



COMMON ENEMY

By Janelle Jones

A few days before they were to shoot the second video for their latest album, 'Living The Dream?' (Overdose On Records), we rang up three of the four members of out-of-control skate-punks COMMON ENEMY to discuss everything the busy Pennsylvania-based band are up to. Along with the new album, they're also releasing a split with Long Island punks AGGRESSIVE FORCE (out November) and are looking to do as much touring as possible, including hitting Europe again next year, possibly playing some Asia dates (if proper funds are available) and of course doing more extensive U.S. touring. Below, guitarist Justin, drummer Devon, and bassist Greg (sans vocalist Gary) weigh in.

I JUST SAW THE "BEER BONG" VIDDY. WHERE'D YOU [FILM] THAT ONE?

JUSTIN: That was actually shot at my house. We had a wild party that night. Everyone got pretty wasted.

I LIKED THE "PUBLIC SERVICE

ANNOUNCEMENT" [YOU START OFF WITH].

JUSTIN: [LAUGHTER] We figured we'd better let the kids know it's not cool to get too wasted.

UNTIL THEY'RE OLDER, AT LEAST.

[LAUGHTER]

JUSTIN: Exactly.

LET'S TALK ABOUT THIS ALBUM. THIS IS THE THIRD FULL-LENGTH?

DEVON: Technically, the fourth. We don't like to talk about the first one... We put a lot of time and effort into this album, more than any other album. We're more proud of this album than any one we ever did.

JUSTIN: [We took] probably eight months to a year on this one.

MOST OF THE LYRICS NOW, IS THAT GARY?

JUSTIN: We all had influence on this record. Devon actually got to write lyrics that Gary rearranged, there's a couple songs I got to write lyrics.

THERE ARE DEFINITELY A LOT OF THINGS THAT RESONATE, LIKE WHAT I'D CALL AGE-OLD PUNKISMS. I LOVE THE SONG "NOTHING'S WRONG."

JUSTIN: Yeah, that seems to be definitely my favorite. That one was pretty much Greg on the instrumental there. He forced me to write that one.

GREG: I didn't think you liked that.

JUSTIN: At first I didn't, but it grew on me, and Gary put lyrics to it. It's good.

DEVON: It has Mikey [of ALIVE IN THE MOMENT] on back-ups.

HOW'D THAT COME ABOUT?