. 8
New York, NY 10009

The Outcasts

This tape jumps right out at you. It opens up with "Panic in the Year Zero" which is a fast Rock 'n Roll song with some really good playing, I especially like the drumming. The other cuts are equally cool and there's some really superb songwriting on here. This band will be heard of in the future, and they deserve your support.

419 Victoria St.
Glassboro, N.J.
08028

Ween- Mrs. Slack

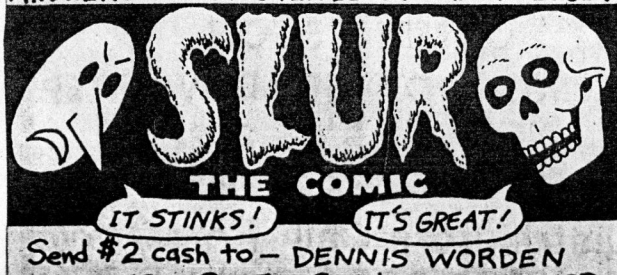
This is GREAT! I'm really impressed by this one, and it bursts with originality and wit. This classic piece of material opens up with "Yolk" which is a power thrashing song that makes you want to slam with your mom. "Jelly" has neat vocals, so does "Everyone's a Lesbian". Drumming is nice and fast. So are the guitar lines, Yuck is distributing these cassettes so just send two bucks to us and you'll get one.

Fanzines.

1. **Crashing Waves** 80-15 Elmhurst, NY 11373
Small 'zine from N.Y. that consists mostly of reviews. Concentrates on the local scene and does some interviews with local bands. Pretty neat. Photocopied, free, small format, cool.
2. **No Place To Hide** 705 Centre Trenton, NJ 08611
30 page fanzine that has a lot of interviews and reviews. Almost all Hardcore and there's some neat artwork in here. Great job on this one. Also a small format.
3. **Real Fun P.O.** Box 15243 Phila, PA 19125
This mag's title is appropriate. Lotsa neat views and articles and cartoons. Big center foldout of Zippy's oath of office. Entertaining as hell. Free.
4. **Leading Edge**
This is the last issue of Leading Edge and it's a good way for them to go. Great 'zine excellent photographic reproduction. Contains interviews with Subhumans, Dr. Know, and C.O.C. If you somehow find a copy, get one.
5. **OPtion P.O.** Box 491034 Los Angeles, CA 90049
I wouldn't really consider this a fanzine because it probably cost them a lot of money (cost me 2 and a half bucks) to make. They put out their issues in letters of the alphabet. I have the "B" issue, and the bands in it are Black Flag, Big Boys, The Bobs, etc. Lots and Lots of reviews and is very professional.

That's all that I got and I would love to get more. Just send me a copy of yours and I'd be happy to review it, feel free to say anything you want about YUCK but just send me a copy. OK? Okay.

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Corrosion of Conformity are from Raleigh, North Carolina. They have a new L.P. out on Death Records which is a division of Metal Blade/Enigma. This interview was conducted over the phone, and the member of the band that I talked to was Reed Mullin. Hard Times called Reed "The best drummer next to Bill Stevenson." (Ed. Note-Bill Stevenson from Black Flag.) This is their second L.P. and their first was on their own label and is entitled "Eye For an Eye." If you like music that gets the adrenalin surging through your body to the extent where your head is about to explode, this L.P. is a definite must. Without further delay.....

Hick- Your the first band on Death Records, How did you get signed and what's the whole story on that?

Reed- There's this magazine from New York called "Kick Ass Monthly" which is basically an underground heavy metal magazine, and the editor/publisher guy liked our first album and gave it a real good review. And after we had done our tour last summer, the guy from Metal Blade, Brian Slagel was thinking about doing a Metal Massacre Vol. 6. So I sent a whole bunch of promo stuff to Brian Slagel and was kinda like "yeah well I call you later." Two months later we played with Slayer in Baltimore and they were really impressed and they said that they were going to try to get us signed to the label. The next day Brian Slagel called me up and said that we should do an L.P.

Hick- All of the songs on the L.P. are credited as being written by C.O.C., any songwriting process?

Reed- Well, Mike Dean and Woody usually do the guitar part, and we usually just add in our own little parts. Either me or Mike Dean write the lyrics, We just say "Written by C.O.C." because we all do our own little part.

Hick- Your getting great press coverage as a drummer, were you ever trained?

Reed- I've only been playing for like three years. I guess my biggest influence was the drummer for "Bad Brains." I just learned from watching other drummers play.

Hick- Have you booked a tour yet?

Reed- Well we just played in Philadelphia. Right now all were doing is weekend gigs. As for big tours, all we have planned is a West Coast/Canadian tour with D.R.I. who are our label-mates. Were doing that in late October, November.

CORROSION OF CONFORMITY

Nick- How do you feel about the North Carolina scene?

Reed- I love it. It's probably one of my favorite scenes.

There's a big Southern Pop following down here with all of the REM clone bands. But the scene's really close knit and there's never any fights at shows.

Nick- Did you know each other for a while before the band started?

Reed- When the band started, none of us really could play that well, and I'd been playing drums for about five months. Woody and I were friends from school, and Mike Dean and our original singer had just moved up from Charlotte, and we did it for the fun of it.

Nick- How did you adopt your name?

Reed- That was something that I came up with in school. I was originally in a band called No Labels.

Nick- What about political views in your songwriting?

Reed- Oh yeah. All of our songs are fairly political. Mike Dean is a vegetarian and very against American intervention in Central America, Anti-Nuclear War and all that. We all feel strongly about lots of different things.

Nick- What do you listen to in your spare time?

Reed- Millions of different things. Descendents, Minutemen, Crass, Mike Dean likes a lot of Reggae, Woody likes a lot of Metal.

Nick- How do you feel about the Crass movement?

Reed- I think that's great. They live by what they say, and I envy them a lot.

Nick- How about a discography of the releases you've had. Tapes, Comps., etc.

Reed- Mid. 1982 a bunch of bands put out a tape called the No Core tape, in '83 we did a compilation 7" with 3 songs on that, and in 1984 our "Eye For an Eye" L.P. came out, we've been on the Pushead's "Cleanse the Bacteria" compilation, and then we put out "Animosity" on Death.



Nick- Has there been good response to the L.P.?

Reed- It's been getting great response. A lot of punks say

"Oh they've gone Heavy Metal" which isn't true 'cause we've sounded this way for the last year or so.

Nick- Any video work?

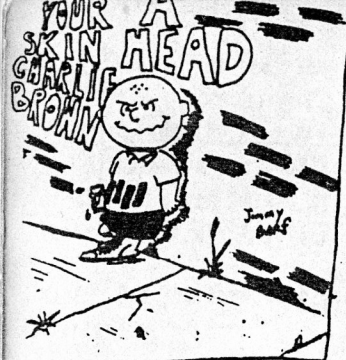
Reed- I was very interested in doing a video to a song on there called "Mad World" but this guy from Metal Blade said that videos aren't happening.

Nick- Anything you'd like to add in general?

Reed- If anyone wants to write, I'll correspond, you can see how the scene's going, you can write to me, Reed Mullin at P.O. Box 5091, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27607 and we'll send you some stickers.



Photograph
Courtesy
of
Death
Records



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OUT NOW!

WEEEN

MRS SLACK CASSETTE

76% Uncertain are from Bridgeport, Ct. They have one L.P. to their credit and another one is due sometime soon. I had the privilege of seeing them with the Meatmen back in September and they play a really tight set which makes show-goers go berserk. This band deserves everyone's support.

Yuck- What should be expected from the forthcoming L.P.?

Dave- A little more diversity.

Bones- Sixteen minute long heavy metal intros. (only a joke)

Todd- Connecticut punk rock.

Yuck- Do you try to get a political message across with your music?

CONT on p. 12

Most fanzines stick to an all Hardcore format, but when I originally developed the YUCK! idea I decided that I would cover alternative music as a whole. Salem 66 has been a favorite of mine for quite a bit and I think that they're definitely worth the space. When I talked to Gerard from Homestead (their label) about scheduling an interview, I found out they were actually staying about a 1/2 of a mile from my house. This interview was conducted on the sidewalk of downtown New Hope on my friend's front porch. Judy Grunwald did most of the talking and the other members present were Susan Merriam and Beth Kaplan. The only member not present was Robert, their most recent addition to the band. Enjoy.

Nick- Why don't you all introduce yourselves.

Judy- I'm Judy Grunwald and I'm a guitar player and singer extraordinaire.

Beth- I'm Beth, the Bass player and singer.

Susan- I'm Susan and I'm the only drummer in the band.

Beth- There's also Robert who is the other guitar player but he's not here right now.

Nick- As long as we're talking about Robert, what made you decide to add one person?

Judy- Because you don't have to cut Beth's bass playing, it can become more.....simple isn't the word...

Beth- Bass playerly. It frees you having one more person. We wanted to get another guitar player for a while and eventually we found Robert and he was good,

Nick- Did you audition people or just bring him in?

Judy- We did audition some people but we didn't like them. We had kind of given up but then Robert called us.

Nick- How and why did you pick your name?

Judy- It picked us. It was there and needed someone to represent it.

Nick- What have you released publically up to this time?

Judy- Well as far as things on records we have a song on a compilation called "Bands that Could Be God" which is a compilation of bands from Boston. We have our six song e.p., we have a seven inch single, and a 10 song l.p. coming out next month. Don't we have a couple of things on compilation cassettes?

Susan- "The Well" which is on "Bang Zoom."

Mick- How is the Boston scene?

Judy- There's a lot of it.

Susan- It's very healthy. There's a lot of bands and they're all playing out.

Beth- It's very competitive.

Mick- This is something that I was wondering about, where was the e.p. cover photograph taken?

Judy- It's a house in Boston. Everyone seems to think that we drove to South Carolina for it.

Beth- It was a house owned by an elderly woman who at the time was hospitalized. She died shortly thereafter.

Judy- Now it's all condominiums.

Mick- You mentioned a 10 song l.p. coming out in the future.

Judy- It's very definite.

Mick- What should be expected from it?

Judy- It's round, flat, black I think. (laughing)

Susan- It's got a lot more of a ballsier sound than the e.p. It's a really great sound, and it's got a nice cover, (laughing again) of course we only say nice things about it. There's a cover song on it.

Mick- "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down?"

Judy- No we're not going to do that.

Mick- Any political views in the music?

Judy- Well, I don't think that our music is evil, or bad, as opposed to hardcore. Our music is more....soothes the savage beast.

Beth- It's kind of nice and peaceful.

Judy- It's more of a positive thing. We have great faith in the power of positive thinking.

Susan- It's being honest too.

Beth- Yeah there's no taking a stand against any political issues.

Susan- You could say it's political in individual politics or something. We don't do songs about Reagan or anything..

Judy- Not to say that we don't think about it.

Susan- Whatever you're doing in a band is somewhat political in a large sense of the word because you're getting on the stage and people are listening to your own personal ideas.

Mick- Do you all collaborate on the songwriting?

Beth- Yeah, basically Judy or I come in with the bare bones of a song, or a melody, bass part or her guitar part. Everyone will sort of write their own part.

Judy- We don't really jam, but we play the song over and over again until we have it perfected.

Beth- It's very democratic.

Judy- Politically speaking. (laughing once again)

Mick- How has Homestead been treating you?

Susan- They have good distribution. We were one of the first bands on the label so it's been all uphill for them. They just learned as they went along.

Mick- What's "Across the Sea" about?

Beth- It's about a few things. It's sort of about a general feeling of being independent. Part of it is about a boyfriend, part of it's about my sister who is living very far away. Sort of a mood....

Mick- How did you meet each other?

Judy- The worst possible place....BARS!

Mick- Are you planning on putting out any sort of video work?

Susan- Well, we weren't going to....there are some good things about videos but we just don't have the money at this point.

Beth- I personally would love to do one.

Judy- I personally don't.

Beth- You sort of have to, it's something that you have to accept.

Judy- The thing about that is that being a musician, I would of gone into filmmaking if I was interested in that. But you're forced to be interested. I would have a hard time thinking of what the heck I would want to do.

Mick- How has the live response been so far?

Susan- Fine. We get a lot of good press.

Judy- We used to get a lot of mute stares. People used to sit and look at us, and I think it took them the length of the set to decide whether they liked us or not. We used to never say one word to the audience in the whole length of the set and I think that we made them uncomfortable.

Mick- Have you had problems with being labelled when you're booked like "Psychedelic Salem 66!"

Judy- Last night when we played with "Naked Prey" they were reading something about themselves at sound check and they said "We were born from the neo-psychedelic blah blah blah" and we said "that's funny so were we!" everyone is psychedelic, it doesn't mean anything.

Beth- It's just a tag that they're putting on people. Everyone would get called a punk band six years ago.

76% UNCERTAIN *continued from pg. 8*

Bill- More personal than political.

Dave- Personal messages and feelings.

Todd- Supposedly every act is political but....

Dave- We try to tell people the way we feel instead of telling people how they should feel.

Yuck- I know that you were in previous bands, why did you form as this lineup?

Dave- Bones and Kenny got fed up with the attitudes of the people in the band that they were with.

Bill- So Todd, Dave, and I hooked up with Bones and Kenny and the rest is history.

Yuck- How's the Ct. scene?

Bill- It's ok, It's cool, It's happening.

Dave- Younger and younger kids are getting involved which is really cool.

Bones- Just about everywhere is like that.

Dave- To a large extent bands are getting more and more out of the picture. Lots more all age shows which is great. I don't like over 21 clubs anyway.

Bill- As far as the scene here goes, I really have to hand it to Brian and Shaun from the Anthrax in Stamford because without them there probably wouldn't be much of a scene in Southern Ct.

Yuck- Did you put the first record out yourselves?

Bill- We sure did.

Dave- We saved our money from shows and borrowed some too.

Bill- We're gonna put the next one out ourselves but we hope someone will pick it up for a second pressing.

Yuck- Has your sound changed with the new L.P.?

Bill- No.

Dave- Yes.

Bill- No.

Dave- Yes.

Bill- Yes and no.

Dave- Ok.

Bill- It's evolved a little bit, gotten a bit more together. More interesting, for us at least.

Dave- Todd is playing more stuff, different kinds of stuff.

Bill- It still definitely sounds like us though. Well just buy it when it comes out and see for yourself, Ok?

Yuck- What do you think caused the media attack on punk?

Todd- You have to consider that a lot of newspapers, magazines, etc. are owned or partially owned by right wing interest groups.

Dave- Also, a lot of parents are looking for somewhere to lay the blame because their kids are messed up. They don't want to admit that perhaps they (parents) are to blame.

Very special thanks goes to
Dimitri Rotov, Mike Gennawey,
Gerard from Homestead, Reed
Mullin, Samantha, Furry Couch,
Scott Low, Elana, Pete,
Kate Piluso, Lori, Bones,
Richard D'amico, Chris and
Mike from Smersh, Anybody
else that was unintentionally
forgotten. YUCK is expanding
at quite a rapid pace. Become
a part of it. Write to us.

Bill- The parents don't want to see their own shortcomings so they blame it on music.

Yuck- What don't you like about the present scene?

Bill- A bit to much factionism and cliques.

Dave- I agree, too many labels. Too many people trying to be part of a particular group and sacrificing their individuality.

Bill- Yeah, either you're a skater or a skinhead or you've got a mohawk or you like Crass or Flux or this or that, people are falling back into the molds they were trying to break. Too many followers and not enough thinkers. I mean like are you straight edge or are you a peace punk or a skater or whatever. Who cares, we're all in this together, RIGHT?

Bones- We just play music you know?

Bill- We won't label it.

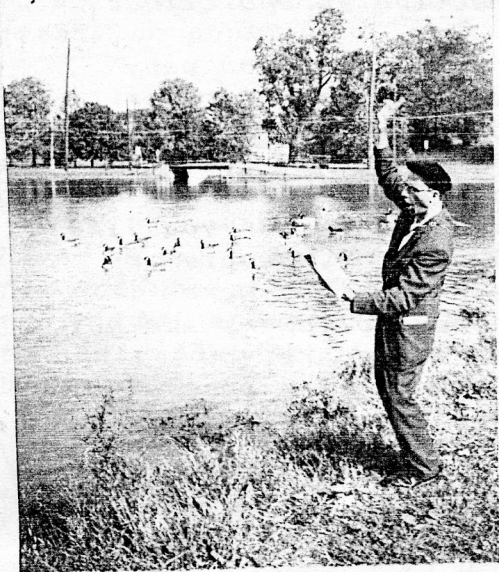
Bones- Love songs, strictly love songs.

Yuck- Any tours booked?

Bill- You bet! We might be playing near you.



clive



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