

nowhere between the two styles. Not punk enough, not folk enough, and not really a fusion either. I applaud the effort, but I suspect it'll leave even the most die-hard FLOGGING MOLLY fan disappointed. (RK) ([www.scotchgreens.com](http://www.scotchgreens.com))

#### SMUT PEDDLERS

**"That's Amore: Live at DiPiazza's" CD/DVD**  
Whenever there's a DVD released that comes with a free CD contained the entire live set, I swear it's better than opening a box of Cracker Jacks and getting 2 toys. It's like you've got the DVD, that's what you wanted – but to be able to take the entire live set, with all the energy and occasional stupidity with you in the car and listen to it on the way to your boring-ass desk job? Fuck man, that's just amazing!! Well good news for us, the good folks at TKO Records have done just that with this one, and it's one of the best live DVDs I've seen. High-quality images, great footage, and a small, intimate venue (AKA a pizza place) make this one a winner. Who wants to watch a show that's in some huge, nameless, faceless club? This place has got some kind of vibe going on, and you can catch it straight through the TV screen, I swear. For those who don't know the SMUT PEDDLERS, they're a killer pogo-punk band that do it just about better than anyone else – think THE BRIEFS meets THE DRIPS. And if you've never heard them, this is a great way to be introduced to them – you get to see their ugly faces AND get a CD to go along with it. Great deal, right? Yeah, I thought so! (MWB) ([www.tkorecords.com](http://www.tkorecords.com))

#### TEN FALLS FORTH

**"Excuse Me...I Believe That's My Ride" CD**  
Let me just say that putting a sticker on the front of a CD that is literally 1/2 the size of the cover itself is inane. You're ruining the aesthetic of the packaging, which is a HUGE thing for the band, in most cases. I mean, c'mon – this whole sticker thing is out of fuckin control, can we agree on that? Enough's enough. Now, for what the sticker says – complete and total crap. Tell me how you can put these three bands in the same sentence: "For fans of FALL OUT BOY, HOT WATER MUSIC, and GRADE." Are you even serious? So for fans of pop-punk, punk rock, and the earliest screamo band ever? Wow, you covered all your basis there, didn't you? Only one problem – these dudes aren't punk and they sound nothing like GRADE, either. They go from being completely sissy one second to brutal metal the next – that's not GRADE, it's just bad music. C'mon, don't insult the intelligence of the kids by putting that shit on a sticker. Then again, some of these kids might actually fall for it...but honestly, why would you drag HOT WATER MUSIC's good name into this shit? Not cool...NOT cool. (MWB) ([www.riserecords.com](http://www.riserecords.com))

#### THINK I CARE

**"World Asylum" CD**  
Back with their second full-length, THINK I CARE pick up right where they left off, playing their own version of SHEER TERROR-influenced hardcore that is, simply put, nasty. You'd be hard pressed to find a band playing songs and sounding more pissed off than THINK I CARE. Raw and ferocious, the songs shred from start to finish, proving once again why THINK I CARE are one of the best hardcore bands to come out of the always-impressive Massachusetts hardcore scene. Seriously fucking brutal CD from beginning to end. So if you're sitting around, thinking that you could use a new CD that makes you feel like you're being kicked in the ears, this might be a good one to pick up. (MWB) ([www.bridge9.com](http://www.bridge9.com))

#### TIME AGAIN

**"The Stories Are True" CD**  
Debut long player from these unabashed RANCID proteges. The vocal inflexion is a Tim Armstrong identikit. The music all starts to sound a little samey, lacking the melodic flourishes that make RANCID so fine at their best. I'm sure

fans of old school So/Cal punk with that street-punk edge will love this. Personally, I'd be a little wary. (RK) (Hellcat/Epitaph)

#### TRAPDOOR FUCKING EXIT

**"Crooked Life/Straight World" CD**  
TRAPDOOR FUCKING EXIT is a No Idea sounding band, through and through. If you're familiar with the label, I hope you'll understand what I mean. If you're into the kind of music No Idea normally puts out, you should definitely be into this one. I find it a little difficult to listen to repeatedly, but that takes nothing away from the high quality of music on this album. It's just for some people more than others, I think. (WDJ) (No Idea Records / [www.noidearecords.com](http://www.noidearecords.com))

#### VARIOUS ARTISTS

**"Bridge Nine Singles Vol 1 & 2" CD**  
Wow, this is fucking awesome. This is some stuff that I never thought would ever see the light of day again, let alone be put out on CD! Born and raised in Mass, I can remember the days when Bridge Nine was just a little local label, putting out 7" records for local bands. They've obviously grown a lot since then, so it's nice to see them pay homage to their own past with these releases. You've got some great stuff here from the likes of THE TRUST, RIGHT BRIGADE, FIT FOR ABUSE, OUTBREAK, and DEATH THREAT. The thing I'm most psyched to see is the old PROCLAMATION 7", aptly entitled 'Straight Edge Hardcore.' Just about all of their songs were about being nailed to the X. I went to college with one of the dudes in that band, Jeremiah, and if you didn't know better you'd think he was a hippy, with his head full of dreads. Man, that band ruled. These CDs rule. I'll take this opportunity to go ahead and say congrats to Bridge Nine on all the success they've had, and I hope it continues for them. (MWB) ([www.bridge9.com](http://www.bridge9.com))

#### VARIOUS ARTISTS

**"Go Cat Go!: A Tribute To The Stray Cats"**  
I have to concede, upfront, that I'm not a big fan (or even a little one) of rockabilly/psychobilly/whateveritiscalledthesedaysbilly. And I wasn't that fussed on the STRAY CATS either. But, they did have a good pop/new wave sensibility, and that has been faithfully preserved on this collection of largely carbon-copy tributes/covers. 15 bands do their best, including even some I've actually heard of - PHENOMENAUTS, REEL BIG FISH, KOFFIN KATS, HELLBILLYS, STONECUTTERS and more. An international line up for sure. And, dare I say it, this comp is growing on me. (RK) (Hairball8 Records, [www.hairball8.com](http://www.hairball8.com))

#### VARIOUS ARTISTS

**"Pure Punk Rock" DVD**  
Music interview bits and lots more from all the bands that you would expect from a Punk Core comp, ie., CASUALTIES, VIRUS, DEFIANCE, CHEAP SEX, THE HAVOK and more, lots more. This DVD is packed. So if you got the studs and you've got the spikes, then you'll need to pick this bad boy up. (JC) ([www.punkcore.com](http://www.punkcore.com))

#### THE VELVET UNDERGROUND

**"Under Review" DVD**  
Like the CAPTAIN BEEFHEART DVD, THE VELVET UNDERGROUND seems worthy of having their career critically analyzed. However, unlike the BEEFHEART idea, this DVD *does* come off more like VH1 special than an actual analysis of their career. Because of the era, there isn't much good in the way of stock footage. A great idea, but in the end, this DVD is only worthwhile for die-hard fans. The bonus features include extra interview material and a VELVET UNDERGROUND quiz. (WDJ) (Sexy Intellectual)

#### VERONA VEI

**"Diary Of A Stone Romantic" CD EP**

Back in the old days (well, the early 90s. Age is always relative) this kind of stuff was a subset of So/Cal melodic hardcore. Not so much LAGWAGON and FACE TO FACE, but more of that smooth, sugary sound patented by the likes of GAMEFACE. These days it just sounds more like the fodder masquerading as punk that's pushed by Clear Channel alt. rock radio stations, "Alternative Press", Vagrant Records et al. If that sounds appealing, this'll be right up your alley. 6 tracks, for what it's worth. (RK) (DoughMain Records, [www.doughmainrecords.com](http://www.doughmainrecords.com))

#### VIER PROMILLE

**"Alte Schule" CD**  
2nd full length from this German outfit. Sung in a mixture of their native tongue, and English; with some fine female vocals gracing a handful of tracks. They're managed to capture that classic, broad church 'Oi!' feel - though the sound is considerably updated. There's some melodic rockers, mixed in with some more 'traditional' stuff (complete with piano, strings, whistle et al), including a POGUES cover. They do it all really good. Lots of melody, harmony, and some great songwriting. Think the pop end of the early BUSINESS, mixing it up with the more folk infused SWINGIN' UTTERS material, with a healthy dash of '77 era pub rock. Really good. For what it's worth, this is the 'other' band from the main man of the PORTERS. This outfit is far superior. (RK) (Knockout Records, [www.knock-out.de](http://www.knock-out.de))

#### THE WARNING

**"All Systems Dead" CD**  
Wow. As soon as this CD starts, as soon as you hear the first note, you know you're in for something seriously rad. Starting off like it's a MOTORHEAD album, it kicks in and kicks you in the gut and never stops until it's finished. Think MOTORHEAD meets GBH, with some influences from THE UNSEEN. So basically, rowdy street punk rock and roll with some seriously buzzing guitars. Fast, furious, and pissed as all hell, Detroit's THE WARNING are a band that you should be hearing a lot about this year, because this one is gonna garner a lot of attention. The third track, Innocence Gone, is actually reminiscent of COCKSPARRER, and it's as catchy as hell. Damn good work by these dudes on this CD. (MWB) ([www.punkcore.com](http://www.punkcore.com))

#### WOBBLES

**"Flames Of Discontent" CD**  
2nd full length of scrappy, energetic, politics on the sleeve dumpster anthems. They have a similar energy, sound and vibe to early FIFTEEN, and early AGAINST ME! Coming to a basement show near you, soonest, I'm sure. (RK) ([www.thewobbles.org](http://www.thewobbles.org))

#### ZEKE

**"Flat Trucker / Super Sound Racing" CDs**  
I was totally blown away by "Super Sound Racing" when it first came out. That record was in serious heavy rotation in my player and I spent about two months telling everyone I knew how amazing this band was. Last that I heard, the band was broken up, but now it looks like they got back together and inked a new deal with Relapse to re-issue these 2 records with re-mastering and re-packaging jobs. Fans of 100 mile an hour punk rock with guitar solos that don't suck take notice. (JC) (Relapse)

#### ZOX

**"The Wait" CD**  
2nd full length, I believe, from this East Coast outfit. They transmuted (progressed?) from being a reggae/jam band into more of a new wave early 80s pop feel. They're still all over the map, but the best stuff (with prominent violin), brings to mind an early ELVIS COSTELLO. If you like sharp guitars and violin, it might be worth taking a chance on this one. (RK) (SideOneDummy Records/323 790 0990) ☞