

Reviewers: (MC) Mitchy-Poo Cardwell, (RK) Ramsey Kanaan, (STM) Sammy The Mick, (JC) Jimi Cheeta, (DM) The Reverend Dominic Moresi, (LD) Laura Davis, (RVH) Ray Van Horn JR, (TS) Tristan Staddon, (MWB) Matt "Windbreaker" Cote, (MR) Mike Rodriguez, (CDM) Charles David McCormick, (CC) Caleb Cattiverra, (NN) Nick Norton, (WJM) William Jones, (MM) Max Maxxinson, (JBM) John Moore, (JCC) Jen Conrad, (SPO) Shannon P. O'Neal

ACTION REACTION**"3 Is The Magic Number" CD**

This is the new band fronted by former FURTHER SEEMS FOREVER crooner Jason Gleason, but don't just assume that his new band will pick up where his last left off. This one is definitely more radio friendly, with songs that sound like a lot of what you're hearing on Top 40 radio these days – and no, I'm not talking about the FALL OUT BOY Top 40 songs, I'm talking the usual, typical, radio rock songs. So this CD goes against basically everything I'm about – it's not my kinda music, and generally anything that sounds radio friendly isn't gonna go over well with me. Having said that, this is a damn good CD. There's not one thing punk about this CD – this is a definite indie rock CD, yet it manages to steer clear of the pretentious, better-than-you overtones that doom so many indie rock CDs, in my opinion. Most of the songs are slow, driven ballads, placing equal importance on the guitar and piano. Like I said, I should be hating everything about this CD, but I can't...the songs are well written and have a seriously driven, stirring feeling behind them that you don't find a lot these days. It gets my vote. (MWB) (www.equalvisionrecords.com)

A DEATH IN THE FAMILY**"This Microscopic War" CD**

The latest release from the best label in Europe, Newest Industry. The way I see it is like this - Newest Industry is to Europe as No Idea is to the US. Everything you get from them is guaranteed gold, even though you have no clue what it is you're gonna get. They have such varied lineups, yet each band is so special in their own way – yes, that sounds pretty lame, but it's true. This label rules, as does this band. It's hard to compare this band to anyone because nothing really comes to mind. I guess it's not completely dissimilar from the early HOT WATER MUSIC sound, but it's a bit more melodic rock and a bit less gruff. There's some female backing vocals in here too (one of the guitarists is, in fact, a female) that work perfectly with the lead vocals, and she has her turn handling the lead vocals on a song and shows she can do that just as well, too. This is some seriously good shit right here, real real good. (MWB) (www.thenewestindustry.com)

AMPSEX**"Original Sound Recordings" CD**

When I saw this I was psyched – see, since I've been at AMP, the man in charge has started two new magazines, a comic book, a toy company, and who the fuck knows what else. So when I saw AMPSEX, I assumed he took the logical next step and started making his own porn. Man, how bummed was I when I found out it wasn't porn but some shitty radio rock crap band. Seriously bad stuff. Check this – 'it's a Saturday night at pops, where the drinking never stops, where the drinking and driving is the art of surviving...' Not good enough? 'I think you and me should make a porno movie, a porno movie, I think you'll agree.' Wow. That's some groundbreaking shit right there. Without a doubt, this is the worst CD I've ever had to review. Bad music, bad lyrics, bad haircuts, bad chinbeards...it's just all out

bad. (MWB)

(no contact information given)

BLACKPOOL LIGHTS**"This Town's Disaster" CD**

This is the new project from Jim Suptic, singer for the now defunct GET UP KIDS. If you're coming into this record as a fan of GET UP KIDS, which I'm sure many will be, you'll get what you expect in some respects and won't in others, but this isn't a bad thing. If a comparison to KIDS had to be made, it sounds a bit like tracks like "Martyr Me", mainly because of the lack of James Dewees on keyboards. However, BLACKPOOL LIGHTS do a great job of creating something new in breaking from the GET UP KIDS formula, for the most part. In its own right, it's a solid album, and "The Truth About Love", whether you love it or hate it, has one of the catchiest choruses out there right now. Album starts just a little slow, but still strong, and only gets better as it progresses. This Town's Disaster is a great start for this talented new band. (WDJ) ([Curb Appeal Records / www.curbappealrecords.com](http://CurbAppealRecords.com))

BLUE BLOODS**"Death Of A Salesman" CD**

4th full length, I believe from these Boston street-punkers. Fortunately, they eschew any of the Irish / Celtic / folk posturings of the DROPKICK MURPYS, and stick to the straight-ahead, melodic, in your face with the gang chants and whoa-ohs championed by the STREET DOGS et al. Nothing outstanding, but a solid punch to the kidneys, for sure. (RK) ([I Scream Records, www.iscreamrecords.com](http://IScreamRecords.com))

BOUNCING SOULS**"The Gold Record" CD**

It's so tempting to make a comment about the record only being silver or something, or the likelihood of the BOUNCING SOULS going gold in today's music scene, but I'll suppress it, as it's a good album and deserves attention for being a very strong release for the band. Overall, the record is great and should be a pleasure to listen to for any SOULS fan. They've been doing this for a long time, and the experience

shows. However, there isn't really any stand-out, 'classic' BOUNCING SOULS track, but there isn't one bad track on this album either, showing the band on top of their game. The Gold Song is a great way to open the album, and the quality continues throughout. It's a good album, it's just really in need of a "Bullying the Jukebox", drunken sing-a-long type song. (WDJ) ([Epitaph / www.epitaph.com](http://Epitaph.com))

BUZZOVEN**"Welcome To Violence" CD**

Collection of songs recorded and released during the first half of the 90's by a North Carolina underground cult band. All of the 21 tracks are re-mastered and two are previously unreleased versions. It is in the same frame of mind as the early ROLLINS BAND albums.

While echoing stoner rock bands such as KYUSS they seem too hard and intense for the genre. Needs to be heard... (JSH)

(Alternative Tentacles / www.alternativetentacles.com)

CASEY JONES**"The Messenger" CD**

This is interesting. At first, it felt a little poppy and I'm fucking sick of pop punk bands playing themselves off as hardcore bands, but then I realized that this Florida unit has their fucking core down and if anything, it's a hardcore band with an affection for the uplifting melodic goodness of pop punk. Combine those two influences with a light seasoning of metallic riffage to give it all a little sting and you've got a great record. Imagine old NEW FOUND GLORY covering GORILLA BISCUITS at Furnace Fest. (STM) (www.eulogyrecordings.com)

CATTLE DECAPITATION**"Karma Bloody Karma" CD**

I'm not going to lie, after the Bay Area blitz of SPAZZ, BENUMB, DYSTOPIA, EL DOPA, and all, I lost most of my interest in grindcore. CATTLE DECAP, however, will always have my loyalty because they continue to release engaging, exciting, and absolutely terrifying albums of extreme metallic grind greatness. Seriously, any fan of what is deemed "extreme music" is lying to themselves if they aren't a Cattle Decap fan. They utilize the tricks of myriad metal subgenres and layout it down on a blistering framework and deliver a truly inspired soundtrack to future genocide. A must buy record. (STM) (www.metalblade.com)

CF / 98**"Enjoy" CDEP**

Polish band. Two women. Three men. And a female vocalist who sounds very close to the sweet pop-punk tones of DISCOUNT's chanteuse. Musically, they're much more akin to any number of Warped Tour fare - well effected indie pop-punk alternative stuff. With a title like "Enjoy", I had high hopes of a decent DESCENDENTS knockoff, but alas, not to be. The only break from this horrendous form of American cultural imperialism is the thanks list, which is all in Polish! (RK) ([Pasazer / www.pasazer.pl](http://Pasazer.com))

NOAM CHOMSKY**"Imperial Grand Strategy" DVD**

Here's another DVD that would have been made great audio CD, or even taking a guess that Noam Chomsky's audience is fairly well educated, maybe even...a book? Noam Chomsky is a convincing, well oiled speaker whose theories and arguments are tied together well with logic and turned into very persuasive lectures. The DVD features two of these lectures and an interview with Chomsky. However, it doesn't really benefit from being a DVD, as there isn't much to see. If you're a fan of the man's ideas, it's still a good thing to check out; the video is just unnecessary. (WDJ) ([AK Press / www.akpress.org](http://AKPress.com))

CITY MOUSE**"Independence Day" CD**

8 tracks of female fronted snotty pop-punk. A little reminiscent of early MUFFS, with some fine vocals with a catch, and melodic guitar work. For some reason it reminds me of the BUZZCOCKS less bubble-gum moments, which is not such a bad thing, either. (RK) (www.eugenerrecords.com)

