

worked their way to get to where they are now by touring with such great bands as Atreyu and The Deftones. If you are a fan of rock or hardcore at all you'll love this band. They blend the two genres together quite nicely. They appear at first to be a force to be reckoned with and this stays true throughout the whole album all the way to the end of the last track. The band draws their music style from such bands as Aiden, Boy Sets Fire, Atreyu, Thrice and AFI. If you are looking for a band to take you out of the "ordinary" and has a great rock/hardcore edge, On The Last Day is that band. You won't be disappointed.

-Ryan Barjam **Victory Records**

The Randies

Saw The Light

This band automatically blew me away. They really know how to rock. They mix up their style from songs like "Born Again" to "Move On." There is no real way for me to describe other than just saying *they fuckin' rock!* There's a slight Horrorpops sound to them as well as a new and improved Vice Squad. Their kick ass drummer, Aaron Polk, who happens to be the only guy in the group really steps it up in "Freezerburn." I can't really say I didn't like any of their songs, they all were different and truly original. By buying this album, you get to rock out with these three talented chicks and one awesome dude, and be ready to get blown away by Sienna's, Laura's, and Laurita's voices!

-Georginaaa! **Elicit**

Shock Nagasaki

Year of the Spy

Shock Nagasaki are an awesome punk rock band from New York. This record has so many good tunes. The sound and production on the record is impeccable. The music has a sort of U.S. Bombs influence which you can hear in the back up vocals and slower guitar riffs. Not that it's a rip off Bombs band or anything; these guys definitely have their own perspective and style that is

easily appreciated by the listener. I absolutely love the song, "Hit the Beach," it has an amazing guitar riff that gets stuck in my head. Other hits are "What Have They Done to Me?" and "I Get High on Low Society." The lyrics also seem thoughtful and real, as they cover the topics of living in a capitalistic society and taking notice of how the lower classes live, mixed in with thoughts on not working a corporate job and the woes of wasting your life. All in all, it's a good record.

-JM **TKO Records**

Strike Anywhere

Dead FM

I became a huge fan of this band after getting my greasy fingers around a copy of *Exit English*. Strike Anywhere are the Bad Religion of more recent times. They tour incessantly and put on the most energetic live shows around, a bold statement for an even bolder band. This was one of the most anticipated releases here at the *Big Wheel* compound, and it doesn't disappoint. The tunes are the passionately positive politically fueled anthems I was waiting for. After the fifty bajillion shows SA has played over the past couple of years, it's nothing short of a miracle that Thomas's voice is somehow still in tact. The album art is a really cool a digipak with awesome liner notes to go along with the lyrics. Never shy to expose the open wounds that are country covers up, Strike Anywhere's *Dead FM* is what punk rock music should be—aggressive, angry, intelligent, audio bullets with careful aim.

-Joey Balls **Fat Wreck**

Thor

Devastation of Musculation

Instead of my typical album review, I've decided to use this space to write an open letter to Thor: Dear Thor, My Lord (may I call you My Lord?) I am deeply ashamed to say that before today I had never heard of your music stylings, which isn't so

much music as, say, manna from Heaven. I was grabbed and taken in the dark of night on the back of lone wolf, taken to the land where gorgons flail and ghouls lurk. Thankfully, Thor and his bassist Ogron and drummer Panthar were there to school the asses of any and everything. Your might is so awesome, you made that ghoulish tangible before you jammed your fist in its mouth and ripped its tongue out. That gorgon screamed pleas of mercy before you ground it through your teeth. It was totally fucking awesome. Yours,

-Boyd Wonder **Smog Veil Records**

The Transit War

Miss Your Face

Believe it or not, this is emo for adults. I wish I was lying. There's the whiny vocals with the screaming backing vocals, but it's done just slightly, so adults might still enjoy it. Every song sounds exactly the same. Even pretentious fashion core thirty-somethings won't like this. Hip forty-somethings who desperately want to be young, thin and attractive will. This is definitely VH1 worthy shit. It's just so mediocre and boring. And judging by the picture on the back of this CD, these guys are pretty mediocre and boring too. Hey lead singer, nice red tie. You come up with that by yourself, or did you just have to have one after buying *American Idiot*?

-Donna Ramone **Orange Peel Records**

Various Artists

Wake Up Screaming: DVD

This is a documentary of the whole Warped Tour—all the cities, all the bands, all the rich yuppie kids who think they're awesome, questioning authority and all, until they get dad's business or a high paying office job. Thing is, this is also a PETA and PETA2 (it's younger, hipper sister) funded video. It's all about their fight against animal cruelty, using the Warped Tour, and this dude named Jason.

He gets his first tattoo from a vegan tattoo artist (rather than, I don't know, a good one?) of a cat being tortured. I wish I was joking. But the kicker is some douche from Bleed The Dream. He goes vegan for the tour, and he isn't even a vegetarian. And he's doing it for two reasons: eat healthier, and make some kind of statement and prove people wrong. I want this guy to die. I'm not vegetarian (currently) but I'm an activist against animal cruelty, especially fur, and being an idiot who goes vegan to seem cool and make a statement doesn't make you awesome in my book. Hey PETA, next time you try to spread the word, get people who aren't retards to voice it. As far as production though, this is a well made video. But if I had made a video of Warped Tour, I wouldn't bring any of my views in it. It would just be bands, heat and overpriced beer.

-Donna Ramone **MVD Entertainment**

Westbound Train

Transitions

These Boston ska revivalists have put together a great album, which is their debut on Hellcat. This record is great. If you like The Slackers and good ska you will love this band. "Please Forgive Me" is a catchy number that gets you dancing and singing along. The band showcases their heartfelt lyrics in "Sorry Mama" and another personal favorite, "No Different." I dig this CD. And, I can't wait to see them live.

-Jenny **Hellcat Records**