

DVD RACK



THE HANKS Your New Attraction Cobra Records

Ah yes, another one of those "moved to LA to get big" emo pop punk acts. New band

The Hanks are something right out of the teenybopper parade and nothing we haven't heard before.

Songs with lyrics that go "do, do do, dah, do, do, do, do" such as the track "Mixtape" are shameless Scooby Doo rip-offs. Have they no shame? "Evaporate" is strong power ballads with a suspenseful buildup that needed to be expanded on the album.

However, it is clear why this album has been re-released for a second go-around on new record label Cobra Music. This is Cobra Music's first album release and judging by the music, they better get a-crackin'! How many times have we heard lyrics similar to "never doubt what you feel, cause that's the only thing that is real?" Now, that's reality.

This band might feature some random cool sounding horns but my preference is definitely going to Mr. Hankey from South Park.

-Julianne Shapiro



MACHETE REVIVAL Distance From Shelter Self-Released

Fresh out of good ol' Mountain View, CA comes this hard hitting

three-piece affectionately known as Machete Revival. They play a slower, heavy brand of music in the likes of Tool, Neurosis, and Monster Magnet. Their 7-song CD, titled *Distance From Shelter*, boasts seven songs full of space noise and eery vocals. This album could easily be the soundtrack to a dark and gloomy night... or a magical mushroom trip.

Track two, appropriately titled "Geoff's Car" feels a lot like a lost Doors track, bursting into wild flangy guitar about half way through, and then going straight back to a laid back groove.

The production quality on the album is top notch and the well designed Digi-pack make for an all-around great CD. If their live show is anything like their album, I expect nothing less than a high quality performance from a band who has managed to keep an original sound amongst so many copycats.

-Jake Fouts



GREEN DAY Under Review: The Middle Years: 1995- 2000 Music Video Distributors

Green Day defies the law of punk-rock legitimacy: instead of selling out as their career

deepens into middle age, the Bay Area punks (now fathers, in some cases, several times over) have actually gained legitimacy and standing. Not that anyone's forgetting their Bay Area upbringings—it's just that, before Dookie, they were like any other punk-rock band that could have sold out.

If this is not interesting you at all, then move on.

Move on from Green Day Under Review, that is. Most unauthorized documentaries make the point LOUD! And CLEAR! Those secrets are to be revealed. This is subtitled "An Independent Critical Analysis." Focusing neither on Green Day's meteoric rise to fame, nor on their comeback spectacle American Idiot, what you get is a bunch of people (most of whom are not Green Day; the band itself only appears spottily). Brief moments of live footage, a few tantalizing sound bytes—but the real focus here is the critics and friends of the band.

There are several informational interviews—with Larry Livermore, the owner of Lookout! Records (who could, justly, get the credit for "discovering" Green Day at Gilman St.) The overview of Insomniac features a wacked-out, surprisingly contemplative interview with avant artist Winston Smith, who did several Dead Kennedys' album covers. Interesting, but ultimately not what you'd want a Green Day DVD to be.

-Matthue Roth



MEGADETH That One Night Image Entertainment

As Megadeth gears up for the release of their next studio album, *United Abominations*, they have seen fit to serve us with this live DVD, recorded in

Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2005. Dave Mustaine makes his love for the city known in the opening moments of behind-the-scenes footage, going so far as to pull out an acoustic guitar after arriving at a local hotel to do a little unofficial 'unplugged' set out on the lawn. We are treated to clips of "In My Darkest Hour", "She-Wolf", and even "Holy Wars" in this manner prior to the actual live footage.

Great live footage it is, too. Crisp, clear visual and audio with just a hint of crowd noise throughout, which also gets turned up at the right times, such as when the audience is singing the guitar parts from "Symphony of Destruction", a phenomena Mustaine notes he has only seen in Buenos Aires. The setlist is comprised of the usual suspects, but there must be something else special in this town, as the band has no problem not only playing "I'll Be There" from the ill-fated *Risk* album, but also a rarity entitled "Coming Home", from the Japanese release of *The World Needs a Hero*. One viewing of this concert film and you too will be talking about That One Night you saw Megadeth



NEIL HAM- BURGER The World's Funniest Drag City

"What do you call five fingers around a little boy's penis? The Jackson Five!" This is one of Neil

Hamburger's better jokes in *The World's Funniest*, but not by a long shot one of his more obscene. This DVD's main feature is a 45-minute stand-up routine recorded in a packed club in Sydney, Australia. It provides a great introduction to the Neil Hamburger character, which boils down to a greasy comb-over, tacky suit, nervous delivery, constant throat-clearing, and borderline offensive one-liners. These are the antics that have made Hamburger a cult figure. The routine is funny; we'll give him that.

Beyond being a satire of the American comedian, he does have some clever insights. Almost all of his material centers on celebrities: he rips on Courtney Love, Britney Spears, and the aforementioned Michael Jackson. Then, of course, there's the matter of his encore material: "Did you guys hear the one about the paparazzi with the heart of gold? He stole it from Princess Diana as she lie dying in her car!" Bonus features include a documentary on Hamburger in Australia, a music video, an "award-winning" featurette, and another documentary by a Canadian TV station examining Hamburger's fame.

-Nate Seltenrich



NUCLEAR ASSAULT Louder, Harder, Faster Screaming Ferret Records

I guess now with metal being so impeccably hip, thrash metal in particular is getting a new renaissance in

the form of the mediocre (I won't name names here), all the founding fathers of underground metal are resurfacing and making their voices heard. For old timers such as myself, I say bring it on! Nuclear Assault is one such band that formed in 1985 by ex-Anthrax bass player, Danny Liker (S.O.D, Brutal Truth) and vocalist, guitarist John Connelly. 2003 brought a reunion, a new record, and a tour. 2005 brought much the same and 2006 a collective DVD of various live shows and videos has made it's way to fans all over the world.

Personally, I love retrospectives, albeit, this one's primary focus is a concert taped back in 2005, the bonus features include earlier live shows, promotional videos and rehearsals. I thought the incredibly raw live show from 1985 in Europe was worth the price of the DVD itself! Fans of early east coast and west coast thrash metal will be delighted at this exposition of the bands past and present. Fans of the renaissance will most likely blame Nuclear Assault for ripping off Lamb of God and Trivium.

-Josh Joesten

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