

'Punk's Not Dead,' Various Artists (MVDvisual, ****1/2)

This July 8 DVD follows the evolution of punk rock from its roots to acceptance into popular culture. According to the publicity, "It takes you on an era-by-era journey that puts punk rock's non-conformist reputation under the knife."

Many bands are featured: The Ramones, Pennywise, Social Distortion, The Adicts, Black Flag, Green Day, The Offspring, Rancid, Stiff Little Fingers and more. Those of the "old guard" who are still active and many new bands keep things hopping, with or without corporate sponsors like the Vans Warped Tour, which brings out a crew of deserving bands every year.

My favorite thing about director Susan Dynner's film is home videos from punks around the world showing what their local scenes are like; that and the extensive extras (over two hours) show that the D.I.Y. spirit is still alive.

Get your copy of this cool feature at local video stores or mvdvisual.com.

- Ricky Flake