



REVIEWS

ALBUMS + DVDS



Fireball Ministry

twaddle presumably about the Philadelphia Flyers. **CHRISTOPHER R. WEINGARTEN**



★★★★
**FIREBALL
MINISTRY**

**THEIR ROCK IS
NOT OUR ROCK**
(LIQUOR AND POKER)

On their third full-length, L.A.'s Fireball Ministry loudly and proudly pledge allegiance to the pre-MTV era of hard rock and heavy metal. Every single note sounds like it was recorded somewhere between 1970 and 1981; James A. Rota wails like the unholy offspring of Ozzy and Lemmy, and—with guitar partner Emily J. Burton—peels off one meaty riff after another on swaggering, van-rockin' tracks like "Hells-

peak," "Two Tears," and "Save the Saved." Willfully unfashionable and thoroughly badass, *Their Rock Is Not Our Rock* should make a dynamite stocking-stuffer for that tattooed biker uncle on your Christmas list. **DAN EPSTEIN**



★★★★★
**OLD MAN'S
CHILD**

VERMIN
(CENTURY MEDIA)

Taking advantage of the long break between Dimmu Borgir albums, guitarist Galder (who joined Dimmu in 2000) has returned to his Old Man's Child project and created a monster of a black-metal album. *Vermin* shares many of Dimmu's finest attributes—majestic arrangements, gothic keyboard flourishes, and full-tilt blast beats—but the disc has a thrashier side as well, packed with classic head-nodding rhythms and melodic guitar interplay. Galder handles all the vocals and instruments himself (save for an appearance by Testament guitarist Eric Peterson and

PEEP SHOW

HOT DVDS REVIEWED



★★★★★
VOIVOD
D-V-O-D-1

(MUSIC VIDEO
DISTRIBUTORS)

This early-career retrospective, which features all of the Canadian band's pre-1991 videos and nine live recordings, captures Voivod's evolution from an oddball thrash outfit into a more artsy, psychedelic group. Bonus features include video from the *Nothing-face* sessions, drummer Away's apocalyptic artwork, and the complete 1984 *Morgoth Invasion* and 1987 *Spectrum* demos. A fitting tribute to one of metal's most creative bands (and to late, great guitarist "Piggy" D'Amour). **JON WIEDERHORN**



★★★
MANOWAR
HELL ON EARTH IV

(SPV)

The fourth installment of Manowar's *Hell on Earth* DVD series was shot on the band's 2002 European tour and, similar to parts I through III, seems primarily aimed at converting U.S. headbangers to the cause simply by showing how freakin' popular these power-metal originators are in Europe. Unfortunately, it comes off like a bizarre indoctrination to a cult, where epic live performances, abundant shots of Euro T&A, and bassist Joey DeMaio's chest-thumping rants conspire to suck in the feeble-minded. **ADEM TEPEDELEN**



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