

(Acetate)

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The Superbees unexpectedly reunited last year, and the action rock world is the better for it. The L.A. quartet announces its return to the ranks with *Top of the Rocks*, six slabs of molten rock & roll that gives a keep-it-cool salute to its forebears in Detroit, New York and its own mean streets.

Dave James is a one-of-a-kind frontman in this milieu - able to rock out with his cock out, while holding back just enough to keep from being over the top. James isn't a poser, overcompensating for a lack of true conviction with strained vocals and riffs so far in your face they're blowing the back of your head off - you get the feeling from songs like "Silver Jet" and "Sin & Glitter" that he really does believe rock & roll is the only thing that matters. It's that attitude that makes up for James' inconsistent songwriting (thought even his lesser efforts are better than the cover of Aerosmith's "S.O.S. [Too Bad]"). When the Superbees are on, though, they're fucking *on*.

DOWNLOAD: "Silver Jet," "Sin & Glitter," "The Lonely Kind" MICHAEL TOLAND

